GERMANY’S POLITICAL SHAKE-UP

The CDU and SPD – members of the ruling grand coalition in Berlin – have lost voters to the left (the Greens) and right (AfD) on issues ranging from the environment to migration.

This B|Visual displays Germany’s political fragmentation through vote share differences following recent state-level elections.

In 2016, Saxony-Anhalt experienced – in the midst of the so-called Syrian refugee crisis – the first wave of support away from the CDU towards the AfD. The far-right AfD acquired a staggering 25 percent of the vote.

The Greens have more than doubled their support nationally, and are currently polling at 22 percent, after winning just 8.9 percent of the vote in the 2017 federal elections.

The SPD has lost ground in 14 of 16 federal state election cycles since 2011. Similarly, the CDU has experienced losses in 11 of 16 federal states in the same time.

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