TUGCE DEMIR

WHY DO IMMIGRANTS WANT TO NATURALIZE? THE ROLE OF POLITICAL AND CIVIC ORIENTATIONS

Why do some immigrants want to naturalize and some do not? Existing literature looks at the socioeconomic characteristics of immigrants, country of origin features or citizenship policies of the countries of destination in explaining immigrant naturalization. Another strand of literature explores the effect of citizenship acquisition on political and civic participation. However, individual’s political and civic orientation as an explanatory variable that influences immigrant’s desire for naturalization has been overlooked. Since citizenship facilitates political and civic participation and brings about rights that are unavailable to non-citizens, immigrants who have positive political and civic orientation will be more likely to be interested in naturalization. Using data from the Immigrant Citizens Survey, which was conducted in 7 European Union countries in 2011 and 2012, I show that positive political and civic orientation does lead to increase in naturalization interest of non-citizen immigrants.

Keywords: citizenship, naturalization, immigrant, political orientation, civic orientation

PELIN KILINCARSLAN

THE ADOPTION OF CANDIDATE GENDER QUOTAS

Why do some countries adopt candidate gender quotas and others not? The past research on gender quotas has been quite limited in analyzing this particular dimension. Scholars have pointed out a number of factors—the type of electoral systems, level of economic development, the proportion of women in parliament, the role of international norms and actors, and the contagion effect—to explore the circumstances under which countries are more likely to adopt gender quotas. However, these factors are usually analyzed in single or a small number of country cases. Controlling for the variables used in the existing literature, I introduce a new dimension to the study of gender quotas, that is, “gender ideology”. I argue that the more positive attitudes about women within society, the more policy outcomes are
likely to be produced in favor of women’s political representation and, thus, quota adoption. Therefore, the main goal of this study is to examine whether or to what extent societal attitudes towards gender—that is, gender ideology—affect the adoption of quotas.

**Keywords:** gender quotas, gender ideology, women participation in politics

**YUSUF MAGIYA**

REGIONAL TRENDS IN CLASS VOTING

Class politics left very important marks on democratic as well as non-democratic politics throughout the 20th century. One vital aspect of class politics in democratic societies is class voting where individuals vote according to their class positions. While class voting was taken for granted until the 1970’s, majority of studies on class voting after these years asserted that class voting was on decline. Nevertheless, several works adopted different approaches and managed to show that class voting may not be in decline. In addition, these studies were exclusively on Western democracies and few scholars have included new democracies in Southern and Eastern Europe in their empirical analyses although some theorized that different patterns can exist in these different regions. In this work I use International Social Survey Programme (ISSP) surveys in order to test time trends with panel data and after controlling for necessary aggregate variables, which the previous literature neglected, found that Eastern European post-communist democracies follow the declining trend of Western democracies while class voting in other regions tend to be stationary.

**Keywords:** class voting, post-communism, Europe

**DUYGU SEVER**

PUBLIC OPINION AND NUCLEAR ENERGY PREFERENCES OF EU COUNTRIES

Within the scope of energy security concerns, most countries feel the need to manage their energy dependence and to include alternative resources into their energy profiles other than oil, gas and coal. Among alternative sources, nuclear energy receives particular attention due to its “renaissance” with new generation reactors. Debates about nuclear energy content the discussion of a variety of advantages and risks. Nevertheless, the factor which brings nuclear energy into prominence originates in its highly controversial position within the public
opinion. Interestingly, there is no statistical work which actually questions whether there is a linkage between public opinion and nuclear energy preferences of the countries. This research, taking into consideration potential alternative reasons why countries may prefer to engage in nuclear energy generation, asks to what extent the negative or positive public opinion determines the national nuclear energy policies. Focusing on the EU Member countries, the research makes use of especially Eurobarometer surveys and World Nuclear Institute Database for the years between 1980 and 2010. The preliminary findings indicate that, especially when there is an increasing negative public opinion in a certain country, the nuclear energy preference decreases.

**Keywords:** public opinion, nuclear energy, European nuclear energy policy

SINEMIS TEMEL

THE CONDITIONS DETERMINING LEADERSHIP’S INFLUENCE ON DEMOCRACY

One would agree that in daily politics most people do have a habit of following the behaviors, lives and speeches of the political leaders. In some countries masses tend to even identify political parties and ideologies with their political leaders and, thus, assign the priority to the latter, rather than perceiving the leaders as temporary individuals representing their political position. Despite the leaders’ popular role in daily politics, in the field of political science there is a clear neglect of ‘leadership’ in terms of analyzing its political outcomes. This paper aims at contributing to narrow this gap by asking one of the most primary questions: What conditions trigger or enable the leaders in democratic regimes to follow an authoritarian path? Up until now, to address the issue of authoritarianization the literature points at the institutional settings of democratic regimes such as the system of government and the electoral system. Different than these previous approaches, this paper brings in the conflict aspect as the main explanatory variable. By mainly drawing on Archigos, an extensive data set with information on leaders, Freedomhouse Index, and UCDP/PRIO Armed Conflict Dataset, this paper argues that leaders are more likely to follow an authoritarian path (1) as the etno-linguistic fractions in a country increases; (2) if there is an internal armed conflict in the country, and (3) if the country is facing an external armed conflict.

**Keywords:** democratization, leadership, authoritarianism, and international environment
MUSTAFA YAGCI

POLITICAL ECONOMY OF SOVEREIGN BORROWING IN EU COUNTRIES

One of the main reflections of the Global Financial Crisis for some of the European Union (EU) countries was their inability to borrow money through auctions of treasury bonds and bills. This inability led to their appeal for external funds from International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the EU to make their scheduled payments. This paper’s main concern is to identify the factors that are influential in sovereign borrowing decisions in the EU countries and to find out whether there are significant differences between Eurozone and other EU countries. In the literature, the main factors used to identify sovereign borrowing decisions are economic factors and this paper supplements the literature with considering political factors that might be influential for sovereign borrowing decisions. Main findings suggest that election year influences sovereign borrowing significantly and the effect of election year is larger for Eurozone countries.

Keywords: Sovereign borrowing, European Union, government debt, treasury bonds and bills, Eurozone crisis.