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A Growing Gender Divide? Gender-Role Attitudes Among Young Adults Across Nine World Regions Over Four Decades

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Abstract: Recent public discourse suggests a growing polarization between young men and women in gender-role attitudes. This research note evaluates this claim by examining long-term trends in gender-role attitudes among young adults (aged 20–29) across nine world regions over four decades. Drawing on pooled data from the World Values Survey, the International Social Survey Programme, the European Values Study, and the European Social Survey, we track three dimensions of gender egalitarianism covering attitudes towards gender equality in the public sphere, maternal work–family compatibility attitudes and attitudes toward gender roles in the private sphere. The results do not support the notion of a generalized gender polarization, as divergence does not occur across all dimensions. Attitudes regarding women’s and mothers’ paid work have become more egalitarian, and gender differences have narrowed or remained modest across most regions. By contrast, gender gaps persist in attitudes towards men’s labour market primacy and fathers’ suitability for childcare, and in some regions have widened, partly driven by declining egalitarianism among young men. Thus, convergence in views on women’s and mothers’ employment has not been matched by a comparable shift in attitudes toward men’s roles, pointing to an uneven transformation of gender norms with potential demographic implications.

Keywords: gender divide, gender gap, gender-role attitudes, young adults

JEL codes: J16, J21, J13

1. Introduction

Since the 1960s, substantial advances in gender equality have been achieved across both developed and developing countries. Progress has been exceptionally pronounced in the public sphere. Women's, including mothers', labor force participation has surged (World Bank, 2012), their representation in traditionally male-dominated fields has expanded (World Economic Forum, 2025), and their rates of educational attainment largely exceed those of men (UNESCO, 2025). Parallel to these structural shifts, research has documented a marked rise in egalitarian attitudes towards the presence of women in the public sphere and maternal employment (Pampel, 2011; Ebner et al., 2020).

Yet change has been more uneven in the private sphere. Although men's involvement in childcare has increased over time (Pailhe et al., 2021), this improvement has been slow and considerably smaller in magnitude compared to women's advances in education and employment (Goldscheider et al., 2015). Women continue to do more childcare and housework across the world (García-Mainar et al., 2011; Pailhé et al., 2021), despite being active in the labour market, increasingly full-time (OECD, 2022). This imbalance has led many scholars to argue that the "gender revolution" has been incomplete (England, 2010, Lomazzi, 2017). This has far-reaching demographic implications. When women widely participate in the labor market but men remain minimally involved in domestic work, tensions emerge between women's egalitarian aspirations and persistent everyday practices. These tensions discourage women from having children, leading to lower completed fertility, and may even destabilise unions (McDonald 2000, Goldscheider et al., 2015, Esping-Anderssen and Billari, 2015).

In this context, the recent public discourse has highlighted an even more alarmist development. While young women appear to increasingly adopt egalitarian attitudes, young men appear to shift towards more traditional views (Booth, 2024). This pattern is framed as evidence of a growing divide between young men and women and has been discussed as a potential factor underlying recent declines in union formation and childbearing (The Economist, 2024).

In general, it is well documented that women tend to have more egalitarian gender role attitudes than men (Begall et al., 2023; Grunow et al., 2018; Lois, 2020). Studies also find that these differences have remained largely stable over time, with both sexes becoming more egalitarian (Bornatici et al., 2020; Thijs et al., 2017, 2019; Arpino et al., 2015; Shorrocks, 2018). However, we know far less about how these trends have unfolded among young adults. Most research (Bornatici et al., 2020; Thijs et al., 2017, 2019; Arpino et al., 2015; Shorrocks, 2018)

relied on broad age groups, mixing multiple cohorts and life stages. This made disentangling cohort effects from period effects difficult. Evidence focusing explicitly on youth, particularly young adults at the life stage of union formation and childbearing, remains scarce. A notable exception is the study by Pepin and Cotter (2018) who examined trends in gender-role attitudes among U.S. high school seniors (aged 17–18) between 1976 and 2015, focusing on gender-role attitudes regarding women’s employment, the family domain (e.g., male breadwinning and male decision-making within the family), and maternal employment. Their results show that although young women consistently hold more egalitarian attitudes than young men, this gender gap has remained largely stable over time. Comprehensive evidence from other country contexts is, however, missing. Therefore, it remains unclear whether young men and women today are more divided in their gender-role attitudes than earlier cohorts of young adults.

This study contributes to the literature by providing a comprehensive, comparative perspective on the development of gender-role attitudes among young adults over time. Drawing on data from four major repeated cross-sectional surveys we examine gender differences in gender-role attitudes among young adults (aged 20–29) across nine diverse world regions, spanning across Europe, North and Latin America, as well as East and South Asia, over more than four decades. We document attitudes across three central dimensions of gender equality: attitudes toward gender equality in the public sphere, maternal work–family compatibility attitudes and attitudes toward gender roles in the private sphere. By combining broad geographic coverage, a long time span, and multiple domains of gender ideology, the analysis offers an integrated picture of how gender-role attitudes of young adults have evolved across diverse social contexts.

2. Methodology

2.1. Data and sample

We pooled data from two global surveys, namely the World Values Survey (WVS) and the International Social Survey (ISSP), and two European surveys, namely the European Values Study (EVS) and the European Social Survey (ESS). Because each survey-wave included different gender-role attitude measures, which are the focus of our analysis, we defined our sample based on the availability of data for these measures.

We began by harmonizing the gender-role attitude items that were available in at least two surveys (see Appendix Table A1). As prior research shows that gender-role attitudes are multidimensional (Grunow et al., 2018), we grouped these items into three analytically distinct

dimensions: (1) *attitudes towards gender equality in the public sphere*, referring to equal rights and opportunities in education, employment, and leadership; (2) *maternal work–family compatibility attitudes*, referring to beliefs about whether and under what conditions mothers' employment is compatible with children's well-being and family life; (3) *attitudes towards gender roles in the private sphere*, referring to the division of unpaid labor and caregiving responsibilities within the household. For these items we examined the total period coverage (see Appendix Table A2) and the country-period coverage (see Appendix Table A3). To improve comparability over time and increase the number of observations per period, we grouped the data into five periods (1981–1990; 1991–1999; 2000–2009; 2010–2016; 2017–2023), which do not cover equal intervals but are centered on the surveys analyzed. Based on these, we restricted the sample by focusing on measures that are available across all five periods¹, in order to maximize temporal coverage. Next, we examined country–period coverage and selected countries with data available in at least three periods across all four measures, in order to maximize country coverage and avoid situations in which some countries enter the observation period only sporadically. This resulted in four measures of gender-role attitudes covering the public sphere and maternal work–family compatibility, which are described in the next section.

However, after applying these criteria we would have excluded all items which concern gender role attitudes in the private sphere. This dimension entered large comparative surveys only in later waves, yet it has become central to contemporary debates and would be an important omission. For these reasons, we chose to include a measure of attitudes towards suitability of fathers to perform childcare. It is the only private-sphere indicator available in at least two of the analyzed surveys, although for only three instead of five periods and only a subset of countries. Its inclusion allows us to examine how men's domestic roles have evolved alongside women's growing participation in public life, consistent with the emphasis placed by the gender revolution on increasing gender equality in both public and domestic spheres.

Sample sizes for each country across the measures of gender-role attitudes are reported in Appendix Table A3. For analytical purposes, we further grouped the selected countries into

¹ We note that two additional items are available for four periods. We decided against applying a four-period threshold, since it would have led to a marked reduction in the number of countries with sufficient data across all measures, thereby limiting the comparative scope of the analysis. We therefore prioritized measures with full period coverage to retain a broader and more consistent set of countries over time.

regional clusters²: East Asia (*China, Japan, South Korea, Taiwan*); South Asia (*India, Philippines*); Eastern Europe (*Bulgaria, Czechia, Estonia, Hungary, Lithuania, Latvia, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia*); Germanic-speaking countries (*Austria, Switzerland, Germany*); Latin America (*Brazil, Chile, Mexico*), Anglosphere (*Canada, United States, Australia, New Zealand, United Kingdom*); Northern Europe (*Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden*); Southern Europe (*Spain, Greece, Croatia, Italy, Malta, Portugal*), and Western Europe (*Belgium, France, Ireland, Netherlands*).

2.2. Measures

Based on the selection criteria explained above, our analysis includes five measures of gender-role attitudes, captured through the following statements:

“Men should have more right to a job than women when jobs are scarce” (public sphere);

“Both the husband and wife should contribute to household income” (public sphere);

“When a mother works for pay, the children suffer” and (maternal work–family compatibility);

“A working mother can establish just as warm and secure a relationship with her children as a mother who does not work” (maternal work–family compatibility);

“Fathers are well suited to look after children” (private sphere).

Although selected based on data availability, these five items capture distinct dimensions of gender-role attitudes, namely: men’s primacy in the labor market; support for shared financial responsibility by jointly contributing to household income; perceived consequences of maternal employment for children’s well-being; compatibility of maternal employment with high-quality mother–child relationship, and paternal childcare.

The response scales for these items vary across surveys and countries, ranging from three- to five-point levels of agreement. As a result, constructing continuous measures of gender egalitarianism is not feasible. Therefore, we generated binary variables indicating gender egalitarianism. Respondents were coded as egalitarian if they expressed (strong) disagreement with the statement reflecting men’s primacy in the labor market and the statement reflecting the belief that maternal employment negatively affects child well-being. Conversely, respondents were coded as egalitarian if they expressed (strong) agreement with statements reflecting

² Turkey and Russia were excluded because they could not be grouped consistently with other countries.

support for dual-income households, the compatibility of maternal employment with high-quality mother–child relationships and suitability of fathers to perform childcare.

2.3. Analytical approach

We estimated logistic regression models separately for each of the five gender-role attitude dimensions and for each country group. To estimate the gender gap, the models included respondents' sex, time-period, and their interaction. We included country-fixed effects and control for education³. We present our findings in the form of predicted probabilities of expressing egalitarian gender role attitudes by period and sex.

3. Results

3.1. Public domain

We first examine whether a gender gap in gender-role attitudes (still) exists among young adults. To this end, Figure 1 presents the predicted probabilities of holding egalitarian gender-role attitudes for young women and men across the nine regional clusters. For clarity and brevity, we focus on the first (1981–1990) and last (2017–2023) periods to highlight long-term changes in gender-role attitudes, while detailed results for all periods are reported in Appendix Tables A1-A9.

Across most regions, support for egalitarian attitudes in the public domain increased over time. Both young women and men became more supportive of gender equality in employment and financial provision, although the pace of change varied across regions. The main exceptions are Latin America and South Asia, where levels of support show no upward trend but even a slight decline over the observed period.

Attitudes toward men's primacy in the labour market show persistent gender differences. Between the two time periods gender gaps persisted in all regions, with the exception of Southern and Northern Europe, where the gender gap has closed in the last period. Attitudes towards shared financial responsibility display convergence. In most regions, young women and men hold similar views, and where gaps existed in earlier periods (e.g., a reverse gap in Northern Europe), they largely disappeared. By the most recent period, a significant gender gap in attitudes towards shared financial responsibility remains only in South Asia.

³ We distinguish between low, medium, and high levels, with an additional category for missing values, to retain respondents with incomplete education data.

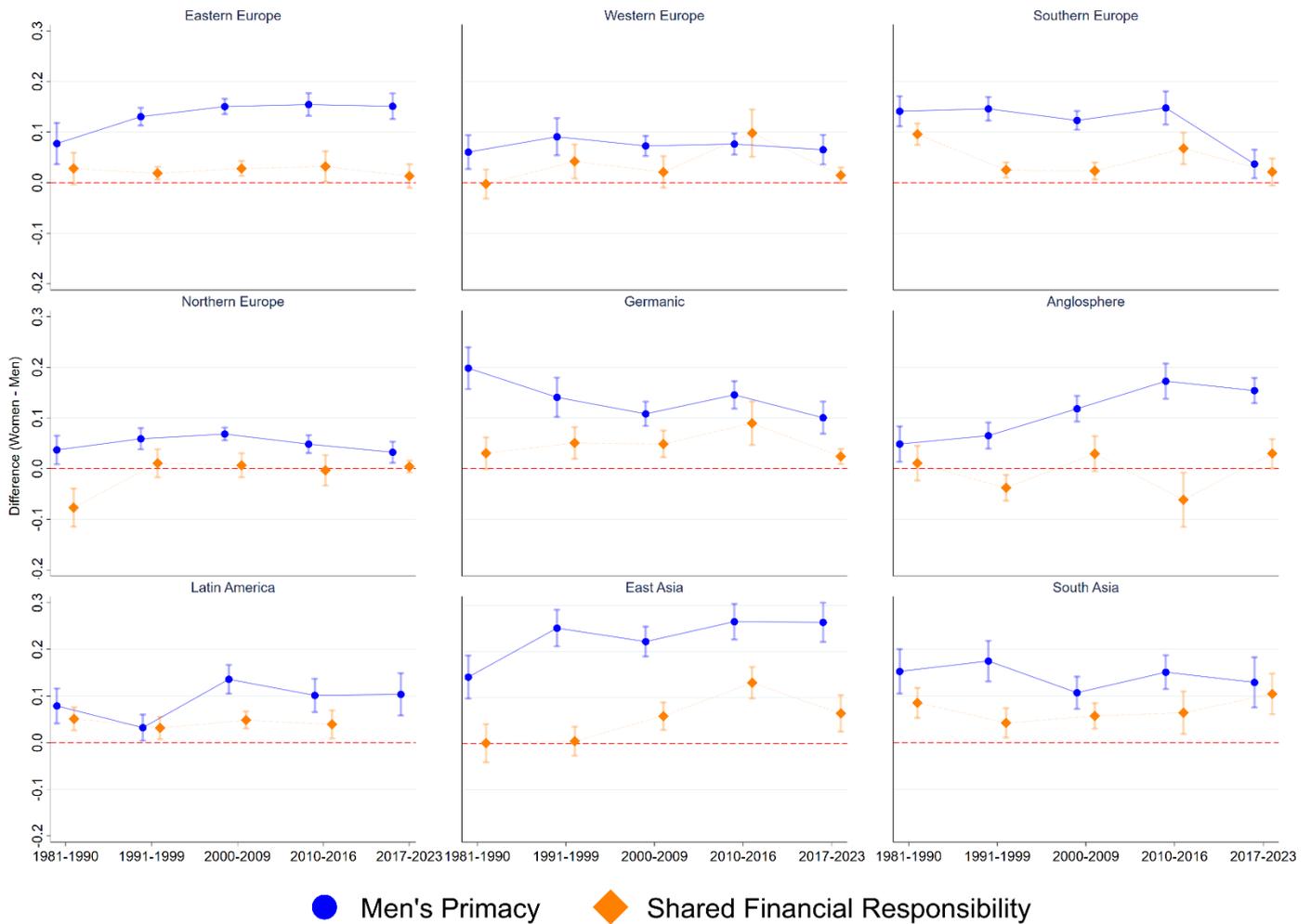
In order to examine whether the magnitude of these gaps has shifted significantly over time, we plot the difference in predicted probabilities of expressing egalitarian attitudes between young women and men in Figure 2. While the gender gap in men’s primacy widened in the Anglosphere, Eastern Europe and East Asia, other regions experienced stability (Western Europe, Northern Europe, Latin America, South Asia) or convergence (Germanic-speaking countries, Southern Europe). In contrast, gender differences in attitudes toward shared financial responsibility remain largely stable and to a large extent statistically insignificant across regions, except for South and East Asia.

Figure 1. The Evolution of Attitudes Towards Gender-Role in the Public Sphere Among Young Men and Women (20-29 years)



Note: Predicted probabilities of egalitarian attitudes (83% confidence intervals). Models include country-fixed effects and control for education level. Variables: (1) *Men's Primacy*: ‘Men should have more right to a job than women when jobs are scarce’; (2) *Shared Financial Responsibility*: ‘Husband and wife should both contribute to household income’.

Figure 2. Trends in Gender Gaps in Attitudes Towards Gender-Role in the Public Sphere Among Young Men and Women (20-29 years)



Note: Predicted differences in egalitarian attitudes between women and men with (83% confidence intervals). Models include country-fixed effects and control for education level.

3.2. Work-family compatibility

Figure 3 (detailed results in Appendix Tables A1-A9) presents predicted probabilities of egalitarian attitudes towards combining paid work and family by mothers. We observe a similar upward trend in support for egalitarian views. This increase is particularly strong in Germanic-speaking countries and Eastern European countries where these attitudes were rather traditional in the past.

Some gender differences in the attitudes towards combining paid work and care by mothers are visible as well (Figures 3 and 4). When it comes to the consequences for children’s well-being we observe gender gaps in attitudes in Western Europe and the Anglosphere, where they have persisted since the 1980s, and in the Germanic-speaking countries and East Asia,

where the gap emerged as women displayed a stronger increase in egalitarianism than men. In Northern Europe and the Anglosphere, the gender gap in attitudes toward mothers combining paid work and childcare was present in the past but has declined and in Northern Europe it has nearly closed. Hardly any gap is observed in Eastern and Southern Europe as well as Latin America and South Asia.

Gender differences in the attitudes toward mothers' employment and its impact on relationship quality are much smaller and have largely converged, with no significant gender gap in the final period except in the Germanic-speaking countries.

3.3. Private domain

Compared to the previous two dimensions, Figure 5 shows a decline in egalitarian attitudes in the private domain among men and, in some country groups, also among women (see Appendix Tables A1–A9 for detailed results). These changes result in newly emerging statistically significant gender gaps in Southern Europe, Northern Europe, and the Germanic-speaking countries.

This increase in the gender gap is particularly substantial in Northern Europe and the Germanic-speaking countries, where it reaches 13.5 and 17.9 percentage points, respectively. Substantively, this implies that by the final observation period, young men were approximately 14 to 18 percentage points less likely than young women to agree that fathers are well suited to look after children.

