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Project - "Joining Paths to Build a Better Perception of Europe" **YOUROPE**

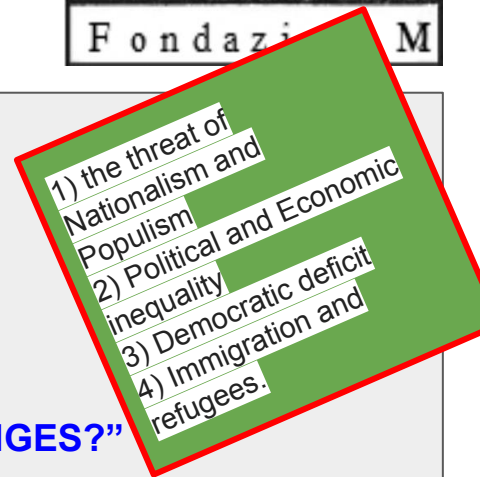
Meeting in Noto (Italy) 11<sup>th</sup> of June 2019 - "Facing EU challenges" YOUR[H]OPE

**Davide C. CRIMI**

independent researcher - past Europe Direct Catania manager (2005-2017)

**CONFERENCE: "HOW IS EUROPE FACING THE EU CHALLENGES?"**

- An open debate with university lectures, students and other experts on the 4 major challenges of Europe
- Questions from the audience.

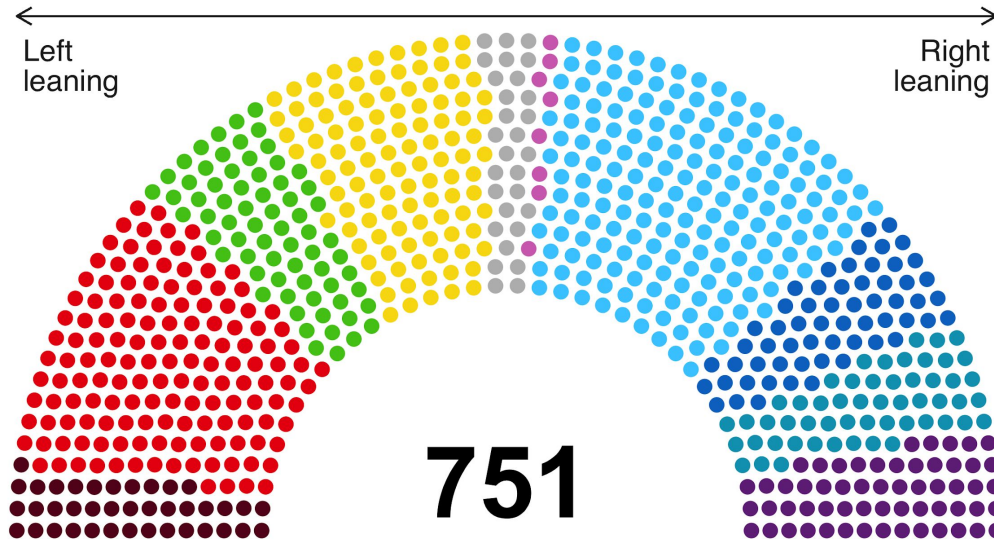


- 1) the threat of Nationalism and Populism
- 2) Political and Economic inequality
- 3) Democratic deficit
- 4) Immigration and refugees.

# EU elections

## Seats by party group

- Left (GUE/NGL): 39
- Socialists and Democrats (S&D): 146
- Greens (G/EFA): 69
- Liberals (ALDE): 109
- Others: 29
- Independent MEPs: 8
- Centre-right (EPP): 180
- Conservatives (ECR): 59
- Populists (EFD): 54
- Right-wing nationalists (ENF): 58



Combination of provisional, projected and final results as of 11:44. Source: EP



## Europe's elections

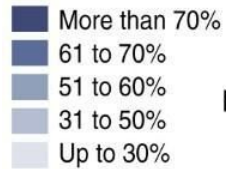
Centrist liberals  
gained the most  
power in the EU  
Parliament

*Eurosceptics gained a similar  
number of seats, but are less  
ideologically cohesive*



