

SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTIES AND CLASS REPRESENTATION IN PARLIAMENTARY GOVERNMENTS

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HOW MUCH HAVE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTIES CHANGED SINCE WWII?

- and specifically how has the class composition of social democratic cabinets changed?



HOW DOES THIS CHANGE RELATE TO
BROADER CHANGES IN SOCIETY,
EMPLOYMENT, PRODUCTION AND PARTY
ELECTORAL STRATEGIES?



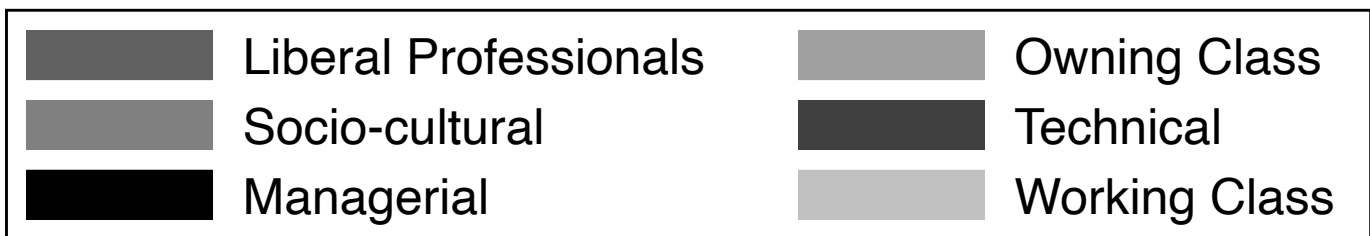
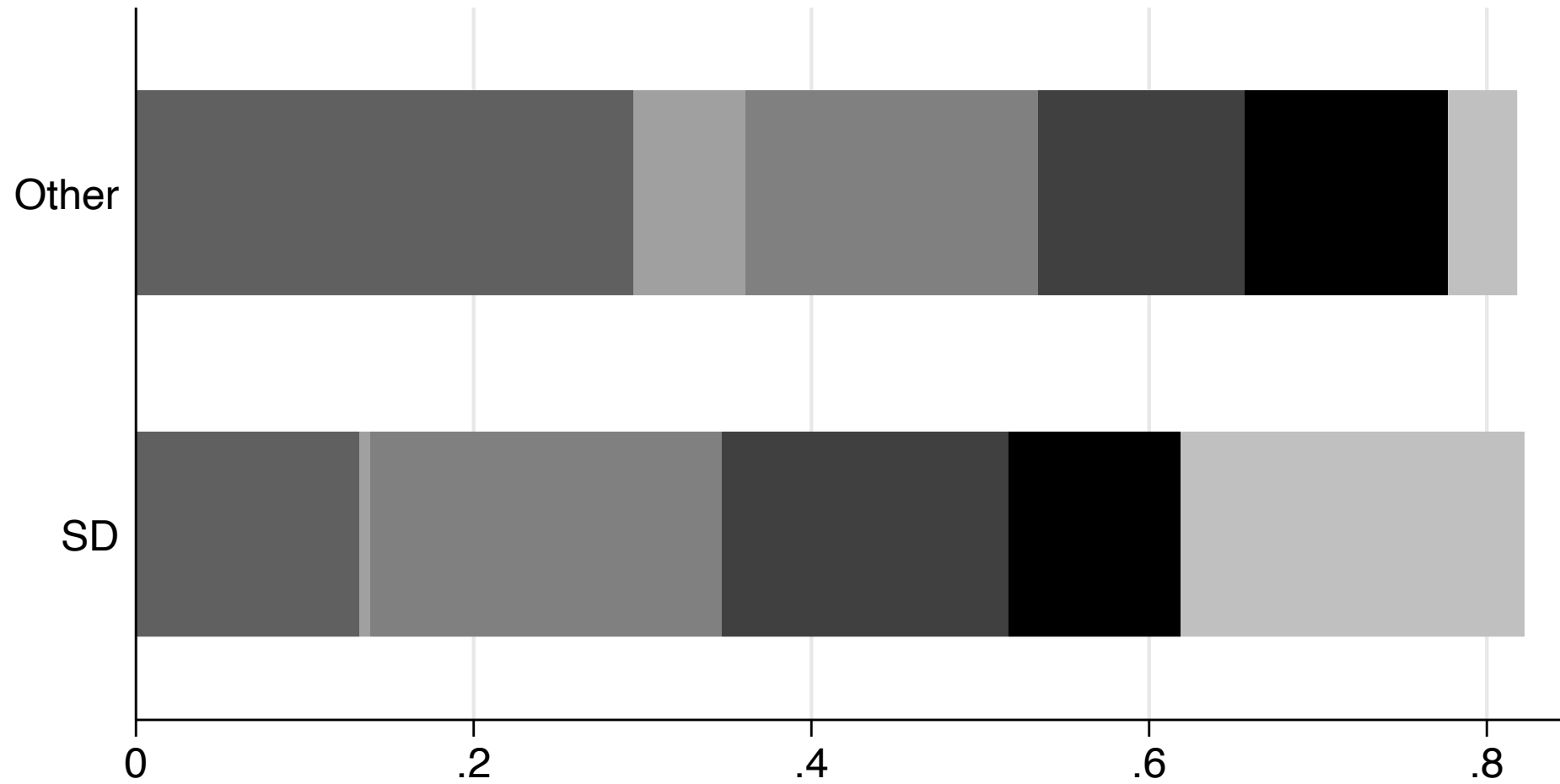
MOTIVATION

