# Explaining welfare preferences in dualized societies

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#### **Abstract**

A growing literature argues that politics in mature welfare states is characterized by new distributive conflicts. New risk groups are expected to advocate specific policies, which respond to their particular needs. The dualization-literature conceptualizes these risk groups in terms of *insiders and outsiders*, depending on their labor market vulnerability. In this paper, we test whether insiders and outsiders differ in their policy preferences. Redistribution and social investment typically target the needs of outsiders, while social insurance and performance-related incomes are more advantageous for insiders. Hence, we test whether we find insider-outsider divides with regard to preferences for these policies. In addition, we also test interaction effects with education, since high- and low-skilled outsiders have distinctive risk profiles and needs. The analysis is based on micro-level data from the ESS 2008.

The results consistently confirm the expected insider-outsider divide with regard to all analyzed policy preferences (redistribution, social investment, social insurance and the respondent's support for performance-related incomes). Further, the analysis of interaction effects with education shows that insider-outsider divides on social investment and social insurance prevail only among the medium- and high-skilled respondents, whereas attitudes on the redistribution of income differ between insiders and outsiders throughout the whole workforce.

The paper provides evidence that the increasing dualization of labor markets is reflected in individual preferences and attitudes. This is an important result for studies that analyze the political mobilization of insiders and outsiders and – more generally – the implications of dualization for post-industrial welfare politics.

#### Introduction<sup>1</sup>

The socio-structural foundations of the Western welfare states have changed profoundly over the last few decades. Structural developments such as deindustrialization, tertiarization, rising education levels, and the feminization of the workforce have created new risk structures and new risk groups in terms of labor market vulnerability, new social risks and income insecurities. Consequently, the welfare needs of different parts of the workforce have become more diverse, ranging from employment protection to income replacement, active labor market policies or childcare services (see e.g. Bonoli 2005, Armingeon and Bonoli 2006, Lister 2004, Rueda 2005, Kitschelt and Rehm 2006). In times of austerity the intensity of distributive conflict is increased and these diverse welfare needs may foster difficult trade-offs. At the same time, the maturation of welfare states has endogenously influenced the structure of risks, needs and political conflict (Pierson 2001, Campbell 2003, Häusermann 2010). Social insurance welfare states, e.g., penalize people with atypical and discontinuous employment biographies, thereby "producing" outsiders in post-industrial labor markets. Similarly, generous pension schemes or employment protection levels may contribute to the mobilization of those who benefit from these schemes, in defense of the status quo against retrenchment or alternative allocations of resources. The general implication of this literature is that post-industrial welfare politics is not just about "more vs. less" social protection anymore, and is does not just oppose the "rich and the poor".

Beyond this "negative" definition of post-industrial welfare politics, however, it has become somewhat difficult to grasp a "positive" definition and conceptualization of post-industrial social policy preferences and politics. If welfare politics today indeed is about specific kinds of benefits, services and rights that answer the needs of particular risk groups, then the question is how we define these risk groups and their preferences.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> We would like to thank David Rueda and Margarita Estévez-Abe for helpful comments on a previous version of this argument, which was presented at the Annual Meeting of the 2009 American Political Science Association in Toronto, CA.

In this contribution, we refer to the literature on "dualization" to test an answer to this question. This implies that we conceptualize risk groups and policy preferences with reference to labor market insiders and outsiders. We define two sets of policies and preferences that correspond to the specific risks and needs of insiders and outsiders, and we test whether – in times of austerity and sharpened distributive conflicts – their preferences with regard to these policies differ significantly. We argue that given their exposure to labor market risks and their more tenuous attachment to the labor market, outsiders should prefer policies that allocate resources based on need, rather than contribution-payments. In addition, we expect outsiders to be strongly in favor of policies that create jobs and that enhance their employability and labor market prospects. Conversely, insiders are characterized by stable employment relationships and they fully contribute to the social insurance schemes. Hence, we expect insiders to favor policies that reward their - more continuous and stable - labor market performance. We thus expect them to be more supportive of social insurance than outsiders. In addition, we also test whether insiders are more willing to accept market income differences that reward effort and performance.

In a second step, we investigate whether insider-outsider divides depend on *levels of education*. Education endows individuals with (human capital) resources allowing them to gain income from the labor market and increasing therefore their earnings potential. Hence, we expect that the higher the education, the stronger the preferences of outsiders for activation-policies, and thus the stronger the insider-outsider divide. Similarly, the higher the level of education, the higher the stakes of insiders in the social insurance system, which should also increase the insider-outsider divide on this issue. The reverse applies, of course, for income redistribution, which is particularly important for respondents with lower levels of education.

With this analysis, we want to make contributions both to the dualization-literature and to the definition of different "welfare state models" more generally. Most importantly, however, we want to investigate to what extent post-industrial societies are characterized by new socio-structural conflicts, which may eventually be mobilized by parties and collective actors, and thereby structure politics and policies in the longer run. This is clearly what the dualization-literature would expect as a more long-term consequence. Esping-Andersen's (1999) distinction between an A-and a B-team of post-industrial economies exemplifies this idea. Hence, the

underlying question is whether the post-industrial era is characterized by new cleavages that are different from the old class divide. Social cleavages are the strongest and deepest conflict lines to structure politics. For a conflict to be a cleavage, it takes a socio-structural basis, shared preferences and values of the social groups involved, and the political mobilization of these social groups (Bartolini and Mair 1990). This paper deals with the first two elements: The socio-structural basis and the preferences of specific post-industrial risk groups defined by labor market vulnerability and education.

The paper is structured as follows. In a first part, we provide the theoretical framework for the analysis, by discussing the determinants of welfare preferences and by conceptualizing different models of welfare that respond to outsider- or insiderneeds. After a section presenting the data, operationalization and methodological approach, we test our arguments empirically. The empirical analyses test the determinants of preferences for different policies sequentially. In conclusion, we summarize the findings and spell out implications for the analysis of welfare politics in post-industrial societies.

