



Emergence of Right-wing Governments in Europe: Analysing its Implications for India

Reuel Asaph Khan

Student

Amity Institute of International Studies
Amity University Uttar Pradesh, Noida, India

Abstract:

My research paper, "Emergence of Right-wing Governments in Europe: analysing its implications for India" examines the recent rising popularity of right-wing parties in Europe and how their rise to power in forming government, affects their relationship with India. This research paper, first dives into deciphering, what right-wing ideologies are. How are they different from right-wing populism and the relationship between the two. It further talks about the different types of right-wing ideologies in European politics. The paper then examines the history of right-wing parties in Europe, their recent rise, and the reasons behind it. After this, the paper includes two individual case studies. The first one discusses Geert Wilders party, "party for

Freedom(PVV)" win in the recent Dutch election and, if his party is able to form a coalition government, how will it impact India's diplomatic relations with the Netherlands? The second case study explores India's booming relationship with Italy, after Giorgia Meloni, the leader of the right-wing party, "brothers of Italy", became the prime minister of Italy in October of 2022. Overall, the research paper provides a comprehensive analysis of rising right-wing populism in Europe, and how it will affect the economic, cultural, military, and political relations with India.

CH 1

Right-wing ideology and Populism

Ideology is a form of social or political belief system known as ideology focuses equally on practical elements.

It serves as a framework, with the objectives of transforming and elucidating the world. During the time of the French Revolution philosopher A. L. C. Destutt de Tracy introduced the term "idéologie" in French using it to represent his "science of ideas" derived from the epistemology of philosophers John Locke and Étienne Bonnot de Condillac, who posited that human knowledge is knowledge of ideas.

Now what constitutes right wing ideology? It can be described as a spectrum of convictions that uphold values, limited government intervention, free markets and individual responsibility. It often aligns with norms respect for private property rights and acknowledgment of societal hierarchies. Right wing politics encompass factions with characteristics – ranging from the far right to the moderate right. The far right is distinguished by its democratic tendencies, ultranationalism, racism and advocacy for a powerful state; whereas the moderate right places greater emphasis on nationalism and social welfare initiatives. Generally speaking right wing ideologies prioritize interests over concerns while exhibiting aversion, towards socialism and communism; some may even exhibit authoritarian tendencies. Leaning political groups consist of the Republican Party, in the United States and the Conservative Party, in the United Kingdom. The term derives from the seating arrangement of the French revolutionary parliament in which the conservative representatives sat to the presiding officer's right. In the 19th century the term applied to conservatives who supported authority, tradition, and property. In the 20th century a divergent, radical form developed that was associated with fascism.

Now that we've understood the essence of right wing ideologies lets delve deeper into the branches of right wing politics. The initial and widely prevalent branch, in right wing politics is conservatism. A majority of right wing governments and political parties globally build their beliefs on conservatism.. What does conservatism entail?

These days people commonly use the term "in contexts. It can refer to being careful or moderate following norms or being hesitant, towards change. Conservatism, as a belief involves a desire to maintain existing structures and a wariness of change. To grasp conservatism better lets delve into its four principles.

The first theme is Tradition

Conservatives have historically resisted change, for reasons. Upholding tradition is an aspect of ideology. Some conservatives associate their beliefs with this emphasis on tradition. For those who believe in a Creator behind the universe societal norms and customs are seen as inherently sacred. They view interference with established traditions as going against the will of God potentially leading to outcomes for humanity. Nowadays most conservatives value tradition without attributing it to origins. They see tradition as a repository of wisdom from the past that has stood the test of time. Historical institutions and customs are deemed worthy of preservation for the benefit of future generations due, to

their value. For instance in the United Kingdom conservatives argue in favour of maintaining the monarchy because it symbolizes knowledge and sagacity.

The second theme is Human imperfection

Many belief systems suggest that humans possess goodness or can develop it through changes, in their environment. However conservative perspectives challenge these ideas as fantasies asserting instead that human nature is flawed and prone to imperfection. According to philosophy immoral behaviour stems from personal failings rather than societal influences, a viewpoint distinct from other ideologies. It is commonly believed that humans exhibit shortcomings. Conservatives prioritize security and a sense of community valuing order while approaching promises of liberty with caution. The concept of order provides stability in a world ensuring predictability in life. In contrast liberty offers freedom of choice and the potential, for change and unpredictability.

The third theme is Hierarchy and authority

Throughout history conservatives have maintained the belief that social hierarchies and established social classes aspects of society. As a result they see equality, as unattainable and undesirable since resources, influence and status are distributed unequally. Conservatives place a value on authority to uphold these hierarchies. Unlike liberals who believe authority stems from agreements among individuals conservatives argue that authority emerges organically within society. They view power as essential for maintaining order and clarity, in roles providing stability and direction for individuals. In their perspective having authority structures helps prevent feelings of disorientation and instability in society.

The fourth theme is Property

Ownership of property refers to the acquisition of material possessions or wealth by individuals, social groups or governmental entities. Liberals view property as a symbol of meritocracy believing that those who demonstrate talent and work hard deserve to accumulate wealth. They argue that ownership should be earned through effort and ability. Conservatives share a perspective emphasizing the psychological advantages of owning property. For instance they see it as providing a sense of security in a world offering a safety net, for individuals. Additionally conservatives view property ownership as an expression of identity with possessions reflecting ones character and values.

