

A·U·G·U·R

Challenges for Europe in the world, 2030



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
European Research Area



Funded under Socio-economic Sciences & Humanities

Political pathways to 'EU Break-up' and 'Towards Federal Europe'

William Brett

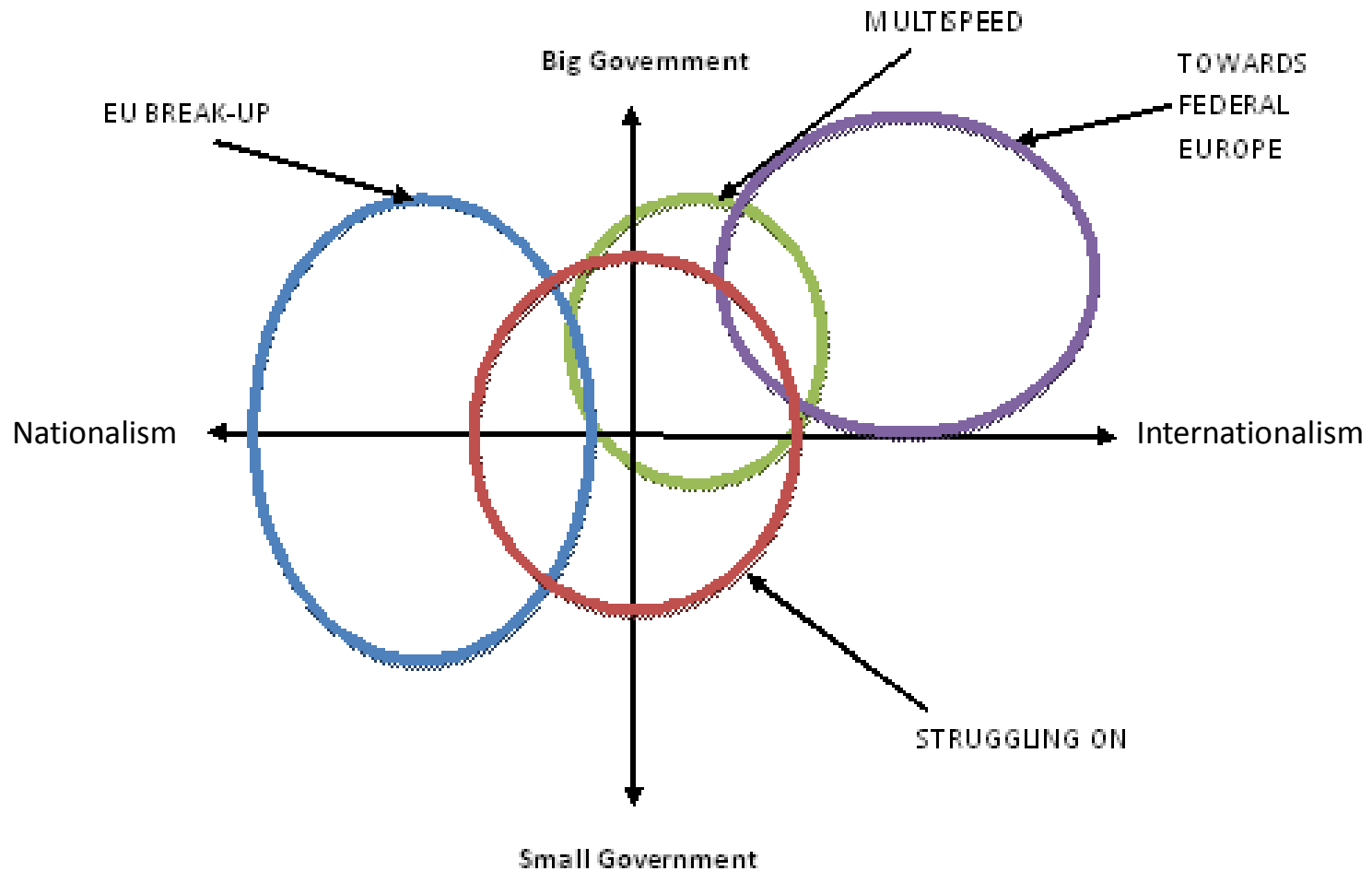
AUGUR conference, Brussels,

24 January 2012

Outline

- A context of political instability and anti-politics: short-term and long-term factors
- Analysis: party ideology, public opinion
- ‘EU break-up’: anti-establishment parties and the conditions for their success
- ‘Towards Federal Europe’: big-government / internationalism ideology and France’s role