## 2. Theory: Who wants what from the post-industrial welfare state?

Recent research on the effects of welfare states shows that generous, big welfare states have strong redistributive effects, protecting the weakest members of the society, even if social policy schemes are organized in terms of social insurance rather than universalism (Bradley et al. 2003, Huber and Stephens 2006). Hence, "more" is generally "better" for the most vulnerable social groups. Nevertheless, different social policies have specific distributive effects. Hence, if resources are scarce – as they are in "times of austerity" (Pierson 2001) – their allocation to specific policies becomes more and more important, since welfare politics becomes closer to a zero-sum game. Politicians in mature welfare states may not be able or willing to expand social policies for all risk groups equally. In this context, we would expect different risk groups to privilege those policies that are most clearly tailored to their needs (which does not necessarily imply that they reject all other policies). In the face of trade-offs, these specific preferences have the potential to become distributive conflict lines.

Therefore, it is important to identify the relevant risk groups and their specific preferences.

# 2.1. Dualization and welfare preferences

The new social risk literature (Bonoli 2005, Armingeon and Bonoli 2006) was among the first contributions to claim that social risks, needs and policy demands in post-industrial societies have become more diverse and more group-specific: young unemployed labor market entrants need jobs, rather than income protection. Part-time employed workers contribute only insufficiently to social insurance schemes: hence, they need redistribution, rather than income insurance. Working parents need policies that enable them to stay in the labor market, and elderly unemployed workers with obsolete skills need (re-)training. Some contributors to this literature argued that the needs have become too distinct and the specific risk groups too diverse to be clearly identified and – even less so – become politically organized (e.g. Kitschelt and Rehm 2006). If this is true, the diversification of needs and demands might lead to a weakening of general welfare state support, because old solidarities wane while new ones are unable to grow.

A different strand of recent research, however, claims that patterns of preferences and conflict can still be identified, and that they may become politically mobilized and relevant. The literature on dualization argues that there is a common trend in post-industrial societies towards a divide of the workforce into insiders and outsiders: ever fewer people's work biographies correspond to the industrial blueprint of stable, full-time and fully insured insider employment, while a growing proportion of the population deviates from the standard model and incurs higher risks of labor market vulnerability (unemployment and atypical employment). This divide between labor market insiders and labor market outsiders is called dualization. The outsiders tend to be penalized by barriers to the labor market, and they are rather weakly protected by the traditional social insurance model (most prevalent in continental Europe), i.e. by exactly those policies that are in the main interest of insiders. Hence, insider-outsider divides may become not only a structural, but also a political dividing line. We take the idea of dualization as the starting point for our conceptualization of the determinants of welfare preferences. Before outlining the divergent social policy

preferences of insiders and outsiders, we briefly discuss the concept and origins of dualization in the following section.

The empirical starting point of the dualization literature is the fact that the industrial economies of the developed world have become post-industrial over the last 3 decades, with ever growing shares of the workforce being employed in the third sector. The exceptional economic growth during the three post-war decades allowed for full employment, a relatively high degree of status homogenization (at least in continental and northern Europe), a relatively cohesive and homogenous working class and social peace. The tertiarization of the employment structure, the educational revolution and the feminization of the workforce (Oesch 2006, chapter 2), however, have profoundly altered this equilibrium. After 2000, service sector employment outdid industrial employment throughout the OECD by a factor of 2 to 3 (Oesch 2006: 31). Jobs in the service sector differ from industrial employment, because they tend to be either very low-skilled or high-skilled, they involve more atypical employment (Gottschall and Kroos 2009), and because service sector employment has a lower potential for productivity gains (Iversen and Wren 1998). The educational revolution - as the second structural change of the post-industrial era - has led to a broader and more heterogeneous middle class (Kriesi 1998, Oesch 2006). Finally, the massive entry of women into paid labor (driven by the educational revolution, changing values and the increasing instability of traditional family structures (Esping-Andersen 1999)) coincides with the spread of atypical employment throughout Western Europe's coordinated market economies (Estévez-Abe 2006).

For this study, it is crucial that this shift towards post-industrial employment leads to labor markets in which *unemployment* and formerly "atypical" employment relations become more and more widespread. Both imply specific risks of economic precariousness. It is straightforward that unemployment – especially long-term and youth unemployment – involves a risk of poverty, not only because of immediate income-loss, but also because (repeatedly) unemployed people have lower social insurance contribution records. Atypical employment (i.e. all employment-relations that deviate from the standard industrial model of full-time, stable and insured

employment<sup>2</sup>) is also a source of economic precariousness, because post-war welfare regimes are built on the model of continuous employment providing atypical employees with only incomplete protection against labor market risks, and because atypically employed have lower earnings-power and lower access to training and promotion (Häusermann and Schwander 2010). In line with the political science literature on dualization (Rueda 2005, 2006; Emmenegger 2009) and our previous work (Häusermann and Schwander 2009, 2010; Häusermann and Walter, 2010), we therefore consider labor market outsiders those individuals who are particularly exposed and vulnerable to the risk of being unemployed or atypically employed.

The trend towards a structural dualization of labor market risks in Western Europe is rather firmly established. A different question, however, is whether insiders and outsiders form specific *policy preferences* based on their labor market risks<sup>3</sup>. Rueda, e.g. shows that insiders and outsiders differ significantly in their level of support for employment protection and active labor market policies (2005), a finding that Emmenegger (2009) contests, showing (with different data) that outsiders are equally supportive of employment protection than insiders. In this paper, we do not focus on employment protection, but on *social policy*. We test the hypothesis that insiders and outsiders differ in their level of support for specific policies.

The theoretical basis for this hypothesis lies mainly in the different distributional implications of social insurance vs. redistribution. Social insurance is based on the equivalence principle, which means that social benefits are proportional to contributions. Those who contribute more get more and those who – for whatever reason – do not accumulate a full contribution-record will get lower benefits or are

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Part-time and temporary employment contracts are among the most prominent types of atypical employment, and they have grown massively over the last two decades. According to Standing (1993: 433), the number of workers on temporary contracts across the entire European Union, for instance, has been growing by 15-20% annually since the 1980s, which is about ten times the overall rate of employment growth (see also Esping-Andersen 1999). Similarly, part-time employment counted for close to 80% of the net job creation in the EU since the mid-1990s (Plougmann 2003). For some social categories such as women in continental Europe – "atypical employment" has become "typical" (Standing 1993, Esping-Andersen 1999b)

Note that this question goes beyond the initial focus of the insider outsider literature labor market economics, which focused exclusively on employment protection (Saint-Paul 1998, 2002; Lindbeck and Snower 2001), and not on welfare policies.

not entitled at all. Consequently, social insurance welfare states are strongly linked to employment (Bonoli and Palier 1998) and this is – for obvious reasons – exactly what disadvantages outsiders. In one of the very few empirical studies on this subject, Bridgen and Meyer (2008), show that outsiders have particularly low social rights in social insurance pension systems. Insiders, by contrast, benefit from the equivalence principle, because it is tailored precisely to their continuous work biographies and insures their income. This implies that outsiders should be more favorable to policies, which either provide benefits and services independent from their contributions (redistribution policies), or which enable them to participate in the labor market and contribute to the social insurance schemes (social investment policies). In the following section, we develop a set of hypotheses on the policies with regard to which we expect insider-outsider divides.