In addition to these beliefs conservatism encompasses ideologies such as Authoritarian conservatism,

Paternalistic conservatism (including one nation conservatism) Libertarian conservatism and the new right. The evolution of principles and political direction since the 1980s has been influenced significantly by the impacts of globalization. These changes have presented challenges for ideology at times. Have even led to resistance against globalization efforts by some, within the conservative movement.

The next ideological branch of right-wing ideology is Nationalism.

The term "nation," originating from the word "meaning to be born has been, in use since the 13th century. It referred to a community of individuals connected by birth or place of birth when used in reference to a nation. The concept that nations play a role in organizing politics is known as nationalism. This idea is based on two principles. Firstly nations are seen as the suitable and perhaps the only legitimate unit, for governing because people naturally belong to nations. Nationalism is sometimes viewed as its ideology while also being categorized as a doctrine. The central themes of nationalism include

Nation

Nationalism revolves around the belief that a country should play a role, in shaping politics. Nations are essentially groups of people united by shared customs, beliefs, language and often a common history or location. While cultural factors like language, religion, ethnicity and tradition are commonly associated with nationhood there is no fixed formula to pinpoint when and where a nation originates. Nations can also form based on unity among racial groups as seen in Germany during the Nazi era. However nationalism is primarily rooted in culture, than biology.

The emergence of nationalism as an ideology occurred when the idea of a community intersected with popular sovereignty theory. In this context statehood and nationhood are closely linked within the framework. The pursuit of independence—often expressed through the concept of self-determination—serves as a defining characteristic of identity. Nationalists view the nation state as the effective form of political organization. The nation states significant strength lies in its potential, for uniting culturally. However it would be inaccurate to suggest that nationalism always aligns with self-determination or is exclusively tied to the concept of the nation state.

Organic community

Nationalists believe that nations are, like living communities despite differing views on what sets each nation. In essence humans naturally form nations, each with its character and identity. Supporters of nationalism argue that a nation holds a political importance and inspires greater loyalty than any other social group.

Culturalism

One form of nationalism called " nationalism " values preserving or enriching heritage over specific political aims. It focuses on revitalizing the nation as a civilization with emphasis on the role of the state. Political nationalism is known for its approach and adherence to principles while cultural nationalism tends to be more sentimental rooted in the belief that a nation's a singular historical and natural entity. Cultural nationalism, which emerges from the level places importance on folklore, traditions and rituals rather than elite or sophisticated culture. While cultural nationalism often leans towards values it also has the potential to serve as a force, for modernization by offering people an avenue to redefine themselves.

The next ideological branch of right-wing ideology is Fascism.

The term fascism originates from the word fasces, which described a collection of rods with an axe blade protruding symbolizing the authority of magistrates, in Imperial Rome. By the 1890s in Italy, a group or cohort consisting of revolutionary socialists was referred to as fascia. The term Fascismo did not adopt an meaning until Mussolini used it to denote the paramilitary armed units he established during and after World War I. The study of fascisms ideology poses challenges. Firstly there is debate on whether fascism fits into any ideological category. Fascism appears to be a mix of ideas lacking an logical core. Fascists were drawn more to ideas and theories for their ability to provoke action than, for their ability to offer a reasoned understanding of the world. Of being an ideology fascism could be better classified as a political movement or even likened to a political faith.

Anti-rationalism

Wing or proto fascist anti rationalism isn't inherently linked to fascism; fascism represented the extreme form of counter Enlightenment thinking, in politics. Fascism has been shaped by anti-rationalism in ways. Firstly it instilled a disdain for pursuits in fascism evident in its aversion to abstract thinking and preference for decisive action. Secondly the negative and destructive essence of fascism stems largely from its rejection of

Enlightenment ideals. In words fascists have often been vocal, about what they oppose than what they support. Therefore fascism appears to be an "anti-philosophy."

Struggle

Darwinian philosophy influenced fascism with a set of beliefs linking "evil" to weakness and "goodness", to strength. Fascists uphold values such as obedience, duty, self-sacrifice and loyalty over humanist or religious values like sympathy and compassion. They value power and strength for their sake glorifying the triumph of the strong. Similar to prioritizing the survival of a species over lives fascism despises weakness. Encourages the elimination of the weak for societal well-being.

Leadership and elitism

Fascism also diverges from ideologies by adamantly rejecting equality. It embraces an elitist worldview that justifies elitism and totalitarian rule as natural. The idea that people are born with skills is evident in how leaders, with unique qualities surpass followers. According to fascists society comprises three types of individuals; a leader wielding authority, vision and power. Next there is a group of men called the "warrior" elite, distinguished by their bravery, vision and willingness to make sacrifices. Additionally there are the masses.

Ultrnationalism

Fascism adopted a version of expansionist and chauvinistic nationalism. It viewed nations as rivals, in a battle for dominance than as equals with interconnected relationships. The fascist ideology promoted the belief that one nation was superior to all others disregarding the value of cultures and traditions. This mindset was reflected in the Aryanism principles of Nazi ideology, which emphasized superiority. Violent nationalism thrived between the wars, fuelled by lingering bitterness, from World War I and its consequences.

The next ideological branch of right-wing ideology is Religious fundamentalism.

The term "fundamentum," derived from Latin and meaning base is the origin of the term "fundamentalism." Initially emerging in 20th century debates, within American Protestantism the phrase found its roots. A collection of pamphlets known as The Fundamentals authored by Protestants between 1910 and 1915 aimed to uphold the truth or inerrancy of the Bible against contemporary Christian perspectives.

