

## FUTURE OF EUROPEAN UNION WHICH KIND OF POLITY?

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# 1

### **EU AS A POLITY**

#### **Growing List of EU Dilemmas**

- Migration Crisis
- Sluggish Economic Growth
- Euroskepticism and Brexit
- Rising of the Far Right
- Policies regarding Russia and Turkey
- Juncker: Western Balkans in the EU?
- Juncker: Cybersecurity European Agency?
- Juncker: EU Commissioners from 28 to 15?
- Juncker: Extension of the Shengen Area?

#### **EU Exclusive Competence**

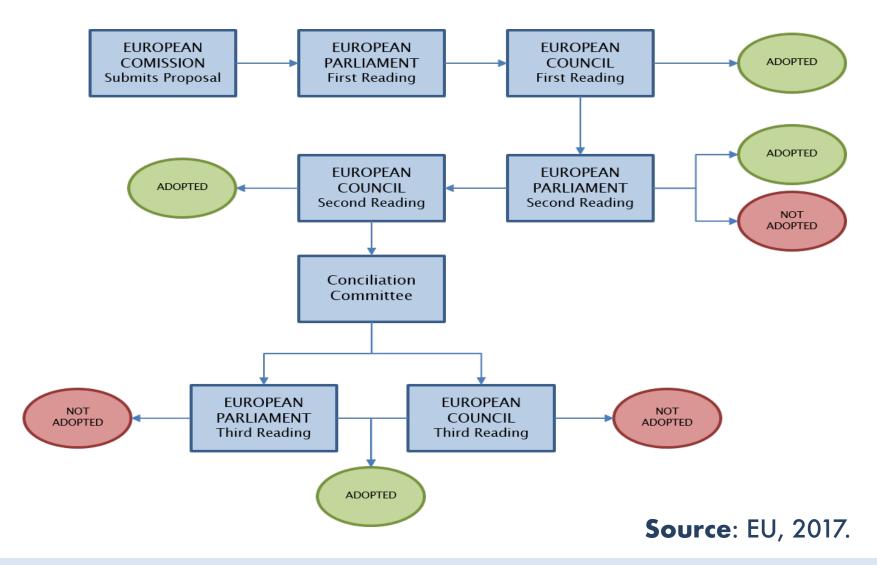
- Customs Union (common external tariffs)
- Competition Rules
- Monetary Policy (Eurozone)
- Common Fisheries Policy
- Common Commercial Policy

**Source**: EU, 2012.

#### **EU Political Institutions**

- European Parliament
- European Council
- Council of the European Union
- European Commission
- Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU)
- European Central Bank (ECB)
- European Court of Auditors (ECA)
- European External Action Service (EEAS)

## **EU Decision Making Process**

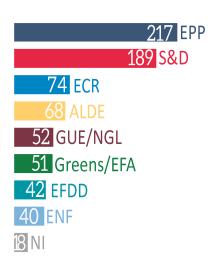


#### **EU Parliament Seats by Political Groups**

#### European Parliament, 2014-19

#### Size of the political groups

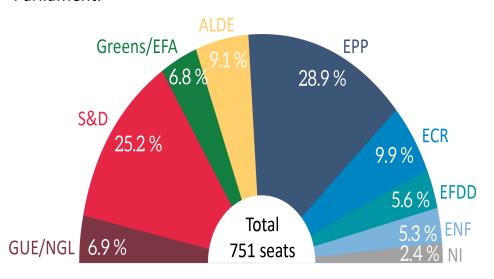
Number of MEPs in each political group as of 1 March 2017.





#### Proportion of Members in each political group

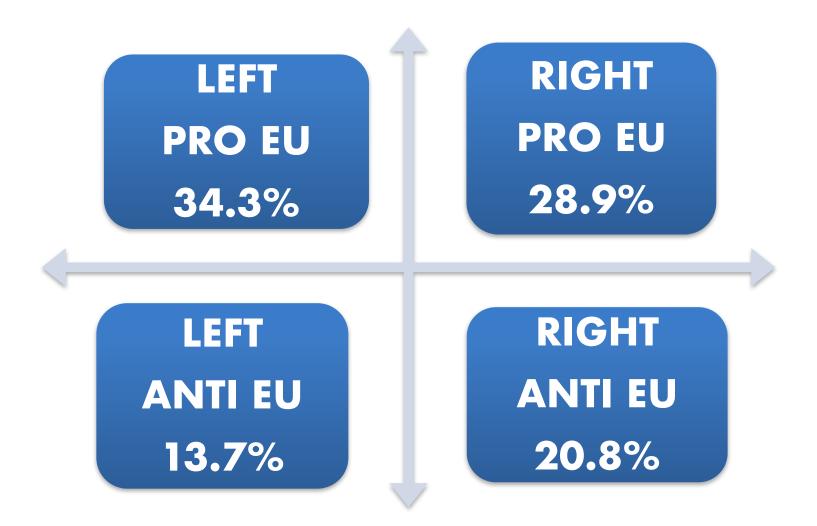
Share of each political group in the total 751 seats in the Parliament.



