

East European Aspects of Understanding the European Reality at the University Teaching

Professor Dmitry POLYVYANNYY
Ivanovo State University



Martin Wight

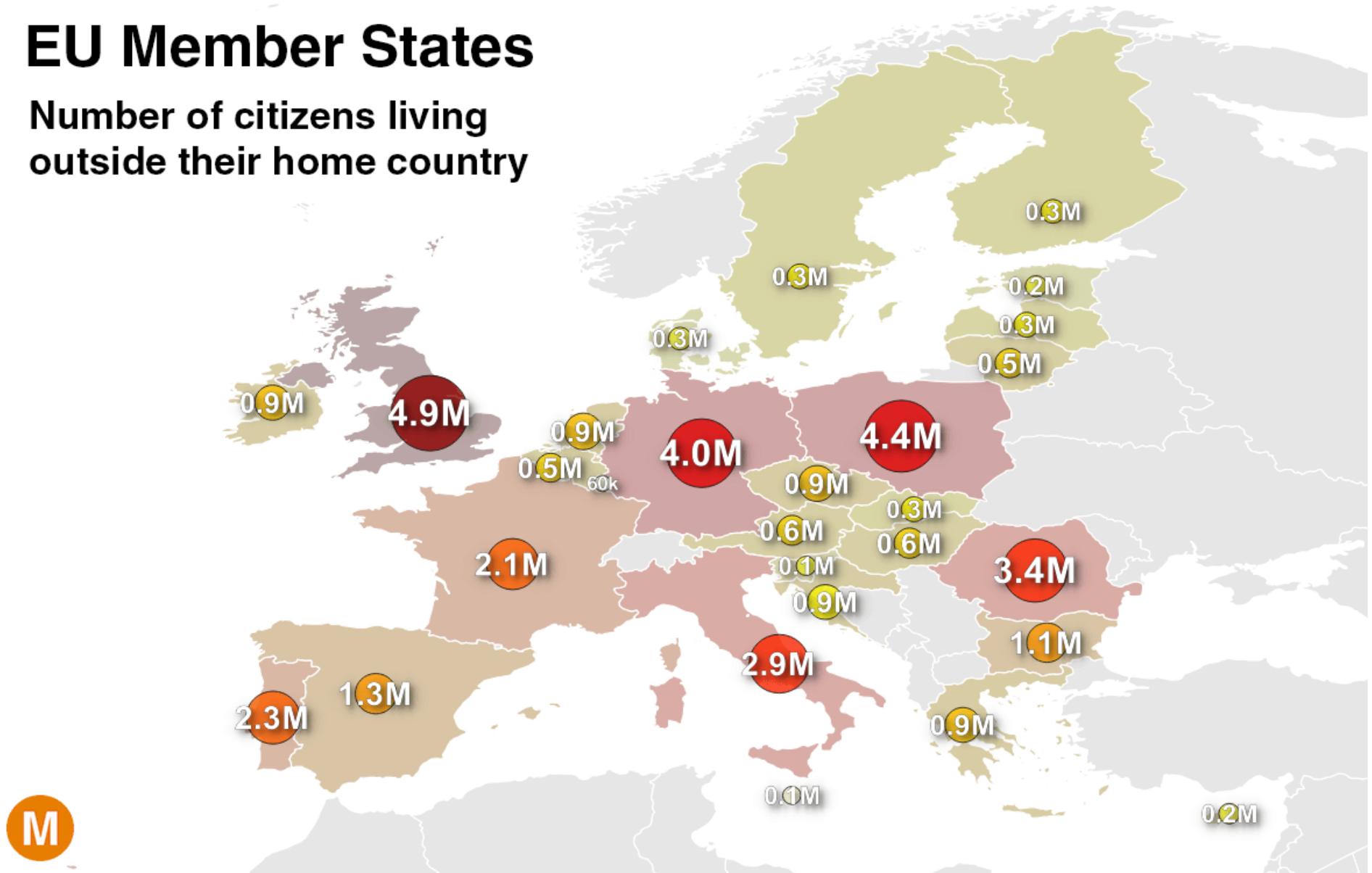
- One of the main purposes of university education is to escape ... ***from the mean, narrow, provincial spirit which is constantly assuring us that we are at the peak of human achievement, that we stand on the edge of unprecedented prosperity or unparalleled catastrophe .***

