

**National Variants of the European anti-biotech movement: a comparative study of Austria, Germany, France, Spain and the United Kingdom**  
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Although the European anti-biotech movement is one of the most impacting anti-technology/ecology movements in recent times, little research has been conducted to investigate it in a systematic manner and from a methodological perspective designed to analyse protest movement behaviour. As this movement has been operative and effective in the trans-national sphere as well as in a great number of countries, its investigation can yield insights into the role that national publics still play for movements in a historic period of social trans- and political supra-nationalisation. I will present the results of a protest-event analysis comparing anti-biotech movements in five European countries: Austria, Germany, France, Spain and the United Kingdom. The quantitative approach allows the systematic national comparison of these movements, in terms of intensity, timely evolution, actors, protest methods and interaction with the state. The fact that each of these movements proves quite specific hints at the lasting importance of contextual variables and historic path dependency for the explanation of movement behaviour and success. The specific character of the French movement stands out in particular and calls for explanation.