

A high-angle, monochromatic blue-toned photograph. In the upper right corner, the lower legs and bare feet of a person standing on a large, detailed map. A long, dark shadow of the person is cast across the map towards the left. The map shows various geographical features, cities, and state boundaries. The text is overlaid in the lower half of the image.

The problem of “Othering” is the  
problem of the 21st century.



# “Othering,” defined...

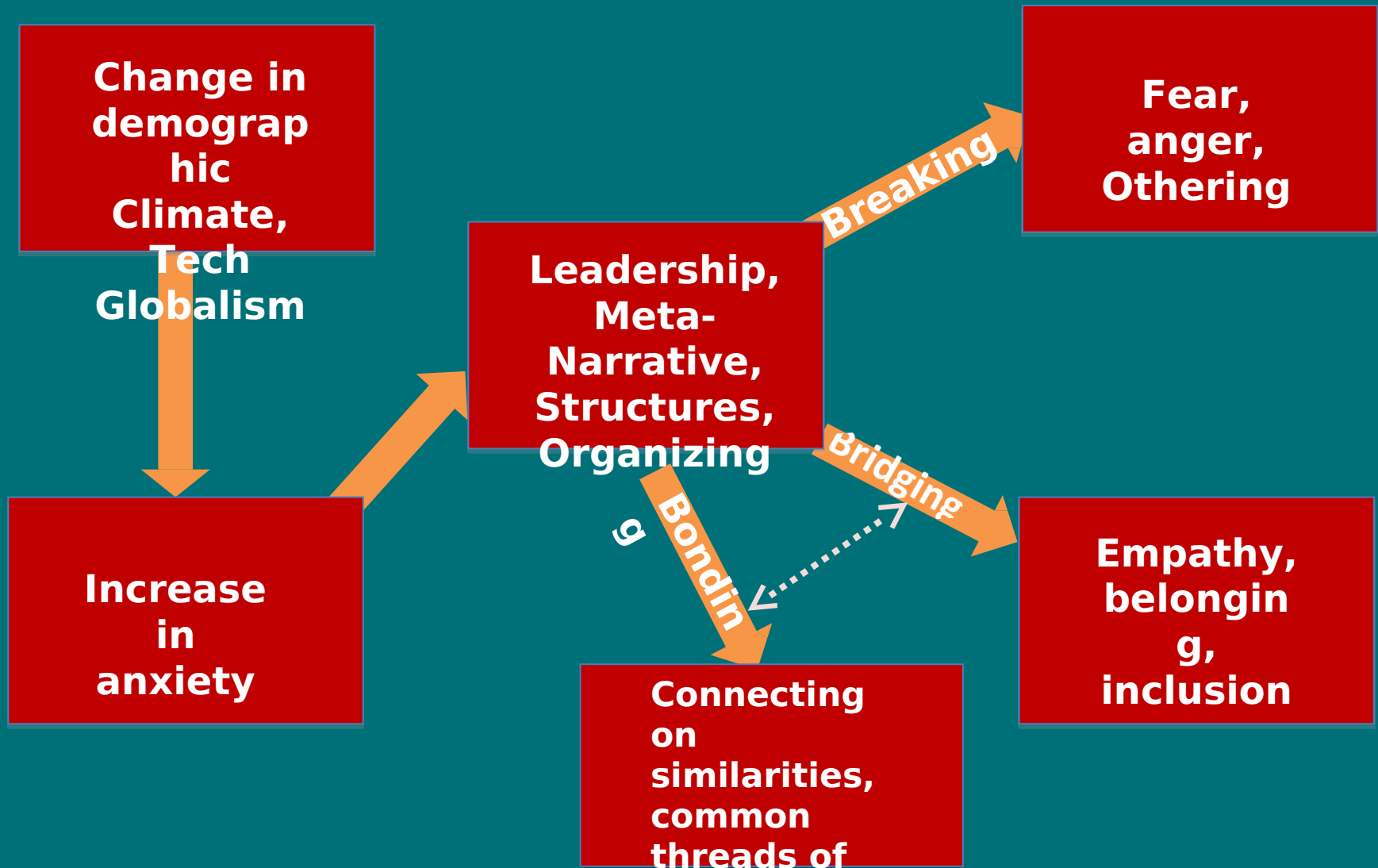
We define othering as a set of processes, structures, and dynamics that denies full humanity and belonging across any of the full range of human differences. Othering and marginality can occur on a group basis or at the individual level.