3.3. Robustness check

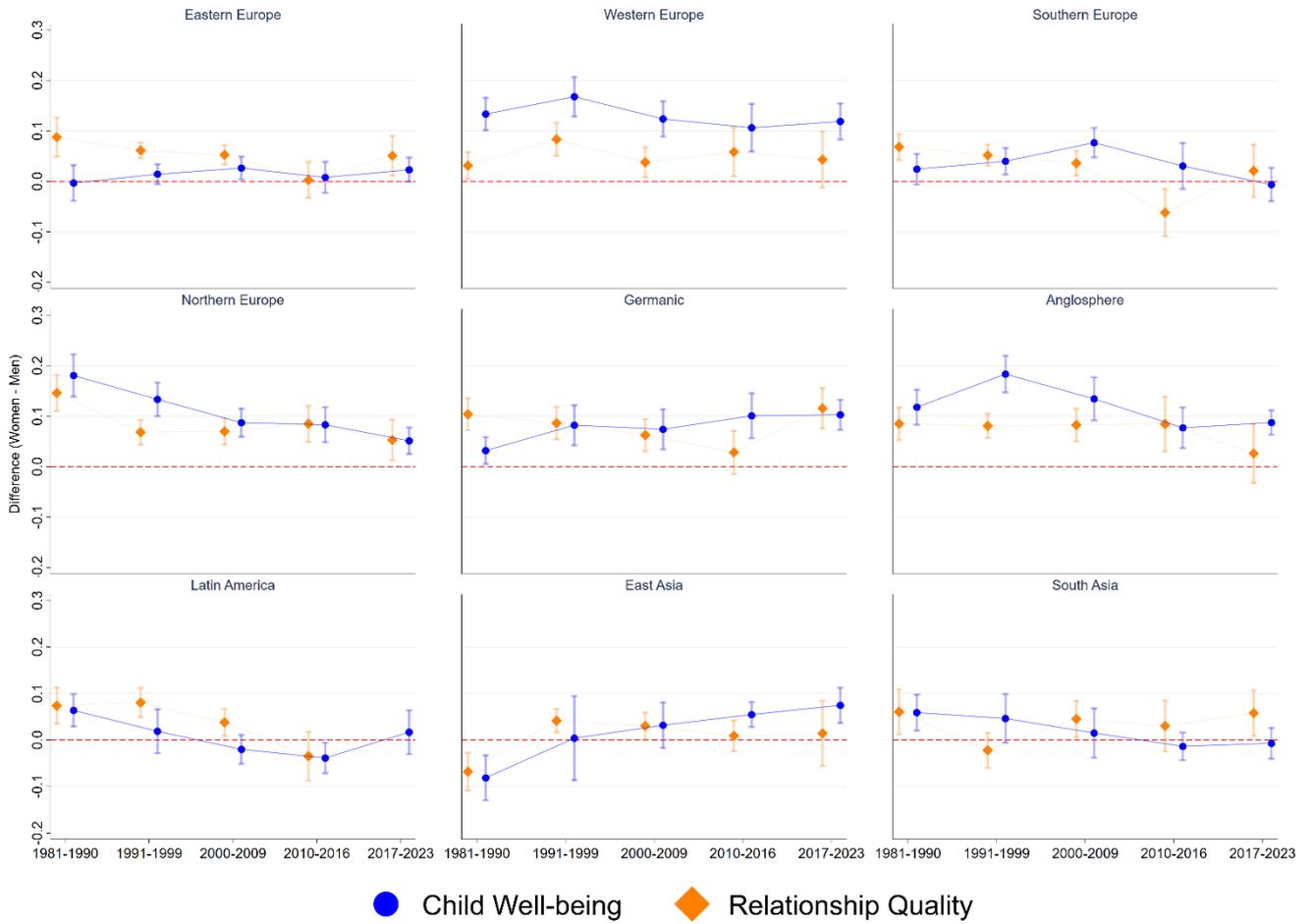
To assess the robustness of our findings, we conducted several sensitivity checks. First, we repeated the analyses across different age ranges, examining a lower age group (18–29; see Appendix Figures B1–B5) and a higher age group (20–35; see Appendix Figures B6–E10). Second, we tested the sensitivity of our regional estimates to country composition. To ensure that the observed trends were not driven by any single influential country, we re-estimated the models while systematically omitting one country at a time from each regional cluster (see Figures B11–B19). Although the results for Southern Europe with regard to parental childcare attitudes show some sensitivity to country composition, our main conclusions remain consistent across all sensitivity checks.

Figure 3. The Evolution of Maternal Work–Family Compatibility Attitudes Among Young Men and Women (20–29 years) across Regions



Note: Predicted probabilities of egalitarian attitudes (83% confidence intervals). Models include country-fixed effects and control for education level. Variables: (1) *Child Well-being*: ‘A pre-school child suffers if the mother works’; (2) *Relationship Quality*: ‘A working mother can establish a warm relationship with her children’.

Figure 4. Trends in Gender Gaps in Maternal Work–Family Compatibility Attitudes Among Young Adults (20–29)



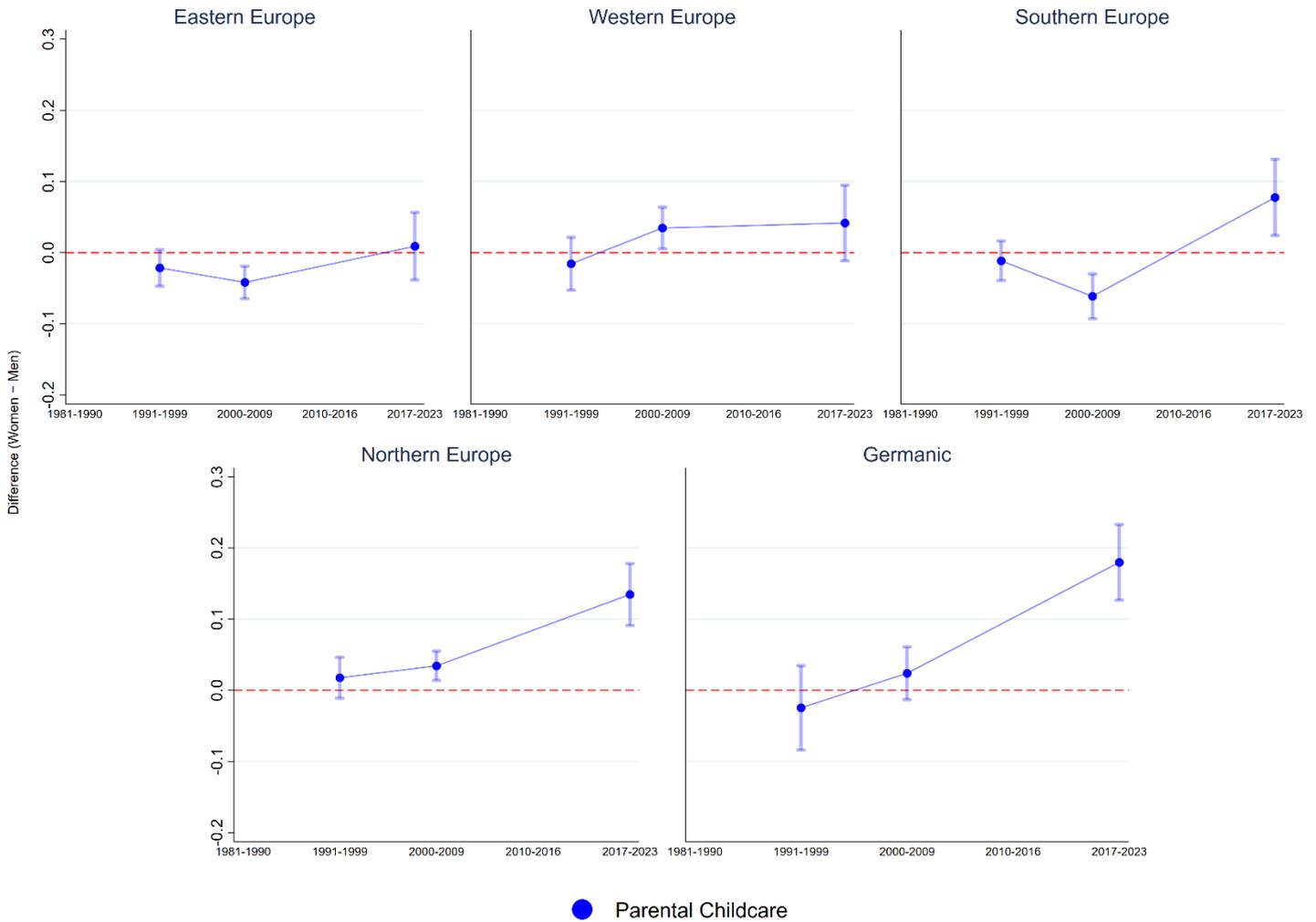
Note: Predicted differences in egalitarian attitudes between women and men (83% confidence intervals). Models include country-fixed effects and control for education level.

Figure 5. The Evolution of Attitudes Towards Gender-Role in the Private Sphere Among Young Men and Women (20-29 years) across Regions



Note: Predicted probabilities of egalitarian attitudes (83% confidence intervals). Models include country-fixed effects and control for education level. Variables: (1) *Paternal Childcare*: ‘Fathers are well suited to look after children’.

Figure 6. Trends in Gender Gaps in Attitudes Towards Gender-Role in the Private Sphere among Young Adults (20–29)



Note: Predicted differences in egalitarian attitudes between women and men (83% confidence intervals). Models include country-fixed effects and control for education level.

4. Discussions

Public discourse has increasingly highlighted a widening divide between young men and women in their gender-role attitudes, often discussed as a potential factor behind recent declines in union formation and childbearing (The Economist, 2024; Booth, 2024). By pooling repeated cross-sectional survey data across nine world regions over four decades, this study situates the debate within a longer temporal and broader geographic perspective.

Our results reveal a clear multidimensional pattern. In the public domain and in maternal work–family compatibility attitudes, support for egalitarian views has generally increased among young adults, albeit with notable regional heterogeneity. Across most European regions and the Anglosphere, attitudes towards women’s employment and shared financial

responsibility have become markedly more egalitarian and largely converged across gender. Even regions that historically lagged behind, such as Eastern Europe, German-speaking countries, and Southern Europe, now exhibit substantially higher levels of egalitarianism than in earlier decades. In contrast, change has been slower in East Asia and limited in South Asia and Latin America, where attitudes remain more stable over time.

Importantly, gender gaps in these first two dimensions are generally small and show little evidence of a systematic widening. In many regions, they have narrowed or become statistically negligible. A notable exception concerns attitudes toward men's primacy in the labour market, where gender gaps persist in several regions and, in some cases, have widened over time. This suggests that while support for women's employment has increased, it remains conditional, particularly in contexts of job scarcity.

In contrast to these trends, we observe a different trajectory in the private domain. Here, egalitarian attitudes have stagnated or even declined, particularly among young men and, in some regions, also among women. This pattern results in the emergence of gender gaps that appear to be widening in some European regions, notably in Northern Europe and Germanic-speaking countries. Young men in these contexts have become less likely than young women to endorse fathers' suitability as caregivers, indicating a divergence in attitudes toward the domestic division of labour. This development is alarming. Rather than signaling the completion of the gender revolution through rising support for men's involvement in childcare and housework, the findings suggest resistance, especially among young men. As such, they raise questions about whether the long-anticipated convergence in private-sphere gender roles will indeed materialize.

Our findings highlight that egalitarian views in the public domain coexist with gender-essentialist beliefs about family roles and the domestic division of labour. Young women and men increasingly agree that mothers' employment is compatible with childcare and that women should contribute financially to the household income. Yet this consensus is not matched by a comparable shift in attitudes toward men's roles. Persistent, and, in some regions widening, gender gaps in support for men's labour market primacy indicate that endorsement of women's employment remains conditional. At the same time, egalitarian attitudes toward fathers' participation in childcare have not kept pace with women's labour market participation and the decline in the support for men's childcare make it doubtful whether this is indeed to happen.

The demographic consequence of this stalled revolution is a persistent mismatch between progress in women's employment and slower change in the division of care work. While society

has embraced the dual-earner model, the failure to adopt a dual-caregiver model suggests that the domestic burden will continue to fall disproportionately on women. In the long term, this misalignment is likely to depress union formation, as young women may be reluctant to partner with men whose expectations of family roles diverge from their own. This may also have repercussions for fertility, as the cost of motherhood, both in terms of lost wages, career opportunities (Kleven, 2024) and lost leisure (Jarosz et al., 2023), remains prohibitively high. Difficulties in forming stable partnerships may also carry implications for the well-being and mental health of young adults (Soons & Liefbroer, 2008). Substantively, these findings imply that, without a fundamental shift in the cultural valuation of men's domestic contributions, gains in gender equality will be limited to domains that align with women's economic contributions.

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Annexes

Table A1. Coverage of gender-role attitude items across surveys

Gender-role attitude items	WVS	ISSP	EVS	ESS
Public sphere				
<i>Men should have more right to a job than women when jobs are scarce</i>	Yes		Yes	Yes
<i>University is more important for a boy than for a girl</i>	Yes		Yes	
<i>Men make better political leaders than women</i>	Yes		Yes	
<i>Men make better business executives than women</i>	Yes	Yes*	Yes	
Men or women better suited: cabinet member		Yes		
Men or women better suited: head of university		Yes		
<i>Husband and wife should both contribute to household income</i>	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Problem if women earn more than husband	Yes			
Who should provide financially: mother or father		Yes		
Maternal work–family compatibility				
<i>Pre-school child suffers if mother works</i>	Yes	Yes	Yes	
<i>A working mother can establish a warm relationship with children</i>	Yes	Yes	Yes	
All in all, family life suffers when woman works full-time		Yes		
Should women work when youngest child is under school age		Yes		
Should women work when youngest child is at school		Yes		
Women should cut down on paid work for family				Yes
Private sphere				
<i>Fathers are well suited to look after children</i>		Yes**	Yes	
Household is wife's job		Yes		
Who should take care of child daily: mother or father		Yes		
Men should take as much responsibility as women for home and children				Yes
Who should take more responsibility for home and family: women or men		Yes		
Men's job is work, women's job is household		Yes		

* Item asked: "Men or women better suited: senior executive of a large company."

** Item asked: "Mother or father better suited to look after children."

Note: "Yes" indicates that a comparable item is available in at least one wave of the respective survey. We excluded items that refer to gender views but do not clearly capture egalitarian versus traditional attitudes, making their interpretation ambiguous. Examples include: "What women really want is a home and children"; "Being a housewife is as fulfilling as working for pay"; "Work is best for women's independence".

Table A2. Period coverage and sample sizes for gender-role attitude items (respondents aged 20–29)

Gender-role attitude items	1981-1990	1991-1999	2000-2009	2010-2016	2017-2023
Men should have more right to a job than women when jobs are scarce	11,365	27,001	61,591	31,542	30,714
Pre-school child suffers if mother works	12,320	14,614	19,424	29,612	33,876
A working mother can establish a warm relationship with children	13,013	32,117	34,822	9,015	5,778
Husband and wife should both contribute to income	12,250	32,147	35,121	9,087	5,214
University is more important for a boy than for a girl		16,984	34,547	20,999	19,962
Men make better political leaders than women		16,765	33,985	20,702	27,860
Men make better business executives than women			17,676	20,813	33,741
Fathers are well suited to look after children		6,126	11,888		5,764

Note: Presents the total number of valid, non-missing responses for each survey item for respondents aged 20–29. Blank cells indicate that the item was not included in the surveys for that period.

Table A3. Country-period coverage and sample sizes for gender-role attitude items (respondents aged 20–29)

Country	Men's job priority	Both partners should earn	Univ. more important for boys	Men better political leaders	Men better business executives	Child suffers if mother works	Working mother–child bond	Fathers suited to childcare
Albania	3 (986)	2 (731)	2 (395)	3 (633)	1 (266)	2 (592)	2 (699)	1 (332)
Algeria	2 (823)	1 (469)	2 (825)	2 (814)	1 (341)	1 (342)	1 (470)	0 (0)
Andorra	2 (377)	0 (0)	2 (374)	2 (370)	2 (373)	1 (141)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Argentina	4 (1453)	2 (970)	4 (1225)	4 (1167)	3 (658)	3 (651)	2 (977)	0 (0)
Armenia	4 (1526)	2 (803)	3 (833)	3 (1190)	2 (707)	3 (1006)	2 (816)	1 (310)
Australia	4 (874)	4 (868)	4 (874)	4 (855)	3 (514)	4 (771)	4 (900)	1 (62)
Austria	5 (1537)	5 (1324)	0 (0)	1 (202)	1 (316)	5 (1545)	5 (1363)	2 (366)
Azerbaijan	3 (1174)	1 (545)	2 (769)	3 (1152)	2 (626)	2 (628)	1 (541)	0 (0)
Bangladesh	3 (1381)	2 (1068)	3 (1352)	3 (1341)	1 (316)	1 (326)	2 (1044)	0 (0)
Belarus	5 (1717)	2 (948)	2 (696)	3 (938)	2 (572)	3 (1120)	3 (1161)	1 (567)
Belgium	5 (2136)	4 (1557)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	4 (1540)	4 (1561)	2 (522)
Bolivia	1 (599)	0 (0)	1 (593)	1 (581)	1 (595)	1 (598)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Bosnia and Herzegovina	3 (1303)	2 (951)	2 (547)	3 (877)	1 (343)	2 (748)	2 (947)	1 (405)
Brazil	4 (2042)	2 (1601)	4 (1351)	4 (1336)	3 (1003)	4 (1876)	2 (1596)	0 (0)
Bulgaria	4 (1425)	4 (1244)	2 (294)	3 (418)	2 (419)	4 (1133)	4 (1207)	3 (475)
Burkina Faso	1 (460)	0 (0)	1 (459)	1 (444)	1 (446)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Canada	3 (1630)	4 (1133)	2 (1293)	2 (1268)	2 (972)	4 (1503)	4 (1139)	0 (0)
Chile	5 (1523)	4 (1531)	4 (1066)	4 (1047)	3 (522)	4 (1314)	4 (1535)	0 (0)
China	5 (1864)	4 (1513)	4 (1612)	4 (1581)	3 (1063)	3 (1793)	4 (1495)	0 (0)
Colombia	3 (1694)	1 (897)	4 (2558)	4 (2533)	3 (1659)	2 (789)	1 (900)	0 (0)
Croatia	4 (1620)	4 (1184)	1 (262)	2 (505)	1 (400)	4 (1147)	4 (1188)	3 (745)
Cyprus	3 (1383)	1 (395)	3 (803)	3 (790)	3 (797)	3 (903)	1 (386)	1 (154)
Czech Republic	4 (2889)	4 (2119)	2 (310)	2 (457)	1 (426)	4 (2230)	4 (2104)	3 (667)
Denmark	5 (1516)	5 (1170)	0 (0)	1 (391)	1 (544)	5 (1583)	5 (1210)	3 (517)
Dominican Republic	1 (203)	1 (203)	1 (186)	1 (192)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1 (203)	0 (0)
Ecuador	2 (623)	0 (0)	2 (623)	2 (621)	2 (622)	2 (619)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Egypt	3 (2111)	1 (755)	3 (2105)	3 (2103)	3 (1352)	2 (602)	1 (753)	0 (0)
El Salvador	1 (382)	1 (386)	1 (381)	1 (359)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1 (380)	0 (0)
Estonia	5 (1982)	3 (774)	2 (428)	3 (526)	2 (369)	5 (993)	3 (790)	2 (396)

