

Title: Appendix A: Variables, appendix for “The impact of conspiracy belief on democratic culture: Evidence from Europe”

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Note: The material contained herein is supplementary to the article named in the title and published in the Harvard Kennedy School (HKS) Misinformation Review.

Appendix A: Variables

Table A1. Item wording and measurement.

Concept	Measures	Answer Scale
Conspiracy belief: immigration	There is a group of people in this country who are trying to replace the native-born population with immigrants.	0–10 0 = <i>do not agree at all</i> 10 = <i>completely agree</i> 97 = <i>don't want to answer</i> 98 = <i>not specified</i>
Conspiracy belief: COVID-19	Out of consideration for the pharmaceutical lobby, the government is concealing the potential side effects and long-term damage caused by the COVID-19 vaccines.	0–10 0 = <i>do not agree at all</i> 10 = <i>completely agree</i> 97 = <i>don't want to answer</i> 98 = <i>not specified</i>
Consider democracy to be important	How important is it for you to live in a country that is governed democratically?	0–10 0 = <i>not at all important</i> 10 = <i>extremely important</i> 97 = <i>don't want to answer</i> 98 = <i>not specified</i>
Satisfaction with democracy	All in all, how satisfied are you with the way democracy works in [country]?	0–10 0 = <i>extremely dissatisfied</i> 10 = <i>extremely satisfied</i> 97 = <i>don't want to answer</i> 98 = <i>not specified</i>
Political trust	Please indicate how much, if at all, you personally trust the following institutions: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The [national parliament]• The European parliament• The judicial system• Political parties• Science• The police• The media	0–10 0 = <i>do not trust at all</i> 10 = <i>trust completely</i> 97 = <i>don't want to answer</i> 98 = <i>not specified</i>
Populism	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Politicians should always listen closely to the problems of the people.• Politicians don't have to spend time among ordinary people to do a good job.• The government is pretty much run by a few big interests looking out for themselves.• Government officials use their power to try to improve people's lives.• Quite a few of the people running the government are crooked.	0–10 0 = <i>do not agree at all</i> 10 = <i>completely agree</i> 97 = <i>don't want to answer</i> 98 = <i>not specified</i>

Concept	Measures	Answer Scale
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You can tell if a person is good or bad if you know their politics. The people I disagree with politically are not evil. The people I disagree with politically are just misinformed. 	
Political efficacy: internal	I feel confident enough to take an active part in a conversation about political issues.	0–10 0 = <i>do not agree at all</i> 10 = <i>completely agree</i> 97 = <i>don't want to answer</i> 98 = <i>not specified</i>
Political efficacy: external	People like me have no say in what the government does.	97 = <i>don't want to answer</i> 98 = <i>not specified</i>
Voting intention	Which party would you vote for, if there were a general election next Sunday? (Parties assigned to the party families as described in Table A2)	Far-left Green and environmental Social democratic Liberal Conservative and Christian democratic Far-right 97 = <i>don't want to answer</i> 98 = <i>not specified</i>
Political Participation	If you want to get your point across politically on an issue that is important to you: Which of the following have you ever done? (multiple answers possible) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expressing your own opinion in a private setting Taking part in public discussions Expressing your own opinion on social networks Actively participate in a political party Wear a political campaign badge or sticker Contact a politician or member of government Participate in a demonstration Sign a petition Voting in an election Boycott/buy goods for political/ethical reasons None of this 	0 = <i>no</i> 1 = <i>yes</i> 97 = <i>don't want to answer</i> 98 = <i>not specified</i>
Left-right self-positioning	In politics, people often talk about 'left' and 'right'. How would you classify yourself here? Please indicate your personal position on a scale from 0 to 10. '0' means 'left' and '10' means 'right'	0–10 0 = <i>left</i> 10 = <i>right</i> 97 = <i>don't want to answer</i> 98 = <i>not specified</i>
Place-based identification	People have different views of themselves and how connected they feel to their environment and the rest of the world. How is that for you? How connected do you feel to ... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ... the town or city in which you live? ... the region in which you live? ... [country]? ... Europe? 	0–10 0 = <i>not connected at all</i> 10 = <i>very connected</i> 97 = <i>don't want to answer</i> 98 = <i>not specified</i>