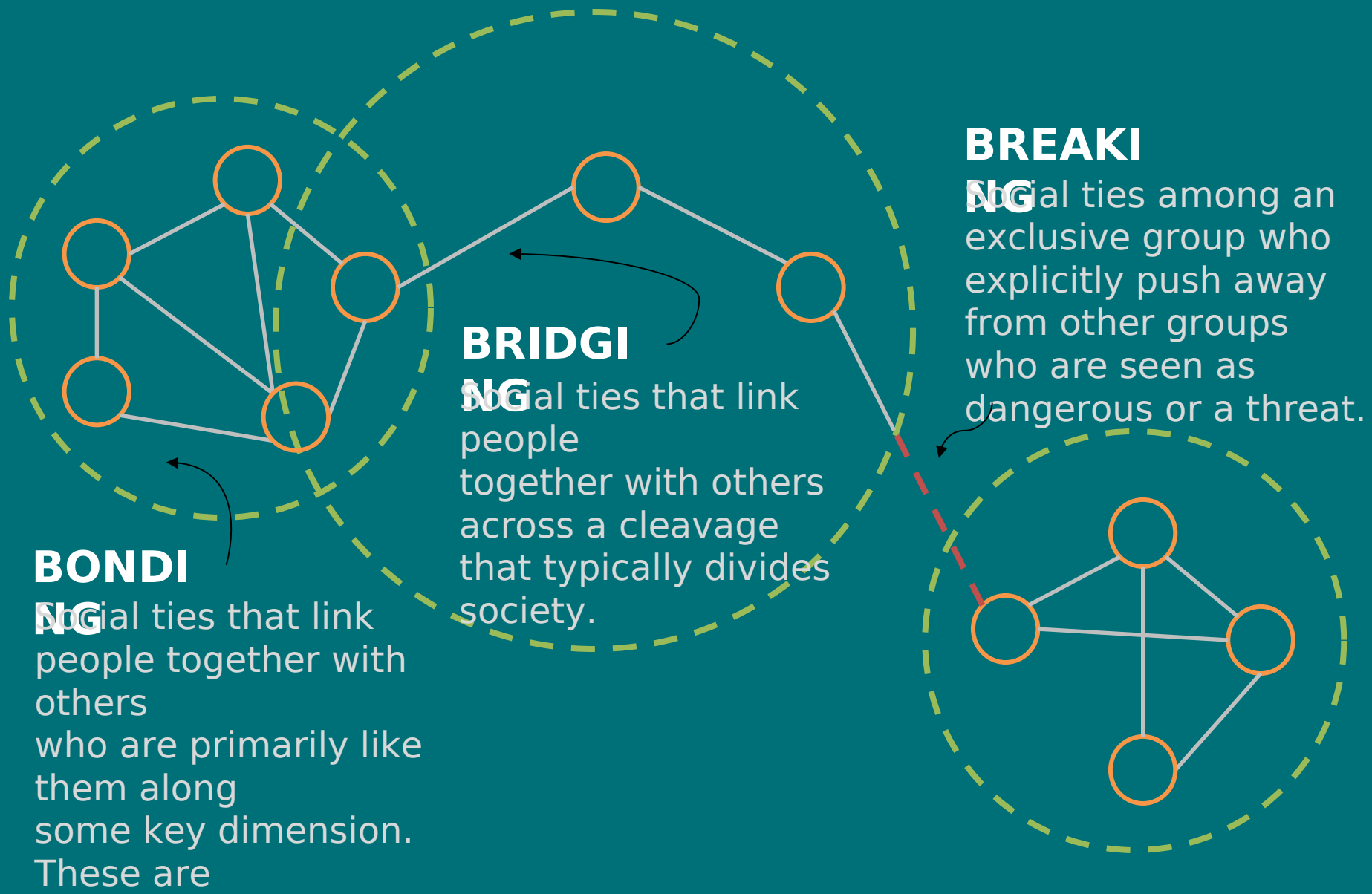


**Othering** is a generalized set of common processes that engender marginality and persistent inequality across any of the full range of human differences.