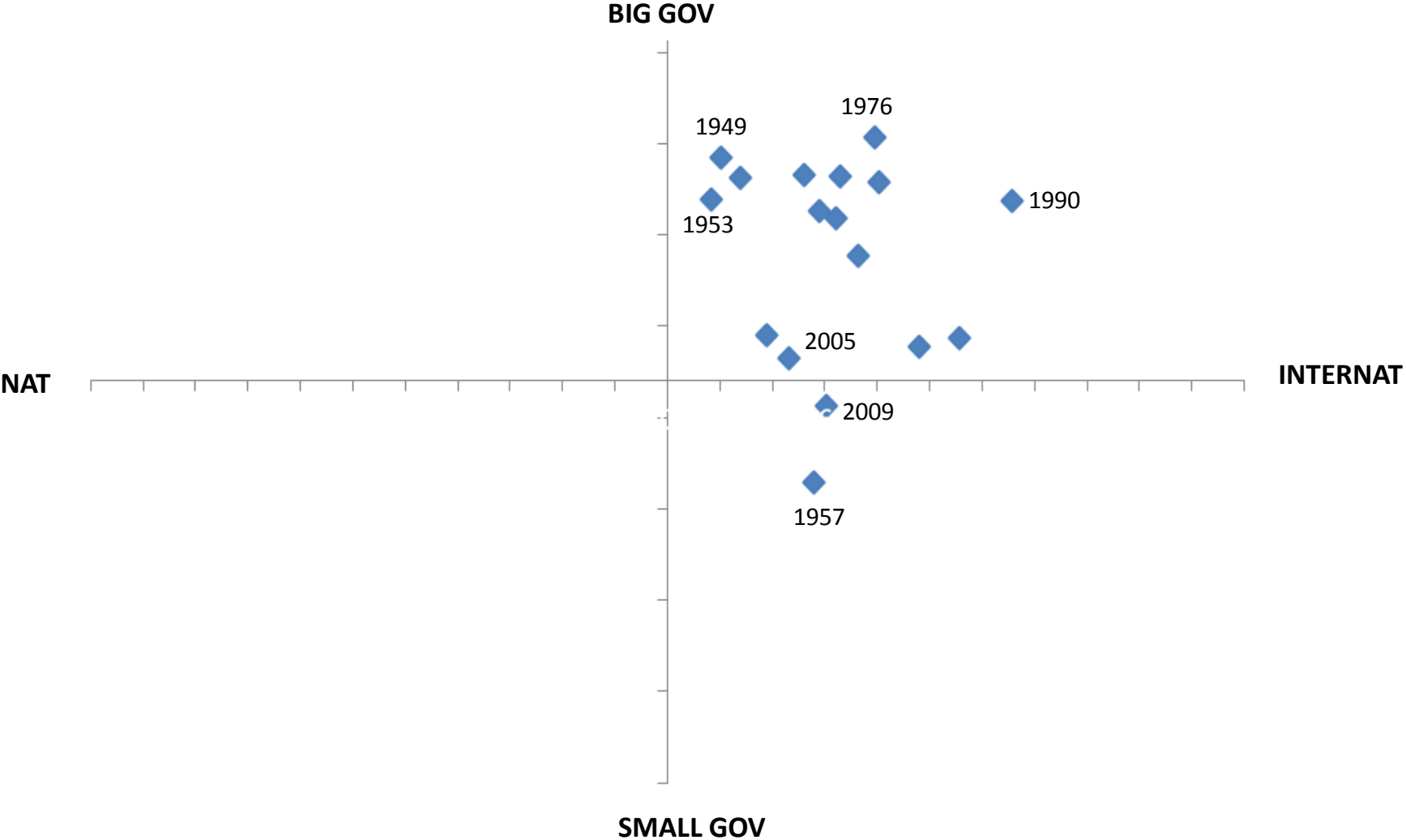
Party ideology and the scenarios



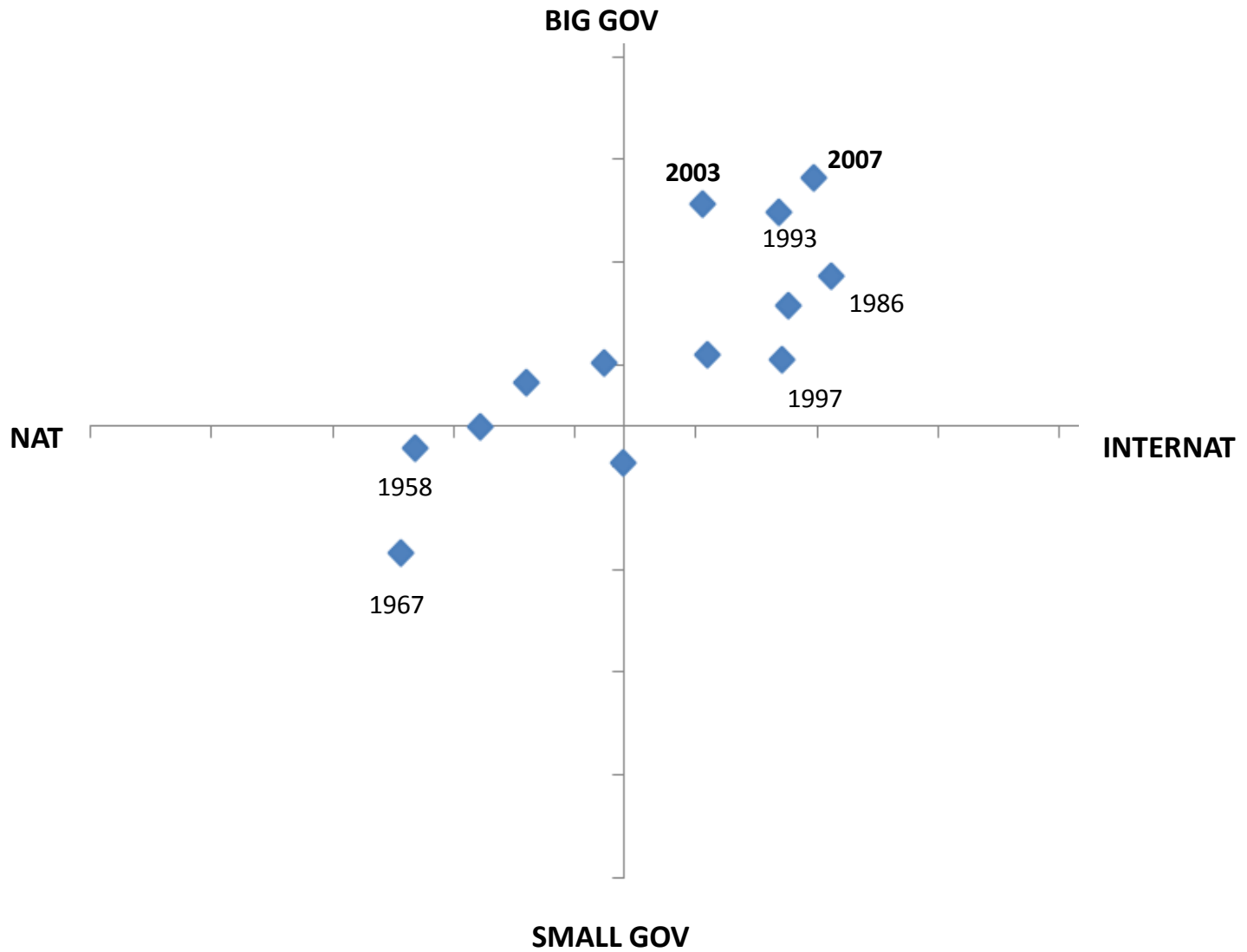
Three factors contributing to AEP success

Country	Globalisation "is a threat to national culture" (% agree)	Average GDP growth 2008-2011 (%)	AEP represented in parliament?
Austria	59.6	0.4	Yes
Belgium	43.2	0.3	Yes
Bulgaria	41.6	-0.9	Yes
Cyprus	76	-0.1	No
Czech Republic	46.6	-0.1	No
Denmark	36	-0.9	Yes
Estonia	50	-1.4	No
Finland	43.2	-0.6	Yes
France	50.5	0.1	Yes
Germany	37.1	0.3	No
Great Britain	61.9	-0.4	No
Greece	64.8	-3.4	Yes
Hungary	56.8	-1	Yes
Ireland	60	-1.7	No
Italy	52.5	-0.9	Yes
Latvia	54.3	-3.6	No
Lithuania	51.7	-2.2	No
Luxembourg	35.8	-0.3	No
Malta	37.6	0.4	No
Netherlands	38.5	-0.2	Yes
Poland	41.6	2.5	No
Portugal	58	-0.8	No
Romania	50.9	-1.5	No
Slovakia	44.7	0.6	No
Slovenia	50.2	-1.8	No
Spain	43.2	-0.8	No
Sweden	36.5	1.2	Yes

German Bundestag election winners, 1949-2009



French presidential winners, 1958-2007



Conclusions

- Political instability creates possibilities for change
- Rise of extremism? Greece, Hungary, Italy
- Rise of federalism? France as well as Germany
- Political recommendation 1: address the three factors which increase success of AEPs – economic stagnation; representative thresholds; and people’s fear of globalisation/internationalism... ->
- Political recommendation 2: confrontation of anti-elitism, Euroscepticism, anti-politics through **leadership** and a commitment to specifically political (and federal!) discourse