Concept	Measures	Answer Scale
Gender ^a		0 = male 1 = female
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secondary school with 12th grade graduation • Secondary school with 10th grade graduation • Secondary school with 8th grade graduation / Left school without a diploma 	1 = low 2 = intermediate 3 = high
Income	Gross household income: Classification into three groups for each country	1 = low 2 = intermediate 3 = high
Political interest	Generally speaking: How interested are you in politics?	1 = not at all 2 = little 3 = medium 4 = strong 5 = very strong 97 = don't want to answer 98 = don't know
Place of residence	Which is most likely to apply to the area where you live?	1 = large city 2 = suburb/outskirt of a large city 3 = small city or town 4 = rural region

Note: ^a Although non-binary gender identities were included in the survey, none of the respondents indicated a gender category other than "male" or "female."

Table A2. Classification of parties into party families.

Party family	Country	Party
Far-left	DE	Die Linke
	FR	Mélenchon (FI)
	GR	Synaspismos Rizospastikis Aristeras (SYRIZA)
	GR	Kommounistikó Kómma Elládas (KKE)
	NL	Socialistische Partij (SP)
	SE	Vänsterpartiet (V)
	ES	Unidos Podemos (UP)
	ES	Más País (M)
Green and environmental	DE	Bündnis 90/Die Grünen
	FR	Jadot (EELV)
	IT	Nuove Energie (NE)
	GR	Democracy in Europe Movement 2025 (MeRA25)
	NL	GroenLinks (GL)
	SE	Miljöpartiet de Gröna (MP)
Social democratic	DE	Sozialdemokratische Partei Deutschlands (SPD)
	GR	Kinima Allagis (KINAL)
	IT	Partito Democratico (PD)
	IT	Liberi e Uguali (LeU)
	NL	Partij van de Arbeid (PvdA)
	PL	Lewica
	SE	Sveriges socialdemokratiska arbetareparti (S)
	ES	Partido Socialista Obrero Español (PSOE)

Party family	Country	Party
Liberal	DE	Freie Demokratische Partei (FDP)
	FR	Macron (LREM)
	IT	Italia Viva (IV)
	IT	Più Europa (+EU)
	NL	Democraten 66 (D66)
	NL	Volkspartij voor Vrijheid en Democratie (VVD)
	PL	Koalicja Obywatelska (KO)
	SE	Liberalerna (L)
	ES	Ciudadanos (Cs)
	CZ	Politické hnutí ANO 2011 (ANO)
Conservative and Christian-democratic	DE	Union (CDU & CSU)
	FR	Lassalle (R!)
	FR	Pécresse (LR)
	GR	Nea Dimokratia (ND)
	IT	Forza Italia (FI)
	NL	Christen-Democratisch Appèl (CDA)
	PL	PSL – Koalicja Polska (KP)
	SE	Kristdemokraterna (KD)
	SE	Moderate samlingspartiet (M)
	ES	Partido Popular (PP)
	CZ	SPOLU
	HU	Mindenki Magyarországa Mozgalom (MMM)
Far-right	DE	Alternative für Deutschland (AfD)
	FR	Le Pen (RN)
	FR	Zemmour (REC)
	GR	Elliniki Lysi (EL)
	IT	Fratelli d'Italia (FDI)
	IT	Lega
	NL	Partij voor de Vrijheid (PVV)
	NL	Forum voor Democratie (FvD)
	PL	Konfederacja Wolność i Niepodległość (KON)
	PL	Prawo i Sprawiedliwość (PiS)
	SE	Sverigedemokraterna (SD)
	ES	VOX
	CZ	Svoboda a přímá demokracie (SPD)
	HU	Fidesz
	HU	Mi Hazánk Mozgalom (MHM)
Other	IT	Movimento 5 Stelle (M5S)
	SE	Centerpartiet (C)
	ES	Esquerra Republicana de Catalunya (ERC)
	CZ	Česká pirátská strana (PaS) People who selected "Other"