

Immigration Waves, Public Moods, and Policy Responses

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Background

- SOM: Support and Opposition to Migration
- FP7 funded
- First results
- Policy as response

Simple Theory



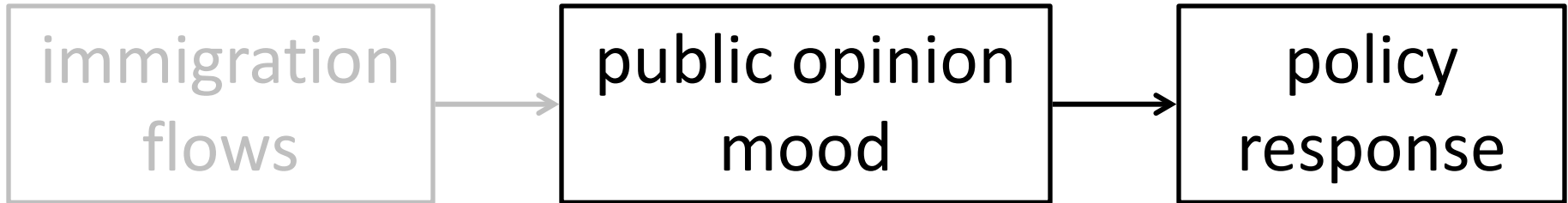
- Idea: responsive governance
- Mechanism

Hypothesis 1



- H1: changes in composition >> opinions
 - stronger if immigrants visible
 - stronger if sudden increase of immigrants
 - stronger if economy doing badly

Hypothesis 2



- H2: responsive governance
 - Uncertain re-election
 - Some domains only

- 7 countries, 1995-2010
- Immigration flows
 - Proportion foreign born/national
- Public opinion moods
 - Survey questions: ESS/WVS
- Policy response
 - MIPEX, asylum indicators

Results: Overall Association

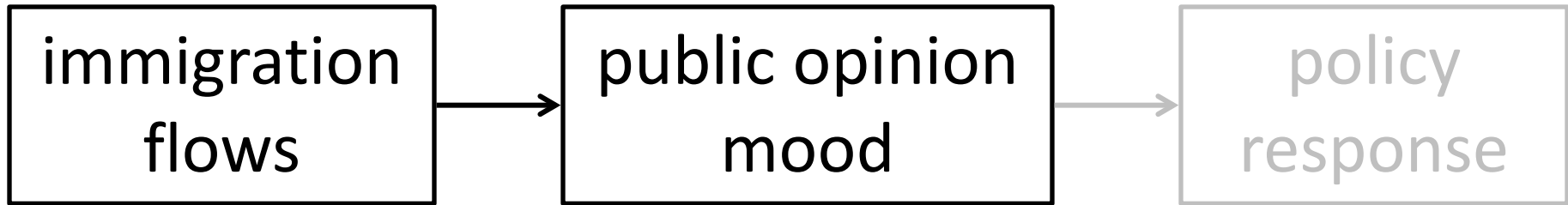


Foreign nationals

Policy sum	Family reunion
LT residence	Naturalizations
Asylum	Labour force
Political participation	Anti-discrimination

green = $p < 0.05$; red = not significant

Results: Flows to Opinions (H1)



Foreign nationals

Come

Reduce

Sentiment

Latent

Vote share

green = $p < 0.1$; red = not significant

Results: Visible Immigrants



Let More Come

Foreign nationals

Same language

EU-15

Muslim

Asylum seekers

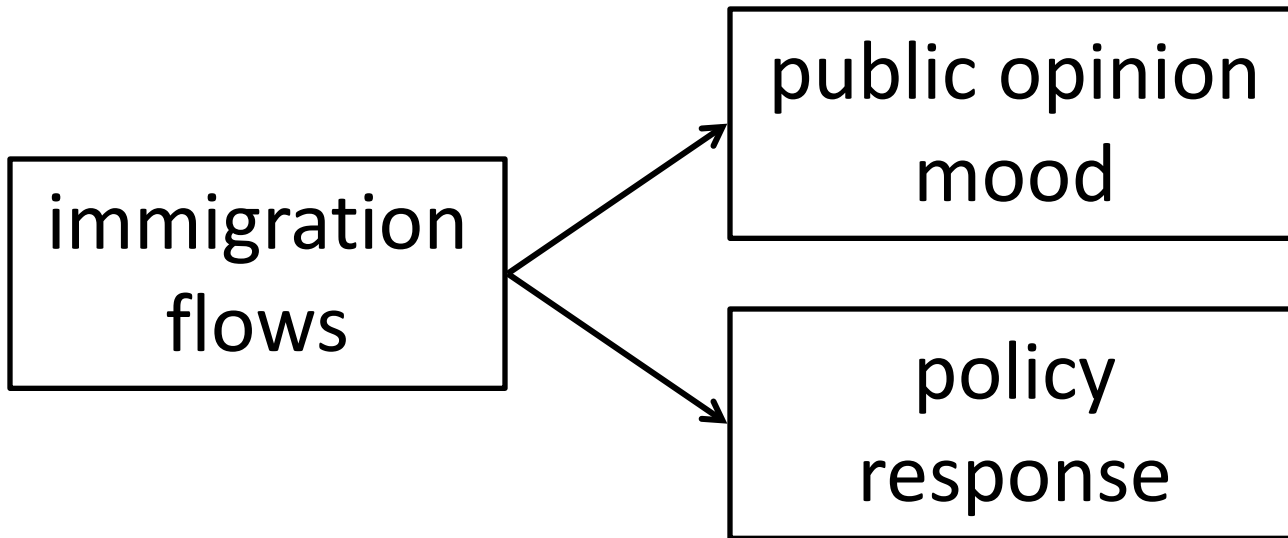
green = $p < 0.1$; red = not significant

Results: Policy Responses (H2)



- Not significant ($p < .1$)
- Proportionality: some
- Effective number of parties: some
- All policy domains similar

Conclusion



- Patterns of association
- Policy not reflective of policy moods on immigration (but: time frame?)