



Democracy in Crisis?

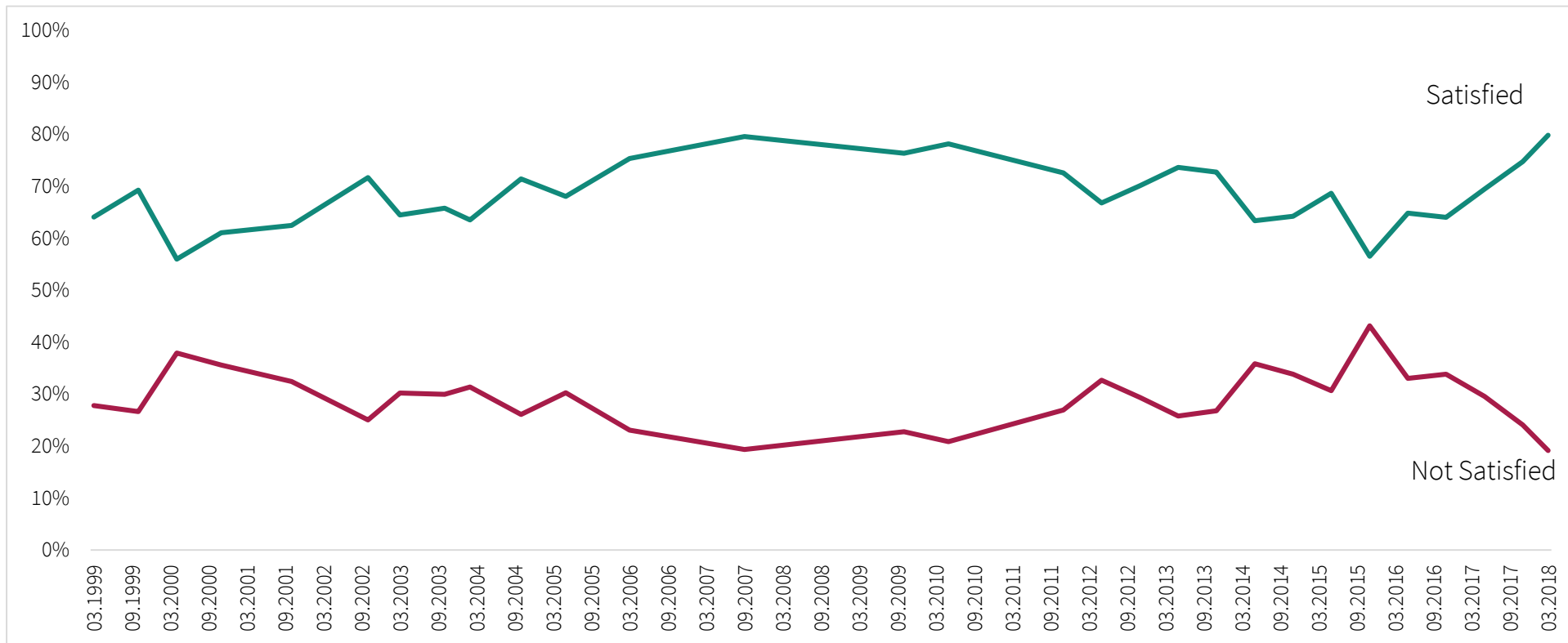
Sylvia Kritzinger – Department of Government



Democracy?

