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RIGHT-WING POPULISM AS A CHALLENGE TO SOCIAL STABILITY IN FRANCE

During the last decades, we could observe the increase of the influence of right-wing populism and its adepts on political and social agenda in numerous EU countries. Unification processes faced powerful struggle from different nationally oriented groups, and right-wing populist political parties pretend to be their political representatives. According to Cas Mudde, “populist radical right parties share a core ideology that combines (at least) three features: nativism, authoritarianism, and populism... Simply stated, nativism entails a combination of nationalism and xenophobia... Authoritarianism refers to the belief in a strictly ordered society, in which infringements of authority are to

be punished severely... Populism, finally, is an ideology that considers society to be ultimately separated into two homogeneous and antagonistic groups, “the pure people” and “the corrupt elite”, and which argues that politics should be an expression of the *volonté générale* (general will) of the people” [3].

Many researches regarding right-wing populism and its role in contemporary European political and social landscapes are currently available, including identification of its particular features [3], [4], [6]; the causes of their support in society [5], and the comparative perspective in different EU countries [7]. In our presentation, we plan to concentrate on a situation with the right-wing populist parties in France [1], [2] and their leading party, National Rally with Marine Le Pen as a party leader. We would try to analyze the influence of this party on social stability in this country, its role in the current political context and social protests, as far as specific ways of communication with current and potential supporters.

As a result, we expect to identify opportunities for further development of the right-wing populist political movement in France and the main contemporary challenges of this movement to the stability of social order and democratic principles of governance.

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