

# **From Confusion to Confidence: Research presentation**

University of Essex - Department of Government

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# Today's topic: Presenting research results

What is there in this video?

- Tips on presenting research question, argument, and results
- A (quick) example of a presentation from my own research

**Presenting research question,  
argument, and results**

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# What type of presentation are you making?

Different presentation formats are suited to certain structures.  
We consider the following:

1. Paper presentation
2. PowerPoint presentation

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There are other types we won't talk about (e.g.: poster presentations)

# Presentation structure

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A research paper has a structure you're already familiar with. More or less:

1. Introduction
2. Literature review
3. Theory section
4. Data and methodology
5. Results and robustness tests
6. Discussion
7. Conclusion

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In a PowerPoint you have to be much more concise! Most likely:

1. Presentation of the issue
2. Theory and expectations
3. Data and methodology
4. Visualization of results

## Research question: 3 tips

1. State your research question explicitly. I.e.: end it in a question mark
  - **Descriptive questions:** How did voters aged  $< 30$  voted in the EU Referendum?
  - **Predictive questions:** What predicts outbreak of intrastate conflict?
  - **Causal questions:** What is the effect of corruption on public good provision?



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  - **Very important with PowerPoint presentations**
  - Helps the uninformed reader/viewer to gain interest
3. Find a research question that substantively interests you!

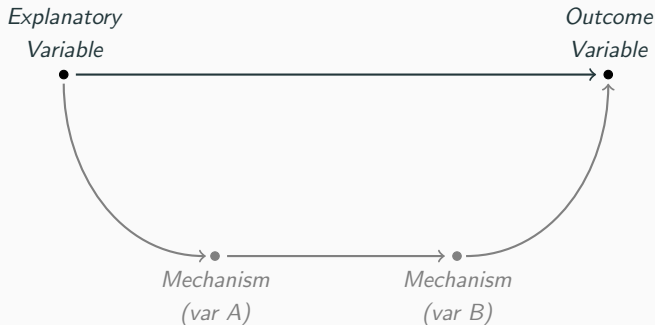
## Argument and expectations: Streamline, draw, and visualize

You argument will be the core point your dissertation makes:

- **Streamline it.** Try to reduce it to its building blocks and be explicit about how they connect
- **Draw it.** Write it down with pen and paper, labels and arrows. Does it make sense?
- **Visualize it.** Sometimes a visualization is clearer than 1000 words
  - Very important with PowerPoint presentations!
- State explicitly what empirical expectation your argument supports

## Tip: Take a dip in the Bathtub Model

A good friend of mine once shared with me the Bathtub Model. I've never made without it after that:



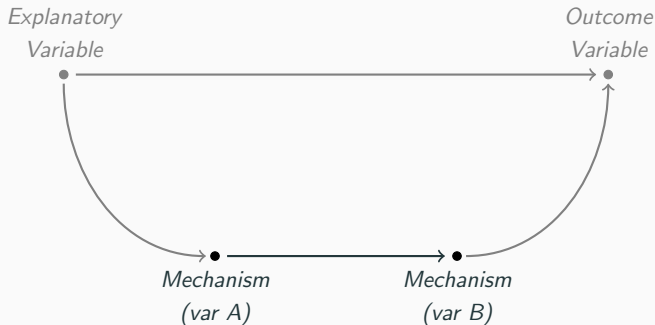
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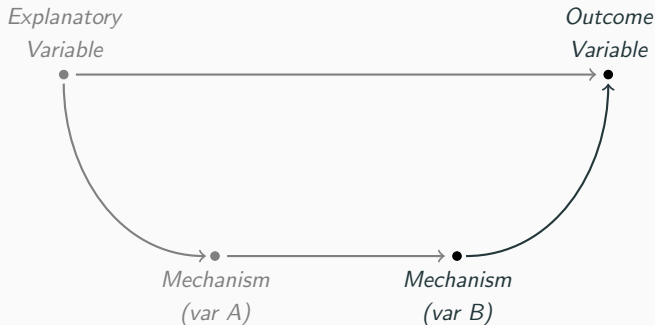
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## Presenting results: Paper format

1. Produce a nicely formatted table for your results
  - R packages: `stargazer`, `texreg`, `modelsummary`
  - Output tables in *e.g.* Word, HTML,  $\text{\LaTeX}$ , or R Markdown
  - Check (and change) defaults: what are the significance levels?
  - Do notes report significance levels and other information?
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3. Often a visualization tells more than 1000 words or tables
  - Use informative axis labels
  - Help the reader with colors and symbols
  - Do **not** suppress axis origins when studying relative changes
  - Forget about piecharts

## Presenting results: PowerPoint format

1. Focus on the main result when in a PowerPoint presentation:  
Which result really matters for your argument?
2. No need to report all your nice robustness tests
3. Do **not** report result tables in a PowerPoint presentation: find better ways! E.g.: visualizations

