

Germany Group III :

Internet

I. What is populism

populism includes political ideas and activities that are intended to get the support of ordinary people by giving them what they want.

II. Do you think populism is present in your country? In what ways?

I think populism exists in Germany and as an example we've got the internet. The internet gives populism the chance to influence people by giving complicated facts or even fake news. That gives populists the power to get people having the same opinion like himself to move something big. For example Friday for Future (which many people are supporting, also on the internet) is also a big deal not just in Germany. Every striker is against the situation and the parliament, because they're not eco friendly or not eco-friendly enough what means the strikers are having requirements like putting lignite industries earlier down than it was planned. Populism, like the Friday for Future project, is on Twitter, Instagram or Facebook and all the (fake) news are spreading all over the internet, also in Germany.

III.Speech – Type of language.

Our example is a populist speech, by Alice Weidel a member of the German party AfD.

She criticizes the German system of pension because she thinks that there are too many pensioners who never paid their pension, especially foreigners.

The language she chose is very easy she doesn't use a lot of technical terms and she also uses some words that aren't appropriate to the audience she is speaking to, like „headscarf girls“ or „knife men“. That means she doesn't sound like she is speaking in front of politicians but rather like she is having a discussion with a friend.

She speaks very clearly, loud and aggressively and she looks often at her paper. Sometimes she keeps eye contact with some of the politicians and she even says names of politicians and criticizes them in front of the whole audience. Therefore she got gavelled, by Wolfgang Schäuble.

Most of the time she leans against the lectern and uses her hands to emphasize some important points in her speech.

She looks very aggressively with a little smile sometimes, which makes it seem like she is laughing at something/someone or she doesn't take it serious.