The term "fundamentalism" carries controversy with associations to authoritarianism, rigidity, aggression and dogmatism. Consequently many individuals who might align with beliefs distance themselves from this label due to its perceived oversimplification or negative connotations. Instead they may prefer terms like

"traditionalists," "conservatives," "evangelicals," or "revivalists." Challenging the boundary separating religion and politics is a defining characteristic of extremism. Essentially it implies that politics embodies aspects of belief. This viewpoint suggests that religious principles serve as guiding values for life encompassing conduct, legal systems, economics and governance rather than being confined solely to personal or private spheres. Thus major world religions such as Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Judaism, Buddhism and Sikhism exhibit tendencies rooted in their rejection of a divide, between politics and religion. The spread of values and concepts, in the developed Western countries has progressively reduced the impact of religion on political affairs. A government based on principles is inherently exempt from constraints arising from the separation of private domains. However there are variations, in the extent to which certain extremist beliefs have succumbed to this impulse.

CH 2

Populism

Populism, political program or movement that champions, or claims to champion, the common person, usually by favourable contrast with a real or perceived elite or establishment. Populism usually [combines](#) elements of the [left](#) and the [right](#), opposing large business and financial interests but also frequently being hostile to established [liberal](#), [socialist](#), and [labour](#) parties. Populism encompasses a range of stances that emphasize the distinction, between "the people" and "the elite." This concept has been defined in ways within the field of science and other social sciences with some scholars even proposing to do away with the term altogether. The ideational approach is an accepted framework for examining populism viewing it as an ideology that pits citizens against the ruling class depicting the elite as corrupt and self-serving while portraying the common people as morally upright. The definition of "the people" can differ among populists often based on societal criteria. In essence according to Jan Werner Müllers analysis populists dictate who constitutes the populace and ostracize anyone who does not conform to their terms irrespective of their nationality. Populists commonly label the cultural and media establishment as "the elite" alleging that this group prioritizes the interests of certain factions over those of ordinary citizens such, as large corporations or foreign entities. Leaders of movements and social groups that present themselves as representatives of the folk often possess charisma or wield significant influence. According to the perspective populism commonly aligns with belief systems such, as nationalism, socialism or liberalism. Populists can be found across the spectrum from left to right. Are often categorized as either left wing or right wing. Economists use the term to describe governments that heavily rely on loans, for public spending leading to hyperinflation and necessitating emergency measures. In conversation populism is sometimes equated with demagoguery, which refers to politicians who provide answers laden with emotion to complex issues or with opportunism, which describes politicians who prioritize pleasing voters over careful deliberation of the best course of action.

The concept of populism emerged alongside the rise of democracy in the century. It was closely associated with the Peoples Party in the United States and the socialist agrarian Narodnik movement in the Russian Empire. The Narodnik movement aimed to combat the demonetization of silver. Expressed distrust, towards elites, banks and railroads. The term gained traction among scientists during the 1960s and later came to encompass various political parties within liberal democracies throughout the 20th century. Some economists have used the term in reference to governments which engage in substantial public spending financed by foreign loans, resulting in hyperinflation and

emergency measures. In popular discourse—where the term has often been used pejoratively—it has sometimes been used synonymously with demagoguery, to describe politicians who present overly simplistic answers to complex questions in a highly emotional manner, or with opportunism, to characterize politicians who seek to please voters without rational consideration as to the best course of action.

The term became increasingly common in discussions, during the century particularly in the Americas and Europe to describe various groups across the political spectrum that stood against the established major parties. Populist leaders often contribute to the decline of democracy a phenomenon referred to as "erosion" or "de democratization" when they hold power in democracies. This occurs when they undermine institutions that they perceive as going against the interests of the majority like the judiciary or the media.

Generally speaking, leaning populist movements, back nationalism traditional social values and economic policies that prioritize protecting the economy through measures like trade protectionism. These groups tend to lean conservative and often express scepticism towards findings in areas such as climate change. They also take a stance on immigration regulations. According to Cas Mudde, a scholar specializing in extremism and populism the core concept of right wing populism revolves around "the nation." Mudde argues that the term "nativism," which emphasizes xenophobia as part of nationalism and advocates for the expulsion of non-natives from the country better encapsulates this idea than referring to it as "nationalism." Right wing populists typically oppose raising taxes on the large corporations to address income inequality through policies. Likewise they tend to resist regulations that limit companies business operations. Leaders and parties critical of immigration from Muslim majority nations and those who question European Union policies are often associated with wing populism, across Europe. Right-wing populism, in the West in the United States is often associated with nativism, cultural nationalism, opposition to environmental protection and a reluctance towards global integration. While they generally oppose social welfare programs some right-wing populists advocate for expanding welfare initiatives, for individuals deemed "deserving" a concept referred to as "welfare chauvinism."