# 2.2. Different needs, different preferences? Distinguishing insider- and outsider-policies

Based on the different risk profiles and needs of insiders and outsider developed above, we hypothesize that outsiders should be more strongly in favor of two kinds of policies: redistribution and social investment. Their preference for redistribution follows straightforwardly from the fact that outsiders are typically disadvantaged by the equivalence principle. They need compensation for a more tenuous and discontinuous labor market attachment in the form of redistributive policies.

An alternative to redistribution is social investment (Lister 2004). Social investment policies attempt to increase employment opportunities and the employability of individuals, rather than compensating for income loss. Hence, policies focusing on education, training, activation and care services are at the center of this approach. We expect outsiders to be more supportive of these policies than insiders, because stable and continuous access to the labor market is exactly what they do not have, whereas insiders have a much lower chance of being affected by unemployment or atypical employment.

On the other hand, we expect insiders to be more favorable to social insurance policies and liberal market policies than outsiders. With regard to social insurance, insiders may want to defend the contributions and rights they have accumulated,

rather than distributing them on the basis of needs. Similarly, they should be more willing to let market mechanisms determine levels of income than outsiders, because they are in a more secure position in the labor market.

While we expect the general tendency of insider-outsiders divide to hold across these policies, we also hypothesize that they interact with the effect of individual human capital resources on policy preferences<sup>4</sup>. The level of education influences an individual's earnings power in the labor market<sup>5</sup>. As long as highly skilled workers have jobs and can participate in the labor market, they have the necessary resources to gain their income. Hence, we imagine high-skilled outsiders to have a particularly strong preference for activation. Low-skilled outsiders, however, might still depend on income support even if they have a job, because they have lower incomes and "bad jobs". An example may illustrate this idea: imagine a young university graduate who just cannot find a job, and an unemployed super market cashier. Both are labor market outsiders. We assume that the former wants to put her education to use in the labor market, while the latter is concerned about covering his daily expenses with income from any source, be it a job or the state. Hence, we assume that low-skilled outsiders have a particularly strong preference for policies with an emphasis on output equality, i.e. policies correcting market outcomes, while the high-skilled need less of a correcting welfare state, and more of an *enabling* state. Consequently, we expect the insider-outsiders divide to increase with the level of education when it comes to social investment, and to decrease with the level of education when it comes to redistribution.

A similar interaction effect is expected with regard to insider-policies. The stakes of an individual in social insurance increase as his or her level of education increases.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> At this point, it is important to realize that there are both low- and highly educated insiders and outsiders, i.e. people affected to different extent by unemployment and atypical employment (Polavieja 2005, Davidsson and Nacyk 2009: 6). Imagine a 30-year old part-time high school teacher who is a single mother, a freshly graduated freelance architect who goes from one small, temporary project to the next, or a divorced 50-year old unemployed supermarket cashier: Despite their very different skill-levels, all of them are "typical" outsiders. What they share is their tenuous employment situation. Apart from that, however, they are likely to differ in their preferences.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> We theorize preferences in terms of skill-levels rather than skill specificity (as do Iversen and Soskice 2001) because our argument is on earnings power. Earnings power can be high for both (highly) generally or specifically skilled individuals, depending on the regime-type. The level of education, by contrast, always translates in higher earnings power.

The "better" the job and the higher the income (i.e. the higher the contributions paid), the more an individual is expected to support income insurance as opposed to redistribution. Therefore, we expect the insider outsider divide on social insurance to increase with the level of education. The similar reasoning applies – a fortiori – to attitudes concerning the support for performance-related market income. Here, too, we expect high-skilled insiders to differ more strongly from high skilled outsiders than the low-skilled insiders from low-skilled outsiders.

A final word on the kind of effects and conflicts we expect: as insiders may also benefit to some extent from activation and redistribution policies, and as outsiders may also benefit to some extent from social insurance, we obviously do not expect that their preferences are diametrically opposed. In other words, we do not expect outsiders to fight social insurance or insiders to reject activation altogether. Rather, we expect that their levels of support differ significantly. Both may generally be in favor of a specific policy, but to different extents. The level of support is important with regard to policy priorities in times of sharpened distributive conflict and policy trade-offs.

## 3. Data, operationalization and method

In the empirical part of this paper we examine the preferences of insiders and outsiders regarding social policy preferences. The analysis relies on data from the European Social Survey 4 (2008). It includes 13 countries<sup>6</sup>. The detailed operationalization of all variables is described in appendix 2.

# 3.1. Dependent variables

We operationalize social policy preferences with five variables from the ESS survey.

*Outsider policies*. Preferences for redistribution are measured with a question asking respondents whether they think that for a society to be fair, income differences should

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Belgium, Switzerland, Germany, Denmark, Spain, Finland, France, Uk, Greece, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal and Sweden.

be low. For the social investment model, we choose a variable relating to the public provision of childcare services. These services have a clear focus on increasing labor market participation by alleviating the care work of parents. Unfortunately, the ESS does not contain questions relating to investment in training and active labor market policies. Further, we include a question measuring the respondents' support for government responsibility in providing jobs for everybody. We also conceptualize this question as a measure of social investment preferences, even if it has a redistributive aspect, too. All three questions clearly target the specific needs and interests of outsiders.

Insider policies. With regard to the insider policies, we test preferences on the social insurance model by means of a variable that asks respondent measures whether respondents think that people who have contributed more to unemployment insurance should be entitled to higher benefits (as opposed to people with greater needs being entitled to higher benefits). To our knowledge, this is so far the most direct measure of social insurance (vs. redistribution) preferences. Finally, we include a question asking respondent whether they think market incomes should be able to reflect differences in talent and effort. Both questions refer to policies and practices that reward labor market performance.

