

BHAKTI RANE

THE RISE OF RIGHT IN EUROPE- IS DEMOCRACY REALLY THE BEST FORM OF GOVERNMENT?

Francis Fukuyama's concept of the “end of history,” when the world had reached “the end point of mankind's ideological evolution and the universalization of Western liberal democracy as the final form of human government”—and this portrayed the eras joyful or even exuberant spirit of time. Even after liberal democracy reaching its peak, there are still many threats to democracy.

Since the collapse of Soviet Union in 1989-1990 there was no ideological struggle for democracy to survive. From tracing its roots in the French revolution and the struggle for the democratic values of Liberty, equality and fraternity till the fall of soviet, democracy has faced challenges to survive. But after reaching a highpoint and its ideological triumph, today we see a democratic backsliding in most countries of the European Union as well as in Asia too where in even the world's largest Democracy- India is seeing a surge of political right. With the Hungary's prime minister Viktor Orban recently proclaiming “The era of liberal democracy is over”, one wonders how long will democracy will endure.

But, one should consider the reasons why is democracy and liberal value system in such a situation, rather than blaming the extreme right or the populist politicians. And if democracy was that effective, then why is it failing while populism is thriving? And what are the primary reasons for the populist wave that threatens democracy today?

The answer to this lies in the difficulties the European countries are going through as from 2015 to 2020 and the ongoing challenges of immigrants and the primary reason being the Russo Ukrainian crisis

The European Union IS swept by a right-populist wave. And even to this day. we see liberal politics being unpopular and one country after the other in the European union is seeing rise of what is termed as conservative or populist forces.

Protests over the rising cost of living in the nations such as Italy, France and Germany have increased pressure on the political class to prioritise and find answers to their issues. The main surges have been mainly in southern and central Europe with the right wing coming in power

in France, Spain and Germany and also the Scandinavian countries like Finland and Sweden. Mainly Hungary, which goes to the polls next month is the European union's populist powerhouse.

The EU's Temporary Protection policy for Ukrainians, which guarantees the right to work, health, education, shelter, and financial support for up to three years, has greatly facilitated this migration. The EU's Ukrainian diaspora, which includes 1.4 million in Poland, 250,000 in Italy, and others, was also beneficial. Although if worldwide history demonstrates that "refugees do not totally cease returning at any moment," the scale and velocity of the migration, as well as the vast numbers returning, are unprecedented. Which is also the main challenge as the natives then have less opportunities. Thus, immigration is the biggest challenge the European Union is facing now.

The issue of identity then after the immigration arises as the narrative that European world is collapsing under the onslaught of mass arrivals from cultures that they can't possibly mix with. In France, an idea known as the "great replacement" has spread among considerable segments of the right, including the far right. It claims that as a result of immigration, the core population of the country would be replaced by non-European foreigners who will destroy the country's identity. There are also echoes of this in Germany's Pegida movement, whose full name is "Patriotic Europeans against the Islamisation of the west". The Europe "before" and "after" immigration looks very different as the one before immigration looks much orderly.

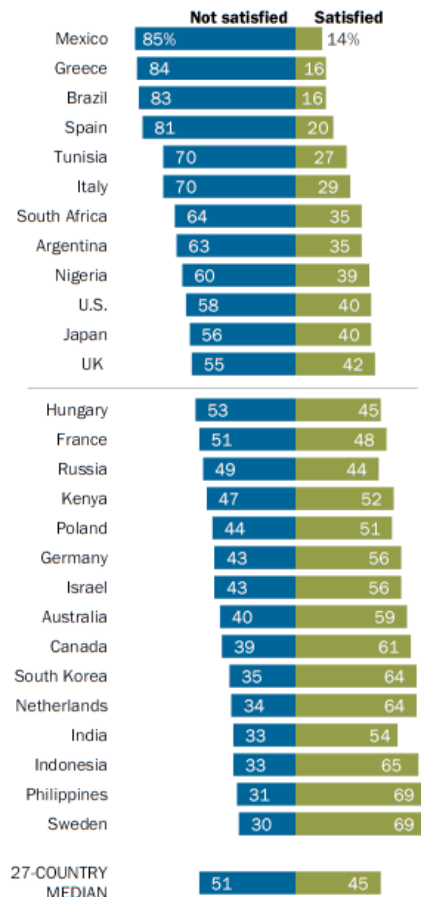
With the ongoing financial and energy crisis in Europe and its economy slowing down due to the same, employment and creation of jobs should be provided to the natives first who belong to the land and then the migrants. National values and nations own culture along with its own people should be of utmost importance to any nation in order to protect its nation from the outside influence.

History is the proof that there had been populist leaders or autocrats in the past who have better served their people than any other democracies in the world. The very examples of this could be Markus Aurelius of the Roman empire who had the ability to hold his empire together through the empires first pandemic, the Germanic wars and the Parthian wars, and was also an extremely capable military commander. Julies ceaser was another effective ruler who transformed Rome from a republic to an empire. He used his power to expand the senate, implement necessary government changes, and reduce Rome's debt. At the same time, he supported the construction of the Forum Iulium and the rebuilding of two city-states, Carthage and Corinth. He also awarded foreigners residing within the Roman Republic citizenship.

They were also populist leaders with absolute power who worked for the betterment of the citizens or people in their empire. Besides this there are also countries where people are dissatisfied with democracy

Majorities in many countries are dissatisfied with their democracy

% who say they are ___ with the way democracy is working in their country



Note: Don't know responses not shown.

Source: Spring 2018 Global Attitudes Survey.

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The above image depicts the same.

The growing right-wing is thus the solution to the growing problems of the people in Europe. And if there are countries where democracy is failing or not functioning well then why is it so that that always democracy is associated with a clearly positive notion and the right-wing extremism is associated with a negative notion?