

Voting in 2007 Russian legislative elections: The role of Putin's approval and ideology.

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Abstract

This work investigates the effect of socio-economic characteristics, ideological preferences, and trust in the political system on a Russian voter's choice in the 2007 State Duma elections. A model of multinomial voter choice is analyzed, with data from May 2007. The paper finds that presidential approval is the single most important factor that affected the voter's choice in favor of United Russia. It is shown that a decline in approval would have led both to lower turnout, and a smaller relative vote share for the United Russia. An aggregate measure of ideological preferences is constructed and is also shown to be important. Of socio-economic characteristics, gender and age are significant, while income, education, and the rural/urban status are not.

There has been surprisingly little modern quantitative voter research done in transitional countries, especially in Russia. The bulk of the existing works investigate economic voting — whether a voter's desire to support an incumbent political party or president depends on her positive or negative retrospective or prospective economic evaluations.

Hesli and Bashkirova (2001) found that both prospective and retrospective economic evaluations were important for positive evaluations of President Boris Yeltsin in 1995-1999. According to the “transitional model” of economic voting (Tucker, 2006), the economic evaluations of voters in post-Communist countries are more long-term. The voters compare the current economic conditions with the pre-transition economy. Those who believe that the economic conditions have deteriorated should support the parties that are associated with the pre-transition Communist regime. Owen and Tucker (2008) tested this theory against data from Poland, with some evidence in favor of both the transitional model and the conventional model of economic voting¹. Fidrmuk (2000a, 2000b) also provided a classification of parties in the post-Communist Eastern Europe; different types of parties have different support groups in the electorate, based on employment, education, and other factors that are correlated with the individual's positive or negative experience with economic reforms.

Colton and Hale (2008) compared the effects of positions on various ideological issues on the Russian Presidential vote in 1996-2008, as well as on the 2007 vote in State Duma elections. They found that the role of voter's ideological positions declined throughout the period but still remained strong in 2008. In particular, they found that left-right ideology, attitude to market reforms, and anti-Western sentiments were all important factors, with being more pro-Western

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¹Cox and Powers (1997) earlier noted that voting in Poland was affected by whether an individual believed that the Communists or the reformers were to blame for the country's post-reform economic hardships. It has a stronger effect on vote than retrospective economic evaluations.

and pro-market increasing one's chances of supporting Putin or Medvedev (not surprisingly, as the runner-up was always a Communist candidate). They found weak evidence that gender, education, or religion contributed to the choice of the voter.

According to a macro-level study by Mishler and Willerton (2003), ideology also played a pole in the public's evaluations of Boris Yeltsin and Vladimir Putin from 1993 to 2000 — in particular, percentage of survey respondents who approved of authoritarian or nationalistic values negatively correlated with either Yeltsin's or Putin's approval. However, retrospective economic evaluations, and inflation, were found to have greater importance. In a similar approach, Treisman (2008) also argued in favor of economy-driven presidential approval. Richter (2006) found that wage arrears substantially reduced the likelihood of a voter supporting Boris Yeltsin over Gennadi Zuganov in the second round of 1996 Presidential elections.

This is the first work that uses a multinomial choice model to analyze the source of support for the main Russian political parties on the eve of the 2007 State Duma elections. I am interested in finding whether the high amount of support rendered to the pro-Kremlin United Russia party was a result of its neutral (and vague) ideological position², demographic factors, or the approval of President Putin. Although the survey data that I use does not contain an explicit question about the retrospective economic evaluation, Putin's approval can be used as a proxy.

1 The Data

The results of this work are based on a survey conducted by VCIOM (Russian Public Opinion Research Center) in May 2007. Some 1588 adult citizens were interviewed in 46 Russian regions, out of a total of 83.

Over 66% of the respondents indicated that they would vote for some party if the election were held at the time of the survey (Table 4). The distribution of vote in the sample is similar to the distribution of actual vote in December, 2 elections. The lion's share of the vote went to the pro-Kremlin United Russia party.

It is commonly believed that the United Russia received unfair advantage due to the lopsided coverage on the state television channels and political pressure. The party also enjoyed an open endorsement by the then President Vladimir Putin, and it is widely believed that some form of election fraud had taken place (see, for instance, Harding, 2007). The support for the pro-Kremlin United Russia actually declined from 45% in the May sample to 40% in the December election. According to some sources, the decline may have been due to the popular dissatisfaction with the rising food prices in the third and fourth quarters of 2007 (see, for instance, Babich, 2007).

Most of the rest of the vote, both in the elections and in the sample, went to the three runner-up parties. Support for Vladimir Zhirinovskiy's Liberal Democratic Party (LDPR) has increased from 4,2% to 5,1%; for Fair Russia (SR) it has declined from 6,2% to under 5%; for the Communist Party (CPRF), it has remained constant at 7,1-7,3%. The share of votes for most minor parties (with the notable exception of the Agrarian Party) was also similar in the survey and in the elections.

²The proposition that ideology or policy preferences affect voting can be tested with survey data that records the positions of the voters on various policy issues. One can then use factor analysis to calculate the position of the voter in the policy space, or include in the voter utility function a separate term for each policy issue. The first approach was used to analyze data from Netherlands and Great Britain (Quinn, Martin and Whitford, 1999), and Israel (Schofield, 2007). The second approach is used, for example, by Thurner and Eymann (2000) for German Bundestag elections.

Some 54.7% of the respondents were female, 45.3% male. The age of the respondents varied from 18 to 92 full years, with the mean of 44,69 years. Rural residents composed 26,67% of the sample. The mean self-reported education on 0 to 1 scale was 0,56; for income, the figure was also 0,56 (see Appendix A on the index details).

The approval rate for President Putin is noticeably higher than for other federal government institutions — State Duma, Federation Council, the Prime Minister, and the Cabinet (Table 1). Only a small part of the population — 12% — disapproves of Putin, and an even smaller part — 8% — was undecided. For other insititutions, the disapproval rates are much higher. The share of the respondents who answered “don’t know” is also greater, suggesting that the attitudes are weaker.

The respondent’s ideological preferences were measured by two survey questions. In the first question, the respondent was read a list of 40 words. After each item, he was asked to identify whether he felt positive toward the concept it represented. The second question was identical, except that the negative feelings were recorded (see Tables 2,3). “Order” was positively identified by the largest number of respondents (57%), followed by “justice”, “stability”, and “well-being”. The largest number of negative responses was given to “elite” (41%), followed by “non-Russians” and “West”.

For each concept, I constructed a variable that took the value of -1 if the respondent’s feeling was negative, 1 if the feeling was positive, and 0 otherwise. The Karhunen-Loeve transform was used to construct the two-dimensional ideological space and the positions of the respondents. Figure 2 shows the positions of the respondents in the ideological space.³

Tables 2,3 show factor loadings for each of the 40 concepts. Each factor loading is proportional to the correlation between the values of the ideological factor and the feelings toward the concept. To use the terminology of Basinger and Hartman (2006), the concepts with high absolute factor loadings are “ideologically integrated”.

The first ideological factor (or the position along the first dimension) can be interpreted as the degree of a voter’s general (dis)satisfaction. High values of the first factor correspond to negative feelings toward “justice” and “labor”, and, to a lesser extent, “order”, “state”, “stability” and “equality”. Also, those with high values of the first tend to feel neutral toward “order”, “elite”, “West”, and “non-Russians”. Low values of the first factor correspond to positive attitudes to “order”, “justice”, “stability” and “equality”, and negative attitudes toward “elite”, “West”, and “non-Russians”.

The second factor can be called the voter’s degree of economic liberalism. High values correspond to positive feelings to “freedom”, “business”, “capitalism”, “well-being”, “success”, and “progress”, and to negative feelings toward “communism”, “socialism”, “USSR”, and related concepts.

One can see that the supporters of different parties tend to have different ideological preferences (Table 4). The supporters of the United Russia have the centrist position along both dimensions — partly due to the fact that they constitute 45% of the sample, and the sample means are zero for each ideological factor. The supporters of the Communist Party and Fair Russia have similar ideological profiles, with low values along each factor. The LDPR supporters tend to have low values along the first ideological factor (suggesting dissatisfaction), but high values along the second factor (suggesting economic liberalism).