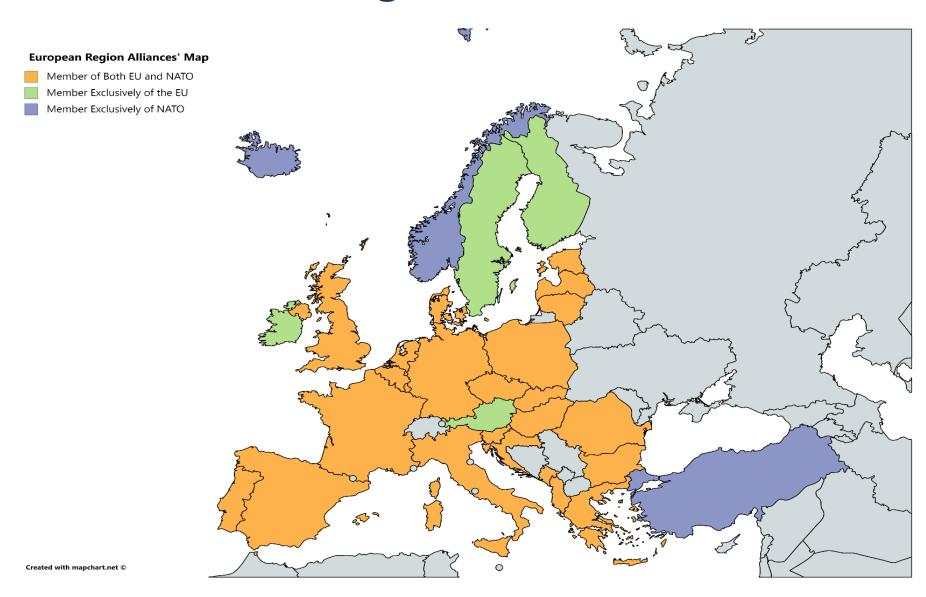
EPRS | European Parliamentary Research Service

**Source**: EU, 2017.

#### **Two Dimensions**



## EU and NATO: good to whom?



# 2

### REFUGEE CRISIS

#### **EU Members' Interventions**

**UK:** Iraq (2003-2009), Libya (2011), Syria (2011); Syria-Iraq (2014), Nigeria (2017?)

Italy: Iraq (2003-2006), Libya (2011), Syria-Iraq (2014)

**Poland:** Iraq (2003-2008), Ukraine (2014?), Syria-Iraq (2016?)

France: Ivory Coast (2003; 2011), CAR (2006; 2013), Libya (2011), Mali (2012), Syria-Iraq (2014)

Germany: Syria-Iraq (2015)

## Refugee Law Adaptation

- After the Arab Spring (2011)
  - Global Approach to Migration and Mobility (GAMM)
    Intensify of Border Control and Surveillance Policies
  - New Clauses in Freedom of Movement
  - Asylum seekers need to apply from **inside** EU territory
- After the Syrian Crisis (2015)
  - EU Operation Sophia: to counter human-smuggling
  - Decisions 1523/1601: Relocate 160,000 people
  - 250.000 Syrians applied for EU asylum, less than 2% of the 12 million displaced (4 million in neighbouring countries)

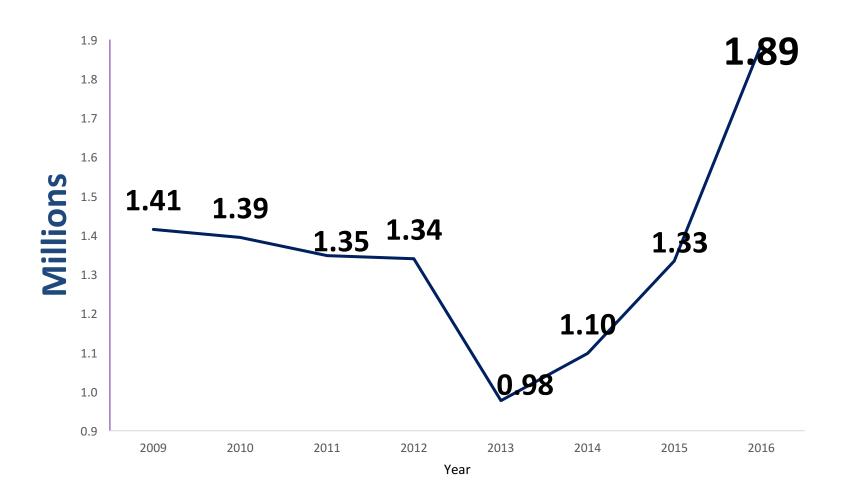
**Source**: CEPS, 2012.

#### EU actions and inactions

- Increase assistance to the forcibly displaced
  - In 2016, EU Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid gave more than €1,972 million to projects helping the forcibly displaced and their **host communities** in 56 countries.
- 2015: 710,000 refugees entered EU
- 2016: 354,850 refugees entered EU
- 2017: 105,000 refugees entered EU (until July)

Source: UNHCR, 2017.

