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***European Social Survey – Round 2 –
Measuring Attitude Change in Europe***

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European Social Survey –Round 2 – Measuring Attitude Change in Europe

MACE

Final report

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Preface

Within the Fifth Community RTD Framework Programme of the European Union (1998–2002), the Key Action 'Improving the Socio-economic Knowledge Base' had broad and ambitious objectives, namely: to improve our understanding of the structural changes taking place in European society, to identify ways of managing these changes and to promote the active involvement of European citizens in shaping their own futures. A further important aim was to mobilise the research communities in the social sciences and humanities at the European level and to provide scientific support to policies at various levels, with particular attention to EU policy fields.

This Key Action had a total budget of EUR 155 million and was implemented through three Calls for proposals. As a result, 185 projects involving more than 1 600 research teams from 38 countries have been selected for funding and have started their research between 1999 and 2002.

Most of these projects are now finalised and results are systematically published in the form of a Final Report.

The calls have addressed different but interrelated research themes which have contributed to the objectives outlined above. These themes can be grouped under a certain number of areas of policy relevance, each of which are addressed by a significant number of projects from a variety of perspectives.

These areas are the following:

- ***Societal trends and structural change***

16 projects, total investment of EUR 14.6 million, 164 teams

- ***Quality of life of European citizens***

5 projects, total investment of EUR 6.4 million, 36 teams

- ***European socio-economic models and challenges***

9 projects, total investment of EUR 9.3 million, 91 teams

- ***Social cohesion, migration and welfare***

30 projects, total investment of EUR 28 million, 249 teams

- ***Employment and changes in work***

18 projects, total investment of EUR 17.5 million, 149 teams

- ***Gender, participation and quality of life***

13 projects, total investment of EUR 12.3 million, 97 teams

- ***Dynamics of knowledge, generation and use***

8 projects, total investment of EUR 6.1 million, 77 teams

- ***Education, training and new forms of learning***

14 projects, total investment of EUR 12.9 million, 105 teams

- ***Economic development and dynamics***

22 projects, total investment of EUR 15.3 million, 134 teams

- ***Governance, democracy and citizenship***

28 projects; total investment of EUR 25.5 million, 233 teams

- ***Challenges from European enlargement***

13 projects, total investment of EUR 12.8 million, 116 teams

- ***Infrastructures to build the European research area***

9 projects, total investment of EUR 15.4 million, 74 teams

This publication contains the final report of the project 'European Social Survey –Round 2 – Measuring Attitude Change in Europe', whose work has primarily contributed to the area 'the development of European infrastructures for comparative research in the social sciences and humanities'.

The report contains information about the main scientific findings of MACE and their policy implications. The research was carried out by six teams over a period of 31 months, starting in March 2003

The abstract and executive summary presented in this edition offer the reader an overview of the main scientific and policy conclusions, before the main body of the research provided in the other chapters of this report.

As the results of the projects financed under the Key Action become available to the scientific and policy communities, Priority 7 'Citizens and Governance in a knowledge based society' of the Sixth Framework Programme is building on the progress already made and aims at making a further contribution to the development of a European Research Area in the social sciences and the humanities.

I hope readers find the information in this publication both interesting and useful as well as clear evidence of the importance attached by the European Union to fostering research in the field of social sciences and the humanities.

J.-M. BAER,

Director

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Abstract

The European Social Survey (ESS) is a multi-country biennial survey now in its third round (though it has recently obtained core funding for Round 4 as well). While the first round of the ESS was carried out in 22 countries, its second round – on which this report is based – embraced 26 countries, thus expanding the scope of the project and consolidating its initial success.

The ESS has three main aims:

- to measure, monitor and interpret changing public attitudes within Europe and to explain how they interact with changing European institutions;
- to advance and consolidate improved methods of cross-national quantitative measurement within Europe and beyond;
- to develop a series of social indicators, including attitudinal indicators, which monitor trends in the quality of life within and between European nations.

Drawing on the best traditions of quantitative social measurement, and combining them with a range of pioneering new methods, a rich, publicly available dataset consisting of two rounds of data is already in place and being widely quarried. The innovative format in which it is made available via the World Wide Web, enables easy access to the dataset not just to the social science and policy communities, but also to the mass media and other less sophisticated users. A hallmark of the ESS is that its dataset is freely available without charge to any interested user.

Designed to measure social change over time both regularly and rigorously, the ESS questionnaire is in two parts. A core section comprises a stable set of key measures covering critical aspects of the social condition of Europe. A second section comprises two or three rotating modules of questions on subjects that change from round to round. The subject matter and content of these modules are influenced by specialist teams selected via a European-wide competition. While in Round 1, the two rotating modules were on 'Immigration and asylum', and 'Citizen engagement', the three selected modules in Round 2 were on 'Family, work and well-being', 'Health and care-seeking', and 'Economic morality'.

So, while Round 1 provided the core benchmark measures against which future data may be compared, Round 2 has begun the process of collecting evidence on the direction of change in underlying public values over time. Future rounds will continue that process.

But, even at this early stage of its life, the ESS has begun to provide rigorous measures of changing cross-national attitudes and values of a kind that have hitherto been very scarce, whether in Europe or anywhere else. As important, however, the ESS has pioneered and 'proved' a standard of methodology for cross-national attitude measurement that has hitherto not been considered achievable. The project's sampling standards, questionnaire design tools, translation protocols, event monitoring techniques, response enhancement mechanisms, fieldwork management tools and data dissemination arrangements have all broken fresh ground and are already influencing standards at both a national and international level.

The project's impact on governance within an expanding EU may take somewhat longer to become evident, but is also likely to be considerable. But an authoritative source of new data that allows shifts in social attitudes to be definitively measured and explained, is bound to play an important role in the evaluation of future policies and institutional practices. Above all, the ESS is designed to provide a sophisticated appreciation of long term changes in public attitudes in Europe. As such it should contrast sharply with the range of instant opinion polls that are often used improbably for the same purpose. In an era of declining political participation and electoral turnout, such data should help to mitigate the democratic deficit.

The unprecedented demand for the ESS data set throughout Europe from the very moment it became available (see later sections) is testimony to its perceived value and utility among the academic and policy communities.

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The European Social Survey (ESS) is a multi-country biennial survey designed to chart and explain the interaction between Europe's changing institutions and the attitudes, beliefs and behaviour patterns of its diverse populations. The first round of data collection took place in 2002 in 22 countries, and its second round – on which this report is based – took place in 2004 in 26 countries. The third round of the project is now underway, with fieldwork due to be completed at the end of 2006. This report describes the design and implementation of the second round and documents ways in which the methodology has evolved on the basis of lessons learned in Round 1. We also describe new developmental work that has been carried out during Round 2.

1. Background to the study

The concept of a European Social Survey goes back to 1995 when the European Science Foundation (ESF) set up an Expert Group to investigate the desirability and feasibility of an academically-led European-wide 'general social survey.' The Expert Group duly submitted a unanimous recommendation for a regular, rigorous ESS. It would, the report argued, not only be an important asset to European governance, supplying it with authoritative data on long-term attitude change, but would also serve the European social science community by providing data essential for the rigorous analysis and interpretation of social change.

The Expert Group concluded too that most authoritative European-wide survey data tended to focus on the contrasting *characteristics* of European societies (demographic and behavioural profiles), aspects of populations on which official statistical offices necessarily concentrate. But this leaves a major gap in knowledge about the differences within and between European societies, which informed governance ignores only at its peril. Their conclusion was that Europe needs to know more about its own *character* (how its different peoples think and feel about their worlds and themselves). In the absence of authoritative data on such issues, Europe would necessarily have to rely on inadequate or misleading information or unsupported national stereotypes.

So, just as Europe was considered to be an obvious laboratory for innovations in comparative social measurement, so the ESS was considered to be a significant development in the service of European policy and academia. Thus, new committees were duly appointed to devise an appropriate blueprint for the new ESS.

At the end of their deliberations, the present ESS PI (at the time a member both of the Expert Group and the Committees it spawned), was called on to lead an application to

the EC under Call 2 of Framework 5 for the detailed design and co-ordination of the study. The application was successful and – as important - 22 national academic funding agencies subsequently took independent decisions to cover their own national costs of mounting and implementing Round 1. Meanwhile the ESF determined to meet the costs of scientific liaison and multinational advisory committee meetings. So a complicated network of some 24 funding sources was formed to ensure the successful design and implementation of this ambitious new study. However, although the ESS was always explicitly intended to be a time series, its complicated network of funding agencies came together in the first instance only for a single round. Subsequently, all but one national agency (Israel) committed them afresh for Round 2 funding and were joined by five new countries to bring Round 2 participation to 26 countries. National Round 3 participation promises to be at a similar level.

Thus for the first time in Europe, an academic cross-national attitude study was to be conducted according to identical and uniquely ambitious ground-rules that had been laid down in advance in a centrally-determined specification.

1.1. Objectives of the study

The three main aims of the ESS are:

- 1) to measure, monitor and interpret changing public attitudes within Europe and to explain how they interact with changing European institutions;
- 2) to advance and consolidate improved methods of cross-national quantitative measurement within Europe and beyond;
- 3) to develop a series of social indicators, including attitudinal indicators, which monitor trends in the quality of life within and between European nations.

Aim 1: To measure, monitor and interpret changing public attitudes within Europe and to explain how they interact with changing European institutions

All societies require accurate data about themselves if they are to analyse their social and economic conditions, and most European societies are, of course, reasonably well-documented in these respects. But there has been a persistent gap until now in the availability of appropriate trend data at a European level on trends in public attitudes, perceptions and social values. True, longstanding time series such as the Eurobarometers provide a limited but valuable range of such data on behalf of the Commission. But a more wide-ranging and more rigorous academically-led time series has been

conspicuously absent. The creation of the ESS by the ESF and its subsequent supported from the Commission and over 20 national academic funding agencies was a deliberate attempt to bridge this gap. Always envisaged as a time series, its role is to monitor underlying value changes over time between and within European countries.

Drawing on the best examples at national level in Europe and beyond, the ESS has already produced two combined publicly available datasets containing data from its participating countries. The formats in which they are available make them accessible not only to the social science and policy communities in Europe and abroad but also to the mass media and all other interested users via the World Wide Web.

Fieldwork is conducted biennially, and the questionnaire is divided into two halves – one half devoted to a core section and the other half to rotating modules. The core section contains a stable set of key measures that are designed to monitor critical aspects of social change whose importance is not expected to ebb and flow over time. In contrast, the content of the rotating modules is different at each round (though each rotating module is also designed for repetition at some point in the future). In round 2 the three rotating modules were on the subjects of:

- Family, Work and Well-being.
- Health and Care Seeking.
- Economic Morality

Thus in a modest way, the ESS attempts to complement some of the major Eurostat time series, but it focuses on trends in public attitudes, which of course almost all official Statistical Agencies regard as outside their remit. To provide the context for its data on social and political value change, the ESS also compiles 'national event data', enabling analysts to take account of important national (or international) events that may have affected responses in different nations before or during fieldwork in different rounds.

Aim 2: To advance and consolidate improved methods of cross-national quantitative measurement within Europe and beyond

The ESS has an equally important methodological objective. As noted, as a result of the paucity of relevant and rigorous comparative time series on attitudinal trends in Europe, it was felt that too much credence was being given to data based on inadequate and often unrepresentative snapshots mostly provided by polls designed for other purposes. It was the time for cross-national attitude research to be bolstered by the same advances in cross-national measurement that much behavioural research had already begun to

employ. So from the start the ESS also had a major methodological challenge. It needed to lead from the front not only to show that the ambitious attitudinal surveys it planned were feasible in so many disparate countries simultaneously, but also to attempt to influence existing practice for the better at both a national and a cross-national level.

Thus, each participating nation in the ESS has to 'sign up' in advance, through its own funding agency, to strict adherence to a wide range of specifications covering sampling, questionnaire design, event and context measurements, translation, fieldwork standards, response rates and data archiving. They also have to sign up to practices – often absent from such studies in the past – of central coordination and complete transparency. Weaknesses in the data are meticulously documented, as are any national deviations. Any major deviation – for instance resulting from a poor translation of a question – may result in the removal of the answers to that question from the *combined* dataset (though they will still appear in the national data).

In this way, weaknesses are highlighted rather than hidden, and improvements can be made between rounds. Where this has happened between Rounds 1 and 2, they are documented in this report. In addition, a programme of methods experiments has now been embedded in the project with the aim of improving comparative survey methods more generally.

Aim 3: To develop a series of social indicators, including attitudinal indicators, which monitor trends in the quality of life within and between European nations

A longer-term objective of the ESS is to achieve greater recognition for reliable social indicators and attitudinal measures that will compliment the behavioural and structural indicators by which societal well-being is judged. At present there is a heavy emphasis on economic indicators as measures of national well-being. Now, as a result of the work of Sir Tony Atkinson and his colleagues, these indicators are to be complemented by a limited number of measures of social exclusion. But it has long been an objective of the ESS to expand the list of indicators (whether officially or unofficially) to include some well-founded composite attitudinal indicators. So, to the extent that, say, fear of crime increases in a society, it is an indicator that a particular aspect of quality of life is declining. The relationship between fear of crime and actual crime rates is, of course, ambiguous and uncertain, but what keeps older people from going out at night is their fear of crime – whether ill-founded or not – not national measures of reported crime. Similarly, the relationship, if any, between trust in government and electoral turnout needs further attention cross-nationally. If the aim of the EU is to improve the quality of

life of its citizens, it needs to pay more attention to attitudinal as well as circumstantial and behavioural indicators.

Funding for the ESS until now has stopped short of substantive analysis of the data, but the recent award of 'Infrastructure' support to the ESS under FP6 for the next five years should enable this work to start in earnest. This report takes us up to the launch of a publicly-accessible and freely available ESS dataset for Round 2 on the Internet, released on time in September 2005, exactly two years after the release of the combined Round 1 dataset.

1.2. ESS and the Fifth Framework

Round 2 of the ESS was funded under Call 3 of FP5, fitting into Part I (Themes 2 &3), Part II, and Part III of Key Action "Improving the socio-economic knowledge base" which referred to:

- the measurement of social trends related to societal and individual well-being;
- issues of citizenship and governance in a multinational context;
- the development of a lasting infrastructure for rigorous quantitative social science research;
- the generation of knowledge that can be used by society and which actively promotes policy-related social science in Europe.

The main objective of the second round of the ESS was to carry out the survey, making improvements where required while at the same time ensuring continuity of methodology and outputs. As noted, Round 2 consisted of equivalent surveys in 26 nations. Change data are, however, available for the moment on only 21 of these countries that also took part in Round 1. All the data and outputs for both Round 1 and 2 are freely available throughout Europe and beyond. And the study has already proved and promoted new standards of methodology for cross-national attitude surveys which are influencing practice not only in Europe but in the US as well.

2. Background to the scientific description of project results & methodology

The ESS has now been successfully fielded twice (in 2002 and 2004), the first time in 21 countries and the second time in 26 countries. Its protocols and full documentation, as well as its datasets, are easily accessible and publicly available. For instance, there are already over 7,000 registered users of its datasets within and beyond Europe, almost a half of whom have downloaded data for statistical analysis. Others use it as a comprehensive information source or for conducting cross-tabulations of the data on-line.

Organisation

The structural organisation of the ESS has remained the same between Rounds 1 and 2.

The Central Co-ordinating Team (CCT) is made up of people with a variety of skills and disciplines from six different institutions. Its role has been to design, steer and deliver two rounds of the ESS to exacting standards. Led by Professor Roger Jowell and his team at City University (London), the other partners are based at Zentrum für Umfragen, Methoden und Analysen (Germany), Sociaal en Cultureel Planbureau (Netherlands), Universiteit van Amsterdam School of Communications Research (Netherlands), Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (Belgium) and Norwegian Social Science Data Services (Norway).

The wider network, established in Round 1 to bolster the work of the CCT, also remained unchanged during Round 2, though inevitably a few of its members have changed. This network includes a Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) – chaired by Professor Max Kaase (International University of Bremen, Germany), and including a representative of the academic funding agency of each participating country, a network of National Co-ordinators representing each country, a small expert multi-nation Methods Group and a Funders' Forum representing all countries. These formal networks are of course served by survey houses (some of them NSIs, some non-profit institutes, some commercial agencies) selected by each National Coordinator and/or National Funding Agency to carry out the fieldwork in that country.

Also reporting to the CCT are two multi-nation panels, one on sampling, the other on translation, whose task is to help the smooth implementation at a national level of the centrally determined ESS protocols. In addition, the SAB is responsible for the appointment of the multi-nation Questionnaire Design Teams after a Europe-wide Call for Proposals. The appointed teams (three in Round 2) become responsible for advising on the design and content of the rotating modules.

Funding

As noted, the ESS is funded from numerous separate sources. The biggest single source is of course the EC which supports the project's central design and coordination. This funding is supplemented by the European Science Foundation which – Rounds 1 and 2 - supported the projects academic liaison and meetings. But the bulk of the project's overall funding for Round 2 (as in all rounds) came from 26 national academic funding agencies, each of which independently finances the fieldwork in their own country. Only Israel among the Round 1 countries was unable to raise support for Round 2 despite strenuous efforts. The absence of a national budget at the time ultimately made it impossible to achieve.

Common specification

As in Round 1, a standard specification existed which all participating organisations signed up to. It detailed the methods, protocols and procedures to be followed in order to achieve the high standards required. Adherence to the specification was a requirement for a country's data to be included in the integrated ESS dataset.

Sampling

As in round 1, Sabine Häder (ZUMA) chaired the Sampling Panel which oversaw the ESS sample design. The overall sampling strategy was based on the principles of Leslie Kish, namely that although each national sample design must necessarily rely on different sources and be somewhat different in its precise selection methods, strict national equivalence was the hallmark that had to be achieved. Notably, each national sample is based on an equivalent random probability design which aims to be representative of all residents of a country aged 15 and over, regardless of their citizenship, who live in private households.

A member of the Sampling Panel was allocated to each country to advise on principles and procedures where necessary and ultimately to 'sign off' that country's design (in each case ratified by the whole Panel). Despite differences in detail, the Sampling Panel satisfied itself that each national sample had equivalent properties, always based on strict principles of probability. No 'quota' elements were permitted, nor any substitution of unobtainable or reluctant individuals or households. New sampling designs had to be devised for the five new countries in Round 2. As for existing countries, in some cases, improvements were made to aspects of the design, while in others the design remained the same.

All participating countries, including those which rarely apply strict probability methods, worked successfully with the Sampling Panel to meet the ESS' stringent specifications.

Questionnaire Design

The ESS interview consists of a main face-to-face interview of around an hour in duration, followed by a short supplementary questionnaire (designed to test variant question wordings or forms as part of the survey's methodological development work). The supplementary questionnaire is carried out either by self-completion methods or as an extension of the main face-to-face interview.

As noted, the main interview includes a core module that lasts half an hour that is repeated more or less in identical form at each round of the survey. In Round 2, as intended, only a very small number of changes (some additions, matched by some deletions) were made to the core module, after a thorough evaluation. The remainder of the main interview was devoted to rotating modules (see below) which are intended to provide an in-depth focus on particular topics.

After wide consultation the focus of the core was set before Round 1 to cover three broad domains:

- People's value orientations.
- People's cultural and national orientations.
- The underlying social structure of society.

Rotating Modules and Questionnaire Design Teams

Following an open Europe-wide competition, three Questionnaire Design Teams were selected by the SAB to help develop rotating modules for Round 2 of the ESS. One module contained 60 items, the other two 30 items each. The subjects were:

Family, Work and Well-being (60-item module) – designed by a team headed by Professor Robert Erikson at the University of Stockholm (Sweden). The aim of the module was to provide insights into current issues of work, family and well-being and the interactions between them. It deals with the implications for personal well-being of changes both in the nature of work and in the structure, composition and organisation of household and family responsibilities.

Health and Care Seeking (30-item module) – designed by a team headed by Dr Sjoerd Kooiker at SCP in The Hague (Netherlands). Health care and its possible reform is

high on the policy agenda of most governments in Europe nowadays. There are large differences in models of health care and modes of provision. Indeed differential provision of services may influence people's perceptions of their own health and how they seek remedies to ill-health. So the aim of the module was to map the interrelationships between health structure and health behaviour.

Economic Morality (30-item module) – designed by a team headed by Susanne Karstedt at Keele University (UK). The aim of this module was to examine the normative and moral culture of markets and consumption in different European countries. It examines the way in which the 'economic morality' of market/consumer society in Europe is responding to globalisation, neo-liberal market policies and a transition to market economies. So it provides cross-national data on consumer perceptions and behaviour in relation to the suppliers of goods and services.

