

Taking Cantonal Variations of Integration Policy Seriously

Or How to Validate International Concepts at the Subnational Comparative Level

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Relevance

Why comparing subnational integration policies?

- Considerable but neglected policy variations in federal states (Tränhart 2001)
- Clear benefits regarding research design: subnational units \sim mss

Purpose

Validate / verify international concepts /
research subnationally (cf. Lijphart 1971)

- 1) Concept validity
- 2) Construct validity

Concept

Table 1 – Measuring integration policy along the individual and cultural dimensions of citizenship

<i>dimension</i>	components	source	
		Koopmans et al. (2005)	MIPEX II (Koopmans (2010))
<i>individual equality</i>	access to nationality *	yes	yes
	anti-discrimination *	yes	yes
	political participation *	partly	yes
	labour market access *	-	yes
	family reunion *	-	yes
<i>cultural difference</i>	cultural requirements for naturalization *	yes	-
	religious rights outside public institutions *	yes	-
	cultural rights in public institutions	yes	-
	political representation rights (specific cultural groups)	yes	-
	group specific affirmative action (labour market)	yes	-

Note: components adopted from Koopmans (2010). * = components exhibiting variation at the cantonal level and accordingly included in the measurement of cantonal integration policies. Many components in the cultural dimension are not applicable at the cantonal level. However, this dimension has been amended by an additional component measuring the “tendency for legal recognition of minorities’ religions” in the cantons.

Measurement

- Policy = rules in form *and* rules in use
- Continuous values instead of dummies (cf. Goertz 2006), mostly between 0 – 1.
- 23 subindicators

Validation



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- 1) Concept validity: Conceptual consistency
- 2) Construct validity: Empirical consistency

Content validity

Table 3 - Factor analysis based on single components

components	1	2	3	4
political participation	0.857	-0.111	0.037	0.114
access to nationality	0.598	0.362	0.024	-0.314
religious rights I	0.185	-0.679	-0.045	-0.065
religious rights II	0.257	0.492	-0.410	-0.014
labour market access	0.104	-0.012	0.710	0.041
cultural requirements for natural.	0.263	0.134	0.286	0.540
anti-discrimination	0.353	-0.077	-0.303	0.404
family reunion	0.288	-0.002	0.074	-0.476
explained variance	43.8%	28.5%	22.8%	21.3%