# Rapid change produces collective anxiety:

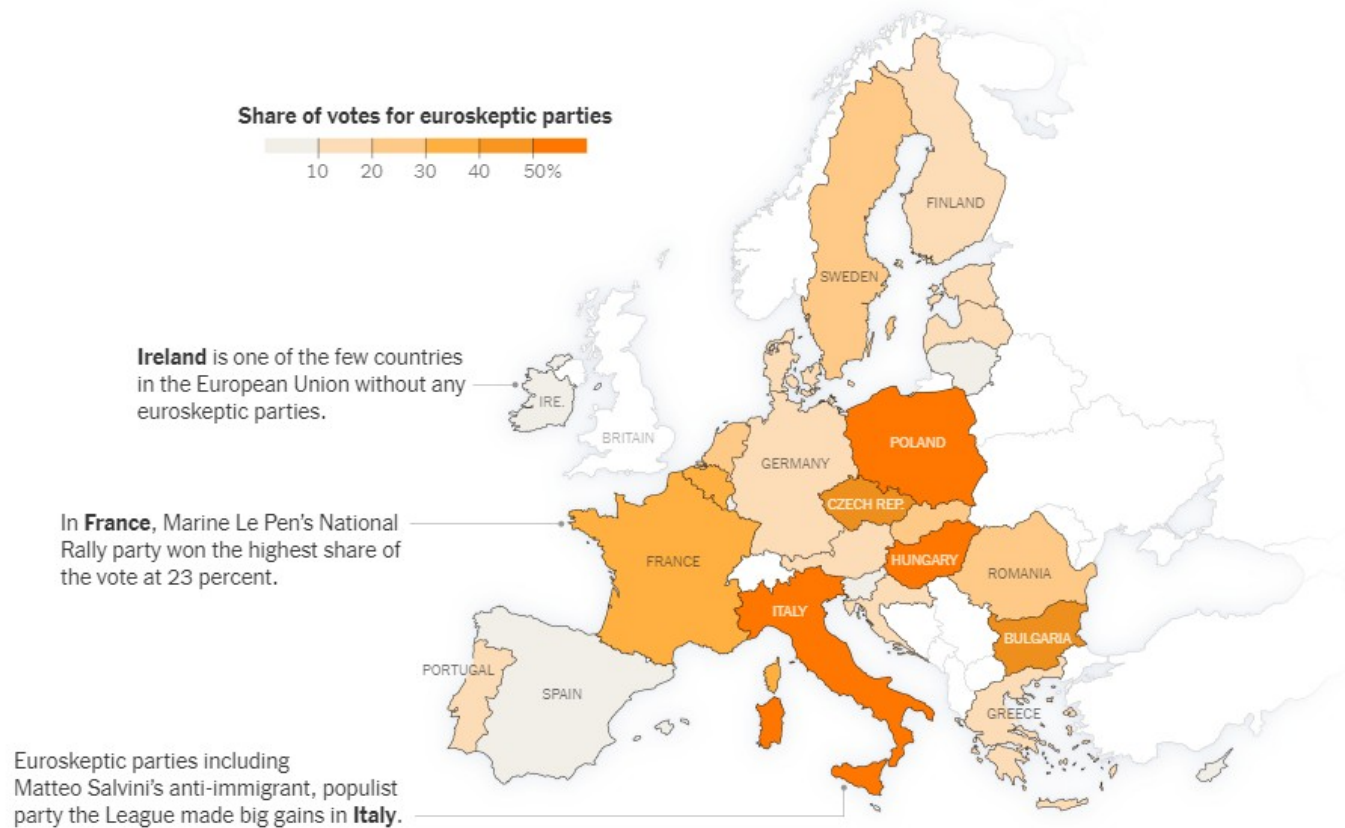


# Putnam's types of social capital:



# Nationalist Surge – The Rise of Anti-EU Sentiment

## Where Voters Rallied Behind Anti-European Union Parties



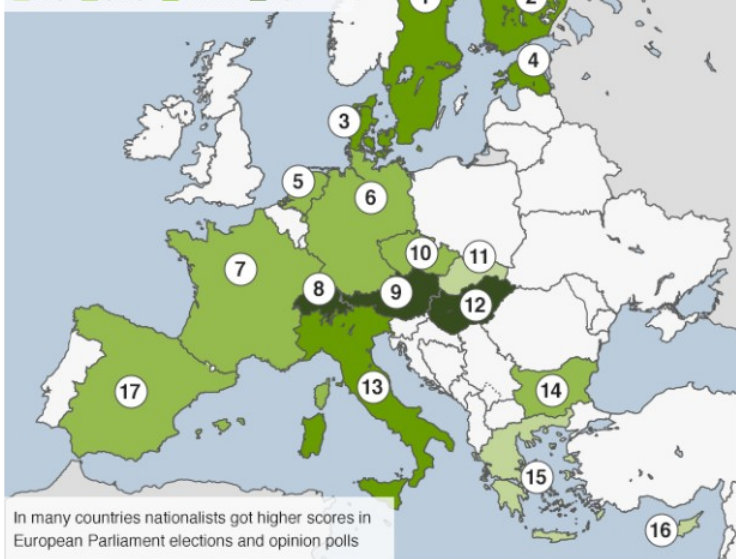
Source: New York Times

# Rise in Votes for Nationalist Parties

## Rise of nationalism in Europe

% of votes won by nationalist party  
in most recent national elections

1-8 9-16 17-24 25+



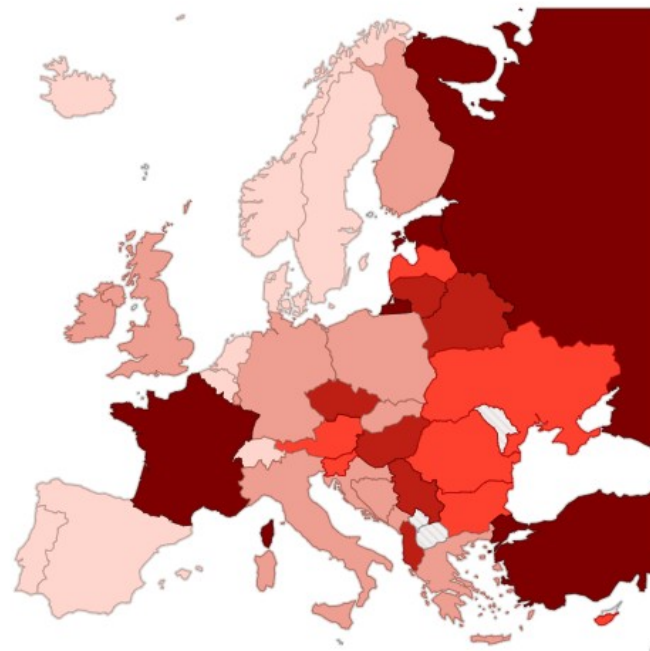
- |  |  |
|--|--|
| ① <b>Sweden</b><br>Sweden Democrats <b>17.6%</b>             | ⑩ <b>Czech Republic</b><br>Freedom and Direct Democracy <b>11%</b> |
| ② <b>Finland</b><br>The Finns <b>17.7%</b>                   | ⑪ <b>Slovakia</b><br>Our Slovakia <b>8%</b>                        |
| ③ <b>Denmark</b><br>Danish People's Party <b>21%</b>         | ⑫ <b>Hungary</b><br>Fidesz <b>49%</b> , Jobbik <b>19%</b>          |
| ④ <b>Estonia</b><br>Conservative People's Party <b>17.8%</b> | ⑬ <b>Italy</b><br>The League <b>17.4%</b>                          |
| ⑤ <b>Netherlands</b><br>Freedom Party <b>13%</b>             | ⑭ <b>Bulgaria</b><br>United Patriots <b>9%</b>                     |
| ⑥ <b>Germany</b><br>Alternative for Germany <b>12.6%</b>     | ⑮ <b>Greece</b><br>Golden Dawn <b>7%</b>                           |
| ⑦ <b>France</b><br>National Rally <b>13%</b>                 | ⑯ <b>Cyprus</b><br>ELAM <b>3.7%</b>                                |
| ⑧ <b>Switzerland</b><br>Swiss People's Party <b>29%</b>      | ⑰ <b>Spain</b><br>Vox <b>10.3%</b>                                 |
| ⑨ <b>Austria</b><br>Freedom Party <b>26%</b>                 |  |

