Population Ageing, the Intergenerational Conflict, and Active Ageing Policies – a multilevel study of 27 European countries

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UNIVERSITÄT
MANNHEIM

Frank Schirrmacher
DAS
METHUSALEM-
KOMPLOTT

NEVER GETS OLD.

STALLONE

Results [edit]

Referendum on the abolishment of conscription		
Choice	Votes	%
✗ No	1,947,116	59.7
Yes	1,315,278	40.3
Valid votes	3,262,394	97.5
Invalid or blank votes	82,546	2.5
Total votes	3,344,940	100.00
Registered voters and turnout	6,378,478	52.4

Source: Austrian Ministry of the Interior

Percentage of the World Population Over 65, 1950-2050

Source: UN World Population Prospect, 2008

NOT IN HIS
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THE
LAS
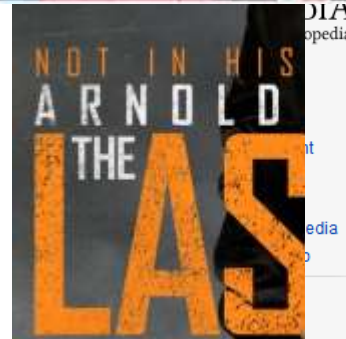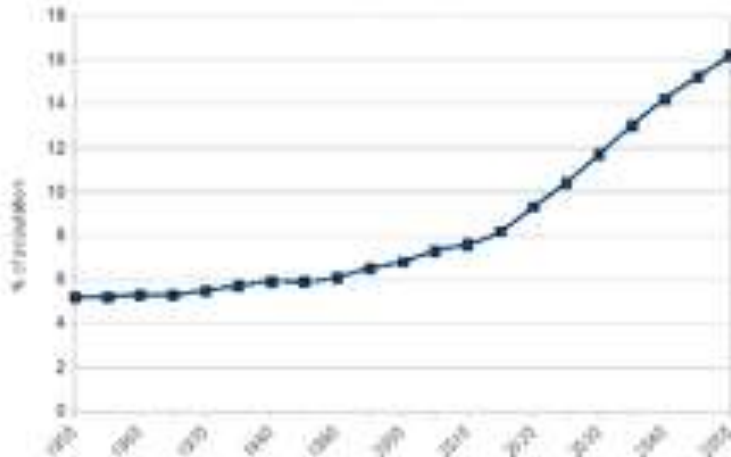
Intergenerational struggle

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

The **intergenerational struggle**[1] is the economic conflict be
pension benefit due to the public debt that the states make in c

Notes [edit]

1. ^ "Addressing social problems should be at the heart of Europ

V · T · E

Background concepts | Intergenerational equity · Intergeneratio

Research question

1. Is there a conflict between the interest of the younger and the older generation

     => Our focus on welfare state spending.

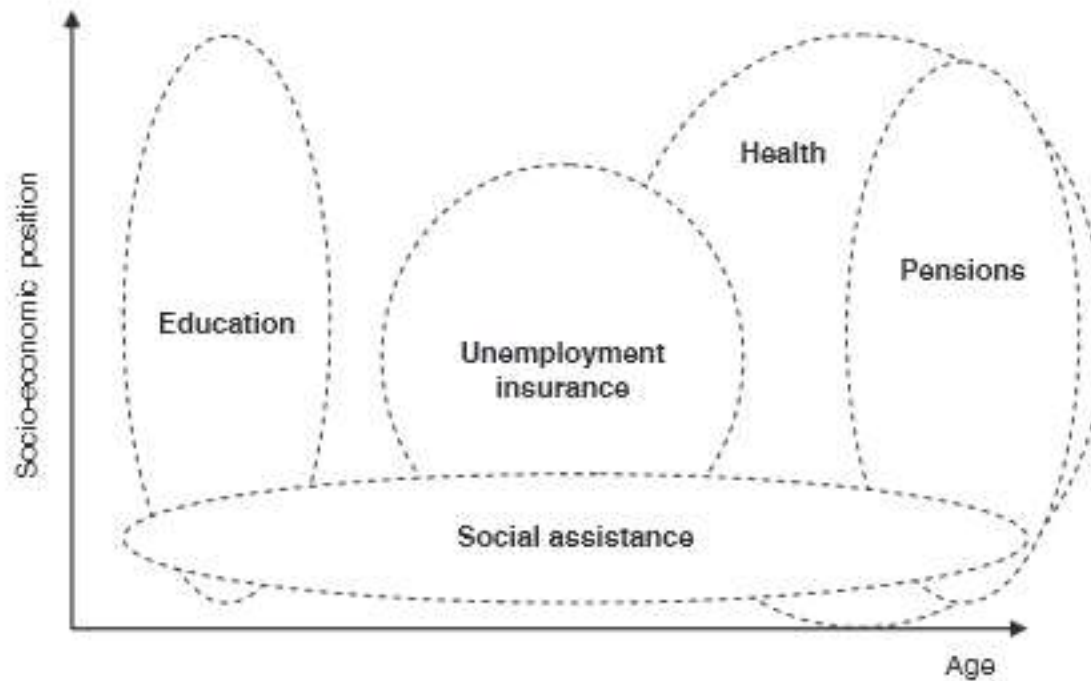# Theory: Age related self-interest – spending preferences