- Could descriptive representation affect appeal to working class voters? (see Evans and Tilley 2017)
- Contribution to the debate on working class vote, economic change & party strategy (Benedetto, Hix, and Mastrococco 2020; Häusermann et al. 2021; Przeworski and Sprague 1986; Rennwald and Pontusson 2021)

DATA

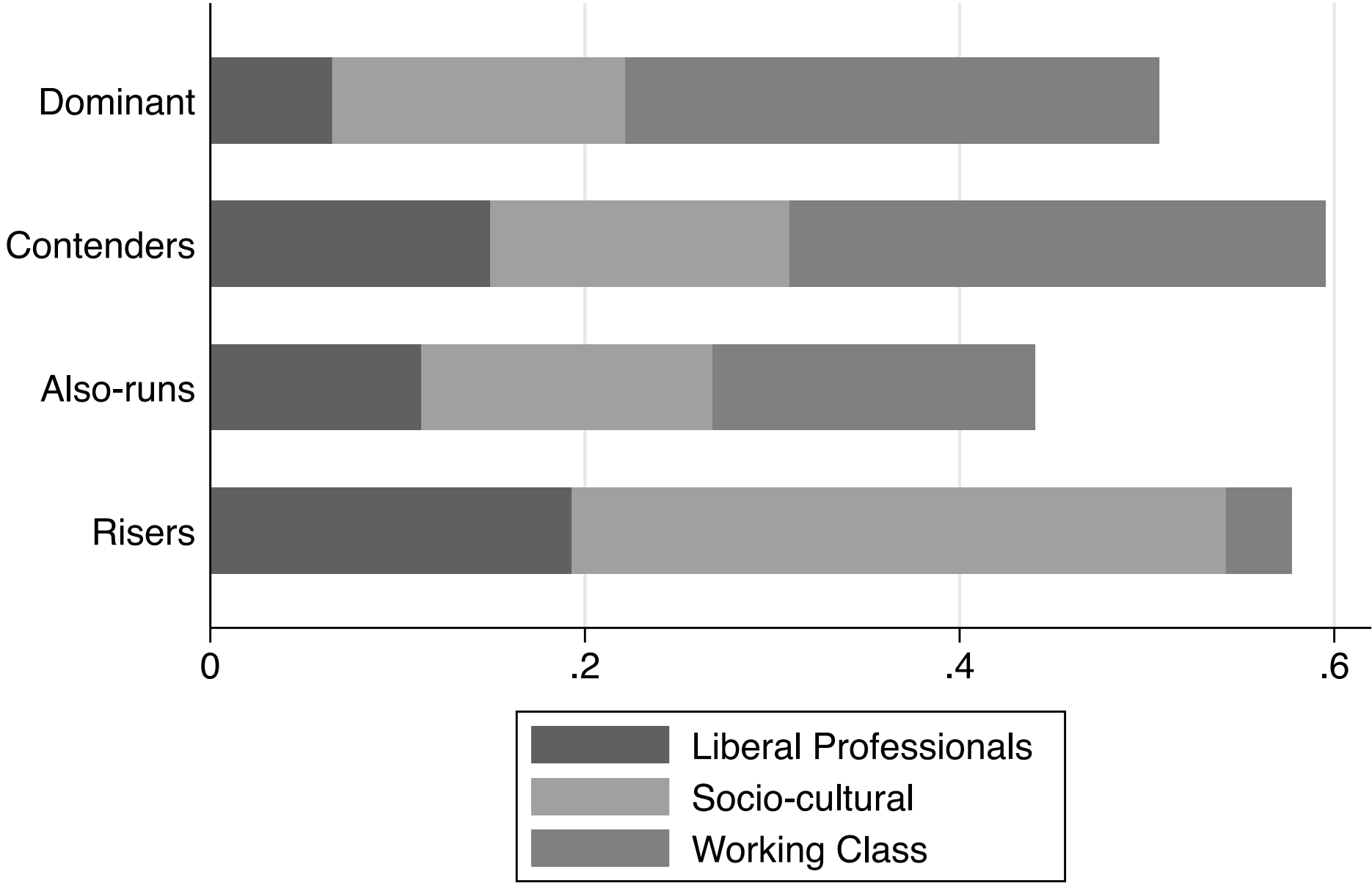
- Use own data (Alexiadou 2022)
- Eight portfolios (heavy on economics and labour issues)
- 1945-2015
- 17 countries (excluding Canada as no SD party)
- Follow the Oesche & Rennwald (2018) class scheme