History of right-wing parties and governments in Europe

Wing political parties, in Europe have their roots dating back to the 1900s. These parties, encompassing beliefs such as nationalism, conservatism and authoritarianism emerged in the 20th century. They often advocated for values a national identity and limited government intervention. The extreme right wing ideologies characterized by ultranationalism, racism and totalitarianism gained prominence with the rise of fascism led by Benito Mussolini in Italy and Nazism under Adolf Hitler in Germany. The surge of wing parties during this era can be attributed to unrest, economic instability and the aftermath of World War I. Promising stability and order while appealing to nationalist sentiments helped propel these parties forward. Leveraging discontent during the period they scapegoated immigrants and minorities for challenges. The onset of the Great Depression further fueled their rise as people sought leadership amid hardships. By the 1930s fascist and authoritarian regimes gained ground in countries like Italy, Germany and Spain as wing influence solidified. These parties enforced policies promoted militarism and suppressed dissenting voices. The outbreak of World War II underscored the consequences of right wing ideologies, through widespread devastation and loss of lives.

Between 1945 and the 2000s there were shifts, in the development of right-wing political parties, in Europe. These changes were shaped by an interplay of political and historical factors that impacted the continents political landscape. After the atrocities of the Nazi regime wing political parties faced challenges, across Europe following World War II due to the perception associated with extreme right wing ideologies. Despite efforts to ban groups and parties right beliefs persisted, as evidenced by the ongoing presence of organizations like Die Republikaner and the National Democratic Party of Germany. In the post 1945 era wing parties in Europe grappled with gaining support and often found themselves on the fringes because of their staunch positions. However in the part of the century there was a resurgence of right wing parties driven by social unrest, economic instability and a renewed interest in nationalist principles. In Europe right groups began forging alliances and establishing themselves formally during the 1980s. Parties like Frances Front National experienced victories. Wielded influence over other political entities on the continent. The late 1980s and early 1990s saw a wave of right political figures emerging who rejuvenated discussions around immigration, multiculturalism and anti EU sentiments. Political movements advocating national populist agendas while opposing integration gained prominence during this time. Notable examples include Jörg Haiders FPÖ, in Austria and Italys MSI Alleanza Nazionale. They appealed to groups, in society affected by the shift away, from industrialization by using xenophobic and security language. The right movement, in Europe saw a surge in the 2000s by positioning themselves as protectors of values critics of the establishment and champions of the underdog. Key figures who challenged the status quo and promoted Islamic views included Geert Wilders from the Netherlands, Matteo Salvini from Italy and Marine Le Pen from France. The political landscape across Europe underwent changes with the growing influence of parties like Front National in France, FPÖ in Austria, Lega Nord in Italy, among others. The emergence of parties, in Europe has been a significant development that has reshaped the political landscape and challenged established norms. Giorgia Meloni, the leader of Italy's Fratelli d'Italia party has witnessed the party's growth and leadership indicating a shift towards nationalist policies. In Spain the right Vox party has gained popularity potentially positioning itself to play a role in governing at a level. Austrias Freedom Party (FPÖ) remains influential dominating discussions and leading in polls. Meanwhile Germanys Alternative for Germany (AfD) has made strides by winning its district council election and leading in polls. The rise of these wing parties reflects a trend in Europe, where far right movements are gaining influence, impacting mainstream policies and even participating in coalition governments. These parties attract support from segments of the population dissatisfied with politics due to their stances on issues like immigration, nationalism and scepticism towards the European Union. By embracing some of their rhetoric centre right parties have played a role, in normalizing far right ideologies and blurring boundaries.

Several factors have led to the rise, in popularity and electoral victories of wing parties and governments across Europe in years. Financial difficulties and austerity measures have caused dissatisfaction among segments of the population playing a role in this trend. Additionally support for wing parties has been influenced by concerns surrounding immigration, nationalism and national identity. The failure of parties to effectively address these issues has fuelled a sense of disillusionment with established political systems. The increasing polarization in politics is closely linked to the rise of right wing movements. Many voters have resonated with the rights ability to capitalize on establishment sentiments exploit concerns about globalization and tap into cultural anxieties. The adoption of some rhetoric, by centre right parties has blurred traditional political distinctions contributing to the normalization of these ideologies. Moreover the mainstream acceptance of ideas can be attributed to their adaptability in tailoring their message toning down extreme views and presenting a more appealing image to voters. These

groups are gaining followers from individuals who may not have considered supporting wing parties as they adopt more common political rhetoric and embrace certain policy proposals that resonate with a broader range of people.

CH 3

Triumph of “Brothers of Italy” and its impact on India-Italy relations

Italy, a European country is renowned for its rich culture, fascinating history, stunning scenery and notable economic achievements. Geographically speaking Italy resembles a boot shaped peninsula extending into the Mediterranean Sea bordered by the Tyrrhenian seas to its east and west. The majestic Alps, in the north offer views and opportunities for winter sports while the Apennine Mountains running along the length of the peninsula shape Italy’s topography. These mountains divide Italy into regions each with its characteristics. The country’s strategic location has played a role in shaping its history and development. Surrounded by water Italy’s trade and connections, with civilizations have been influenced by this geographical advantage from ancient times. Following Rome’s rise to power Italy became the heart of an empire that spanned continents and profoundly impacted Western civilization. Throughout history Italy’s economy has undergone transformations. Since World War II Italy has experienced growth leading it to be ranked among the worlds leading economies by the mid 1960s. The country mainly exports known food and wine products, machinery, cars, plastic items, pharmaceuticals and apparel. Italy attracts millions of visitors who come to admire its landscapes charming ancient towns and magnificent architectural wonders contributing significantly to the country’s economy.