Country	Men's job priority	Both partners should earn	Univ. more important for boys	Men better political leaders	Men better business executives	Child suffers if mother works	Working mother-child bond	Fathers suited to childcare
Ethiopia	2 (1288)	0 (0)	2 (1285)	2 (1280)	2 (1285)	1 (537)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Finland	5 (2067)	5 (1173)	2 (381)	3 (502)	2 (441)	4 (1079)	5 (1217)	2 (526)
France	5 (2020)	5 (1511)	1 (173)	2 (412)	2 (734)	5 (1825)	5 (1601)	3 (777)
Georgia	4 (1506)	2 (719)	3 (963)	4 (1211)	3 (763)	3 (753)	2 (706)	1 (233)
Germany	5 (3993)	5 (3276)	4 (1123)	4 (1390)	3 (1145)	5 (3737)	5 (3368)	3 (616)
Ghana	2 (1331)	0 (0)	2 (1324)	2 (1319)	2 (1321)	1 (745)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Greece	4 (1804)	3 (738)	1 (138)	1 (135)	1 (255)	3 (878)	3 (760)	3 (749)
Guatemala	2 (814)	0 (0)	2 (797)	2 (790)	1 (405)	1 (408)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Haiti	1 (792)	0 (0)	1 (792)	1 (798)	1 (789)	1 (793)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Hong Kong	3 (640)	0 (0)	3 (645)	3 (641)	2 (429)	2 (430)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Hungary	4 (2092)	5 (1653)	2 (326)	3 (565)	2 (493)	5 (1744)	5 (1650)	3 (537)
Iceland	5 (1014)	5 (820)	0 (0)	1 (239)	1 (325)	5 (1071)	5 (858)	3 (469)
India	5 (3443)	5 (2643)	4 (2627)	4 (2549)	3 (1934)	3 (2791)	5 (2600)	1 (443)
Indonesia	2 (1451)	1 (159)	2 (1452)	2 (1446)	2 (1287)	1 (652)	1 (156)	0 (0)
Iran	2 (2199)	1 (901)	2 (2197)	2 (2159)	2 (1295)	1 (289)	1 (875)	0 (0)
Iraq	3 (2200)	1 (638)	3 (2182)	3 (2187)	2 (736)	2 (735)	1 (633)	0 (0)
Ireland	5 (1856)	4 (995)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	4 (984)	4 (1000)	1 (172)
Israel	3 (1290)	4 (1122)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1 (256)	4 (1134)	4 (1132)	1 (258)
Italy	4 (1949)	4 (1677)	1 (166)	2 (427)	2 (542)	4 (1912)	4 (1682)	3 (751)
Japan	5 (1033)	5 (837)	4 (673)	4 (600)	3 (477)	5 (914)	5 (1016)	1 (102)
Jordan	3 (1201)	1 (379)	3 (1195)	3 (1184)	3 (809)	2 (472)	1 (382)	0 (0)
Kazakhstan	2 (657)	0 (0)	2 (656)	2 (646)	2 (650)	2 (647)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Kenya	1 (637)	0 (0)	1 (628)	1 (623)	1 (629)	1 (628)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Kosovo	1 (540)	1 (581)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1 (558)	1 (561)	1 (578)
Kuwait	1 (366)	0 (0)	1 (357)	1 (355)	1 (358)	1 (348)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Kyrgyzstan	3 (993)	1 (307)	3 (990)	3 (986)	2 (682)	2 (682)	1 (310)	0 (0)
Latvia	4 (1220)	4 (1218)	1 (227)	2 (329)	1 (116)	5 (1102)	4 (1227)	2 (426)
Lebanon	2 (681)	0 (0)	2 (672)	2 (670)	2 (669)	2 (676)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Libya	2 (830)	0 (0)	2 (830)	2 (822)	2 (821)	2 (806)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Lithuania	5 (1401)	5 (1065)	1 (173)	2 (367)	1 (309)	5 (1058)	5 (1064)	3 (515)
Luxembourg	2 (1041)	2 (762)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	2 (760)	2 (766)	2 (772)
Macao	1 (258)	0 (0)	1 (259)	1 (257)	1 (259)	1 (258)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Malaysia	3 (1022)	0 (0)	3 (1021)	3 (1021)	3 (1021)	2 (661)	0 (0)	0 (0)

Country	Men's job priority	Both partners should earn	Univ. more important for boys	Men better political leaders	Men better business executives	Child suffers if mother works	Working mother-child bond	Fathers suited to childcare
Maldives	1 (306)	0 (0)	1 (305)	1 (301)	1 (303)	1 (306)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Mali	1 (383)	0 (0)	1 (376)	1 (378)	1 (378)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Malta	2 (427)	2 (412)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	2 (419)	2 (417)	2 (368)
Mexico	5 (2866)	4 (2147)	4 (2323)	4 (2296)	3 (1410)	4 (2219)	4 (2150)	0 (0)
Moldova	2 (920)	2 (705)	2 (606)	2 (598)	1 (229)	1 (311)	2 (694)	1 (320)
Mongolia	1 (387)	0 (0)	1 (387)	1 (387)	1 (387)	1 (387)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Montenegro	3 (752)	2 (602)	2 (245)	3 (384)	1 (153)	2 (496)	2 (574)	1 (339)
Morocco	3 (1747)	1 (484)	3 (1679)	3 (1614)	3 (1217)	2 (763)	1 (474)	0 (0)
Myanmar	1 (265)	0 (0)	1 (265)	1 (265)	1 (265)	1 (265)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Netherlands	5 (1931)	5 (1477)	3 (494)	3 (699)	3 (884)	5 (2061)	5 (1501)	3 (376)
New Zealand	4 (397)	3 (513)	4 (373)	4 (329)	2 (220)	4 (509)	3 (531)	1 (95)
Nicaragua	1 (349)	0 (0)	1 (349)	1 (349)	1 (349)	1 (349)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Nigeria	5 (3533)	3 (2173)	4 (3021)	4 (3033)	2 (1368)	3 (1841)	3 (2137)	0 (0)
North Macedonia	3 (1021)	2 (769)	2 (424)	3 (668)	1 (262)	2 (557)	2 (726)	1 (311)
Northern Cyprus	1 (180)	1 (176)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1 (176)	1 (179)	1 (176)
Norway	5 (1857)	5 (1632)	2 (378)	3 (544)	2 (438)	5 (1559)	5 (1622)	2 (276)
Pakistan	4 (1898)	2 (961)	4 (1842)	4 (1879)	2 (902)	2 (922)	2 (945)	0 (0)
Palestine	1 (315)	0 (0)	1 (315)	1 (312)	1 (313)	1 (311)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Peru	4 (1925)	2 (857)	4 (1918)	4 (1886)	3 (1062)	2 (634)	2 (843)	0 (0)
Philippines	4 (1146)	4 (1864)	4 (1145)	4 (1138)	2 (752)	4 (1651)	4 (1870)	1 (295)
Poland	5 (2684)	5 (1526)	3 (509)	4 (667)	3 (640)	5 (1704)	5 (1546)	3 (585)
Portugal	5 (1684)	4 (974)	0 (0)	1 (132)	1 (132)	5 (1086)	4 (966)	2 (328)
Puerto Rico	3 (671)	2 (507)	3 (670)	3 (648)	1 (161)	1 (161)	2 (512)	0 (0)
Qatar	1 (254)	0 (0)	1 (254)	1 (253)	1 (254)	1 (253)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Romania	4 (2186)	2 (953)	4 (890)	4 (1104)	3 (884)	4 (1284)	2 (934)	2 (437)
Russia	5 (4146)	5 (2463)	4 (1485)	4 (1769)	3 (1714)	5 (3213)	5 (2458)	3 (902)
Rwanda	2 (1095)	0 (0)	2 (1080)	2 (1071)	2 (1093)	1 (588)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Saudi Arabia	1 (499)	1 (486)	1 (485)	1 (479)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1 (477)	0 (0)
Serbia	3 (1379)	2 (700)	3 (883)	3 (1048)	2 (672)	2 (679)	2 (701)	1 (286)
Singapore	3 (1150)	1 (340)	3 (1147)	3 (1139)	2 (807)	2 (808)	1 (335)	0 (0)
Slovakia	5 (1814)	5 (1253)	2 (263)	2 (429)	1 (355)	5 (1333)	5 (1250)	3 (444)

Country	Men's job priority	Both partners should earn	Univ. more important for boys	Men better political leaders	Men better business executives	Child suffers if mother works	Working mother-child bond	Fathers suited to childcare
Slovenia	4 (2116)	4 (1483)	3 (514)	4 (628)	3 (577)	4 (1541)	4 (1460)	3 (564)
South Africa	4 (3899)	4 (2653)	3 (3205)	3 (3094)	3 (2326)	2 (2230)	4 (2642)	1 (632)
South Korea	5 (1807)	4 (1264)	4 (1395)	4 (1373)	3 (723)	3 (1029)	4 (1259)	0 (0)
Spain	5 (3733)	5 (3411)	3 (873)	4 (993)	3 (736)	5 (3214)	5 (3476)	3 (711)
Sweden	5 (2125)	5 (1344)	3 (542)	4 (848)	3 (615)	5 (1452)	5 (1363)	3 (451)
Switzerland	4 (1841)	3 (692)	1 (83)	2 (534)	2 (841)	3 (1195)	3 (743)	2 (470)
Taiwan	4 (770)	4 (1090)	4 (764)	4 (755)	3 (827)	3 (1371)	4 (1103)	1 (182)
Tajikistan	1 (283)	0 (0)	1 (283)	1 (283)	1 (283)	1 (283)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Tanzania	1 (336)	1 (341)	1 (343)	1 (341)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1 (334)	0 (0)
Thailand	3 (560)	1 (191)	3 (560)	3 (556)	3 (756)	2 (517)	1 (209)	1 (205)
Trinidad and Tobago	2 (428)	0 (0)	2 (430)	2 (401)	2 (423)	1 (200)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Tunisia	2 (613)	0 (0)	2 (612)	2 (607)	2 (612)	2 (609)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Turkey	5 (5413)	3 (2533)	4 (3119)	4 (3072)	3 (1481)	3 (1970)	4 (2837)	1 (560)
Uganda	1 (460)	1 (466)	1 (463)	1 (454)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1 (444)	0 (0)
Ukraine	4 (2472)	2 (823)	4 (1023)	4 (1234)	3 (872)	4 (1079)	2 (821)	2 (432)
United Kingdom	5 (2783)	4 (1718)	2 (490)	2 (626)	2 (649)	5 (2184)	4 (1721)	2 (428)
United States	5 (1822)	5 (1784)	4 (1533)	4 (1509)	3 (1238)	5 (2304)	5 (1854)	1 (163)
Uruguay	4 (678)	1 (162)	4 (663)	4 (616)	3 (488)	2 (301)	1 (163)	0 (0)
Uzbekistan	2 (776)	0 (0)	2 (775)	2 (769)	2 (769)	2 (758)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Venezuela	3 (1124)	3 (1051)	3 (1115)	3 (1102)	1 (348)	2 (612)	3 (1038)	0 (0)
Vietnam	2 (831)	1 (173)	2 (832)	2 (829)	2 (667)	1 (314)	1 (164)	0 (0)
Yemen	1 (296)	0 (0)	1 (291)	1 (294)	1 (294)	1 (290)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Zambia	1 (671)	0 (0)	1 (662)	1 (665)	1 (657)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Zimbabwe	3 (1347)	1 (353)	3 (1345)	3 (1329)	2 (988)	2 (988)	1 (343)	0 (0)

Note: Cell entries report the number of periods with available data (0–5); numbers in parentheses indicate total respondents.

Figure A1. The Evolution of Gender-Role Attitudes among Young Adults (20-29 years) in Eastern Europe

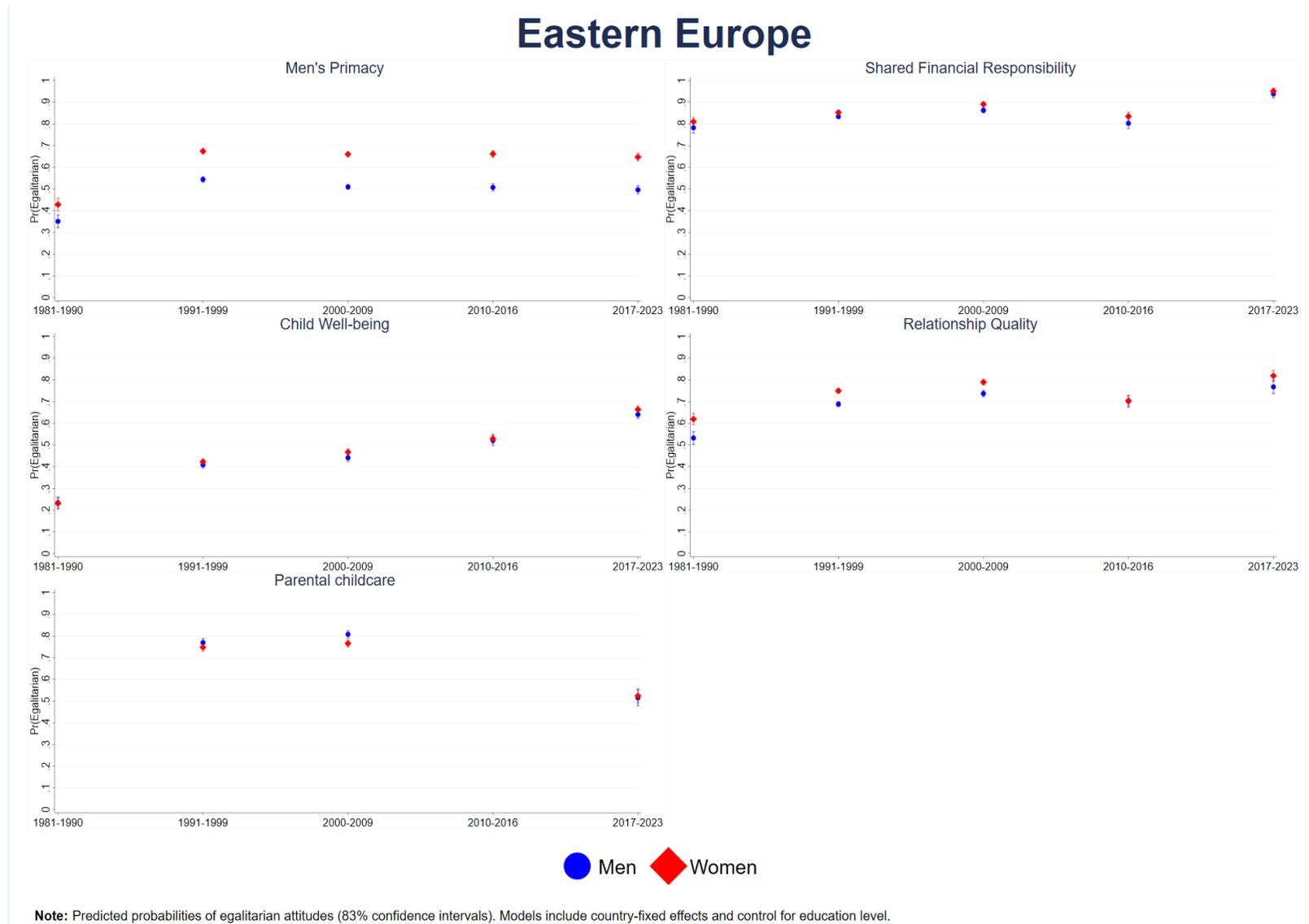


Figure A2. The Evolution of Gender-Role Attitudes among Young Adults (20-29 years) in Western Europe



Figure A3. The Evolution of Gender-Role Attitudes among Young Adults (20-29 years) in Southern Europe



Figure A4. The Evolution of Gender-Role Attitudes among Young Adults (20-29 years) in Northern Europe

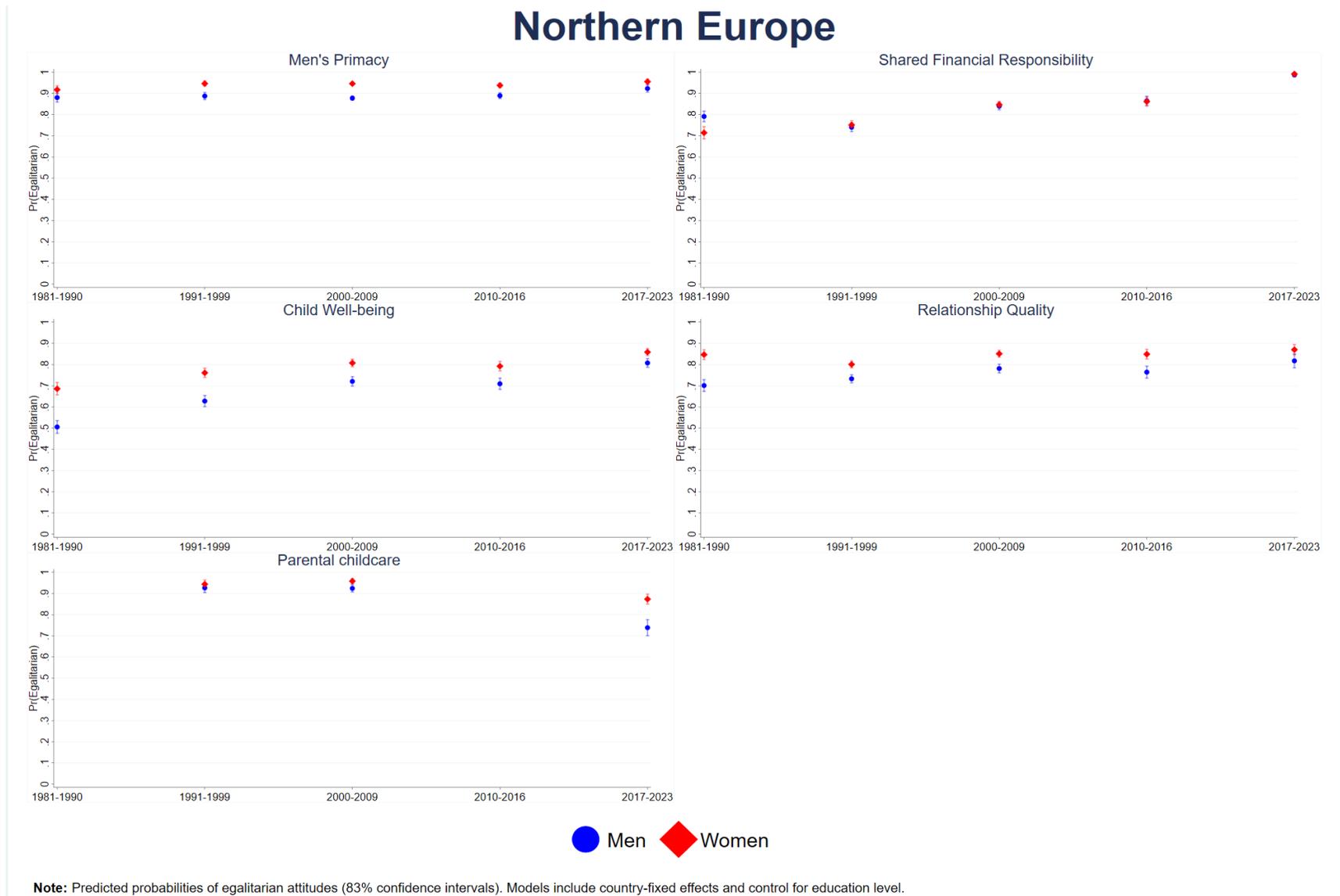


Figure A5. The Evolution of Gender-Role Attitudes among Young Adults (20-29 years) in Germanic-speaking Countries

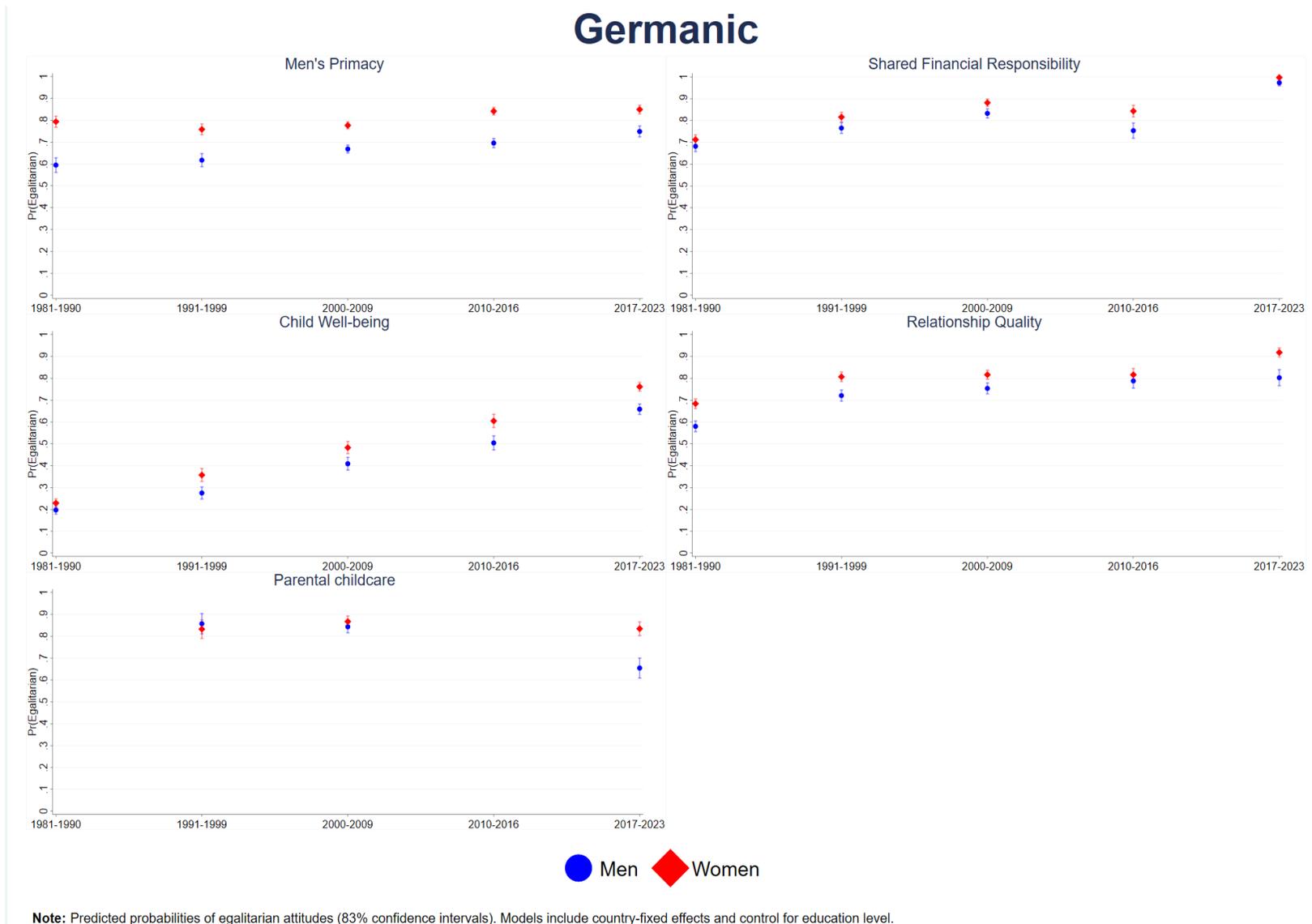


Figure A6. The Evolution of Gender-Role Attitudes among Young Adults (20-29 years) in Anglosphere Countries