³In a similar study of American Presidential voting, Ansolabehere, Snyder, and Rodden (2006) have shown that aggregation of a large number of survey items eliminates measurement error and reveals issue preferences; the effect of aggregated issue preference approaches that of party identification.

2 The multinomial logit model

Denote by I the set of parties and by N the set of respondents. Each voter i is characterized by the vector x_i of observable individual-specific nonpolicy factors, and by the observable position (v_{i1}, v_{i2}) on the two ideological dimensions. Each party j is characterized by the ideological position (y_{j1}, y_{j2}) .

Suppose that the utility that voter i attributes to party j is

$$u_{ij} = a_j + \alpha_j x_i^T + \beta_1(v_{i1} - y_{j1})^2 + \beta_2(v_{i2} - y_{j2})^2 + \epsilon_{ij} \equiv \bar{u}_{ij} + \epsilon_{ij}, \quad (1)$$

where a_j , α_j , β_1 , β_2 are unobservable parameters, and ϵ_{ij} is an unobservable independent random variable distributed according to the rule

$$P(\epsilon_{ij} \leq h) = e^{-e^{-h}}. \quad (2)$$

Denote by $d_i \in J$ the party that respondent i intends to vote for.

Assume that the respondent votes for party j if that party gives him the maximum utility. Given that the error terms are distributed according to (2), the probability that voter i will support party j is

$$P_{ij} = \frac{\exp \bar{u}_{ij}}{\sum_{l \in J} \exp \bar{u}_{il}}. \quad (3)$$

Denote the likelihood of the model by

$$L = \sum_{i \in I} P_{id_i}. \quad (4)$$

The estimation problem is to find the values of a_j , α_j , β_1 , β_2 that maximize L .

Ascertaining y_{j1} and y_{j2} , the ideological positions of political parties as they are perceived by the voters, is a methodological problem. There are several ways to do it, such as expert survey of party elites (see Quinn, Martin, and Whitford, 1998), own expert judgement (Schofield, 2007), or a systematized analysis of party manifestos (Bulge et. al., 2001). For this work, I took the party positions to be equal to the average positions of respondents:

$$y_{jk} = \sum_{i|d_i=j} v_{ik} \quad (5)$$

for all j $i = 1, 2$.

3 The results

The multinomial models of voter choice generally perform poorly when some parties have very limited support.

For this reason, I initially limit my estimation to four parties — United Russia, the Communist Party, LDPR, and Fair Russia. In order to check the robustness of the results, I then estimate the voter choice model with seven parties, adding Yabloko, SPS, and the Agrarian Party.

Several variants of the four-party model are looked at.

1. The full set of explanatory variables is used. These include ideological positions, age, gender, rural residence, income, education, approval and efficacy. See Table 5.
2. All of the above, except ideological positions. See Table 6.

3. Model 1 with significant explanatory variables retained. See Table 7.
4. Model 1 less approval and efficacy. See Table 8.
5. Model 4 less age and gender. See Table 9.
6. Model 5 less education, income, and rural residence ($\alpha_j = 0$ in (1)). See Table 10.

For the seven-party model, I use the following restrictions.

1. The full set of explanatory variables is used. See Table 18.
2. Model 1 less ideological positions. See Table 19.
3. Model 1 with significant explanatory variables retained. See Table 20.
4. Model 1 less approval and efficacy. See Table 21.
5. Model 4 less age, gender, education, income, and rural residence ($\alpha_j = 0$ in (1)). See Table 22.

The findings show overwhelming support for the hypothesis that ideology affects voting. For the four-party and seven-party models with the full set of other explanatory variables, adding the two spatial terms improves log likelihood by 45 and 50,8, respectively. This translates into an increase from 40,9% to 42,9% in the geometric average probability of predicting the vote correctly for the seven-party model. For the four-party model, the corresponding increase is from 46,5% to 48,7%. Likelihood ratio tests show that the addition of the two spatial terms is significant (see Tables 11, 23). The estimated values of both β_1 and β_2 are approximately equal for the four-party and the seven-party models.

The ideological preferences of a voter strongly affect her predicted vote. In Tables 13 and 14 I give the probabilities of a male and a female voter supporting the four large parties (based on the estimation of the four-party model with the full set of explanatory variables). One can see that the support for the high-valence United Russia can vary from 45% to 83%, depending on ideological position. The support for low-valence parties varies by a greater extent — from 1% to 31% for the Communist party, for example.

The approval of President Putin had a significant and negative effect on the support for all parties other than United Russia. The effect was the strongest for the CPRF and weakest for the Fair Russia (see Table 5). Hence an increase in one's approval is likely to increase a voter's probability of supporting United Russia at the expense of the other three parties, with CPRF being hardest hit. This signifies the fact that Russian voters clearly perceived United Russia as a pro-Putin party even in May 2007, well before it was announced that Putin would head the United Russia party list on October 2001.

The approval the Prime Minister and Cabinet did not have any significant effect on the vote. Approval of the State Duma had a small, negative and marginally significant effect on the LDPR vote; for other parties, that effect was not significant. The term for the approval of the upper house of the Russia parliament, the Federation Council, was significant only for the Fair Russia party. It was also positive, as the party leader, Segei Mironov, is also the head of that legislative body.

The magnitude of the 'Putin effect' on the level of support for the United Russia can be estimated by setting the approval scores equal to zero for all respondents, then re-estimating the probabilities of voting according to the four-party model with the full set of explanatory

variables. The expected voteshares for each party by can be obtained by averaging the estimated probabilities for each party across all respondents in the four-party subsample.⁴

The results of this estimation appear in Table 12. One can see that the high approval of President Putin affected the support for the United Russia to a very large extent. In the original four-party subsample, 72% of the votes went to that party. If the approval for Putin uniformly decreased to 0,5 (equivalent to a “don’t know” answer to the question whether the respondent approved of Putin), the support for the United Russia would decline to 61%. If everyone completely disapproved of Putin, United Russia would receive only 43% of the vote that went to the four parties, or only 27,2% of the popular vote, if we assume that the share of the abstaining or undecided voters, as well as the vote share of the small parties, remained constant. The main beneficiaries of the decrease in approval would be the Communist party and LDPR, with more modest gains by SR.

Thus this work corroborates what have been common knowledge: the popularity of the United Russia was due to the high approval rating of Vladimir Putin, and to the party’s perceived connection to the popular president.

The respondents who supported parties other than the United Russia also had lower internal efficacy scores. One can see that an increase in one’s efficacy score will increase her probability of supporting United Russia, at the expense of all other parties for the four-party model, where all three efficacy terms are negative and significant. For the seven-party model, the efficacy terms for the three small parties are not significant.

Education was found to have no effect on the political preferences of the voters. For all models, the education terms in (1) were individually insignificant, with the exception for SPS, where it was significant at 10% level. Education was the only significant individual nonpolicy factor found to affect the voter’s latent utility for SPS. A voter with a higher education is more likely to support SPS, at the expense of all other parties.

For the four-party model, the income effect is significant only for the LDPR. A voter with a lower perceived income will be more likely to support LDPR. The effect is quite large in magnitude. An decrease in self-reported income by one level (from “medium” to “high”, for example) will have approximately the same effect on the voter’s likelihood to support LDPR as a change in approval from maximum to minimum. For the seven-party model, the income also had a positive effect on the preference for the Agrarian party.

Gender was the one of the most important factors that affected party preferences. Out of 67 LDPR supporters in the sample, 55 were males. The United Russia had slightly more female supporters (414 out of 726), while the Communist party and the SR has an equal number of male and female supporters. When controlling for all other factors, male voters are more likely to support the Communist Party and especially LDPR at the expense of the SR and the United Russia. For the extended dataset including the supporters of the three small parties, female voters were more likely to support Yabloko and equally likely to support either SPS or the Agrarian party.

