Sebastian Baglioni and Achim Hurrelmann, ‘The Eurozone Crisis and Citizen Engagement in EU Affairs’

Online Appendix

(A) Analysis on protest events in the context of the Eurozone crisis

This analysis is based on an automated search of newspaper articles published between January 2010 and December 2014 in the following newspapers: *Süddeutsche Zeitung* and *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* (Germany), *Der Standard* and *Die Presse* (Austria), *El Pais* and *El Mundo* (Spain), as well as *Irish Independent* and *Irish Times* (Ireland). The search was conducted in the electronic databases FAZ Biblionet (for Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung) and Factiva (for all other papers), using the following search terms:

- English: (euro-crisis or euro rescue or austerity) and (protest* or demonstration*)
- Spanish: (crisis del euro or rescate del euro or austeridad) and (protest* or demostracion*)
- German: (eurokrise or euro-krise or eurorettung or euro-rettung or sparpolitik) and (protest* or demonstration*)

In Factiva, a regional specification was set to ‘European Union countries’ and the duplicates setting was ‘identical’.

In a first step, all articles identified by the automated search were classified as either relevant or irrelevant to our analysis. In order to be classified as relevant, articles had to report about demonstrations/protest events within the country in question in which the Eurozone crisis was brought up. Both announcements of/mobilization for upcoming protests and retrospective reports about them were included. The following kinds of articles were treated as irrelevant: Verbal ‘protest’ by politicians or other actors against decisions/proposals, commentary/opinion pieces reflecting on protests, reports about protests in other countries, and reports about protests focusing on subnational levels of government.

In a second step, all relevant articles were classified based on the political level targeted in the protesters’ statements, as these were reported in the article. We distinguished protest focusing on the national level, on the EU level, or on both. ‘Both’ was also coded if the precise focus of the protest was unclear from the language used in the article.

This analysis generated the following results:

Süddeutsche Zeitung

Year	Total hits	EU-related protest	MS-focused protest	Protest focused on both EU and MS	Irrelevant
2010	45	0	6	0	39
2011	84	0	0	0	84
2012	141	7	0	4	130
2013	89	2	0	1	86
2014	50	2	0	0	48

Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

Year	Total hits	EU-related protest	MS-focused protest	Protest focused on both EU and MS	Irrelevant
2010	46	2	1	0	43
2011	126	0	1	4	121
2012	217	9	0	5	203
2013	144	1	1	5	137
2014	82	0	0	0	82

Der Standard

Year	Total hits	EU-related protest	MS-focused protest	Protest focused on both EU and MS	Irrelevant
2010	7	0	1	0	6
2011	9	0	0	0	9
2012	46	1	0	0	45
2013	17	0	0	0	17
2014	9	0	0	0	9

Die Presse

Year	Total hits	EU-related protest	MS-focused protest	Protest focused on both EU and MS	Irrelevant
2010	5	0	0	0	5
2011	27	0	0	1	26
2012	49	0	0	0	49
2013	23	0	2	0	21
2014	15	0	0	0	15

El Pais

Year	Total hits	EU-related protest	MS-focused protest	Protest focused on both EU and MS	Irrelevant
2010	67	4	9	5	49
2011	99	3	27	3	66
2012	137	4	29	12	92
2013	76	1	23	8	44
2014	39	2	4	7	26

El Mundo

Year	Total hits	EU-related protest	MS-focused protest	Protest focused on both EU and MS	Irrelevant
2010	30	2	7	2	19
2011	37	0	11	0	26
2012	38	3	9	4	22
2013	28	0	9	3	16
2014	14	0	0	3	11

Irish Independent

Year	Total hits	EU-related protest	MS-focused protest	Protest focused on both EU and MS	Irrelevant
2010	16	0	4	0	14
2011	35	1	3	0	31
2012	58	1	20	3	34
2013	73	0	21	1	51
2014	100	0	26	4	70

Irish Times

Year	Total hits	EU-related protest	MS-focused protest	Protest focused on both EU and MS	Irrelevant
2010	60	4	12	4	40
2011	60	0	4	5	51
2012	106	2	19	1	84
2013	71	0	16	2	53
2014	95	0	26	1	68

(B) Interview guide for the focus groups

Introductory remarks:

- Introduction: Researcher at Carleton University (Canada) in the field of Political Science, working on politics in European countries
- Topic of today's group discussion: How do normal people view recent political events and decisions in European countries?
- Objectives of group discussion: Natural conversation with relatively equal participation of everyone. If someone is very quiet throughout the discussion, a question might be explicitly addressed to him or her.
- Final remark: In talking about politics, two things are very normal: First, there will be fields about which you do not know much – don't feel bad about this. Second, we should expect that people have different opinions. Please don't hesitate to voice disagreement, but do so in a respectful way.

- Ask all participants to briefly introduce themselves.

1. As I mentioned, I am interested in your evaluation of recent political events and decisions. In a first step, could you please tell me: Which political developments, in [city], [country] or in the world, have worried or excited you recently?

Probe: One major political development of the past few years has been the economic crisis beginning in 2008. Do you think it has been handled well by the politicians in charge?

2. In particular, I would like to learn about your evaluation of the European Union. To begin, could you please tell me: What is your first reaction when you think of the European Union?

Probe: Would you generally consider the European Union – and [country's] membership within it – a good thing or a bad thing? Why?

Probe: How – if at all – does [country's] membership in the European Union affect you personally?

3. For the next question, I would like to hear a brief answer from everyone, going around the table. The question is: What does “Europe” mean for you? Do you feel European?

Probe: What – if anything – do Europeans have in common?

4. In general, do you think it is good that many political decisions are now made at the European level?

Probe: In which policy areas, if any, should the European Union have power? Which ones are better decided at other political levels? (If not mentioned spontaneously, probe: social policy, foreign policy, immigration, environment.)

5. Are you familiar with the specific institutions of the European Union?

Probe: Let me mention some core EU institutions: the European Commission, the European Parliament, the Council, the European Central Bank, the Court of Justice. Which of these institutions, in your view, works towards your interests the most?

6. Which options do you see for yourself to influence EU decision-making?

Probe (if not mentioned spontaneously): How about the European Parliament elections, for instance? Which additional ways to influence EU decisions would you like to have?

Probe: Do you feel well informed about the European Union? From which sources of information do you hear about the EU? How would you compare your level of information about EU politics to your level of information about [country's] politics?

Probe: Did you know that a summit of the EU's heads of state and government takes place in Brussels this week?

7. If you compare the European Union to politics at the national or local level: Are you more or less satisfied with EU politics than with politics within [your country]? Why?
8. What should be objectives for the further development of the European Union? How would you like it to look in 10 years?

Probe: Should the EU develop further in the direction of a democratic state or federation (for example by getting a more powerful parliament or a directly elected president)?

Probe: Should the EU accept more member states (for example, Serbia or Turkey)?

9. We are at the end of our discussion. Before I let you go, I would like to know: Has this discussion changed your perception of the European Union in any way?