A two-nation Pilot

Two large pilots took place in early 2004 - one in Britain and one in Poland and both based on over 400 cases - to test both the few proposed changes to the core and the new rotating modules in the field. The findings from both pilots were analysed in detail and guided subsequent design decisions, such as whether to make further changes or whether to delete certain items. Determining factors were a question's (or a scale's) statistical reliability, whether it discriminated satisfactorily between different types of responses, whether it linked in expected ways to the theory it was designed to relate to, and whether it attracted undue item non-response (including 'don't knows').

Translation

The multi-nation Translation Taskforce, chaired by Janet Harkness of ZUMA, continued its work in Round 2, having evaluated the work completed in Round 1 and amending the protocols accordingly. Naturally, all the key aspects of the translation protocol remained the same, including translating the questionnaire into all languages spoken by 5% or more of each nation's population, the procedures for ensuring optimally equivalent translations, and the meticulous documentation of the process so that it could be understood and replicated. The procedure once again involved the five sequential processes of Translation, Review, Adjudication, Pre-testing and Documentation (TRAPD).

Fieldwork

As in Round 1, a detailed specification for fieldwork was provided to all countries. Once again a few amendments were made for round 2 in response to evaluation, but the main requirements remained the same. This included a 70% target response rate, a maximum

target non-contact rate of 3% and a target 90% response rate to the Supplementary Questionnaire. Once again, the target requirement was to complete fieldwork within between 1 month and 4 months of its commencement. Minimum numbers of calls at each issued sample unit at specified times of the day were also required.

The first release of the round 2 data (in September 2005) included 17 countries, of which six achieved or exceeded the 70% target response rate and a further five achieved between 60% and 69%. Disappointingly, the other six fell below 60% and further individual attention is being turned to this. Similarly, the target maximum non-contact rate of 3% was exceeded in 11 countries, although in most cases it remains lower than national norms. And many countries were in the event unable to complete their fieldwork in the specified period between September and December 2004.

Overall fieldwork quality standards remained high or very high – for instance, the majority of countries adhered strictly to the maximum assignment sizes per interviewer, but there is clearly still room for improvement. Data collection problems are, however, an increasing problem throughout and beyond Europe, and the ESS experience of ‘holding the line’ is in many ways a great deal better than much national experience in the same period. So the programme of data collection experiments planned in the course of the ESS infrastructure activities will, we hope, make some inroads into the problem.

Context and Event Data

Building on the methodology developed in Round 1, a second round database of context and event data was produced to allow data analysts to identify which national variations might owe more to exogenous factors than to attitude change. Similarly, an annotated inventory of sources of ‘contextual’ background information was established.

As far as event data were concerned, each National Co-ordinator was asked once again to report on major ‘events’ that attracted wide and relatively long-lasting national media attention, as well as information on elections and other variations in the political landscape that might affect answers to the ESS questions. This was to discount the possible effect on responses of short-term, ‘local’ socio-political factors immediately before and during fieldwork. The event reporting requirements were strengthened somewhat in Round 2, such that NCs were also asked to create a summary report of major events *between* Rounds 1 and 2 as possible exogenous factors affecting attitude change.

Future analysts of the ESS data will, we hope, appreciate the availability of a data source of such events when trying to deal with difficult-to-explain variations – whether between nations or over time.

Question Assessment

Question assessment was an integral component of ESS round 2. Experiments were designed to evaluate data quality and in particular the probable reliability and validity of the questions in different countries. As in Round 1, Multi-trait Multi-method (MTMM) experiments administered via the supplementary questionnaire formed the central plank of this work.

MTMM experiments were employed in both the pilot and main stage of ESS round 2. 40 extra questions were split across three versions of the Supplementary Questionnaires, designed to evaluate alternative question formats, such as open questions, 5-point, 7-point and 11-point scales, and different ways of measuring particular variables..

The conclusions of this work show that the procedures employed to improve the quality of the questions in the main questionnaire generally had a positive effect on data quality. Indeed, in most countries the questions employed for the main questionnaire outdid their possible alternative forms tested in the supplementary questionnaire.

Although measurement errors still inevitably vary somewhat by topic and by country – a serious concern for a high-quality cross-national project such as the ESS - the average level of data quality observed through the experiments was reassuringly high. Identifying the causes for remaining problems is an important and continuing objective for future rounds.

Quality Assessment

The assessment of data quality on the ESS was by no means limited to MTMM experiments. Two other crucially important areas of assessment were of the quality of the achieved samples, and the quality of registered responses. This meant focusing first on sample selection and response rates, and secondly on item non-response and measurement equivalence.

a) Response and Contact Rates

In addition to the usual problems of non-response in cross-national surveys, different levels of non-response between countries can threaten the ability to make accurate cross-national comparisons.

While, as noted, many countries several countries exceeded the maximum target of 3% non contacts, it must be remembered that non-contacts still account for a very small proportion of total non-response. It is therefore the high refusal rates in certain countries which tend to account for the differences observed. For this reason, even greater emphasis was placed on refusal conversion in Round 2 than was the case in Round 1.

In the course of this work, detailed analysis of interviewer calling patterns demonstrated the differences between the calling strategies and outcomes found in different countries. In some countries there was a clear preference for calling at certain times of the day or week, based either on proven effectiveness or some other presumed cultural norms. Similarly, although refusal conversion techniques were employed in almost all countries, some countries (notably The Netherlands, Switzerland and Norway), embedded in these efforts extensive experiments in conversion strategies. They involved, for instance, the replacement of certain interviewers, the use of incentives, and initial contact by telephone. The effectiveness of these methods varied significantly and even where increases in response rate were achieved, the impact on the findings of the survey was often quite marginal. So the problem remains as difficult as was anticipated, and more work is clearly needed.

b) Quality Assessment of the Responses

The data quality of responses on the ESS was assessed by studying interviewer reports, analysing the extent of item non-response, as well as by analysis which over time identifies systematic response tendencies and measurement qualities of sets of items.

Respondent engagement in social surveys (as assessed by interviewers at the time) has long been shown to be related to interview quality, as measured by factors such as item non-response and inconsistent answers. However, the general picture from the ESS is that respondents had few problems understanding or answering the questions, even the more sensitive ones, and remained reasonably motivated throughout. This may in part be due to revisions made following the pilot fieldwork.

As far as item non-response was concerned, including the incidence of 'Don't Know' (DK) responses, this turned out to vary between countries and questions. However, it was in general notably low. It should be noted, however, that 'Don't Know' is not always explicitly offered as a response option on the ESS, even though respondents can always nominate the answer spontaneously. As expected, not answered or refusal to answer were highest on sensitive questions, such as income. Even so, clear differences were observed between countries, and inter-country variation increased for items of higher levels of abstraction.

Contract adherence and deviations

The Specification for Participating Countries contained details of the various responsibilities and obligations of National Co-ordinators, survey houses and the CCT itself.

The content of the fieldwork contracts was checked centrally and clarifications were requested where needed. A new process of fieldwork monitoring was established, which required National Co-ordinators to estimate the expected number of achieved interviews per week (where possible based on Round 1 fieldwork) and to provide fortnightly progress reports to a designated member of the CCT.

The CCT endeavoured to ensure that standards and procedures were equivalent throughout the project and to deal in the same way with similar difficulties that arose, whether at a micro or macro level. Wherever possible, a delicate balance had to be struck between strict comparability between countries on the one hand and appropriate variation on the other. National Co-ordinators were contacted about deviations from the specification during Round 1 and were asked how they would prevent the same problem arising in Round 2.

All deviations that have adversely affected equivalence are fully documented in the final Technical Report. This level of transparency in the ESS is ground-breaking for an international survey and allows data users to be fully aware of implementation differences that could have an impact on the quality of the data.

Data Archiving and website

The NSD data website was revamped for Round 2 so that it could contain all data and documentation for both rounds, while still remaining as user-friendly as it was. The website includes all services necessary to plan and produce standardised cross-national data files and to access and analyse the datasets.

As in Round 1, NSD produced a comprehensive Data Protocol as a repository of the specifications and procedures that were to be used in the production of national ESS data files. This was based around the central idea that meticulous planning and attention to detail in advance of data deposit led to more timely data of higher quality and greater standardisation.

National Technical Summaries for Round 2 were based on a slightly revised questionnaire completed by each country, including country-specific items to do with the technical

conduct of the survey that could not be covered in the Archive's final Documentation Report.

Meanwhile, data editing and processing procedures were clearly specified in the protocol for data control. This protocol has allowed for the generation of integrated data files that are as standardised and as user-friendly as possible. It was always a central part of the ESS specification that data editing was to be as meticulous as the rest of the project.

Where a significantly large number of inconsistencies were uncovered, NSD highlighted them and asked the national team to consider undertaking another round of checking against the questionnaires. In some cases the CCT had to be called on to decide whether certain deviant parts of the data file should be omitted completely. Even when omitted from the integrated data files, such (unapproved) variables were still included as variables in the country's own data file. Decisions on such delicate matters were taken only after appropriate consultation with the NCs concerned.

Data Releases

The processing of deposited data for Round 2 began in February 2005, and the first public release of ESS data of 17 countries took place in September of the same year. Just two further releases are envisaged, one in March 2006 containing seven late-starting countries (France, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Netherlands, Slovakia and Ukraine), and subsequently a final release containing all countries including the two *very* late-starting countries (Italy and Turkey).

Use of the ESS Data Website continues to rise weekly, with an expected noticeable increase after the release of Round 2 data. At the time of writing this report, there are 7,946 registered users of the ESS data website, of whom 4,134 have downloaded data for more sophisticated statistical analysis.

Methodological Work

The ESS has already fulfilled its aim of attempting to be more rigorous than previous cross-national (and indeed many national) attitude surveys.

But it has also made its promised progress in methodological advancement more generally. During Round 2, the mixed mode experiments that started in Round 1 were significantly advanced. In a collaborative project with Gallup Europe (who contributed to the funding of the research) investigations are still in train into the eventual feasibility of moving to mixed mode data collection in future rounds of the ESS.

The research is being conducted in phases, the first of which was conducted during Round 1. During round 2, a further phase of fieldwork was carried out, consisting of two experiments – one in Hungary, one in Portugal – to investigate data quality issues in data collection which allowed both face-to-face and telephone interviewing. Analysis of the data from these experiments is now in progress and further rounds of data collection are envisaged during Round 3.

Policy Implications of the ESS

As a time series designed to measure and interpret social change in the long-term, the project's policy impact must also be evaluated over the longer term. The first dataset containing repeat measures has only recently been released, and changes have not yet been analysed or assessed, though the process has now started in earnest. So comparisons will soon be made against the first (benchmark) round of the ESS to detect changes which can from now on be reliably chartered and monitored.

The methodological implications of the ESS are more immediately evident. The ESS has demonstrated levels of quality and rigour in a Europe-wide comparative social survey that had hitherto been ruled out as unachievable. And the ESS's innovations are being adopted by other cross-national studies. Numerous conference and seminar papers already refer to the ESS as representing 'best practice' in comparative survey methodology. For instance, at a recent seminar arranged by the French Political Science Association about the ESS, a paper by a senior member of the official French Statistical Institute (INSEE) gave the ESS a clean bill of health and roundly praised its methodology in contrast to other similar studies. Now, with the publication of the Round 2 dataset, the first round success has been shown to be sustainable.

So the ESS has already demonstrated that it is possible to measure public attitudes rigorously across countries. To do so is increasingly important to the formation of public policy. On occasions it may well be critical, enabling a reliable picture of the electorate's fears, doubts, gaps in knowledge and perceptions to be placed within the political decision-making arena. In an era of declining political engagement and electoral turnout, such data will in time help to mitigate the democratic deficit. So the ESS should become an increasingly valuable means both of contributing to and measuring the general health of democracy in Europe. As it begins to become a fruitful source of social indicators of the quality of life throughout Europe, these contributions will be reinforced.

Dissemination and exploitation of the results

According to the contract for ESS Round 2, its final deliverable was to be a fully-integrated cross-national dataset. In practice, however, the CCT - alongside thousands of other users - will continue to quarry the dataset for both substantive and methodological purposes long into the future. And it will also continue to ensure the widest possible dissemination of the ESS, whether in the form of data, articles, books or presentations.

There has, of course, already been significant dissemination of the ESS, of which the publication of two integrated datasets is only the starting point. As noted, conference papers have been plentiful (and demand for further papers continues to increase), various large-scale national launches have taken place (in each case organised by the National Co-ordinator), reports have appeared in national newspapers (often - as is the case in Norway - with remarkable regularity), journal articles and dissertations already abound, and several books have appeared, with others in the pipeline. More detail is given later, where it will be seen that both substantive and methodological themes are handsomely covered. It is, of course, still too soon to expect publications based on Round 2 to have appeared, but it is reasonable to assume that the numbers will comfortably exceed those from Round 1.

II. BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT

1. Background to the study

The European Social Survey was always envisaged to be a time series with fieldwork conducted every two years. It was also clear from the outset that each round would build on previous rounds. And so, to understand the background to the second round it is necessary to first look at the background to the study as a whole and then the outcomes from Round 1.

The launch of the European Social Survey was the culmination of a six-year programme of work initially set up and seed-funded by the European Science Foundation (ESF). In the first instance the ESF decided to set up and fund an 'Expert Panel' (see Annex 1. for membership) with the task of investigating the desirability and feasibility of an academically-led European-wide 'general social survey'. While several such surveys exist at a national level (e.g. the US General Social Survey, the British Social Attitudes series and the German ALLBUS), they did not exist as such at a supranational level.

The Expert Panel reported unanimously (European Science Foundation, Standing Committee of the Social Sciences, 1999a, 5-6) that a regular, rigorous European Social Survey (ESS) would be a major asset to European governance, as well as to the academic community in Europe and beyond. An ESS would, however, need to concentrate not only on measuring and monitoring underlying public attitudes, values and beliefs in Europe, but also on the improvement of cross-national survey methodology in general. Europe had a unique need in this latter respect in view of its demand for comparative multi-national statistics and should have been contributing more in the way of technical advances.

While fully acknowledging the pioneering role played by predecessor cross-national attitude surveys such as the Eurobarometers, the European Values Surveys and the International Social Survey Programme, and by various Europe-wide behavioural studies set up by Eurostat (such as the Labour Force Survey and the European Community Household Panel), it concluded that a major new initiative was now needed. To be optimally useful, the ESS would need to combine the rigour of the best national surveys with a sharp cross-national academic and policy focus. Granting the difficulty of the task prescribed, the Panel was confident nonetheless that the task was feasible and that returns would be considerable.

A new European Social Survey would, they argued, complement rather than overlap with existing studies. Unlike the Eurostat studies which help to reveal Europe's collective and

contrasting *characteristics* (who we are and how we behave), the ESS would help to reveal Europe's collective and contrasting *character* (how we think and feel about our world and ourselves). No existing European survey series could, the Panel felt, fulfill such a role without abandoning their important but different present roles and without damaging the continuity of their existing time series.

In the light of the Expert Panel's report and with the unanimous support of its member institutions (22 national academic funding agencies), the ESF decided to fund a development phase and blueprint for an ESS. It set up a Steering Committee representing each of the 22 countries (see Annex 2. for its membership), and a Methodology Committee (see Annex 3. for its membership), whose joint task was to formulate detailed proposals. The task was duly completed and published (European Science Foundation, Standing Committee of the Social Sciences, 1999a & 1999b).

At its final meeting which adopted and approved the Blueprint, the Steering Committee asked Professor Roger Jowell (then Head of the UK National Centre for Social Research) if he would head a team that would seek funding from the European Commission, within Call 2 of Framework 5, for the co-ordination of the first round of a new European Social Survey. He agreed, a proposal was prepared and subsequently approved, and funding of the new ESS commenced in June 2001.

As was always envisaged, European Commission funding was to cover only the central costs of design and co-ordination of this multi-nation project. The national survey costs and associated national co-ordination were both to be met from national sources. With that in mind, Commission funding was conditional on the participation of at least nine self-funding nations. As it turned out, as many as 22 nations joined the project in its first round, their academic funding agencies contributing over three-quarters of the total costs of the enterprise. In addition, the ESF met the costs of the project's scientific liaison and multinational advisory committee meetings.

Even in its first round, the ESS was supported by a unique combination of 24 separate funding bodies. The Commission was the largest single source contributing just under one-quarter of the total costs. More importantly, however, each funding body's contribution was made according to identical ground-rules, placing great importance on adherence to the same high methodological and substantive standards laid down in a central specification. The ESS was thus an early and successful example of the European Research Area at work.

ESS Round 1 was largely successful in achieving its aims heralding the start of a new era in comparative across the European research Area. In summary its main achievements were:

- A Specification for Participating Countries was drawn up clearly outlining the methodological standards to which all participating countries in the survey had to agree. In this way the aim of equivalence was established as a guiding principle of the ESS.
- A series of detailed protocols were developed by the CCT to complement the Specification. These covered sampling, translation, contracting, fieldwork, event reporting and data preparation. These were supplemented by detailed documentation including advance letters, questionnaire instructions and contact forms.
- Broadly equivalent sampling designs, based upon scientific sampling procedures were developed in all participating countries.
- The questionnaire was thoroughly tested, developed and assessed involving a variety of methods including SQP reliability and validity prediction, a 2-nation pilot and subsequent data analysis and the use of MTMM experiments to assess the questions used in the final interview.
- The most up-to-date translation procedures were utilised using a combination of Translation, Review, Adjudication, Pretesting and Documentation. These procedures aimed to ensure maximum equivalence.
- ESS fieldwork was conducted in 22 European countries using face-to-face interviewing in all to ensure maximum comparability. 42,359 interviews were conducted in total.
- A system of event monitoring was conducted during fieldwork to allow data analysts to consider the impact of events on ESS data.
- A harmonised and fully documented ESS dataset including data from all ESS Round 1 countries was made available. Via the NSD data website data analysts were able to conduct analysis on-line or download the full dataset.
- All deviations from the Specification and from the source questionnaire were thoroughly documented.

- The ESS regularly updates users about new developments with the project and data as well as the activities of other data users.

Despite such ambitious aims, in general compliance by participating countries and the resulting equivalence were relatively high. However, there were some areas which were less successful. Fieldwork in some countries started later than expected or overran the agreed timetable. This was due in most cases to delays in securing funding for national fieldwork and had serious repercussions for the Data Archive team. Many countries achieved response rates in excess of the 70% target and many achieved rates higher than normally achieved for similar studies on a national level. However response rates in some countries were disappointingly low. All deviations from the Specification were recorded but were on the whole relatively minor. In general compliance and the resulting equivalence were relatively high.

Round 2 of the survey was therefore able to learn from both the successes and failings of Round 1. Funding arrangements remained identical to those in Round 1 and in the end 26 nations took part in Round 2. Israel was the only Round 1 nation not able to take part in Round 2. The countries joining for the first time were Estonia, Iceland, Slovakia, Turkey, and the Ukraine.

One key measure of the success of the survey was the impressive numbers of data users registered on the ESS Data Archive website. By November 2004 there were already 3755 registered users and academic articles and books were being produced in earnest on the basis on the data available from Round 1. During Round 2 all details of publications based on ESS data were being recorded. Additional funding is to be spent on creating an on-line bibliography which should be available during Round 3.

Another important way in which Round 2 built upon Round 1 was that methodological reports, analysis and feedback from Round 1 fed into the design and development of ESS Round 2. This will be discussed in more detail later in this report but it is worth pausing in this background section to consider some examples; the Swiss ESS team devised a new strategy to improve on response rates based on analysis of Round 1 fieldwork; the CCT informed countries of areas where they had deviated from the specifications in Round 1 in order that they might improve on these in Round 2; changes were made to the sampling designs of some countries to increase their efficiency; and protocols were redrafted based upon the experience of Round 1.

2. Objectives of the study

The principal aim of ESS Round 2 was to consolidate and improve the infrastructure of organisations, individuals and data gathering facilities involved in the ESS that had been set up to undertake the systematic and rigorous monitoring of changing social attitudes across a range of European nations. The 3 objectives remained the same as for Round 1.

- *To produce rigorous trend data about changes in people's underlying values*

All societies require accurate data about themselves if they are to understand and improve their social and economic condition. Multiple sources of such data already exist – at both a national and multinational level – about different societies' behaviour patterns, social circumstances and demographic characteristics. But even in an increasingly well-documented age, there are still remarkably few sources of reliable data about the speed and direction of change in people's *underlying attitudes and values*. Moreover, to the extent that this gap exists at a national level, it is even larger, more persistent and more debilitating at a European level.

The ESS was devised to rectify this omission. Designed as a rigorous, academically-driven, biennial study of changing social attitudes throughout Europe, it drew on the best examples of similar studies at a national level in Europe and beyond. Its dataset was never to be the property of the research team responsible for its design and implementation, but rather to be released publicly in an easy-to-use form as soon as it was available. It was an important aim of the exercise for the data to be immediately accessible not only to the social science and policy communities in Europe and abroad, but also to the mass media and all other interested users via the World Wide Web.