We recoded all variables so that higher values mean higher preferences for the corresponding social policy. Table 4 summarizes the choice of questions.

Table 1: Operationalization of dependent variables

# **Insider policies** Social insurance ESS D 37: Some people say that higher earners should get more benefit when they are temporarily unemployed because they paid more in tax, whilst others think that lower earners should get more because they are in greater need. Please tell me which of the following three statements you agree with most? 1. Higher earners who become unemployed temporarily should get more in benefit. 2. High and low earners should get the same amount of benefit. 3. Lower earners who become unemployed temporarily should get more in benefit. Labor market performance ESS D1: Large differences in people's incomes are acceptable to properly reward differences in talents and efforts. (1) disagree strongly (2) disagree (3) neither disagree nor agree (4) agree (5) agree strongly

Outsider policies	Redistribution ESS D4: For a society to be fair, differences in people's standard of living should be small.
	(1) disagree strongly (2) disagree (3) neither disagree nor agree (4) agree (5) agree strongly
	Childcare services ESS D19: how much responsibility the government should have to ensure sufficient childcare services for working parents? (1) not government's responsibility at all - (10) entirely government's responsibility
	Job creation: ESS D15: How much responsibility the government should have to ensure a job for everyone who wants one?
	(1) not government's responsibility at all - (10) entirely government's responsibility

## 3.2. Independent variables

Insiders/outsiders. Outsiders are defined by their particularly high risk of unemployment and atypical employment. The question is, of course, how we measure this risk, i.e. how we decide whether to empirically code an individual as insider or outsider. In contrast to much of the existing literature, which defines outsiders simply by their current labor market status (e.g. Lindbeck and Snower 2001, St. Paul 2002, Emmenegger 2009, Rueda 2005), we use a measure that we developed in previous work (Häusermann and Schwander 2009, 2010; Häusermann and Walter 2010), insisting more strongly on the notion of risk. Individuals are outsiders if they are "typically" affected by atypical work and unemployment. Hence, respondents in "precarious jobs", i.e. in jobs that are typically affected by unemployment and atypical employment risks, need to be classified as outsiders even if – at the time a particular survey is conducted – they happen to be in full-time employment. This implies that people are categorized based on the characteristics of their occupational category.

The probability of experiencing unemployment and atypical employment depends on the their incidence within a respondent's occupational category. Consequently, we define a range of occupational categories, determine their specific rates of unemployment and atypical employment and – consequently – define all the individuals in these particular categories as insiders or outsiders.

The occupational categories are defined on the basis of class, gender and age<sup>7</sup>. Classes are socio-structural groups characterized by a particular situation in labor market, which shapes their resources, latent interests and preferences<sup>8</sup>. Class schemes are based on occupational profiles (Erikson and Goldthorpe 1993, Wright 1997, Oesch 2006), because people in similar professions tend to have similar employment biographies, i.e. they share permanent, structural commonalities. Class is therefore a meaningful starting point for the identification of category-specific risks of unemployment and atypical employment. We rely on the class schema by Oesch (2006)<sup>9</sup>, which was regrouped by Kitschelt and Rehm (2005) into five classes: Capital accumulators (high-skilled managers, self-employed and experts, about 14% of the workforce (ESS 2008)), socio-cultural professionals (high-skilled professionals in the public and private service sector, about 21% of the workforce), blue-collar workers (unskilled and skilled workers mostly in the industry, about 21% of the workforce), low service functionaries (unskilled and skilled employees in interpersonal services, about 21% of the workforce), and mixed service functionaries (routine and skilled clerks, about 22% of the workforce). Appendix 1 represents the location of these five classes in the class schema. Capital accumulators are clearly the most privileged members of the workforce. Hence they are all coded as insiders. For the other four classes, however, we further distinguish occupational categories according to age and gender. The combination of 4 classes, 2 sexes and 2 age groups (below/above 40) leaves us with 16 occupational groups, which are the basis of our measurement of unemployment/atypical employment risk.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Post-industrial labor markets are strongly gendered (Esping-Andersen 1999: 308, Taylor-Gooby 1991 Kitschelt and Rehm 2006). They also tend to hold different occupational prospects for young and older workers (Chauvel 2006, Esping-Andersen 1999, Kitschelt and Rehm 2006).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Oesch (2006) advocates a pragmatic use of the notoriously contested concept of class: "class is simply referred to as a proxy for similarity in the position within the occupational system." (2006: 13). We share this definition that eludes the normative discussions and implications of the concept of class. <sup>9</sup> The Oesch class schema is explicitly developed to reflect post-industrial societies in two regards: a) it takes into account a heterogeneous middle class, which makes horizontal differentiation of classes necessary (Kriesi 1998), and b) it distinguishes between different types of low-skilled employees who can no longer be reasonably subsumed under a single category of (blue-collar or manual) workers (Oesch 2006: 98ff).

For each group in each welfare regime, we have computed the group-specific rate of unemployment and the rate of atypical employment (including part-time employment as well as temporary or fixed-term employment), compared it to the regime-average in the workforce and tested whether the difference is significant. Occupational groups that have a significantly higher rate of either unemployment or atypical employment are defined as outsiders. We performed this analysis across a range of 8 surveys that are frequently used in the analysis of social policy preferences<sup>10</sup>, in order to increase the robustness of our measure of insiders and outsiders. Eventually, we coded all occupational groups as outsider-groups that had a significantly higher rate of either unemployment or atypical employment in a majority of the analyzed surveys. Appendix 3 presents the coding and distribution of insiders and outsiders across the regimes<sup>11</sup>.

*Education*. We measure skill-levels with regard to the highest completed degree (in five levels from primary education to tertiary education). We prefer this variable to measures based on years of education, because the degree counts for a person's labor market chances, which is what we want to measure in this article. We also prefer it to a classification of skill-levels based directly on isco-codes (i.e. the occupation of a person), because the operationalization of insiders/outsiders is already based on isco-codes and because we want to grasp the (potential) earnings-power of a person.

