

# Abstract

With populism on the rise across the world, we create a synthetic control model to test their impacts on economy. There are 18 populist leaders chosen for the analysis, also divided between left-wing and right-wing populists. In each of these cases, we ask how the populist's rise to power impacted some of the major economic factors. We show that there is an initial positive impact on GDP growth, which then diminishes after approximately 10 years. There is a substantial difference of how the elections of left- and right-wing populists impact income inequality and investor confidence.