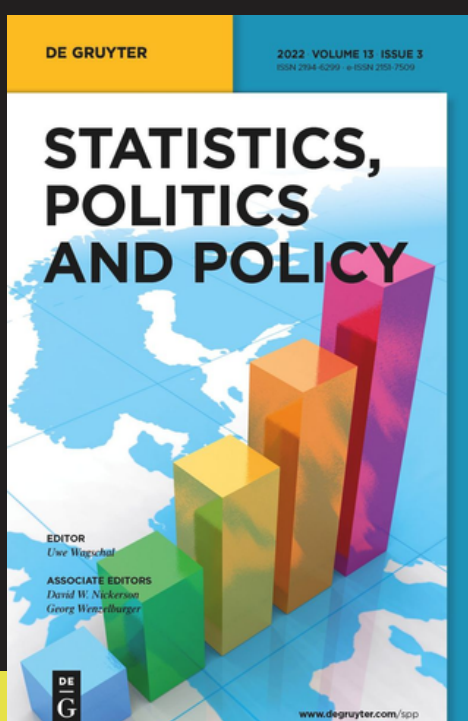


PROTEMO INSIGHTS

How Citizens Emotionally Respond to Protective Policies



based on "**Emotional Reactions to Protective Policies on the Political Spectrum**" by Marta Penczek and Katarzyna Hamer
Statistics, Politics and Policy



First, what are protective policies?

Policies designed to safeguard people and communities economically, socially, physically, and culturally. Here are a few examples:

-  **Economic protection** (jobs, inflation, income security)
-  **Health protection** (access to medical care)
-  **Personal security** (crime, terrorism, safety)
-  **Environmental protection** (climate, pollution)
-  **Social welfare protection**
-  **Protection of traditions and own way of life**





Emotions shape how

people think about politics and policies. But we know little about how people feel about protective policies across different domains.

A **survey** on a representative sample of **1,124 Polish citizens** explored emotional reactions to **7 policy areas**.



Different policies

trigger **different emotional responses**, with only four emotions consistently appearing across all policy types:

🙄 **Discouragement**

😟 **Anxiety**

😞 **Disappointment**

😡 **Dissatisfaction**



Some policy areas

trigger unique emotions among some participants, for example:

 Economy → **Grief**

 Health → **Despair**

 Traditions & Culture → **Pride** (mostly right-leaning respondents)




People's emotional

reactions are strongly shaped by who they are.

 **Age** is the strongest predictor of emotional reactions.

 **Gender** also matters, especially in responses to health policies.

 **Political orientation** shapes emotions toward policies regarding protection of the tradition and culture of the country



Across all policy

areas, **negative emotions** are more common than positive ones.

This pattern is particularly strong in **economic and environmental policies**, where feelings of frustration, anxiety, and dissatisfaction are widespread.





Emotions strongly

influence how people understand, support, or resist public policies.

Recognizing these emotional patterns can help policymakers **communicate more effectively** and **design measures** that resonate with citizens' concerns.



Want to know more?

Read the full publication "**Emotional Reactions to Protective Policies on the Political Spectrum**" by Marta Penczek and Katarzyna Hamer in the *Statistics, Politics and Policy* journal!

Link in the first
comment!