# European elections: the non-voters

Estimate percentage of non-voters



Germany 52.1  
Denmark 45  
Netherlands 63  
Belgium\* 10

Britain 64

Ireland 48.8

Luxembourg\* 10

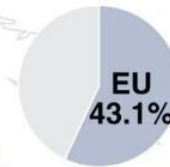
France 56.5

Spain

Portugal 65.5

Malta 25.2

Italy 40



Sweden 49

Finland 59.1

Estonia 63.6

Latvia 70

Lithuania 62.7

Poland 77.3

Czech Rep. 80.5

Austria 55

Slovakia 87

Hungary 70.8

Slovenia 79

Romania 65.3

Croatia 75.7

Bulgaria 59.8

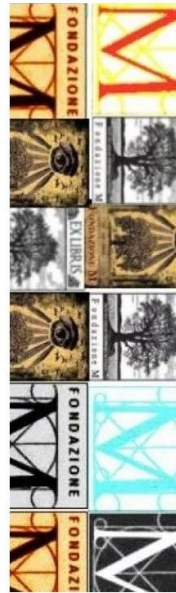
Greece\* 42.6

Cyprus\* 57.6

Source: TNS/Scyt/European Parliament




\*Voting compulsory

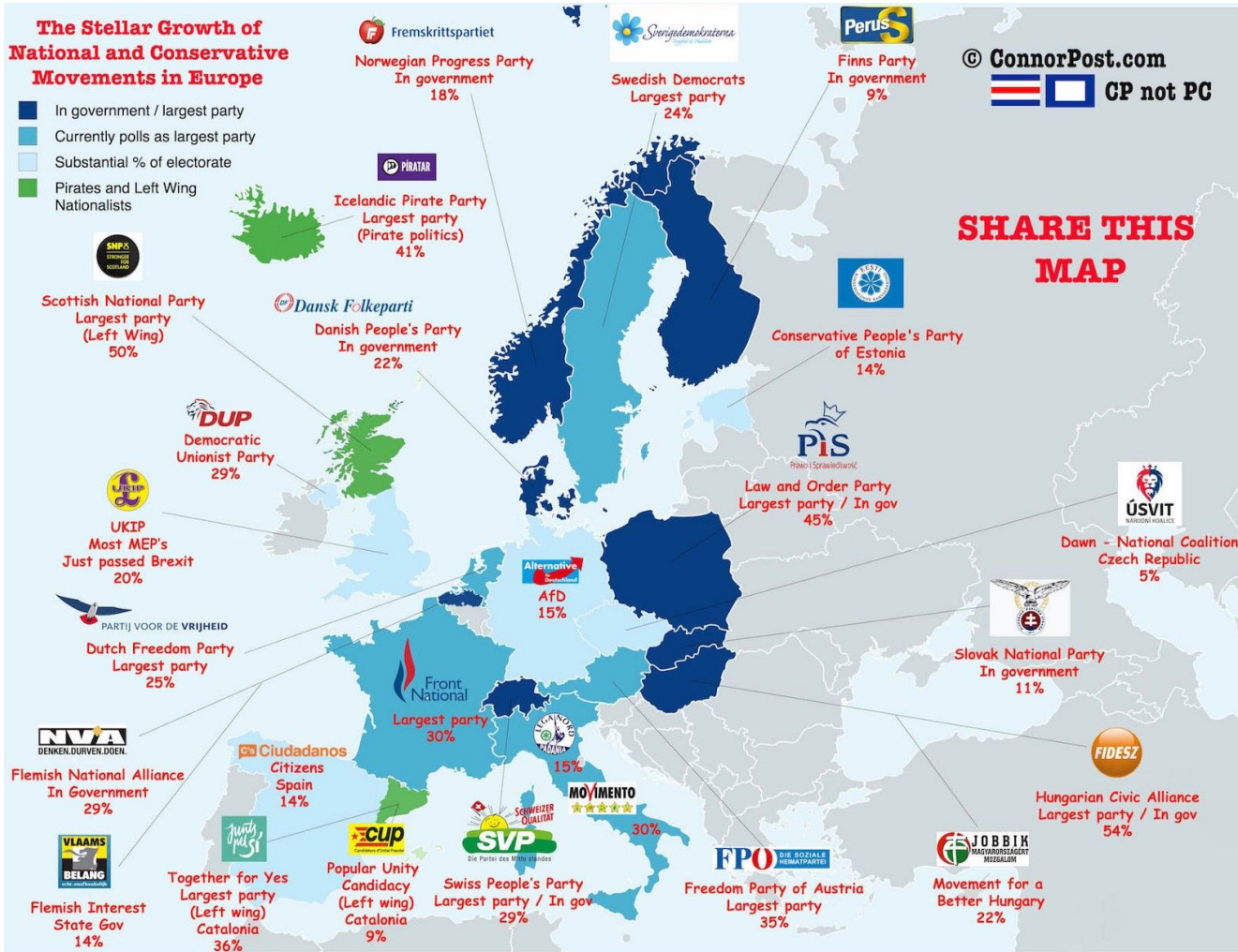
AFP





# The Stellar Growth of National and Conservative Movements in Europe

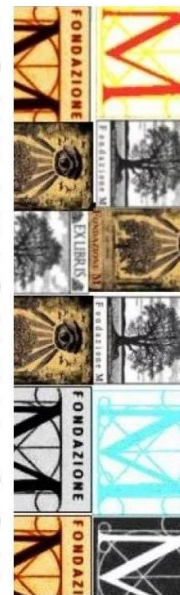
-  In government / largest party
-  Currently polls as largest party
-  Substantial % of electorate
-  Pirates and Left Wing Nationalists

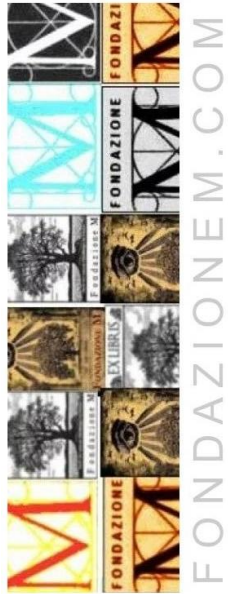


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  CP not PC

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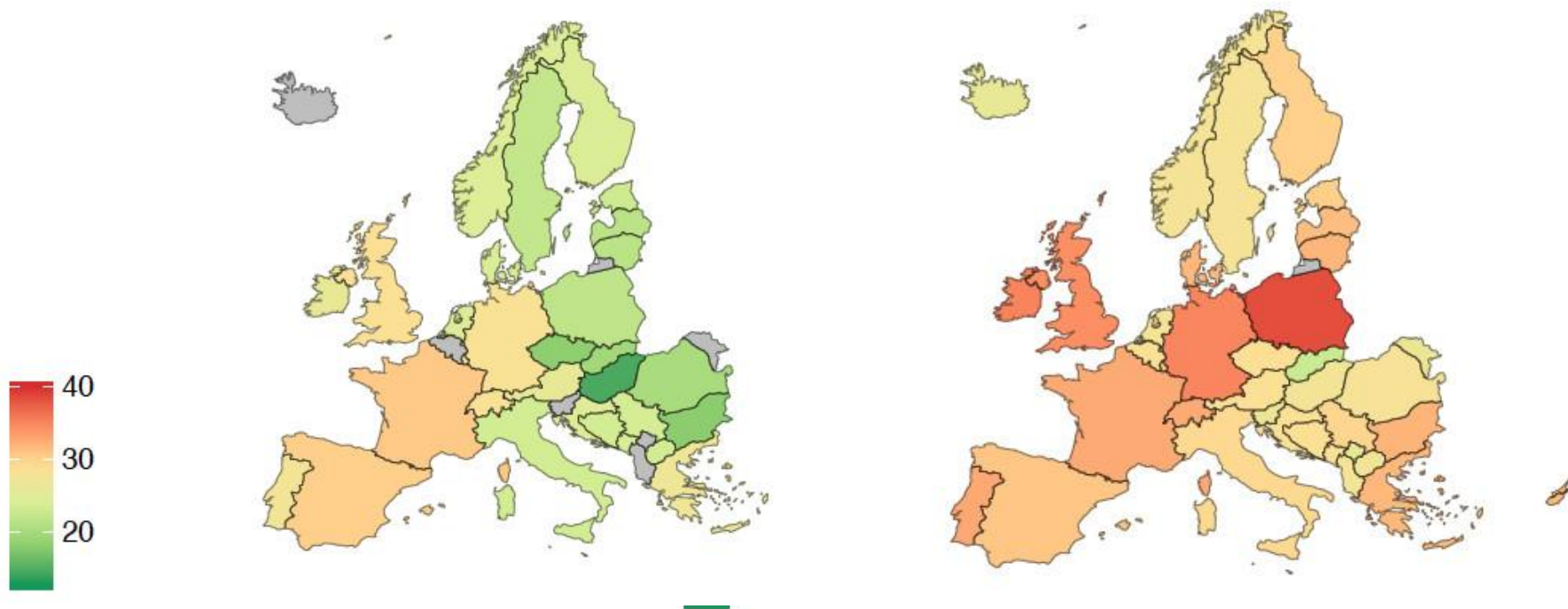
## Forty years of inequality in Europe: Evidence from distributional national accounts