Source: BBC



# Measuring Xenophobia

**Percent of Respondents in Europe Who Wouldn't Want Immigrants or Foreign Workers as Neighbors, 2005-2009**



Percent of Individuals Surveyed Who Did Not Want an Immigrant or a Foreign Worker as a Neighbor



Source: [World Values Survey, 2005-2009](#) | [Get The Data](#) | [Embed](#)

*The Atlantic*

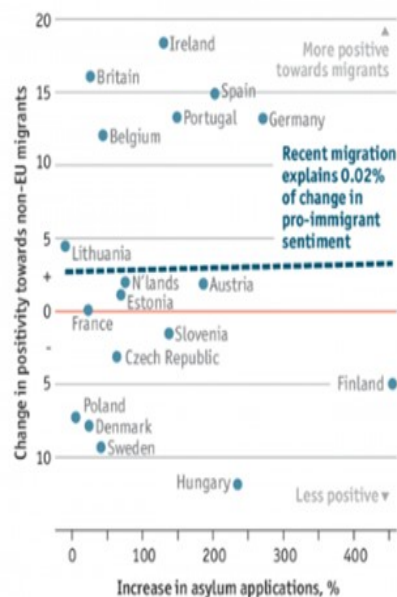


# Homogenous Nations Are the Most Anti-Immigrant

## Unfamiliarity breeds contempt

Sentiment towards non-EU migrants\*, 2014-18, percentage-point change

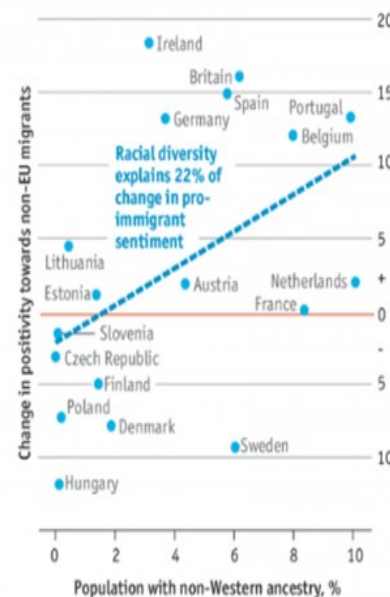
Increase in asylum applications  
2013-14 to 2015-16