Age was also found to have a significant effect for almost all parties. The effect (relative to the United Russia) was largest for the CPRF. Indeed, the average age of CPRF supporters was 59,0. This finding suggests that the factors that make CPRF more popular among the older population are not captured by either ideological preferences, the approval of government, or internal efficacy. The high age of CPRF supporters also explains the gender bias: in 2006, the average life expectancy of Russian males was only 60,3 years compared for 73,2 years for females. The age effect for the SR was similar (with the average age of the supporters being

⁴Conveniently, the expected voteshares for the unaltered subsample are equal to the actual voteshares in that subsample. This is a very nice property of Logit models of multinomial choice.

54,9 years). For LDPR, the age effect was negative and significant; at the average age of 36,8 the LDPR electorate was the youngest from among the seven parties in the large sample. The age effect for SPS was positive and marginally significant.⁵

The final sociodemographic factor that I studied was whether the respondent lived in a rural or urban area. There were no rural residents among Yabloko supporters and only one among the SPS. The proportion of rural residents among the CPRF, United Russia, SR supporters, and the general population, was almost equal (30%, 28,5%, 29,5%, and 30%, respectively). As a result, rural coefficients for neither CPRF or SR were significant. This corroborates the claim that the Communist Party lost the support of rural voters (Wegren and Konitzer, 2006). The only party to have a significantly smaller proportion of rural voters was the LDPR (23,8%).

Tables 13-16 examine the effects of various factors on the voter's probability of supporting each of the four major parties for the four-party model. In Table 17, I used the estimated four-party model to construct the profile of voters who are most likely to support each of the four major parties.

Poorly educated, low-income, young females who approve of the federal government and have centrist ideology are most likely to support United Russia, with probability 96% according to the model. The most likely supporters of LDPR are young urban men with below average income, who disapprove of the government, have low efficacy scores, profess liberal economic ideology and are dissatisfied. It should be noted that a person fitting this description is a very likely supporter of LDPR, with a 88% chance of voting for that party.

Support for CPRF and SR is highest among dissatisfied elderly males with below-average income who disapprove of the government, have low efficacy scores, and have anti-market economic views. However, even a voter of Type III in Table 17 has only a 33% chance of voting for CPRF, which is smaller than his chance of voting for United Russia. Figures for voters Type IV and the SR are similar.

There are two remarks with respect to the model's capacity in predicting individual votes. First, most types of voters are expected to support the pro-Kremlin United Russia with a large probability. The lowest probability is for the pro-LDPR voter in Table 17 (8%), while for all other voter profiles from Tables 13-16, the figure is above 22% and usually is much higher. For the other three parties, the voting probabilities are usually below 10% for most voter profiles. This augments the claim that the voters have a strong pro-United Russia bias that is not accounted for by ideological and non-ideological voter characteristics measured in the survey. The source of this bias is the most likely the mass media.

The second thing to note is the model's poor ability to differentiate between CPRF and SR votes. The ratio of probabilities of voting for the two parties is relatively constant across the voter profiles, since the model coefficients are approximately equal for the two parties, and the supporters of the two parties have similar ideology.

3.1 Including voter abstention in the model

Allowing for voter abstention in the model changes some of the model's predictions, especially those that concern the effect of presidential approval on the United Russia vote.

There are two ways to include abstention in a multinomial choice model. First would be to assume that an individual votes for her favorite party only if the utility he gets from voting is greater than the utility he gets from abstaining. This approach, known as abstention due to alienation, treats not voting as a separate choice, which requires an additional utility function.

⁵Mishler and Rose (2007) found that age and generational differences were significant factors that determined an individual's support of the current political regime;

The second way is to assume that the voter supports her favorite party only if the utility difference between the two best options is greater than a certain threshold.

This is known as abstention due to voter indifference.⁶

Here, I found weak evidence for voter indifference. The effect of voter alienation, however, was much stronger. I assumed that the utility of voter i from abstaining was

$$u_{iA} = a_A + \alpha_A x_i^T + \epsilon_{ij}, \quad (6)$$

where a_A and α_A are unobservable parameters, and ϵ_{ij} is an unobservable independent random variable distributed according to (2).

The results of the estimation appear in Table 24. The main socio-demographic factors affecting one's likelihood to vote are income and age. Lower income and higher age both reduce the probability of voting. Education and gender also have measurable (although marginally significant) effects. Turnout is expected to be higher among women, and among the more educated. Also, a person living in a rural area is more likely to vote.

Presidential approval, government approval and efficacy all affect the probability of abstention, with approving voters more likely to vote. Out of 284 respondents who indicated that they would not vote, 104 (or 37%) do not approve of any federal institution, including the President. The corresponding figure for the whole sample is 23% (376 out of 1588). Approval for Putin and for the cabinet of ministers are the most important factors. For the efficacy scores, the difference is similar, with 64% and 43% of the respondents having the internal efficacy score of zero. Presidential approval has an even higher effect on the relative share of United Russia vote than in the four-party model (see Table 25). A decline in approval to 0% is predicted to reduce turnout, as well as nearly equate the number of CPRF and United Russia votes.

The ideological preferences of the abstaining respondents are located in the center of the ideology space and occupy roughly the same position as the United Russia supporters. This suggests that ideological preferences are not the cause of either voter indifference (the abstaining voters should occupy the ideological gaps between the positions of the political parties), or alienation (the abstaining voters must have positions far away from those of all parties).

4 Discussion

A number of other model specifications were tried by the author. First, I tested the hypothesis that certain factors — such as the willingness to discuss politics, education, or internal efficacy — can affect the importance of ideology in an individual's evaluation of a political party. The importance of ideology was found to be unaffected by any of these variables, in contrast to some previous studies⁷.

Second, I looked at the possibility of regional economic conditions affecting the vote.⁸ The survey did not contain questions on retrospective self-evaluation of economic conditions, either in the short or long term. As a substitute I used two measures of actual economic conditions:

⁶Indifference and alienation was first suggested as a possible explanation of abstention as early as by Smithies (1941) and Hinich, Ledyard, and Ordeshook (1972). Positive empirical evidence for abstention due to indifference and alienation can be found, for example, in Adams, Dow and Merrill (2007). Both hypotheses were tested on American and European data (Adams, Dow, and Merrill (2006), Peress (2005), Plane and Gershtenson (2004), Thurner and Eymann (2000)), with some support found for both assumptions. See Zakharov (2008) for a review of literature.

⁷Zakharov and Fantazzini (2008) found that education significantly increased the weight of ideology for UK and Netherlands; similarly, Hellwig (2008) in his study of European workers found that the importance of left-right policy dimension depends on the sector of individual's employment.

⁸See Owen and Tucker (2008) for economic voting in Poland.

the absolute level of mean disposable income, and the percentage change in that level from 2000 to 2006. I found two statistically significant effects. First, the support for the Communist party was higher in the regions with lower economic growth. Second, the support for Just Russia is higher in the regions with the higher absolute income. However, the magnitude of either effect is small compared to the effects of either approval or internal efficacy.

There were several reasons why I used only the first two ideological factors. First, the eigenvalues for the first two factors were much higher than for the subsequent factors (see Figure 1). Second, it was not possible to give a transparent interpretation to the subsequent factors. Finally, the inclusion of additional factors did not improve the fit of the model. In the four-party case, the log likelihood was 768,5 for zero factors (Table 4), 759,9 for 1 factor, 721 for 2 factors, 714,1 for three factors, and 711,8 for four factors.

The work does not control for several other factors that affected voter preferences. Most importantly, the parties' access to local mass media outlets, and the degree to which the law is selectively applied in favor of United Russia, vary across regions; such regional factors are not captured.

Certainly, neither media bias (White, Oates, and MacAllister, 2001) nor vote-rigging (Myagkov, Ordeshook, Shakin, 2005), can be overlooked as factors that contributed to the success of United Russia at the December, 2007 election. However, this consideration does not alter this paper's key message. My work shows that the principal role was played by the high approval rating of President Putin. Although this work does not examine the origins of Putin's popularity, most accounts, scholarly or not, suggest that the country's economic performance was its primary source.

Appendix

A. Question wording

Age. What is your age in full years?

