

# Explaining the French Partial Withdrawal From NATO

## Research Question

What specific combination of factors caused France to partially withdraw from NATO in 1966?

## Methodology

Small-N neopositivist approach:

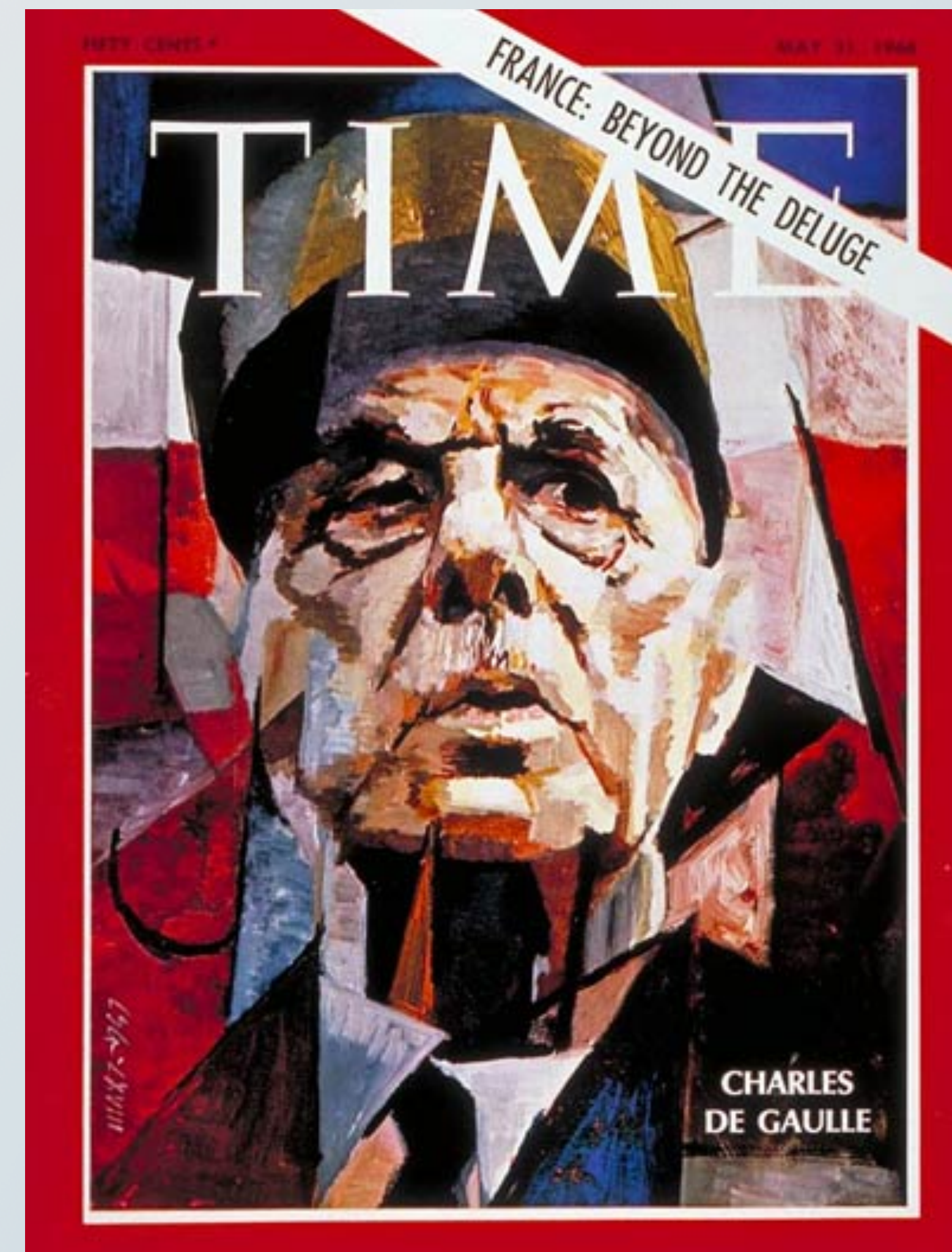
**Dependent Variable:** French Desire to Leave NATO (Low-Medium-High)

**Independent Variables:**

- *NATO's Utility to France* (Low- Medium- High)
- *Level of French Nationalism* (Low-Medium-High)
- *External Threat Levels* (Low- Moderate- High per state)