Distribution of Ministerial Classes in SD & Other Parties
18 Countries, 1945-2015

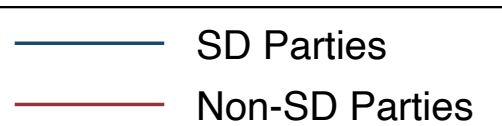
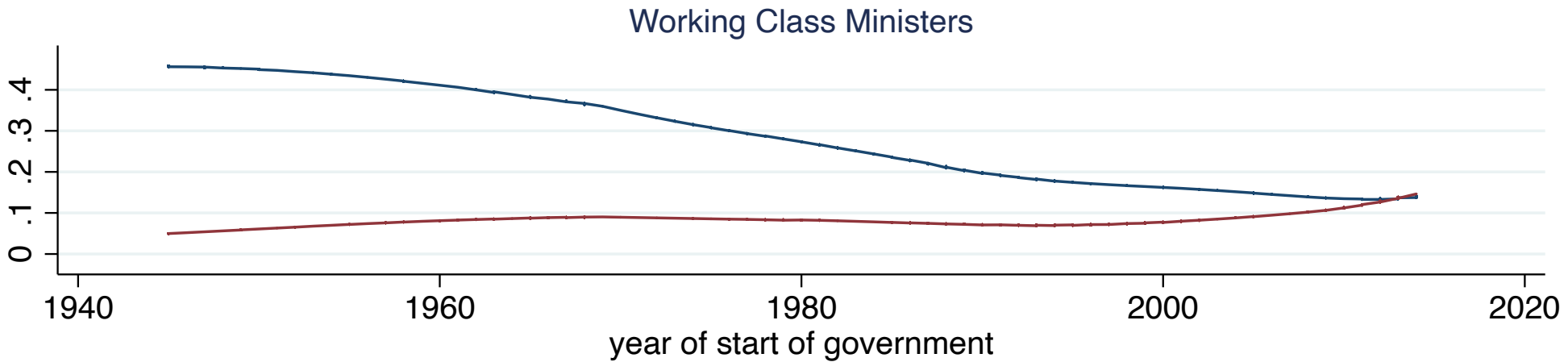
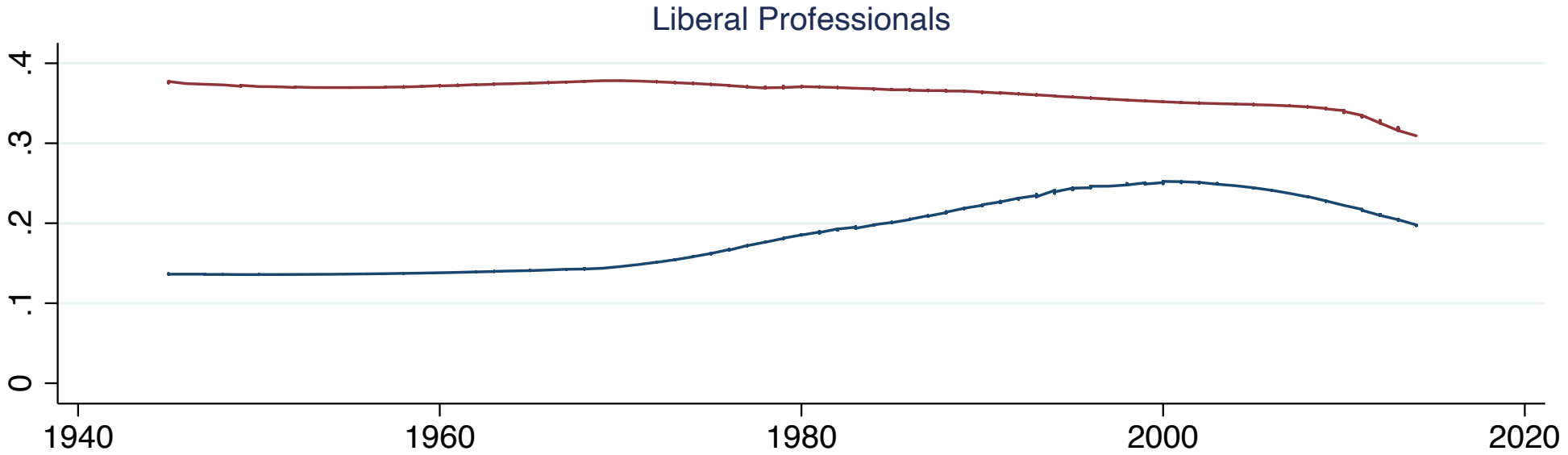