The ESS was always intended to be a regular biennial study designed to measure change over time. Thus the approximately hour-long questionnaire at each Round was to be divided equally between 'core' items on the one hand and at least two sets of subject-specific 'rotating' items on the other. The purpose of the core module is to provide a stable set of key measures designed to monitor critical aspects of social and political change within and between countries over time. Only by keeping these items constant could the survey provide relatively 'bullet-proof' long-term measures of change in people's underlying value orientations and how they vary in relation to behaviour patterns, demographic characteristics and institutional change within different nations and across Europe. (See Chapter IV: Conclusions and policy implications)

The rotating modules in contrast are each designed to focus on a particular subject of key academic or policy interest. While also designed for repetition at (longer) intervals to

measure change over time, these modules will be different at each round. Both their subject matter and the membership of the multinational teams selected to develop them are to be selected at each round via a Europe-wide competition. In the second Round, the three rotating modules were on 'Family, Work and Well-being', 'Opinions on Health and Care Seeking' and 'Economic Morality in Europe'.

As noted, 'general social surveys' already exist at a *national* level in certain countries and tend to be among the most widely-demanded and extensively-quarried of all the archived datasets in those countries. The ESS was thus always likely to be in similar or greater demand covering as it does such a large proportion of Europe and allowing individual countries (or groups of countries) to be compared on a wide range of social phenomena – attitudinal, behavioural and structural. At the time of writing there are 7,946 registered users, of whom 4,134 have downloaded data.

In addition, the ESS aimed to complement the impressive range of economic, behavioural and demographic data already produced by Eurostat. Its role in this context is to help chart and explain the most pressing social and political trends of the period. This includes the decline in political trust and its relationship to electoral turnout, changing social and family values and the extent to which they are converging or diverging across Europe. It also covers social, ethnic and national identities and their relationship to 'outgroups', emerging socio-political cleavages and concerns, and many other topics. An innovative feature of the ESS is to supplement the survey-based data it collects with specially-compiled 'event data', collected just before and during the fieldwork period. These events data will enable present and future analysts to take account of the impact of major national (or international) events – such as elections, terrorist acts, economic turbulence, natural disasters - which might well vary in their impact on certain responses in different nations at different times. Similarly certain events might have a similar impact on all nations at the time of the survey but not prove to have a lasting impact. Event data would help to explain such phenomena.

The ESS datasets would be likely to appeal to academics from a wide range of disciplines, including political science, sociology, public administration, social policy, economics, social psychology, statistics, mass communication, modern social history and social anthropology. But extensive use of the data would also probably be made by civil servants, policy analysts, think tanks, journalists, politicians and the public at large. As survey builds upon survey, the ESS should thus provide a unique long-term account of change and development in the social fabric of modern Europe.

- *To surmount the longstanding obstacles to comparability in the conduct of cross-national surveys*

A second and equally important objective of the project is to pioneer and 'prove' a standard of methodology for cross-national attitude surveys that has hitherto rarely been attempted or achieved. As noted, despite the existence of a number of distinguished cross-national attitudinal time series, various constraints had always prevented them from approaching the sort of consistent rigour *across* countries that has been achieved by the best time series *within* countries (Jowell 1998, Harkness and Mohler 2003, European Science Foundation, Standing Committee of the Social Sciences 1999a). So, while the social sciences in Europe had long relied on the analysis of multinational attitudinal data, many important data were either not available at all or in such different forms in different countries that the basis for comparison was fragile indeed. But the rigorous cross-national measurement of underlying public attitudes, values and beliefs is, in our view, central to an understanding of modern societies and of change within them, as well as to the governance of an increasingly integrated Europe. So an attempt urgently needed to be made to rectify the omission.

Although Eurostat was already overseeing several rigorous cross-national behavioural and factual surveys, it was (for good reason) highly unlikely to promote, sponsor or supervise an attitudinal time series in the same mould. Nor in the Expert Panel's view could existing attitudinal time series such as the Eurobarometers, the International Social Survey Programme or the European Values Surveys (EVS) somehow be re-invented to meet the demands of the new research series envisaged. Not only would it have been arrogant to attempt such a move, but in any case they were already tailored to different interests and carried out to different standards from the ESS template (European Science Foundation, Standing Committee of the Social Sciences 1999a 10-12). They also had quite different agendas from the proposed ESS and a need to preserve their own distinct time series.

So, if the persistent methodological problems posed by cross-national attitude surveys were to be tackled in earnest, the EU was the obvious natural laboratory for such work – possessing as it does not only an ideal combination of diversity and commonality, but also a strong vested interest in achieving a breakthrough. The European social science and policy communities could no longer risk having to rely on inadequate, inconsistent and often unrepresentative snippets of attitudinal data. Such exceptions as the Eurobarometers, the European Values Surveys and the International Social Survey Programme needed to be bolstered not only by a new substantive study, but also by major advances in cross-national attitude measurement.

The rigour employed in the ESS is thus unusually (probably uniquely) strict for such a dispersed cross-national attitude survey. To achieve it, a special budget is devoted to 'contract adherence' endeavouring to ensure that the ambitious standards laid down – in sampling, questionnaire design, event and context monitoring, translation, fieldwork standards, response rates and archiving – are actually adhered to on the ground. Moreover, to the extent that there are shortfalls in achieved standards in any of these respects, they are closely documented and transparent to all users of the data. In addition, a programme of methods experimentation, training and dissemination is embedded within the project to help advance comparative survey methods more generally, including the immediate and universal availability of well-documented technical as well as substantive data via the project's archive.

- *To achieve recognition for reliable social indicators and attitudinal measures of national success or failure*

Funding for Round 2 of the ESS stopped short of substantive analysis of the data. The final output for the contract was the set-up of a publicly accessible and freely available data set on the Internet. However, a longer term and equally important third aim of the time series is to achieve greater recognition for reliable social indicators and attitudinal measures to supplement the behavioural and structural (mostly economic) indicators by which we judge the well-being of societies (Atkinson 2002).

The rich variety and quality of the ESS data will, we hope, prove to be a productive source of material for the development of robust measures of this sort – both behavioural and attitudinal. The ESS has now been successful in securing funding to become an infrastructure under the European Commission's Integrating Infrastructures Initiative grant. Part of this funding includes a workpackage which aims to design, test and prove a set of attitudinal indicators based on ESS data.

3. ESS and the Fifth Framework

The project fits the following parts of the 5th Framework's Key Action: "**Improving the socio-economic knowledge base**".

In relation to **Part I, Theme 2**, a central aim of the project is to measure social trends related to societal and individual well-being. Indeed, two of its aims are to create better tools for measuring societal change and to produce relevant and rigorous data about such changes. This emphasis on change requires repeat measures; hence the necessity for repeated rounds of the ESS. The project facilitates the assessment of the impact of structural change and technological development on social values through cross-national

comparisons through survey data and by encouraging data users to access a wide range of contextual macrodata.

In relation to **Part I, Theme 3**, the project is intrinsically concerned with issues of citizenship and governance in a multinational context. By collecting systematic and consistent comparative data about political, social and economic aspects of national and European 'citizenship', the study allows scholars to monitor and interpret progress towards European integration from the public's perspective, as well as allowing them to look at the factors and cross-pressures that inhibit or promote this. An important asset of the project is the participation of a substantial number of candidate and associate nations, which anticipates the enlargement of the EU and obtains valuable prior measures in those countries.

In relation to **Part II**, the project has been explicitly set up to develop a lasting Europe-wide infrastructure for rigorous quantitative social science research into key academic and policy concerns. This infrastructure will incorporate not only an outstanding facility for high quality data collection across Europe, but also a central data archiving and dissemination facility to ensure that the data produced will be speedily and conveniently distributed to researchers and analysts around the world.

In relation to **Part III**, the project's explicit purpose is to generate knowledge that can be used by society and which actively promotes policy-related social science in Europe. For instance, issues covered in Round 2 of the survey include public perceptions of and attitudes towards work, family and well-being, and economic morality. The findings themselves and interpretations of them will be made available not only through exemplary archiving practices, but also via presentations, articles in scientific and policy journals and newspapers, many of which will be listed on the project website. In addition one of the Work Packages in the second round was devoted to the training (via the Internet) of young researchers in analysis methods, making use of the project's dataset to do so.

III. SCIENTIFIC DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT RESULTS AND METHODOLOGY

The methodology and data for the ESS are inextricably intertwined. The project is designed not only to produce rigorous and robust findings about attitude and value change across Europe, but also radically to improve measurement and documentation in the process. Through its policy of transparency, the strategies employed and the lessons learned by the ESS will be available to future generations of European and other comparative researchers.

There are currently 7,946 registered users of ESS data, of whom 4,134 have downloaded data. The first two rounds of the ESS data are being analysed by a range of users including academics, government researchers, students and journalists. To help ensure this, a wide range of dissemination activities have been undertaken at both a national and a European level (see Chapter V DISSEMINATION AND EXPLOITATION OF RESULT)

The first round of the ESS was undeniably a success, not least for achieving the task of carrying out a cross-national survey with such high substantive and methodological aims in 22 disparate countries. In Round 2 this number grew to 26 with all Round 1 countries, other than Israel, taking part in Round 2, as well as five new countries. And although the ESS has broken new ground and achieved consistently higher standards than anticipated so soon in the life of the time series, already it has been possible to identify weaker methodological areas and implement improvements between Rounds 1 and 2.

This chapter lays out the detail of all aspects of the project methodology and assesses the success and contribution of each, under the following headings:

- Organisation & funding
- Sampling
- Questionnaire design
- Translation
- Fieldwork
- Context/event data
- Question assessment
- Quality assessment

- Contract adherence/deviations
- Data archiving
- Methodological work

The methodology used in Round 2 was almost identical to that used in Round 1 and so there will be overlap between this report and the Round 1 report. It is necessary to include background information from Round 1 in order to understand the project as a whole and where changes have been made between rounds these have been explained and justified.

1. Organisation and funding

An important innovation of the European Social Survey was the organisational and funding network created for the project. As recommended within the ESF Blueprint document, the finances depended critically on both European-level and national-level funding. In addition, the project required the formation of an intellectual and administrative infrastructure capable of supporting its development and implementation.

1.1. The Central Co-ordinating Team

The engine room of the ESS is the Central Co-ordinating Team, led by Professor Roger Jowell formerly of the National Centre for Social Research in London (during Round 1) but now at the Centre for Comparative Social Surveys at City University London from where Rounds 2, 3 and 4 will be run. The six institutions below were all involved through Round 1. The variety of **skills** and disciplines among the individuals and institutions represented on the CCT has enabled it to design, steer and deliver the work to the exacting standards demanded. There have been some staff changes between Rounds 1 and 2, notably at City University. For Round 3, some further changes will be implemented. Professor Willem Saris and Irmtraud Gallhofer will change institutions for Round 3 and will be based at ESADE, Spain. Brina Malnar, of the University of Ljubljana, Slovenia, will join the CCT for the third round onwards. Brina Malnar is a longstanding ESS National Co-ordinator who has been intimately involved in the project from its start. She has wide experience in cross-national research and survey methodology

City University, UK (Professor Roger Jowell, Rory Fitzgerald, Caroline Roberts, Gillian Eva, Mary Keane)

Zentrum für Umfragen, Methoden und Analysen, Germany (Professor Peter Mohler, Janet Harkness, Sabine Haeder, Achim Koch)

Sociaal en Cultureel Planbureau, Netherlands (Ineke Stoop)

Universiteit van Amsterdam School of Communications Research, Netherlands
(Professor Willem Saris, Irmtraud Gallhofer)

Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium (Professor Jaak Billiet, Michel Philippens)

Norwegian Social Science Data Services, Norway (Bjorn Henrichsen, Knut Kalgraff Skjåk, Kirstine Kolsrud)

The **ESS website** (www.europeansocialsurvey.org) has been maintained and developed throughout Round 2. It remains an important means of keeping participants, potential users and other parties informed about the project. The site contains background information about the development of the ESS, details of all participants, and copies of all key documents and protocols from both Rounds 1 and 2. Included in its content are assessments of data quality and details of any deviations within national datasets from the pre-specified procedures.

1.2. The creation of an infrastructure

The infrastructure set up at the beginning of the ESS was retained for Round 2. (see Annex 4. for 'Who's Who in the ESS?'). The following supporting structure was crucial in bolstering the CCT's attempts to design and co-ordinate the project to uniformly high standards:

- a Scientific Advisory Board (SAB), chaired by Professor Max Kaase, and comprising one scientist appointed by each national funding agency, and two representatives each from the Commission and the European Social Survey (ESF). Their twice-yearly meetings were convened to advise and guide the CCT and were funded by the ESF (see Annex 4.);
- a network of 26 National Co-ordinators (also appointed and funded by each national funding agency but according to a central specification), whose task it was to implement and oversee the project on the ground in each country. Their three plenary meetings were also funded by the ESF (see Annex 4.). Some of these remained the same as for Round 1, others were newly selected for Round 2;
- a network of 26 survey houses, each selected according to a strict centrally-produced specification and paid for by its respective national funding agency, usually via a competitive process (see Annex 4.);

- an expert multi-nation Methods Group, whose task it was to anticipate and advise on how best to approach and deal with a variety of technical issues that were bound to arise in the course of the project. Its three meetings were also funded by the ESF (see Annex 4.);
- a self-funded annual Funders' Forum, chaired by Eili Ervela-Myreen, and comprising a senior administrator from each funding agency. The aim of these meetings was to discuss funding and policy aspects of the project, the dissemination of results and the future direction of the time series. Its membership changes somewhat between meetings.

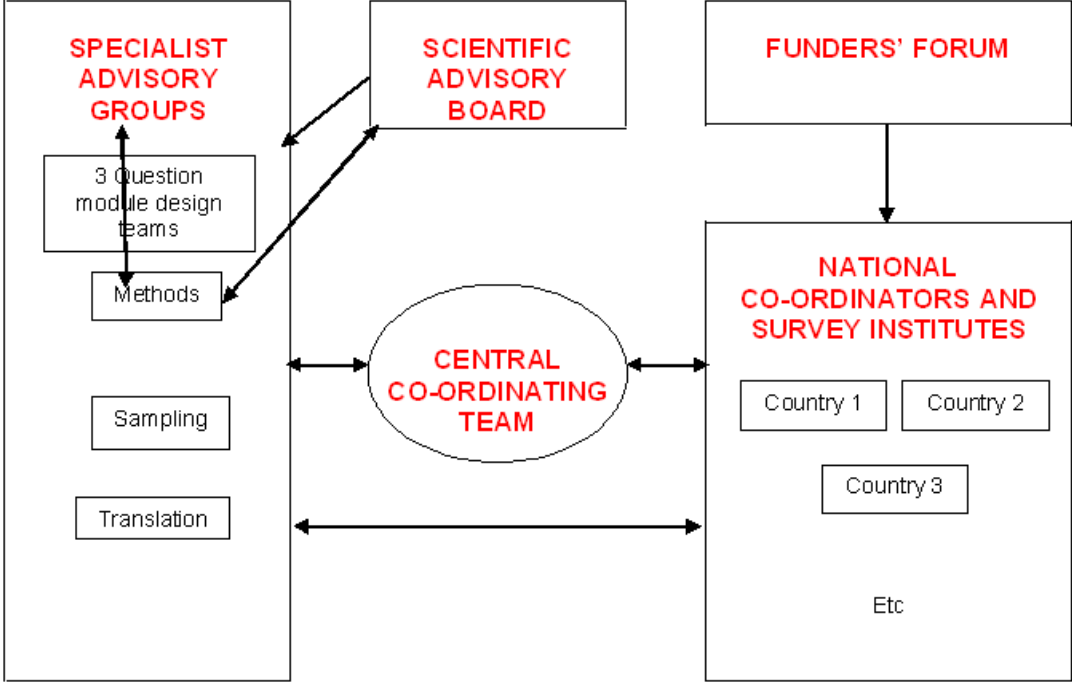
In addition, various working groups were appointed and convened by the CCT or SAB to ensure the input of appropriate expertise into particular aspects of the project – notably:

- three expert multi-nation Questionnaire Design Teams, both appointed by the SAB following a Europe-wide competition. Each was then responsible for assisting with the drafting of a 'rotating' module of subject-specific questions. Their meetings with the CCT for this purpose were funded by the ESF (see Annex 4.);
- a multi-nation Sampling Panel, made up of the same members as in Round 1, funded by the Commission grant. It was responsible for specifying, advising on and signing-off the sampling protocols in every participating country (see Annex 4.);
- a multi-nation Translation Taskforce (also with the same members as in Round 1, with the exception of Dr Hans Hönig who sadly died in 2004) and funded by the Commission under FP5).It was responsible for specifying, advising on and co-ordinating standard translation protocols in every participating country (see Annex 4.).

This multi-faceted infrastructure which had proved so successful in Round 1 remained in tact for Round 2.

Figure 1. illustrates the liaison mechanisms between the CCT and its various advisory and working groups.

Figure 1.



1.3. Funding arrangements

The ESS is funded from 28 separate sources. As noted, the project’s initial seed funding and development work over several years came from the European Science Foundation, which also provided vital support for the project’s academic liaison and meetings during Round 1. This support continued in Round 2. The ESS was established through funding under Framework 5, Call 2, which enabled the ambitious plans formulated by the ESF-sponsored groups to be implemented. Even so, as in Round 1, Commission funding accounted for less than one-third of the total cost of Round 2, the bulk of the support coming from over 26 national funding agencies, each of which independently decided to associate their nation with the project.

26 Participating Countries, Round 2			
Austria	Germany	Netherlands	Sweden
Belgium	Greece	Norway	Switzerland
Czech Republic	Hungary	Poland	Turkey*
Denmark	Iceland*	Portugal	UK
Estonia*	Ireland	Slovenia	Ukraine*
Finland	Italy	Slovakia*	
France	Luxembourg	Spain	

* New countries for Round 2.

The existing funding partnership between the Commission and national sources is still regarded as the optimal possible solution for such a complex project. However, during Round 1 it was identified by the Funders' Forum that a more long-term funding approach would better suit a time series like the ESS. To address this the Funders' Forum is encouraging countries to sign up to a Memorandum of Understanding, committing their funding agencies to long-term support of the ESS. The Memorandum of Understanding is being set up for Round 3 and has so far been accepted by eight countries.

It is encouraging that only one Round 1 country was unable, due to lack of funding, to participate in Round 2 and even more encouraging that five new countries joined in Round 2.

1.4. A common specification for all participating countries

A key approach in the implementation of the ESS as a model of consistent good practice was the development of a standard specification for all participating organisations that contained the methods, protocols and procedures that were to be the *sine qua non* of a high quality project (For the full Specification for Round 2 see http://naticent02.uuhost.uk.uu.net/proj_spec/round_2.htm). There were some improvements made to the Specifications for Round 2 (see Annex 5.).

In summary, this document contains:

- descriptions of the roles required of the National Co-ordinator and survey organisation;
- details of the population coverage and sampling strategy, ruling out non-random methods or substitution and requiring full discussion and disclosure of proposed methods and the signing-off of the agreed approach and methods;
- the target response rate to be aimed at and a variety of means and procedures to be deployed in an attempt to reach or exceed it;
- details of how the questionnaire was designed and an outline of its contents, with stress laid on the necessity of implementing it in its entirety in all countries
- an outline of the detailed translation protocols that had to be followed to transform the source (English) questionnaire into all other languages;
- requirements of fieldwork procedures, such as the mode to be used, the length of fieldwork period, quality control mechanisms, event reporting and recording, etc.

- requirements for coding, archiving and detailed documentation.

2. Sampling

2.1. Principles and requirements of sampling for the ESS

Before Round 1 a specialist Sampling Panel, chaired by Sabine Häder of ZUMA was formed to oversee the ESS sample design and implementation. This panel remained the same for Round 2 (see Annex 4. for membership).

The objective of the Sampling Work Package was the “design and implementation of *workable and equivalent sampling strategies* in all participating countries”. Kish (1994, 173) provided the starting point for the ESS design, arguing that although sample designs may be flexible in respect of their sources and precise selection methods, probability sampling among all population elements was a pre-requisite of a high quality cross-national survey.

The optimal sampling design would thus be the one which achieved the best random (probability) sample available in each participating country. The choice of a *specific* design then depended on which frames were available, what the experience of using them had been and, of course, the cost-benefit profile of various equivalent approaches (Häder and Gabler 2003).

