

Culture, Context, and the Taste for Redistribution (Online Appendix)

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Appendix Table A1: Summary Statistics

Variable	Mean	S.D.	Min.	Max	N
<i>Preferences for Income Redistribution</i>					
Individual preference for income redistribution	3.82	1.06	1	5	6249
Mean preference for income redistribution in birth country	3.92	0.325	3.01	4.45	6249
Political party redistribution preferences	3.83	0.431	1	5	2328
Beck Score of Party	2.06	0.953	1	3	1622
<i>Demographics and Other Characteristics</i>					
Age	50.01	16.98	18	96	6241
Female	0.567	0.496	0	1	6245
Own Low education	0.312	0.464	0	1	6184
Own Secondary education	0.312	0.463	0	1	6184
Own High education	0.376	0.484	0	1	6184
Spouse Low education	0.316	0.465	0	1	3937
Spouse Secondary education	0.319	0.466	0	1	3937
Spouse High education	0.365	0.482	0	1	3937
Married	0.587	0.492	0	1	6219
Divorced or separated	0.121	0.326	0	1	6219
Widowed	0.113	0.317	0	1	6219
Never married	0.180	0.384	0	1	6219
Log household income	9.704	1.256	6.80	12.39	4906
<i>Primary Income Source:</i>					
Wages and salary	0.589	0.492	0	1	6145
Self-employed	0.062	0.240	0	1	6145
Pensions	0.275	0.447	0	1	6145
Unemployment	0.025	0.156	0	1	6145
Social benefits	0.030	0.170	0	1	6145
Investments	0.007	0.082	0	1	6145
Other	0.013	0.112	0	1	6145
Log household size	0.834	0.548	0	2.48	6246
Paid work last week	0.545	0.498	0	1	6202
Has a child in the household	0.430	0.495	0	1	6226
Ever been unemployed for more than 12 months	0.123	0.329	0	1	6201
Citizen of residence country	0.559	0.497	0	1	6239
Has lived in residence country for more than 20 years	0.629	0.483	0	1	6183
Lives in metropolitan area	0.403	0.491	0	1	6223
Linguistic minority	0.432	0.495	0	1	6232
Voted in last national election	0.463	0.499	0	1	6166
Immigrant birth country density above median	0.499	0.500	0	1	6249
Born in an Eastern Bloc country	0.387	0.487	0	1	6249
Log GDP per capita in birth country	9.69	0.583	8.58	10.99	6249
ESS Wave 2	0.369	0.483	0	1	6249
ESS Wave 3	0.310	0.463	0	1	6249

Note: Subjective support for income redistribution is the level of agreement with the statement “the government should take measures to reduce differences in income levels.” Their responses are coded on a five point scale with 1 being “disagree strongly” and 5 being “agree strongly.” Political party redistribution preferences is the mean preference for income redistribution among natives voting for the political party for which the respondent voted. The Beck database from the World Bank codes the

three largest government political parties and the largest opposition party as left, right, center, or NA. Low education includes the two categories “Not completed primary education” and “Primary of first stage of basic.” Secondary education is the omitted category and corresponds to the category “Lower secondary or second stage of basic.” High education includes the following four categories: “Upper secondary,” “Post-secondary, non-tertiary,” “First stage of tertiary,” and “Second stage of tertiary.” A language is defined as minority if less than 30% of the native population speaks it as a primary language in the home. Immigrant population is the density of immigrants from a particular birth country. Former Eastern Bloc countries included in the ESS are Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Poland, Romania, Russia, Slovakia, Slovenia, and Ukraine. Log GDP per capita is measured in purchasing power parity US dollars. Household income refers to total net income from all sources. Income is coded in a series of income ranges. We define income as the midpoint of the relevant range for each household. If a household’s income fell in the category $\text{income} < X$, where X is the lowest income level given, we define income as $0.5X$. If a household’s income fell in the category $\text{income} > Y$, where Y is the highest income level given, we define income as $2Y$. If income distributions are Pareto distributions, then for parameter α , $E(\text{income} \mid \text{income} > Y) = \alpha Y$. Empirically, income does appear to follow a Pareto distribution, and we take $\alpha = 2$ following Emmanuel Saez (*Review of Economic Studies*, 2001).

Appendix Table A2: Robustness to Sample Selection and Specification

<i>Dependent Variable:</i>					
Subjective Preference for Income Redistribution		Coefficient on Birth Country Redistribution			
<i>Specification:</i>		Preferences	(S.E.)	Adjusted R ²	N
1. Baseline		0.341 ^{***}	(0.084)	0.1101	6249
2. Omitting the two highest and two lowest preference birth countries (Denmark, the Netherlands, Bulgaria and Greece)		0.383 ^{***}	(0.101)	0.1068	5897
3. Omitting former Eastern Bloc birth countries		0.334 ^{***}	(0.080)	0.1049	3833
4. ESS Round 1		0.316 ^{**}	(0.118)	0.1026	2005
5. ESS Round 2		0.442 ^{***}	(0.056)	0.1152	2306
6. ESS Round 3		0.252 [*]	(0.134)	0.1204	1938
7. Only countries represented in all ESS rounds		0.270 ^{**}	(0.097)	0.0930	2521
8. Only EU-15 countries		0.225 ^{**}	(0.085)	0.1108	2416
9. Omitting observations with missing income or demographic information		0.308 ^{***}	(0.078)	0.1179	4774
10. Ordered probit		0.361 ^{***}	(0.087)	0.0491	6248
11. Weighted by design weights		0.361 ^{***}	(0.097)	0.1135	6249
12. Adding birth country \times wave fixed effects		0.350 ^{***}	(0.086)	0.1133	6249

Note: Robust standard errors adjusted for clustering by birth country are in parentheses. Significance levels: * 10 percent; ** 5 percent; *** 1 percent. All regressions include the same control variables as the baseline regression reported in row 3 of Table 3. Denmark and the Netherlands are the two birth countries with the lowest mean preference for redistribution; Bulgaria and Greece are the countries with the highest mean preference. Former Eastern Bloc countries included in the ESS are Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Poland, Romania, Russia, Slovakia, Slovenia, and Ukraine. Countries in each of the three rounds and those represented in all rounds are shown in Table 1. Design weights correct for the probability of sampling within a country but do not adjust for differences in population across countries.