## How do researchers define support for the EU? Prepare this little exercise for our week-3 class meeting.

Instructions for reading the following eight articles: Do not read them in full, only focus on sections where authors define how they conceptualize and operationalize support for the European Union. Make sure you take notes on these various conceptual and operational definitions. Make sure that you pay attention to survey question wording that the authors use. Just to make sure that everyone knows what is meant by a "conceptual definition" and an "operational definition".

Conceptual definition is "how the author defines a concept". For example, one author says that in her article political support is defined as "support for the political institutions". Another author says that in his work political support is defined as "support for the continuation of the political regime".

Operational definition is how exactly the author measures the concept (the concept defined by the conceptual definition). For example, our first author (who conceptually defines political support as support for institutions) operationally defines this concept as "trust in the national parliament" (but she could also have chosen "trust in the national government" or "trust in the supreme court" or some kind of combination of these trust-related survey questions. Operational definition always directly describes how the concept is measured and in survey research (which is what we are dealing with in this class), operational definition will mention the exact survey question that was used (the question can be in the text or in a footnote or in the appendix).

Only do this exercise for two of the following articles. The two articles were assigned to you in class.

- Anderson, C. J. 1998. "When in doubt, use proxies Attitudes toward domestic politics and support for European integration." Comparative Political Studies 31 (5):569-601.
- de Vreese, C. H., and H. G. Boomgaarden. 2005. "Projecting EU referendums Fear of immigration and support for European integration." European Union Politics 6 (1):59-
- Hooghe, L., and G. Marks. 2004. "Does identity or economic rationality drive public opinion on European integration?" Ps-Political Science & Politics 37 (3):415-20.
- Klingeren, Marijn Van, Hajo G. Boomgaarden, and Claes H. De Vreese. 2013. "Going Soft or Staying Soft: Have Identity Factors Become More Important Than Economic Rationale when Explaining Euroscepticism?" *Journal of European Integration*:1-16.
- Sánchez-Cuenca, Ignacio. 2000. "The Political Basis for Support for European Integration." European Union Politics 1 (2):147-71.
- Harteveld, E., T. van der Meer, and C. E. De Vries. 2013. "In Europe we trust? Exploring three logics of trust in the European Union." *European Union Politics* 14 (4):542-65.
- Gabel, M. 1998. "Public support for European integration: An empirical test of five theories." Journal of Politics 60 (2):333-54.
- Rohrschneider, R. 2002. "The democracy deficit and mass support for an EU-wide government." *American Journal of Political Science* 46 (2):463-75.