Controls. We control for household income and if a person lives in a couple household in order to test for the impact of household structure on insiders and outsiders' preferences. We also control for retirement, which might affect people's welfare preferences. To control for country-specific differences in the level of approval towards social and economic policy intervention, we include country dummies, and we control for Southern countries because income is very differently

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> The 2002 and 2008 ESS waves, the ISSP Role of Government III 1996 and IV 2006 surveys, the ISSP Work Orientations III 2005 survey, the Eurobarometer 44.3, as well as the Swiss and the British household panels.

We also computed a "survey-specific" measure of outsiders for the ESS 2008, which we use in this paper, following the same operationalization. While the proportion and socio-structural profile of dualization differs to some extent (the ESS-measure is somewhat less gendered than the consolidated measure), the results are robust with both measures of outsiderness. These results are available from the authors.

distributed in these countries. The precise operationalization of all variables is documented in appendix 2.

*Methods*. In terms of methods, we rely on ordered logit models and we illustrate the results graphically by plotting the marginal effects of being an outsider as opposed to an insider at different levels of the interaction variable (education) and with figures illustrating substantial effects (predicted values and probabilities).

# 4. Empirical analysis: insider/outsiders divides in policy preferences

In this section, we analyze the determinants of preferences for outsider and insider policies respectively. For each dependent variable, we show two models: the first tests the impact of being an outsider as opposed to an insider without the interaction effect. The second model interacts outsider status and the degree of education, to test whether the marginal effect of being an outsider varies at different degrees of education. We discuss the models sequentially. In all models, the effect of being an outsider goes in the expected direction and is significant. This confirms our overall hypotheses that outsiders and insiders differ in their specific policy preferences. Only in 2 models, however, does the effect of being an outsider vary significantly across different levels of education.

## 4.1. Policies targeted on outsiders: redistribution and social investment

We first focus on the models without interaction effects (M1, M3, M5) in table 2. They analyze the impact of being an outsider on preferences for redistribution of income, the creation of jobs by the government and the public supply of childcare facilities (social investment). The first observation we make in all three models is that outsiders are clearly and significantly more favorable to these policies than insiders. An average outsider is about 5 percentage points more likely than an insider to agree to the statement that income differences should be small. On a scale from 0 to 10 measuring support for job creation and childcare infrastructure, the same average outsider has a value that is between 0.25 and 0.4 higher than an insider (see appendix 4 for predicted values and probabilities). The effect is significant and it holds even though we control for household income and whether the respondent lives in a couple household. Furthermore, we recalculated the results with a control for gender (since

the outsider-variable is strongly gendered) and in all three models, the effect of being an outsider remains significantly positive (results not shown). This result is consistent with our hypothesis that outsiders support redistributive and social investment policies more strongly than insiders.

The second important result refers to the effect of education in models 1, 3 and 5. More highly educated respondents are less likely to support income redistribution and public job creation than those with a lower degree of education. This makes sense given the higher earnings power of the highly educated in the labor market. When it comes to childcare services, however, education does not have a significant effect.

Table 2: Determinants of preferences for outsider policies. Ordered logit regressions.

	Outsider Policies					
	Redistribution		Job creation		Child care services	
	M1	M2	M3	M4	M5	M6
Outsider	0.189***	0.134	0.257***	0.053	0.201***	0.041
	(0.04)	(0.11)	(0.03)	(0.16)	(0.07)	(0.22)
Education	-0.059***	-0.067***	-0.095***	-0.138***	-0.005	-0.027
	(0.02)	(0.02)	(0.02)	(0.04)	(0.02)	(0.02)
Outsider x		0.016		0.093*		0.048
education		(0.03)		(0.05)		(0.05)
Income	-0.078***	-0.078***	-0.080***	-0.080***	-0.041***	-0.041***
	(0.01)	(0.01)	(0.02)	(0.02)	(0.01)	(0.01)
Couple	-0.078	-0.078	-0.035	-0.033	-0.114*	-0.113*
household	(0.07)	(0.07)	(0.03)	(0.03)	(0.06)	(0.06)
Retired	0.143**	0.142**	-0.008	-0.012	-0.235***	-0.236***
	(0.06)	(0.06)	(0.04)	(0.04)	(0.06)	(0.06)
Southern	2.846***	2.845***	0.930***	0.932***	0.132***	0.133***
Regime	(0.20)	(0.20)	(0.10)	(0.10)	(0.02)	(0.02)
Country fixed effects	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Pseudo R2	0.039	0.039	0.029	0.029	0.023	0.023
N	19182	19182	19111	19111	19166	19166

Values in parentheses are standard errors. The data is weighted and the results include regional weights. Cutpoints are not reported.

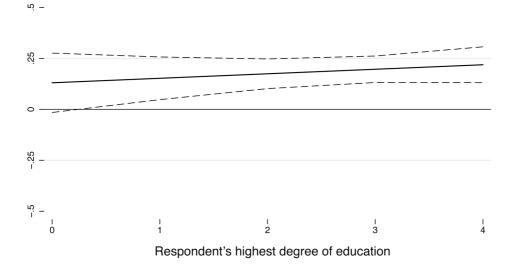
As to the control variables, we observe a clearly negative and significant effect of income. The vertical stratification still clearly structures welfare preferences, with higher income groups being less supportive of redistributive and social investment policies than the lower income groups. Living in a couple household only impacts on preferences for public childcare services, with single people being slightly more

<sup>\*\*\* =</sup> significant at the 0.001 level; \*\*= significant at the 0.005 level; \*= significant at the 0.01 level

favorable to public support for care work. Finally, the retired are slightly more in favor of redistribution and do not differ markedly from the active population when it comes to job creation. However, they have a clear and significantly weaker preference for public childcare support, which may to some extent reflect the more conservative values of the older generation. Finally, we find people living in Southern Europe to be consistently more supportive of outsider policies than in the rest of Europe.

If we now turn to the models with interaction effects (M2, M4, M6), we see from the results in table 2 that the effect of being an outsider increases significantly with each higher degree of education only when it comes to preferences for public job creation. The interaction effects are most clearly visible graphically in figures 2, 3 and 4. When comparing these three figures, we see that the slope of the line indicating the marginal effect of being an outsider is steepest in figure 3 (job creation), which is consistent with the significant interaction effect we find in M4 (table 2). What do we see in these figures? Figure 2 shows that the difference between outsiders and insiders when it comes to income redistribution is positive and significant across almost all degrees of education (except for respondents with primary schooling only, which is about 15% in our sample). Consequently, our hypotheses that this effect should be stronger among the low-skilled is not confirmed. High-skilled outsiders also prefer more redistribution than high-skilled insiders, even though they have a higher earnings power on the market.