Figure 1   Individual interest in redistributive policies along two dimensions

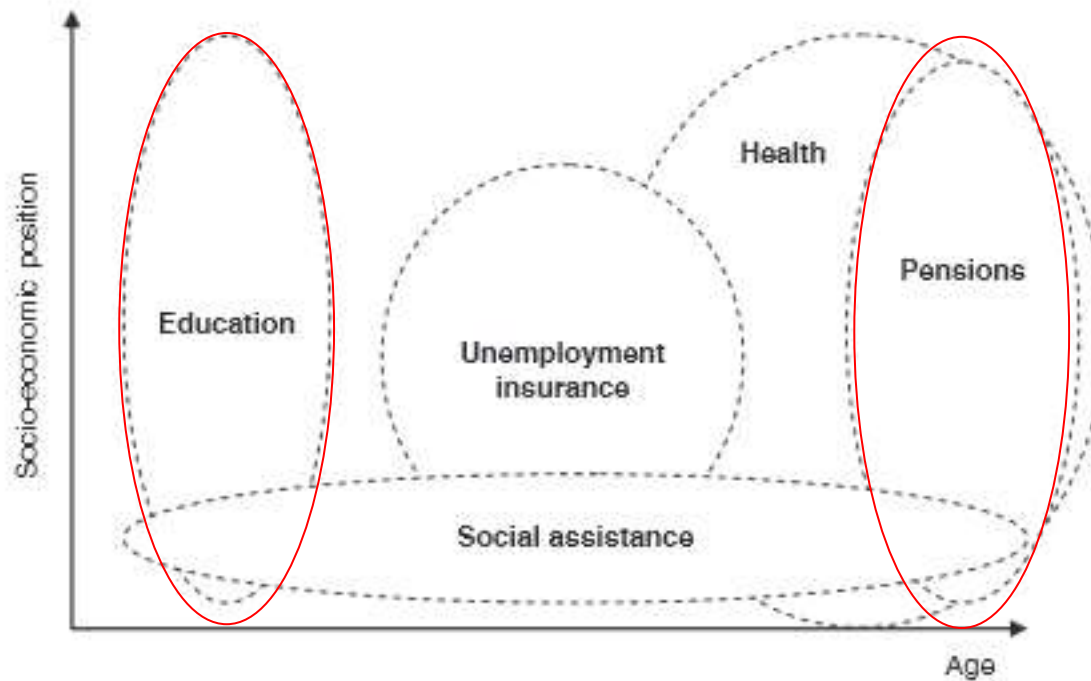# Theory: Age related self-interest – spending preferences

Figure 1   Individual interest in redistributive policies along two dimensions

Research questions

1. Is there a conflict between the interest of the younger and the older generation?

2. Will the strength of the conflict increases with population ageing?

3. Can a policy of active aging moderate the conflict?

Data – Individual level

Individual Preferences

- Flash Eurobarometer 2009

- 27 EU countries

- around 23,000 respondents (representative for the population of each country)

Data – Individual spending preferences

Spending preferences for pensions and education:

- *Our government must make much more money available for pensions and care for elderly.*

- *Our government is spending too little on education and young people compared to old people*

		Spend more for pensions			
		Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree
Spend more for education and young people	Strongly disagree	462	491	1,137	3,369
	Somewhat disagree	176	988	2,696	2,750
	Somewhat agree	171	683	2,583	2,411
	Strongly agree	309	415	1,068	3,971

Data – Individual spending preferences

Spending preferences for pensions and education:

- *Our government must make much more money available for pensions and care for elderly.*
- *Our government is spending too little on education and young people compared to old people*