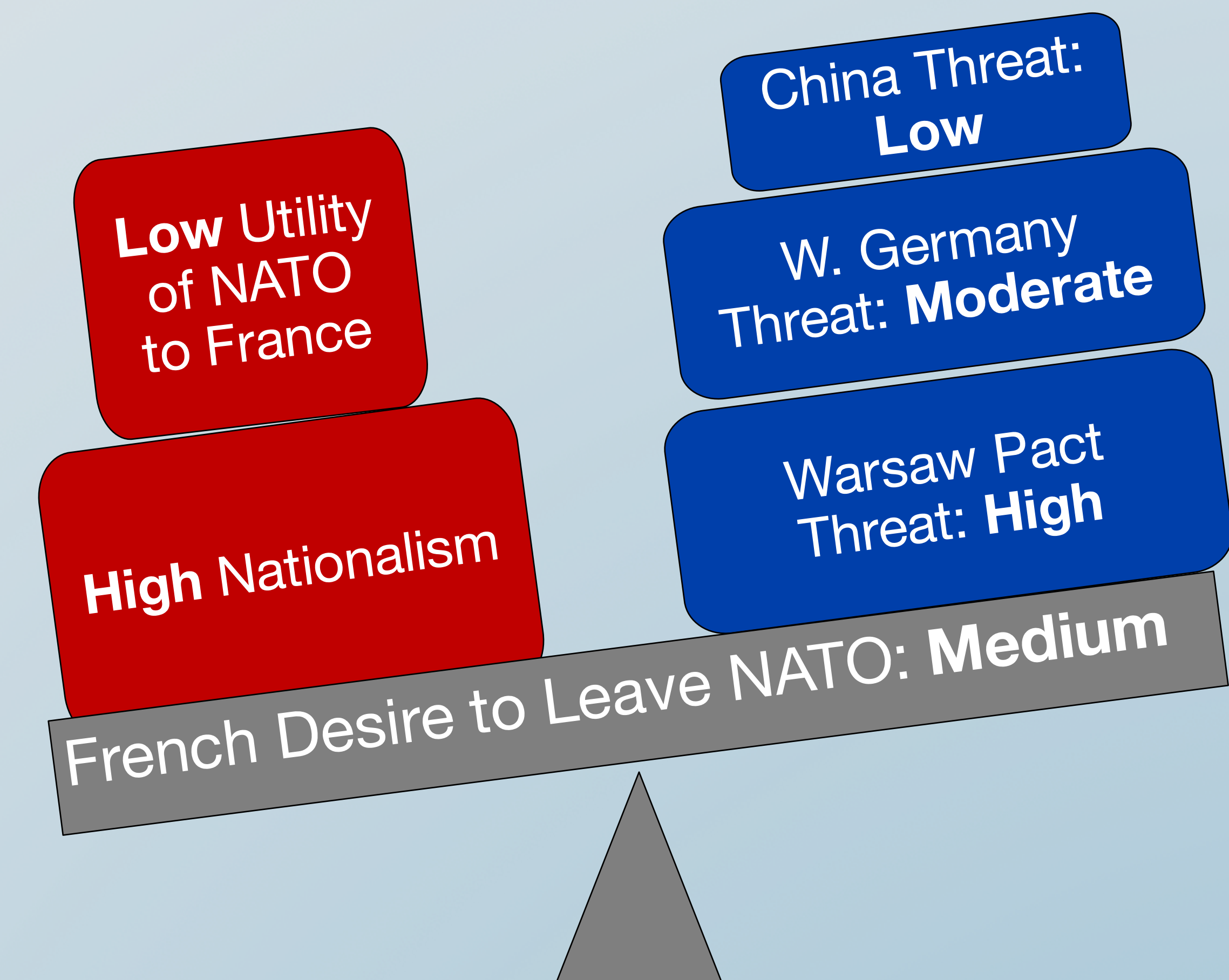
## Acknowledgements

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## Background Info

- 1958 to 1968 Europe
- Spans tenure of Charles de Gaulle as French President.
- Goals
  - Restoration of French political, economic, and military power
  - United Europe free from American meddling



## Implications And Conclusion

- Charles de Gaulle: Dually influenced by *Realism* and *Constructivism*
  - External threats convinced France to remain politically enmeshed with the Atlantic Alliance.
  - The desire for sovereignty and NATO's inability/unwillingness to help the French in Algeria caused France to leave the military command structure
- Modern-day NATO needs to be wary of increasing nationalistic elements within its member states. Without a degree of pragmatic realism, full withdrawals are possible.