Education. "What is your education? 1 — Primary education or below, 2 — Incomplete secondary education, 3 — Secondary education, 4 — Vocational school, 5 — Less than 4 years of higher education, 6 — 4 or more years of higher education." Those who responded "Don't know" were assigned the value of 3,5. The variable `education` was obtained as follows: $(\text{response}-1)*0,2$

Income. "To which income group does your family belong? 1 — Cannot afford to buy food, 2 — Can afford food but cannot afford clothing, 3 — Can afford clothing but not durable goods, 4 — Can afford all durable goods but cannot afford real estate, 5 — Can afford real estate." For the variable `income`, those who responded "Don't know" were assigned the value of 3. The variable `income` was obtained as follows: $1-(\text{response}-1)*0,25$

Approval. "Do you approve of A. President, B. Prime Minister, C. Government, D. State Duma, E. Federation council." Each question was coded as follows: "1 — Yes, 2 — No, 1,5 — Can't answer." Each of the approval variables was obtained as follows: $2 - \text{response}$.

Size of township. "Where do you live? 1 — Moscow or St. Petersburg, 2 — City over 1 mln., 3 — 500 thousand to 1 mln., 5 — 100 thousand to 500 thousand, 6 — 50 thousand to 100 thousand, 7 — urban-type settlement, 8 — village." The variable `is_village` was generated

by assigning the value of 1 for “8 — village” and 0 otherwise.

Ideological attitude. There were two questions: “Please say if you feel positively (negatively) to each of the following concepts.” For each question, a list of 40 words was given (see Tables 2,3).

Internal efficacy. “Do you think that the ordinary voters like you have a say in who will be in power in the future, and on the country’s future policies? 1 — Yes, a lot depends on the regular voters, 2 — A few things depend on the voters, 3 — Nothing depends on the voters, all main decisions will be made without their consent”. The “can’t answer” response was coded as 2. The variable **efficacy** was generated as $1,5 - 0,5 * \text{response}$.

B. Tables and figures.

	Pres.	Gov.	P.M.	Duma	Fed. C.
0 (disapprove)	12,72	42,54	29,88	54,24	39,27
0,5 (don't know)	8,55	21,66	26,48	22,49	34,83
1 (approve)	78,73	35,80	43,64	23,26	25,90

Table 1: Approval of various federal institutions (percent of the sample).

	Concept	% pos.	% neg.	Fact. 1	Fact. 2
01	Nation	0,21	0,08	0,11	-0,08
02	Order	0,57	0,01	-0,18	0,01
03	Freedom	0,37	0,03	-0,13	0,20
04	Market	0,10	0,15	0,26	0,08
05	Russians	0,34	0,02	-0,15	0,03
06	West	0,02	0,23	0,21	0,10
07	Socialism	0,11	0,11	-0,13	-0,28
08	Communism	0,07	0,19	0,05	-0,32
09	Democracy	0,15	0,09	0,11	0,07
10	Tradition	0,29	0,01	-0,06	-0,04
11	Patriotims	0,34	0,01	-0,14	-0,15
12	State	0,26	0,03	-0,17	-0,03
13	Competitiveness	0,05	0,07	0,07	0,12
14	Sovereignty	0,07	0,05	-0,08	0,01
15	Elite	0,02	0,41	0,30	0,04
16	Party	0,02	0,16	0,04	-0,14
17	Power	0,09	0,18	0,26	-0,09
18	Justice	0,49	0,02	-0,30	0,02
19	Opposition	0,01	0,17	0,12	-0,06
20	Business	0,07	0,13	0,17	0,27

Table 2: The frequency of positive and negative responses and factor loadings (part 2).

	Concept	% pos.	% neg.	Fact. 1	Fact. 2
21	USSR	0,12	0,08	-0,01	-0,34
22	Church	0,21	0,02	-0,13	-0,01
23	Revolution	0,01	0,22	0,13	-0,26
24	Property	0,14	0,04	0,13	0,14
25	Success	0,31	0,00	-0,16	0,21
26	Liberalism	0,01	0,14	0,15	-0,01
27	Reform	0,06	0,14	0,23	-0,02
28	Stability	0,38	0,00	-0,16	0,00
29	Labor	0,31	0,00	-0,26	-0,08
30	Individualism	0,02	0,12	0,05	0,10
31	Non-Russians	0,02	0,29	0,25	-0,12
32	Equality	0,18	0,02	-0,18	-0,06
33	Collectivism	0,06	0,09	0,02	-0,22
34	Morality	0,22	0,03	-0,05	-0,07
35	Human rights	0,32	0,02	-0,15	0,12
36	Wealth	0,12	0,01	0,15	0,25
37	Russia	0,28	0,00	-0,03	0,07
38	Well-being	0,37	0,01	-0,11	0,25
39	Progress	0,21	0,01	-0,03	0,27
40	Capitalism	0,15	0,02	-0,09	0,22

Table 3: The frequency of positive and negative responses and factor loadings (part 2).

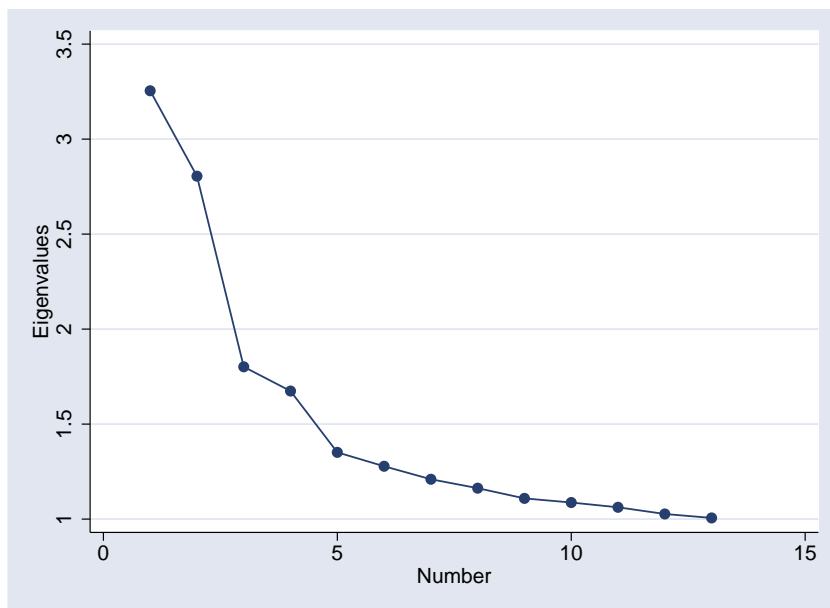


Figure 1: Eigenvalues of principal components.

Party	Samp.	Vote	F1	F2
Agrarian Party (AGR)	0,63	1,47	-0,16	-0,92
United Russia (ER)	45,72	40,96	0,05	0,30
Communist Party (CPRF)	7,12	7,37	-0,76	-1,59
LDPR	4,22	5,13	-0,53	0,69
Patriots of Russia	0,25	0,57	0,22	-0,10
Fair Russia (SR)	6,17	4,93	-0,60	-0,87
Civilian Power	0,69	0,67	-0,43	0,31
Union of Right Forces (SPS)	0,57	0,61	-0,47	1,14
Yabloko	0,76	1,01	-0,56	0,20
Russian Republican Party	0,25		-0,16	1,36
Democratic Party of Russia	0,19	0,08	-0,25	0,75
“Will not vote”	17,88		0,23	-0,06
“Can’t answer”	14,92		0,43	-0,04
Did not vote		36,3		

Table 4: Factor averages across the supporters of each party.