The main elements of each national sample to be taken into consideration were:

- *Population coverage* – samples were to be as representative as possible of all persons aged 15 and over (no upper age limit) resident within private households in each country, regardless of their nationality, citizenship, language or legal status.
- *Random sampling* - samples were to be selected by strict probability methods at every stage and respondents were to be interviewed face-to-face. The selection probabilities of every sample member had to be known and recorded, together with any systematic non-coverage problems. Quota sampling was not permitted at any level, nor was the substitution of non-responding households or individuals.
- *Effective sample size* - the target minimum effective sample size was 1,500, or 800 in countries with populations of under 2 million.
- *Over-sampling* - over-sampling (by using different selection probabilities for certain subgroups or strata) was acceptable provided that the total sample still complied

with the effective sample size criterion and that the data were available for it to be subsequently re-weighted to its 'correct' distributions.

- *Documentation of sampling procedures* - the precise sampling procedures proposed in each country and their implications for representativeness were to be documented in advance and submitted to the expert panel before being officially 'signed off'.
- *Target contact and response rates* - the proportion of non-contacts was not to exceed 3 per cent of all sampled units, and the minimum target response rate - after subtracting ineligibles and other 'deadwood' (closely defined by the CCT) - was 70%.

Sampling requirements were laid out fully in a document for participating countries(see http://naticent02.uuhost.uk.uu.net/methodology/sampling_strategy.doc).

2.2. "Signing off" of sampling designs

Each specialist member of the Sampling Panel was allocated about six countries to liaise with and support. In liaison with the respective National Co-ordinators, local sampling specialists and national survey houses, they helped forge a suitable sampling strategy that would on the one hand satisfy the stringent ESS requirements and on the other be capable of being implemented efficiently in each country. This involved developing completely new designs in several countries, revising Round 1 designs in others, while for some it was more a matter of clarifying details. Support in the calculation of 'effective' sample sizes was often required. On occasions the sampling panelists also visited one or more of their allocated countries for a more detailed investigation and discussion of anticipated problems which might compromise the achievement of a high quality random sample.

Special regard was paid to those countries who were participating in the ESS for the first time in Round 2. In those cases, intensive discussions with the National Co-ordinators took place in order to clarify the details of the respective sampling schemes.

The Sampling Panel used a standard form on which they filled details of the design of each country's sample, ensuring that the final design was clearly defined and statistically rigorous. In each case, the full Sampling Panel then examined the form, proposed amendments as necessary and eventually 'signed off' the proposed design.

2.3. Variety and equivalence

As noted, with design-based inference as a necessary goal for a survey such as the ESS, there could be no compromise on the need for probability samples in all countries. Even so, the actual sampling designs varied considerably from country to country in some or all of the following ways:

- *Population coverage* – To satisfy the sampling goals, all members of the target population in each country ideally had to have a known, non-zero probability of selection. Thus the more complete the coverage of the target population, the better the potential sample. But the quality of the frames in terms of coverage, updating and access differed substantially from country to country and required careful evaluation. These evaluations were documented so that they could be taken properly into account when the data were to be analysed. Various categories of potential sampling frames exist in different nations, some much more straightforward and appropriate than others.

For instance, some countries possess reliable and accessible lists of *individuals*, such as the Danish Central Person Register which is believed to cover around 99.9% of persons resident in Denmark. Other countries have reliable and accessible lists of *households*, such as the Social Security Register (IGSS) in Luxembourg. Yet other countries possess reliable and accessible lists of *addresses*, such as the “PTT-afgiftenpuntenbestand” in the Netherlands. And of course, some countries possess no reliable and/or available lists, such as Portugal or France, where the problem has to be tackled afresh.

However, in all cases, there was fortunately sufficient aggregated demographic information available for use in developing an acceptable sampling strategy. In some cases this information was not completely up to date (varying from some months out of date to some years adrift), but it generally provided a helpful starting point.

Designing and drawing a sample was naturally more complicated where no registers or other reliable lists were available and in these cases area-based designs were an obvious option. The problem then was how to get from a random selection of areas to a random selection of dwelling units and eventually to the random selection of individuals within them. In each case one of two main approaches was used. The first option was to list all the addresses within certain areas of each selected community and then to select according to strict rules. The second was to use random route procedures to locate target households. Both of these approaches were acceptable and applied in different countries.

Indeed, even in countries where reliable frames existed, it was often the case that some problems had to be solved. For example, in Ireland where there is an electoral register available for sampling, it contains persons of 18 years or older. The ESS covers people of 15 and over. So the electoral register there was deployed effectively just as a frame of addresses, with the individual then selected by random methods from within each address.

Homeless people were clearly under-represented in several (if not all) ESS countries because the sampling methods concentrated so heavily on addresses or registers as their source. Where possible, however, such systematic losses are documented.

- *Response rates* - Non-response was another problem for the representativeness of the target population in the sample. A target response rate of 70% had been set, but the actual range varied among nations from 45% to 75%.

Table 1. Achieved Response Rates in ESS Round 2

Country	Response rate (in %)
Austria	62,4
Belgium	61,4
Czech Republic	55,3
Denmark	65,1
Estonia	79,3
Finland	70,8
Germany	52,6
Greece	78,8
Luxembourg	50,0
Norway	66,2
Poland	74,4
Portugal	70,5
Slovenia	70,2
Spain	54,8
Sweden	65,8
Switzerland	46,9
United Kingdom	50,6

Almost all countries employed a variety of techniques to increase response rates. One or more well-tried but effective measures such as an advance letter, a survey-specific pamphlet, a toll-free telephone contact number for respondents, plus of course extra training of interviewers in response-maximisation techniques and doorstep interactions were applied almost everywhere.

- *Final sample designs* - Table.2. (overleaf) summarises the most important elements of each country's final sample designs.

Table 2. Table of sampling approaches and anticipated outcomes for all countries

	Frame	Design effect			Anticipated Response rate (%)	n _{net}	n _{gross}	n _{eff}
		DEFF _c	DEFF _p	DEFF				
Austria	Selection of individuals: Telephone book	1.15	$\rho_1=1.24$ $\rho_2=1.05$	1.5	65	2,250	3,568	1,500
Belgium	Selection of individuals: National register	1.2	1.0	1.2	65	1800	2915	1500
Czech Republic	Selection of buildings: Address register UIR-ADR	1.33	$\rho_1=1.2$ $\rho_2=1.25$	2.00	60 – 65	3000	5500	1500
Denmark	Selection of individuals: Central Person Register	1.0	1.0	1.0	About 70	1,700	2,514	1,700
Estonia	Selection of individuals: Population register	1.0	1.0	1.0	At least 75	2000	2867	2000
Finland	Selection of individuals: Population register	1.0	1.0	1.0	70	2,000	2,900	2,000
France	Area based	1.16	1.23	1.43	44.8	1,800	4,316	1,259
Germany	Selection of individuals: Local residents registers	1.72	1.1	1.89	70	3080	4890	1629
Greece	Area based	1.124	1.218	1.37	70	2,170	3,100	1,585
Hungary	Selection of individuals: Electronic population register	1.0	1.03	1.03	70	1551	2474	1500
Iceland	Selection of individuals: Population register	1.0	1.0	1.0	50	588	1200	588
Ireland	Selection of addresses: National Electoral Register	1.32	1.04	1.37	About 64	2,200	3,508	1,606
	Frame	DEFF _c	DEFF _p	DEFF	Anticipated Response rate (%)	n _{net}	n _{gross}	n _{eff}
Luxembourg	Selection of households: Social security register	1.26	1.00	1.26	45	1,481	3,500	1,175

Netherlands	Selection of addresses: List of postal delivery points	1.0	1.19	1.19	70	2,000	3,008	1,681
Norway	Selection of individuals: National Population Register	1.0	1.0	1.0	70	1877	2750	1877
Poland	Selection of individuals: Personal records of population	1.0547	1.0163	1.0719	71	1,650	2,399	1,539
Portugal	Area based	1.15	$p_1=1.1$ $p_2=1.04$	1.32	70.53	1,956	3,075	1,500
Slovakia	Selection of individuals: Central register of citizens	1.0	1.0	1.00	70	1750	2500	1750
Slovenia	Selection of individuals: Central register of population	1.36	1.0	1.36	70	1496	2250	1100
Spain	Selection of individuals: Continuous Census	1.284	1.0	1.225	70	1,838	3,141	1,500
Sweden	Selection of individuals: Population register	1.00	1.00	1.00	75	2,198	3,000	2,198
Switzerland	Selection of households: Telephone book	1.12	1.19	1.33	45	1,995	4,926	1,500
Turkey	Selection of households: Voters registries	1.2	1.23	1.48	50	2,220	5,500	1,500
UK	Selection of addresses: Postcode address files	1.31	1.22	1.60	70	GB		
						2,340	3,912	1,463
						NI		
						72	1,20	45
Ukraine	Area based	1.11	1.19	≈ 1.32	65	1980	3050	1500

Full descriptions of the sampling strategies and achievements are documented in the Sampling Reports available on the ESS website.

Almost all countries met the sampling requirements for the ESS. No quota elements or substitution of individuals or households had to be used. Thus, ESS samples mark a new standard of quality in cross-cultural research. One deviation from the high ESS requirements is the target response rate of 70%, that was assessed as a somewhat unrealistic goal in some countries (see Table 1. above).

Another exception affects the target net sample size. In two countries it was not possible to conduct the required number of interviews due to budget limitations (Iceland, France). These deviations are all reported on the Data Archive website.

Below are some remarks concerning details of the work of the Sampling expert panel:

- In many countries with complex sample designs the Sampling panel was able to improve details of the sampling plans for Round 2, e.g. increase the number of PSUs. For an overview see table 3 below, which contains countries participating in both Round 1 and Round 2.

Table 3. Changes in sample designs from Round 1 to Round 2

Country	Frame	Design	# of PSUs	Predicted roh	Other features
Austria			increased	decreased	area of PSU's larger
Belgium				increased	
Czech Republic	changed	changed	decreased	decreased	special efforts to increase response rate
Denmark	no changes				
Finland	no changes				
France			increased		
Germany				increased	special efforts to increase response rate
Greece			increased	decreased	
Hungary		changed			
Ireland			increased		
Luxemburg					special efforts to increase response rate
Netherlands	no changes				
Norway		changed			
Poland	no changes		increased	decreased	

Portugal		changed	increased	increased	
Slovenia				decreased	
Spain	changed	changed	increased	increased	
Sweden	no changes				
Switzerland			increased	decreased	special efforts to increase response rate
United Kingdom				decreased	

- The process of co-operation between the National Co-ordinator and the sampling expert usually started with a short description of the planned design given by the NC. It included the following issues:
 - the nature of the sampling units at each stage (e.g. addresses, individuals);
 - . description of the frame(s);
 - . any stratification to be used, implicit or explicit;
 - . selected sample size, expected proportion ineligible, expected response rate; etc.
- For the evaluation of the effective sample sizes ($n=1500$) further analysis is necessary because the n_{eff} depends on assumptions concerning design effects due to clustering and weighting in each country. For this task, intraclass correlation coefficients, mean cluster sizes and several other estimates have to be calculated. The Sampling expert panel will provide estimates for design effects in February of 2006. However, first calculations have already shown that improvements in sample designs have really decreased the design effects!
- The number of PSUs notably varies between countries. For example, in Germany only 163 PSUs exist, in Belgium there are 324 PSUs, whereas in Greece the number of PSUs is 528 and so on. From the sampling point of view a way of reducing the total survey error is to encourage countries with a low number of PSUs to increase the number in the third round.
- Unfortunately, in a few countries, the actual fieldwork started before the Sampling Panel finally signed off the sampling designs (e.g. Iceland). Of course, there were only some minor questions open for clarification. Nevertheless, the Sampling Panel

explicitly emphasizes that according to the "Specifications for participating countries" the signing off is a precondition for the start of fieldwork.

3. Questionnaire design

A central aim of the ESS is to develop and conduct a systematic study of changing values, attitudes, attributes and behaviour patterns within European nation states. Academically driven but designed to feed into key European policy debates, the ESS hopes to measure and explain how people's social values, cultural norms and behaviour patterns are distributed, the way in which they differ within and between nations, and the direction and speed at which they are changing.

The ESS interview is face to face and of around an hour in duration, followed by a short supplementary questionnaire which is either a continuation of the face-to-face questionnaire or self-completion. The questionnaire consists of a 'core' module lasting about half an hour – the great bulk of which is planned to remain constant from round to round – plus two or more 'rotating' modules, repeated at intervals, each of which will be devoted to a substantive topic or theme. Thus, while the purpose of the rotating modules is to provide an in-depth focus on a series of particular academic or policy concerns, the core module aims instead to monitor change and continuity in a wide range of socio-economic, socio-political, socio-psychological and socio-demographic variables, and to provide background variables for the analysis of the rotating modules.

3.1. Determining the content of the core

As a time series intended to measure long-term changes, it is crucial that the core element remains the same between rounds. It is not necessary to discuss the content of the core here since this was developed under Round 1. Further information can be found in the [Questionnaire Development Report](#) on the ESS website. However, in a very few cases it was decided that questions should be added or deleted. This was generally because it was considered that important topics had not been covered (in the case of additions) or because questions had been found to work particularly badly (in the case of deletions). Some of the new questions were Round 1 rotating module questions that were felt to be of sufficient importance to be included as core. There was pressure from National Co-ordinators not to increase the length of the questionnaire and so the number of additions had to match, more or less, by the number of deletions. These decisions were based on quality assessment work carried out by members of the CCT, as well as extensive consultation with not only subject experts but also the National Co-ordinators of the participating countries. The final decisions were made by the CCT based on advice given by the SAB. At their meeting in March 2004 the SAB stressed the need for

continuation over change in the ESS and as a result the proposed changes were greatly reduced. In the end, the following decisions were made:

Table 4.Final additions for the Round 2 core questionnaire

Additions	Proposals	Net addition	Explanation	Position in Round 2 core
i) Immigration	Include D5, D4 and D9 from R1	+3	Agreed to be important – work done by Shalom Schwartz suggested important	B35, B36, B37
ii) Ethnocentrism	Include D27, D28, D29 from R1	+3	These questions were agreed to be important	B38, B39, B40
iii) Social trust	Include A10 from R1	+1	This will really help analysis, and is an established scale	A10
iv) Trust in institutions	Add trust in 'political parties' to scale.	+1	This is an important addition to the battery	B8
v) Political participation	B21 to be added to R2 core	+1	This question was agreed to be important	B19
vi) Occupation of respondent and partner	Add 3 questions	+3	Agreed - these will add highly to analytic potential of data	F19, F46, F47
vii) European unification	Add one item on European unification	+1	Added to include an item on Europe-wide issues (multigovernance deleted)	B30
viii) Working abroad	Add one item on working abroad	+1	Agreed important.	F29
Total number of additions		+14		

All added question are marked with ~ in the source questionnaire.

Table 5. Final deletions for the Round 2 core questionnaire.

Deletions	Proposal	Net deletion	Explanation
i) B3 Internal Efficacy	Cut B3	-1	B2 felt of use as single item
iv) Multigovernance	Cut B35-42. Add one question on unification	-8	These were seen as low priority so cut but add one item on Europe-wide issues (see Table 4. above)
v) Socio-political orientations	Cut B43, B45, B47 and B49	-4	It was agreed to cut these items but retain one environment item (B50)
Total number of deletions		-13	

In addition, some questions were altered between Rounds 1 and 2. Again, this was only done after very serious consideration and only where it was evident that the change would improve measurement. Changes were kept to a minimum to avoid confusion for countries in both Rounds 1 and 2 who would have to make changes to their existing questionnaire. In order to facilitate the process documents were produced highlighting exactly what changes should be made. (See 'Round 1 Questionnaire – Changes for Round 2' at http://naticent02.uuhost.uk.uu.net/ess_docs/index.htm and Annex 9. 'List of changes from Round 1 to Round 2') The final Round 2 questionnaire can be found on the ESS website at

http://naticent02.uuhost.uk.uu.net/questionnaire/main_questionnaire_round_2.htm.

3.2. The questionnaire design process

After the selection of the Questionnaire Design Teams in June 2003, the process of questionnaire development for the core and rotating modules began to coincide. The remaining stages of the process were co-ordinated by the CCT, in close collaboration with the three Questionnaire Design Teams and the subject specialists on the proposed additions to the core module. In addition a 'Questionnaire Sub-group', made up of members of the CCT, met to give their expert advice on a number of aspects of the questionnaire, including reliability, question quality, and translation. Wherever possible and appropriate, questions that found their way into the final version of the questionnaire had been 'tested' in other surveys, ideally in more than one language or country. In any event, the CCT took great care to ensure not only that every question passed a quality

threshold, but also of course that it could plausibly be asked within all participating nations. It was for this latter stage that NC's comments were particularly useful.

The stages of the questionnaire design process were as follows:

Stage 1

New questions were proposed and the rationale for their inclusion was given (in the case of both rotating module and new core question). This information was sent to NCs, CCT members, subject experts and eventually the SAB for evaluation.

The evaluations carried out by the CCT were, where possible, based on prior uses of the question in other surveys, but in the case of new questions they were based on 'predictions' that took into account their respective properties.

Validity and reliability were, of course, not the only criteria taken into account. Attention was also focused on issues such as comparability of items over time and place, expected item non-response, social desirability and other potential biases, and the avoidance of ambiguity, vagueness or confusion.

Stage 2

The questions to be included in the pilot were finalised. These contained more questions than would actually be included in the main questionnaire.

Stage 3

The next step was the first translation from the source language (English) into one other language (Polish) for the purpose of two large-scale national pilots. The Translation Panel guided this process to ensure optimal functional equivalence of all questions.

Stage 4

The fourth step was the two-nation pilot itself, which also contained a number of split-run experiments on question wording alternatives.

Stage 5

The pilot was analysed in detail to assess both the quality of the questions and the distribution of the substantive answers. Doubtful questions, whether on grounds of weak reliability or validity, or because they turned out to produce deviant distributions or weak scales, were sent back to the drawing board or cut.

Stage 6

The final step was the production of a fully-fledged 'source questionnaire', ready for translation from English into all ESS languages. The new questions were carefully annotated to aid the translation process in collaboration with the various question authors. By providing definitions and clarifications of the concept behind the questions, especially where the words themselves were unlikely to have direct equivalents in other languages, the annotation served to reduce ambiguity. Each participating country then carried out a small-scale pre-test of its own to iron out any remaining translation issues.

3.3. Rotating modules and Questionnaire Design Teams

As in Round 1, an advertisement was placed in OJEC in February 2003 inviting proposals from potential questionnaire design teams, with a deadline of 16th May. Letters were also sent to all ESF member organisations enclosing the advertisement and asking them to publicise it within their countries. The advertisement was also posted on the ESS website. In this Round, 22 applications were received, compared with eight in Round 1. At its meeting on the 23rd June 2003 the Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) selected three applications to be included in the questionnaire. These would consist of one full module of 60 items, and two half modules of 30 items each. In addition the SAB selected two further applications to be included as 5-item 'mini-modules'. These mini-modules were included in the pilot, but prior to the mainstage fieldwork the SAB decided that including 10 extra items would lead to too much change to the core questionnaire and they were dropped.

The three rotating module teams selected were:

1. Family, Work and Well-being (60 items)

Robert Erikson, *SOFI, Stockholm University, Sweden*

Josef Brüderl, *MZES, University of Mannheim, Germany*

Duncan Gallie, *Nuffield College, UK*

Helen Russell, *ESRI, Ireland*

Louis-André Vallet, *LASMAS, France*

Jan O. Jonsson, *SOFI, Stockholm University, Sweden*

2. Health and Care-Seeking (30 items)

Sjoerd Kooiker, *Social and Cultural Planning Office, the Netherlands.*

Jakob Kragstrup, *University of Southern Denmark, Denmark.*

Ebba Holme Hansen, *Danish University of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Denmark.*

Nicky Britten, *Peninsula Medical School, Universities of Exeter and Plymouth, UK.*

Alicja Malgorzata Oltarzewska, *Medical University of Bialystok, Poland.*

3. Economic Morality (30 items)

Susanne Karstedt, *Department of Criminology, Keele University, UK*

Stephen Farrall, *Department of Criminology, Keele University, UK.*

Alexander Stoyanov, *Centre for the Study of Democracy, Bulgaria.*

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The Questionnaire Design Teams met with the Questionnaire Design Group of the CCT to produce a number of drafts of the module. The third draft of the modules were sent to NCs for comment in December. The modules were prepared for the pilot by end-January. The background to the three modules, and details of their contents are given below.

4. Background to the *Family, Work and Well-being* module (60 items)

(Section G of the questionnaire).