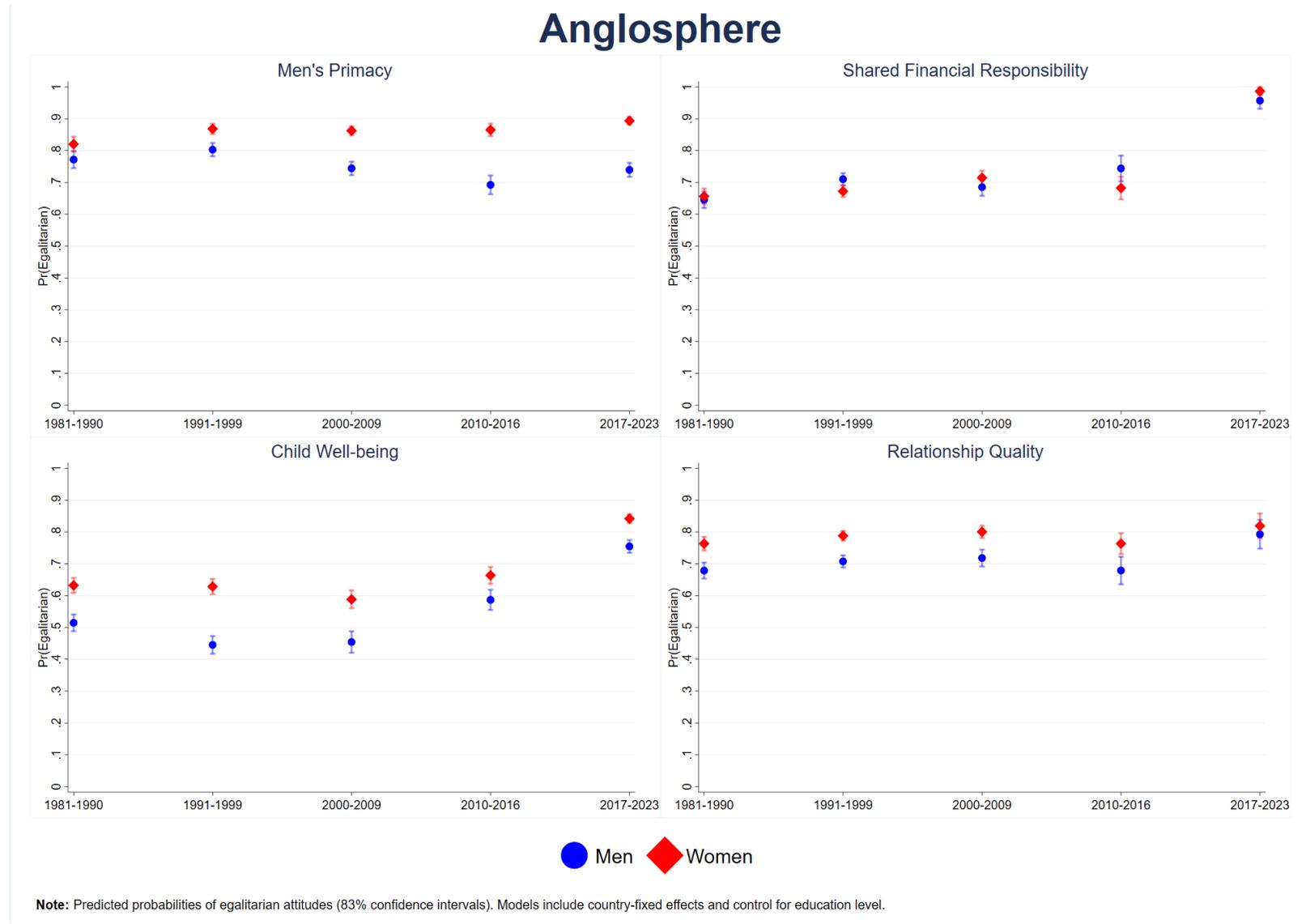


Figure A7. The Evolution of Gender-Role Attitudes among Young Adults (20-29 years) in Latin America

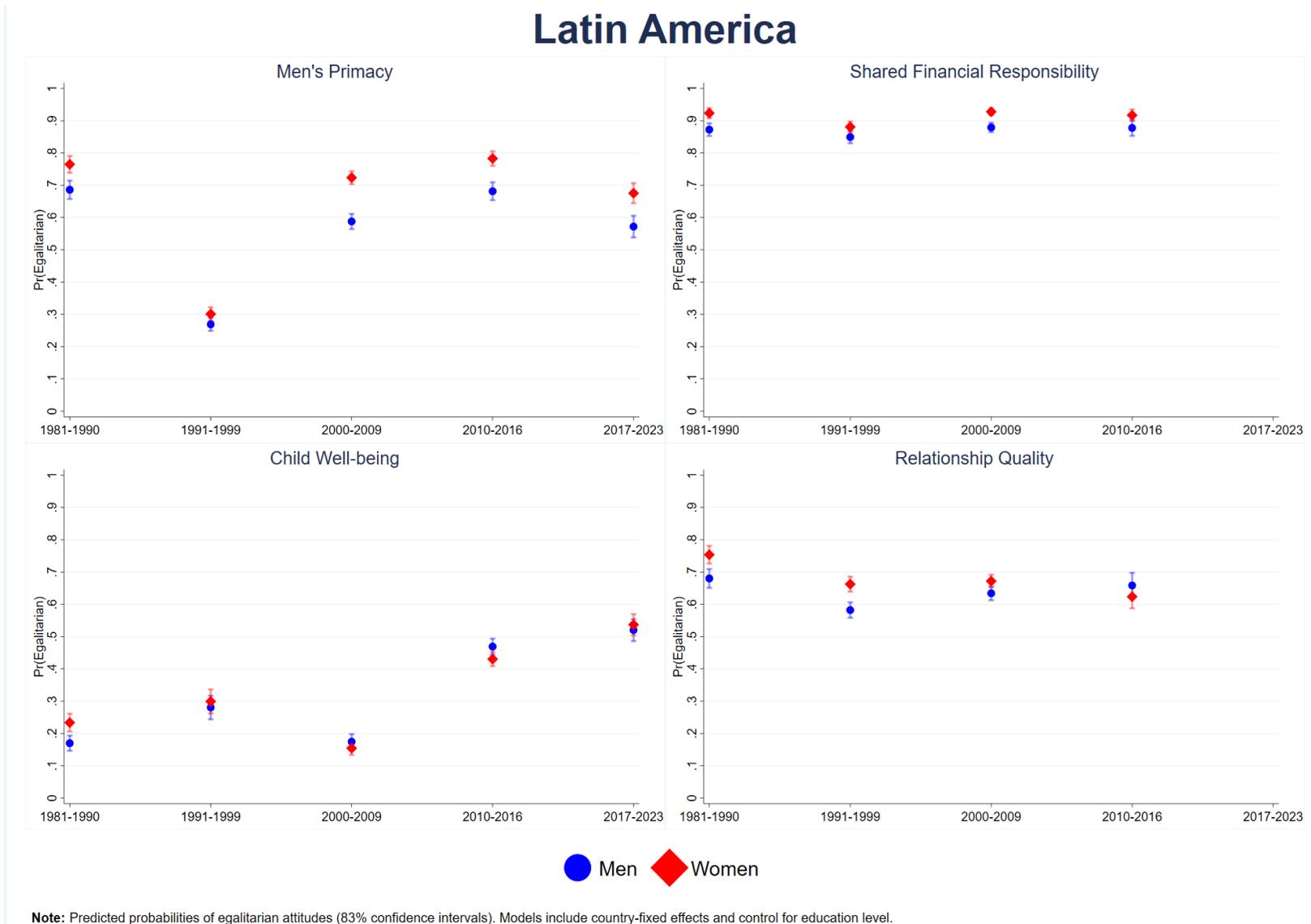


Figure A8. The Evolution of Gender-Role Attitudes among Young Adults (20-29 years) in East Asia

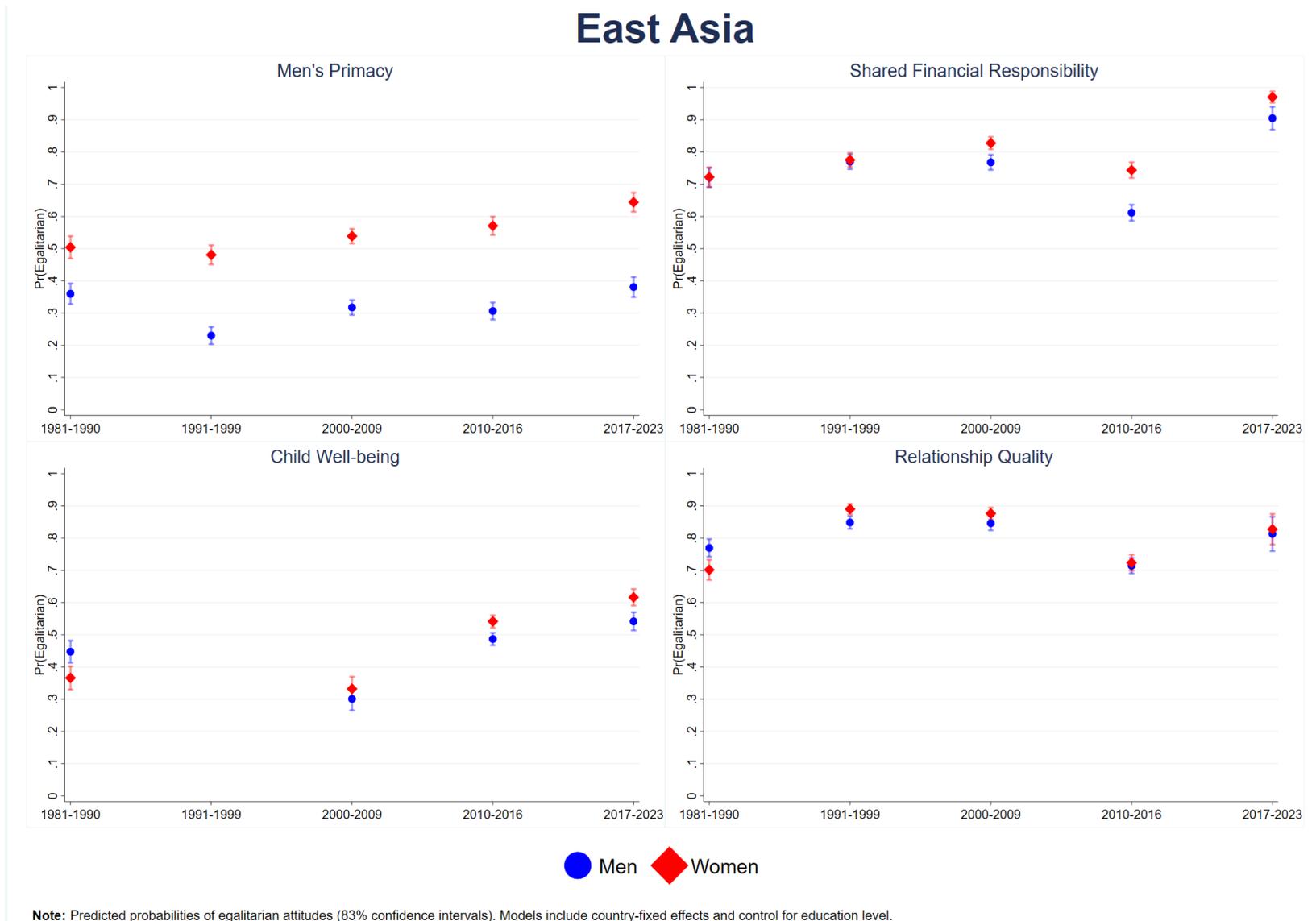


Figure A9. The Evolution of Gender-Role Attitudes among Young Adults (20-29 years) in South Asia

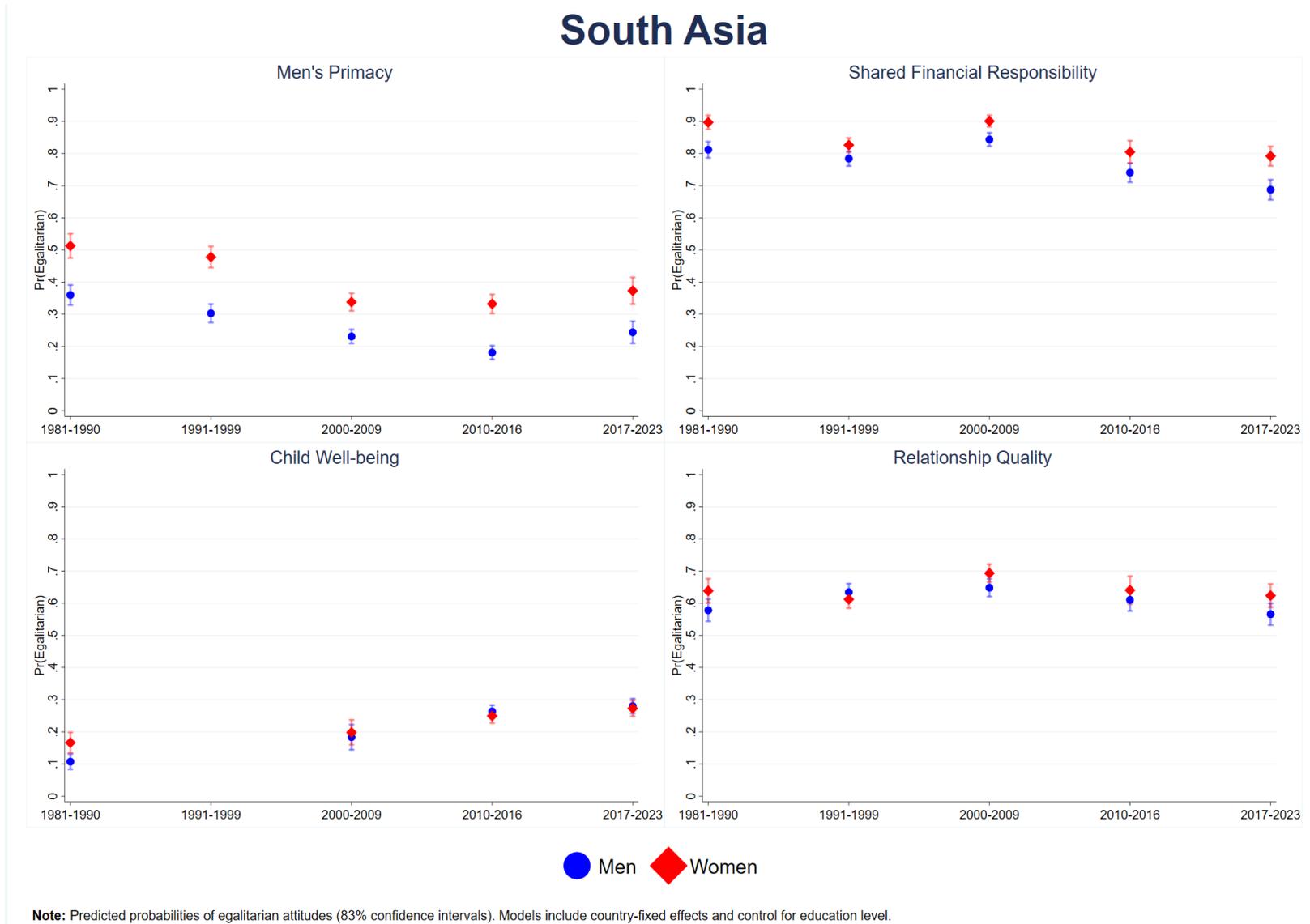
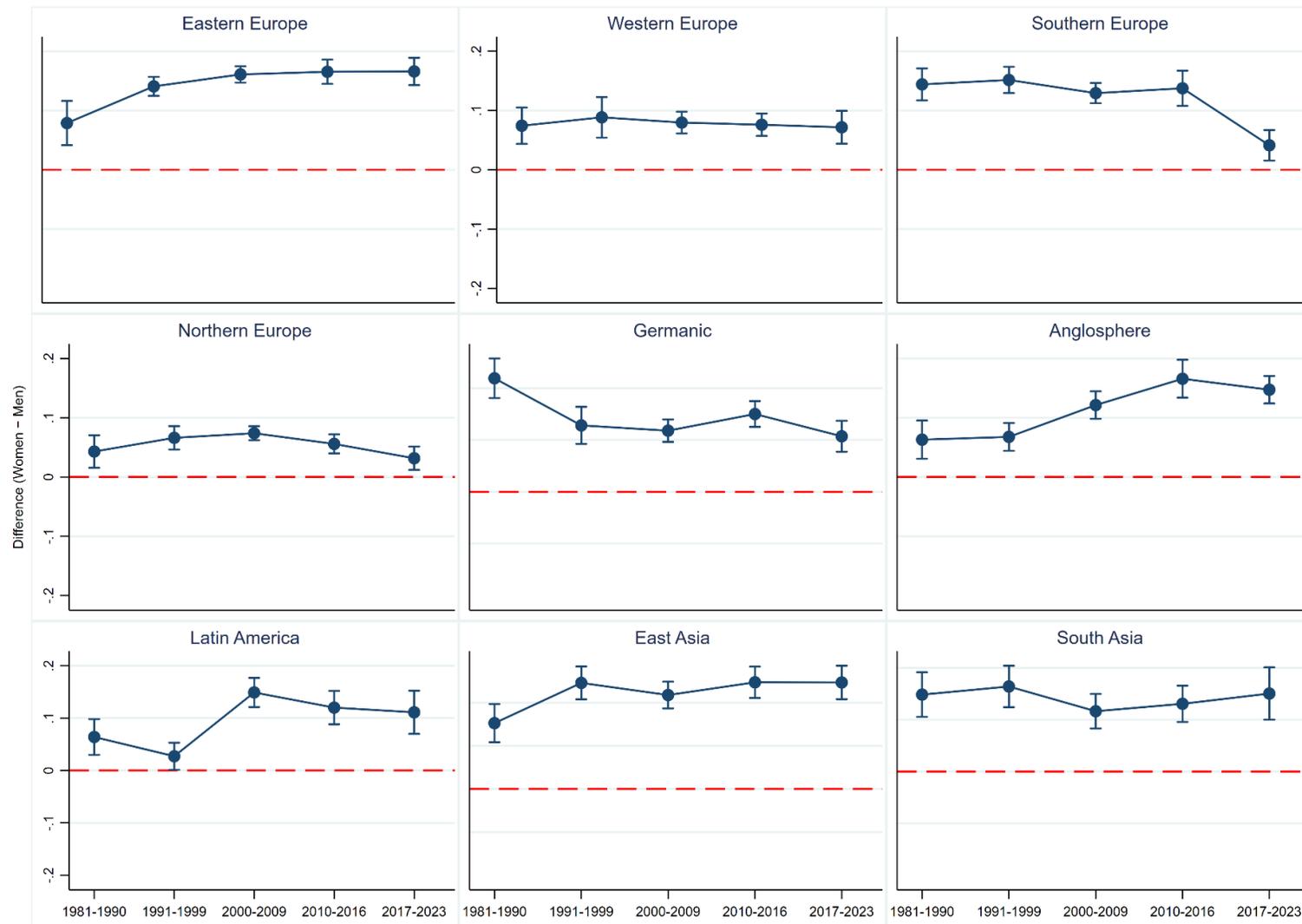
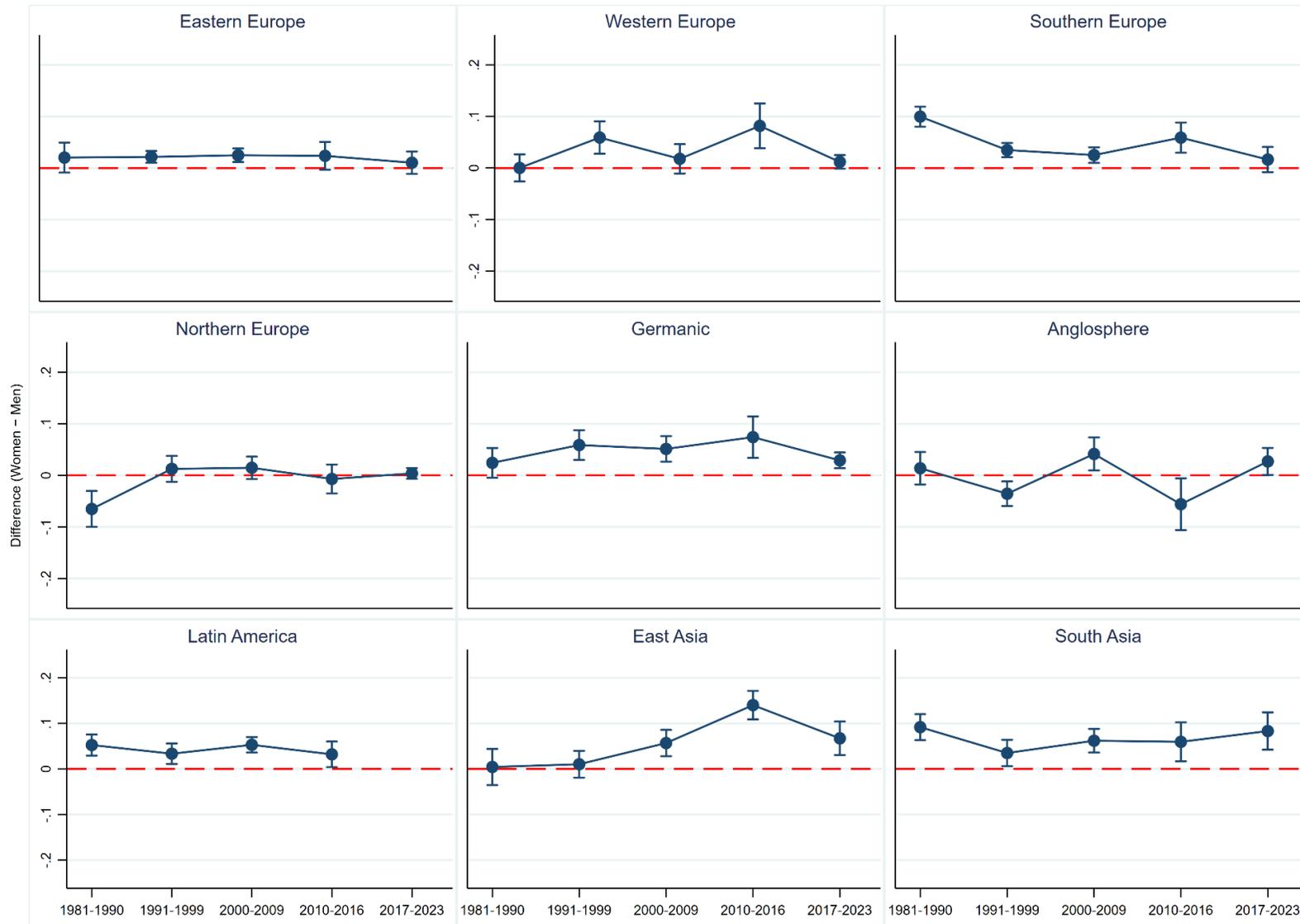