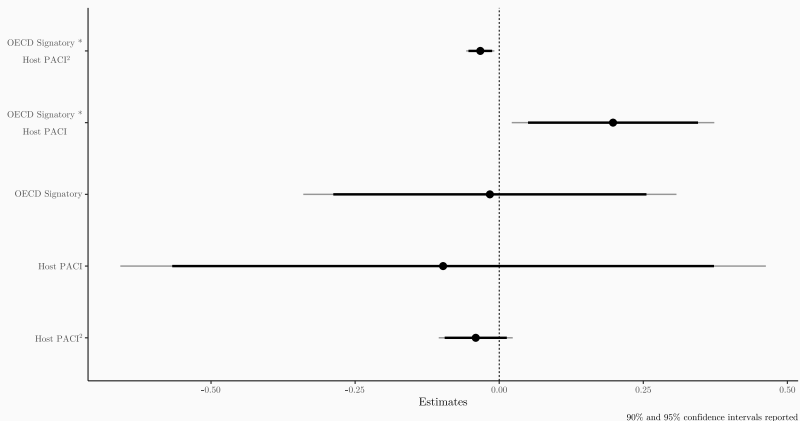
# Regression tables in your slides?

	<i>Dependent variable:</i>				
	Subsidiary				
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
OECD Ratifier × Host PACI <sup>2</sup>	−0.033** (0.012)	−0.038** (0.013)	−0.023+ (0.013)	−0.031* (0.013)	−0.034* (0.013)
OECD Ratifier × Host PACI	0.197* (0.090)	0.225* (0.092)	0.163+ (0.090)	0.206* (0.096)	0.220* (0.096)
OECD Ratifier	−0.016 (0.165)	−0.034 (0.192)	−0.213 (0.246)	−0.267 (0.205)	−0.282 (0.205)
Host PACI <sup>2</sup>	−0.041 (0.033)	0.013 (0.029)	0.003 (0.026)	0.011 (0.027)	0.013 (0.028)
Host PACI	−0.097 (0.286)	−0.007 (0.242)	0.023 (0.221)	−0.008 (0.230)	−0.036 (0.231)
Random intercepts	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Industry intercepts					Yes
Country-level controls		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Dyad-level controls			Yes	Yes	Yes
Firm-level controls				Yes	Yes
N. of host countries	85	84	84	84	84
N. of home countries	62	61	61	58	57
Observations	320,913	315,657	315,657	289,732	285,295
Log Likelihood	−31,266.030	−31,117.490	−30,957.630	−25,107.560	−24,775.210
Akaike Inf. Crit.	62,550.060	62,272.990	61,961.250	50,267.110	49,604.410

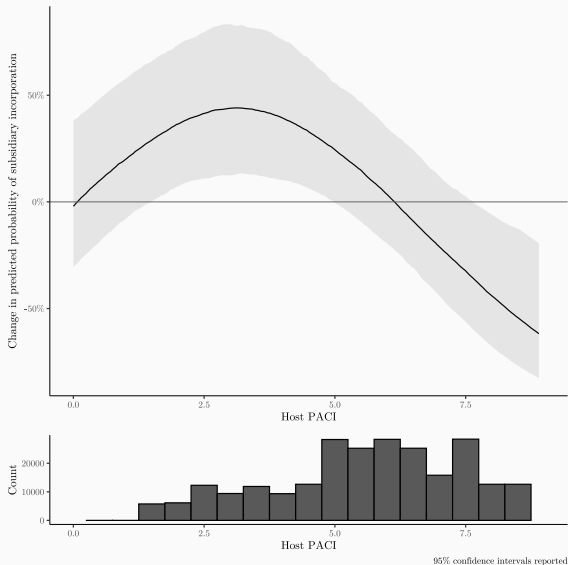
*Note:*

+  $p < 0.1$ , \*  $p < 0.05$ , \*\*  $p < 0.01$ , \*\*\*  $p < 0.001$

# Coefficient plots are much better for slides!



## Or even better: We can plot marginal effects!



# **Mock research presentation**

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**Global Firms and Global Sheriffs?  
Why Territory Matters for  
Extraterritorial Regulation of Global  
Corporate Crime**

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2. 2012: “Royal Imtech NV” (NL) allegedly pays \$150,000 in bribes for projects at the new Berlin-Brandenburg airport. German authorities prosecuted the company in 2016. US authorities did not intervene.  
→ **Why did US authorities investigate the first case and not the second one?**

