Resilience of the EU and leverage of the ENP

Good News and Bad News

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Thanks to Guillaume Trotignon and Cheng Zhang for excellent research support
Don't halloo till you're out of the wood!
Information Flow Chart of the European Decision-making Process

EC (European Council)

EEAS
Com

ECJ
M
M_n
ECB

n_1
n_2
n_{j-1}
n_j

pd_1
ep_1

pd
j ep_j

ir
pd

political decision

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Challenges were plenty. However the EU remained resilient with *resilience* defined as the capacity to recover quickly from difficulties (Oxford Dictionary).

Challenges have been handled and proven the problem solving capacity of the EU. They have involved considerably high economic costs.

Examples include:

- **The greek debt crisis:** Clearly recogniseable were tit-for-tat strategies which also accounted for domestic restrictions.

- **The refugee challenge:** Migration has been mitigated due to efficient Turkey–EU negotiations but were ill-prepared by EU

Challenges never turned to crises defined as threats to the sense (*zweck*) of the system (compare Luhmann). The sense of the EU is identified as providing a negotiated system of further negotiations.

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Leverage – A weak EU

- Foreign Affairs – Bosnia, Kosovo: War
- External Relations - Ukraine crisis ill handled
- Neighborhood Policies – a ring of fire

Leverage defined as „the power to influence a person or situation” (Oxford Dictionary) is low in foreign affairs of the EU due to a missing mandate for external negotiations and enforcement. Neighborhood Policies turn out to be self-defeating because of ill-specified goals and means.
Resilience: stability analysis

- Variables, Parameters:
  \( \bar{x} \) benchmark equilibrium of the system (EU)
  \( x_t \) state of the system (EU)
  \( b_t \) negotiating efforts
  \( \alpha, \beta > 0 \), where \( t \) denotes time

- Differential equations:
  \[ b_{t+1} = \alpha (x_t - \bar{x})^2 \quad \text{(eqn. 1)} \]
  \[ x_{t+1} = -\beta b_t (x_t - \bar{x}) + x_t \quad \text{(eqn. 2)} \]

Once the state of the system deviates from its equilibrium due to a symmetric shock, governmental negotiations start with the help of supranational institutions (eqn. 1). On the grounds of the EU- institutional settings and vis-a-vis ideas of tit-for-tat political reforms (eqn. 2) will be implemented.

Local stability around the steady state (Jacobi-Matrix) reveal Eigenwerte and margin stability between 1 and 0 (Thank you, Prof. Neugart). Chaos seems possible face to large deviations because of non-linearities involved.
An econometric glance at resilience by means of bivariate Vector Autoregression (VAR)

A Bivariate VAR(1):

\[
\begin{bmatrix}
  y_{1,t} \\
  y_{2,t}
\end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix}
  \mu_{1,t} \\
  \mu_{2,t}
\end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix}
  \varphi_{1,11} & \varphi_{1,12} \\
  \varphi_{1,21} & \varphi_{1,22}
\end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix}
  y_{1,t-1} \\
  y_{2,t-1}
\end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix}
  \varepsilon_{1,t} \\
  \varepsilon_{2,t}
\end{bmatrix}
\]

VARs model time series as a function of their own lags plus, so that, for example \( y_{1,t} \), can be written as

\[
y_{1,t} = \mu_{1,t} + \varphi_{1,11} \times y_{1,t-1} + \varphi_{1,12} \times y_{2,t-1} + \varepsilon_{1,t}
\]

The impact of orthogonalised shocks can be traced by means of rewriting the equation in moving average form and cholesky-decomposition.

The response to an orthogonalised shock can be written as \( \frac{\partial y_{t+h}}{\partial v_{j,t}} \) and will be presented in the following in the form of graphs to be interpreted as follows: If the confidence interval spans 0 (the red line), then the response is not statistically significant in the particular semester after the applied shock.
Only the Euro Crisis had a negative, statistically significant impact on the net positive opinion on the EU (~1% per half-year)

The British Rebate and the struggle for the Eastern Enlargement even made the EU more popular!
Why didn’t it work?

• Political Rationality: Goals of power seeking incumbents are oriented towards acceptance and conciliation of constituents to form a winning coalition of their selectorate (e.g. voters, vested interests like power clubs, lobby groups)

• Economic Rationality: Goals of policy designed for correcting market distortions are lacking Nash efficiency

• Civil Rationality: Goals of policy designed for established features of governmental decision meet self-defeating effects

Economic wealth and repression, the limitation of personal freedom: a positive correlation?
The degree of Challenges to Incumbent

Indicator: **Political Stability and Absence of Violence/Terrorism**, reflecting the possibilities that governments will be destabilized or overthrown by unconstitutional or violent means, such as politically-motivated violence and terrorism.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Countries</th>
<th>Estimate</th>
<th>Rank</th>
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<tr>
<td>AZERBAIJAN</td>
<td>-0.31</td>
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<td>ARMENIA</td>
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<td>GERMANY</td>
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<td>74.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RUSSIA</td>
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<td>18.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


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Regime Stability

Notation:
s: regime security
y: national income
e_r: level of repression


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Societal Stability Index

The log-scale represents the ratio of GNP per capita/ political terror of a country. The indicator measures the wealth and repression balance, i.e. the ratio of economic wealth to the degree of repression as measured by an index. The higher the ratio, the better for people.

Data: World Bank and Political Terror Scale, real GDP; all of 2013.; Trotignon 2015
Neighbourhood Policies: How to make them efficient?

1. Designing foreign policy to encourage other nations to support EU’s neighboring policy
2. ENP should be aware of the repression-wealth balance and concentrate on economic-wealth (compare Krasner)
3. Increasing sustainability by a gradual framing of peoples preferences in favor of joint values of the EU
Thank you for your attention!

And, for the long goodbye:
The EU is blessed (some say: cursed) by never being and forever becoming - time horizon unknown!
References