Figure B1. Sensitivity Analysis: Trends in Gender Gaps in Attitudes Toward Men’s Primacy in the Labour Market (Expanded Age Range: 18–29)



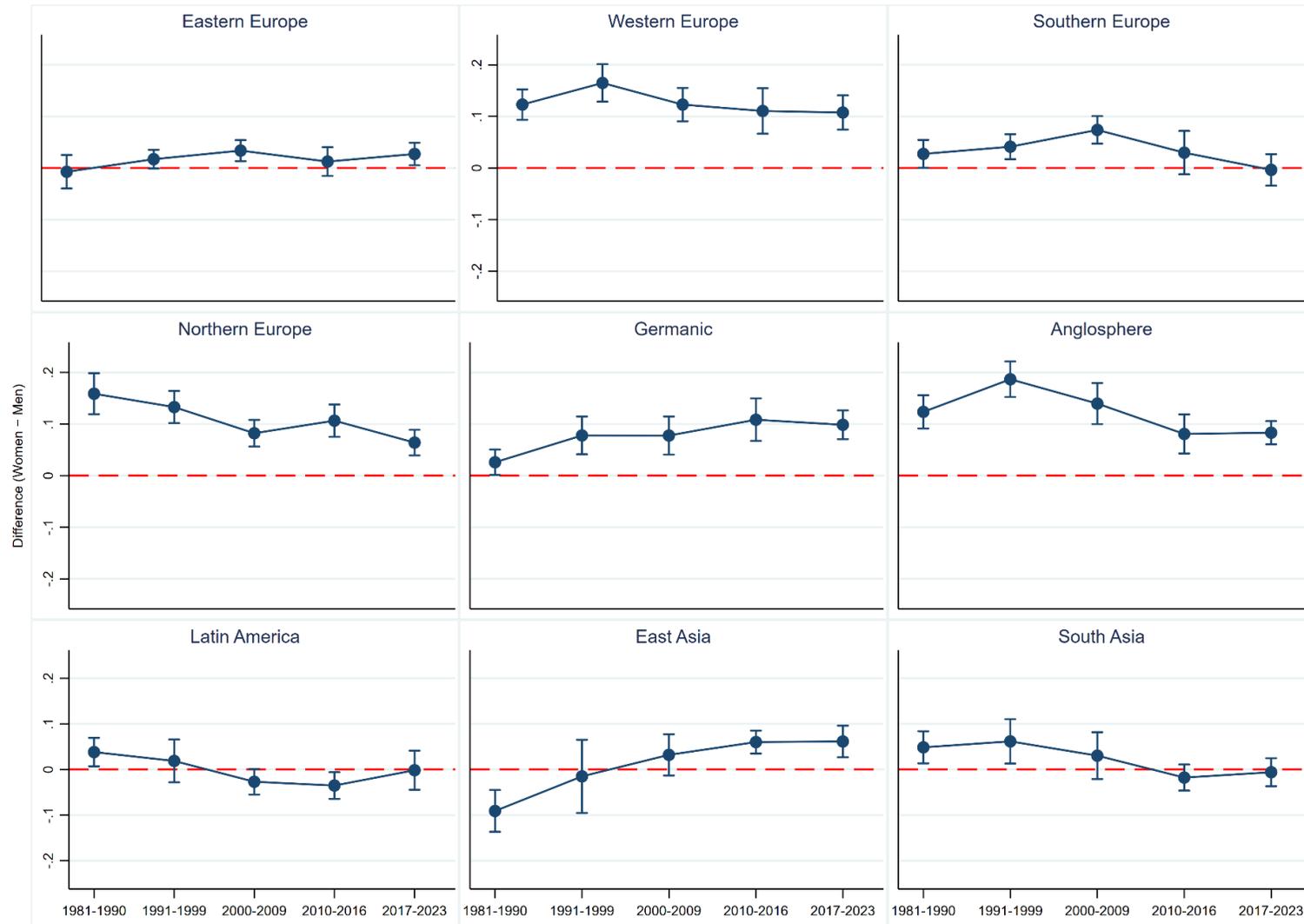
Note: Predicted differences in egalitarian attitudes between women and men (83% confidence intervals). Models include country-fixed effects and control for education level.

Figure B2. Sensitivity Analysis: Trends in Gender Gaps in Attitudes Towards Shared Financial Responsibility (Expanded Age Range: 18–29)



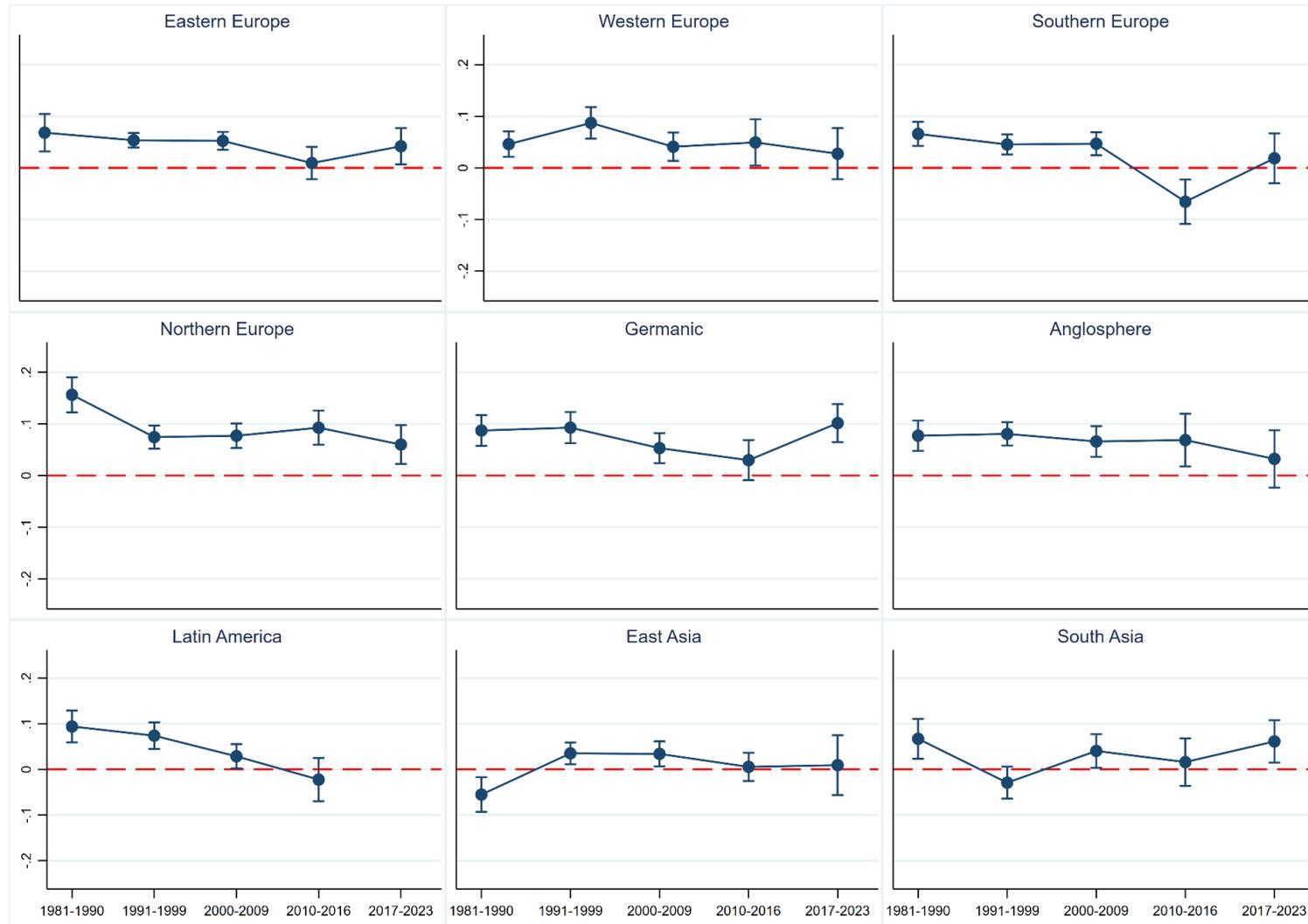
Note: Predicted differences in egalitarian attitudes between women and men (83% confidence intervals). Models include country-fixed effects and control for education level.

Figure B3. Sensitivity Analysis: Trends in Gender Gaps in Attitudes Towards the Consequences of Maternal Employment for Children’s Well-Being (Expanded Age Range: 18–29)



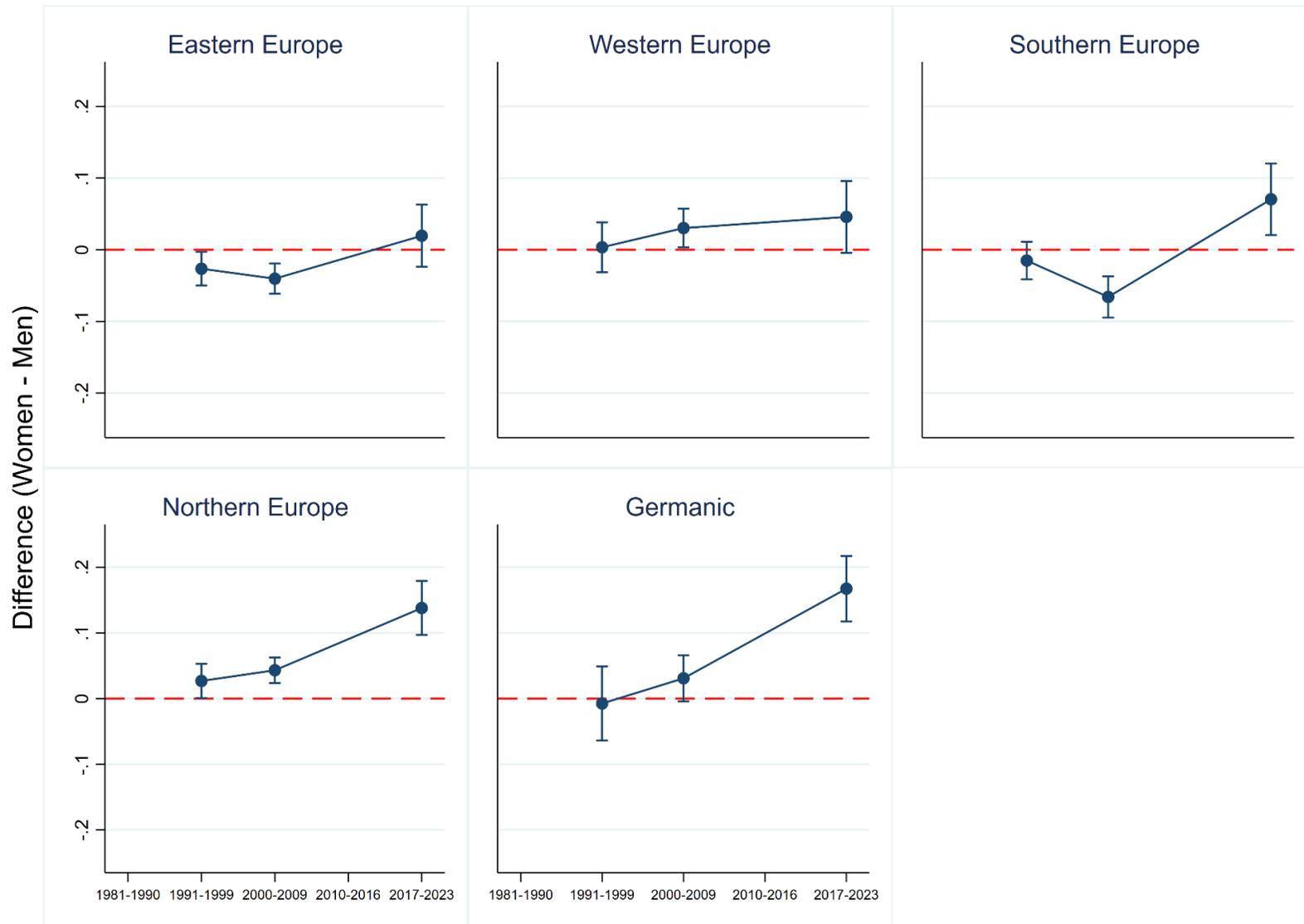
Note: Predicted differences in egalitarian attitudes between women and men (83% confidence intervals). Models include country-fixed effects and control for education level.

Figure B4. Sensitivity Analysis: Trends in Gender Gaps in Attitudes Toward Maternal Employment and Mother–Child Relationship Quality (Expanded Age Range: 18–29)



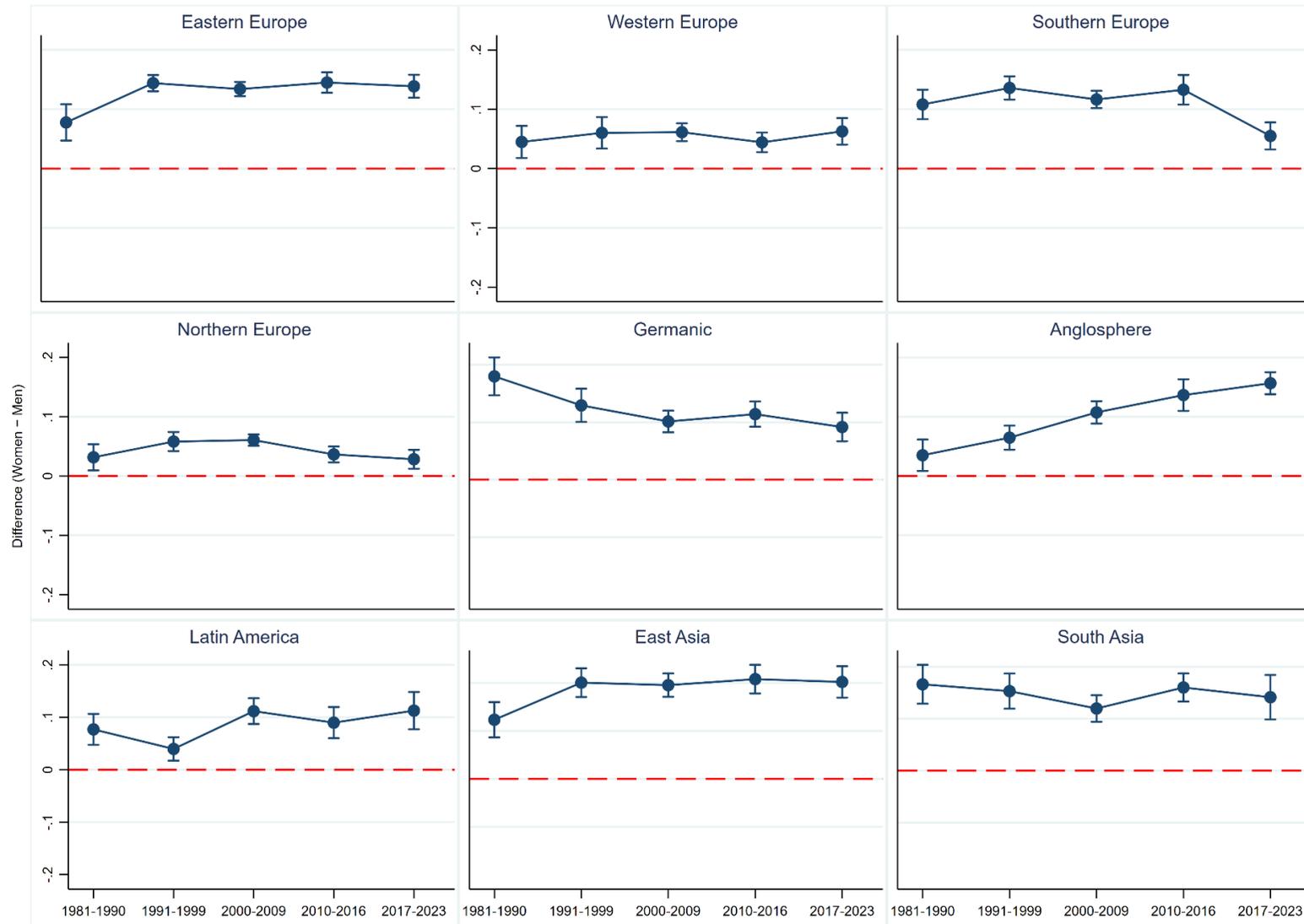
Note: Predicted differences in egalitarian attitudes between women and men (83% confidence intervals). Models include country-fixed effects and control for education level.

