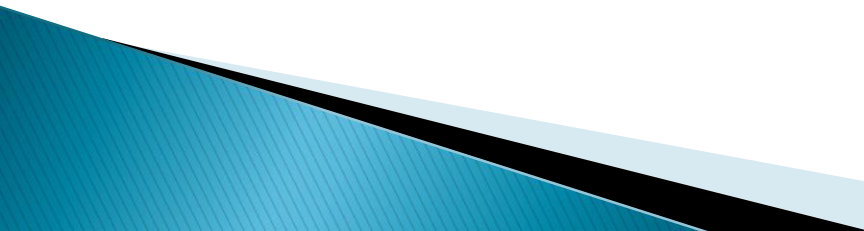


Populism: the Rise of the Political Trend in Estonia

Changes in Estonian Parliament

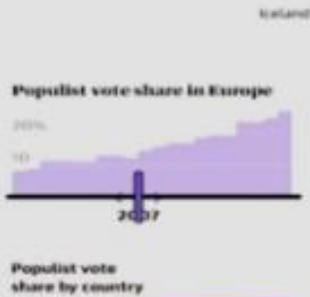
- ▶ For many years, Estonia lacked a successful right-wing, nationalist party
 - ▶ In a March national election (2019), the Conservative People's Party, known by the Estonian acronym EKRE, had won 19 seats in the country's 101-seat parliament
 - ▶ The right-wing populists' rise had taken most Estonians by surprise
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Surprised? Why?





Populism in Europe: 2007



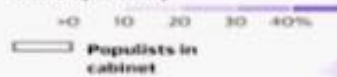


Populism in Europe: 2018

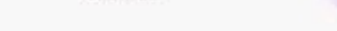
Populist vote share in Europe



Populist vote share by country



Populists in cabinet



15:11 / 1:18:30


Why has EKRE been the fastest growing political force in Estonia?

Why did we get to the point we are?

▶ EKRE rails against:

migrants, same-sex partnerships and mainstream media, LGBT rights, abortion

▶ It's about what drove the people to make the choice?

1. A wider social dissatisfaction with the policies of previous coalition parties
 2. EKRE is fiercely anti-Russia and Estonians have always seen their next-door neighbor as a potential security threat.
 3. It seems that EKRE speaks about the problems of the real life, and people may feel that they're now being listened to
 4. EKRE seems to be against European Union (Eurosceptics)
 5. Giving unfulfillable promises
- 

Are they wrong or right?

It depends whom you ask

After all, some of their ideas are quite good, for example:

- ▶ the party defends conservative family values against liberals;
 - ▶ Estonians are understandably anxious to preserve their national culture and the Estonian language:
 - ▶ it's tempting to believe in their promises ...
- 