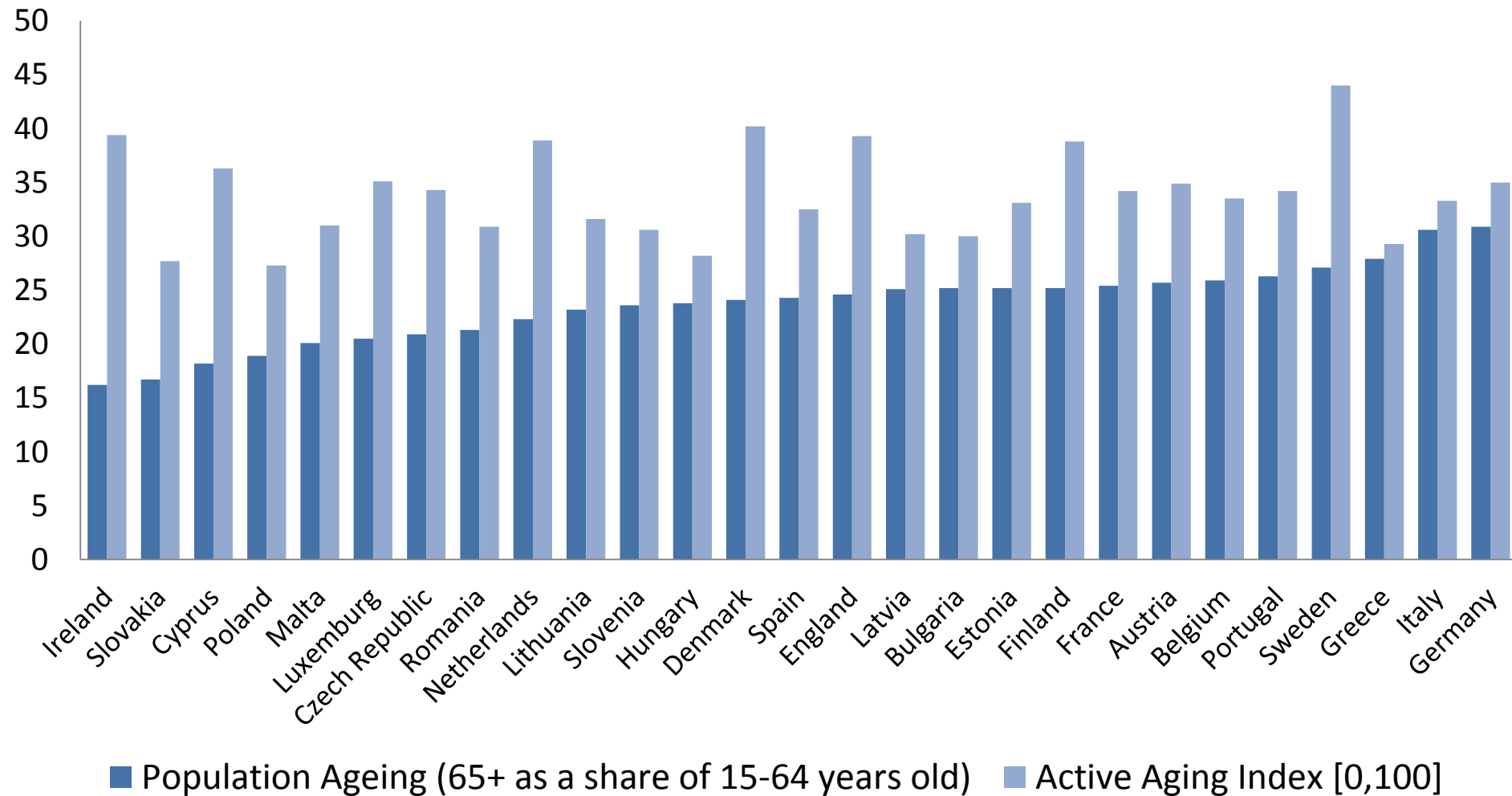|		Spend more for pensions			
		Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree
Spend more for education and young people	Strongly disagree Somewhat disagree	9,0 %		42,0 %	
	Somewhat agree Strongly agree	6,7 %		42,3 %	