The inter-relation between work, family and welfare are critical factors for the quality of life of European citizens and these issues are of central importance both for basic scientific research and for EU policy. There is a need for good measures for monitoring both the quality of jobs and social cohesion, 'objective' indicators of job characteristics, family structure, and welfare as well as the fundamental importance of indicators of attitudes and life satisfaction, thus revealing how the citizens of Europe experience their jobs, families, and lives in general in the context of their values and preferences. High quality comparative data for European societies is lacking on these issues yet it is a precondition for any rigorous analysis of the implications of institutional and policy differences between countries for the quality of life of their citizens. Many scholars stress

the importance of studying not only family, work and welfare but also the interaction between them: everyday experiences of combining work and family obligations are crucial for life satisfaction and psychological wellbeing.

These issues are timely for a number of reasons. One is the need to monitor and analyse scientifically the implications for personal welfare of changes in the nature of work and in the nature of family and household structures. Another reason is that changes in work and family are to some extent reactions to and also influence policy and institutional arrangements that differ greatly among European nations. Finally, these issues deal directly with major dimensions of inequality and problems of social cohesion, such as gender relations and the exposed position of less advantaged socioeconomic and minority groups.

This module does not only provide insights into work, family and welfare, but attempts to analyse the interactions between them. It aims at analysing purely work-related issues (such as comparing skill development and skill mismatch across Europe; how job stress creates health problems, preferences for job security, etc.), as well as purely family-related problems (such as the life-satisfaction of adults and children in different family types; how the family in different welfare state configurations functions as social support and/or a hindrance for personal development, etc.) And finally it analyses the interactions between family and work interactions. This section covers issues such as; combining modern working life with family life; how the possibilities of and problems in combining family and work correlate with life satisfaction; gender roles and obligations; effect of national policies on the work life balance; influence on social cohesion of socioeconomic and ethnic-based inequality in employment opportunities and working conditions, and family arrangements; and how previous employment and conditions during working life, in combination with family characteristics shape the wellbeing during old age.

For individuals, family and work relations have an important temporal dimension. A person's wellbeing and attitudes are not only formed by her current family status and work conditions; a recent divorce, long exposure to detrimental working environments, downward social mobility, or a couple's history of dividing paid and unpaid work are examples of events and biographies that have been shown to influence behaviour and shape attitudes. Hence, the adoption of a life-course perspective is a crucial feature of this approach. Collecting retrospective data that enable life-course analysis is unfortunately difficult (due to recall problems) and time-consuming. However, there are ways in which the timing of crucial events (such as divorce, unemployment, or birth of children) could be captured by few and straightforward questions.

Details of the topics covered

a) Work and employment

Employment and the quality of working life are of central importance for the overall quality of people's lives. Yet we still lack good data about the differences between countries in the nature and implications of work experiences and about trends across time, as well as information about the links between work quality and other key dimensions of people's life experience.

Items were selected that provide a robust portrait of the quality of work experiences on the key dimensions that past research has found to be of central importance. Aspects of work experience addressed by the module include work demands and work stress; length and type of working hours; job control and wider employee involvement; training and career opportunities; and employment security. The significance to people's lives of particular job characteristics will depend partly on what they value about work. Such work values are likely to be rooted in longer-term factors such as the nature of the early family environment; previous employment and labour market experiences and distinctive national cultural patterns. Few attempts have been made to link work experiences to longer-term life preferences. Important policy issues in this respect are the implications of the quality of work for people's preferences about the continuity of employment and retirement age. The examination of work values and preferences is also of major relevance for the non-working population. The viability of policies to expand the workforce may depend crucially on the extent to which people believe that there are jobs of a type that they would like to take. This part of the module then will provide an important step forward in enabling us to study the implications of work experiences in the context of values and preferences.

b) Family

The role of the family for quality of life is undisputable. While the family is central for people in general, the degree to which they rely on the family for support differs vastly between European societies as patterns of family dissolution and nest-leaving, among other things, differ. With the expansion of "new" family forms it is surprisingly difficult to delineate how family patterns differ among modern societies; and it is an even more pressing task to study the consequences, or at least correlates, of different family patterns. Thus, one of the aims of this part of the module is to study how adults' and children's life satisfaction and wellbeing are related to family and living arrangements and events such as cohabitation, separation, "living together apart", and family

reconstitution. A particularly interesting question is of course to relate these to employment and working life conditions. The division of unpaid and paid labour between spouses, especially regarding time use is of great importance for gender relations and probably also for the reproduction of these relations. Related to this is the question of the logistic complexity in families with (especially small) children.

c) Welfare/wellbeing

The focal point of our concern with the interplay of work and family situation is the way it affects the welfare of individuals. We take this as including the distinct dimensions of financial pressure; physical and psychological well-being; family cohesion; local social participation and societal integration. This module will provide in-depth analysis of the implications of specific inter-relationships of work and family experience. It combines, where possible, measures of 'objective' and 'subjective' welfare. For instance, it is frequently assumed that local social integration, or its converse social exclusion, can be adequately judged from indicators of the frequency of social contact. Yet people clearly differ (and this may vary culturally between societies) in their need for specific types of companionship. It is important then to include measures of the subjective experience of sociability or social isolation.

2. Background to the *Health and Care-seeking* module (30 items)

(Section D of the questionnaire).

An important feature of all European societies is that governments provide for the health care of their citizens. Europe is very different from the US in this respect. The level of provision however varies widely between European countries. On the one hand there are systems like in the UK that operate at low cost, but result in long waiting lists. On the other hand there are costly systems (as measured in % of GDP expenditure) like in Germany, Switzerland and France, which often provide more treatment than would be necessary on rational grounds. Governments in Eastern Europe are in the process of restructuring their health care systems, decentralising the soviet style (polyclinic) system and putting emphasis on primary health care and GPs in a gate-keeping role, while at the same time introducing market mechanisms and economic incentives. The public funds dedicated to health care are limited in these countries, resulting in low wages for health care professionals and high co-payments (or under the table payments) for patients.

The extent of the national health care provisions may have an influence on how individuals in these countries define their health and may also influence their attitudes towards care seeking. One would expect high aspirations regarding health (WHO

definition) and high expectations regarding care in countries with systems with abundant supply and generous social security. This phenomenon has been referred to as 'medicalisation' (Moynihan, Smith, 2002). Alternatively, health concepts that are instrumental 'good health is being able to function or work' and reliance on self-care are to be expected in countries where only a basic level of care is provided. It should be noted however that these opinions are by no means determined by features of the health care system alone but may stem from deeply rooted and culturally determined views. Alternatively, the shape of the system itself may be the expression of values dominant in a particular society. This module aims at providing data with which to map the interrelationships between structure and culture regarding the topic of health and care seeking. Future repetitions of the module would offer the possibility of charting the results of changing institutions in East and West and how these impinge on health concepts and help seeking attitudes.

Details of the topics covered

a) Concepts of medicines

When is a product a medicine? An increasing number of Prescription Only Medicines (POM) have switched to over-the-counter medicine. Lifestyle drugs (Viagra etc) blur the line between medicines as benign poisons and consumer products. Are these products still considered medicines or just pills that help you to lead a better life?

b) Attitudes towards medicines and medicine taking

These include preference for natural remedies, newest medicines, brand loyalty and the dislike of (cheap) generic drugs, opinions about and experience with side effects.

c) Behaviour with medicines

There are large differences in the handling of medicines in the home and the passing on of prescription only medicines to friends and relatives not only between countries but also between groups of different cultures within countries (Fainzang, 2001; Whyte, Van der Geest and Hardon, 2002;). Questions that tap into this area may be helpful in delineating 'pharmaco-centric' cultures.

d) Expectations of medical care

The expectations of medical care vary from country to country, and partly depend on the structure of the health care system (Grol, Wensing et al, 1999). In Western Europe the expectations of patients seem to be rising and repeated measures could provide valuable

trend information. These expectations can be measured with a simple list of statements. A list of 12 statements used previously showed a high level of internal consistency and was a good predictor of using prescribed medicine (Kooiker, 1996).

e) Social distance

The medical encounter is always one of a social distance between doctor and patient. The perceived distance may have an effect on how satisfied patients are and how likely patients are to follow a doctor's instructions. Compliance may be a matter of perceived legitimacy of authority (Stevenson, Britten, Barry, Bradley & Barber, 2002). This will provide valuable data on the social environment in which the professional interaction takes place.

f) Illness behaviour

Questions on illness actions when respondents had common symptoms of illness that are usually treated in ambulatory care: what did you do the last time you had a headache, stomach problems, a sore throat etc. Did you use a home remedy, see a doctor, etc.

3. Background to the *Economic Morality* module (30 items)

(Section E of the questionnaire).

The aim of this module is to examine the normative and moral culture of markets and consumption in European countries, and to establish how the 'economic morality' of consumer society develops in Europe under the pressure of globalisation, neo-liberal market policies and transition to market economies. It explores the normative patterns and frameworks of European market and consumer societies by examining both, the victimisation of consumers by large- and small-scale fraud and unfair practices on the one hand, as well as their own involvement as offenders in an array of illegal and 'unethical' practices in different spheres of consumption (including government services) on the other hand. It will provide a wider conceptual framework within which these phenomena can be understood, especially in terms of trust, confidence in and legitimacy of business and state/government institutions, and general normative patterns. The module is based on the assumption that in market and consumer society the role and identity of the consumer is intricately linked to the role of the citizen, and consequently, experiences in the market place impact on attitudes toward the general institutional framework of society, in particular trust and citizenship. The ESS provides a strategic sample of European countries that represents the types of market societies that will shape the future of the EU in most facets. At a time when the EU is embarking on

enlargement to include transitional countries these processes of change and their implications are salient.

Details of the topics covered

The dependent variables in this module (victimisation, fear of victimisation, offending and intentions to offend) are all based on a number of items concerning different realms of the market place, government services and private transactions, and are as far as possible matched for victimization and fear, offending and intentions (insurance and banking, retail and services, tax and benefits, private sales, internet). The core explanatory concepts are: the 'moral economy'; 'legal cynicism' and 'moral obligations'; 'self-interestedness'; trust and fairness; social networks; and citizenship.

Dependent Variables

a)Victimisation and The Fear of Victimisation

Victimisation was defined as an event, that resulted in a loss, damage and/or inconvenience from illegal, illegitimate and unfair market practices (irrespective of the intention of those who behaved in that way), and fear respectively. These concepts are operationalised via a series of items which ask subjects about the number of times they have become a victim of a certain type of behaviour. Fear of victimisation was operationalised as general worries to become a victim of a number of specified behaviours that matched the items of the victimisation experience.

b)Offending

Both actual offending in the market place by citizens and their willingness to do so was defined as the engagement in unfair, illegal and illegitimate transactions. They were designed in the same way as the victimization questions, i.e. referring to the same recall period and with the same response categories, and targeting specific actions. Intentions to offend matched a selection of these behaviours. The response categories indicated a clear intention to engage in such behaviour (" would consider doing this"), a clear rejection ("would never consider doing this"), and 'opportunistic behaviour ("depends on the situation").

Explanatory Concepts

c) The Moral Economy

This concept aims at exploring the extent to which citizens feel that the modern market place has become an increasingly corrupt, exploitative or unjust one. The concept of the

'moral economy', developed by historian E. P. Thompson, emphasises change in market conditions and how these differed from citizens' perceptions of how the market ought to operate.

d) Legal Cynicism & Moral Obligations

'Legal cynicism' is defined as the extent to which individuals feel disengaged from legal norms, perceive that others are so disengaged that legal norms have no validity, or perceive legal norms as useless. Legal cynicism is weighed against and complemented by the concept of moral obligations. Both concepts were measured by an integrated series of statements.

e) Social citizenship/Self-Interest

Self-interestedness as a concept was introduced to explore the attitudes concerning the realisation of autonomy and individualisation in the market place. It is defined as the extent to which individuals place themselves ahead of others in terms of striving to be 'a winner', the extent to which they are willing and prepared to engage in relationships on the assumption of 'Machiavellian' strategies, and prioritise success over all other considerations. The concept was operationalised through a 'self-interestedness scale'.

f) Trust and Fairness

Trust and fairness are core concepts relating to transactions in the market place. In particular, it is the concept of generalised trust in others that is essential in this context, as well as trust and confidence in institutions. The concept of confidence in institutions was defined as the extent to which citizens trust those market institutions with which they regularly come into contact. The concept of confidence in institutions was operationalised according to the dimensions of trustworthiness of these 'institutions', i.e. their fairness and competency in transactions. This module makes use of the general trust and fairness items asked as part of the ESS core. However, also included is a new battery of questions aimed at measuring trust/confidence in market institutions.

g) Networks of Support

This concept is defined as the extent of 'social capital' in dealing with victimisation and engaging in offending and unfair practices, which often need the support of networks (e.g. in making up insurance claims, or tax evasion). The concept examines the extent to which people are embedded in social networks which might offer support for engaging in offending and unfair activities.

3.4. The two-nation pilot

During the end of February and March 2004, a pilot study was conducted in Britain and Poland to test the proposed additions to the core and the three rotating modules of the questionnaire. A supplementary questionnaire was also asked to test the reliability and validity of the new questions. Over 1000 interviews were achieved across Britain and Poland, in both cases spread across the country and as representative as possible in demographic characteristics.

Details of the pilot analysis are given below. But we also received invaluable qualitative feedback from pilot interviewers to alert us to problematic topics or questions that would not be evident from analysis of the data alone.

One of the key issues to consider in the pilot was the length of the new rotating modules, especially section G (Family, Work and Well-being) which contained a large amount of routing. It was feared that this module would be particularly burdensome for certain respondents.

3.5. Analysis of the pilot

As in Round 1, Professor Saris and colleagues at the University of Amsterdam had carried out reliability and validity analysis throughout the questionnaire design process. Although some work can be done during this process, it is only once the question wording has been finalised and quantitative data are available that the items can be tested empirically. The four main focuses of the analysis by members of the CCT were on item reliability (using MTMM analysis), the distribution of responses across response scales, levels of 'don't knows' or missing values on particular items, and the different format of questions as tested in the supplementary questionnaire. The analysis concentrated particularly on new questions in both the core and rotating modules.

The issues to be tested in the analysis were whether the items measured what the concept was supposed to measure (content validity), the predicted reliability and method effects (concurrent validity), and the relationships within and between constructs (construct validity). To the extent that it was able to do so, the pilot was also designed to reveal cognitive and interaction problems in the questionnaire and problems of comparability across countries. With that in mind, certain items had been included twice in the pilot questionnaire with only slightly different wording or response categories, thus enabling informed decisions to be made about which formulations should be used at the main stage. Problems with translation were also important to consider in the Polish questionnaire.

From the analysis carried out, the QDTs and CCT together selected the questions to be cut. The Polish report highlighted questions that posed translation problems which were either redrafted, removed, or annotated.

4. Translation

4.1. Process and method

A specialist multi-nation translation panel, chaired by Janet Harkness of ZUMA, was set up in Round One to develop and implement the most appropriate approach to ESS translation and review (see Annex 4. for current membership). In Round Two, further experts were consulted for specific tasks, such as appraisals of Italian and French translations. We expect to consult with experts in further languages in succeeding rounds of the ESS.

In the course of Round Two, a revised version of the Guidelines on translation and assessment were produced. These were submitted to the Commission along with the technical report from the work package for Round Two. The following factors were taken into account in developing the ESS translation and assessment guidelines:

- All countries would translate the source questionnaire into all languages spoken as a first language by five percent or more of their resident population. Some countries therefore had to undertake two or three translations of the source questionnaire and Luxembourg translated into four languages and fielded in five.
- All ESS translations have to be available as written applications or questionnaires. After one country included oral translations in Round One, this specification was re-emphasized in Round Two.
- Since the core questionnaire was to be designed for replication at each round and the rotating modules for (less frequent) repetitions, it was especially important for each country to produce optimally equivalent translations that would stand the test of time.

A paper trail of the translation process was essential so that the provenance of every question in every country could be understood and appreciated by scholars and other analysts.

- Countries that 'shared' languages (see Table 6.) should be able to benefit from each other's translations. Such countries were encouraged to consult and reduce differences across translations wherever this was beneficial. At the same time, the

aim was to ensure that every country used appropriate phraseology for its own population(s).

- Detailed practical guidelines – many of them developed especially for the ESS – were drawn up for each phase of translation and assessment and explained to National Co-ordinators at a series of plenary meetings. In Round Two, the translation helpline set up in Round One was augmented by a FAQ document on the ESS website (www.europeansocialsurvey.org/ess_docs/index.htm). A 'Translation supplement' was provided to be used in addition to the Round 1 translation protocol. This too is posted on the ESS website (www.europeansocialsurvey.org/ess_docs/index.htm).

In the ESS the questionnaire is designed in British English and then translated into the other languages required. It is essential therefore that the source questions are suitable for export, that is, that they can be translated well and that good translations do result in functionally equivalent questions in the other languages (for discussion of possible problems, see Harkness, van de Vijver & Johnson, 2003, and Braun and Harkness, 2005). Participating countries were therefore very much encouraged to provide feedback on draft versions of the source questionnaire before questions were finally formulated. In addition, the structured procedures proposed in the ESS translation and translation assessment guidelines required participating countries to expend great care on their translation efforts. Details of requirements were explicitly included in the ESS specifications so that they could be appropriately costed. In Round Two, the time available for participating countries to provide comments on the source questionnaire content and make their translations was able to be increased a little.

The strategy devised for the ESS translation efforts consists of five interrelated procedures: Translation, Review, Adjudication, Pre-testing and Documentation; procedures for which the acronym TRAPD was adopted. As adjustments are made to translations in the course of producing a final questionnaire, review, adjudication, and documentation activities may also be repeated.

The three different roles involved in the translation effort are those of: translator, reviewer, and adjudicator. Two translators are always required to produce the draft translations. Depending on the expertise given team members have, the roles of reviewer and adjudicator may be fulfilled by one, two, or by more people.

The translation guidelines outlined the skills and competencies required for each role as follows:

- Translators were to be trained practitioners ideally with experience of translating questionnaires. Two such translators were required for each language version in each country. They were to translate from English into their strongest language (in almost all cases their 'first' language).
- Reviewers were also to have good translation skills but also needed to be familiar with questionnaire design principles and with survey research more generally. Only one reviewer per language per country was required, but if one person could not be found with all the necessary skills then the task could be shared.
- Adjudicators were to be responsible for the final decisions on translation options, ideally in agreement with reviewer and translators, but at any rate after discussion with the reviewer. One adjudicator was required for each language in each country, and he or she ideally had to appreciate the overall subject matter and principles of the research and be proficient both in English and the other language involved. The adjudicator was in fact frequently the National Coordinator or someone else of senior standing already working on the project.

This multi-staged approach was chosen to mitigate the subjective nature of translation and text-based translation assessment procedures; to ensure appropriate stage by stage documentation which would help both adjudicators and subsequent analysts; and to allow careful but parsimonious translations in countries which share a language with other countries.

4.2. Application of TRAPD

Within the TRAPD framework, translators can be asked to produce either parallel translations or split translations:

- Parallel translations involve several people making independent translations of the same questionnaire. Then, at a reconciliation meeting, the translators and a reviewer review the questionnaire question-by-question and agree on a final review version. The adjudicator may attend the review process or even be a reviewer. If he or she is not involved in the review process, the version produced through discussion moves on to adjudication. Parallel translations were recommended for the ESS. However, split translation (see below) was offered as an option to countries which 'shared' a language or languages with another country.
- Split translations also involve at least two translators plus a reviewer and adjudicator (or reviewer-cum-adjudicator). The questionnaire is divided up between the translators in the alternating fashion used in dealing cards. With two

translators, each therefore receives fifty per cent of the material, spread across the questionnaire. Each translator translates his/her own section. At a reconciliation meeting, translators and the reviewer go through the questionnaire using the same procedure as for parallel translations. The adjudicator may attend the review process and become involved in the review or merely enter the process afterwards to adjudicate. Task-splitting can save time and effort, particularly if the questionnaire is long, but careful attention must be paid to consistency across the work.

In the ESS only countries sharing a language with other countries were offered the option of producing split translations (see section 4.3). As it was, the majority of countries in both Round One and Round Two of the ESS produced parallel translations. In most cases, too, review and adjudication processes were merged wholly or in part. No problems were reported with the procedures.

Properly administered, such team-based arrangements for translation efforts provide rich output in terms of translation alternatives and facilitate a balanced critique of versions. A growing body of specialists now advocates team-based arrangements for comparative translation. They argue persuasively that a translator working alone and simply 'handing over' the finished assignment has no opportunity to discuss and develop alternatives. However, the team must bring together the mix of skills and disciplinary expertise needed to decide on optimal versions. The procedures must also be followed with the proper attention to detail since no procedure, however good, can succeed if not conducted properly. Collectively, members of this team must supply knowledge of the study, of questionnaire design, of fielding processes. Key members of the team must also have the cultural and linguistic knowledge needed to translate appropriately in the required variety of the target language (cf. Harkness et al, 2004; Harkness and Schoua-Glusberg 1998; Warnecke et al 1997; Hambleton, 2005).