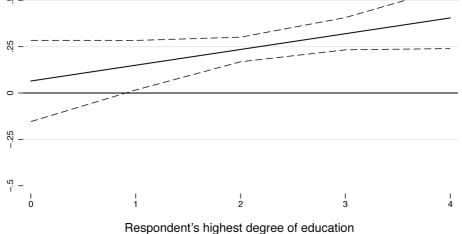
Figure 2: Marginal effect of being an outsider on preferences for REDISTRIBUTION at different degrees of education



When it comes to social investment, our hypothesis was that the preference for activation should be particularly strong among high-skilled outsiders, which is why we expected a deeper insider-outsider divide among the high-skilled than among the low-skilled. Both figures 3 and 4 confirm this expectation. The more highly educated the respondents, the stronger insiders and outsiders differ in their preferences of publicly supported job creation. The insider outsider divide is significant only for respondents with a lower secondary degree or higher (those are, however, the vast majority, i.e. about 85% of the sample).

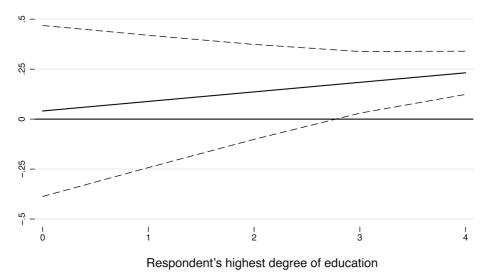
JOBCREATION at different degrees of education

Figure 3: Marginal effect of being an outsider on preferences for



With regard to the public supply of childcare services for working parents, outsiders are significantly more favorable to this policy than insiders only if they have a post-secondary or tertiary degree of education (about 30% of the respondents in our sample). For the rest of the workforce, outsiders' preferences do not differ significantly from those of insiders. This result reflects the strong preference of high-skilled outsiders for labor market participation, which is consistent with our hypotheses.

Figure 4: Marginal effect of being an outsider on preferences for CHILD CARE SERVICES at different degrees of education



In sum, table 2 and figures 2-4 provide evidence that outsiders have a stronger preference for policies that target their specific risks and needs than insiders. The effect holds for all outsiders when it comes to income redistribution, whereas it applies mostly (for policies that create jobs) or exclusively (for childcare services) to more highly-skilled respondents with regard to social investment.

# 4.2. Policies targeted on insiders: social insurance and performance-related market incomes

Table 3 shows the determinants of preferences for policies that are more favorable to the risk profiles and labor market situation of insiders. The social insurance variable measures to what extent respondents agree with the argument that people who have contributed more to unemployment insurance should also receive higher benefits in case of unemployment (as opposed to lower income earners receiving higher benefits based on needs). The liberal market model measures the support of respondents for the idea that income differences are acceptable if they reflect effort and talent. We assumed that insiders should be more supportive of both social insurance and performance-related income differences, because – through their continuous and stable integration in the labor market – they benefit more from them than outsiders. Models M7 and M9 test the impact of being an outsider without interacting it with education, and they both show the expected effect: outsiders are significantly less likely to support social insurance and performance-related income inequality than

insiders. An average outsider is 1.2 percentage points less likely to think that people who have contributed more to unemployment insurance should receive higher benefits, and he/she is even 5.4 percentage points less likely to agree with the statement that income differences are acceptable if they reflect talent and effort (for predicted probabilities, see appendix 4). These effects are significant and they are consistent with our expectations. The divide between insiders and outsiders remains equally significant when we control for gender (not shown). The higher educated the respondents, the stronger they agree that unemployment benefits should be proportional to contributions, rather than distributed on the basis of needs. However, the level of education does not have an impact on whether people favor performance-related income differences (which might be due to the fact that "effort and talent" are not education-related).

*Table 3: Determinants of preferences for insider policies. Ordered logit regressions.* 

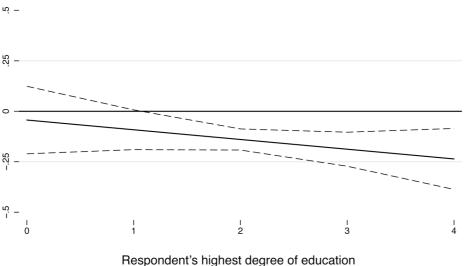
	Insider Policies			
	Social insurance		Liberal market model	
	M7	M8	M9	M10
Outsider	-0.145***	-0.059	-0.262***	-0.130**
	(0.02)	(0.12)	(0.05)	(0.06)
Education	0.105***	0.133***	-0.009	0.018
	(0.02)	(0.03)	(0.02)	(0.03)
Outsider x		-0.061		-0.058***
education		(0.04)		(0.02)
Income	0.074***	0.074***	0.064***	0.064***
	(0.01)	(0.01)	(0.01)	(0.01)
Couple	-0.061***	-0.062***	0.070	0.069
household	(0.02)	(0.02)	(0.06)	(0.06)
Retired	0.153**	0.154**	0.075*	0.077*
	(0.07)	(0.07)	(0.04)	(0.04)
Southern	1.564***	1.567***	-0.576***	-0.577***
regime	(0.06)	(0.06)	(0.04)	(0.04)
Country fixed effects	yes	yes	yes	yes
Pseudo R2	0.082	0.082	0.014	0.015
N	18632	18632	19597.000	19597.000

Values in parentheses are standard errors. The data is weighted and the results include regional weights. Cutpoints are not reported. \*\*\* = significant at the 0.001 level; \*\*= significant at the 0.005 level; \*= significant at the 0.01 level

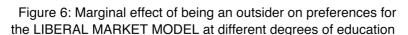
When it comes to the controls, income has the expected positive effect on preferences for insider policies. The higher the income, the higher the stakes respondents have in social insurance and income redistribution, which explains why higher income classes favor the equivalence principle. The retired in both models support social insurance and performance-related incomes more strongly than the working population. Finally, the stronger preference of Southern Europeans for social insurance may reflect the particularly strong insurance-aspect of these welfare regimes.