Thomas Blanchet, Lucas Chancel, Amory Gethin 22 April 2019 - VOX CEPR Policy Portal

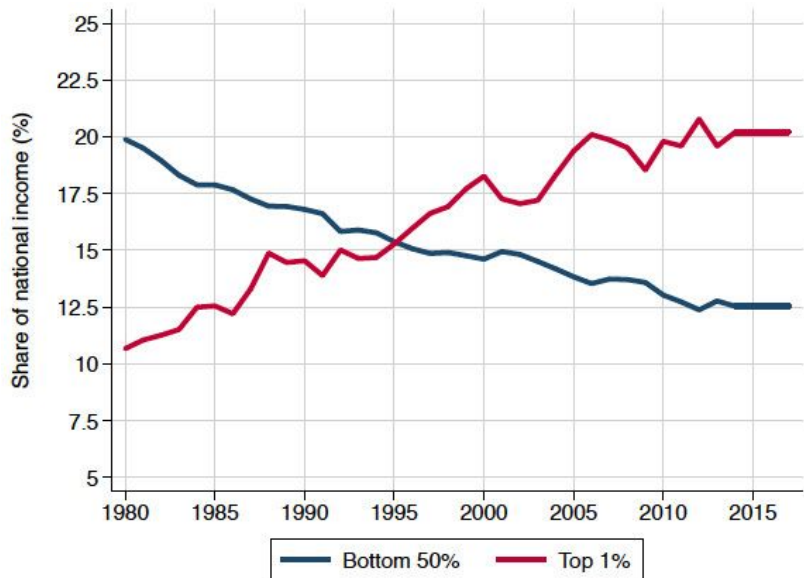
*Despite the growing importance of inequalities in policy debates, it is still difficult to compare inequality levels across European countries and to tell how European growth has been shared across income groups.* Income and wealth inequalities have become increasingly present in public debates in recent years and have been the object of growing attention among policymakers. Sustainable Development Goal 10.1, adopted by the United Nations in 2015, requires that the incomes of the poorest 40% of a population grow faster than those of the entire population. The European Pillar of Social Rights, presented by the European Commission in 2017, similarly sets out 20 key principles to enhance social justice in the EU, including gender equality, equal opportunities, and the right to adequate minimum income benefits. Yet, the existing academic literature has so far struggled to reconcile inequality estimates with macroeconomic growth figures. Based on our estimates, we document a long-run rise in pre-tax-income disparities, which we map in Figure 2. Eastern Europe used to be the least unequal region of the continent but caught up with Western and Southern Europe as the transition from communism to capitalism in the 1990s led to large increases in income concentration.