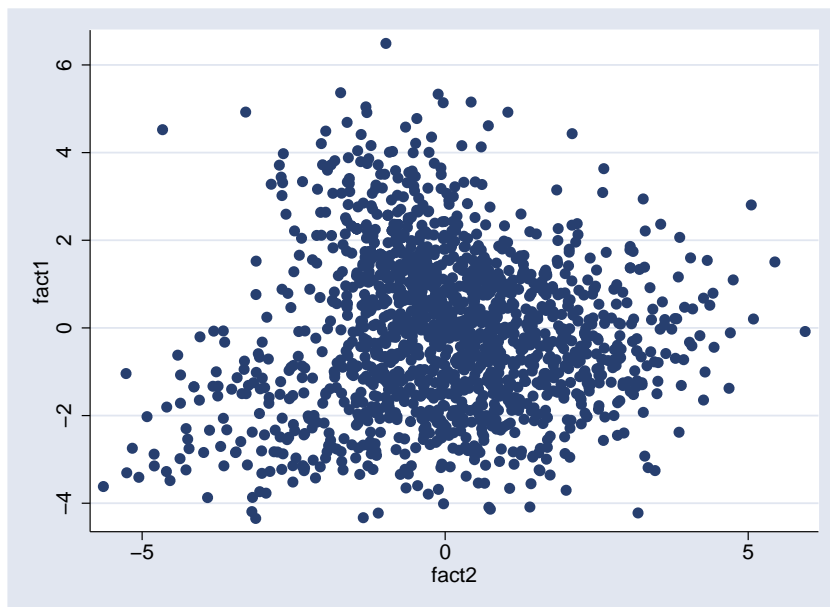


Figure 2: Distribution of voter ideal points for all respondents.

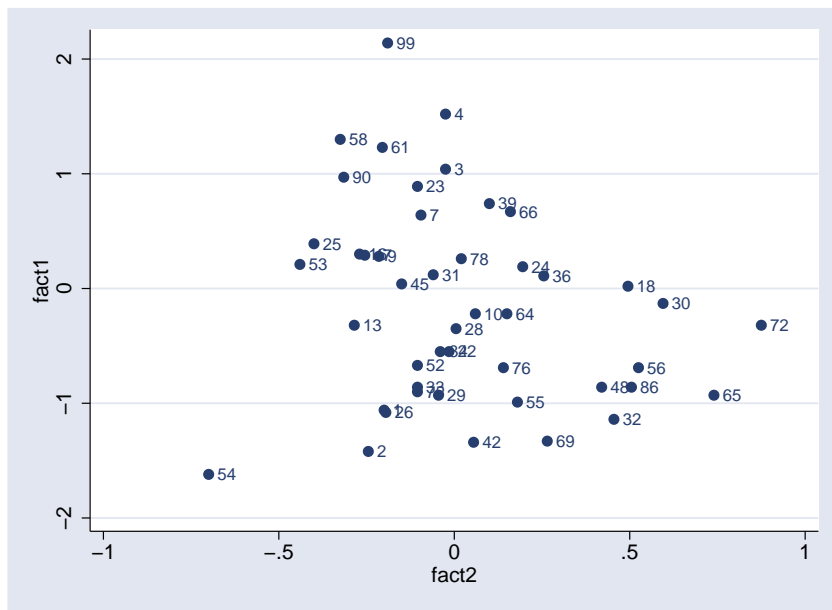


Figure 3: Distribution of region means. 1 - Adygea 2 - Bashkortostan, 3 - Buriatiya, 4 - Gorny Altai, 5 - Dagestan, 7 - Kabardino-Balkariya, 9 - Kerachaev-Cherkesiya, 10 - Karelia, 13 - Mordovia, 16 - Tatarstan, 18 - Udmurtiya, 22 - Altai, 23 - Krasnodarskii Krai, 24 - Krasnoyarskii Krai, 25 - Primorye, 26 - Stavropolskii Krai, 28 - Amur Oblast, 29 - Archangel Oblast, 30 - Astrakhan Oblast, 31 - Belgorod Oblast, 32 - Bryansk Oblast, 33 - Vladimir Oblast, 34 - Volgograd Oblast, 36 - Voronezh Oblast, 39 - Kaliningrad Oblast, 42 - Kemerovo Oblast, 45 - Kurgan Oblast, 47 - Leningrad Oblast, 48 - Lipetsk Oblast, 52 - Nizhegorodskaya Oblast, 53 - Novgorod Oblast, 54 - Novosibirsk Oblast, 55 - Omsk Oblast, 56 - Orenburg Oblast, 58 - Penza Oblast, 61 - Rostov Oblast, 64 - Saratov Oblast, 65 - Sakhalin Oblast, 66 - Sverdlov Oblast, 69 - Tver Oblast, 72 - Tumen Oblast, 75 - Chita Oblast, 76 - Yaroslavl Oblast, 78 - Saint Petersburg, 86 - Khanty-Mansi AO, 90 - Moscow Oblast 99 - Moscow

		Coef.	Std. Err.	z	P > z	
β_1	_cons	-0,154	0,034	-4,44	0,000	
β_2	_cons	-0,150	0,020	-7,43	0,000	
CPRF	education	0,409	0,507	0,81	0,420	
	income	0,490	0,784	0,63	0,532	
	age	0,046	0,008	5,53	0,000	
	is_village	-0,179	0,274	-0,65	0,513	
	gender	-0,617	0,251	-2,46	0,014	
	efficacy	-0,754	0,374	-2,02	0,044	
	approve_putin	-2,051	0,389	-5,27	0,000	
	approve_pm	0,246	0,387	0,64	0,524	
	approve_gov	-0,194	0,389	-0,50	0,617	
	approve_duma	-0,205	0,473	-0,43	0,664	
	approve_sf	-0,406	0,509	-0,80	0,426	
	_cons	-0,057	0,697	-0,08	0,934	
LDPR	education	0,084	0,610	0,14	0,890	
	income	2,650	0,886	2,99	0,003	
	age	-0,021	0,009	-2,19	0,029	
	is_village	-0,526	0,333	-1,58	0,114	
	gender	-1,899	0,344	-5,51	0,000	
	efficacy	-0,531	0,424	-1,25	0,211	
	approve_putin	-2,047	0,460	-4,45	0,000	
	approve_pm	0,195	0,483	0,40	0,686	
	approve_gov	-0,094	0,496	-0,19	0,849	
	approve_duma	0,830	0,537	1,54	0,123	
	approve_sf	-0,711	0,607	-1,17	0,242	
		_cons	-1,296	0,806	-1,61	0,108
	SR	education	0,519	0,482	1,08	0,282
income		0,152	0,758	0,20	0,841	
age		0,037	0,007	4,95	0,000	
is_village		-0,135	0,261	-0,52	0,604	
gender		-0,328	0,238	-1,38	0,168	
efficacy		-0,523	0,348	-1,50	0,133	
approve_putin		-1,064	0,441	-2,41	0,016	
approve_pm		0,511	0,359	1,42	0,155	
approve_gov		-0,387	0,350	-1,10	0,270	
approve_duma		-1,059	0,389	-2,72	0,007	
approve_sf		0,639	0,411	1,55	0,120	
		_cons	-1,193	0,705	-1,69	0,091
N		1004				
ln(L)		-694,2				

Table 5: Estimation of the four-party MNL model 1. ER is the base outcome.

		Coef.	Std. Err.	z	$P > z$
CPRF	education	0,233	0,482	0,48	0,628
	income	1,074	0,728	1,48	0,140
	age	0,061	0,007	7,84	0,000
	is_village	0,081	0,257	0,32	0,752
	gender	-0,488	0,235	-2,08	0,038
	efficacy	-0,863	0,356	-2,42	0,015
	approve_putin	-1,952	0,360	-5,41	0,000
	approve_pm	0,054	0,365	0,15	0,882
	approve_gov	-0,256	0,377	-0,68	0,497
	approve_duma	-0,138	0,447	-0,31	0,757
	approve_sf	-0,514	0,470	-1,09	0,274
	_cons	-0,444	0,654	-0,68	0,497
LDPR	education	0,191	0,594	0,32	0,747
	income	2,640	0,875	3,02	0,003
	age	-0,025	0,009	-2,65	0,008
	is_village	-0,485	0,327	-1,48	0,139
	gender	-1,865	0,341	-5,46	0,000
	efficacy	-0,552	0,416	-1,33	0,185
	approve_pu n	-2,056	0,452	-4,55	0,000
	approve_pm	0,207	0,479	0,43	0,666
	approve_gov	-0,090	0,483	-0,19	0,852
	approve_duma	0,833	0,521	1,60	0,110
	approve_sf	-0,783	0,590	-1,33	0,184
	_cons	-1,381	0,790	-1,75	0,080
SR	education	0,427	0,473	0,90	0,367
	income	0,488	0,745	0,65	0,513
	age	0,046	0,007	6,26	0,000
	is_village	0,083	0,254	0,33	0,742
	gender	-0,194	0,232	-0,84	0,404
	efficacy	-0,610	0,344	-1,77	0,077
	approve_pu n	-1,002	0,430	-2,33	0,020
	approve_pm	0,392	0,353	1,11	0,267
	approve_gov	-0,357	0,348	-1,03	0,305
	approve_duma	-1,023	0,384	-2,66	0,008
	approve_sf	0,485	0,402	1,21	0,228
	_cons	-1,418	0,692	-2,05	0,041
N		1004			
ln(L)		-740,4			

Table 6: Estimation of the four-party MNL model 2. ER is the base outcome.