Figure B5. Sensitivity Analysis: Trends in Gender Gaps in Attitudes Toward Parental Childcare (Expanded Age Range: 18–29)



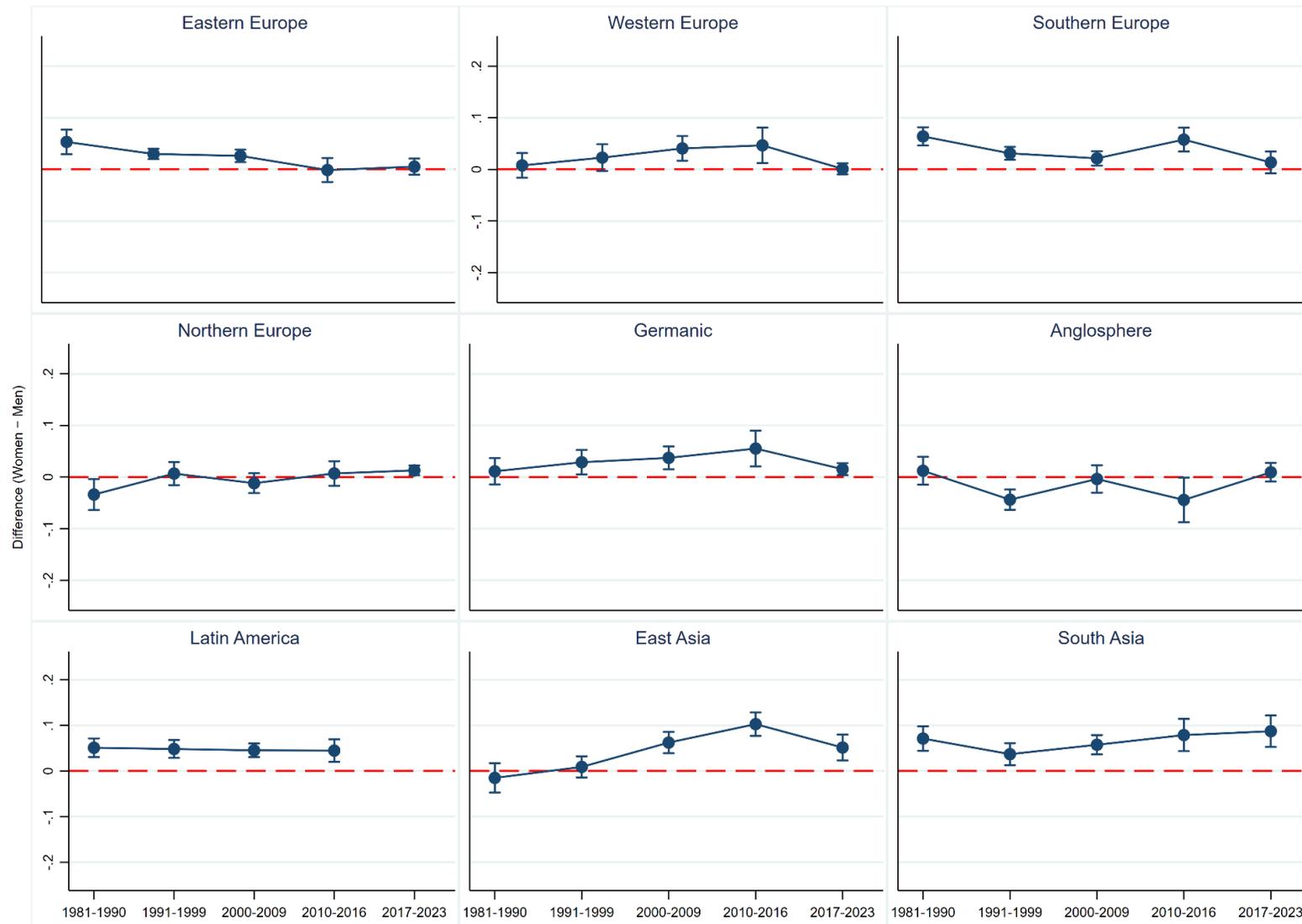
Note: Predicted differences in egalitarian attitudes between women and men (83% confidence intervals). Models include country-fixed effects and control for education level.

Figure B6. Sensitivity Analysis: Trends in Gender Gaps in Attitudes Towards Men’s Primacy in the Labour Market (Expanded Age Range: 20–35)



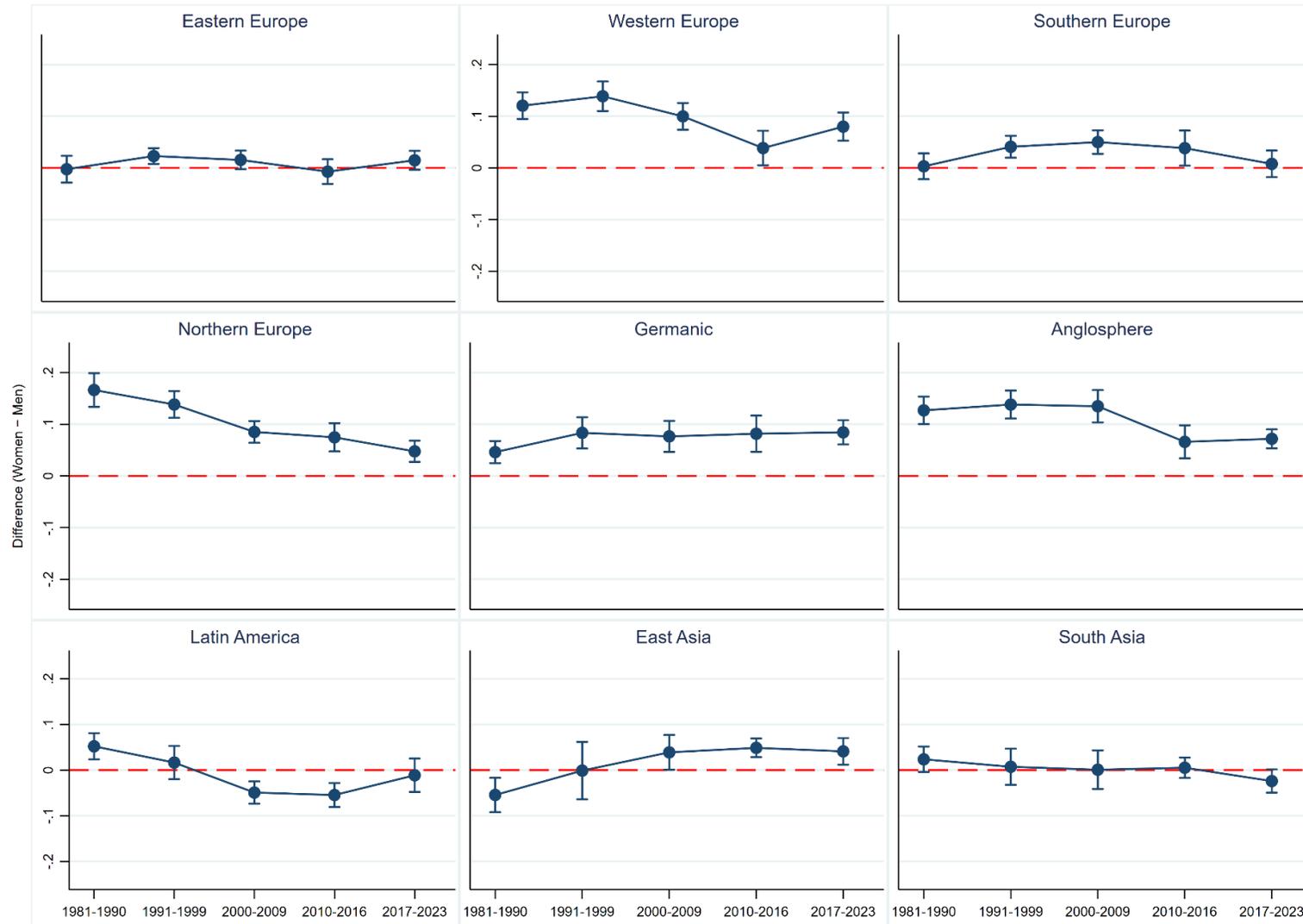
Note: Predicted differences in egalitarian attitudes between women and men (83% confidence intervals). Models include country-fixed effects and control for education level.

Figure B7. Sensitivity Analysis: Trends in Gender Gaps in Attitudes Towards Shared Financial Responsibility (Expanded Age Range: 20–35)



Note: Predicted differences in egalitarian attitudes between women and men (83% confidence intervals). Models include country-fixed effects and control for education level.

Figure B8. Sensitivity Analysis: Trends in Gender Gaps in Attitudes Towards the Consequences of Maternal Employment for Children’s Well-Being (Expanded Age Range: 20–35)



Note: Predicted differences in egalitarian attitudes between women and men (83% confidence intervals). Models include country-fixed effects and control for education level.

Figure B9. Sensitivity Analysis: Trends in Gender Gaps in Attitudes Toward Maternal Employment and Mother–Child Relationship Quality (Expanded Age Range: 20–35)

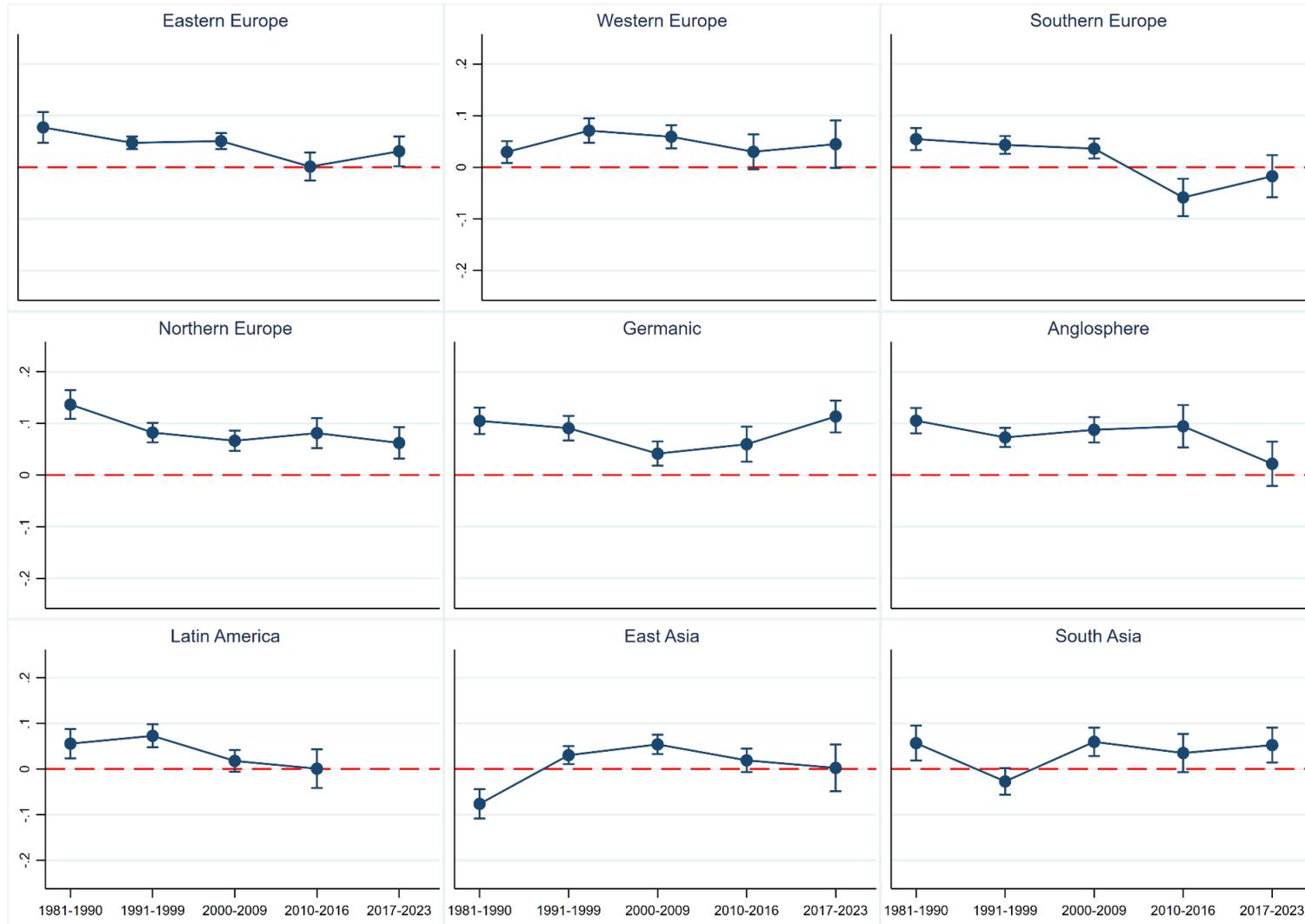
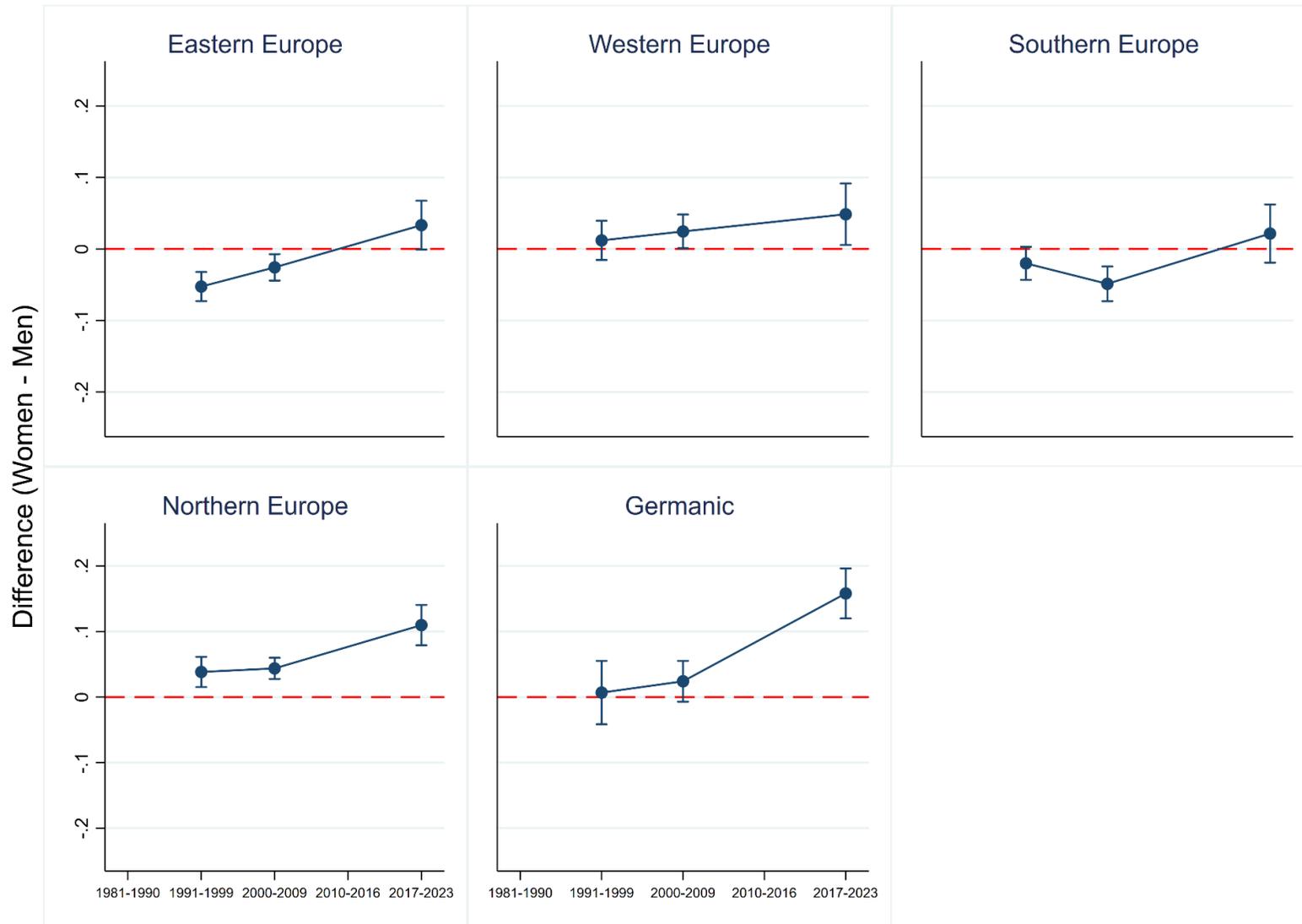
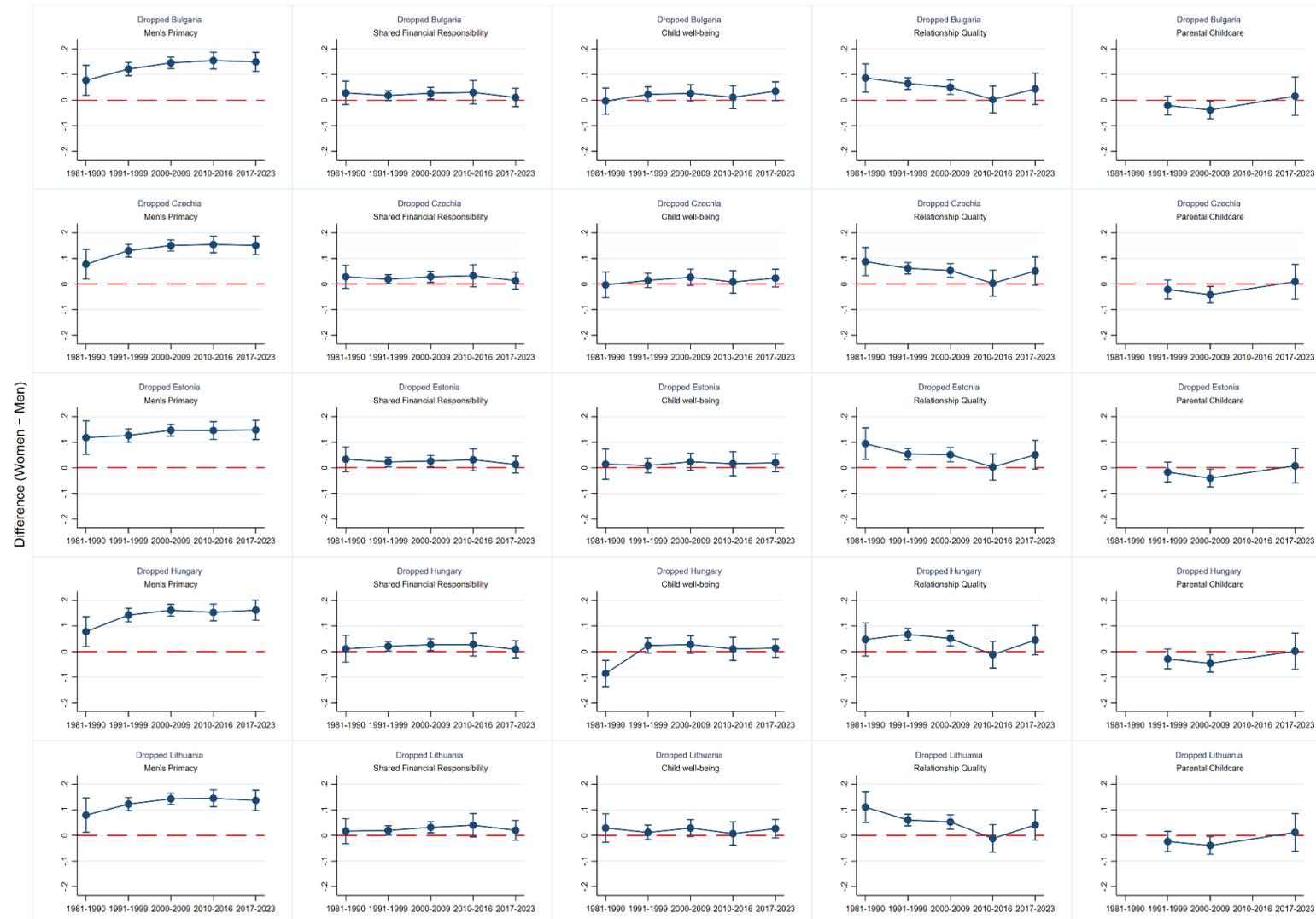