Data – Contextual level

Individual Preferences

- Flash Eurobarometer 2009

- 27 EU countries

- around 23,000 respondents (representative for the population of each country)
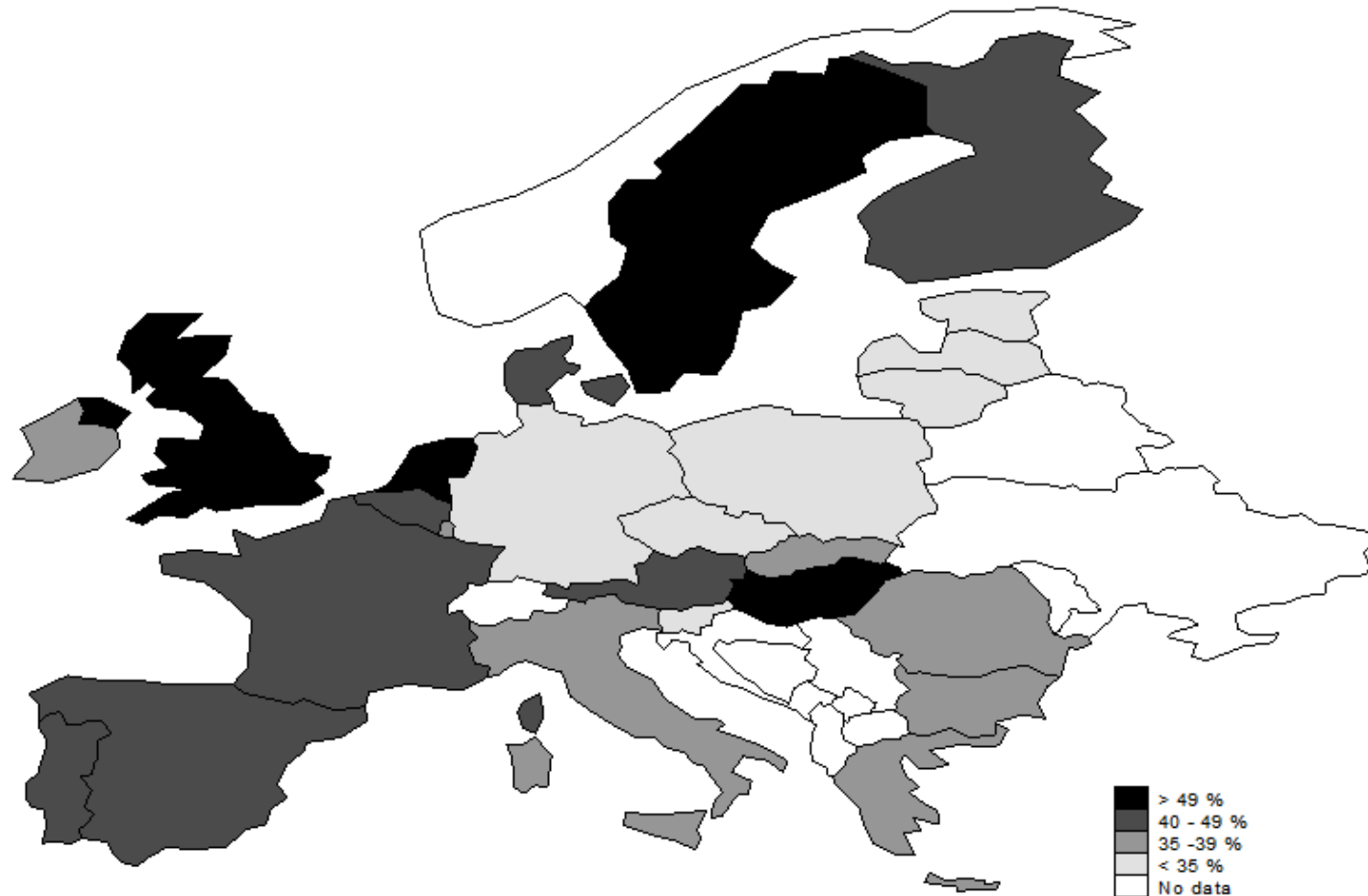
Country level variables

- Population Ageing
  (Old people 65+ as a share of those between 15 and 64   years)

- Active Ageing Policy (Active Ageing Index, AAI; Zaidi et al. 2013)

Data – Population Ageing and Active Ageing

Legend: Population Ageing (65+ as a share of 15-64 years old); Active Aging Index [0,100]

Categories (left to right): Ireland, Slovakia, Cyprus, Poland, Malta, Luxemburg, Czech Republic, Romania, Netherlands, Lithuania, Slovenia, Hungary, Denmark, Spain, England, Latvia, Bulgaria, Estonia, Finland, France, Austria, Belgium, Portugal, Sweden, Greece, Italy, Germany