4.3. Procedures for countries with 'shared' languages

Table 6. below shows the ESS countries that shared languages in Round Two. Countries sharing languages for the first time were Estonia and the Ukraine (Russian), Luxembourg and Portugal (Portuguese), and Hungary and Slovakia (Hungarian). Luxembourg produced four written translations in Round Two; three shared with other countries, and shared English with the UK and Ireland.

Table 6. Shared languages

Language	Countries sharing
French	Belgium, France, Switzerland, Luxembourg
German	Austria, Germany, Switzerland, Luxembourg
Russian	Estonia, Ukraine
Portuguese	Portugal, Luxembourg
Hungarian	Hungary, Slovakia
Italian	Italy, Switzerland
Dutch/Flemish	Belgium, The Netherlands
Swedish	Sweden, Finland
English	UK, Ireland, Luxembourg

As noted, the ESS encourages countries sharing languages to consult and co-operate but does not follow a policy of deliberate and strict harmonization. Experience has shown that idiom and meaning are to a large extent culturally constructed along different lines in different nations. Differences in preferred usage were thus to be expected and acknowledged while *unnecessary* differences in translation were to be avoided. It was emphasized that in consulting, no country’s version could or should be considered as definitive or even preferred. With that in mind, all countries were asked to complete an individual draft translation before consulting with another country.

Countries that shared a language could, in consultation with the translation work package, adopt a split approach to translation, using two translators to produce one translation as outlined in section 4.2. The precise steps for these procedures are described in Information Note 3, Annex 9., Document B developed for Round One. (http://naticent02.uuhost.uk.uu.net/proj_spec/round_1.htm).

All countries were also requested to:

- indicate their intention of co-operating with a named country or countries several months in advance of the start of the translation process per se;
- submit their individual versions to the Translation Panel before the consultation process began;

- include in their documentation a record of initial differences and subsequent 'solutions'. The ESS Translation Panel would then be in a position to know where differences had been retained and where they had been resolved and could analyse the process in more detail to gain insights for comparative research in general.

Table 7. lists the countries that produced more than one translation, complying either with the specification that an appropriate version of the questionnaire should be produced for all minority (first) language groups comprising 5% or more of the population, or because the country had more than one official language and thus felt it necessary to produce a version for each of those languages. Switzerland, for instance, produced three language versions (German, French and Italian), all official languages. Luxembourg produced four translations, all of these shared languages and, including English, fielded in five languages. The smallest country in the ESS thus fielded in more languages than any other participant.

Table 7.

Country	Languages	Shared
Belgium	Flemish (Dutch) French	Yes Yes
Estonia	Estonian, Russian	No Yes
Finland	Finnish Swedish	No Yes
Luxembourg	French German English Portuguese Luxembourgish	Yes Yes Yes Yes No
Slovakia	Slovakian Hungarian	No Yes
Switzerland	Italian French German	Yes Yes Yes
Spain	Spanish Catalan	No No
Ukraine	Ukrainian Russian	No Yes

A preliminary and partial review of some of the translations in Round Two from countries sharing languages (see section 4.3.) suggests that formulations across countries might have been more closely co-ordinated. At the same time, time schedules dictated by

fielding dates and individual budgetary constraints may always limit the degree of consultation possible across countries. Centralised supervision of harmonisation discussions would be even more subject to such pressures; there is currently neither a budget for work of this kind nor time available within the framework of the general ESS survey schedule.

4.4. Selecting translators, reviewers and adjudicators

Guidelines were provided to National Co-ordinators on what are believed to be the most appropriate characteristics of translators, reviewers and adjudicators, and how to assess candidates. Various briefing and training materials were also provided, along with guidance notes on the use of the annotated questionnaire (see Translation Protocol - http://naticent02.uuhost.uk.uu.net/ess_docs/index.htm), all designed to ease and improve the process. These materials were produced in the knowledge that well-trained and well-briefed translators are more likely to be able understand the nature of the task in survey translation and to produce appropriate translations.

4.5. Annotating the questionnaire

Questionnaires lead a double life: while on the surface they appear straightforward and simple, they are in fact highly complex documents. Choices about wording, sequence, degree of explanation and layout are all critical to the design of individual questions and of the questionnaire as a whole.

Annotations on source questionnaires are employed to help translators, reviewers and adjudicators to find the most optimally equivalent translations from the original English. They are certainly not intended as crutches for translators with, say, a weak command of English, but instead to provide information that enables the various actors in the translation process to focus directly on what concept or connotation lies behind the actual question wording. For instance, in some cultures, the word 'household' might automatically tend to be associated with 'home' and hence 'family'. In this instance, the annotation would point out that the appropriate focus is the dwelling unit (variously defined as shared cooking facilities, shared finances or shared sitting room).

4.6. Translation and documentation

As noted, all NCs were asked to document translation and review decisions:

- for the benefit of reviewers and adjudicators to provide a record of points at issue in the initial translations;
- for the benefit of countries sharing languages who need to be able to compare and contrast versions and later to defend the final version;
- for the benefit of future scholars and ESS analysts;

and

- for the benefit of methodologists involved in assessing the reliability or validity of questions, where different national response patterns could stem from faulty translations.

A document has already been compiled of all the comments from participating countries on individual questions in order to inform both future rounds of the ESS and future analysts more generally. For more discussion of translation documentation see the ESS Guidelines (www.europeansocialsurvey.org/ess_docs/index.htm) and Harkness, Pennell & Schoua-Glusberg, 2004.

4.7. Translation reviews

The Italian co-ordinators in the ESS changed between Round One and Round Two and the new Italian team reviewed Round One translations closely before embarking on Round Two translations. In compliance with ESS requirements, they approached the ESS Coordinating Office with a number of queries for the new modules in Round Two and some questions about existing translations. A partial review and consultation on their questions was organised at ZUMA using Italian translation experts with experience in survey projects. As a result, appropriate suggestions could be made to the new Italian team. Queries during Round Two about French translations also prompted a partial review of French translations, in particular, but by no means exclusively, those produced for France. The two preliminary reviews suggest that greater co-operation should be encouraged between countries sharing languages. In some instances, too, more care is called for in the translation process to ensure both accuracy and adherence to the source questionnaire design.

As outlined in the ESS specifications, ultimate responsibility for translations always lies with participating countries. External review of translations such as described above is an expensive and time-consuming undertaking. In addition, external rather than internal review is not the optimal solution. Sometimes only those working in the specialised field of survey research in a given context can properly decide on the best translation. This fact was also a key motivation for implementing the TRAPD team approach in the fashion described earlier. Consequently, the ESS budget and work schedule assigned to the translation work package never envisaged external reviews. Nonetheless, questions raised in discussion of the French and Italian translations have led us to plan a modest Translation Review Project for Round 3. A principal goal in this project will be to investigate how useful review feedback could be to countries participating in the ESS.

5. Fieldwork

5.1. Specification

For Round 2 of the ESS, the Specification for Participating Countries was updated. Guidelines were revised and areas that had caused confusion were made clearer. The general rules for fieldwork procedures, however, remained essentially the same:

- Countries were set a target response rate of 70%, and a maximum non-contact rate of 3%. Naturally, these targets could not be turned into contractual conditions, and – in the event – either one or both of these targets were not achieved in several places (see Contract Adherence chapter III section 9.). But they were nonetheless serious targets to be aimed at conscientiously by means of appropriate procedures and costings. Similarly, the target response rate for the supplementary questionnaire was set at 90% of productive face-to-face respondents. The procedures for calculating ‘response rates’ were laid down in the specification.
- The CCT also provided guidance on response rate enhancement procedures, but the specification already insisted that interviewers had to make at least 4 personal visits to a sampling unit before treating it as non-productive. Moreover, at least one visit had to be in the evening and one at the weekend, and visits were to be spread over at least 2 different weeks. Similarly, to allow hard-to-contact or temporarily unreachable people to be located, the fieldwork period itself had to last at least 30 days, within a 4 month period from September-December 2004. In the event, the timetable frequently stretched beyond the specified limits and sometimes well beyond. This was partly as a result of country-specific factors such as national elections (as in the Ukraine), partly due to delays in funding (e.g. Italy) but also partly because of difficulties in achieving the response rate targets and the

subsequent need to reissue 'soft' refusals and non-contacts in a renewed attempt to boost response and make the sample more representative (as in Spain).

- First contacts were to be made face-to-face (mostly but not in all cases following an advance letter). The exception to this rule was in countries where the sample was one of named individuals with telephone numbers. In these cases only, first contact could be made by telephone. All interviews were to be carried out face-to-face. The supplementary questionnaire could be carried out by either self-completion or as a continuation of the face-to-face interview, but not a combination of the two.
- Quality control back-checks had to be carried out and documented on at least 5% of respondents, 10% of refusals and 10% of non-contacts.
- Interviewer assignment sizes were not to exceed 24 issued units and no interviewer was to carry out more than 2 assignments.
- Interviewers were to be personally briefed about all aspects of the survey.

Aside from general revisions of guidelines, the main changes made for Round 2 were as follows:

- National Co-ordinators should be appointed earlier than they were during Round 1, and ideally by September 2003. This was to allow them to engage fully in the process of designing the rotating modules of the questionnaire.
- In Round 1 it was stipulated that all National Co-ordinators should be allocated 50% time commitment over an 18 month period. The time to be allocated in Round 2 was from 25% time to 50% time over 18 months, depending on whether the country was involved in Round 1 and if so, whether the National Co-ordinator has remained the same, or a new appointment has been made.
- In Round 1 countries were asked to achieve a minimum of 2000 interviews, with a 'minimum *effective* sample size' of 1500 (taking into account design effects). In Round 2, the requirement for a minimum number of achieved interviews was removed. Instead we merely stipulate the effective sample size, which remains 1500.
- For Round 2, it was stipulated that two separate response rates should be calculated: an '**ESS**' response rate and a '**field**' response rate, which have slightly different definitions of what counts as ineligible.

- For the administration of the Round 2 supplementary questionnaire, the sample should be split into **3 groups** in every country, rather than into either 2 or 6 groups as in Round 1.

All documents were evaluated and amended for Round 2. More details of these revisions is provided in the specific sections. The fieldwork documents were, in some cases, such as for the advance letter template, revised following consultation with National Coordinators in order to determine the successes and weaknesses of the Round 1 documents. From this consultation an advisory paper and template were provided. (See Annex 6.) The Project Instructions were also revised for the second round. As always, all documents are available on the ESS Docs page of the ESS website.

5.2. Fieldwork details

Table 8 gives a broad overview of the fieldwork in the 17 countries whose data were released in the first release (September 28, 2005), including the identity of the survey organisation commissioned to carry out the work, the mode of main and supplementary questionnaires, the start and end fieldwork dates and the response rates.

One key process that was implemented for Round 2 was fieldwork monitoring by members of the CCT. This was implemented to enable problems in fieldwork to be identified at an early stage, rather than when it was too late to make any changes. Four members of the CCT were allocated up to seven countries each and were then responsible for monitoring the fieldwork progress, in terms of number of interviews achieved. All countries were asked to submit a projected number of interviews and planned fieldwork dates before fieldwork started. (See Annex 7.) Once fieldwork started they then sent in two-weekly fieldwork reports of number of interviews achieved, response rates, number of non-contacts and any other information they thought would be useful. The responsible CCT member compared these figures to the predictions, and if fieldwork seemed to be not going to plan, contacted the NC to discuss why this might be and what action could be taken.

There were some deviations from the specification, which are summarised below and covered in more detail in the section on contract adherence (chapter III..section 9.):

- In the event, six of the first release countries (see Table 8 below) achieved or exceeded the 70% target, and a further five achieved between 60% and 69%, and five others achieved between 50% and 59%. Only Switzerland scored less than 50% but even they scored 47% which is not only very impressive for this type of survey

in Switzerland, but also an improvement from Round 1 (33.5%). So, although we knew that the target was unrealistically high for certain countries, it proved to be in reach (or nearly so) for most. More importantly, the response rates achieved in the ESS in the great majority of countries were above or well above national norms for similar projects, suggesting that the target was well worth specifying.

- Similarly, the maximum specified non-contact rate of 3% proved to be unachievable in 11 of the first release countries¹. As in Round 1, this target was even not achieved by some countries who exceeded the 70% target response rate. As with the response rates, even when the target was not achieved, the result was often better than national norms.
- As for the supplementary questionnaires, only two of the first release countries failed to meet the response rate target of 90% of all productive face-to-face respondents. However, both of these countries came very close to the target – Finland (85%) and Sweden (87%).
- As noted, many countries were not in the event able to complete their fieldwork in the period specified – between September and December 2004. In some cases late agreement to funding or intervening national events delayed the start of fieldwork; in others, the need to boost response rates delayed the finish. Indeed in one country (Germany) it was agreed that fieldwork could start a week early to ensure completion on time.
- In eight countries the maximum assignment size was exceeded in some cases. However, this generally applied to a very small proportion of the total interviewer load.

¹ No detailed information was available for the Czech republic.

Table 8.Fieldwork details by country

COUNTRY	Survey organisation	Mode of questionnaire		Fieldwork dates		Response rate %
		Main	Supplementary	Start	End	
Austria	Institute for Panel Research	PAPI	Interview	Jan 05	April 05	62.4
Belgium	Significant Gfk	CAPI	Interview	Oct 04	Jan 05	61.4
Czech Republic	SC&C	PAPI	Interview	Oct 04	Dec 04	55.3
Denmark	SFI-Survey Danish National Institute of Social Research	CAPI	Interview	Oct 04	Jan 05	65.1
Estonia	Statistical Office of Estonia	PAPI	Interview	Sept 04	Jan 05	79.3
Finland	Statistics Finland	CAPI	S/C	Sept 04	Dec 04	70.8
Germany	Institute for Applied Social Sciences (INFAS)	CAPI	Interview	Aug 04	Jan 05	52.6
Greece	OPINION	PAPI	Interview	Jan 05	Mar 05	78.8
Luxembourg	CEPS/INSTEAD	PAPI	Interview	Sept 04	Jan 05	50.0
Norway	Statistics Norway	CAPI	S/C	Sep 04	Jan 05	66.2
Poland	Centre for Social Survey Research, Institute of Philosophy and Sociology, Polish Academy of Sciences	PAPI	Interview	Oct 04	Dec 04	74.4
Portugal	TNS-Euroteste	PAPI	Interview	Oct 04	Mar 05	70.5
Slovenia	Public Opinion and Mass Communication Research Centre (CJMMK), Ljubljana University	PAPI	Interview	Oct 04	Nov 04	70.2
Spain	TNS-Demoscopia	CAPI	Interview	Sept 04	Jan 05	54.8
Sweden	SCB	CAPI	S/C	Sept 04	Jan 05	65.8
Switzerland	MIS Trend	CAPI	Interview	Sept 04	Feb 05	46.9
UK	British Market Research Bureau (BMRB)	CAPI	Interview	Sept 04	Mar 05	50.6

6. Context/event data

6.1. Contextual data

As in Round 1, context data were made available to aid analysis of the survey data and for methodological purposes (weighting of the survey outcomes). A wide range of population statistics has been provided by the national co-ordinators in each participating country and is available at the ESS Data Archive website at NSD (see 'Survey documentation', *A1 population statistics and other documentation*). In addition, rather than developing a new database, the inventory developed in Round 1 of publicly, electronically available information on context has been updated and added to. The available databases differ with regard to completeness, reliability, the extent to which the information is up to date, accessibility, etc. The situation regarding context data has been improved since Round 1, however. Firstly, an increasing number of organisations and institutions provide country profiles. Secondly, international organisations such as Eurostat have increasingly implemented the policy of giving access to their data free of charge. Still, assessing the quality of the data, adding different sources and combining countries may be a time-consuming job that will have to be performed by substantive researchers.

6.2. Event data

Before the start of Round 2 fieldwork, the event reporting guidelines from Round 1 were re-drafted. The improved guidelines were based on experiences from R1 and an inspection of the material (available at www.scp.nl/users/stoop/ess_events/events_overview.htm), a discussion with the NCs, the desire for more standardized reports without substantially increasing the workload of event reporters, and a short comparative study of different frontpages of different European newspapers throughout a week. Changes with respect to R1 include a more formal framework and weekly reporting instead of monthly reporting. In addition, the present guidelines (www.scp.nl/users/stoop/ess-events-r2/guidelines_events_final.htm) provided several detailed examples. Finally, national reporters were asked to provide a free format overview of changes in the political and social landscape between Round 1 and Round 2.

Table 9 below is the protocol that was developed for the Round 2 ESS event reporting.

Table 9. Framework event reporting, ESS 2004

	Explanation	Examples (not real)
Name	Name of specific event The name of a specific event could be an interpretable newspaper headline (not 'Dust to dust', or 'Double Dutch' or 'Home alone' or 'Trojan horse victory')	Minister of Education steps down after school fraud 500.000 turnout at demonstration against care budget cuts Paid parental leave: Mom can stay at home now Greece European champion football Fundamental Muslims accused of terrorism Housing market collapses Scathing judgment on quality childcare Tornado in Toledo Kidnapping in Iraq Herb cure saves lives Prince Claus died Hospital scandal: 30 patients infected Major credit card fraud Opening Parliamentary year: the future looks bleak Opinion poll on democracy: all in for personal gain Low turnout at EU referendum
Category	Select one or more categories; add category if necessary (highlight)	Election (national, local), plebiscite, referendum Resignation, appointment, dismissal of politically significant person; Fall of cabinet, change government, new government Significant change of laws; Strikes, demonstrations, riots (mention topic) Acts of terrorism Events involving ethnic minorities, asylum seekers; Events concerning the national economy, labour market Political, financial, economic scandal, frauds National events (royal weddings, sports championships) Health issues Family matters Crimes (kidnappings, robberies) Disasters (outbreaks foot and mouth/mad cow disease, extreme weather conditions) International conflict (Israel-Palestine conflict, Iraq, Pakistan) that have a national impact Major international events that draw vast local attention
Short description	Similar to header in newspaper or introduction news item	Prince Claus has died after 20 years of serious health problems. The nation mourns. Prince Claus was beloved by many Dutch people for his original contribution to being a Prince. He has become famous for his contributions to developing countries. Many people come to pay him their last respects.

Timing	Date event in media, date event, duration (sudden, going on)	Prince Claus died on 6 October and was buried on 16 October. Wide media coverage of his life, his lying in state and the tribute paid to him by Dutch citizens and dignitaries, and funeral during these 10 days.
Coverage	Attention in media	All national news papers and TV journals, extra breaking news programmes, front page tabloids
Source	Which newspaper (or possibly website)	
Web link	Only if free and (semi)-permanent	http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/health/3856289.stm
Link to questionnaire	If direct relationship with identifiable question blocks	B18: lawful demonstration (when large demonstration) B19: consumer boycott (when large consumer boycott) B12: satisfied about state of education (when educational abuses denounced) B34: European unification (when heated discussions on Turkey in EU) C1: How happy are you (when country won/lost European football match)
Possible effect on fieldwork	Areas closed off because off animal diseases, heavy storms, confidentiality scandals	Eurostat top accused of fraud
Additional information	All additional information very welcome	

Most national reporters provided high quality, detailed and very useful reports. As in Round 1 a webpage gives an overview of event reporting and gives access to the reported events (see www.scp.nl/users/stoop/less-events-r2/events_overview_round2.htm). Figure 2 gives an overview of the contents and structure of the R2 media reported event database. Each entry in the figure below indicates the presence of a weekly media report.