Italy’s rich history is a tapestry woven with civilizations, powerful empires and artistic achievements. Throughout the ages Italy has been a cradle of philosophy, science, music, literature, art and architecture—, from the Etruscans and Romans to the Renaissance era and beyond. Influential figures like Michelangelo, Dante Alighieri and Leonardo da Vinci have left a mark on culture. The Roman Empires legacy continues to shape the history and institutions of much of Europe. Italian culinary delights, fashion trends, artistic masterpieces and musical accomplishments are revered worldwide. Iconic pasta dishes such as pizza Margherita and spaghetti Bolognese are synonymous with cuisine. The country boasts an art collection featuring works by artists like Michelangelo and Leonardo da Vinci. Italy also beckons tourists with its array of sites including the Vatican City—a hub for Catholicism that draws pilgrims from, across the globe.

India and Italy bilateral relation

Even though Italy came together as a nation in 1861 both India and Italy are considered countries, with ancient cultures. The Indo European language group includes languages like Latin and Sanskrit. For over 2,000 years the people of these civilizations have interacted known each traded goods. Italian ports were players in the spice trade as trading centres. In the century Venetian merchant Marco Polo journeyed to India as part of his explorations to the East. Wrote about his experiences. During World War II Indian troops were stationed in Italy as part of the British Indian Army. The Rajputana Rifles and Gurkha Rifles were among them. In the campaign against Italian forces in Somaliland the 10th Indian Division fought in Abyssinia.

India and Italy established ties in 1947 leading to a relationship with regular political and official exchanges.

Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru visited Italy in 1953 Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi visited in 1981. Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh made a visit in 2009 from India’s side. Visits, from Italy began with Mr. Giovanni Goria, Prime Minister visiting India in 1988 followed by President Dr. Oscar Luigi Scalfaros visit among others in 1995. Italy and India have established a Parliamentary Friendship Association and are engaged in Senior Officials Dialogues. Through visits and interactions the relationship, between the two countries has strengthened, fostering cooperation and cultural exchanges.

Italy stands as one of India’s trade partners, within the European Union showcasing a bilateral trade relationship. Since the 1980s India has seen outcomes in its trade balance with Italy. Despite facing challenges during the recession of 2008 both countries witnessed a surge in bilateral trade by 18% to reach €8.52 billion in 2011–12 as the global economy recovered. India primarily exports items like made clothing, leather products, iron ore, automobiles, textiles, chemicals, diamonds and jewellery to Italy. In return Italy imports engineering goods, machine tools, metallurgical materials and various machinery from India. The economic ties between these nations are further underscored by the presence of over 140 companies operating in India across diverse sectors such as IT, electronics, pharmaceuticals, automobiles, textiles and engineering. Additionally notable Indian enterprises have made their mark in Italy well. Various industries, like textiles, electrical equipment production, food processing, metallurgy, automotive manufacturing and transportation have attracted investment (FDI) from Italy.

The Indian community in Italy is the second largest community of Indians in Europe after UK. As per the latest Italian official estimates, more than 1,60,000 Indian Nationals are resident in Italy. As first generation migrants, majority of them are engaged in economic sectors such as agriculture, dairy farming, leather industry, construction works and in service industry. A significant proportion of the Indian diaspora is concentrated in the northern Italy regions like Lombardia, Piemonte, Veneto and Emilia Romagna regions, Central Italy like Florence, Rome and Southern Italy like Campania, Puglia and Calabria

Rise of right-wing government in Italy

A significant political development, in Italy has been the emergence of the Brothers of Italy (FdI) which has experienced an increase in support and electoral victories. With a focus on values and nationalistic ideals the party was established in 2012 by Giorgia Meloni and former members of the National Alliance drawing inspiration from principles. The party’s trajectory took a turn during the 2022 elections, where it secured its position as the largest party with 26% of the votes despite its previous underperformance. This marked a moment in politics. The rise of the Brothers of Italy can be attributed to factors. To begin with FDI capitalized on voters growing disillusionment and desire for change amid uncertainty and dissatisfaction with established parties. Many Italians seeking stability during times responded positively to the party’s promises of security and continuity particularly following Mario Draghis government tenure. Giorgia Meloni played a role in propelling FDI to success. Her strategic positioning as the opposition to Draghis administration significantly boosted her popularity. Contributed to FDI’s electoral surge. Melonis effective campaigning efforts and ability to connect with voters from backgrounds were instrumental in securing victory, for the party. The post fascist traditions and nationalist rhetoric of the Brothers of Italy not attracted followers. Also resonated with

those, in the public who were disillusioned with traditional politics. The gathering resonated with voters looking for an option, from the political parties by highlighting topics such, as immigration, national identity and anti-establishment sentiments.

The dynamic, between Italy and India has undergone a shift following Giorgia Melonis assumption of the role of minister in Italy. This transformation has been marked by an increase in engagements and the endorsement of agreements aimed at strengthening ties between the two nations. The change in leadership in Italy has opened up opportunities for collaboration and alignment fostering beneficial relationships across various sectors, including trade and cultural exchanges. The establishment of agreements between India and Italy since Melonis tenure began has been a key milestone in their bilateral relations. These agreements cover an array of areas, such as technology, commerce, defence and cultural exchanges. Of significance is an agreement on defence cooperation with the goal of bolstering bonds and addressing mutual security interests. This pact underscores the growing recognition of shared security challenges and the imperative for collaboration on defence related matters.