## Top 10% pre-tax-income shares in Europe

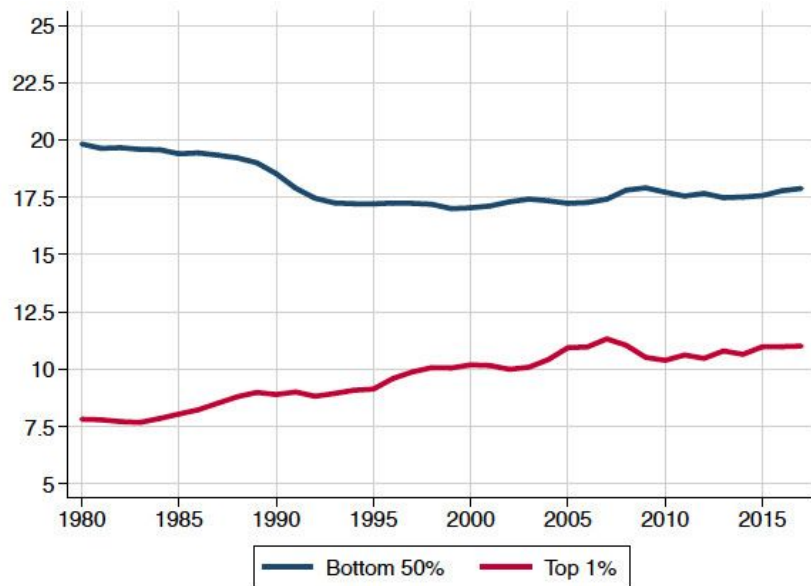
1980 versus 2017



## Europe has been more successful than the US at curbing inequalities



# USA



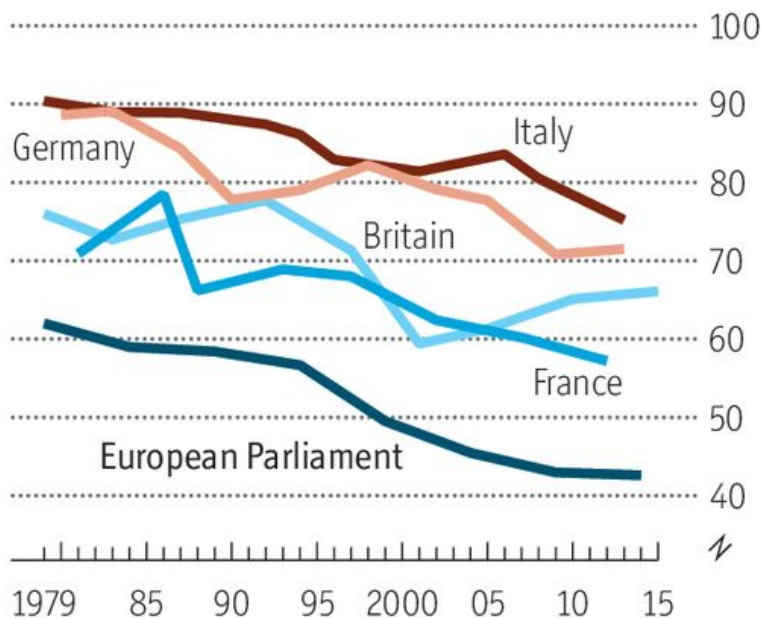
EU





## Why bother?

Average turnout across the EU in European Parliament elections and national turnout in parliamentary elections, % of electorate

