



# Outline

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# I. Europeanization and Party Europeanization

<b>Europeanization</b>	<b>Party Europeanization</b>
<p>“A set of top-down processes through EU’ s political, social and economic dynamics become part of logic of domestic discourse, identities, political structures &amp; public policies” (Radaelli)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Shapes parties’ attitudes towards Europe</li><li>▪ Indirect process with the EU becoming a determinant for policy</li></ul>



## II. Euroscepticism in the EU

In general: Opposition to the process of European integration

### 1. Euroscepticism in the Public

- From permissive consensus to Euroscepticism?

#### Central factors:

- Outlook on the economic future
- Definition of national Identity
- Additional unique national contexts



## 2. Classification of Euroscepticism

Taggart and Szczerbiak	Flood and Usherwood:
<p><u>Soft Euroscepticism</u>: Qualified opposition to certain policies</p>	<p><u>Minimalists</u>: Acceptance of present integration but rejection of further advances</p>
<p><u>Hard Euroscepticism</u>: Principled opposition EU &amp; integration</p> <p>Wish for national withdrawal from EU</p>	<p><u>Revisionists</u>: Wish for earlier state of integration</p> <p><u>Rejectionists</u>: Overall Refusal of integration and denial of membership in particular</p>



### **3. Central factors for Party Euroscepticism identified**

- Cost/benefit analysis of economic impact
- General distrust of European institutions
- Threat to national identity



### III. Euroscepticism in selected EU member states

Country	Party	Conviction	Classification
Bulgaria	Ataka	Bring Bulgaria back to the Bulgarians	minimalist soft Eurosceptic
Finland	The True Finns	Wherever the EU is, there's a problem	minimalist soft Eurosceptic
Hungary	Jobbik	Reunification of a Hungarian nation	revisionist hard Eurosceptics
The Netherlands	Freedom Party	Anti-Islamic & Anti-immigrant	revisionist hard Eurosceptic
United Kingdom	United Kingdom Independence Party	EU= Political project to control main functions of national governments	rejectionist hard Eurosceptic



## **IV. Eurosceptic arguments on national identity**

- Anti- immigrant preferences
- Questioning the Schengen agreement
- Too much financial responsibility
- Role of minority governments pressurable for Eurosceptic policies



## V. Conclusion

- More commonalities than differences among Eurosceptic parties
- Most arguments based on Eurosceptic myths founded on a vague notion of exclusively national identity

### **Differences between Eastern & Western EU member states:**

- Communist past
- Local minorities vs. immigrants as scapegoats