Moreover both countries have forged agreements aimed at enhancing trade facilitation and economic partnerships. These accords seek to enhance market access eliminate trade barriers and cultivate an environment to investments and business collaborations. To leverage each other's strengths effectively and seize opportunities, for growth and progress India and Italy must strengthen their ties.

Furthermore the enhanced engagement, between Italy and India has centered around interchange. The mutual dedication to fostering an understanding and respect for each other's cultural legacies is evident through the endorsement of agreements promoting cultural collaboration. Both nations are striving to fortify bonds and promote diplomacy through initiatives such as cultural swaps, joint exhibitions and academic partnerships. These agreements have had an impact on the trade relationship between Italy and India. The volume of trade has notably surged due to the elimination of trade barriers and facilitation of trade transactions. Increased collaboration in sectors like technology, pharmaceuticals and textiles has opened up avenues for commerce and economic growth. Furthermore the establishment of alliances and partnerships between Indian enterprises has generated synergies that benefit both economies.

Following cooperation the cultural ties between India and Italy have flourished well. The diverse cultural tapestries of both nations have been showcased on platforms thanks to exchange programs, cultural festivities and creative collaborations. These initiatives have strengthened connections. Bolstered the bonds between the people of Italy and India while fostering a greater mutual appreciation, for each other's cultures.

The deepening bond, between Italy and India led by Giorgia Meloni holds implications for global collaboration beyond economic and cultural exchanges. As democracies with aligned values and objectives both nations share an interest in promoting peace, security and prosperity within their regions and beyond. To effectively tackle worldwide challenges and promote interests on the stage enhancing bilateral cooperation and joint efforts on common issues is essential, for both countries.

CH 4

Geeta Wilders dramatic win and it's potential impact on Dutch-India relations

The country known informally as Holland or the Netherlands is situated in North-western Europe. It is famous, for its scenery, rooted cultural history and forward thinking approach blending a mix of past traditions, natural surroundings and contemporary living. Located along the coast of the North Sea the Netherlands shares boundaries with Germany to its east and Belgium to its south. Its flat terrain means that around one third of its land lies below sea level. This distinct landscape has led to the development of a system of dikes, canals and polders to regulate water levels and prevent flooding. The iconic windmills in the countryside were originally used for drainage. Have now become symbolic representations of the nation's ongoing struggle, against water.

The Netherlands is famous, for its landscape, known for its diverse artistic heritage forward thinking beliefs and a longstanding tradition of acceptance. Dutch culture has given rise to artists like Rembrandt van Rijn and Vincent van Gogh well as notable literary figures such as Anne Frank and Erasmus. The nations cultural fabric is also influenced by its occasions like Kings Day (Koningsdag) marked by vibrant street celebrations and orange themed events in tribute to the family. The Dutch are recognized for their practicality, creativity and progressive social attitudes. They were pioneers in legalizing same sex marriage. Have a reputation, for embracing diversity and alternative lifestyles. Moreover cycling is deeply embedded in society with bike lane networks and a populace that favours cycling as a primary means of getting around. The Netherlands has a developed and diverse economy known for its focus, on trade, technology and innovation. It is home to companies and is famous for its expertise in industries like agriculture, logistics and finance. The Port of Rotterdam stands out as one of the worlds ports playing a role in global trade. Agriculture has been a part of the economy for a long time with their innovative methods in water management and land reclamation leading them to become top exporters of agricultural goods. Apart from agriculture the Netherlands also has an sector especially in areas like chemicals, electronics and machinery. The country's economy benefits from a thriving services industry that includes finance, tourism and creative fields. Amsterdam serves as the capital city—a centre—and is known for being a hub, for start-ups and creative businesses. With its business environment, workforce and strategic location the Netherlands attracts foreign investment and entrepreneurship.

The history of the Netherlands is defined by its fight, for freedom, maritime strength and cultural accomplishments. In the century the Dutch Republic rose as a leading naval force establishing colonies and trade hubs worldwide. This era, known as the Golden Age saw prosperity and cultural advancement with the Dutch contributing significantly to art, science and philosophy. Despite this success the Netherlands faced challenges such as dominance in the century and Nazi occupation during World War II. The Dutch Resistance played a part in resisting Nazi control. The nation endured hardships during the war years especially in the Hunger Winter of 1944 1945. Post war reconstruction propelled the Netherlands towards prosperity and innovation. It played a role in shaping the European Union. Remains a strong advocate, for European unity and collaboration.

India and Netherlands relations

The bond, between India and the Netherlands has roots that have flourished over centuries, built on respect, collaboration and shared values. Despite the distance separating them their political, cultural and economic connections have grown stronger over time creating a partnership across various areas of cooperation.

India and the Netherlands maintain relations with frequent high level visits and interactions. Diplomatic relations were established soon after India's independence in 1947 leading to expanded engagement. Both countries uphold principles of democracy, pluralism and multilateralism as the cornerstone of their collaboration. Throughout the years they have worked closely on global issues like climate change, counterterrorism and sustainable development that are of interest. The Netherlands has shown support for India's desire for a seat on the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) acknowledging India's increasing role and impact, on the world stage.

The cultural ties, between India and the Netherlands have strengthened over time leading to an appreciation and understanding of each others heritage and traditions. The Dutch have shown an interest in culture, arts and spirituality while India has welcomed Dutch influences in modern art, design and architecture. Both countries host events, festivals and exhibitions to encourage cultural exchange and enhance interpersonal connections. In the Netherlands dance performances, music shows, yoga workshops and film festivals attract enthusiastic participation, from the local audience. Likewise India celebrates festivals and exhibitions that allow its people to explore Dutch art, literature and cuisine.