Contexts of Brexit

- Variety of contexts to avoid simple binary oppositions like '(new) normality – (new) abnormality' or 'victory – failure' or 'the EU to be or not to be' etc.
- Alexey Gromyko's contexts: EU from 2005 constitutional crisis to 2016 Brexit; UK in the World from Iraq 2003 to 2016; UK referendums of 1975 (67%) to 2016 (48%)

EU Member States

Number of citizens living outside their home country



Labour mobility within the EU: the impact of enlargement and transitional arrangements, NIESR Discussion Paper no. 379, National Institute of Economic and Social Research, London 2011

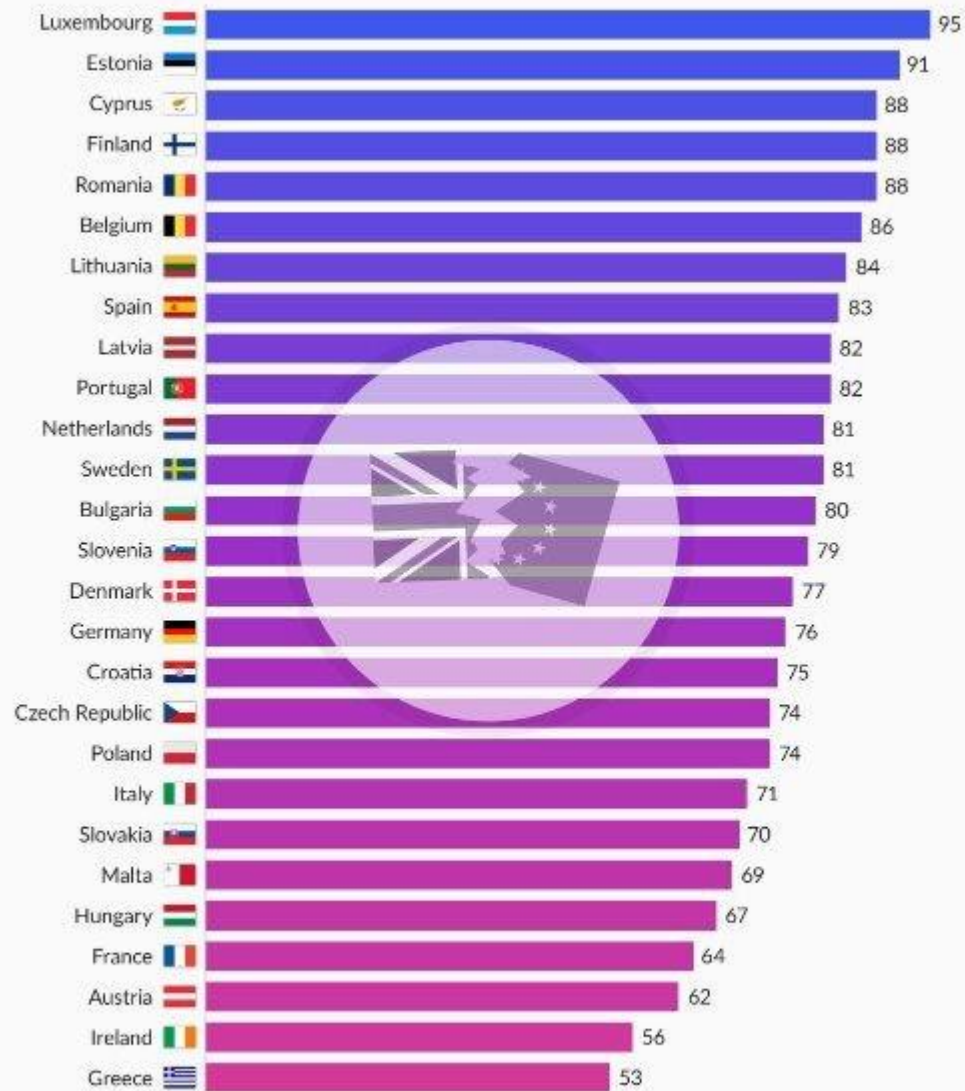
Country	2004	2006	2008	2010	2012	2004/2012 (%)
Bulgaria	171,000	229,000	333,000	437,000	482,000	180
Czech Republic	74,000	71,000	113,000	105,000	108,000	40
Estonia	28,000	34,000	45,000	59,000	68,000	140
Hungary	92,000	92,000	131,000	152,000	184,000	100
Latvia	23,000	32,000	57,000	80,000	128,000	450
Lithuania	50,000	99,000	167,000	193,000	254,000	400
Poland	580,000	776,000	1,328,000	1,497,000	1,798,000	210
Romania	541,000	882,000	1,640,000	2,218,000	2,400,000	340
Slovakia	66,000	99,000	150,000	166,000	158,000	140
Slovenia	34,000	36,000	38,000	41,000	43,000	25
Total	1,659,000	2,350,000	4,002,000	4,948,000	5,623,000	180