		Coef.	Std. Err.	z	P > z
β_1	_cons	-0,161	0,034	-4,65	0,000
β_2	_cons	-0,151	0,020	-7,54	0,000
CPRF	age	0,044	0,007	5,76	0,000
	is_village	-0,240	0,264	-0,91	0,364
	gender	-0,598	0,246	-2,43	0,015
	efficacy	-0,763	0,368	-2,07	0,038
	approve_putin	-2,263	0,343	-6,59	0,000
	_cons	0,482	0,348	1,38	0,167
LDPR	income	2,633	0,859	3,07	0,002
	age	-0,021	0,009	-2,17	0,030
	is_village	-0,545	0,328	-1,66	0,097
	gender	-1,911	0,341	-5,60	0,000
	efficacy	-0,528	0,421	-1,25	0,210
	approve_putin	-2,110	0,413	-5,11	0,000
	approve_duma	0,397	0,341	1,16	0,245
_cons	-1,254	0,654	-1,92	0,055	
SR	age	0,034	0,006	4,95	0,000
	is_village	-0,205	0,252	-0,81	0,416
	gender	-0,339	0,234	-1,45	0,148
	efficacy	-0,501	0,342	-1,47	0,143
	approve_putin	-1,035	0,416	-2,48	0,013
	approve_duma	-1,115	0,370	-3,01	0,003
	approve_sf	0,803	0,370	2,17	0,030
_cons	-0,745	0,408	-1,82	0,068	
N		1004			
ln(L)		-698,9			

Table 7: Estimation of the four-party MNL model 3. ER is the base outcome.

		Coef.	Std. Err.	z	$P > z$
β_1	_cons	-0,163	0,033	-4,87	0,000
β_2	_cons	-0,156	0,019	-7,93	0,000
CPRF	education	0,683	0,478	1,43	0,153
	income	1,326	0,723	1,83	0,067
	age	0,044	0,008	5,60	0,000
	is_village	-0,336	0,259	-1,29	0,196
	gender	-0,725	0,236	-3,06	0,002
	_cons	-2,741	0,562	-4,87	0,000
LDPR	education	0,270	0,588	0,46	0,646
	income	3,180	0,859	3,70	0,000
	age	-0,021	0,009	-2,24	0,025
	is_village	-0,462	0,319	-1,45	0,148
	gender	-1,885	0,336	-5,60	0,000
	_cons	-3,609	0,664	-5,44	0,000
SR	education	0,606	0,468	1,29	0,196
	income	0,426	0,719	0,59	0,554
	age	0,035	0,007	4,80	0,000
	is_village	-0,199	0,255	-0,78	0,435
	gender	-0,344	0,232	-1,48	0,140
	_cons	-2,446	0,537	-4,55	0,000
N		1004			
ln(L)		-736,4			

Table 8: Estimation of the four-party MNL model 4. ER is the base outcome.

		Coef.	Std. Err.	z	$P > z$
β_1	_cons	-0,138	0,032	-4,31	0,000
β_2	_cons	-0,193	0,018	-10,27	0,000
CPRF	education	-0,241	0,457	-0,53	0,597
	income	1,525	0,691	2,20	0,028
	is_village	-0,404	0,253	-1,60	0,111
	_cons	-2,445	0,528	-4,63	0,000
LDPR	education	-0,015	0,539	-0,03	0,977
	income	2,182	0,791	2,76	0,006
	is_village	-0,374	0,308	-1,21	0,226
	_cons	-3,472	0,610	-5,69	0,000
SR	education	-0,085	0,452	-0,19	0,850
	income	0,762	0,689	1,10	0,269
	is_village	-0,250	0,251	-1,00	0,319
	_cons	-2,269	0,515	-4,41	0,000
N		1004			
ln(L)		-789,3			

Table 9: Estimation of the four-party MNL model 5. ER is the base outcome.

		Coef.	Std. Err.	z	P > z
β_1	_cons	-0,138	0,031	-4,39	0,000
β_2	_cons	-0,197	0,018	-10,72	0,000
CPRF	_cons	-1,830	0,114	-15,98	0,000
LDPR	_cons	-2,376	0,128	-18,51	0,000
SR	_cons	-1,975	0,110	-17,82	0,000
N		1004			
ln(L)		-796,3			

Table 10: Estimation of the four-party MNL model 6. ER is the base outcome.

	Model 1	Model 2	Model 3	Model 4	Model 5
Model 2	2 45,8 <0,00001	—			
Model 3	14 4,7 0,44		—		
Model 4	18 42,2 <0,00001			—	
Model 5	24 89,1 <0,00001			6 54,9 <0,00001	—
Model 6	33 102,1 <0,00001		19 97,4 <0,00001	15 60,3 <0,00001	9 5,4 0,28

Table 11: Likelihood ratio test comparing models 1-6.

	ER	CPRF	LDPR	SR
Original sample	0,723	0,112	0,066	0,097
Neutral Putin approval	0,609	0,163	0,112	0,116
Zero Putin approval	0,430	0,253	0,194	0,121

Table 12: Predicted voteshares in the four-party subsample — original sample and the altered zero-approval sample.

fact1	fact2	ER	CPRF	LDPR	SR
0	0	0,861	0,042	0,019	0,076
3,4	0	0,924	0,020	0,011	0,043
-3,4	0	0,758	0,082	0,030	0,128
0	3.4	0,936	0,006	0,031	0,025
0	-3.4	0,609	0,202	0,009	0,178

Table 13: Predicted probabilities of voting depending on the ideological preferences, according to model 1. Female voter, income, education, approval, is_village, age, and efficacy are set at mean values.

fact1	fact2	ER	CPRF	LDPR	SR
0	0	0,725	0,074	0,107	0,092
3,4	0	0,835	0,038	0,069	0,056
-3,4	0	0,577	0,131	0,151	0,139
0	3.4	0,784	0,011	0,173	0,030
0	-3.4	0,452	0,314	0,044	0,189

Table 14: Predicted probabilities of voting depending on the ideological preferences, according to model 1. Male voter, income, education, approval, is_village, age, and efficacy are set at mean values.

putin	effic.	inc.	vill.	age	ER	CPRF	LDPR	SR
1	1	1	1	30	0,936	0,014	0,016	0,034
1	1	4	0	30	0,781	0,020	0,162	0,036
0	0	1	1	30	0,605	0,153	0,134	0,107
0	0	4	0	30	0,227	0,099	0,622	0,051
1	1	1	1	60	0,846	0,052	0,007	0,093
1	1	4	0	60	0,737	0,078	0,080	0,105
0	0	1	0	60	0,374	0,380	0,043	0,203
0	0	4	1	60	0,205	0,360	0,293	0,143

Table 15: Predicted probabilities of voting for male voters depending on Presidential approval, efficacy, age, income, and place of residence, according to model 1. I take fact1=0, fact2=0, and set education and other approval variables at their mean value.

putin	effic.	inc.	vill.	age	ER	CPRF	LDPR	SR
1	1	1	1	30	0,964	0,008	0,002	0,025
1	1	4	0	30	0,927	0,013	0,029	0,030
0	0	1	1	30	0,771	0,105	0,025	0,098
0	0	4	0	30	0,552	0,130	0,226	0,090
1	1	1	1	60	0,897	0,030	0,001	0,071
1	1	4	0	60	0,850	0,049	0,014	0,087
0	0	1	0	60	0,511	0,279	0,009	0,200
0	0	4	1	60	0,376	0,355	0,080	0,188

Table 16: Predicted probabilities of voting for female voters depending on approval, efficacy, age, income, and place of residence, according to model 1. I take fact1=0, fact2=0, and set education and other approval variables at their mean value.