Trade, between India and the Netherlands has been steadily increasing over time due to their strengths and mutual dedication to enhancing collaboration. The Netherlands ranks as India's trading partner in the EU with trade volumes totalling billions of dollars annually. Key areas of partnership include agriculture, horticulture, water management, technology and renewable energy. The Netherlands excels in exporting goods while India presents opportunities for Dutch expertise in agri tech, dairy farming and food processing. Collaborative efforts in water management and flood control showcase both countries commitment to tackling shared challenges through solutions and knowledge exchange. Moreover the Netherlands plays a role as a gateway for businesses looking to expand into European markets by leveraging its strategic location top notch infrastructure and business friendly atmosphere. Dutch companies have made investments across sectors, in India leading to job creation, technology transfer and economic development.

India and the Netherlands have recently signed a variety of agreements and memoranda of understanding (MoUs) to strengthen their collaboration, across sectors. These agreements encompass trade, investment, science, technology, education, agriculture and renewable energy. One significant agreement is the establishment of the Joint Working Group on Trade and Investment aimed at boosting trade and investment flows while addressing trade obstacles. Likewise the India Netherlands Joint Commission Meeting on Science and Technology promotes cooperation in research, innovation and technology exchange among institutions and industries in both nations. In the realm of energy, India and the Netherlands have initiated projects to advance energy technologies and sustainable development. With the Netherlands specializing in wind energy and India rapidly expanding its energy capacity there are promising opportunities for joint ventures, in solar power, wind power and hydroelectric projects.

The Indian community living in the Netherlands plays a role, in enhancing the relationship between the two countries. Consisting of professionals, students, entrepreneurs and cultural representatives Indians in the Netherlands contribute to the economic landscape well as the cultural tapestry of Dutch society. Professionals from India work across industries such as IT, healthcare, finance and academia bringing innovation research opportunities and knowledge sharing. Indian students pursue education in universities that offer top notch academic programs and research prospects. Cultural groups and community organizations actively promote culture by organizing festivals, workshops and cultural events that highlight the diversity and liveliness of Indian traditions. These endeavours aim to deepen understanding and appreciation for culture, among the population while nurturing personal connections and encouraging cross cultural conversations.

Rise of PVV

Founded in 2006 as the successor to Geert Wilders' one-man faction in the house of representatives it won nine seats in the 2006 general elections making it the fifth-largest party in parliament. In the 2010 general elections, it won 24 seats, making it the third-largest party.

The Party, for Freedom (PVV) under the leadership of Geert Wilders has become a figure in politics especially in recent years. It has gained popularity. Achieved success in elections. The PVV is known for its views on immigration Islam and European integration. They advocate for border controls preserving culture and reducing the country's involvement in the EU.

In times the PVV has tapped into concerns among segments of the Dutch population regarding immigration, multiculturalism and threats to national identity. Geert Wilders strong leadership style and direct language have struck a chord with voters disenchanted with parties who want a more decisive approach to addressing these issues. The PVV's performance in the elections indicates its increasing appeal and influence, on the political scene. Although they did not win a majority they have emerged as a player with enough votes to potentially impact government policies and shape the national agenda.

The emergence of the PVV has sparked debates and conversations regarding the course of Dutch politics and society. Critics express concerns that the party's focus, on populism and nationalism could worsen rifts weaken multiculturalism and diminish principles. They highlight worries about the portrayal of minority communities, discrimination against immigrants and the potential for heightened bias and division within communities. Additionally the PVV's opposition to the EU and calls for withdrawal from the European Union raise questions about their country's position in Europe as a whole and its dedication to unity. A move towards scepticism about the EU could impact policy trade partnerships, economic stability as well as Europe's overarching goals of peace, collaboration and shared prosperity.

Conversely supporters of the PVV commend its willingness to tackle topics often overlooked by political groups. They see the party as a voice for citizens who feel threatened by changes to their cultural identity, security concerns and traditional way of life. Advocates argue that PVV's policies on immigration Islam and national autonomy are vital, to safeguarding interests and upholding their values and customs. The electoral success of PVV has compelled mainstream parties to address issues that were previously marginalized or disregarded. In reaction, to the increasing influence of the PVV certain political groups have taken positions, on immigration, security and assimilation to attract dissatisfied voters and challenge the popularity of the PVV.

If Geert Wilders were to win the position of Prime Minister, in the Netherlands leading a government it could impact the country's ties with India. This is especially significant due to the shared values between the two administrations. The Party for Freedom (PVV) led by Geert Wilders and India's ruling wing party like the Bhartiya Janata Party (BJP) have similarities in their beliefs particularly in their emphasis on national sovereignty, security and cultural heritage. Therefore a potential Wilders led government in the Netherlands might strengthen camaraderie and understanding with India's leadership.

One area where these two governments could see eye to eye is their stance on immigration and border security. Geert Wilders has been critical of immigration policies, in Europe advocating for measures and secure borders to address security issues and uphold national identity. Similarly under BJP rule India has prioritized border protection and regulated migrant inflow, from neighbouring nations. Moreover both the PVV and the BJP place a strong emphasis, on upholding their nations sovereignty and independence showing resistance to any perceived infringements by bodies or foreign entities. A government led by Wilders might be more inclined to interact with India as a partner valuing its autonomy and treating it with respect in bilateral dealings.