Sources: Eurobarometer; Eurostat; European Social Survey

The Economist

Share of population with non-Western ancestry  
2014, %

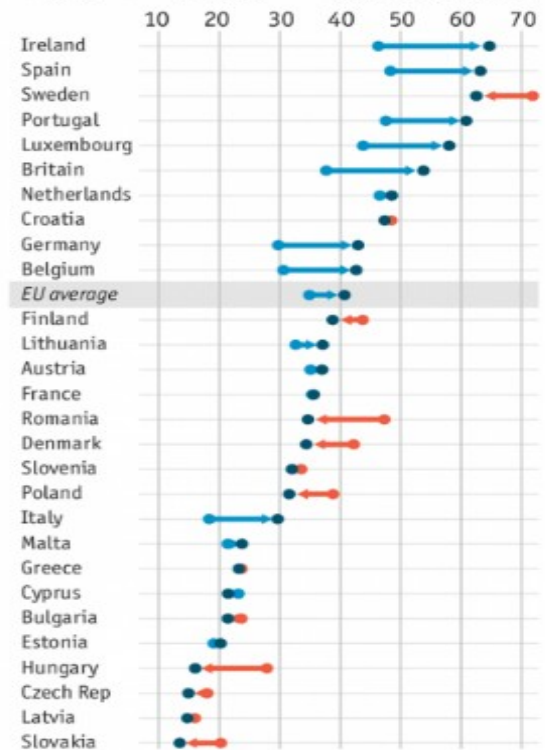


\*Selected EU countries where ancestry data is available

## Diverse views

European Union, positive sentiment towards non-EU migrants, %

● 2018 ● increase ● decrease from 2014



Sources: Eurobarometer; Eurostat; European Social Survey

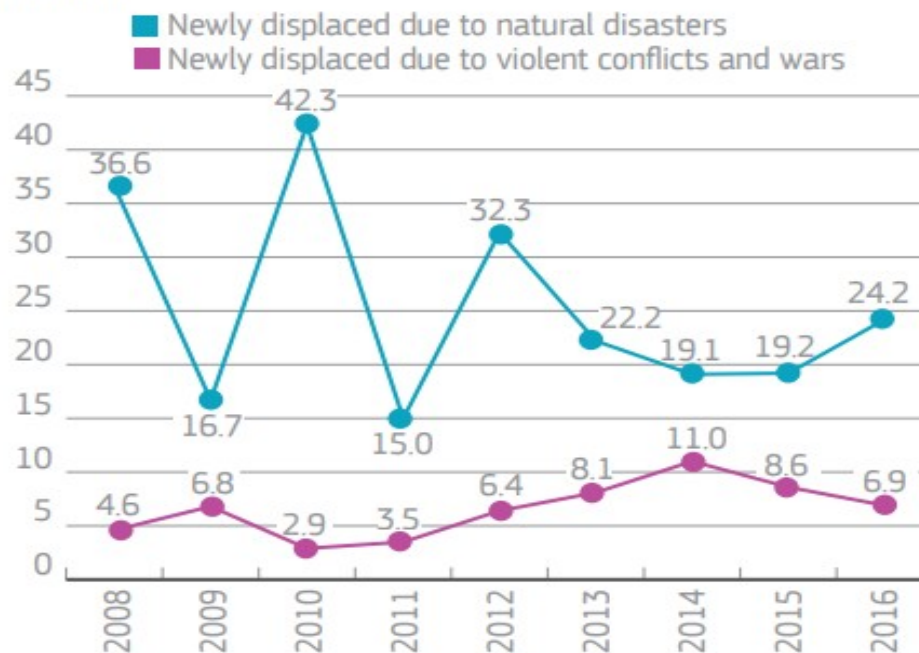
The Economist

# Climate Change is Major Driver of Global Migration

## Many more people internally displaced by 'natural' disasters than by violent conflicts and civil wars

Internally displaced people, 2008-2016

In millions

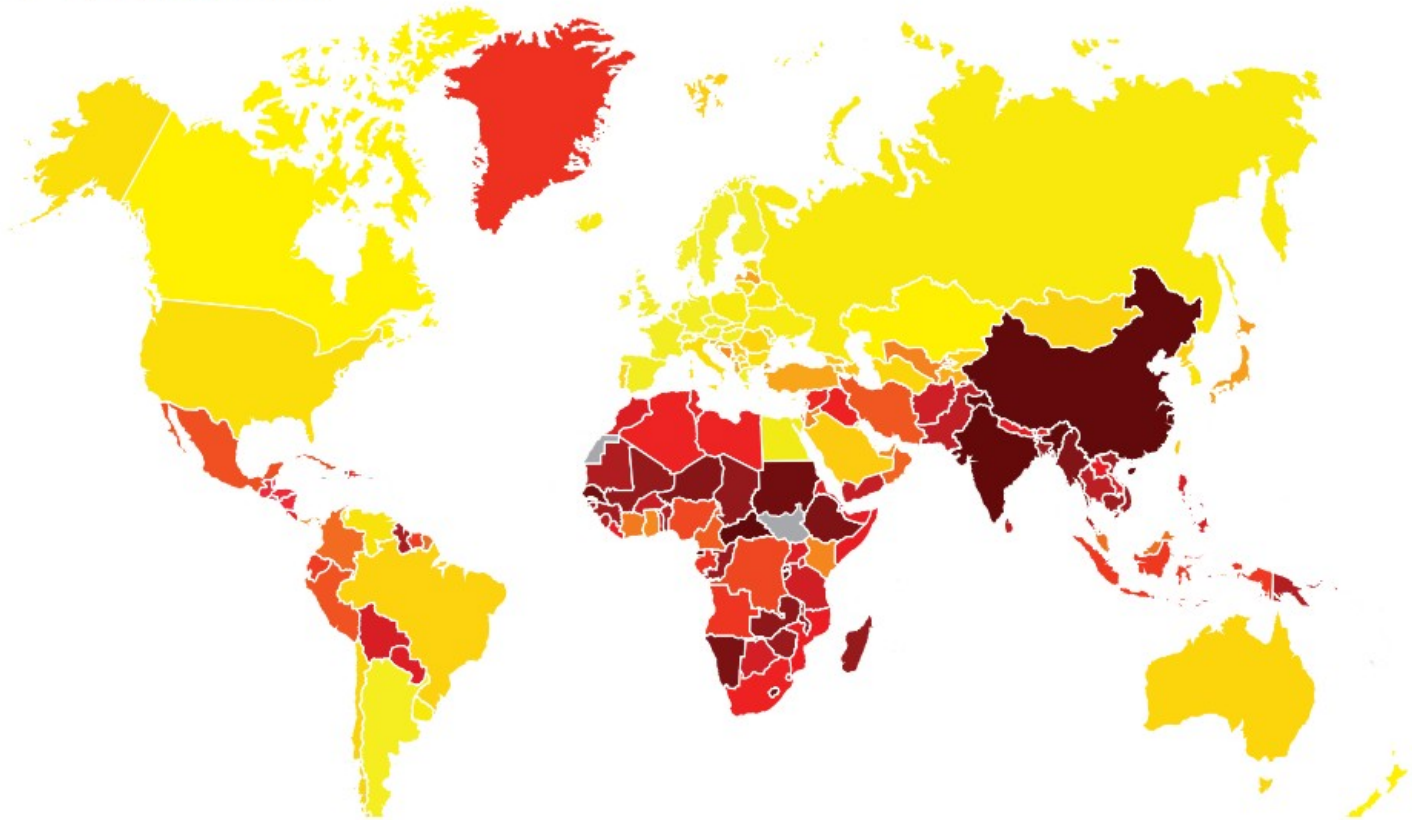


Source: Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre

# Climate Change Vulnerability

Climate change places the largest burden on already vulnerable regions

high risk ■■■■■ low risk



Note: Risk refers to climate impacts such as extreme weather, sea level rise, agricultural productivity loss.