Figure B10. Sensitivity Analysis: Trends in Gender Gaps in Attitudes Toward Parental Childcare (Expanded Age Range: 20–35)



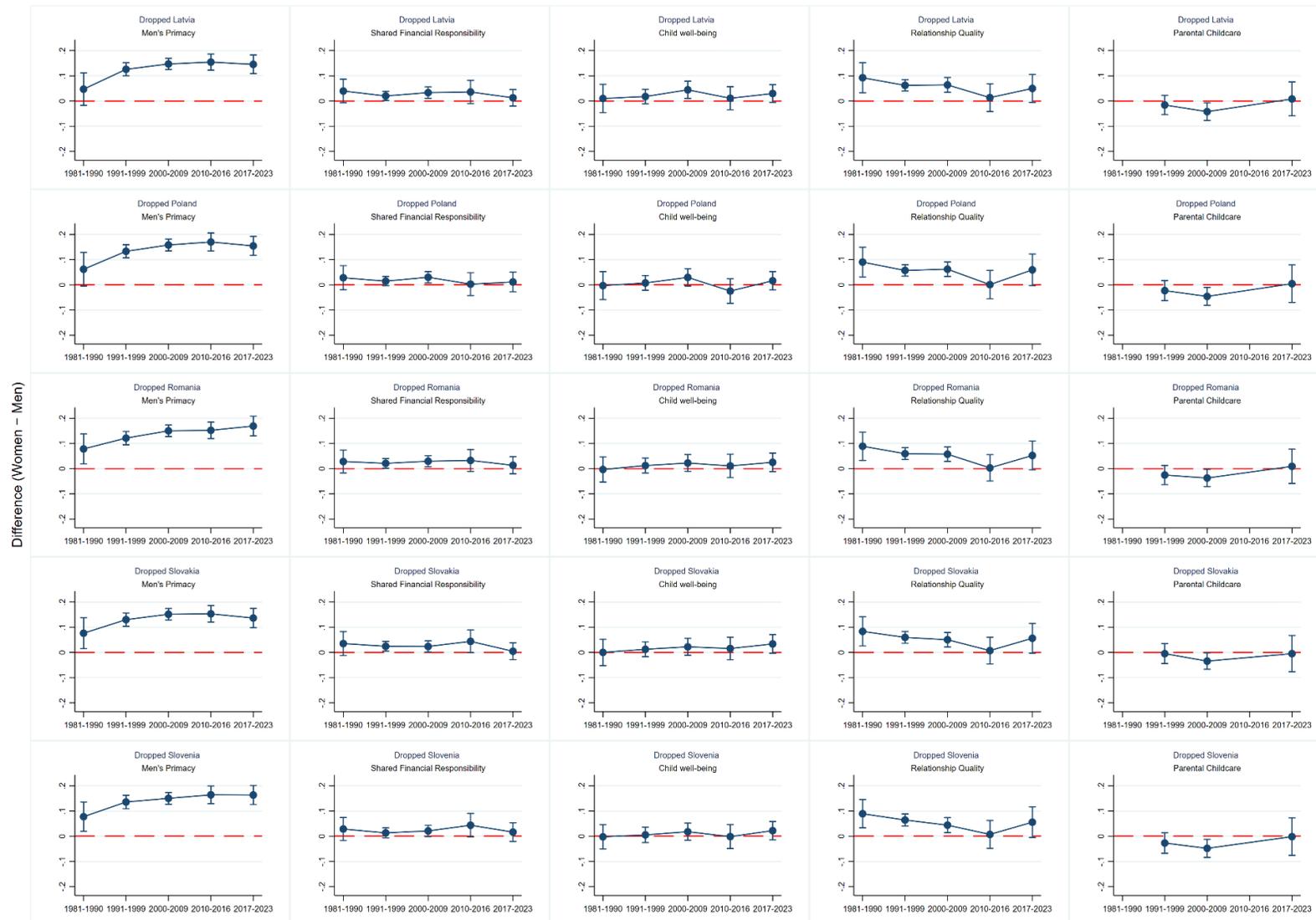
Note: Predicted differences in egalitarian attitudes between women and men (83% confidence intervals). Models include country-fixed effects and control for education level.

Figure B11A. Sensitivity Analysis for Eastern Europe: Regional Trends Excluding One Country at a Time



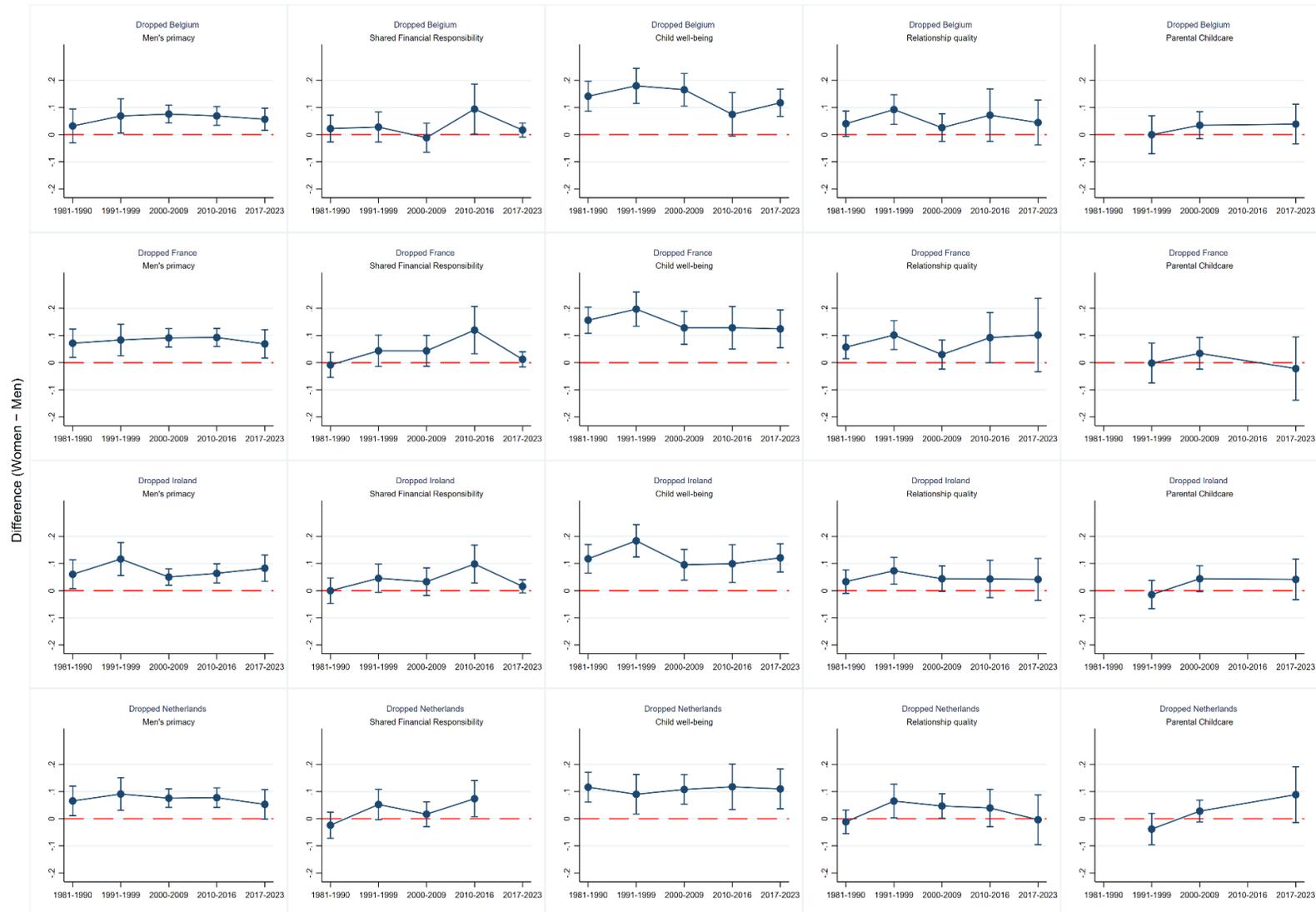
Note: Predicted differences in egalitarian attitudes between women and men (83% confidence intervals). Models include country fixed effects and control for education level. Each row shows results excluding the named country.

Figure B11B. Sensitivity Analysis for Eastern Europe: Regional Trends Excluding One Country at a Time



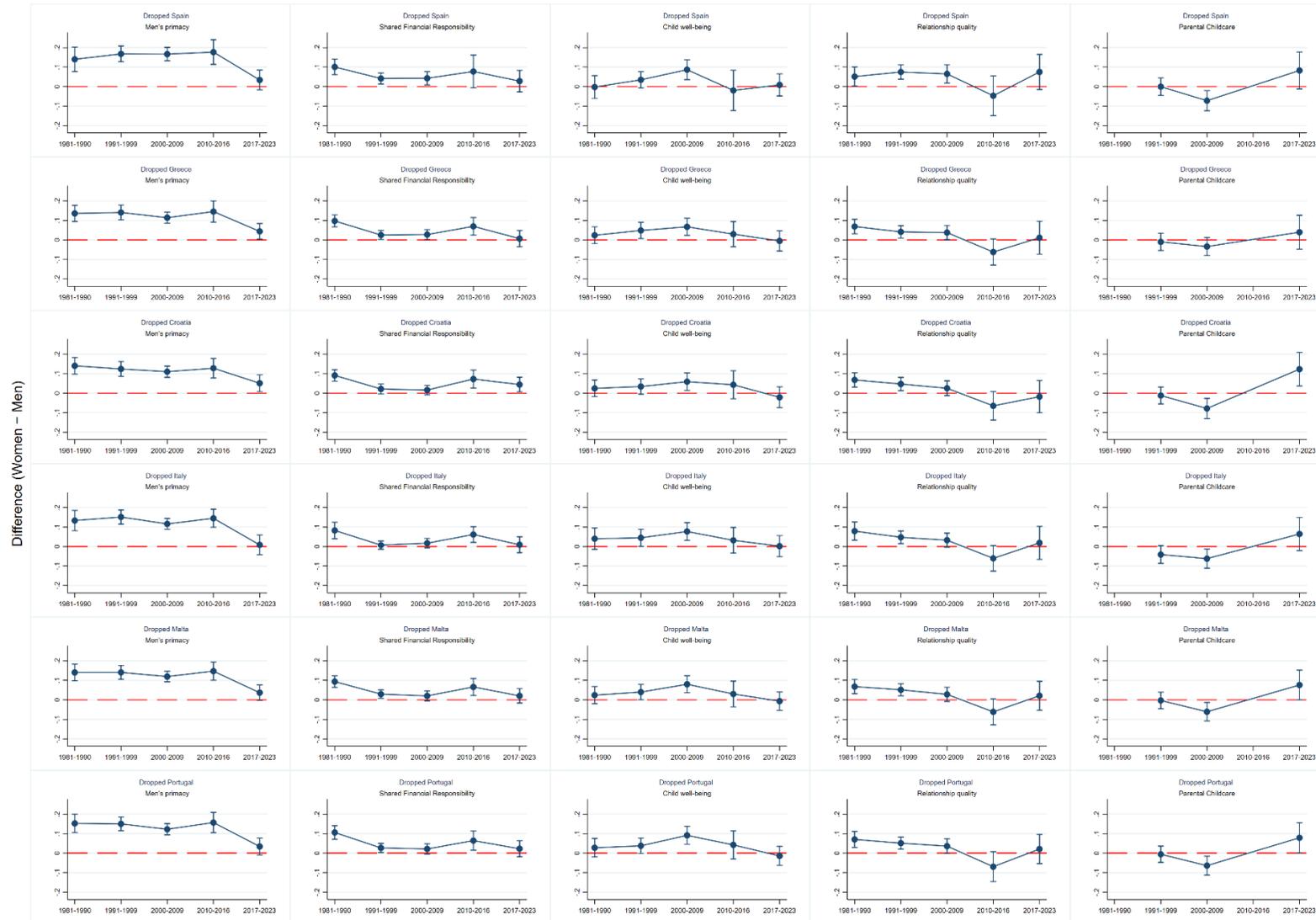
Note: Predicted differences in egalitarian attitudes between women and men (83% confidence intervals). Models include country fixed effects and control for education level. Each row shows results excluding the named country.

Figure B12. Sensitivity Analysis for Western Europe: Regional Trends Excluding One Country at a Time



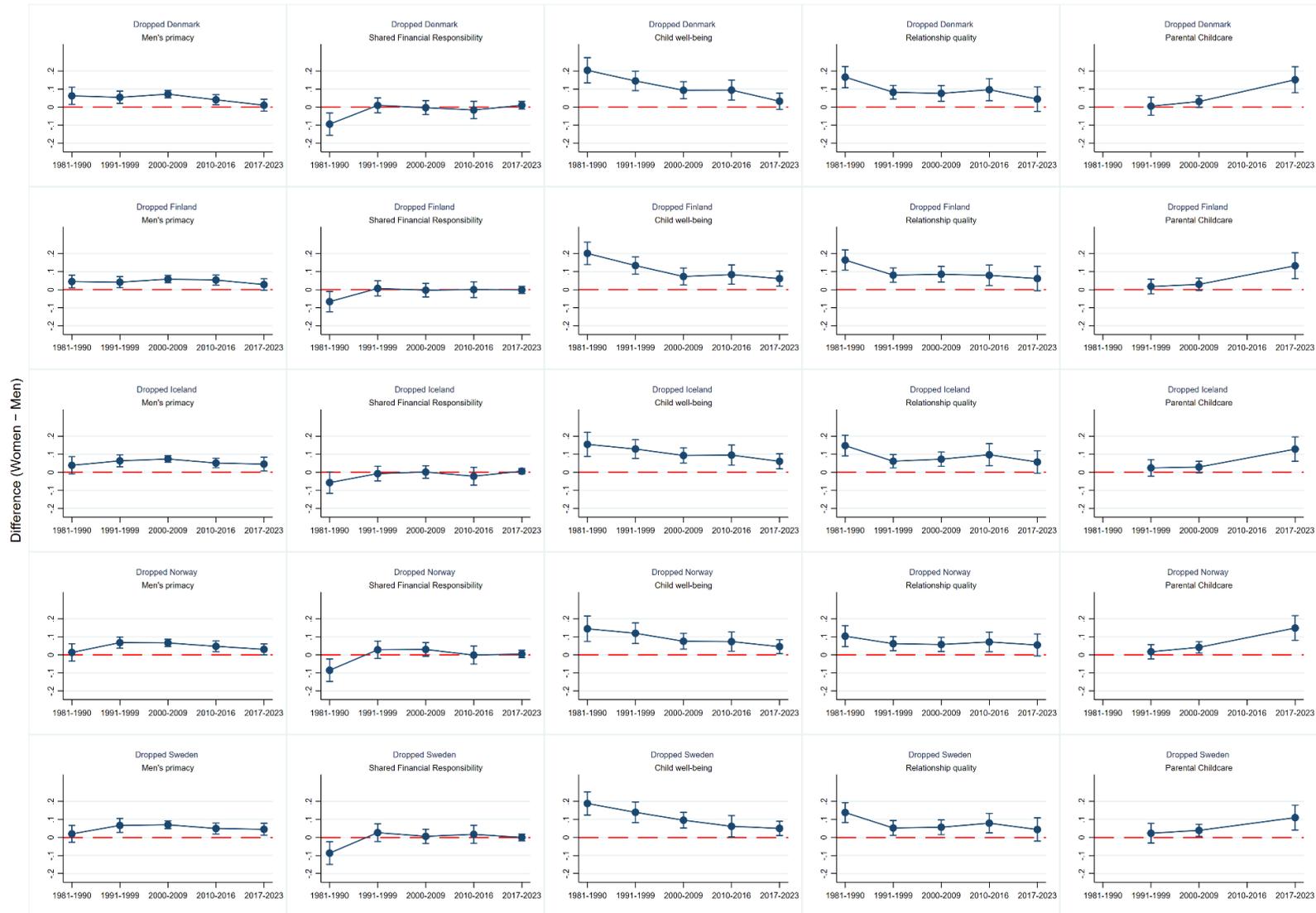
Note: Predicted differences in egalitarian attitudes between women and men (83% confidence intervals). Models include country fixed effects and control for education level. Each row shows results excluding the named country.