Furthermore both parties harbour doubts about organizations such as the EU in the case of PVV and global institutions like the UN from perspectives reflecting India's stance on issues like Kashmir. This shared scepticism towards bodies could result in a viewpoint on matters concerning sovereignty, global governance and cooperation among nations. It is important to acknowledge that while there may be some ground between a Wilders led administration in the Netherlands and India's ruling conservative party differences in priorities, strategies and regional concerns could influence their bilateral relationship.

For example India's foreign policy is influenced by a web of interactions involving neighbouring countries such, as Pakistan, China and Bangladesh. Although the Netherlands might have worries regarding security risks and terrorism its geopolitical objectives and preferences could be distinct, from India's due to its position and longstanding connections, in Europe.

CH 5 Conclusion

Leaning beliefs cover a range of political views and principles that value tradition, nationalism and conservative social and economic policies. While there is variation, within right wing ideologies common threads include a focus on freedom, minimal government interference and the preservation of cultural norms and values. Leaning movements often support national borders, immigration regulations and the strong defence of national sovereignty. Central to right wing ideologies is the belief in the significance of accountability and self-sufficiency. This typically leads to backing for free market capitalism, deregulation and low taxes as advocates argue that these measures encourage development and prosperity by motivating drive and entrepreneurship. On a level leaning ideologies tend to stress traditional values and institutions like family, religion and national identity. They may support policies that maintain gender roles oppose same sex marriage and prioritize law enforcement. Leaning movements often present their policies as a safeguard against perceived threats to identity and cultural unity arising from globalization, immigration or societal changes.

In contrast populism is a strategy aimed at appealing to "the people", against "the elite" or established authorities. Populism can appear in beliefs but it frequently aligns with right wing views especially due, to its focus, on nationalist and anti-establishment language. Populist figures often position themselves as advocates, for the people pledging to tackle their concerns and amplify their voices in the realm of politics. One key distinction between right wing beliefs and populism lies in their principles and priorities. Right wing beliefs are defined by a set of values that influence policy stances on issues such as economics, culture and governance. Conversely populism is more of an approach or tactic that can be embraced by politicians with ideological leanings.

Another differentiation is that while right wing beliefs typically have an basis and a clear policy agenda populism tends to be more flexible and opportunistic adjusting to the prevailing political climate and current grievances. Populist leaders might utilize immigrant language to resonate with their supporters but their policy positions may lack consistency or coherence beyond this overarching narrative. Moreover while right wing beliefs may promote government intervention in the economy and individual liberties populism could at times calls, for increased state involvement and the employment of populist rhetoric to validate authoritarian or illiberal measures.

In times there has been an increase, in right wing governments emerging across Europe showing a shift in political dynamics influenced by populist and nationalist sentiments. This shift is evident in the victories of parties supporting immigration rules, national sovereignty and traditional principles. One reason behind the rise of right wing governments is the perception that mainstream political parties have not effectively addressed issues like immigration, globalization and economic inequality. Many voters feel disconnected and marginalized by established figures leading to a surge in support for parties promising change and representing their concerns. Moreover the refugee crisis that swept through Europe in the mid 2010s heightened concerns about identity, national security and social unity. This created ground for wing parties to leverage fears of unchecked immigration and terrorism. Leaders like Viktor Orbán in Hungary and Matteo Salvini in Italy have campaigned on platforms advocating for border controls and preserving identity striking a chord with voters uneasy, about rapid demographic shifts.

Additionally economic instability following the crisis has worsened social tensions and diminished trust in mainstream political institutions. Conservative political parties have connected with these concerns pledging to focus on the needs of people, than those of wealthy global figures and big companies. The ascension of leadership, in Italy notably led by figures like Giorgia Meloni has wielded various influences on India affecting diplomatic ties, economic collaboration and global interactions. Below are some ways in which the transformation in politics.

The advent of right wing governance in Italy prompted a reassessment of diplomatic relations between Italy and India. While both nations have traditionally maintained ties the differing ideologies between India's moderate government and Italy's conservative leadership may have triggered some tensions or alterations in diplomatic strategies. Nevertheless practical interests and common objectives such as counterterrorism efforts and trade promotion often outweigh disparities ensuring interaction between the two countries. Italy stands as an ally for India with bilateral trade and investment connections spanning diverse sectors like machinery, textiles and pharmaceuticals. The rise of governance in Italy might potentially influence collaboration, between the two nations. Italy's new leadership could bring about alterations, in trade policies, regulations or priorities that might impact business settings and trade patterns consequently shaping investment choices and economic alliances with India. Regarding immigration policies the wing administration in Italy has adopted a position on immigration promoting tighter border

regulations and actions to deter illegal immigration. This standpoint carries ramifications for immigrants looking for prospects in Italy along with influencing the conversation, on immigration and diversity.

Italy's political scene and foreign policy choices play a role, in shaping events, which could have effects on India. How Italy positions itself on matters like unity, collaboration with NATO or its relationships with players such as the United States and China might impact how India plans its strategies and engages in diplomacy across Europe and other regions. If Italy shifts its foreign policy focus under wing leadership this could lead to changes, in how India approaches its tactics and partnerships.

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