

Europe for Human Rights Europe for Democracy

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Where we are?

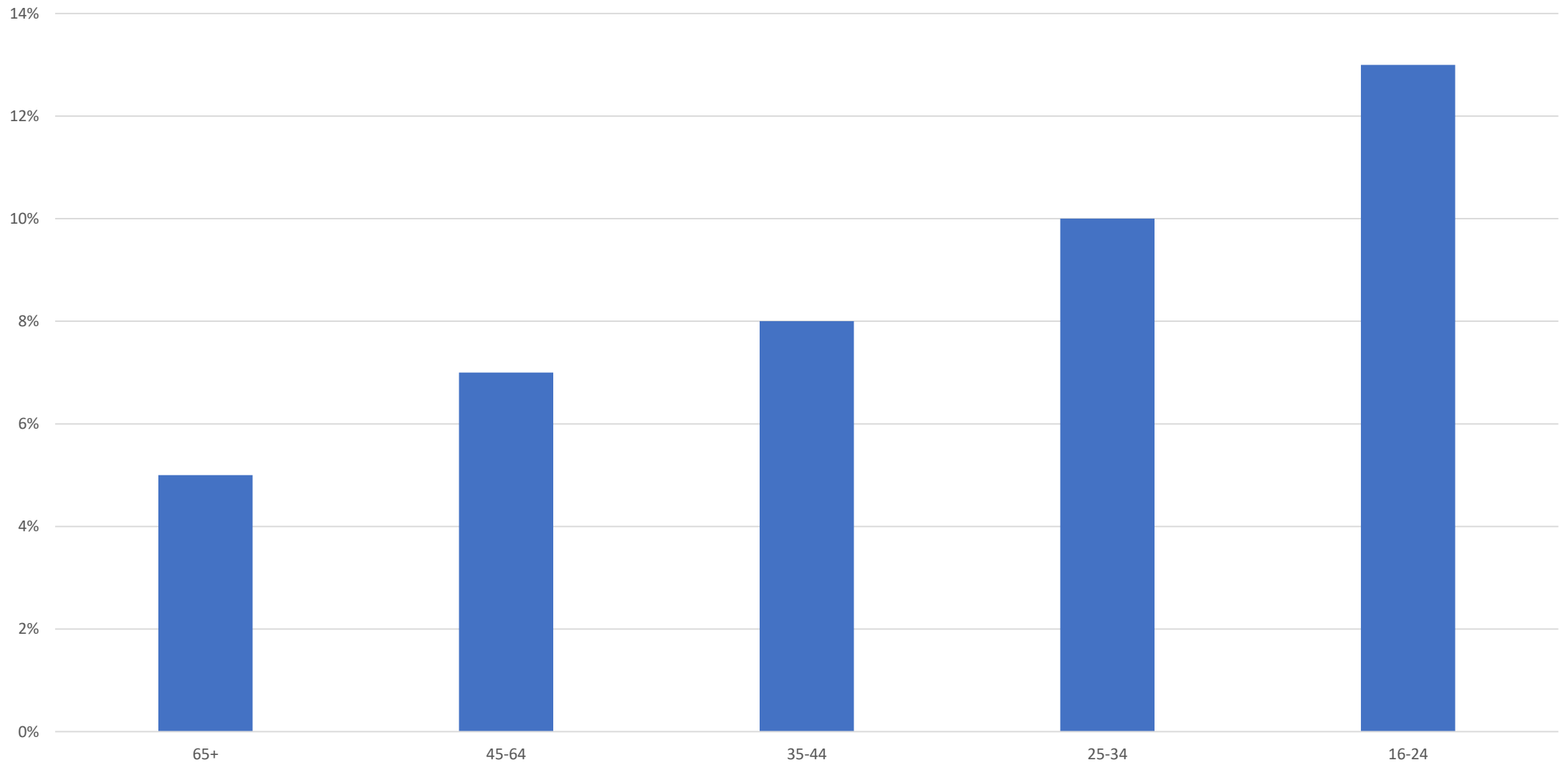
- Social Scientists are not very good on predicting events or phenomena
- They perform in analysing past events, in understanding current realities
- Examples: rise of “illiberal democracies”, BREXIT, Trump Vote, failure to adapt social and education policies in accordance to new developments. See reports released by OECD, World Economic Forum

- Data from World Value Surveys indicate that there was a constant decline in trust in political institutions (Parliaments, judicial systems), membership in political parties and desire to involve in political actions (voter turnout declined as well).
- All these indicators were not consider as structural problems for the functioning of democracy.
- Until...
- Even stable democracies seem to confront with structural problems (Foa, Mounk, 2016).