## Refugee Population in the EU



Source: World Bank, 2016.

## **And... Europe Needs Immigrants**

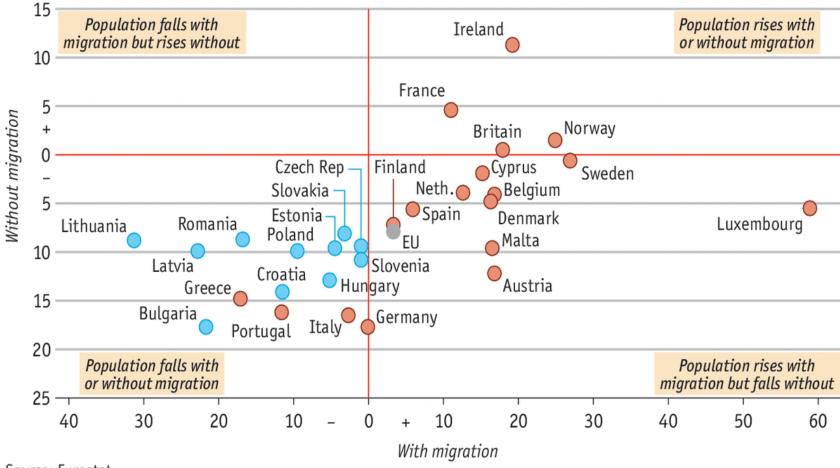
- Median Age in **Europe** will increase from 37.7 years old in 2003 to 52.3 by 2050
- Median Age in India will increase from 25.1 in 2010 to 37.5 by 2050

Source: World Bank, 2016.

#### **Shrinking prospects**

Europe, population change with or without migration 2017-50 forecast, %





Source: Eurostat

Economist.com

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### RISE OF FAR-RIGHT

## Disturbing news... 2017

- **Germany**: AfD won 25% of the votes in state elections in March 2017, and took the third place in the Federal elections (13.3% of the votes) in November. 94 of the 709 seats in the Bundestag.
- **France**: Marine Le Pen's National Front (FN) received 33.9% of votes in the presidential election run-off in May. 07 out of 577 seats in the Assemblée Nationale.
- **Netherlands**: The Party of Freedom (PVV) won 13.1% of the votes in March's general election. It is now the second party, with 20 out of 150 seats in the Tweede Kamer (House of Representatives).
- **Hungary**: The conservative and anti-immigration FIDESZ-KDNP governs the country with 131 out of 199 seats in the National Assembly. The far right JOBBIK movement won 20.54% of the votes in 2014 (24 seats).
- **Sweden**: The far right Sweden Democrats (SD) took 12.9% of the votes in the general elections of 2014, wining 49 out of the 349 seats in the Riksdag.

## What they stand for?

- "White Europe of brotherly nations"
- "Refugees get out!"
- "We Want God"
- "Clean Blood"
- "Not red, not rainbow but national Poland"
- "Fight against neo-Marxists and Islamists"
- "Pray for an Islamic Holocaust"

60,000 in Warsaw, November 2017 15,000 in Dresden, December 2014 2,000 in Munich, November 1923

### Facilitating Conditions

- Economic crisis and redistributive issues
- Austerity economic policies
- Representation crisis (volk versus elites)
- Angst among youngs and retirees
- Digital Era reduced costs of hate speech
- Actual insecurity (terrorism or crime)
- Lack of social integration (citizenship)
- Defeat of the organized labor movement
- Xenophobic or ideological blaming of out-groups
- Legal and social tolerance with the intolerants

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## POPULISM EVERYWHERE?

## Populism: stretching the concept

- 99% Dispossessed People x 1% Corrupt Elites?
- Any kind of "othering"?
- Anti-intellectual or Narodnik?
- Democratic or Authoritarian Leveler Force?
- Islamic Populism, Evangelical Christians?
- Far right, but also the Far Left?
- Trump government?
- Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela?
- Popular leaders like Xi, Putin, Lula, Merkel?
- What do we mean by populism in 2017?

#### **A Nominalist Definition:**

"Populism as a thin-centered ideology that considers society to be ultimately separated into two homogeneous and antagonistic camps, "the pure people" versus "the corrupt elite," and which argues that politics should be an expression of the volonté générale (general will) of the people."

MUDDE; KALTWASSER (2017, p. 06)

#### What is at stake here?

- Avoid to legitimize extremism as normal politics
- Avoid the Kampfbegriff (battle term) entirely
- Refuse Discursive Frame: Hate Speech as Haute-Culture
- Bet on moral and intellectual competence of citizens
- Organization matters: the grassroots level
- Organization matters: national, regional, and global
- Rethink Globalization: redistribute wealth / power
- Rethink Digital Era: Will humans be irrelevant?
- Avoid Vicious Cycles: overspending / austerity
- · Defend Pluralism against: Klepto, Pluto, Techno

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