Distribution of Ministerial Classes in SD Parties Across Party Systems

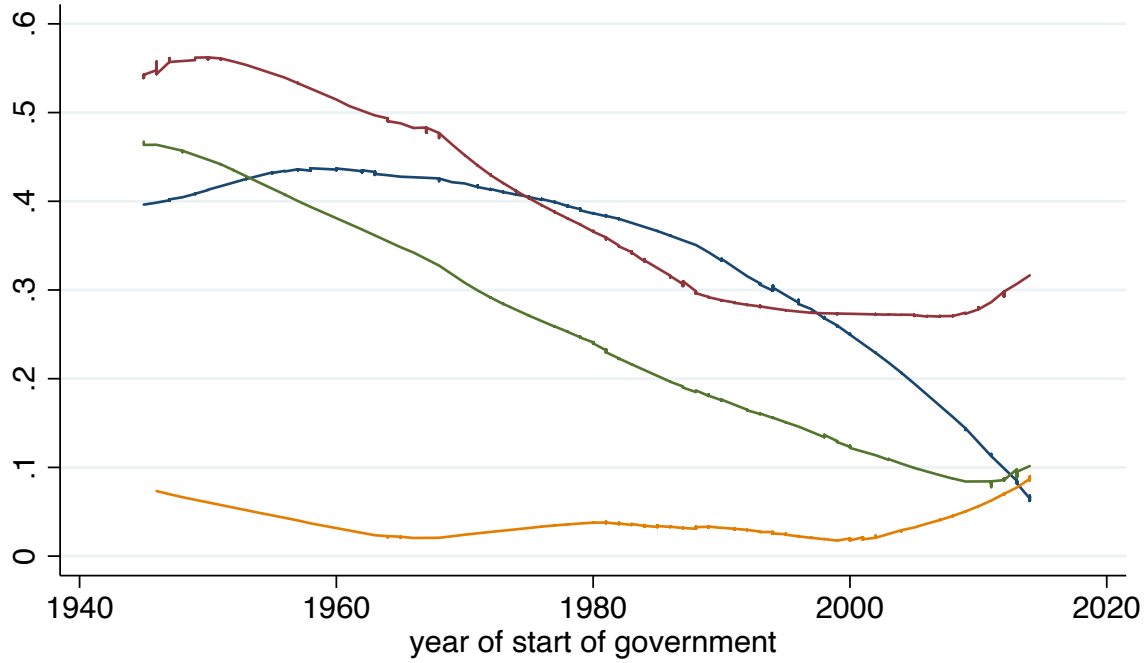
18 Countries, 1945-2015



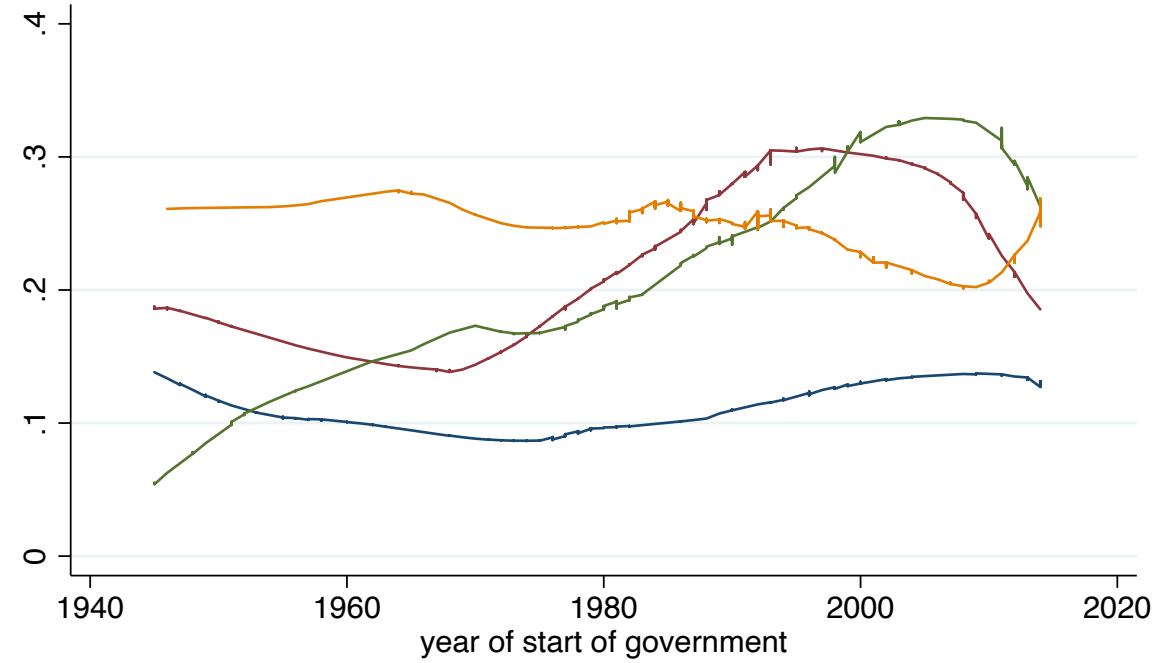
Class Convergence Over Time in SD & Non-SD Parties



Working Class Ministers over time



Liberal Professionals over time



WHAT COULD DRIVE THESE CHANGES?