Profile	ER	CPRF	LDPR	SR
I	0,973	0,009	0,009	0,009
II	0,088	0,023	0,883	0,005
III	0,375	0,332	0,116	0,176
IV	0,379	0,224	0,057	0,338

Table 17: Combined effects of ideology and other observable factors on the predicted probability of voting, according to model 1. Profile I: Female, fact1=0, fact1=0, income=0, is_village=0, age=30, efficacy=1, approve_putin=1, approve_duma=1. Profile II: Male, fact1=-1,7, fact1=1,7, income=0,75, is_village=0, age=30, efficacy=0, approve_putin=0, approve_duma=1. Profile III: Male, fact1=-1.7, fact1=-1.7, income=0, is_village=0, age=60, efficacy=0, approve_putin=0. Profile IV: Male, fact1=-1.7, fact1=-1.7, income=0, is_village=0, age=60, efficacy=0, approve_putin=0, approve_sf=0.

		Coef.	Std. Err.	z	$P > z $
β_1	_cons	-0,153	0,034	-4,47	0,000
β_2	_cons	-0,153	0,019	-7,79	0,000
CPRF	education	0,243	0,399	0,61	0,542
	income	0,414	0,770	0,54	0,590
	approve_pu n	-1,986	0,360	-5,50	0,000
	approve_duma	-0,200	0,465	-0,43	0,668
	approve_sf	-0,418	0,479	-0,87	0,383
	efficacy	-0,777	0,372	-2,08	0,037
	age	0,045	0,008	5,50	0,000
	is_village	-0,218	0,273	-0,80	0,425
	gender	-0,635	0,248	-2,56	0,011
	_cons	-1,971	0,822	-2,40	0,017
LDPR	education	0,072	0,482	0,15	0,881
	income	2,433	0,871	2,79	0,005
	approve_pu n	-1,917	0,421	-4,55	0,000
	approve_duma	0,805	0,518	1,55	0,120
	approve_sf	-0,649	0,560	-1,16	0,246
	efficacy	-0,464	0,421	-1,10	0,271
	age	-0,022	0,009	-2,24	0,025
	is_village	-0,532	0,332	-1,60	0,109
	gender	-1,848	0,341	-5,42	0,000
	_cons	-0,279	0,829	-0,34	0,736
SR	education	0,380	0,382	0,99	0,321
	income	0,095	0,756	0,13	0,899
	approve_pu n	-0,919	0,418	-2,20	0,028
	approve_duma	-1,109	0,377	-2,94	0,003
	approve_sf	0,672	0,380	1,77	0,077
	efficacy	-0,544	0,347	-1,56	0,118
	age	0,036	0,007	4,87	0,000
	is_village	-0,163	0,260	-0,63	0,529
	gender	-0,359	0,236	-1,52	0,129
	_cons	-2,751	0,812	-3,39	0,001
SPS	education	1,194	1,215	0,98	0,326
	income	0,535	2,279	0,23	0,814
	approve_pu n	-5,210	1,529	-3,41	0,001
	approve_duma	4,343	2,061	2,11	0,035
	approve_sf	-0,975	1,620	-0,60	0,547
	efficacy	0,510	1,138	0,45	0,654
	age	0,039	0,021	1,83	0,067
	is_village	-0,841	1,137	-0,74	0,459
	gender	1,622	1,108	1,46	0,143
	_cons	-6,490	2,417	-2,69	0,007
Yabloko	education	0,972	0,978	0,99	0,320
	income	1,852	2,113	0,88	0,381
	approve_pu n	-4,064	0,984	-4,13	0,000
	approve_duma	-2,422	1,175	-2,06	0,039
	approve_sf	2,636	1,198	2,20	0,028
	efficacy	-0,420	1,024	-0,41	0,682
	age	-0,015	0,020	-0,76	0,447
	is_village	-15,345	745,792	-0,02	0,984
	gender	-0,257	0,625	-0,41	0,680
	_cons	-2,128	1,745	-1,22	0,223
Agrarian	education	0,552	1,113	0,50	0,620
	income	3,446	1,893	1,82	0,069
	approve_pu n	-1,512	0,877	-1,72	0,085
	approve_duma	1,301	1,153	1,13	0,259
	approve_sf	-1,981	1,292	-1,53	0,125
	efficacy	-0,132	0,959	-0,14	0,890
	age	0,011	0,021	0,52	0,602
	is_village	0,560	0,677	0,83	0,408
	gender	-0,868	0,680	-1,28	0,202
	_cons	-5,388	2,109	-2,55	0,011
N		1035			
ln(L)		-830,6			

Table 18: Estimation of the seven-party MNL model 1. ER is the base outcome.

		Coef.	Std. Err.	z	$P > z $
CPRF	education	0,128	0,379	0,34	0,735
	income	0,996	0,717	1,39	0,165
	approve_pu n	-1,941	0,336	-5,76	0,000
	approve_duma	-0,191	0,431	-0,44	0,658
	approve_sf	-0,605	0,443	-1,36	0,172
	efficacy	-0,883	0,354	-2,49	0,013
	age	0,060	0,007	7,84	0,000
	is_village	0,068	0,255	0,27	0,788
	gender	-0,470	0,232	-2,02	0,043
	_cons	-3,143	0,783	-4,01	0,000
LDPR	education	0,150	0,470	0,32	0,748
	income	2,446	0,860	2,84	0,004
	approve_pu n	-1,959	0,412	-4,75	0,000
	approve_duma	0,814	0,504	1,61	0,107
	approve_sf	-0,714	0,543	-1,31	0,189
	efficacy	-0,495	0,414	-1,20	0,231
	age	-0,026	0,009	-2,72	0,007
	is_village	-0,505	0,326	-1,55	0,122
	gender	-1,820	0,338	-5,38	0,000
	_cons	-0,137	0,809	-0,17	0,865
SR	education	0,318	0,376	0,84	0,398
	income	0,434	0,743	0,59	0,558
	approve_pu n	-0,880	0,409	-2,15	0,032
	approve_duma	-1,087	0,369	-2,94	0,003
	approve_sf	0,502	0,371	1,35	0,176
	efficacy	-0,620	0,344	-1,80	0,071
	age	0,045	0,007	6,21	0,000
	is_village	0,065	0,253	0,26	0,797
	gender	-0,206	0,230	-0,89	0,371
	_cons	-3,438	0,803	-4,28	0,000
SPS	education	1,437	1,149	1,25	0,211
	income	0,512	2,285	0,22	0,823
	approve_pu n	-5,243	1,474	-3,56	0,000
	approve_duma	4,020	1,945	2,07	0,039
	approve_sf	-0,723	1,530	-0,47	0,636
	efficacy	0,490	1,120	0,44	0,661
	age	0,033	0,021	1,55	0,122
	is_village	-0,908	1,129	-0,80	0,421
	gender	1,689	1,116	1,51	0,130
	_cons	-6,418	2,327	-2,76	0,006
Yabloko	education	1,005	0,982	1,02	0,306
	income	2,112	2,135	0,99	0,323
	approve_pu n	-4,031	0,972	-4,14	0,000
	approve_duma	-2,416	1,168	-2,07	0,039
	approve_sf	2,652	1,195	2,22	0,026
	efficacy	-0,295	1,018	-0,29	0,772
	age	-0,009	0,020	-0,45	0,654
	is_village	-13,434	310,534	-0,04	0,965
	gender	-0,174	0,623	-0,28	0,780
	_cons	-2,691	1,780	-1,51	0,131
Agrarian	education	0,504	1,112	0,45	0,650
	income	3,814	1,890	2,02	0,044
	approve_pu n	-1,447	0,875	-1,65	0,098
	approve_duma	1,385	1,163	1,19	0,234
	approve_sf	-2,146	1,299	-1,65	0,099
	efficacy	-0,184	0,960	-0,19	0,848
	age	0,021	0,021	0,99	0,323
	is_village	0,681	0,676	1,01	0,314
	gender	-0,781	0,680	-1,15	0,251
	_cons	-6,158	2,131	-2,89	0,004
N		1035			
ln(L)		-880,9			

Table 19: Estimation of the seven-party MNL model 2. ER is the base outcome.

