Political Donations, Charitable Giving, and Ideology

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Abstract:

Using a pre-registered large-scale survey experiment conducted one week before the 2022 French Presidential elections, we show that – conditional on controlling for a large set of covariates – far-right voters tend to give less than other voters to charitable organizations, but not to political parties. Combining the survey results with administrative tax information and electoral results, we provide evidence of communal moral values driving this far-right exception. Furthermore, we document a change not only in perceived social norms but also in individuals' underlying preferences. Finally, using survey data from Germany, we show that our findings are not specific to France.