Source: Centre for Global Development

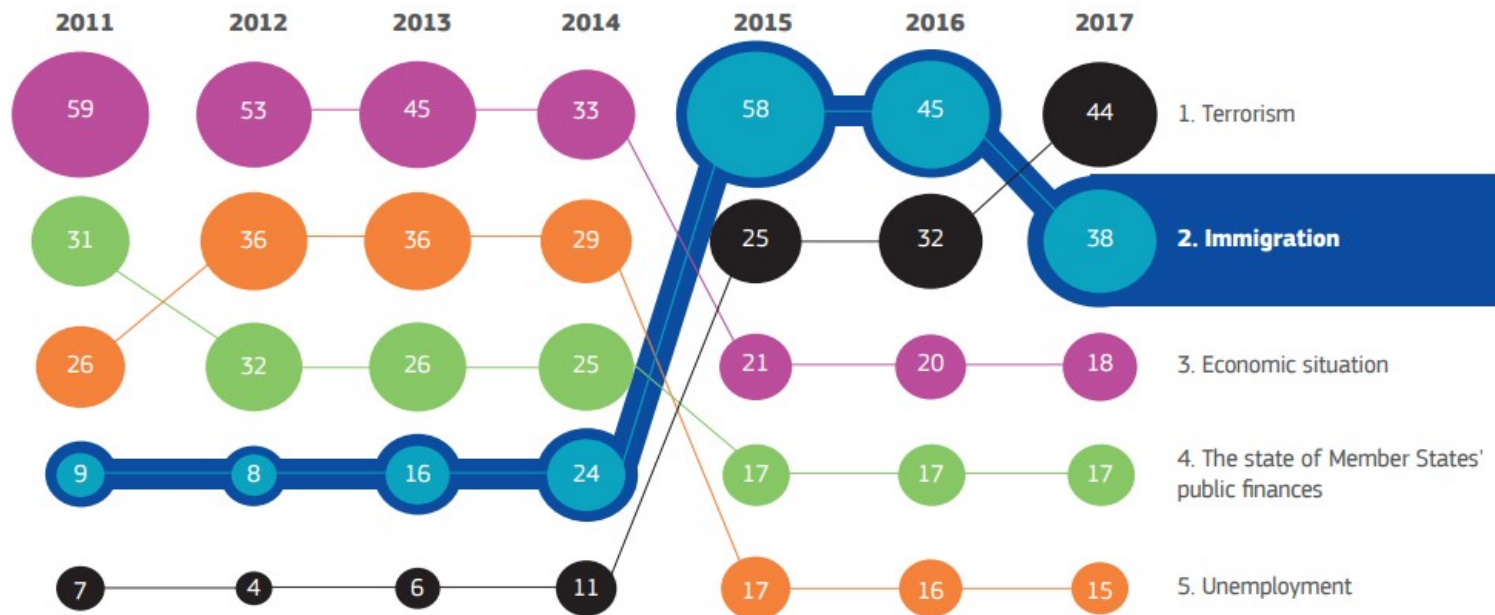
Source: European Commission



# Europeans Deeply Concerned with Immigration

## Most important issues of concern that the EU is facing, 2011-2017

in %



Source: Eurobarometers 79 to 87

Note: Up to two priorities could be mentioned in the interview

Source: European Commission

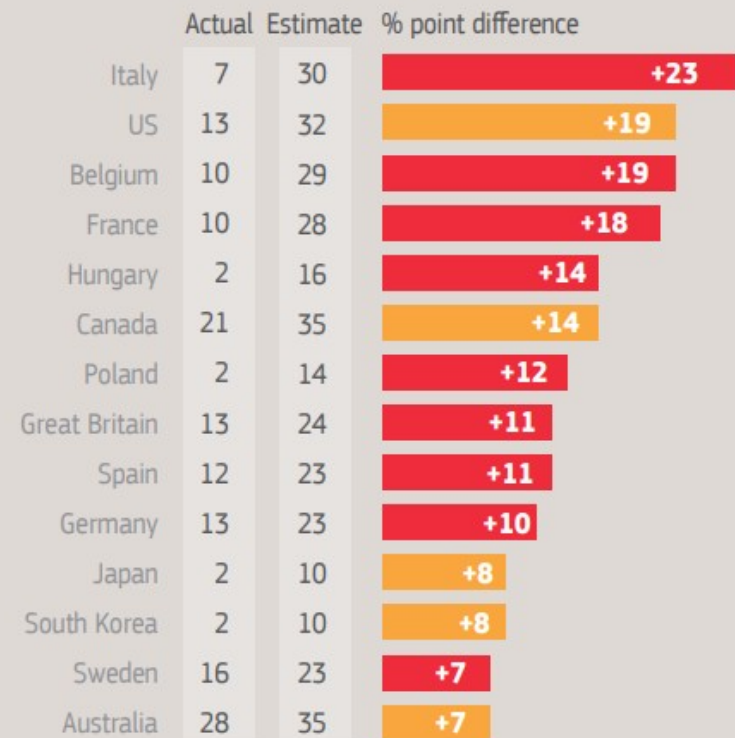
# Attitudes on Immigration and Perceptions of the Economy

## ATTITUDES TOWARDS MIGRATION ARE RELATED TO PEOPLE'S PERCEPTIONS OF THEIR COUNTRY'S ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

- In nearly all regions around the world, people who assess the economic situation of their country as 'excellent' or 'good' are more likely to have a positive outlook on migration than those who consider it is 'fair' or 'poor'.
- Those who consider that conditions are worsening are nearly twice as likely to favour decreased immigration than those who consider conditions are improving (48.0% vs. 25.3%).<sup>18</sup>

## People usually overestimate the share of migrants living in their country

Responses to the question: What percentage of the country's population do you think are immigrants?