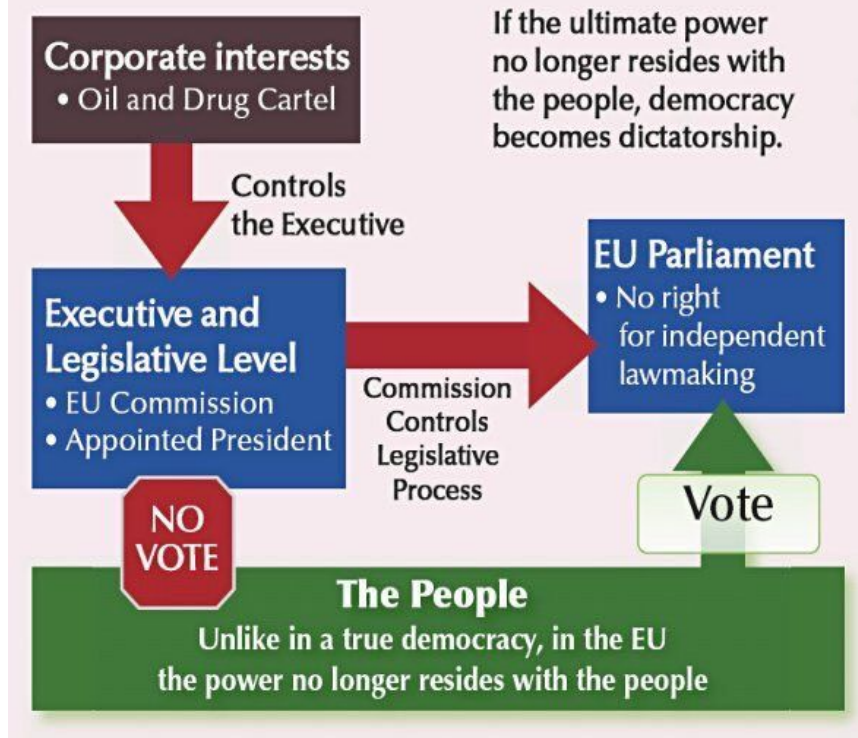


Sources: European Parliament; [parties-and-elections.eu](http://parties-and-elections.eu)