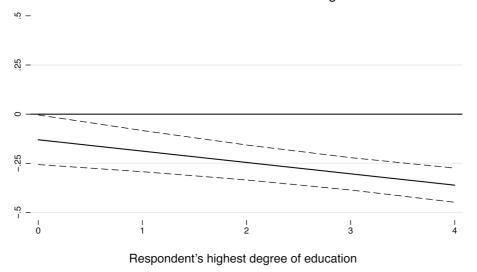
With regard to the interaction effect, we assumed that the difference between insider and outsider preferences should increase with the level of education, because for more highly skilled respondents (who have a higher earnings potential) there is more at stake. If we look at models M8 and M10 and figures 5 and 6, we find interesting effects of the interactions for both variables.

With regard to social insurance, the difference of the marginal effect of being an outsider at different levels of education is not strong enough to become significant. However, what figure 5 shows is that the insider outsider divide becomes significant only for respondents with secondary, post-secondary or tertiary education (levels 2 and higher, about 65% of the respondents). Below that level, the difference between insiders and outsiders is not significantly different from zero. This result is consistent with what we expected: for low-skilled insiders, social insurance is not very beneficial either, because they do not have very high incomes. The higher the earnings power, however, the more insiders advocate their preference for insurance.



For the liberal market model the variation of the marginal effect of being an outsider is stronger, which explains why the interaction term is significant (M10). However, figure 6 shows that even though more highly educated insiders differ from outsiders more strongly than less educated insiders, the insider outsider divide as such is consistent and significant across the whole workforce. At all degrees of education insiders support the idea of "effort and talent"-related income differences more strongly than outsiders, who have a more tenuous attachment to the labor market. But again, in line with our expectations, the insider outsider divide is stronger the higher the earnings power of the respondents.





In sum, table 3, as well as figures 5 and 6 confirm that insiders, as expected, are more favorable to the equivalence principle than outsiders. Their more stable integration in the labor market explains this divide. Furthermore, the size of the divide depends on the degree of education of the respondents. For social insurance, an insider outsider divide only appears among the more highly skilled, whereas the same divide – while existing for all levels of education – becomes stronger with increases in education.

# 5. Conclusion

The dualization of European labor markets and welfares states into insiders and outsiders is a structural development that is increasingly researched empirically.

However, there exist only very few analyses, which study whether differences in the risk profiles and labor market situations of insiders and outsiders are reflected in their political preferences. Furthermore, the evidence we do have is mostly limited to employment protection preferences, where the findings are not conclusive (see e.g. Rueda 2005, Emmenegger 2009). However, if we argue that dualization is a relevant socio-structural dividing line, the analysis of corresponding micro-level preferences is key, because the political implications of dualization depend on them. If dualization was a process that insiders and outsiders themselves are "not aware of", it would be very difficult to explain the behavior of trade unions or political parties who mobilize these insiders and outsiders. Hence, as an intermediate analytical step between the socio-structural changes and their impact on politics and policies, we need to observe the attitudes of insiders and outsiders. Only if they share certain values and preferences may they become relevant politically.

In this paper, we contribute to this analysis. We have tested whether insiders and outsiders differ in their welfare preferences. We expected outsiders to be more favorable than insiders to redistributive and social investment policies; and we expected insiders to have stronger preferences than outsiders for social insurance and performance-related incomes. Both hypotheses are motivated by the specific labor market situation and risk profiles of insiders and outsiders. In addition, we expected insider-outsider divides to be stronger among the highly skilled when it comes to social investment and social insurance, and to be stronger among the low-skilled when it comes to redistribution, because of the respective earnings potential of high-and low-skilled labor market participants.

The results we find are consistent with all the hypotheses that deal with the insideroutsider differences generally, and with most of the interaction hypotheses. We found
evidence that outsiders have a stronger preference than insiders for income
redistribution, publicly supported job creation programs, as well as publicly funded
childcare services. This divide prevails among all outsiders when it comes to income
redistribution, whereas it applies mostly (in the case of job creation programs) or
exclusively (in the case of childcare services) to more highly skilled respondents.
Insiders, by contrast, are more favorable than outsiders to social insurance and
performance-related income differences. Their more steady integration in the labor

market explains this divide, because the equivalence principle rewards precisely this stronger labor market attachment. The size of the divide depends on the degree of education of the respondents: for social insurance, an insider-outsider divide only appears among the more highly skilled, whereas for the liberal market model, the same divide holds throughout the workforce and simply becomes stronger with education.

What is the relevance of these findings? First, it is important to understand that the insider-outsider divides we found – though significant – do not imply that insiders and outsiders antagonistically oppose each other on these policies. Overall, the substantial differences between the levels of their support for each of these policies are relatively small. Low-skilled workers, for instance, are more likely than not to agree that for a society to be fair, income differences should be small. This holds for both insiders and outsiders. Similarly, insiders do not oppose public childcare services upfront. However, the differences in the levels of their support for these policies (i.e. the intensity of their preferences) are significant. This is an important finding, because it implies that if insiders and outsiders have to make hard choices (between different party programs, for example), they may have different priorities. Hence, the finding that insiders and outsiders have distinctive preferences supports the idea that dualization has the potential to be a political conflict.

In conclusion, we would like to point out one need for further research that we could not discuss and investigate in this contribution: different studies have shown that the structural dualization of the workforce (i.e. the specific disadvantages of outsiders as compared to insiders) varies across welfare regimes (e.g. Esping-Andersen 1999b, Bonoli and Armingeon 2006). Being affected by unemployment or atypical employment has less severe economic implications in the Nordic countries than in the continental and liberal world (Häusermann and Schwander 2010). Hence, we would expect that the size and intensity of insider-outsider divides with regard to their policy preferences vary, depending on the extent of structural dualization. The empirical analysis of this relation is an important next step, because it may help us understand the politicization of dualization in different regimes.

