

# Accepted Manuscript

Blind spots in the party system: Spatial voting and issue salience if voters face scarce choices

Anna-Sophie Kurella, Jan Rosset



PII: S0261-3794(16)30466-8

DOI: [10.1016/j.electstud.2017.07.001](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.electstud.2017.07.001)

Reference: JELS 1852

To appear in: *Electoral Studies*

Received Date: 17 November 2016

Revised Date: 6 April 2017

Accepted Date: 10 July 2017

Please cite this article as: Kurella, A.-S., Rosset, J., Blind spots in the party system: Spatial voting and issue salience if voters face scarce choices, *Electoral Studies* (2017), doi: 10.1016/j.electstud.2017.07.001.

This is a PDF file of an unedited manuscript that has been accepted for publication. As a service to our customers we are providing this early version of the manuscript. The manuscript will undergo copyediting, typesetting, and review of the resulting proof before it is published in its final form. Please note that during the production process errors may be discovered which could affect the content, and all legal disclaimers that apply to the journal pertain.

## Blind spots in the party system: Spatial voting and issue salience if voters face scarce choices

Anna-Sophie Kurella  
Mannheimer Zentrum für Europäische  
Sozialforschung (MZES)  
Universität Mannheim  
A5, 6 Bauteil A  
DE - 68131 Mannheim  
[anna.kurella@mzes.uni-mannheim.de](mailto:anna.kurella@mzes.uni-mannheim.de)

Jan Rosset  
Département de science politique  
et relations internationales  
Université de Genève  
40, bd du Pont d'Arve  
CH - 1211 Genève 4  
[jan.rosset@unige.ch](mailto:jan.rosset@unige.ch)

### Abstract

Drawing on spatial models of political competition, this research investigates whether decision weights vary across groups of voters defined by their policy positioning in a two-dimensional space. Our analyses of electoral survey data from England, France, Germany, the Netherlands and Switzerland reveal that the economic and cultural dimensions of electoral competition are salient for the vote choice of most groups of voters. However, those voters who hold economically left and culturally right preferences weigh their preferences on the economic dimension much more and discount parties' position on cultural issues when no party represents their configuration of preferences. Consequently, left parties are less able to attain votes of economically right but culturally libertarian voters for cultural policy reasons, when electoral choices are scarce, while right parties are successful in attaining votes based on both dimensions. As a result, significant representation gaps can occur.

**Keywords :** Issue salience, Spatial Voting, Issue Congruence, Western Europe

### Acknowledgements:

An earlier version of this paper was presented at the 2016 Annual Conference of the Swiss Political Science Association in Basel. We would like to thank Nathalie Giger, Dominic Höglinger, Olga Litvyak, Franz Urban Pappi, Jonas Pontusson, Line Rennwald, Christian Stecker and Philip Trein for helpful comments. Rosset gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the Swiss National Science Foundation (career grant nr: 151767).

Download English Version:

<https://daneshyari.com/en/article/5115481>

Download Persian Version:

<https://daneshyari.com/article/5115481>

[Daneshyari.com](https://daneshyari.com)