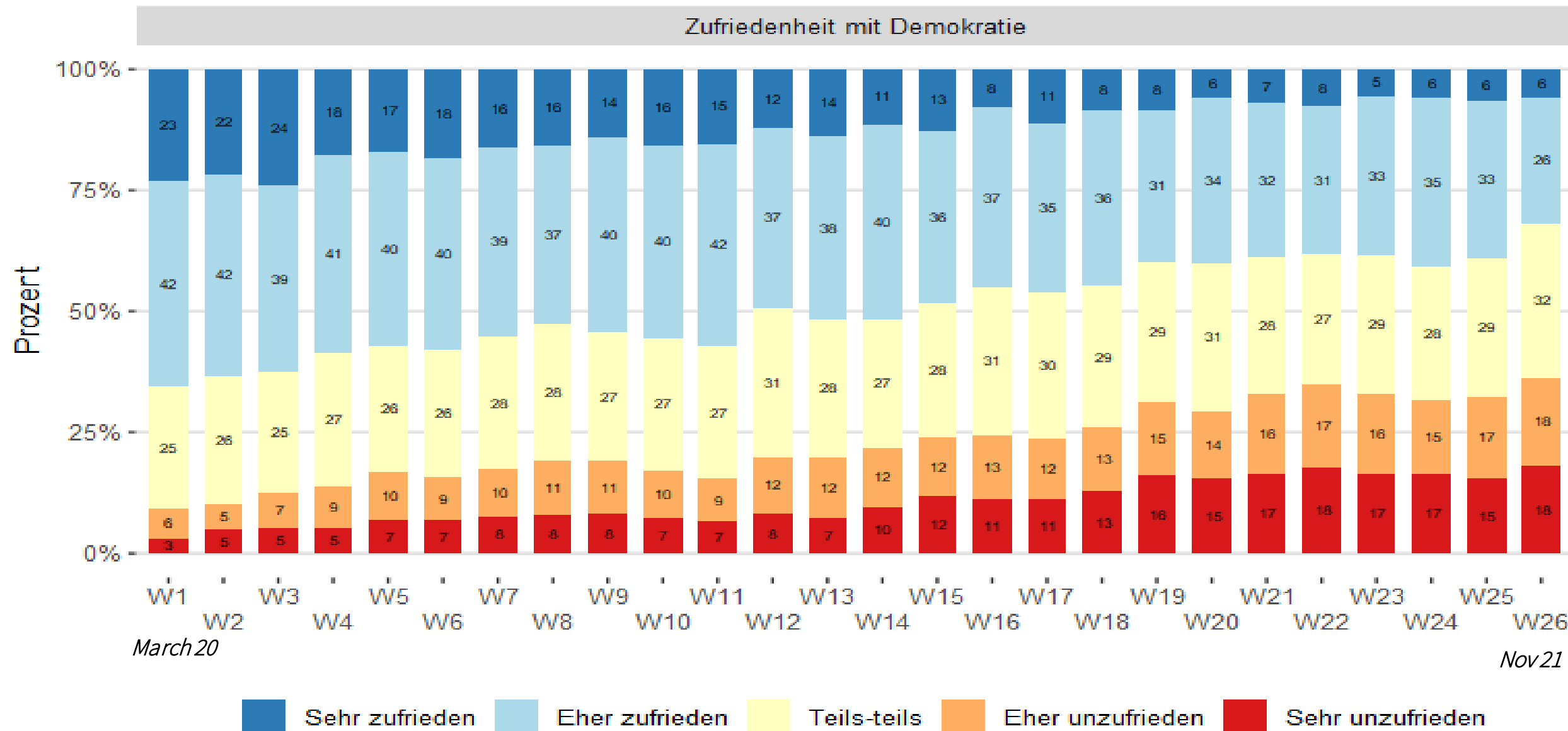


Satisfaction with democracy



Source:
Eurobarometer

Satisfaction with democracy in Austria – during the COVID-19 crisis



Some theoretical considerations...

| | | Efficiency | |
|------------|---|---|---|
| | | + | – |
| Legitimacy | + | Stability | Loss of legitimacy if system remains inefficient over a longer period of time |
| | – | Survival as long as efficiency is given | Collapse |