# **APPENDIX**

Appendix 1 - Classification of occupations in post-industrial class groups

Independent work logic	Technical work logic	Organizational work logic	Interpersonal work logic	
Large employers, liberal professionals and petty bourgeoisie with employees (e.g. entrepreneurs, lawyers)  Capital accumulators CA	Technical experts (e.g. executive engineers)  Capital accumulators CA  Technicians (e.g. engineers)  Mixed service functionaries MSF	Higher-grade and associate managers (e.g. financial and managing executives)  Capital accumulators CA	Socio-cultural (semi)-professionals (e.g.teachers, health professionals)  Socio-cultural professionals SCP	Professional/ managerial  Associate professonal/ managerial
Petty bourgeoisie without employees (e.g. small shopkeepers)  Mixed service functionaries MSF	Skilled crafts and routine operatives (e.g. machine operators, laborers in construction)  Blue-collar workers BC	Skilled and routine office workers (e.g. office clerks)  Mixed service functionaries MSF	Skilled and unskilled service (e.g. salespersons, waiters)  Low service functionaries LSF	Generally / vocationally skilled and unskilled

Note: Adapted from Häusermann (2010), based on Oesch (2006) and Kitschelt and Rehm (2005). For the classification of occupations (ISCO-2d codes), see Kitschelt and Rehm (2005).

# **Appendix 2 - Table Operationalization**

VARIABLE	OPERATIONALIZATION
Social investment: child care services	ESS 4 2008; 10 point scale ranging respondent's answer to D19 "how much responsibility the government should have to ensure sufficient childcare services for working parents?" (1) "not government's responsibility at all" (10) "entirely government's responsibility"
Social investment: job creation	ESS 4 200810 point scale ranging respondent's answer to D15 "How much responsibility the government should have to ensure a job for everyone who wants one?" (1) "not government's responsibility at all" (10) "entirely government's responsibility";
Redistribution	ESS 4 2008; 5 point scale ranging respondent's answer to D4 "For a society to be fair, differences in people's standard of living should be small" (1) disagree strongly (2) disagree (3) neither disagree nor agree (4) agree (5) agree strongly; recoded so that higher values means higher agreement with redistribution;
Social insurance	ESS 4 2008; respondent's answer to D 36 "Some people say that higher earners should larger old age pensions because they paid more in, whilst others think that lower earners should get more because they are in greater need."  (1) Higher earners should get larger old age pensions.  (2) High and low earners should get the same amount.  (3) Lower earners should get larger old age pensions.
Labor market performance related incomes	ESS 4 2008; 5 point scale ranging respondent's answer to D1 "Large differences in people's incomes are acceptable to properly reward differences in talents and efforts" (1) disagree strongly (2) disagree (3) neither disagree nor agree (4) agree (5) agree strongly; recoded so that higher values means higher agreement with redistribution;
Classes	ESS 4 2008; ISCO-2d codes, recoded according to appendix 1 into CA, MSF, BC, SCP, LSF;
Outsider (based on classes)	Dummy variable measuring outsiderness based on the group specific incidence of unemployment or atypical employment; recoded according to Appendix 3;
Welfare regimes	Liberal: Great Britain Nordic countries: Denmark, Finland, Norway, Sweden Continental north: Belgium, Switzerland, Germany, France, Netherlands Continental south: Portugal, Spain, Greece

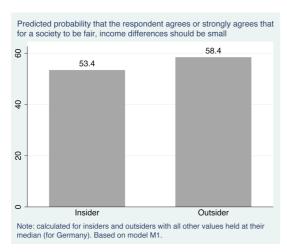
Education	ESS 4 2008; based on highest completed education level; 0=primary education, 1=lower secondary (usually mandatory school), 2=upper secondary, 3= post-secondary, 4=tertiary; based on "edulvl"
Education	secondary, recently, custod on edutivi
Income	ESS 4 2008; variable measuring the household's total net income from all sources in deciles, based on "hinctnta"
Retired	ESS 4 2008: Dummy measuring if respondent is retired; mnactiv=6;
Couple	ESS 4 2008; Dummy measuring if respondent lives in a stable relationship; based on "partner"

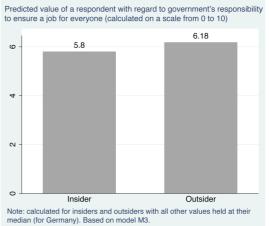
Appendix 3 – Identification of insiders and outsiders across regimes

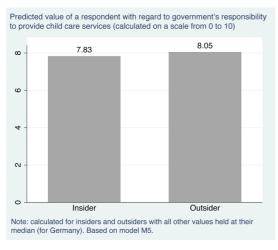
	Liberal regimes	Nordic regimes	Continental regimes	Southern regimes
Outsiders Insiders	Young female LSF Young male LSF Old female LSF Old male LSF Young female SCP Young male SCP Old female SCP Old male SCP Young female BC Young male BC Old female BC	Young female LSF Young male LSF Old female LSF Old male LSF Young female SCP Young male SCP Old female SCP Old male SCP Young female BC Young male BC Old female BC Old male BC	Young female LSF Young male LSF Old female LSF Old male LSF Voung female SCP Young male SCP Old female SCP Old female SCP Voung female BC Young male BC Old female BC Old male BC	Young female LSF Young male LSF Old female LSF Old male LSF Voung female SCP Young male SCP Old female SCP Old male SCP Young female BC Young male BC Old female BC
	Young female MSF Young male MSF Old female MSF Old male MSF	Young female MSF Young male MSF Old female MSF Old male MSF	Young female MSF Young male MSF Old female MSF Old male MSF	Young female MSF Young male MSF Old female MSF Old male MSF
Frequencies in the ESS 2008 survey	CA	CA	CA	CA -
% outsiders	57.2%	40.2%	47.1%	38.8%
% female outsiders	70.3%	93.3%	100%	84.0%
% young outsiders (<40 years)	34.2%	26.6%	34.7%	52.4%
N	2,243	6,881	9,205	5,951

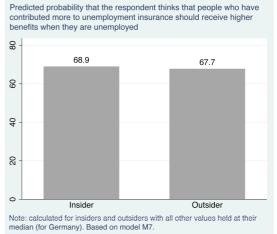
Note: Highlighted groups are significantly more affected by unemployment and/or atypical employment than not highlighted groups; based on the survey evidence in appendix 2; descriptive statistics from ESS 4 2008;

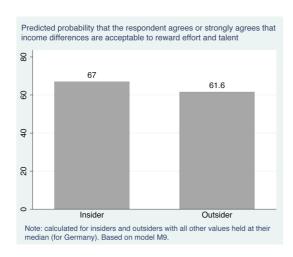
# **Appendix 4 – Predicted values and probabilities for different welfare models** (all differences significant at the 0.01 level)











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