Figure B13. Sensitivity Analysis for Southern Europe: Regional Trends Excluding One Country at a Time



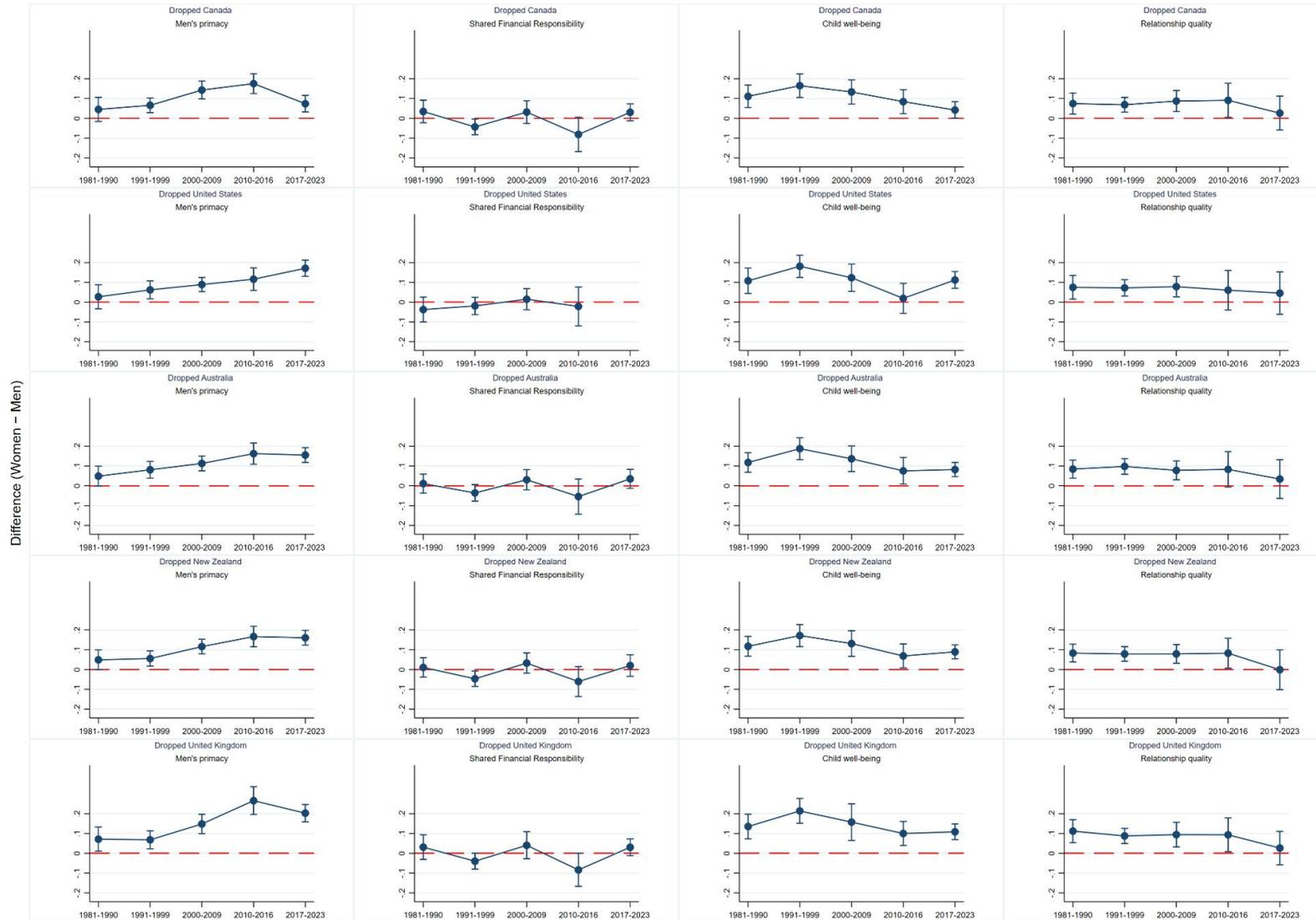
Note: Predicted differences in egalitarian attitudes between women and men (83% confidence intervals). Models include country fixed effects and control for education level. Each row shows results excluding the named country.

Figure B14. Sensitivity Analysis for Northern Europe: Regional Trends Excluding One Country at a Time



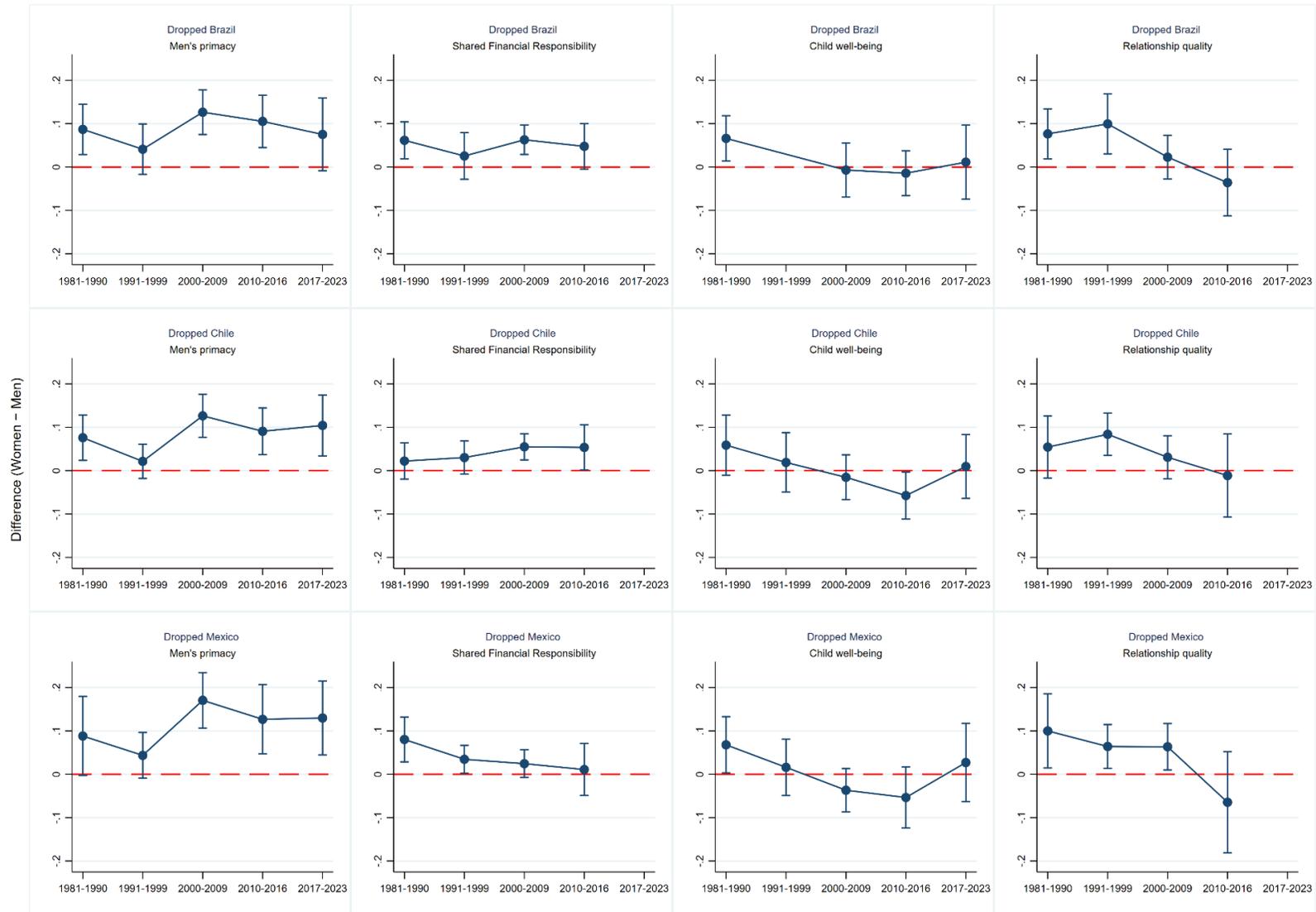
Note: Predicted differences in egalitarian attitudes between women and men (83% confidence intervals). Models include country fixed effects and control for education level. Each row shows results excluding the named country.

Figure B15. Sensitivity Analysis for Anglosphere Countries: Regional Trends Excluding One Country at a Time



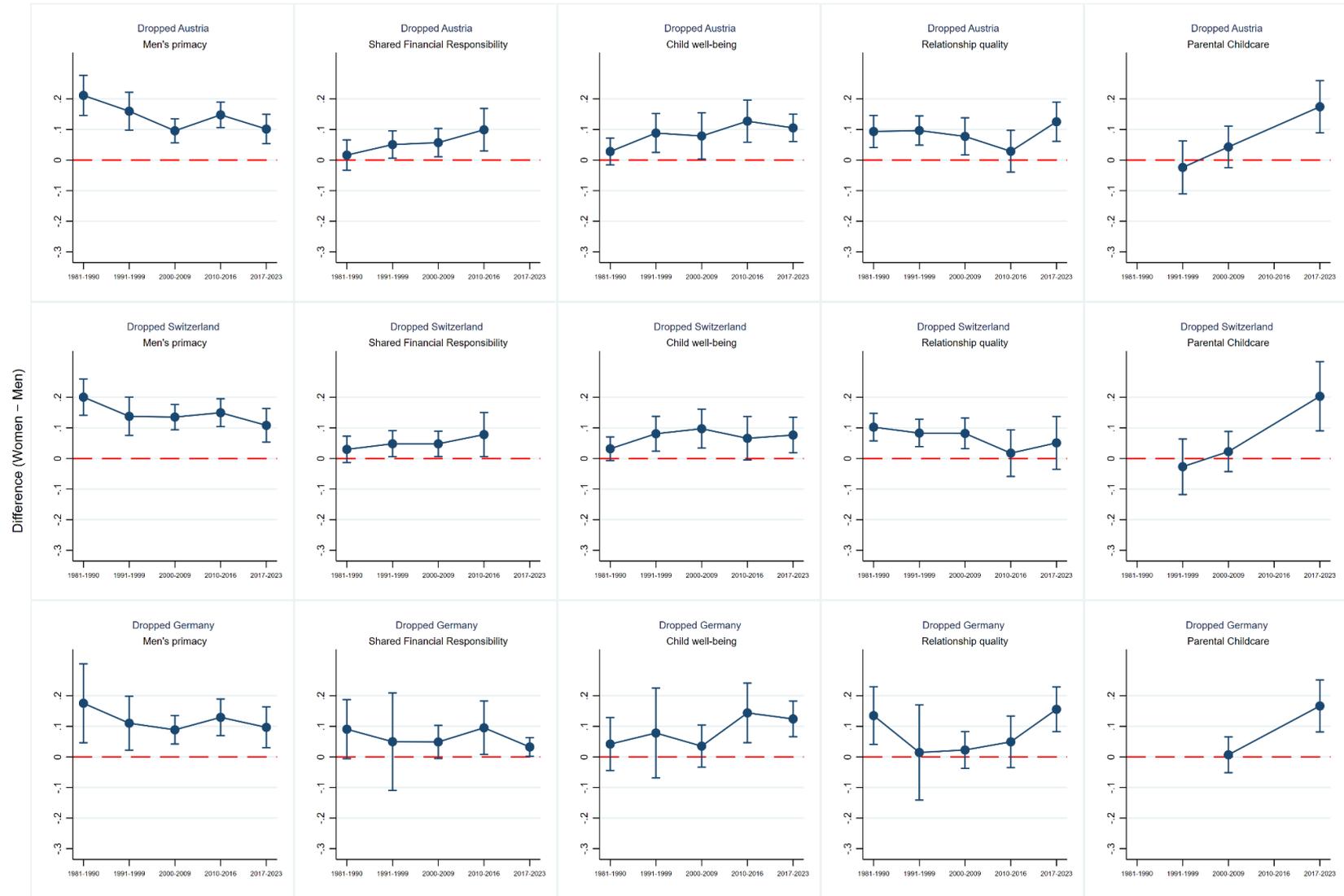
Note: Predicted differences in egalitarian attitudes between women and men (83% confidence intervals). Models include country fixed effects and control for education level. Each row shows results excluding the named country.

Figure B16. Sensitivity Analysis for Latin America: Regional Trends Excluding One Country at a Time



Note: Predicted differences in egalitarian attitudes between women and men, with 83% confidence intervals. Models include country fixed effects and control for education level. Each row shows results excluding the named country.

Figure B17. Sensitivity Analysis for Germanic-speaking Countries: Regional Trends Excluding One Country at a Time



Note: Predicted differences in egalitarian attitudes between women and men, with 83% confidence intervals. Models include country fixed effects and control for education level. Each row shows results excluding the named country.

Figure B18. Sensitivity Analysis for South Asia: Regional Trends Excluding One Country at a Time

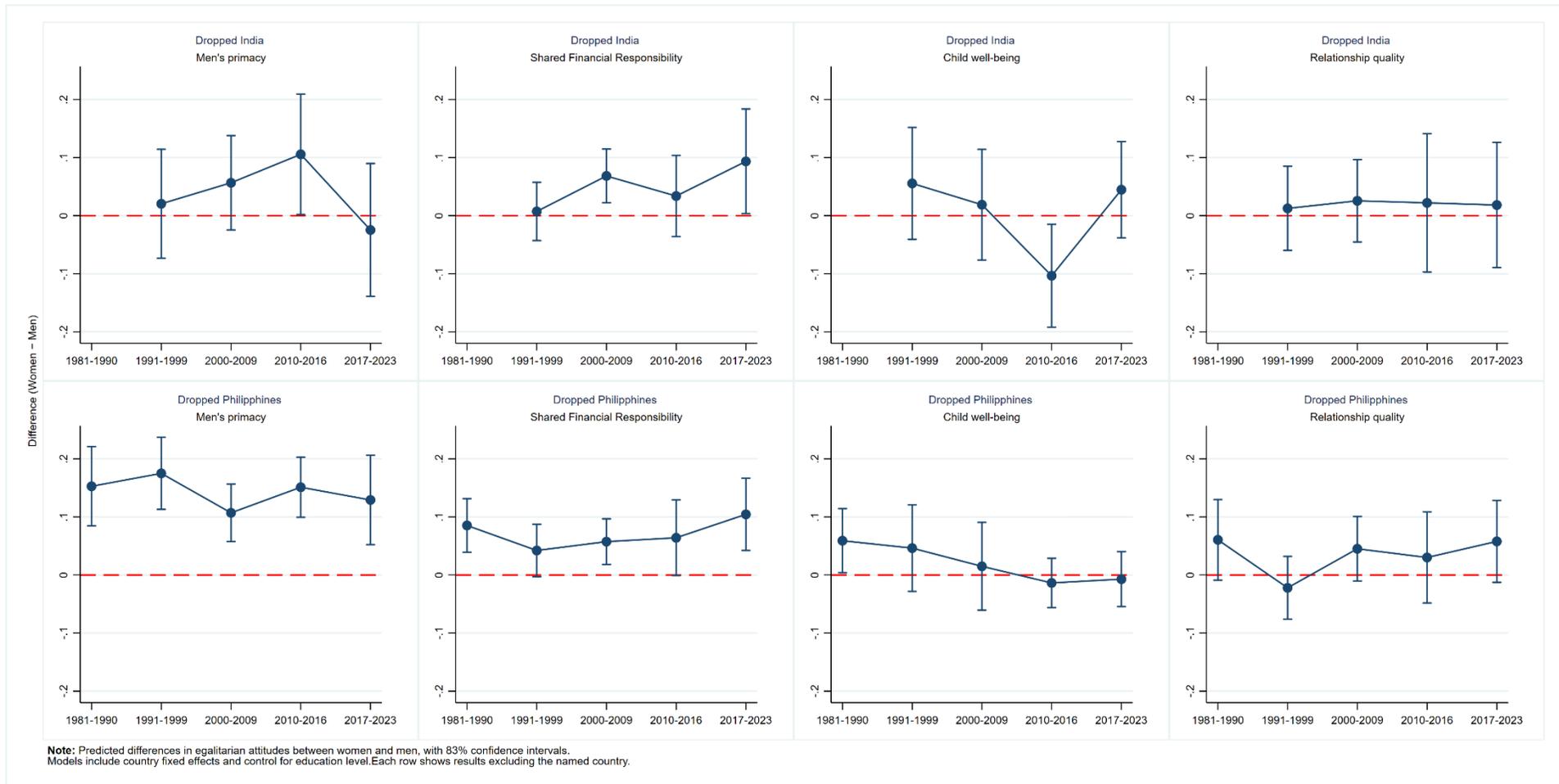
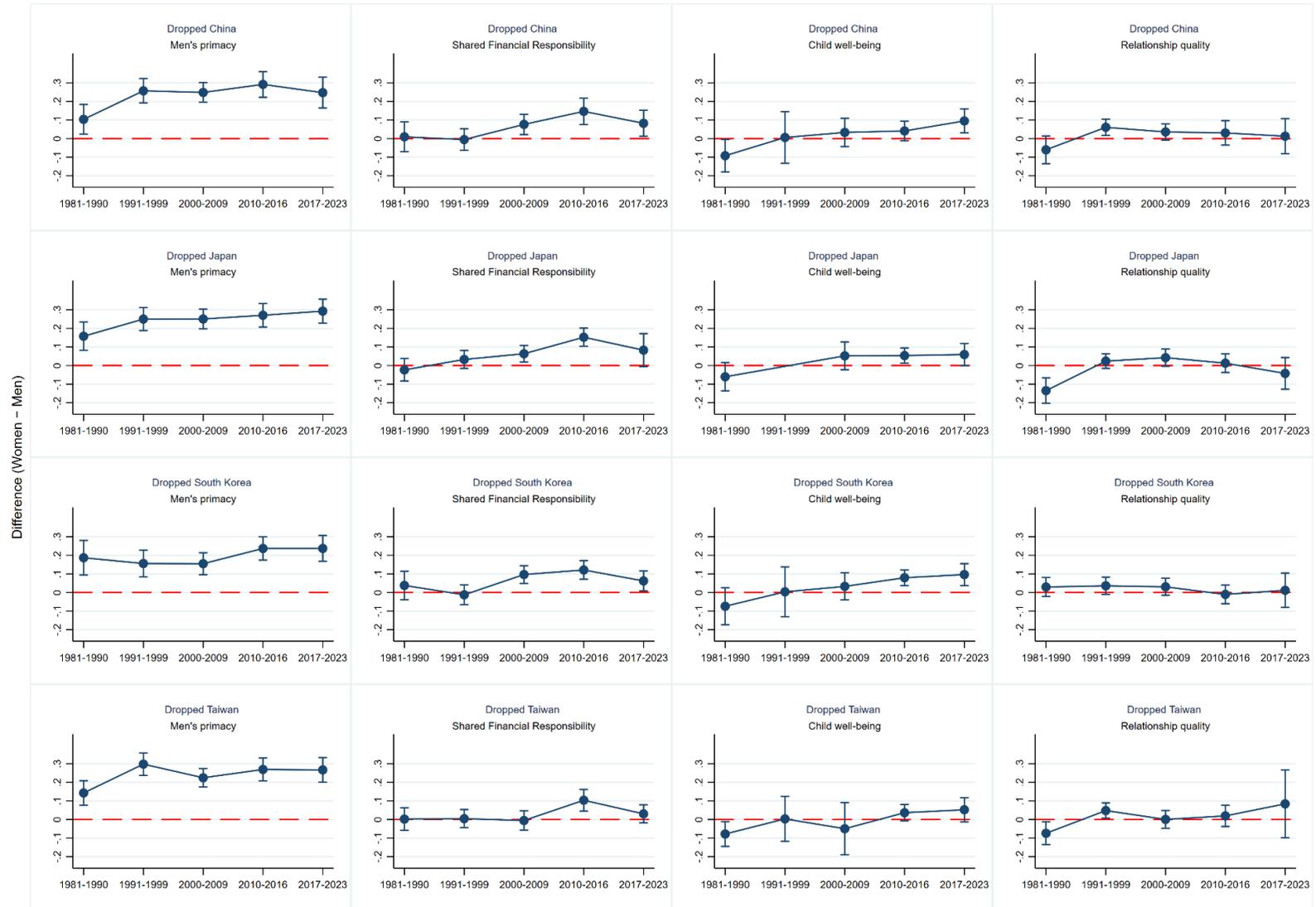


Figure B19. Sensitivity Analysis for East Asia: Regional Trends Excluding One Country at a Time



Note: Predicted differences in egalitarian attitudes between women and men (83% confidence intervals). Models include country fixed effects and control for education level. Each row shows results excluding the named country.



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