APPENDIX A10

IMMIGRATION, SURVEY EXPERIMENT, ESS7-2014 ed. 3.0

Experiment to test effect of origins and skills on attitudes to migrants (D30-D33)

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1. Background

The ESS7 module on 'Attitudes towards immigration and their antecedents' includes items designed to test the relative contributions of economic threat and cultural/identity threat to opposition to migrants comparatively and within individual nations (Questions D30-D33 in the ESS7 Source Questionnaire). The items asked about attitudes towards migrants from specific countries, with the reference country allowed to vary across ESS countries to ensure that the items would make sense to respondents and measure attitudes towards similarly salient groups. The rationale for the experiment – and the selection of reference countries – is explained below.

A 2x2 experimental design was employed varying the economic status (social class) and origin country of a migrant group, and asking respondents whether they would regard the admission of that migrant group as a good or bad thing.

The experiment is designed to:
- Test the relative contributions of economic threat and cultural/identity threat to opposition to migrants comparatively and within individual nations
- Test the impact of origin regions in a way which is robustly comparable across nations while remaining relevant within nations
- Enable the development of a multilevel model of the relative impact of economic and cultural/identity threat, and how this interacts with national political and social context across the ESS countries by employing a robust and consistent design across a wide range of different contexts.
- Provide a mechanism for testing the impact of ethnic origin which addresses sensitives around this concept
- Probe attitudes to four different immigrant groups in a single item.

Respondents were randomly assigned to be asked about one of the four migrant groups shown below:

	Less different ethnic origin	**More different ethnic origin**
Higher economic status	Professional migrants from [Poor European country providing largest number of migrants]	Professional migrants from [Poor non-European country providing largest number of migrants]
Lower economic status	Unskilled labourers from [Poor European country providing largest number of migrants]	Unskilled labourers from [Poor non-European country providing largest number of migrants]

Economic status is defined by the two poles of the social class hierarchy - "professionals" and "unskilled labourers". The origin countries were chosen to provide examples of culturally-similar European migrants and culturally dissimilar non-European migrants. In each case the origin countries referred to in each ESS participating country were defined as a) the poor European country that provides the largest number of migrants b) the poor non-European country that provides the largest number of migrants. Allowing the reference group to vary between countries but selecting countries according to a consistent underlying logic/definition was done to ensure both the relevance of the item in each country and provide a basis for meaningful cross-country comparisons in attitudes.

The final question wording of the source item is given below:

D30   STILL CARD 42 Using the same card, please tell me to what extent you think [country] should allow professionals[12] from [poor European country providing largest number of migrants] to come to live in [country]?

D31   STILL CARD 42 Using the same card, please tell me to what extent you think [country] should allow professionals from [poor country outside Europe providing largest number of migrants] to come to live in [country]?

D32   STILL CARD 42 Using the same card, please tell me to what extent you think [country] should allow unskilled labourers from [poor European country providing largest number of migrants] to come to live in [country]?

D33   STILL CARD 42 Using the same card, please tell me to what extent you think [country] should allow unskilled labourers from [poor country outside Europe providing largest number of migrants] to come to live in [country]?

Allow many to come and live here	1
Allow some	2
Allow a few	3
Allow none	4
Don't know)	8

2.   Choice of origin country

The selection of origin countries was done by Dr Rob Ford, University of Manchester, a member of the ESS7 Immigration Question Module Design Team, in consultation with ESS National Coordinators (NCs).

The purpose of the experiment is to test the impact of cultural distance and economic qualifications on reactions to contentious migrant groups. The most significant migrant origin countries inside Europe and outside of Europe were identified based upon the following criteria:

1. Stock - size of foreign born population from this country

2. Flow - size of recent inflows into the country

3. Human Development Index - origin countries must have a substantially lower HDI than the destination country. This criterion is applied because migration between developed countries -from France to Belgium, Sweden to Finland, or Ireland to Britain - is in general neither socially visible nor politically significant. Even large inflows do not arouse the same level of public debate or political opposition.

Information on the stock/flow of migrants was taken from:

OECD Migration Outlook 2013
http://www.keepeek.com/Digital-Asset-Management/oecd/social-issues-migration-health/international-

migration-outlook-2013_migr_outlook-2013-en#page67

UN Migration statistics 2010 revision
http://esa.un.org/unmigration/MigrationFlows.aspx

When several plausible candidates are available, the political and social salience of migrant groups, and the ability to compare reactions to the same migrant group across multiple nations, is used as additional criteria for selection.

For the purposes of the experiment, Turkey, a majority Muslim country, is considered in the "outside Europe" category, as the religious and cultural differences between Turkish migrants and native citizens have been a source of considerable political debate in many of the countries which have experienced significant migration from Turkey.

During fieldwork preparations for ESS7 (March- August 2014), ongoing tensions between Russia and Ukraine led some NCs to voice concerns about asking respondents' attitudes to migrants from either of these countries.   There was concern that responses would reflect attitudes towards this conflict rather than attitudes towards migrants from poorer European countries more generally. Where a plausible alternative country was available (based on the criteria given above) preference was therefore given to this alternative in order to try and ensure greater cross-national comparability.

Table 1 Countries used in the ESS7 origin and skills experiment (items D31-D33).

ESS Country	Poor European country providing the largest number of migrants (D30 + D32)	Poor country outside Europe providing the largest number of migrants (D31 + D33)
Austria	Serbia	Turkey
Belgium	Poland	Turkey
Czech Republic	Ukraine	Vietnam
Denmark	Poland	Turkey
Estonia	Belarus	Vietnam
Finland	Estonia	Somalia
France	Portugal	Algeria
Germany	Poland	Turkey
Hungary	Romania	China
Ireland	Poland	Nigeria
Israel	Ukraine	Ethiopia
Latvia	Belarus	Vietnam
Lithuania	Belarus	Turkey
Netherlands	Poland	Turkey
Norway	Poland	Somalia
Poland	Belarus	Vietnam
Portugal	Ukraine	Brazil
Slovenia	Bosnia-Herzegovina	China
Spain	Romania	Morocco
Sweden	Poland	Somalia
Switzerland	Portugal	Turkey
UK	Poland	India