		Coef.	Std. Err.	z	$P > z $
β_1	_cons	-0,153	0,033	-4,55	0,000
β_2	_cons	-0,153	0,019	-7,87	0,000
CPRF	approve_pu n	-2,283	0,338	-6,75	0,000
	efficacy	-0,793	0,363	-2,18	0,029
	age	0,045	0,007	5,90	0,000
	gender	-0,603	0,241	-2,50	0,012
	_cons	-1,600	0,499	-3,21	0,001
LDPR	income	2,477	0,848	2,92	0,004
	approve_pu n	-2,111	0,407	-5,18	0,000
	approve_duma	0,390	0,340	1,15	0,252
	age	-0,021	0,009	-2,17	0,030
	is_village	-0,478	0,322	-1,49	0,137
	gender	-1,865	0,337	-5,53	0,000
	_cons	-0,430	0,659	-0,65	0,514
SR	approve_pu n	-1,034	0,416	-2,48	0,013
	approve_duma	-1,121	0,370	-3,03	0,002
	approve_sf	0,796	0,371	2,15	0,032
	efficacy	-0,497	0,339	-1,46	0,143
	age	0,034	0,006	4,98	0,000
	gender	-0,334	0,232	-1,44	0,151
	_cons	-2,361	0,516	-4,57	0,000
SPS	approve_pu n	-5,180	1,302	-3,98	0,000
	approve_duma	3,215	1,342	2,40	0,017
	age	0,031	0,019	1,65	0,099
	_cons	-3,479	1,067	-3,26	0,001
Yabloko	approve_pu n	-3,843	0,830	-4,63	0,000
	approve_duma	-2,189	1,152	-1,90	0,058
	approve_sf	2,038	0,995	2,05	0,041
	_cons	-1,521	0,459	-3,31	0,001
Agrarian	income	3,565	1,764	2,02	0,043
	approve_pu n	-1,563	0,849	-1,84	0,066
	approve_sf	-0,894	0,967	-0,92	0,355
	_cons	-4,704	1,423	-3,31	0,001
N		1035			
ln(L)		-846,1			

Table 20: Estimation of the seven-party MNL model 3. ER is the base outcome.

		Coef.	Std. Err.	z	$P > z $
β_1	_cons	-0,161	0,033	-4,88	0,000
β_2	_cons	-0,159	0,019	-8,27	0,000
CPRF	education	0,509	0,379	1,34	0,180
	income	1,351	0,720	1,88	0,061
	age	0,044	0,007	5,56	0,000
	is_village	-0,356	0,259	-1,37	0,170
	gender	-0,735	0,236	-3,11	0,002
	_cons	-4,711	0,733	-6,42	0,000
LDPR	education	0,208	0,470	0,44	0,658
	income	3,070	0,853	3,60	0,000
	age	-0,021	0,009	-2,26	0,024
	is_village	-0,465	0,319	-1,46	0,145
	gender	-1,867	0,335	-5,56	0,000
	_cons	-2,567	0,691	-3,71	0,000
SR	education	0,461	0,373	1,24	0,217
	income	0,435	0,717	0,61	0,544
	age	0,035	0,007	4,77	0,000
	is_village	-0,208	0,255	-0,82	0,414
	gender	-0,348	0,232	-1,50	0,134
	_cons	-4,005	0,671	-5,96	0,000
SPS	education	1,910	1,126	1,70	0,090
	income	1,330	2,198	0,61	0,545
	age	0,033	0,022	1,49	0,135
	is_village	-0,877	1,085	-0,81	0,419
	gender	1,532	1,071	1,43	0,153
	_cons	-9,150	2,170	-4,22	0,000
Yabloko	education	1,302	0,938	1,39	0,165
	income	2,784	1,815	1,53	0,125
	age	-0,016	0,020	-0,83	0,409
	is_village	-12,786	270,413	-0,05	0,962
	gender	-0,170	0,604	-0,28	0,778
	_cons	-5,522	1,522	-3,63	0,000
Agrarian	education	0,733	1,089	0,67	0,501
	income	4,192	1,834	2,28	0,022
	age	0,012	0,021	0,57	0,569
	is_village	0,519	0,663	0,78	0,433
	gender	-0,968	0,668	-1,45	0,147
	_cons	-7,600	1,935	-3,93	0,000
N		1035			
ln(L)		-891,3			

Table 21: Estimation of the seven-party MNL model 4. ER is the base outcome.

		Coef.	Std. Err.	z	$P > z $
β_1	_cons	-0,136	0,031	-4,39	0,000
β_2	_cons	-0,197	0,017	-11,00	0,000
CPRF	_cons	-1,829	0,113	-16,05	0,000
LDPR	_cons	-2,378	0,128	-18,53	0,000
SR	_cons	-1,976	0,110	-17,84	0,000
SPS	_cons	-4,396	0,336	-13,06	0,000
Yabloko	_cons	-4,100	0,291	-14,08	0,000
Agrarian	_cons	-4,262	0,319	-13,35	0,000
N		1035			
ln(L)		-966,20			

Table 22: Estimation of the seven-party MNL model 5. ER is the base outcome.

	Model 1	Model 2	Model 3	Model 4
Model 2	2 50,3 <0,00001	—		
Model 3	23 15,5 0,12		—	
Model 4	24 60,7 <0,00001			—
Model 5	54 135,6 <0,00001		51 100,1 <0,00001	24 75,1 <0,00001

Table 23: Likelihood ratio test comparing models 1-5.

β_1	_cons	-0,070	0,014	-4,71	0,000
β_2	_cons	-0,061	0,013	-4,61	0,000
CPRF	approve_pu n	-1,925	0,328	-5,85	0,000
	approve_sf	-0,752	0,307	-2,45	0,014
	efficacy	-0,785	0,343	-2,29	0,022
	age	0,052	0,007	6,93	0,000
	gender	-0,534	0,221	-2,42	0,016
	_cons	-0,202	0,620	-0,33	0,744
LDPR	income	2,079	0,798	2,60	0,009
	approve_pu n	-2,120	0,408	-5,19	0,000
	approve_duma	0,848	0,493	1,72	0,086
	approve_sf	-0,813	0,524	-1,55	0,121
	age	-0,022	0,009	-2,41	0,016
	is_village	-0,419	0,312	-1,34	0,180
	gender	-1,797	0,332	-5,40	0,000
	_cons	-0,859	0,629	-1,36	0,172
SR	approve_pu n	-0,973	0,427	-2,28	0,023
	approve_pm	0,439	0,334	1,31	0,189
	approve_duma	-1,024	0,373	-2,74	0,006
	approve_sf	0,494	0,386	1,28	0,200
	efficacy	-0,562	0,336	-1,67	0,095
	age	0,040	0,007	5,63	0,000
	_cons	-1,249	0,467	-2,68	0,007
Alienation	education	-0,458	0,340	-1,34	0,179
	income	1,997	0,487	4,10	0,000
	approve_pu n	-2,108	0,259	-8,13	0,000
	approve_gov	-0,955	0,197	-4,83	0,000
	efficacy	-1,248	0,261	-4,77	0,000
	age	-0,010	0,005	-2,06	0,039
	is_village	-0,605	0,187	-3,23	0,001
	gender	-0,189	0,160	-1,18	0,238
_cons	0,523	0,462	1,13	0,258	
N		1288			
ln(L)		-1298,6			

Table 24: Estimation of the four-party+abstention MNL model 4. ER is the base outcome.

	UR	CPRF	LDPR	JR	Abstain
The data	0,562	0,089	0,052	0,076	0,220
Approval 50%	0,349	0,127	0,078	0,082	0,364
Approval 0%	0,177	0,157	0,108	0,065	0,493

Table 25: Estimated voting probabilities in the four-party+abstention model.

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