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A Populist Paradox? How Brexit Softened Anti-Immigrant Attitudes

This paper relies on empirical analysis based on the original Aid Attitudes Tracker (AAT) survey, an online panel study, which mainly focuses on public engagement and attitudes with international development. Although the AAT survey included eight waves by the summer of 2017, we are only able to use four waves that were fielded between November 2015 and August 2017, as these waves included appropriate indicators related to immigrants or refugees. Respondents were drawn from YouGov's online opt-in panel (c.750,000). Respondents were sampled and weighted according to regionally specific demographics by age and gender (interlocked), social grade, region, party identification, and newspaper readership, making the data representative of the adult population of the country as a whole.

Simple text analysis was conducted on an original corpus of all UK national newspaper articles from the Nexis archive from April 15th to September 1st, 2016. This period covers the 10-week campaign prior to the referendum and a matching 10 week period afterwards.

Representativeness tests were conducted by comparing our original data to the British Election Survey (BES).

R SCRIPTS

We present R scripts for each figure and table from the main body and the supplementary information.

All analysis except for Figure 2, and all Figures in Appendix D use the dataset "Brexit_Rep.RData." The dataset includes 63 variables for all 8,032 valid respondents.

Figure 2, and all Figures in Appendix D use the dataset "brexit_media_final.rds."

Main

FIGURE/ TABLE NAME	**R SCRIPT**
Table 1: Descriptive Statistics of DVs, June/July 2016	Descriptives.R
Figure 1: Effect of Brexit on Immigration Attitudes, including controls	MainEffects_Controls.R
Table 2: Effects of Brexit Across Different Time Periods, including controls	Time_Tests_Controls.R
Figure 2: Number of migration-related UK newspaper articles per day mentioning nationalism, racism, and xenophobia	BrexitNewspapers_replication.R
Figure 3: Effect of Brexit on Mediators	Brexit_on_Mediators.R
Figure 4: ACME Economic Insecurity	Multiple_Mediation.R and Fig4.R
Figure 5: ACME Gov Trust	Multiple_Mediation.R and

	Fig5.R
Figure 6: ACME Farage	Multiple_Mediation.R and Fig6.R

Supplementary information

SECTION	FIGURE/ TABLE NAME	R SCRIPT
A	Table 1-4: Balance Across Treatment and Control Groups	Balance150919.R
B	Table 5-7: Representativeness compared to BES	Representativeness2.R
B	Table 5-7: Representativeness compared to BES	Representativeness2.R
C	Table 8: Imputation	Income_Imputation.R
D	Figure 1: Number of migration-related UK newspaper articles per day mentioning nationalism, racism, and xenophobia	BrexitNewspapers_replication.R
D	Figure D: Number of UK newspaper articles per day mentioning immigra* or migra* or refugee	BrexitNewspapers_replication.R
D	Figure D: Number of articles by newspaper title in the corpus	BrexitNewspapers_replication.R
D.1	Figure 1.1: Number of articles with search terms: migra*, immigra*, OR refugee, AND Brexit OR referendum	BrexitNewspapers_replication.R
D.1	Figure 1.2: Keywords with search terms: migra*, immigra*, OR refugee, AND Brexit OR referendum	BrexitNewspapers_replication.R
D.1	Figure 1.3: Number of articles with search terms: migra*, immigra*, OR refugee, AND Brexit OR referendum OR UK OR EU	BrexitNewspapers_replication.R
D.1	Figure 1.4: Keywords with search terms: migra*, immigra*, OR refugee, AND Brexit OR referendum OR UK OR EU	BrexitNewspapers_replication.R
E	Figure 8: Effect of Mediators on Migration Outcomes, by EU Membership Preference	MtoY.R
E	Figure 9: Effect of Mediators on Refugee Outcomes, by EU Membership Preference	MtoY.R
F	Figure 10: Average Treatment Effects among UKIP supporters	Appendix_Fig10.R
F	Figure 11: ACME among UKIP supporters, Aversion to Farage	Multiple_Mediation_UKIP_Farage.R and Figures_MMALL_Farage_Ukippers

G.1.	Table 9: Effect of Brexit on Immigration Attitudes, by EU Referendum Preference (June/ July 2016): Migrants, NO CONTROLS	MainEffects_NoControls.R
G.1.	Table 10: Effect of Brexit on Immigration Attitudes, by EU Referendum Preference (June/ July 2016): Refugees, NO CONTROLS	MainEffects_NoControls.R
G.1.	Figure 12: Average Treatment Effects, EU Support	MainEffects_NoControls.R
G.1.	Table 11: Effect of Brexit on Immigration Attitudes, by EU Referendum Preference (June/ July 2016): Migrants. Including Controls (Income Imputed)	MainEffects_Controls.R
G.1.	Table 12: Effect of Brexit on Immigration Attitudes, by EU Referendum Preference (June/ July 2016): Refugees. Including Controls (Income Imputed)	MainEffects_Controls.R
G.1.	Table 13: Effect of Brexit on Immigration Attitudes, by EU Referendum Preference (June/ July 2016): Migrants. Including Controls (Income Not Imputed)	MainEffects_Controls.R
G.1.	Table 14: Effect of Brexit on Immigration Attitudes, by EU Referendum Preference (June/ July 2016): Refugees. Including Controls (Income Not Imputed)	MainEffects_Controls.R
G.1.	Table 15: Effect of Brexit on Immigration Attitudes, by EU Referendum Preference (June/ July 2016): Migrants. Including Controls (Income Not Included)	MainEffects_Controls.R
G.1.	Table 16: Effect of Brexit on Immigration Attitudes, by EU Referendum Preference (June/ July 2016): Refugees. Including Controls (Income Not Included)	MainEffects_Controls.R
G.2.	Table 17: Effects of Brexit Across Different Time Periods Showing Effects After 1 Year (Columns 5 and 6), No Controls	Time_Tests_No_Controls.R
G.2.	Table 18: Effects of Brexit Across Different Time Periods Showing Effects After 1 Year (Columns 5 and 6), Including Controls	Time_Tests_Controls.R
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G.2.	Table 21: June 2016 (Pre-Referendum) Oct./ Nov. 2016 (Post-Referendum): Migrants. Columns 3 and 4, Rows 4-5 in Table 17	Time_Tests_No_Controls.R
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G.4.	Table 29: Multiple Mediation: Economic Insecurity. Figure 4 main text	Multiple_Mediation.R and Fig4.R
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G.4.	Table 31: Multiple Mediation: Anti-Prejudice Norms. Figure 6 main text	Multiple_Mediation.R and Fig6.R
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H	Table 34: Average Treatment Effects, EU Support Disaggregated: Not Open to Migs.	Ttest_4scale.R
H	Table 35: Average Treatment Effects, EU Support Disaggregated: Refs. Don't Improve UK Image	Ttest_4scale.R
H	Table 36: Average Treatment Effects, EU Support Disaggregated: Refs. Threaten Culture	Ttest_4scale.R
H	Table 37: Average Treatment Effects, EU Support Disaggregated: Refs. Overwhelm Services	Ttest_4scale.R

I	Table 38: Average Treatment Effects, Ordinal Logit, Migrants	Main_Effects_OL2.R
I	Table 39: Average Treatment Effects, Ordinal Logit, Refugees	Main_Effects_OL2.R

MORE INFORMATION

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