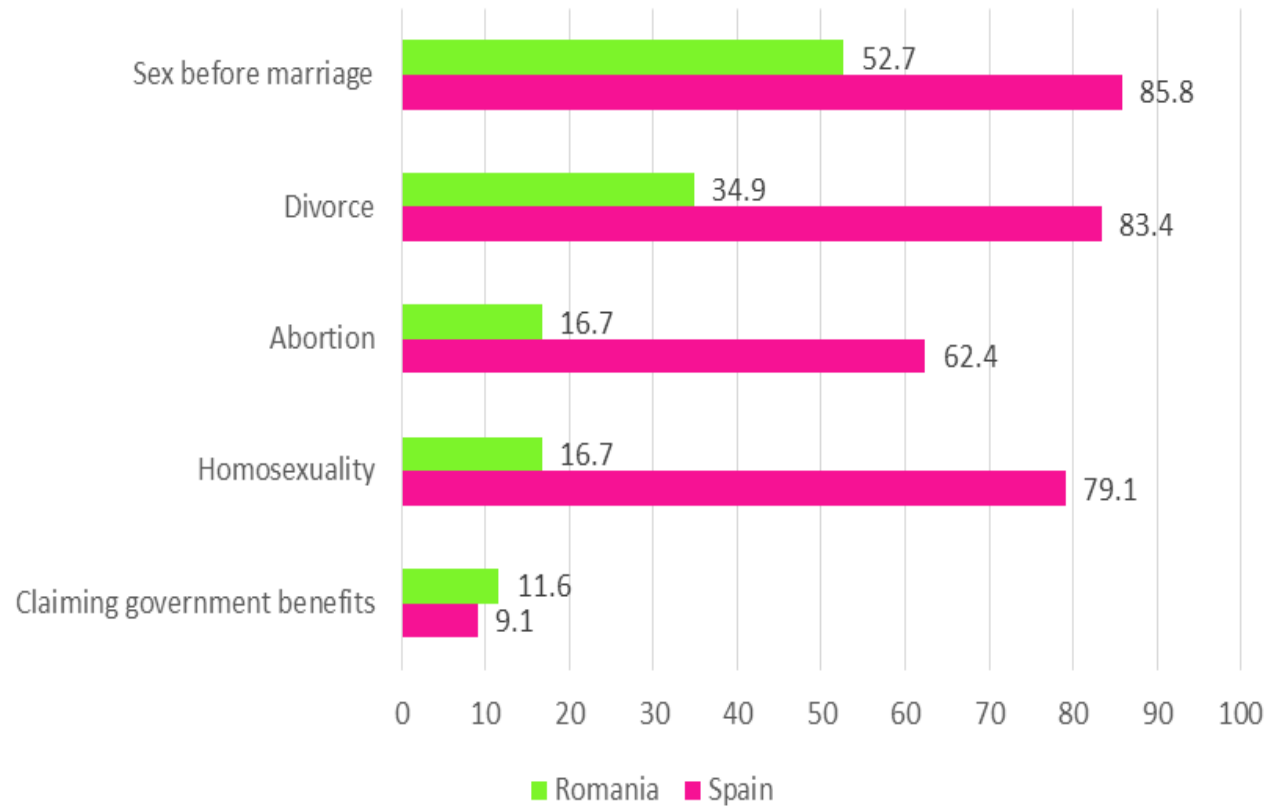
Why Democracy and Human Rights?

- Democracy grants the features for a political system that is based on respecting human rights. In other words, Human Rights represent the core values of democratic regimes.
- Why do we worry?
- Because there is a reverse on trends. According to WVS, millennials tend to support less democratic regimes than seniors (in 2011, 13% of European youth considered democracy bad and very bad, increase of 5 % since mid 1990s)
- Commitment to liberal values (civil rights, human liberties)

Europe, 2012 – Having a democratic political system is a bad or very bad way to run this country



Justifiable (yes)



Instead of conclusions: Where are we heading?