Fieldwork for Round 2 started in August 2004. In November 2005 two countries had still not completed fieldwork. This implies that a very long series of media reported event data will be available, although the majority of 'shared' events occurred in the period from September 2004 to January 2005. Round 2 took place in a world in turmoil. A protracted war, bombings and hostage taking in Iraq, bomb attacks in Egypt and London, the assassination of Dutch filmmaker Theo van Gogh, and general terror threats caused feelings of insecurity all over Europe. Immigration received a lot of media attention, as in

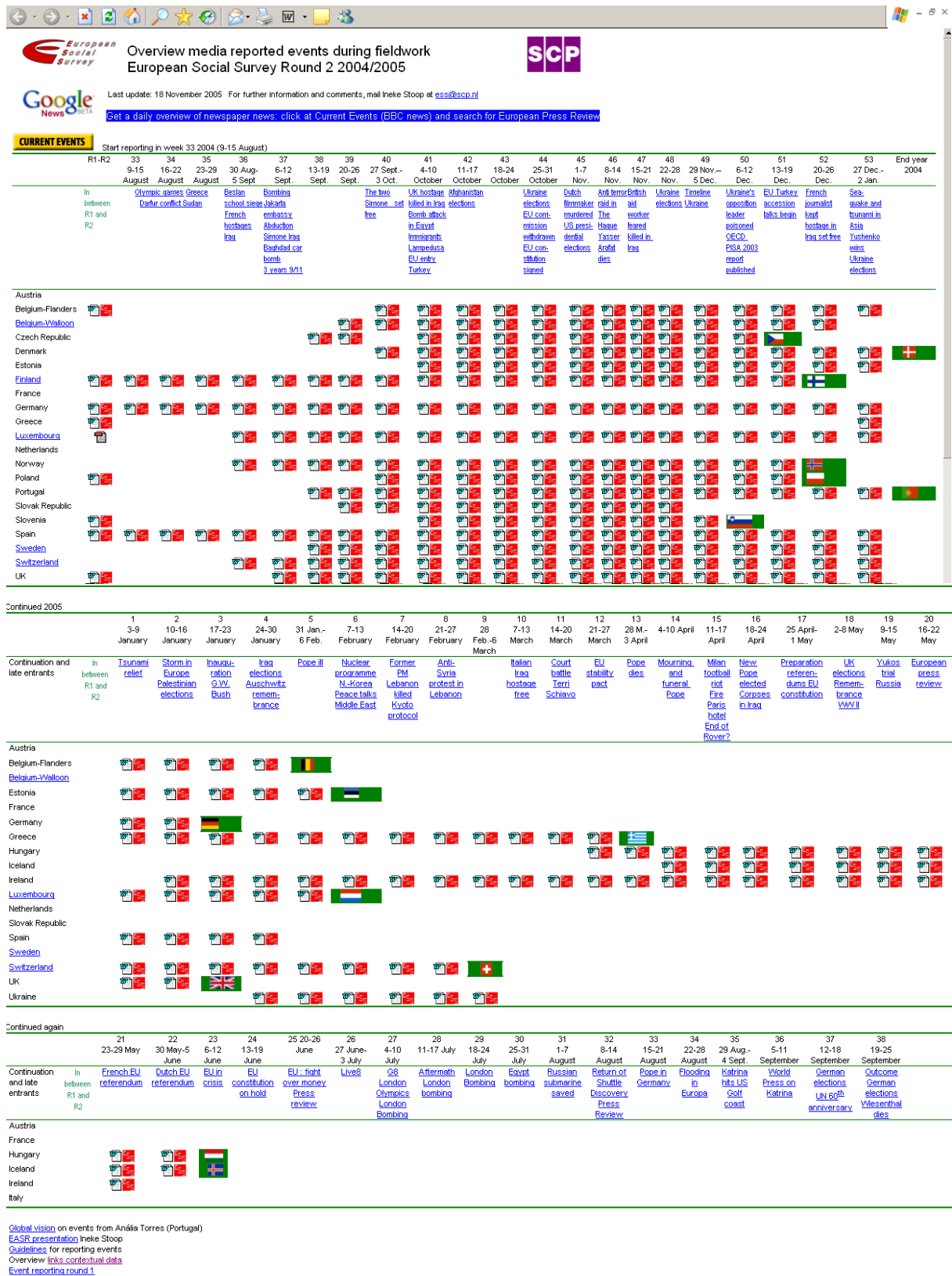
Round 1. Particularly horrendous was the situation of immigrants trying to reach Lampedusa and (at the end of 2005) Spanish enclaves in Africa. Natural disasters outside Europe, in particular the tsunami in Asia, drew widespread attention, partly because of the large scale of the disaster, partly because many Europeans were directly involved. Other natural disasters occurred when fieldwork in most countries was finished, such as hurricane Katrina raging over the US Gulf Coast, and an earthquake hitting Kashmir. Also very much in the news, were the illness and demise of Pope John Paul II and the election of a new Pope. The elections in the Ukraine caused fieldwork in the Ukraine to start late, and were widely covered by European news media. EU issues such as the start of accession talks with Turkey and the clear 'no's' in the referenda on the EU constitution in France and the Netherlands shed doubt on the future and the direction of the EU. The riots in the banlieues in Paris and other French cities took place after fieldwork in France (and in most other countries) had ended.

Considering the scope and the content of these events it is to be expected that they will have had an impact on survey outcomes. Future analyses of the released data will show if this assumption is true.

At the RC33 Sixth International Conference on Social Science Methodology, Amsterdam, August 2004, three presentations were given on different aspects of media reported event reporting in the ESS. The first conference of the European Association for Survey Research, Barcelona, July 2005, hosted a session on event reporting. In this session four presentations discussed different aspects of event reporting and suggested methodological improvements.

In Round 2, discussions have started with representatives from City University and Leeds University in London (UK), ZUMA in Mannheim (Germany) and Ekke, Athens (Greece) on ways to improve event reporting and event coding. Part of the recommendations will be investigated and elaborated in the new project "European Social Survey Infrastructure - Improving Social Measurement in Europe".

Figure 2. Events database.

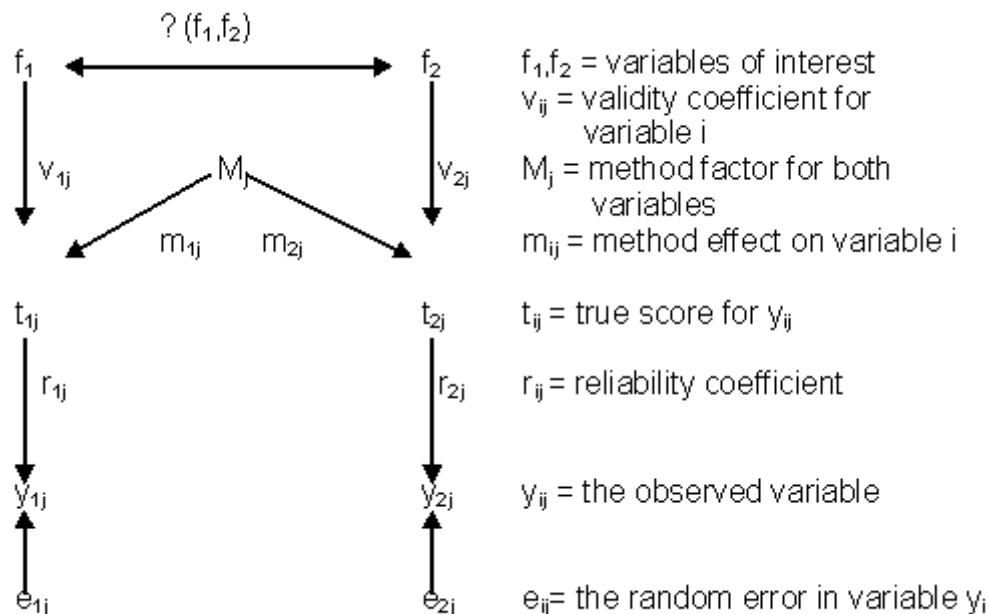


7. Question assessment

There are two primary reasons for carrying out question assessment of the ESS questionnaire; the first reason is that it can be used to suggest improvements to the questionnaires; the second reason is that it facilitates the correction for differences in data quality between countries. In order to be able to evaluate and improve questions one has to collect information for the same questions with different methods. This can be done by means of MTMM (Multi-Trait Multi-Method) experiments (see below).

7.1. Evaluation and improvement of data quality by MTMM experiments

The commonly recognised criteria for quality of measures are *reliability*, *validity* and *method effect*. In the ESS the quality of the measures is evaluated using these concepts defined in the way indicated in the figure below.



In this model it is assumed that:

- f_i is the trait factor i of interest measured by a direct question;
- y_{ij} is the observed variable (variable or trait i measured by method j);
- t_{ij} is the "true score" of the response variable y_{ij} ;
- M_j is the method factor, that represents a specific reaction of respondents to a method and therefore generates a systematic error;
- and e_{ij} is the random measurement error term for y_{ij} .

The r_{ij} coefficients represent the standardized effects of the true scores on the observed scores. This effect is smaller if the random errors are larger. This coefficient is called the *reliability coefficient*.

The v_{ij} coefficients represent the standardized effects of the variables of interest on the true scores for the variables which are really measured. Therefore this coefficient is called the *validity coefficient*.

The m_{ij} coefficients represent the standardized effects of the method factor on the true scores, called the *method effect*. An increase in the method effect results in a decrease in validity and vice versa. It can be shown that for this model $m_{ij}^2 = 1 - v_{ij}^2$, and therefore the method effect is equal to the invalidity due to the method used.

Reliability is defined as the strength of the relationship between the observed response (y_{ij}) and the true score (t_{ij}) that is r_{ij}^2 .

Validity is defined as the strength of the relationship between the variable of interest (f_1) and the true score (t_{ij}) being v_{ij}^2 .

The *systematic method effect* is the strength of the relationship between the method factor (M_j) and the true score (t_{ij}) resulting in m_{ij}^2 .

The *total quality of a measure* is defined as the strength of the relationship between the observed variable and the variable on interest being $(r_{ij}v_{ij})^2$.

The effect of the method on the correlations is equal to $r_{1j}m_{1j}m_{2j}r_{2j}$.

The reason for employing these definitions and their criteria becomes evident after examining the effect of the characteristics of the measurement model on the correlations between observed variables.

Using path analysis, it can be shown (Saris and Gallhofer, forthcoming) that the correlation between the observed variables $\square(y_{1j}, y_{2j})$ is equal to the joint effect of the variables we want to measure (f_1 and f_2) plus the spurious correlation due to the method factor as demonstrates the following formula:

$$\square(y_{1j}, y_{2j}) = r_{1j}v_{1j} \square(f_1, f_2)v_{2j}r_{2j} + r_{1j}m_{1j}m_{2j}r_{2j}$$

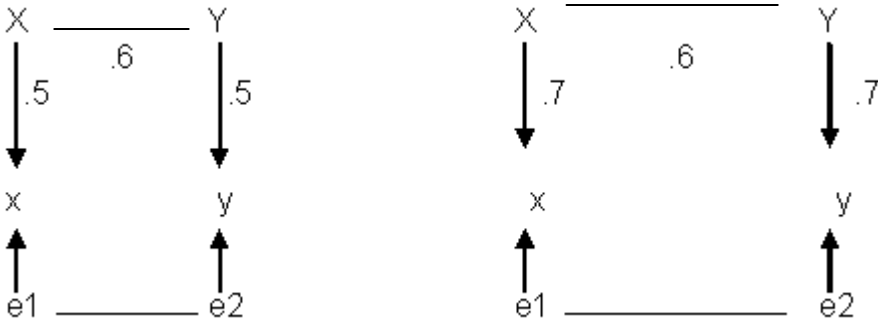
Note that r_{ij} and v_{ij} , which are always smaller than 1, will decrease the correlation (see first term) while the method effects, if they are not zero, can generate an increase in the correlation (see second term).

In this model there are 2 reliability coefficients, 2 validity coefficients, 2 method effects and 1 correlation between the two latent traits, leaving us with 7 unknown parameters, while only 1 correlation can be obtained from the data. It is impossible to estimate these 7 parameters from just 1 correlation. Therefore, Campbell and Fiske (1959) suggested to use multiple traits and multiple methods (MTMM). The classical MTMM approach recommends the use of a minimum of three traits that are measured with three different methods leading to 9 different observed variables. For more details we refer to publication of Andrews (1984), and Saris and Andrews (1991). Saris, Satorra and Coenders (2004) suggested the Split-Ballot MTMM design where each respondent has to answer the same questions only twice but all three forms are asked in two subgroups. This design also allows us to estimate all quality indicators for the different question formats but the response burden for the respondents is lower than in the standard approach.

7.2. Correcting for quality differences

It is common practice to assume that measures have to be equivalent across countries, but this is not always the case. If it is the relationships between variables rather than just univariate distributions that are the object of the measurement, then the measures themselves do not have to be equivalent across countries as long as the differences can be corrected for.

Such differences can occur because of differences in quality of the measures in the different countries, and they can be large as we show by an example:



If the quality of the measured relationship between the variables (X,Y) and the observed variables (x,y) is 0.5 in one country and 0.7 in the other country, while in both countries the correlation between the two variables X and Y is the same (0.6), then it follows that the correlation between x and y in the first country is 0.15(the product of the coefficients 0.5x0.6x0.5), and in the second country 0.30. So it is clear that differences in the quality of measure in different countries can account for large differences between

the observed correlations. This has been shown to be true even for countries such as Germany and The Netherlands with rather similar languages. Countries with more diverse languages may produce even larger differences.

However, if the quality of the measures is known for the different countries, the correlations between the observed variables for differences in quality between the measures can be corrected. This is desirable in any research, but certainly in cross-national research.

7.3. MTMM design for ESS Round 2

As in the first round, MTMM experiments have been done at two occasions. Firstly, 6 experiments were done in the pilot study in order to evaluate questions of which the CCT had doubts about the quality of the different forms. Secondly, 6 experiments have been done in the final Round 2 data collection in order to collect data about the differences in data quality between the different countries.

At both occasions the split ballot MTMM (SB MTMM) design has been used. This was done using the two groups design. The sample was split randomly into two subgroups. In each subgroup only 12 extra question had to be asked to collect information about the quality of 54 questions.

7.4. Selection of experiments

In the pilot stage, six MTMM experiments were done for the following issues:

- a) Legal cynicism
- b) Expectations of medical care
- c) House work
- d) Social trust
- e) Trust in political institutions
- f) Background questions

The experiments have been chosen for various reasons but the primary aim for all of them was to determine which format of the questions would be optimal for the main questionnaire in the second round of the ESS. Since the pilot study was only done in two countries and no information about the quality of the questions was available for all 23 countries, the same experiments have been done later on in the main study also.

7.5. Results of the MTMM experiments

The pilot study generated a series of suggestions with respect to improvements of the final questionnaire. For several topics one of the versions tested in the supplementary questionnaires of the pilot was found to be better than the original suggested version and so the positions of the questions were reversed so that the best version of the question was used in the main questionnaire and the less good versions were placed in the supplementary questionnaire. The questions were tested again because we did not know if the chosen versions would be the best in all countries participating in the ESS, or just in the two countries where the pilot took place. An important substantive result obtained in the pilot was that it was observed that the variables social trust and the political trust are definitely correlated. This has not been detected if 4 points scales were used (Newton 2004) but in Round 1 significant correlations were found for the 11 points scales used in the ESS. The experiment done in the pilot shows that these two variables are indeed correlated but to show this one has to correct for measurement error.

In the final Round 2 study the above results can be checked. As far as we have been able to study so far² we have seen that the choices of questions for the main questionnaire were indeed the best ones. To illustrate this point we present below the results for the measurement of "social distance between doctors and patients" which was measured in three different ways: once asking the frequency of specific events; once asking whether people agree or disagree with statements where it is mentioned that the events happen rarely; once whether people agree or disagree with statements that only specify the occurrence of the events but not the frequency (See Annex 8. for the full questions). The mean quality over all countries analysed is presented in the table below.

The mean quality* of the first 3 questions in three different forms

Items	direct question	agree/disagree	agree/disagree
	asking frequencies	using "rarely"	without specification
1	.21	.20	.49
2	.76	.18	.38
3	.74	.20	.34

² Some data sets are only recently available and could not be analysed before writing this report.

* quality is the explained variance in the observed score by the latent variable. The value varies between 0 and 1.

It turns out that the first item has bad quality in all three approaches while the other 2 items have reasonable quality if one directly asks the frequency of the events and not using the agree/disagree format. The format of these questions for the main questionnaire was changed after the pilot study. In the main questionnaire the direct questions asking frequencies have been used and not the agree/disagree questions.

The detailed results for the questions in the main questionnaire of the different countries are summarised in the Table 10. below. This table shows first of all that the validity of the questions in the main questionnaire is 1 in all countries analysed so far. This means that there is no systematic effect related to the method used in these questions. This is a positive result. The bad news is that we see that the first question has a very low reliability in all countries. This means that this question is not a good indicator for the variable to be measured. The reliability of the other two questions is in most of the countries close to .8 or higher which means that the strength of the relationship between the variable to be measured and the observed variable is approximately .64 what is good enough to create a reasonably good measure for social distance based on these two items.

One problem is that the reliability varies quite a bit across countries (between .75 and .99). Due to this variation the obtained correlations are not directly comparable across countries because they can differ due to differences in reliability which has nothing to do with substantive differences. To illustrate this point we can see that between the second and the third item the correlation in Finland is .328 while this correlation in Luxembourg is .371. These correlations look rather similar. However after correction for measurement error (reliability resp. .8 and .99) the correlation is .56 in Finland and in Luxembourg .39. Now the differences are much larger and substantially different. The opposite effect also occurs, for example between Germany and Poland: without correction for measurement error the difference in correlation is quite large .432 versus .531 but after correction for measurement error the difference is nearly completely gone: .67 versus .65.

7.6. Conclusions

This research showed that the choices we made in an attempt to improve the quality of the questions in the main questionnaire generally had a positive effect on the quality of the data. In most countries the questions used in the main questionnaire were better than possible alternatives tested in the supplementary questionnaire. This shows the importance of the experiments in the pilot study. We also have seen that the quality of the questions does still vary by topic and by country, which remains a concern for a high quality cross-national project such as the ESS. This means that the MTMM experiments in the main studies are important because they show the difference between the countries in quality of the data and provide the necessary information to correct for these errors. So far this information is not available for all variables across countries but with the increasing amount of information about data quality it will become possible to determine the difference in quality for all questions based on a meta analysis of the information collected in all countries and all rounds together.

Table 10. The quality of the measurement of social distance in the main questionnaire in different countries*

Observed correlations			Quality indicators		corrected correlations**		
Q1	Q2	Q3	rel. coef	val.coef	Q1	Q2	Q3
Austria							
1.0	.0	.0	.62	1.0	1.0		
-.183	1.0	.0	.86	1.0	.44	1.0	
-.257	.421	1.0	.82	1.0	.47	.62	1.0
Belgium							
1.0	.0	.0	.43	1.0	1.0		
-.118	1.0	.0	.84	1.0	.26	1.0	
-.106	.421	1.0	.86	1.0	.25	.57	1.0
Czech							
1.0	.0	.0	.25	1.0	1.0		
-.073	1.0	.0	.90	1.0	.24	1.0	
-.025	.478	1.0	.91	1.0	.22	.55	1.0
Denmark							
1.0	.0	.0	.22	1.0	1.0		
-.114	1.0	.0	.86	1.0	.49	1.0	
-.065	.434	1.0	.88	1.0	.27	.59	1.0
Estonia							
1.0	.0	.0	.65	1.0	1.0		
-.236	1.0	.0	.92	1.0	.38	1.0	
-.165	.519	1.0	.91	1.0	.34	.62	1.0
Finland							
1.0	.0	.0	.12	1.0	1.0		
-.035	1.0	.0	.78	1.0	.56	1.0	
-.024	.328	1.0	.80	1.0	.38	.56	1.0
Germany							
1.0	.0	.0	.56	1.0	1.0		
-.214	1.0	.0	.75	1.0	.57	1.0	
-.215	.432	1.0	.84	1.0	.40	.67	1.0
Greece							
1.0	.0	.0	.55	1.0	1.0		
-.212	1.0	.0	.90	1.0	.37	1.0	
-.123	.422	1.0	.90	1.0	.27	.51	1.0
Luxembourg							
1.0	.0	.0	.31	1.0	1.0		
-.015	1.0	.0	.99	1.0	.07	1.0	
-.001	.371	1.0	.91	1.0	.03	.39	1.0
Poland							
1.0	.0	.0	.39	1.0	1.0		
-.186	1.0	.0	.81	1.0	.31	1.0	
-.126	.531	1.0	.81	1.0	.27	.65	1.0
Portugal							
1.0	.0	.0	.51	1.0	1.0		
-.228	1.0	.0	.99	1.0	.40	1.0	
-.202	.465	1.0	.81	1.0	.45	.61	1.0
Slovenia							
1.0	.0	.0	.54	1.0	1.0		
-.077	1.0	.0	.82	1.0	.39	1.0	
-.129	.383	1.0	.84	1.0	.28	.54	1.0
Spain							
1.0	.0	.0	.13	1.0	1.0		
-.079	1.0	.0	.96	1.0	.07	1.0	
.025	.077	1.0	.79	1.0	.07	.20	1.0
Sweden							
1.0	.0	.0	.44	1.0	1.0		
.061	1.0	.0	.85	1.0	.09	1.0	
.014	.347	1.0	.87	1.0	.21	.46	1.0
United Kingdom							
1.0	.0	.0	.43	1.0	1.0		
-.092	1.0	.0	.90	1.0	.35	1.0	
-.095	.447	1.0	.82	1.0	.35	.61	1.0

*Incomplete data for: Switzerland and Norway ** scale reversal has been corrected

8. Quality assessment

We refer here to two aspects of data quality - the *quality of the achieved samples* and the *quality of the registered responses*. So, on the one hand we need to evaluate the processes leading to the sample selection and the output of the sample - as affected by non-response rates and non-response errors. And on the other hand, we need to evaluate problems such as item-non-response and measurement equivalence. Within the time budget allocated to this task in Round 2 of ESS, only selected topics of these two aspects could initially be analyzed. We focused on the achieved samples and were able to analyze the process of contacting the selected sampling units, the obtained response, and the results of the response conversion. Outside of this grant, future work is planned on the analysis of non-response bias, and checks on the representativeness of the samples for certain background variables. Concerning the second aspect - quality of registered responses - an inspection of missing values and outliers was undertaken. The tests on factorial invariance of measurement models in view of equivalence of the measurement needs a considerable amount of time for the most crucial latent variables measured in 23 different large samples. This work has to be done on later occasions in relation to substantive analysis.