Results – Pro-old spending preferences

Legend:
- > 49 %
- 40 - 49 %
- 35 - 39 %
- < 35 %
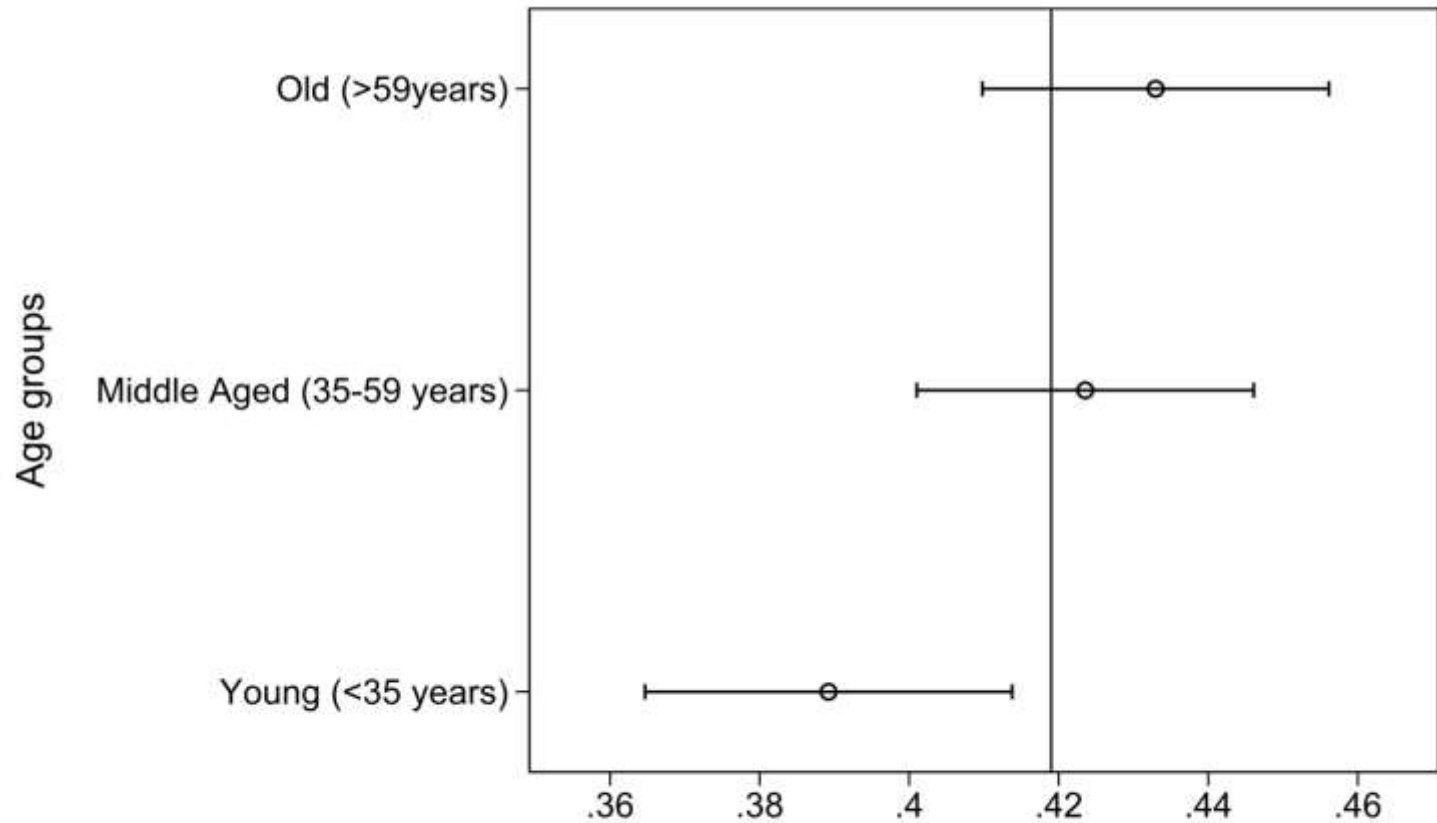- No data

