



# Environment citizenship and citizen-consumer: Individual actor's role in the environmental question

Leena Haanpää

University of Turku, Turku Center for child  
and youth studies

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# Background

- The transition to the global economy has brought new societal challenges both for the macro as for the micro level actors.
- During the constant economic growth dependency on raw materials has been - except a necessity – also certainty
  - This has been impugned only by marginal groups, environmental groups for example



- The transition towards a sustainable society dependent on both the macro and the micro level
  - The institutions and authorities
  - The individuals who in the end will or will not make the change



# Environment citizenship

- Social cohesio and environment citizenship
- Social cohesio means the solidarity related to environmental questions.
- Two dimensions
  - intergenerational
  - transversal solidarity
- Transversal solidarity relates especially to European and in general to the Western societies.



# Data

- Flash Eurobarometer 123 (2002) N=7533, 15 EU countries
- Flash Eurobarometer 65.2 (2006) 29 EU countries, N=29 220)
- The analysis test the explanation power of ecological foot print as a macro-level independent variable
- Also micro-level variables are used to explain citizen-consumer and environment citizenship as it comes to responsible consumption choices.



## Three areas of life and their influence on quality of life. ("Very much")

	<b>Social factors</b> (N=7386)	<b>State of the environment</b> (N=7461)	<b>Economy</b> (N=7367)
<b>Austria</b>	37	43	36
<b>Belgium</b>	35	43	31
<b>Denmark</b>	34	37	23
<b>Finland</b>	22	25	11
<b>France</b>	28	<b>47</b>	25
<b>Germany</b>	17	23	24
<b>Great Britain</b>	23	25	19
<b>Greece</b>	40	40	<b>44</b>
<b>Ireland</b>	22	28	25
<b>Italy</b>	30	44	31
<b>Luxembourg</b>	25	38	25
<b>Portugal</b>	<b>44</b>	37	37
<b>Spain</b>	28	29	31
<b>Sweden</b>	26	25	18
<b>The Netherlands</b>	25	20	20

EOS Gallup Europe 2002

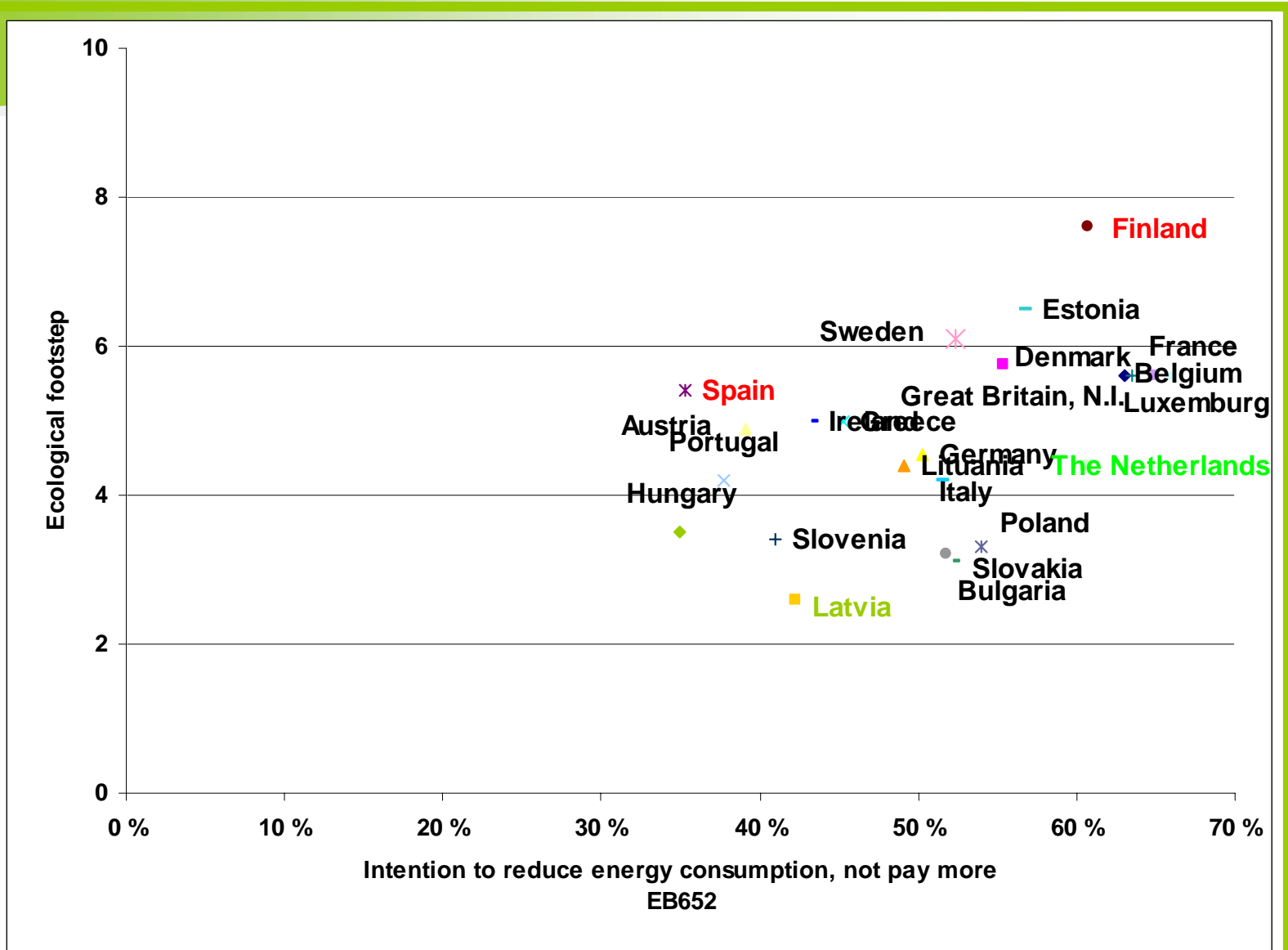
# Efforts from citizens regarding energy use (%) n=9786



	Not intend to change energy cons habits, pay more	Intend to reduce energy consumption, not pay more	Not intend to change energy cons habits, not pay more	Intend to reduce energy consumption, pay more
Austria	20	44	31	5
Belgium	4	70	16	9
Bulgaria	10	62	24	5
Bulgaria	10	62	24	5
Denmark	6	80	10	4
Estonia	13	68	18	1
Finland	14	73	11	1
France	7	72	14	7
Germany	14	56	26	4
Great Britain, N.I.	7	80	8	4
Greece	14	53	31	2
Hungary	19	39	39	2
Ireland	9	51	25	15
Italy	13	58	26	4
Latvia	14	55	30	1
Lituania	33	61	6	0
Luxemburg	4	77	10	10
Poland	13	69	17	1
Portugal	13	43	35	9
Romania	10	35	53	2
Romania	10	35	53	2
Slovakia	9	58	31	1
Slovenia	21	51	22	6
Spain	21	44	21	14
Sweden	8	64	24	5
The Netherlands	5	77	12	6
Turkey	4	73	20	3
Turkey	4	73	20	3



# Effects of ecological footprint and intentions to reducing energy consumption



# Results



- Economic and social factors are often more important effect on the quality of life than environment
- What about the intergenerational or transversal solidarity?
- In the long run environmental factors should become alongside with other macro factors
- However, those who have bigger ecological foot print seem to be more willing to the change