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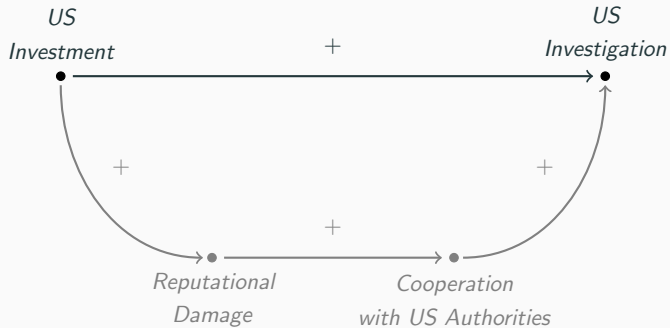
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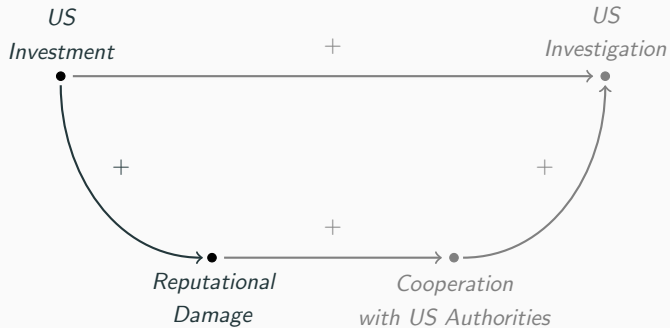
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**What allows authorities to exercise their extraterritorial regulatory power?**

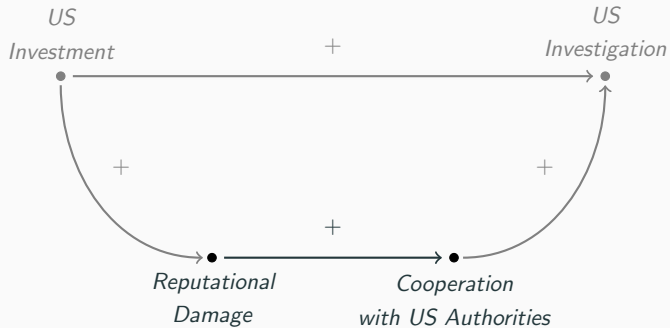
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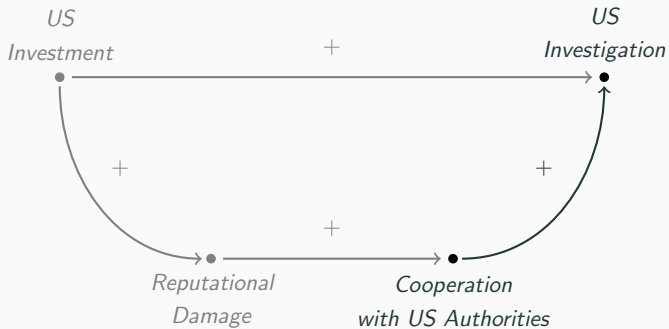
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Anti-bribery data:

- Web-scrape 841 documents from the TRACE Compendium (collection of worldwide anti-bribery actions)
- Bribes paid by 767 companies (from 75 countries). I keep 425 non-US companies
- **DV:** I measure whether the US ever investigated them (binary, *Investigation*)

# Data collection

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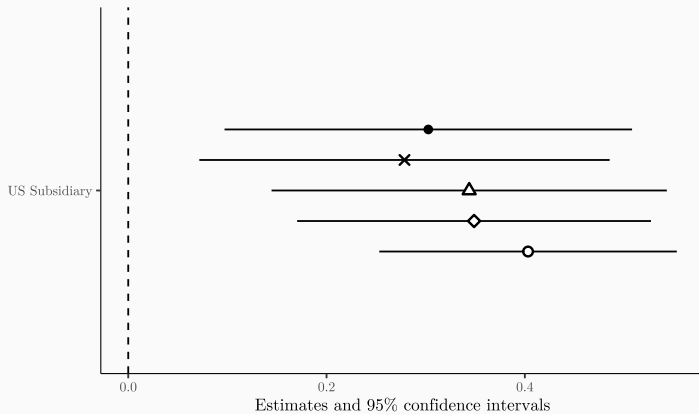
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## US exposure data:

- Orbis data for activity of 402 of these companies around the world
- **IV:** I measure whether they are present in the US through a majority-owned subsidiary (binary, *US Subsidiary*)

- A simple linear probability model of *Investigation*
- Inclusion of controls for:
  - Global reach
  - Size of parent firm
  - Home country FE
  - Industry FE

# Results



—○—    —◇—    —△—    —×—    —●—  
(1) No controls   (2) Global reach   (3) Parent controls   (4) Country FE   (5) Industry FE

# Conclusion

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  - Beyond the “Retreat of the State” from markets

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- Territory still matters, even for powerful extraterritorial regulators
- Project on re-conceptualization of territorial sovereignty in regulatory globalization
  - Beyond the “Retreat of the State” from markets
  - 1. Extension of regulatory arms beyond borders does not undermine private economic activity
  - 2. **Actual exercise of regulatory extraterritorial prerogatives is bound by territorial connections**
  - 3. Cross-border corporate ownership networks propagate reputational damage induced by states’ judicial activity

# Thank you!

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Thank you, I look forward to your comments!

Lorenzo Crippa  
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## Wrap up

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To wrap up, don't forget to:

- State your research question explicitly. Make it end with a question mark
- Streamline your argument and make an explicit prediction
- Present your results in a simple fashion, depending on the presentation format

# Thanks for watching!

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Thanks for watching this video!

After watching videos 1, 2, and 3 you're all set for our two 2h workshops.