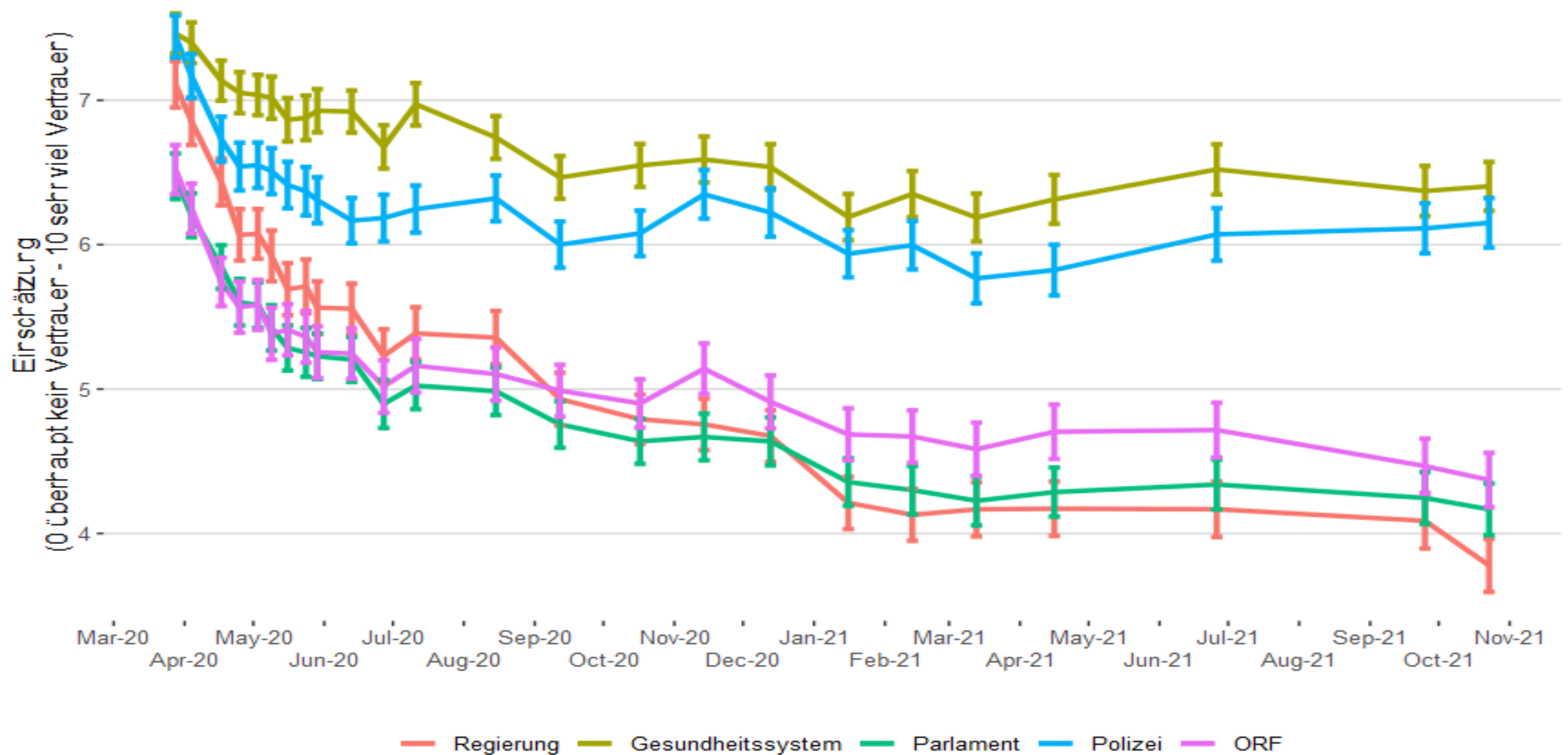
Source: *Lipset (1969)*

Political Support

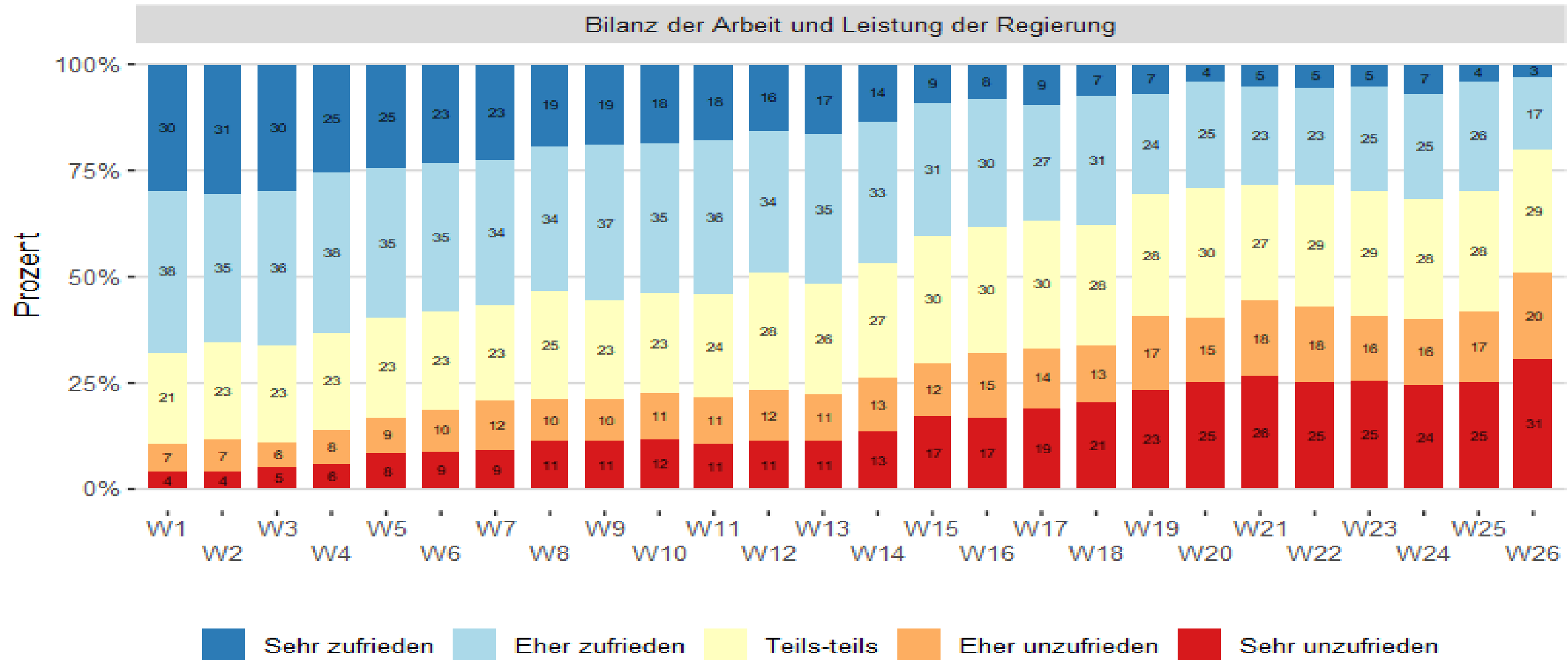
| Types | Objects | | |
|----------|---------------------|------------------|------------------------|
| | Political Community | Political Regime | Political Actors |
| Diffuse | <i>Identity</i> | <i>Trust</i> | <i>(Trust-)</i> |
| Specific | | | <i>Output oriented</i> |

Source: Easton (1965)

Evaluation of Trust



Evaluation of Government Performance – over time



The democratic narrative needs to be kept alive and developed further

- Assets of democracy?
- Ambivalences?
- Ways forward?

Stable political systems in liberal democracy need efficiency and legitimacy

“No one pretends that democracy is perfect or all-wise. Indeed, it has been said that democracy is the worst form of government except all those other forms that have been tried from time to time.”

Winston Churchill, 11 November 1947



The End...