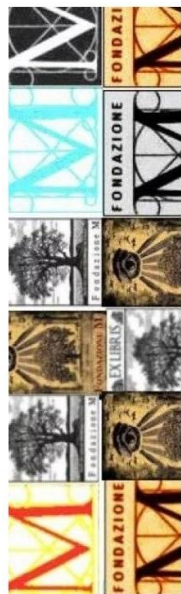
Economist.com

## DEMOCRATIC DEFICIT

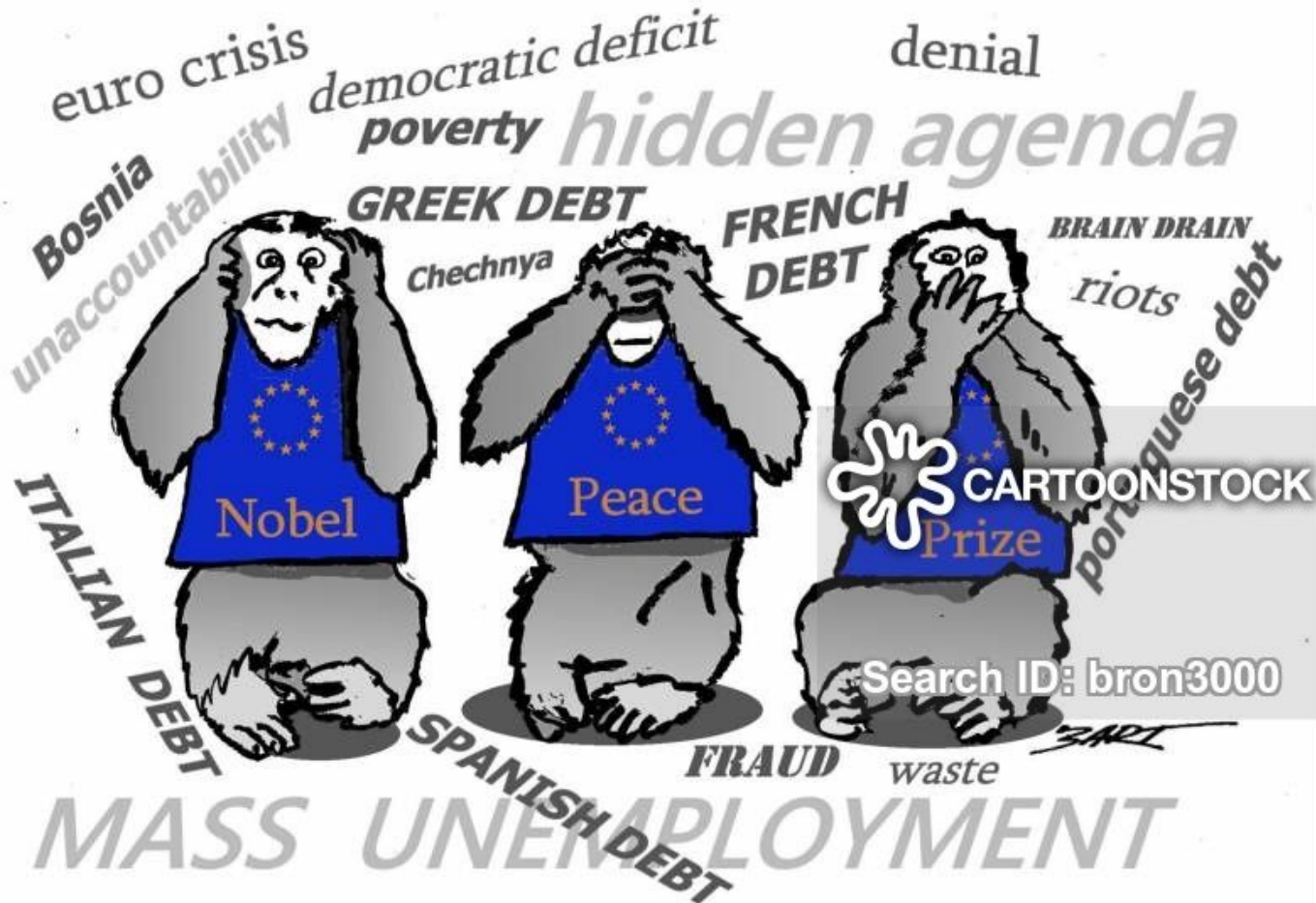
## 'BRUSSELS EU' DICTATORSHIP





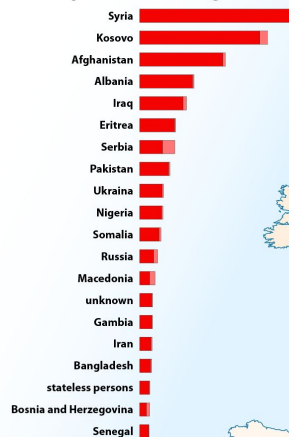


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# European Migrant Crisis 2015

## Top Countries of Origin



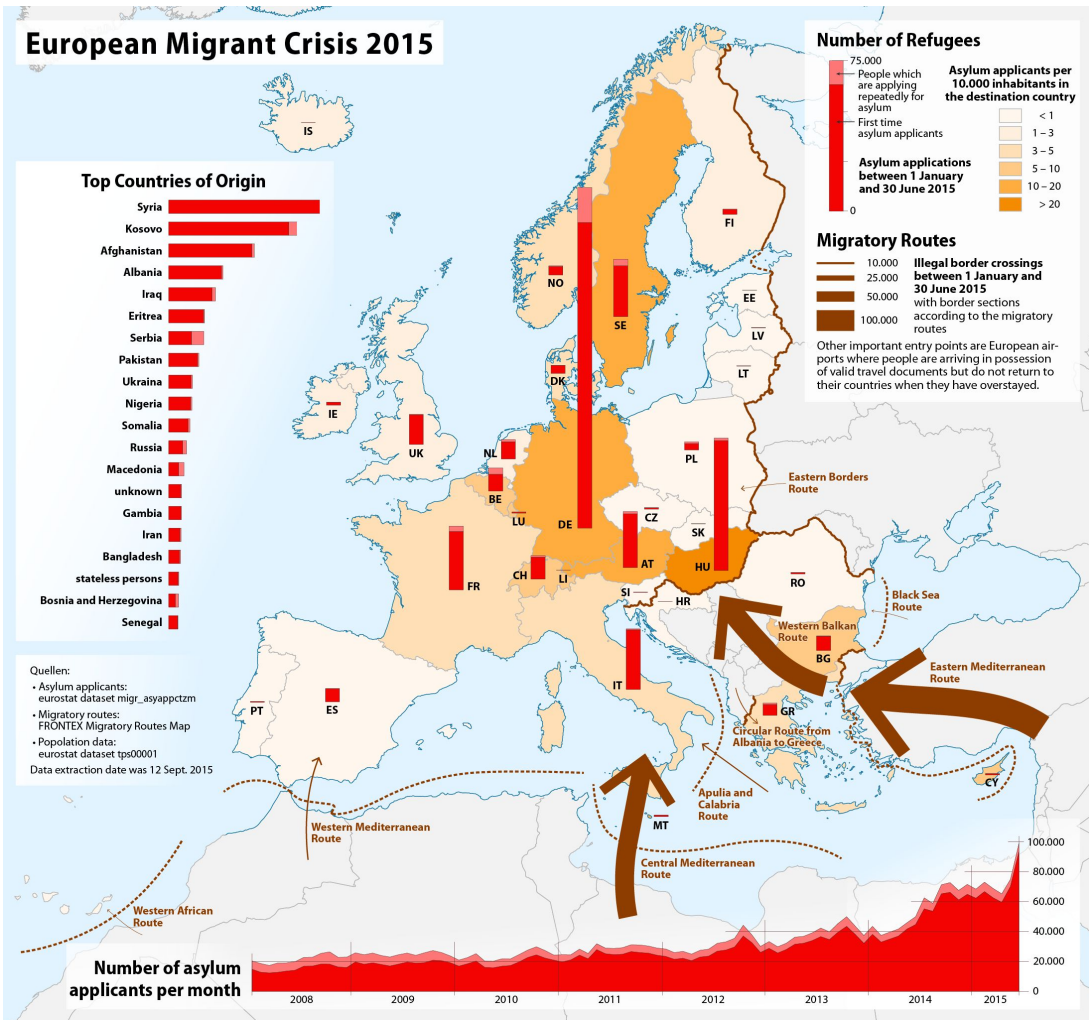
## Quellen:

