

Policy Implications: Nationalist Sentiment and International Adoption Policy

Restrictiveness

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International Adoption

- Provides families for children in need
- Accompanied by cultural divorce
- Flagship Convention: Hague Convention on the Rights of the Child 1993

Literature Review

- Bruening & Kousser (2009): The Politics of Intercountry Adoption; analyzed severity of orphan crisis, Hague Convention, globalization, democratization, and Islam in relation to intercountry adoption policy of sub-saharan African countries
- Breuning (2012): What Explains Openness to Intercountry Adoption

- Leblang, et al. (2015): Babies across Borders; confirmed that adoptive parents' motivation affected by nationalism of sending countries

Research Question

- Does the level of nationalist sentiment expressed by citizens of a country affect the restrictiveness of the country's international adoption policy?

Hypothesis

- Countries expressing higher nationalist sentiment will be more likely to have more restrictive policies than countries expressing lower nationalist sentiment.

Research Design

- Independent variable: nationalist sentiment, operationalized by ISSP National Identity Module 2013 of 33 countries
- Dependent variable: international adoption policy restrictiveness, operationalized by the Bruening & Kousser (2009) matrix
- Multivariate statistical analysis of the two variables to determine if nationalist sentiment impacts adoption policy restrictiveness
 - Controlling for other factors such as diversity of citizenry and economic development