Source: Ipsos Mori, 2016 'Perils of Perception', <https://www.ipsos.com/ipsos-mori/en-uk/perceptions-are-not-reality-what-world-gets-wrong>

# Sacred Symbols







EXCLUSION

INCLUSION

EQUITABLE  
INCLUSION

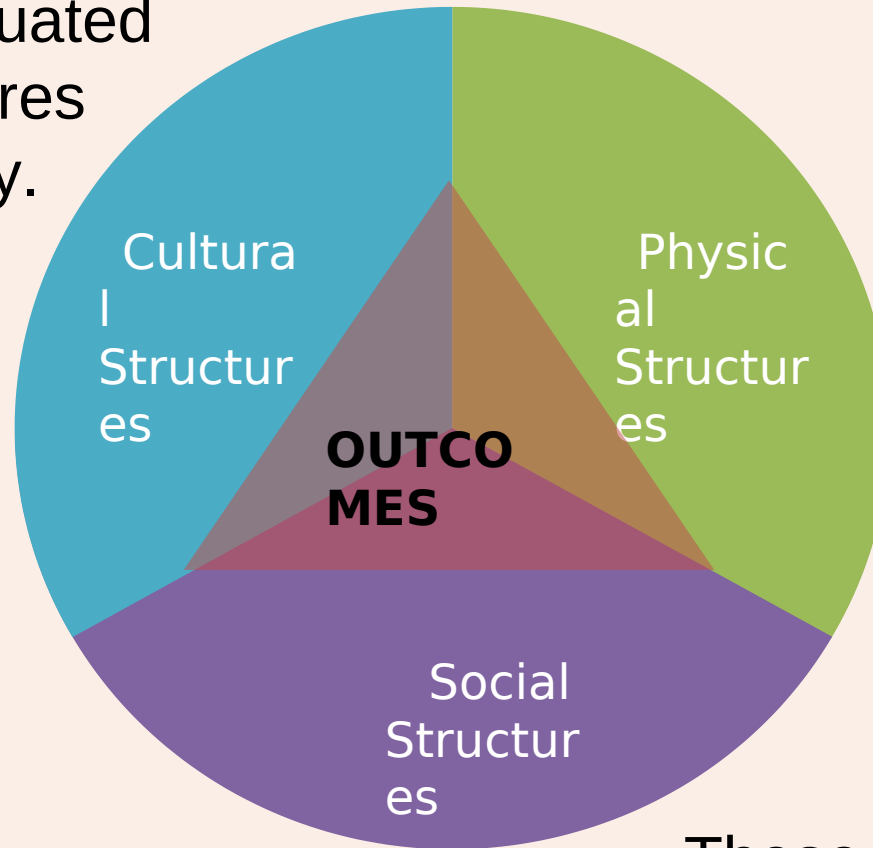
Bridge — Listen, engage, organize, love.

o is in the circle of human conce



# Othering & belonging within structures

We are all situated within structures but not evenly.



Structures are not neutral.

Power gives us greater positive access to structures and more ability to shape structures.

These structures interact in ways that produce a differential in outcomes.



# Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs

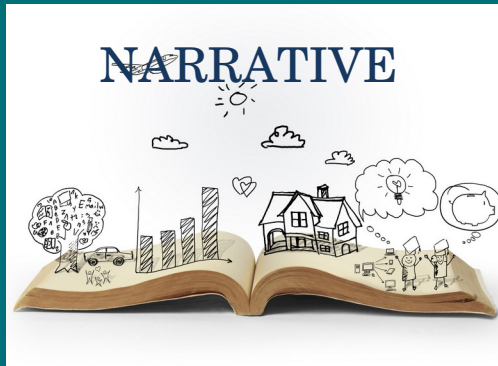




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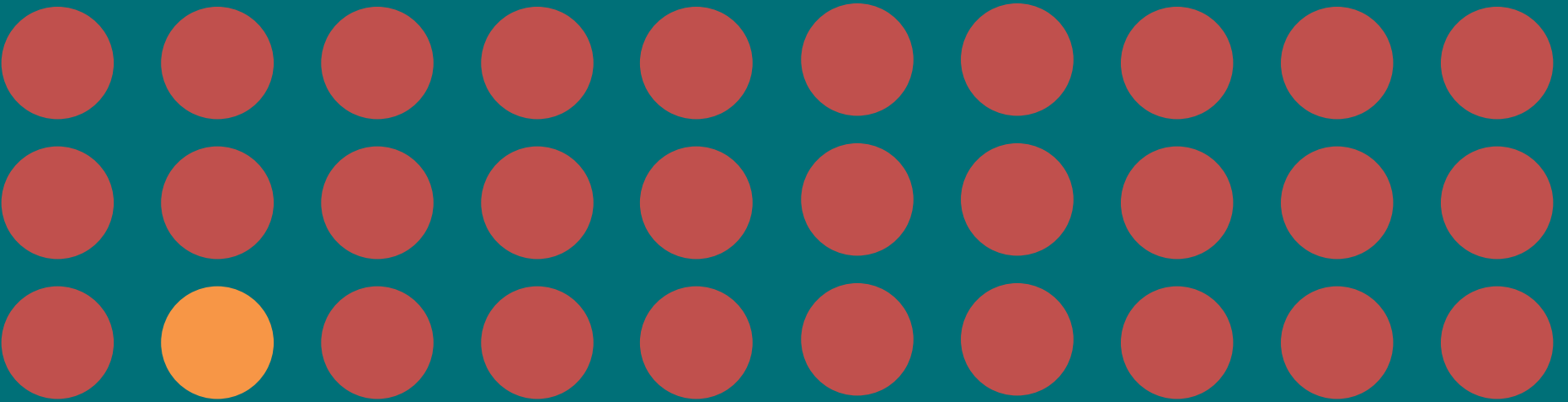