- Decline in industrial employment
- Parties' policy priorities
- Industrial relations and weakening of trade unions
- Economic globalization
- Electoral system- more or less person centered
- Plus other individual & country-specific factors

	(1)	(2)	(3)
	liberal_prof	socio_prof	working_class
Rile	-0.0163 (0.023)	-0.0015 (0.010)	0.0200* (0.011)
WBCoordination	-0.0791 (0.286)	-0.6024** (0.263)	-0.0332 (0.168)
Union Density	-0.0018 (0.027)	-0.0150 (0.023)	-0.0016 (0.013)
Globalization Index	0.1202** (0.051)	0.0498 (0.048)	-0.0962*** (0.032)
Effective N of Parties	-0.0042 (0.285)	0.2872 (0.249)	-0.0798 (0.109)
Person-centered Electoral System	-1.1334*** (0.255)	0.3250 (0.295)	0.5380*** (0.189)
Multiparty Government	-3.6948*** (1.299)	-0.6452 (0.677)	2.8143*** (0.655)
No of Ministries Held	-0.2875*** (0.106)	-0.0503 (0.070)	0.1222*** (0.046)
Industrial Employment	0.1763** (0.082)	0.0639 (0.065)	-0.0482 (0.038)
High Party Position	0.4310 (0.569)	-0.3858 (0.240)	0.2637 (0.459)
Years Minister	0.0436 (0.060)	0.0860** (0.041)	-0.0765 (0.056)

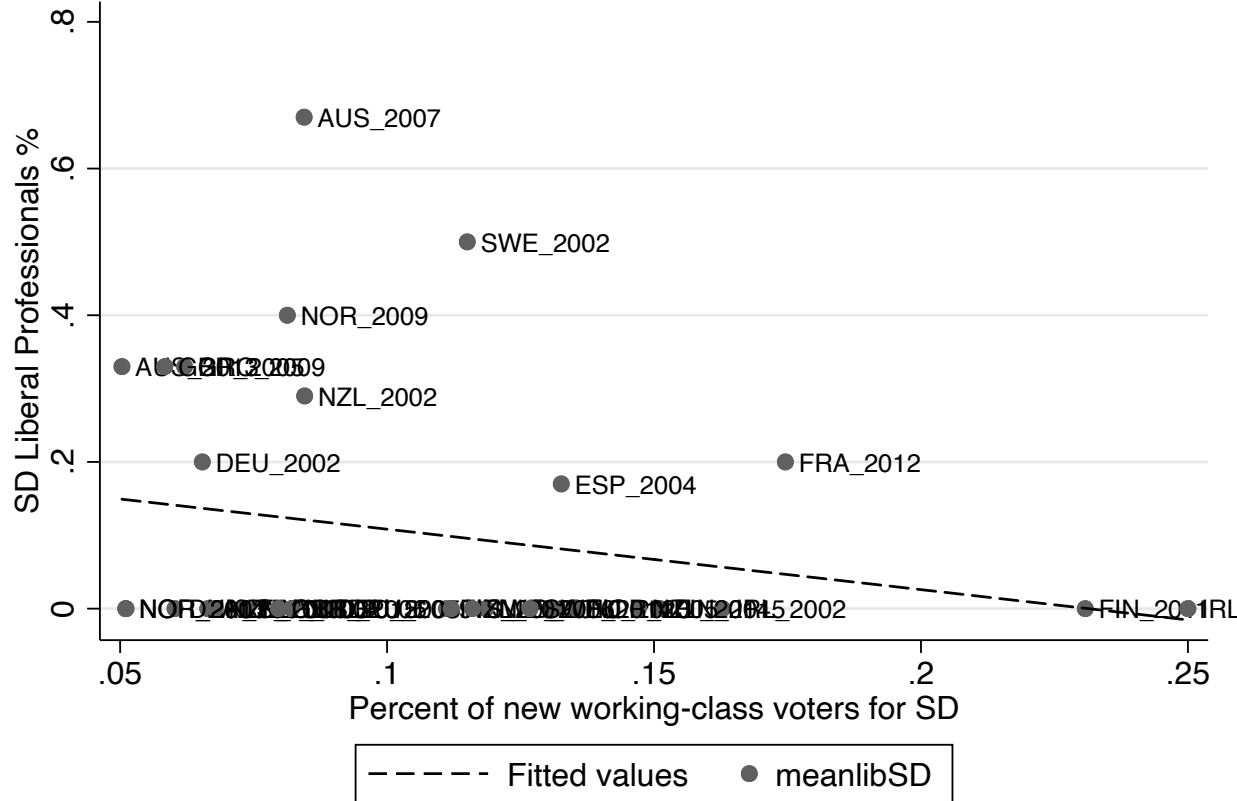
RESULTS

- Not clear what drives the change
- Not the declining numbers in industrial employment
- Economic globalization? (but how? Through trade competition?, better measure of de-industrialization?)
- Not party policy priorities (RILE)
- Most significant predictor the electoral system- personalized systems elect more working class ministers and fewer liberal professionals