Euromilieu and its inhabitants

- Education, science and culture (inactive?)
- Business (mute?)
- Labor migrants - Polish plumbers – (voteless?)
- Euro-bureaucracy (rotation btw euromilieu and national administration?)
- Minorities (non aware, do not care, Tusk only?)

Do Europeans care if the UK leaves?

% population that hopes the UK remains in the EU



n=54,000

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indy100

The INDEPENDENT

statista

Queries

- Is a national state level appropriate for evaluating volume and current results of its integration?
- What do national referenda and politics in general mean to the citizens 'integrated' in different states?
- Will East European political classes get back its people overrepresented in the EU institutes (like Kuneva, Potocnik, Gribauskaite etc)

Ivan Krastev, NYT

- According to the recent opinion polls, we East Europeans are the ones most friendly to the union, but also the most likely to vote for Brussels-bashing governments.
- Eastern Europeans want the union to survive because they are among the major beneficiaries of European integration. They would be the biggest losers in economic, political and security terms if integration was reversed.

Sever Voinescu (Romania)

- We have the feeling that our transition towards a European model is not complete and the substantial progress we have already made is not irreversible at all. The institutional collapse of the European Union or the creation of another kind of EU, reserved only to some western European members, is seen as a dangerous and highly plausible scenario in Romania. We still need to see the famous transformative power of the EU at work in Romania – without which there are no reasons for optimism.

Adam Reichardt, *New Eastern Europe* (Poland)

- Further, there is a growing sense that Europe as we know it is changing and it remains unclear to what extent Poland can play a role in a reshaped Europe; or whether it will be given a plain choice. Media reports from Monday morning drew attention to proposals by leaders of both Germany and France that demonstrate a will to accelerate European integration, creating in essence a new European super-state which includes a single currency, central bank, a single army, one immigration system and one border, among other things – in essence the United States of Europe.

If this proposal is now on the table, it is unlikely that Poland and other Visegrad states would agree to give up so much sovereignty so quickly. Hence, one could easily see in this situation the development of **two European Unions, one that has a core with states like Germany and France; and one that is more on the periphery with states like Poland and Hungary.**

Piotr Buras, ECFR

- A new political contract for Europe which Warsaw would wish to promote should be based upon the idea of flexibility, differentiation, and equal treatment of all EU member states regardless of their individual levels of integration. Each EU member state should be allowed to define its own integration path - **it would be a „multi-polar union“ as opposed to a Kerneuropa or European federation.**

East European timeline???

- Slovenian election crisis of July 2014 – Miro Cerar's party
- Romanian election crisis of October 2015 – Dacian Cielos (former EU commissioner)
- Bulgarian election crisis of 2014 and GERB (from meaning abbreviation to party name (Citizens for European Development of Bulgaria – Coat of Arms))
- Zeman's Czech referendum appeal etc

Berlin and Warsaw after-Brexit meetings

- Six 'founding states' in Berlin
- Ten 'non-founding states' at Warsaw (Visegrad+Australia and Slovenia+Greece-Romania-Bulgaria)
- Waszczykowski – “two-speed Europe”
- Euro – non-Euro???
- Integration of various levels, speed (and vectors???)

UK Minister of State for Europe

- European Union
- Europe, including Balkans, Ukraine, Belarus and Moldova
- Russia, South Caucasus
- NATO and European Security
- OSCE and Council of Europe

Classification attempt (based on Tanya Boerzel-2001)

Pace setters | Foot Draggers | Fence sitters

Drum beaters or securitizers

Pace setters – labor division btw nationals
and supranationals?

Skilled imitators | Critical insiders – mb both

Door knockers | Queue waiters

Candidates to candidates | Last-die hoppers