Support for pro-elderly spending - Share of population who support an explicit age friendly spending policy
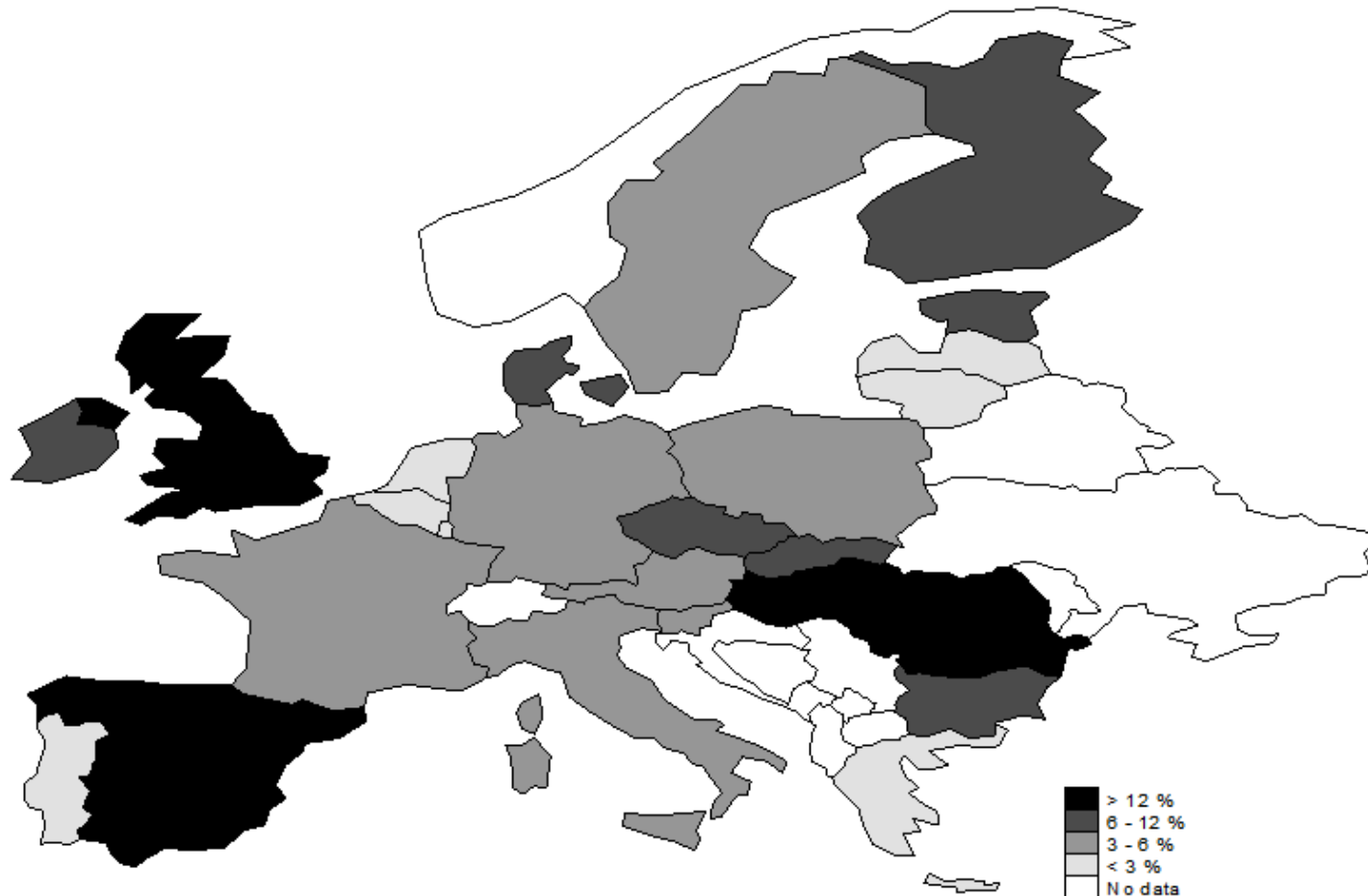
Results - Generational differences over spending

Support for pro-elderly spending (predicted mean), with 90% CIs
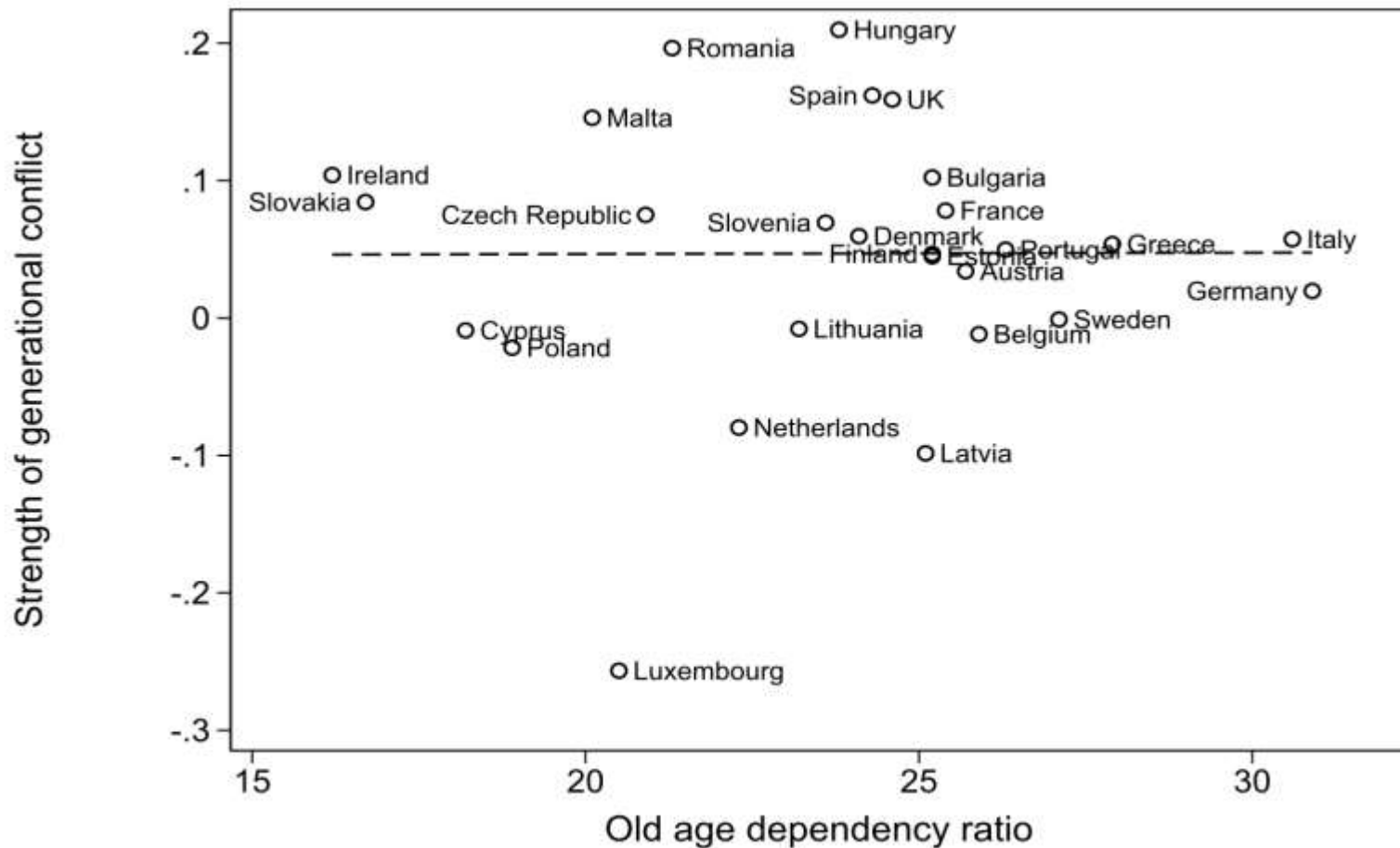
Note: Vertical line = Overall mean of support