- Asylum applicants: eurostat dataset migr\_asyappctzm
  - Migratory routes: FRONTEX Migratory Routes Map
  - Population data: eurostat dataset tps000001
- Data extraction date was 12 Sept. 2015

## Number of Refugees

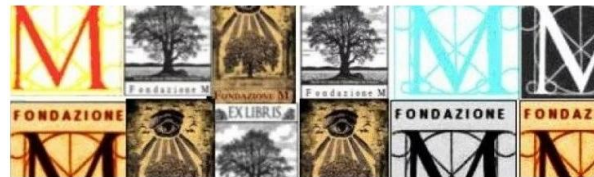
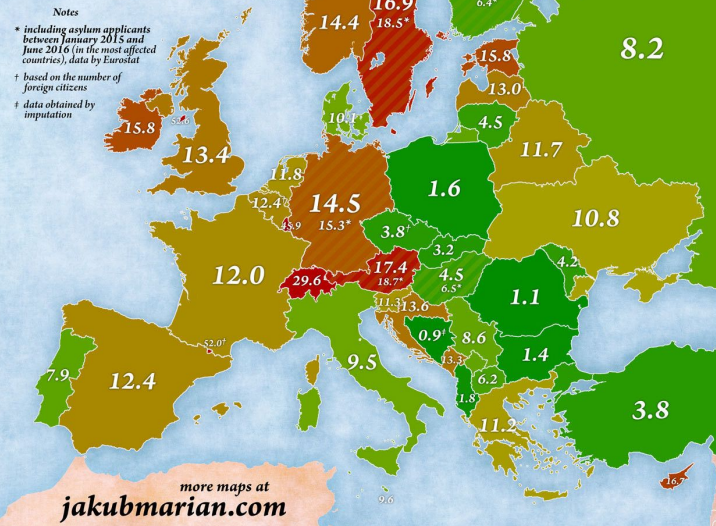


## Migratory Routes



## PERCENTAGE OF IMMIGRANT (FOREIGN-BORN) POPULATION

United Nations, 2015



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**Note: \* including asylum applicants between Jan. 2015 and June 2016**



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## Opinion poll movements for anti-immigration parties since the spring show a mixed picture, but the effects of the migrant crisis are still feeding through

Change in opinion poll support, Apr-May 2015 – Sep-Oct 2015

Party Name

+3.8 – Change in opinion poll support 🏛️ – Party in government

12.9 – Vote share in last election



Last national election

2013 2014 2015 2015 2012 2013 2015 2013 2012 2013 2014 2011 2015

Next national election due

2018 2019 2019 2019 2017 2017 2019 2018 2017 2017 2018 2015 2020

Elections/poll ratings are parliamentary/party, except for France (presidential, first round)

Polling agencies: Austria: Unique Research; Belgium: Dedicated for RTBF; Denmark: YouGov; Finland: Taloustutkimus; France: TNS-Sofres; Germany: INSA; Greece: Metrisi; Italy: Piepoli; Netherlands: Ipsos; Norway: Norfakta; Sweden: Demoskop; Switzerland: GFS; United Kingdom: ComRes