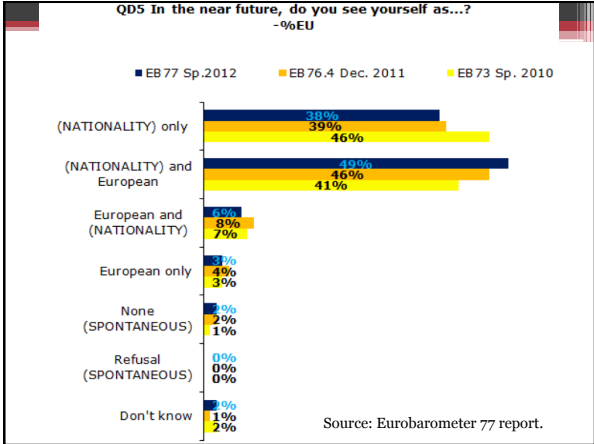- Announcements
  - First draft of the seminar paper is due in 2 weeks (on Nov 26)
    - Make sure you follow the structure of the paper outlined in the seminar paper instructions.

- <u>The plan for today</u>
  - Midterm exam feedback
  - The EU and the 2008 economic crisis
  - Seminar paper outline

QD5 In the near future, do you see yourself as...?
-%EU

- EB 77 Sp.2012
- EB 76.4 Dec. 2011
- EB 73 Sp. 2010

	EB 77 Sp.2012	EB 76.4 Dec. 2011	EB 73 Sp. 2010
(NATIONALITY) only	38%	39%	46%
(NATIONALITY) and European	49%	46%	41%
European and (NATIONALITY)	6%	8%	7%
European only	3%	4%	3%
None (SPONTANEOUS)	2%	2%	1%
Refusal (SPONTANEOUS)	0%	0%	0%
Don't know	2%	1%	2%

Source: Eurobarometer 77 report.

Midterm exam feedback

- Diffuse political support
  - Emotional, affective, independent of regime performance
- Specific political support
  - Depends on regime performance

- How self interest influences support

- --
  - You are welcome to stop by if you are interested in more feedback (especially on essays)

The EU and the 2008 economic crisis

How much does such a crisis threaten the survival of the EU?

Source: The Economist, Prospect

Political support and regime stability

- Political support – source of stability
  - ▫ Better chance to survive crises

- Specific support: depends on how well the regime works
  - ▫ Crisis → difficult times → lower performance evaluations → lower specific support
- Diffuse support: affective (emotional), independent of how well the regime works
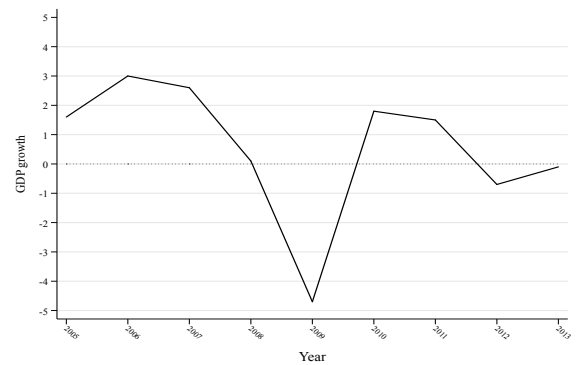 - ▫ Crisis → diffuse remains up

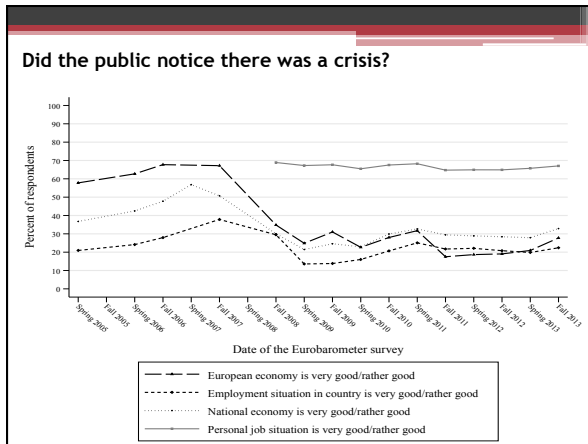## Is political support a source of stability for the EU?

- To answer – need to determine whether support is diffuse or specific.

- Research so far: support for the EU is related to identity as well as to evaluations of performance.
  - ▫ E.g. Identity is an affective attitude → support is (at least partly) diffuse.
  - ▫ Problem: the research so far has been cross-sectional
    - ・ We can't be sure that European identity (or self interest) really *causes* higher support for the EU

Is political support a source of stability for the EU?

- Different view:
  - ▫ Diffuse political support is stable over a crisis
  - ▫ → explore how stable political support for the EU is over a crisis
    - ・ If stable → means it's diffuse
    - ・ If not stable → means it's specific

Was the 2008 recession a serious crisis?

Did the public notice there was a crisis?

Did political support follow evaluations of the economy?

- Work in groups of 4-5
- Answer this question using the figures in chapter 3 that you read.

- Does political support for the EU see diffuse or specific to you?

Perils of judging over-time stability from aggregate data

- Aggregate data = average support in the whole population
  - Can't track whether *individual citizens* have stable support
  - If many people change their opinions (but do so in opposite directions), it will look stable in the aggregate
    - Remember this for other contexts

  - → we need to track individuals in order to see if people kept stable support for the EU over the economic crisis
    - Use *panel data* (public opinion survey that asks the *same* respondents over multiple points in time)

Is political support for the EU stable over a crisis at the individual level?

- Work in groups of 4-5
- Answer this question by using information from Figures 2a and 2b

Discussing paper outlines

- Work in pairs
- Present to your colleague the following:
  - ▫ Your topic
  - ▫ What does article 1 argue about your topic?
  - ▫ What does article 2 argue about your topic?
  - ▫ What are the strengths and weaknesses of each of the two articles?