Results – Generational conflict across Europe

The generational conflict in Europe - Differences between old and young respondents in support for pro-elderly spending

Legend:
- > 12 %
- 6 - 12 %
- 3 - 6 %
- < 3 %
- No data

Results – Population Ageing and the strength of the conflict

Population Ageing and the intergenerational conflict in Europe – Differences in support for pro-elderly spending between old and young respondents (the strength of the conflict is estimated based on a multilevel model)

Results – Active Aging and the strength of the conflict
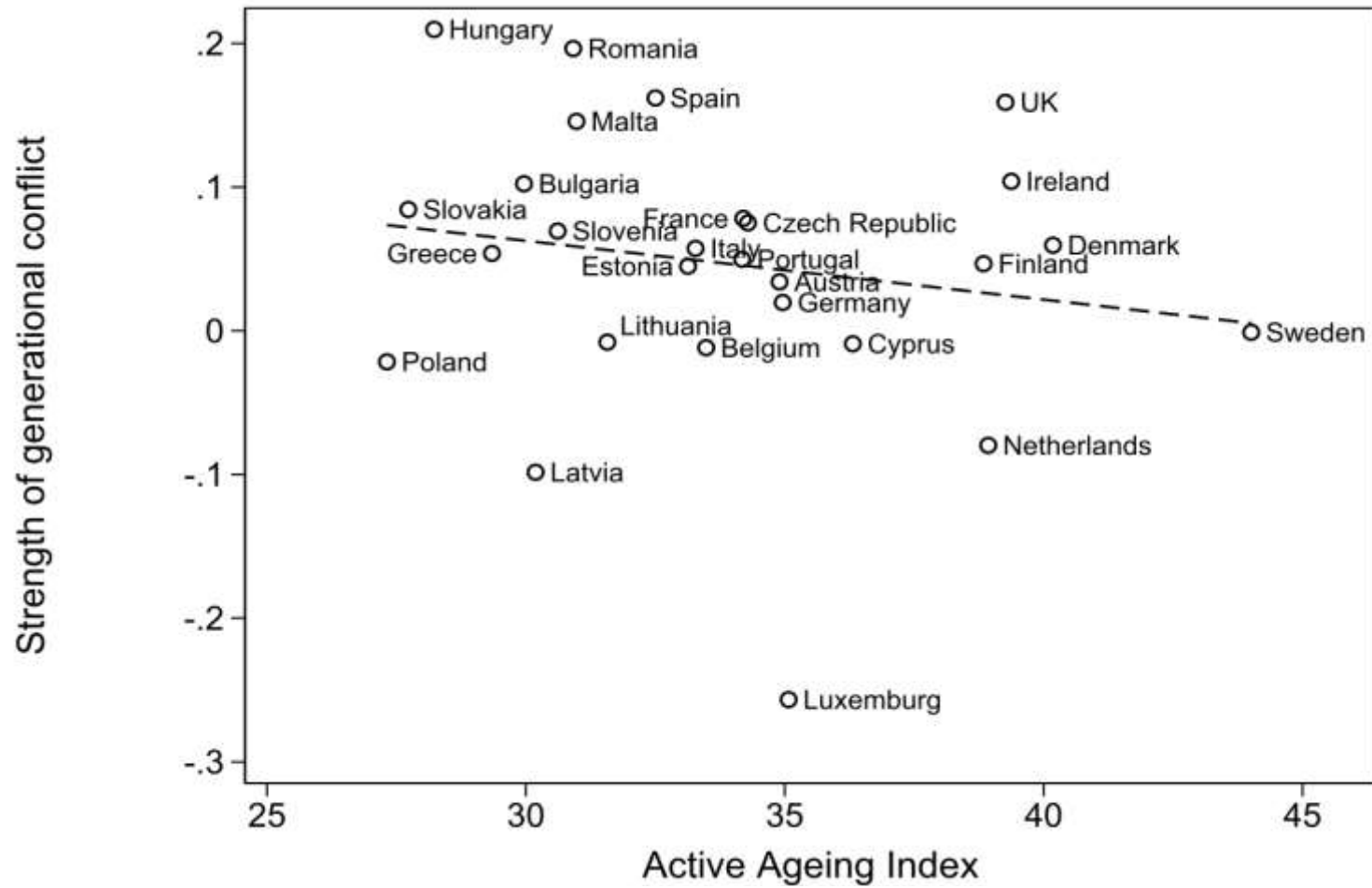
Active Ageing and the generational conflict in Europe – Differences in support for pro-elderly spending between old and young respondents (the strength of the conflict is estimated based on a multilevel model)

