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**"Are the Politically Active
Better Represented?"**



Political participation is considered an important path for people to influence politics. Whether participation actually translates into a higher degree implementation of participators' preferred policies remains an open question, however. We address this question by pairing cross-national survey-based data on citizens' political behavior and policy preferences on multiple policy issues with originally coded country-level data on subsequent policy implementation. Using data on more than 270,000 survey respondents in 40 countries from 1996 to 2016, our results show that voters are not better represented than non-voters, but that citizens who are active in multiple types of nonelectoral political activity are better represented than those who are inactive. We subsequently examine whether the observed relationships are affected by accounting for alternate explanations of socio-economic status and political attitudes, and find that the cross-national positive association between nonelectoral participation and opinion-policy congruence remains robust and sizable, even when accounting for these factors.

This research is funded by the European Union through the ERC grant project "Participation and Representation in the Digital Age" and by the Riksbankens Jubileumsfond, Sweden

Join us:

Thursday, 15/08/24,
at 12:15

Room 9207, 9th floor,
Rabin building