**civic-
political
rights**

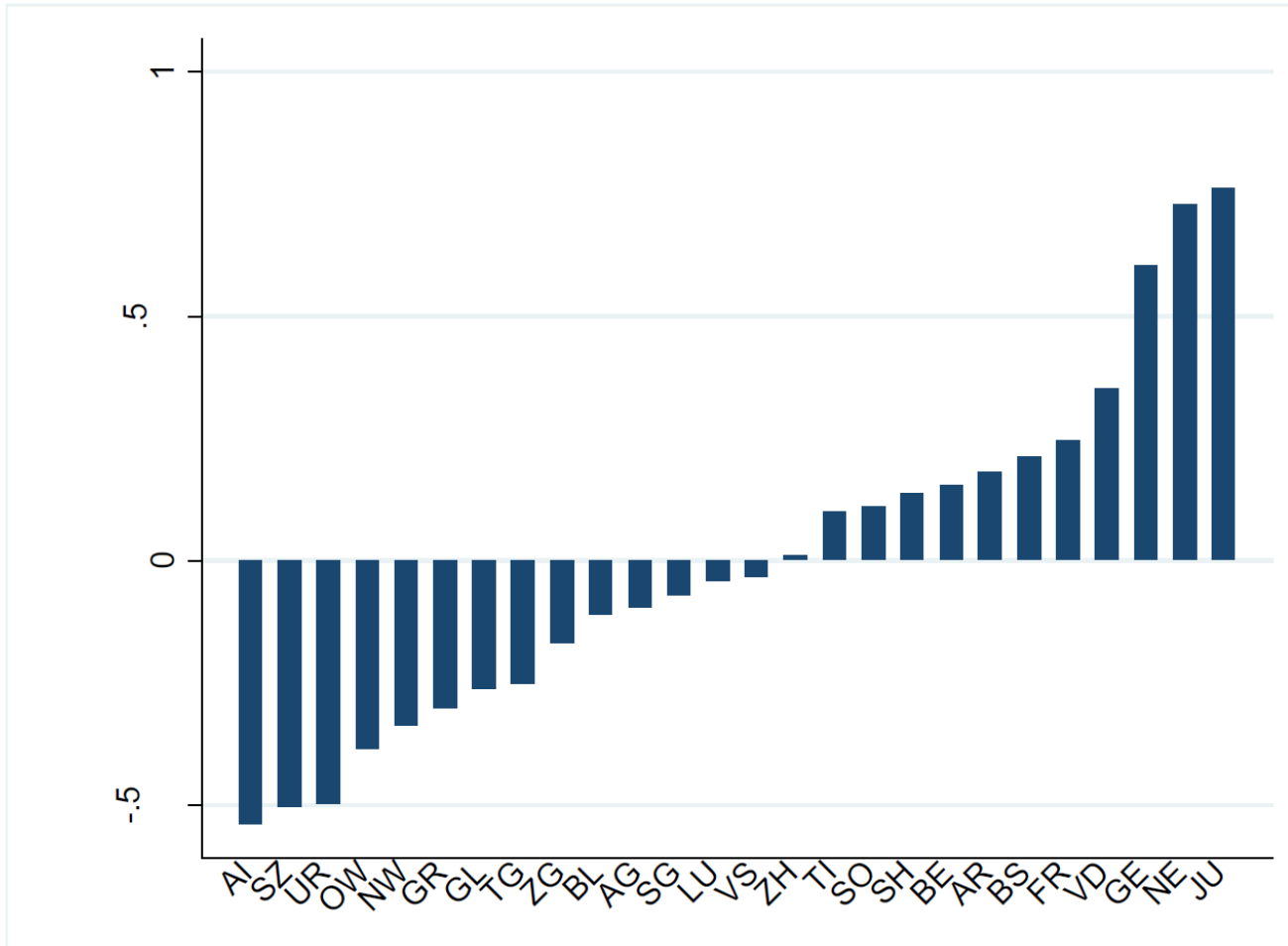
**religious
rights**

**socio-
struct.
rights**

**cultural
rights
and
oblig.**

Construct validity

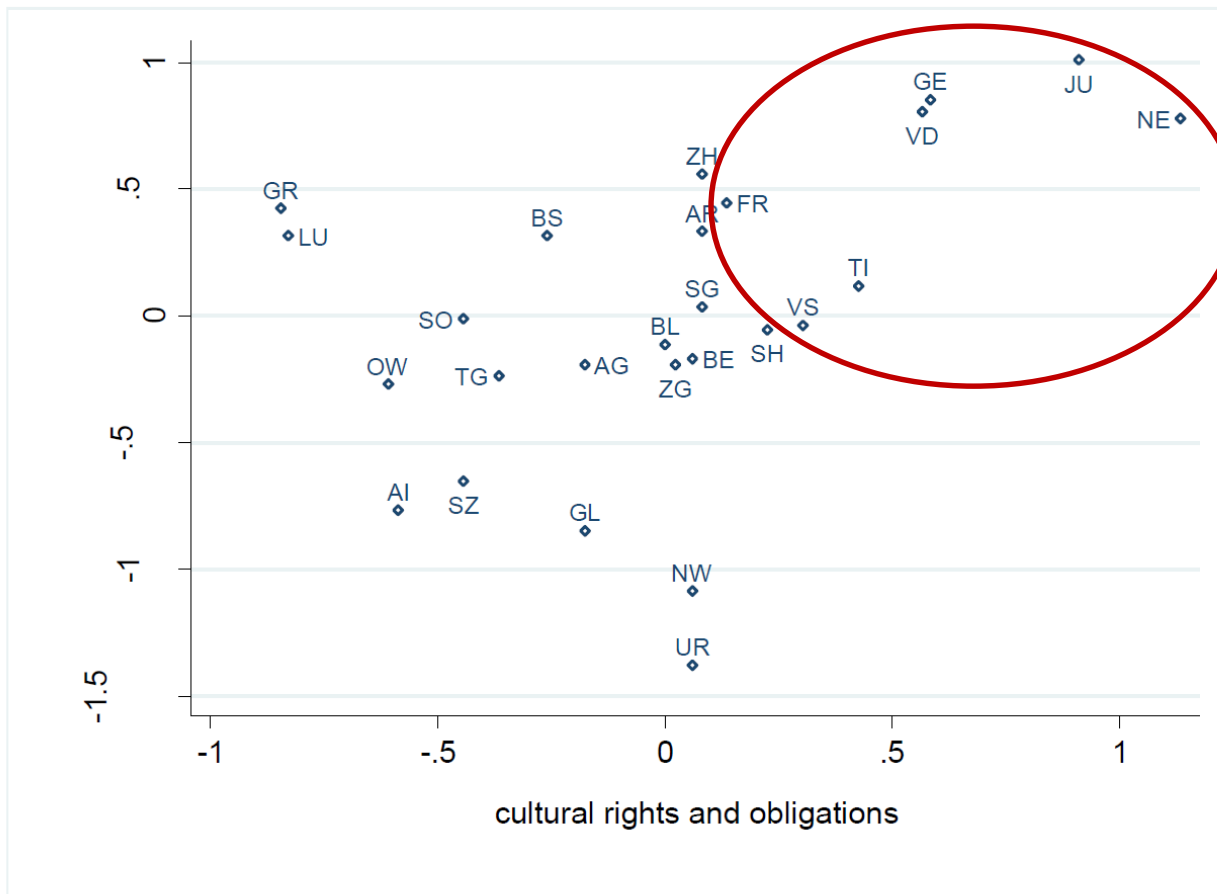
Figure 2 – Cantonal integration policies, comprehensive index



Note: Entries are z-transformed values.

Construct validity II

Figure 3 – Scatter of Swiss cantons along civic-political and cultural rights and obligations categories



note: Entries are z-transformed values.

So what?

Cantonal data basis for comparative analyses on determinants and outcomes of integration policy

Which aggregation level (cf. Goertz 2006)?

no categorical answer, depends on research question (theoretical considerations)