Summary

- Only weak conflict between old and young over age-related social policy programs.

- No evidence that the generational conflict will be increasing with population ageing.

- Generational policies (i.e. policies supporting the social and political participation of specific age groups) are able to mitigate the generational conflict.

Appendix

Häufigkeitsverteilungen der kategorialen unabhängigen Variablen

Variable	n		Abs. Häufigkeit	Rel. Häufigkeit
Alter	26908	16-35 Jahre	5283	19,7%
		36-59 Jahre	12060	44,9%
		60-98 Jahre	9565	35,5%
Geschlecht	27163	Männlich	9998	36,8%
		Weiblich	17165	63,2%
Bildung	26776	Grundbildung oder keine Bildung	4782	17,9%
		Sekundärbildung	11718	43,8%
		Tertiäre Bildung	8453	31,6%
		In Ausbildung	1823	6,8%

Deskriptive Statistiken der unabhängigen Variablen auf der Länderebene

Variable	Erklärung	Durchschnitt	Standard-abweichung	Zahl der Länder
Altenquotient	Verhältnis der 65-jähirgen und älter zu den 16 - 64-jährigen	23,67	3,7	27
Active Ageing Index		33,8	4,2	27
Altenfreundliche Ausgabenpolitik	Verhältnis der Ausgaben für Renten und Pensionen zu den Bildungsausgaben	2,08	0,6	27
BIP	Bruttoinlandsprodukt zu Marktpreisen in Tausend Euro je Einwohner (im Jahr 2008)	22,67	14,5	27

	M1	M2	M3	M4
Individual level				
Age				
Ref. category: Young (< 35 years)				
Middle Aged (35-59 years)	0.146*	0.144*	0.143*	0.143*
Old (> 60 years)	0.184*	0.183*	0.182*	0.182*
Sex				
Female	0.160*	0.160*	0.160*	0.160*
Education				
Ref. Category: Low (primary or no education)				
Medium	0.016	0.017	0.016	0.016
High	0.053	0.053	0.053	0.053
Still in education	-0.087	-0.088	-0.089	-0.089
Country Level				
Old age dependency ratio		-0.015	-0.010	-0.015
Active Ageing Index		0.069*	0.069*	0.072*
Pro-elderly spending		0.183	0.183	0.184
GDP		-0.006	-0.006	-0.006
Cross-Level Interactions				
ref. category: Old age dependency ratio x Young				
Old age dependency ratio x Middle-aged			-0.009	
Old age dependency ratio x Old			-0.003	
Ref. category: Active Ageing Index x Young				
Active Ageing Index x Middle-Aged				0.003
Active Ageing Index x Old				-0.016[+]
Constant		-0.574*	-0.573*	-0.571*
ICC	0.035*	0.023*	0.023*	0.023*
N (countries)		27		
n (respondents)		23244		