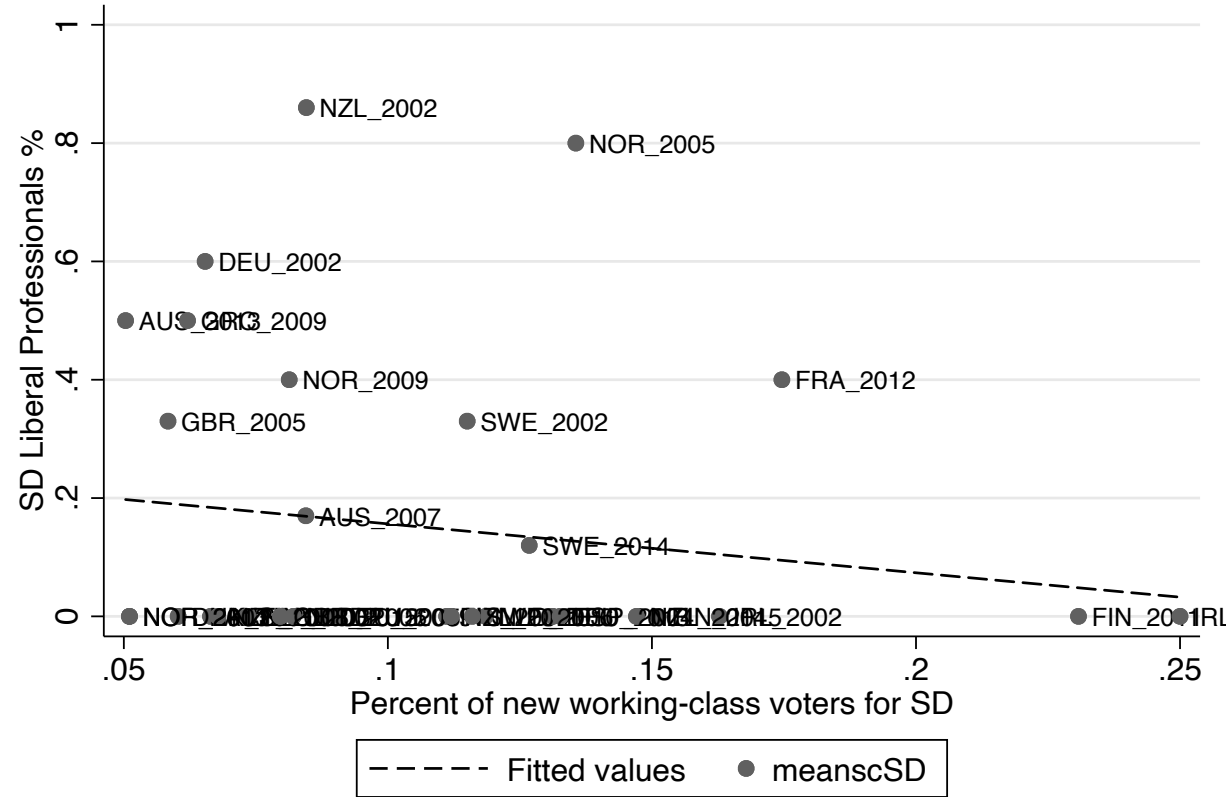
COULD THIS CHANGE BE RELATED TO
VOTER PROFILES (PAPER STONES
HYPOTHESIS)?

CSES DATA & MINISTERIAL CLASS

Liberal Professional SDs & New SD working class voters



Sociocultural Professional SDs & New SD working class voters



THANK YOU!