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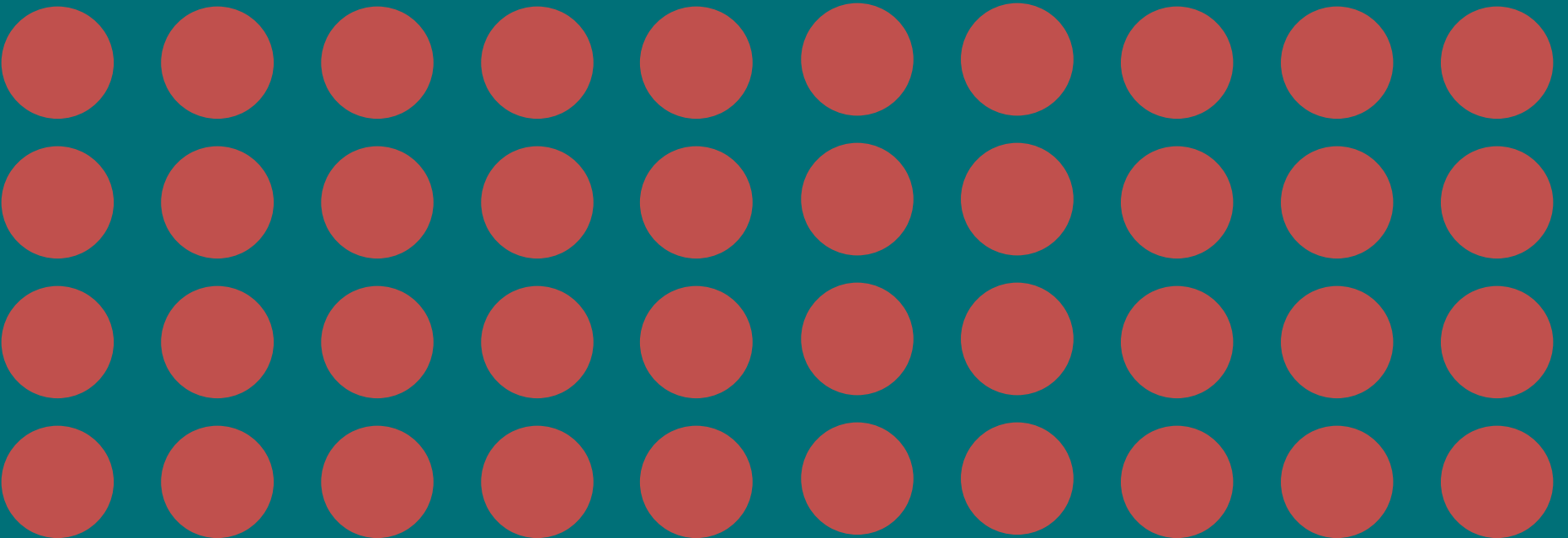


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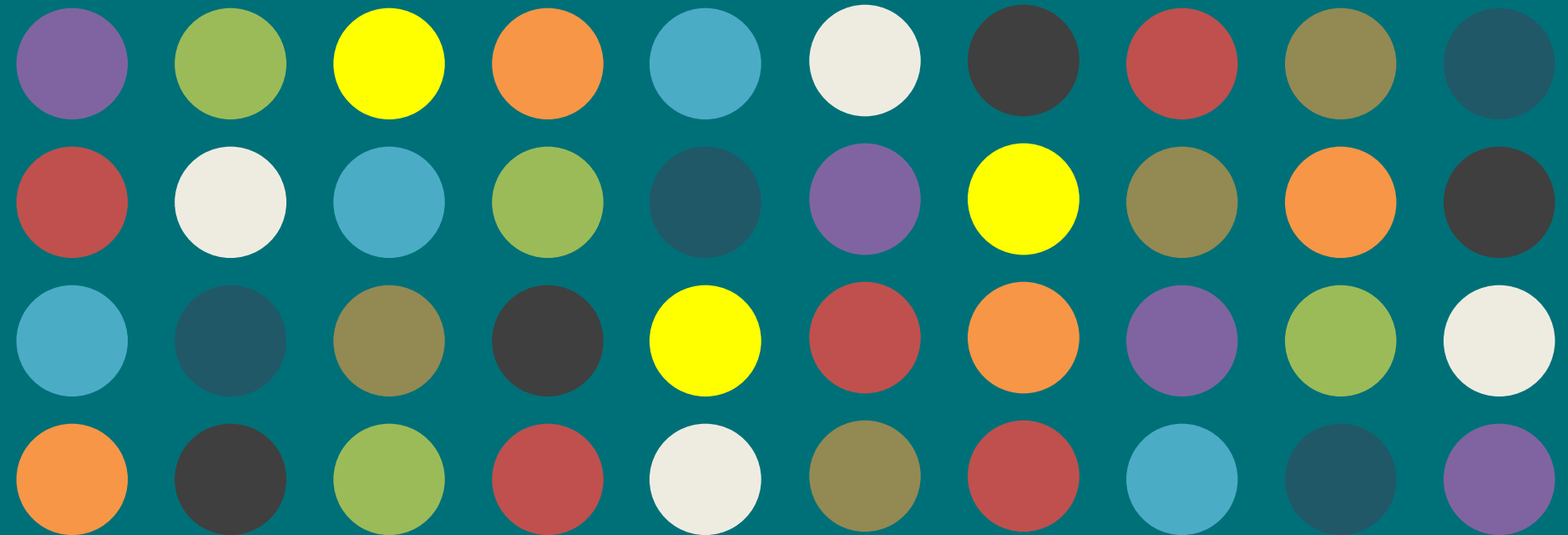
The opposite of Othering is not “saming.”







It is belonging.



# RACING TO JUSTICE

*transforming our conceptions of self and other  
to build an inclusive society*

*john a. powell*

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