8.1. Differences in non-response

A full report on this issue based on a detailed analysis of interviewer call records will be available in the Technical Report and on the ESS website (Billiet & Pleysier, *Data Based Quality Assessment in the ESS – Round 2. An update for 23 countries*).

As noted, a target response rate of 70% was specified for all participating countries, and countries were advised to adopt a range of fieldwork procedures in their attempts to achieve it. Moreover, a precise method of how to calculate the response rate was also specified, and a great deal of attention was devoted to the documentation of non-response. Even so, there were of course large differences in non-response rates within and between nations.

Despite the widespread indifference to response rates *per se* in much modern opinion polling and commercial research - which emphasises demographic representativeness via quota samples rather than high rates of participation among random samples - non-response still matters greatly in serious studies designed to measure and interpret society's attitudes, values or behaviour patterns. Research by Groves & Couper (1998) and more recently by Voogt et al (2003) confirms the fact that participation in surveys

(as in many other aspects of society) tends naturally to be biased towards certain groups in society to the exclusion of others. Unless these tendencies are counteracted, non-response bias will confound the results. This is of course particularly true in cross-national studies in which different levels of non-response between countries may threaten the validity of comparisons between them (Couper & De Leeuw, 2003; De Heer, 1999).

Non-response in surveys has two main components – people who are not or cannot be contacted in the first place, and people who are contacted but then refuse to participate. The problem is that each of these sources may lead to different biases. So, if the make-up of these two non-responding groups happens to differ between countries, it will tend to increase cross-national biases.

As an indication of the differences we show, in Table 10. below, the overall response, non-contact and refusal rates for 23 ESS countries whose data were released as part of the first release in September 2005 (17 countries), and the second release in March 2006 (6 countries)*. The countries included in the analysis are:

- Austria (AT)
- Belgium (BE)
- Czech Republic (CZ)
- Denmark (DK)
- Estonia (EE)
- Finland (FI)
- France (FR)
- Germany (DE)
- Greece (GR)
- Hungary (HU)
- Ireland (IE)
- Luxembourg (LU)
- Netherlands (NL)
- Norway (NO)
- Poland (PL)
- Portugal (PT)
- Slovakia (SK)
- Slovenia (SI)
- Spain (ES)
- Sweden (SE)
- Switzerland (CH)
- Ukraine (UA)
- United Kingdom (GB)

* Iceland will be in second release but the data submitted were not sufficient for the analysis.

The figures in Table 11. are derived from the standard contact description form filled in by all interviewers in all countries, which included details about the selection procedures, time, day and date of each call, outcome of each call, and housing/neighborhood characteristics.³We can distinguish three broad groups of countries. The first group, consisting of Estonia, Greece, Poland, Portugal, Czech Republic, and Finland achieved response rates higher than the 70% target. The second group, consisting of Ukraine, Slovenia, Norway, Hungary, Sweden, Slovak Republic, the Netherlands, Denmark,

³ Fuller figures on non-response are available from the National Technical Summaries for each country which were compiled by National Co-ordinators. They include response data such as number of issued sample units, refusals, non-contacts, ineligible, refusals by respondent, refusals by proxy, and number of achieved interviews.

Austria, Ireland and Belgium, narrowly missed the target, achieving response rates of between 60% and 70%. And the third group, consisting of Spain, the UK, Germany, Luxembourg, Switzerland, and France achieved response rates lower than 60%.⁴

As noted, the target maximum for non-contact rates was 3%, and, although in most countries they exceeded this rate (averaging close to 5%), they nonetheless still accounted for a very small proportion of non-response. Exceptions were Ireland (14.8%), Czech Republic (12.6%), France (8.8%), and Ukraine (8.22%) in Round 2.

High refusal rates (above 30%) occurred in Switzerland, France, Denmark, and the UK, intermediate refusal rates (20%-30%) in Norway, Sweden, Slovakia, Austria, Belgium, Spain, Ireland, and Finland, and lower refusal rates (under 20%) in Estonia, Greece, Ukraine, Portugal, Hungary, Czech Republic, the Netherlands, Poland and Slovenia. In almost all cases therefore it is the refusal rate that tends to determine the overall level of response, thus reducing the risk we referred to of differential sources of non-response bias between countries (De Heer, 1999, Couper & De Leeuw, 2003).

Another issue to deal with in this section, is the comparison of the Round 2 outcomes above with the achieved response, non-contact and refusal rates in Round 1.

⁴ There may be some deviations between these figures (based on analysis of contact forms) and those provided on the data archive website (based on information provided in National Technical Summaries). The reasons for this will be a topic for future analysis.

Table 11. Achieved response, refusal and noncontact rates: contact form information of ESS Round 1 and Round 2

Country		Response rate		Non-contact rate		Refusal rate		Eligible sample size		Total sample size	
		Round 1	Round 2	Round 1	Round 2	Round 1	Round 2	Round 1	Round 2	Round 1	Round 2
EE	%		79.1		3.4		11.3		2515		2861
GR	%	79.6	78.8	1.7	3.6	16.9	16.5	3222	3055	3227	3056
PL	%	72.2	73.7	0.8	0.9	19.6	19.4	2921	2329	2978	2392
UA	%		69.7		8.22		19.79		2845		3050
PT	%	68.8	71.2	3.2	2.7	26.9	18.7	2196	2883	2366	3079
CZ	%	43	70.8		13.6		14.2		4276		4333
FI	%	73.3	70.7	1.4	2.1	20.9	22.7	2728	2859	2766	2893
SI	%	71.8	68.9	2.4	12.6	15.3	16.5	2114	2137	2175	2216
NO	%	65	66.2	3	1.7	25	26.4	3109	2660	3215	2750
HU	%	70.3	65.9	3.2	5.7*	15.1	16.2	2398	2248	2484	2463
SE	%	69	65.4	4	2.4	21	22.0	2878	2980	3000	2997
SK	%		65.1		4.6		23.6		2321		2500
NL	%	67.8	64.3	2.5	2.7	26.2	19.1	3486	2924	3570	3009
DK	%	68.4	64.2	4.6	4.9	23	24.7	2143	2317	2150	2433
AT	%	60.6	62.4	10.1	6.9	27	29.8	3725	3615	3828	3672
BE	%	59.3	61.2	4.5	3.5	25.6	26.4	3204	2906	3340	3018

IE	%	64.4	59.7	8.1	9.1	22.9	21.3	3179	3830	3185	3981
ES	%	53.6	54.9	7.9	7.1	35.3	25.1	3227	3031	3657	3206
GB	%	55	54.6	3.5	7.7	30.6	33.4	3730	3538	4013	3673
DE	%	53.7	51.0	5.9	7.0	29.3	32.8	5436	5633	5796	5868
FR	%	43.1	43.6		8.8		39.9		4144		4400
LU	%	43.2	50.1	6.9	7.1	37.0	34.8	3589	3261	3773	3497
CH	%	33	48.6	2	2.1	55.1	44.0	4652	4600	5086	4863

Of the 23 countries in this Round 2 report, only 18 have valuable and comparable information. Estonia, Slovak Republic, and Ukraine did not participate in ESS Round 1, and Sweden and France did not provide usable contact forms data in Round 1. The Round 2 results for the Czech Republic overestimate the response and refusal rates⁵, and underestimate the number of non-contacts; moreover there was no detailed information on the non-contact and refusal rates available for that country in the Round 1 report (Billiet & Philippens, 2004).

8.2. Reducing non-contacts by interviewer calling strategies

Differences in non-contact rates may arise either from differences in the objective contactability of respondents, or from differences in the effort put into the process, or both. As far as contacting efforts are concerned, of paramount importance is the timing and number of calls to the address or household before a non-contact is recorded as such as a final outcome.

As a way of minimizing fieldwork variation between countries, we had specified a common calling strategy for all participating countries. All interviewers in all countries were to make at least four personal visits to each sampling unit before abandoning it as non-productive, including at least one call in the evening, and at least one at the weekend. Moreover, these calls had to be spread over at least two different weeks. As noted, the first contact with potential respondents, following a possible advance letter, had to be face-to-face except in those countries with samples of individuals whose telephone numbers were available – so that a personal initial telephone contact was possible. This applied to Finland, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland. In all other countries – as the call records confirm – face to face initial contact was more or less universal.

The detailed analysis of call records revealed that:

⁵ A note concerning the ESS Round 2 response rate for the Czech Republic is important here: although the Czech Republic sample counts 5531 addresses, 1196 addresses were ‘not used’ in any way, and therefore, do not appear in the contact form data. Assuming that the sample was used exactly as described, with no interviewer freedom to choose which addresses to use, and no contact attempts at all at any of the 1196 ‘unused’ addresses, this design would in practice be (approximately) equivalent to a design where the variation in response rate is predicted in advance and in each area a sample size is selected that is inversely proportional to the predicted response rate. Although this is allowed by the ESS and done in a few countries, there is a fundamental difference in the Czech Republic case, since a) this was done at the level of the PSU, not just region or urban/rural, and b) it used the actual achieved response rate, not just an advance prediction. The CCT therefore cannot allow this to be a method controlling sample size especially as the implications were not agreed in advance of fieldwork with the sampling panel. The CCT has decided that the 1196 addresses were part of the selected sample and must be treated as such. All these cases will therefore be classified as non-contacts in future calculations. The true ESS response rate will be around 55.5%, which of course, still is a fundamental improvement compared to the Round 1 response rate of 43%.

- In certain countries, people are much harder to reach than in others. In order to bring down non-contact rates, these countries had to invest in extended interviewer efforts and costs. The data argue, for instance, that in the UK, Switzerland, Sweden, Germany, France, and Portugal, if the minimum of only four contact attempts had actually been adhered to, it would have led to much higher non-contact rates than were actually obtained in those countries (cf. Purdon et al, 1999). These unusually “hard-to-reach” populations need to be aware of the potential extra investment they will have to make to reduce the proportion of non-contacts in their overall response rates.
- In certain other countries, notably Ireland, Denmark, and Ukraine, the percentage of non-contacts who received fewer than the stipulated four calls was relatively high. Meanwhile the opposite was true for Greece and Portugal, where not a single case was abandoned before the fourth call. But the highest average number of calls made to non-contacts was in Switzerland (12.9 telephone calls), followed by the UK (6.6 visits), Greece (6.5 visits), Portugal (6.2 visits), and the Netherlands (5.9 visits). The lowest average was in Germany (1.5 visits), followed by Ireland (1.8 visits), where in both cases a closer adherence to the specification would almost certainly have lowered their non-contacts and increased their overall response rates. Ukraine, Spain, and the Slovak Republic may also lower their non-contact rates by increasing the contact attempts.
- The analysis done for Round 2 was compared to findings in Round 1, and explanations for differences were sought. For example, contact rates are much better in Round 2 for Austria, due to extra attention that was paid to this aspect. As a consequence, the response rate is somewhat better, not because there are less refusals, but because they tried to contact more respondents. This is a clear indication that contact attempts may play a role in reducing non responses. The average number of contacts in Austria increased from about 2 in Round 1 to more than 4.6 in Round 2. Other countries that have a smaller amount of non-contacts are Portugal, Norway, Sweden, and Belgium. On average, they all made more attempts to reach respondents. On the other hand, Slovenia obtained much higher non-contacts than in Round 1 which partially affected the somewhat lower response rate. Nevertheless Slovenia had somewhat more contact attempts than in Round 1. This shows that other factors than the number of contacts effect the contact rates.
- The timing of calls made to non-contacts differed by country. For instance, weekday day-time calls seem to be favored in UK (84% of all first calls), and Greece (67%). Other countries with more than 60% of the first contact attempts on a weekday

day-time are Spain, Denmark, Luxemburg, Poland, and Sweden. The opposite was true in Estonia (38% of first calls on weekday mornings and afternoons) and Ukraine (49%). Subsequent calls on weekday mornings or afternoons tended to fall in all countries that used face-to-face recruitment. As for weekend calls, however, they were especially unpopular in Sweden, Finland, Norway, Switzerland (all of which contacted their named samples initially by telephone), and the UK. Indeed in Sweden only 2% of their first calls were made at weekends, in sharp contrast to Ukrainian, and Slovenian interviewers who made respectively 48% and 34% of their first visits at weekends.

- The rules relating to the minimum number of evening and weekend calls were at least partially breached in all countries. For instance, the stipulation that at least one evening call must be made was most frequently broken in the Slovak Republic, Ukraine and Ireland, where in both cases more than 70% of the non-contacts did not receive the required evening call. This compares with only 7% of all non-contacts in the UK, and less than one to every four non-contacts in Switzerland, France, Finland, Greece, Ireland, and Portugal. And with respect to the number of weekend calls made to non-contacts, Portugal performed best with less than 3% of all non-contacts receiving no visit at the weekend. The deviation from the rule was strongest in Sweden where only 10% of the non-contacted sample units were called on weekend days. Other countries in which only a small amount of weekend visits were realised are Germany, Spain, and Poland all with less than 20% weekend contact attempts.
- The data show that in most countries weekday evening calls are the most productive – more so than either weekend or daytime calls during the week. Again the differences between countries are instructive. In Switzerland, and Czech Republic for instance, timing of first calls matters less, making little impact on the probability of a contact. But for other countries – notably Ireland, the Netherlands, and Portugal, evening calls achieve a contact rate on average between 10 and 17 percentage points higher than daytime weekday calls. As for weekend calls, they were especially productive in Norway, Slovak Republic, and Ukraine for the first contact attempt.

Our findings suggest therefore that countries with hard to reach populations (often due to demographic or labor market factors) may do well to adapt their calling strategies to optimal effect. It must be said, however, that increasing the proportion of evening and/or weekend calls has some disadvantages too in that it effectively reduces the length of the working day. This in turn may result in increases in travel costs and even in the overall

number of fieldwork hours. In any case, as Purdon et al (1999) point out, calling strategies need to be sensitive to the circumstances and preferences of interviewers.

8.3. Reducing refusals

The Specifications recommended that all 'soft' refusals, plus a proportion of 'hard' refusals should be re-allocated to a senior interviewer as a second attempt to recruit participation. Naturally, this left things rather vague, since there are no hard and fast definitions of 'soft' or 'hard' refusals. So we anticipated considerable divergences between countries, added to by the fact that different initial response rates would be bound to have an impact on national refusal conversion efforts. Even so, all countries other than Ireland did make use of refusal conversion procedures, despite the cost, effort and practical problems of doing so. The number of refusal conversion attempts was very low in Luxemburg (1%), Denmark (2%), and France (3%).

The detailed analysis of call records revealed that:

- In Slovenia, the UK, Greece, the Netherlands and Switzerland a particularly high percentage of refusals were indeed re-contacted by different interviewers.
- As expected, most conversion attempts in all countries ended in failure, but once again there was considerable inter-country variation. For instance, among all countries with more than 30% re-contacted refusals, the lowest success rates were in Sweden (3.1% of all re-issued refusals), Greece (4.4%), Finland (7.5%), and Switzerland (8.6%). By far the highest success rate was in Slovenia (70% success), Estonia (41.5%), and, as in Round 1, the Netherlands (38.2%). In Germany and the UK the success rates were 22 and 28% respectively, producing modest but significant increases in response rates. Particularly frustrating were the results for Sweden which, despite serious efforts, produced increases in response rates of less than one percentage point. In comparison, The Netherlands increased its response rates via refusal conversion from 46% to 64% - just six points short of the target.
- The Netherlands' success rate is worth further examination. As in the first Round, the Dutch survey organisation implemented a range of special refusal conversion strategies - starting with the interviewers' written instructions which contained examples of persuasive arguments for them to deploy with reluctant potential respondents. The procedure for refusal conversion is described in the technical summary. The interviewers carried a pamphlet with media articles about the ESS and they could point to the GFK-ESS website with additional information. Half way through the interview period, a second advance letter and a pamphlet with extra

information, and a quiz was sent to the refusals. The quiz was to be handed over to the interviewers after the face-to-face interview. As a general procedure, all refusals and non-contacted sample units were distributed among the best performing interviewers and again contacted face-to-face. In addition, a small number of refusals were contacted by telephone to ask which letter they liked most and whether they wanted to participate. In a final attempt to boost the response rate, the field organisation's telephone unit tried to contact the non-contacted sample units and to persuade the refusals to cooperate. During the initial stage of the fieldwork, there were three small gifts for the respondents to choose from (e.g. pen, toy game, voucher of 5 €), announced in the advance letter. During the refusal conversion stage, there was, in addition to three gifts, a simple quiz ('name the non-EU-country on this list') offering the opportunity to win one out of ten dinner vouchers of 100 €.

- In Germany, target persons that took part in an interview received a "give-way"-incentive. The incentive was an "*Aktion Mensch*" lottery coupon. ("*Aktion Mensch*" is a well-known German charity organization.) The incentive was announced in the advance letter and in the brochure. It was used to try to "convert" the refusals into realised interviews and to get in touch with the non-contacts. Additionally, every interviewer did a basic refusal conversion training during the interviewer training workshops. 26 of the interviewers took part in an additional special workshop on refusal avoidance. This additional workshop is part of a methodological research project (RAT - refusal avoidance training), organised at the University of Konstanz.
- Apart from response rate boosts, how much difference does the conversion of refusals make to the actual survey estimates? After Round 1, a study of non-response bias was done by Billiet et al. (2005). The reluctant respondents (converted refusals) were compared with the cooperative respondents on a number of background variables, and a set of attitudinal variables that were expected to be related to non-response. In the descriptive study, five countries with more than 100 reluctant respondents were used. In more advanced multivariate analysis, only two countries could be analysed that had more than 150 reluctant respondents. This study will be replicated in the future using this time eight countries with more than 100 reluctant respondents, and using three countries with more than 430 reluctant respondents (the Netherlands, Germany, and the UK).
- One of the problems that must be studied in more detail is the definition of 'refusals'. There are indications that, because of the rather vague definition of what a 'soft' and a 'hard' refusal is, that the group of 'converted refusals' is not

completely comparable over countries. Differences in results in multivariate analysis in the Netherlands and in Germany may be due to defects in the comparability of the samples of hard and soft refusals. Although the analysis is still to be done, there are indications that this is also the case in Round 2.

- Though clearly a success story in a small number of countries, it is not yet entirely clear that many other countries will wish to follow suit and deploy the whole range of special refusal conversion techniques that were employed in The Netherlands, or in Germany. For one thing, it is by no means obvious that an approach that worked well in one country would necessarily work well in another. And for another, more work needs to be done to justify the considerable additional costs. The increase in Dutch response rates from 46% to 64% by means of refusal conversion certainly did have the effect of reducing bias in their survey estimates, but it is not yet clear what the amount of quality improvement will be. These issues will be pursued in further analysis.

8.4. Quality assessment of the responses

Answering survey questions requires respondents to accomplish several cognitive tasks, such as understanding and interpreting the questions, retrieving information from memory and forming a judgment, formatting the response to fit into one of the answer categories and communicating the answer (Sudman et al, 1996) Problems arise for respondents who either do not have the necessary cognitive or communicative skills to perform one of these tasks, or who do not have the concentration or make the effort to bother, both resulting in poor data quality. We assessed the data quality of responses in the ESS by:

- studying interviewer reports;
- analysing the extent of item non-response;
- controlling for outliers;
- identifying systematic response tendencies;
- estimating the measurement qualities of sets of items.

These are all aspects of the output evaluation of registered responses in the ESS main questionnaire that focuses on measurement error (Loosveldt e.a., 2004; Braun, 2003). Measurement errors can have very different causes, ranging from inadequate or variable fieldwork and interviewing styles, questionnaire issues, such as poor translating and

general question wording effects, to respondent behaviour, and response tendencies. We report on each of these assessments.

8.5. Interviewer reports

The interviewer reports provide qualitative assessments of the motivation and cognitive ability of respondents. They are based on a short self-completion questionnaire that interviewers were asked to fill in at the end of each interview about the interview itself and the respondent. The questionnaire asked about perceived motivation and comprehension, and the extent to which the respondent requested clarification or showed reluctance to answer. Previous research shows that such interviewer evaluations are indeed related to interview quality as measured by factors such as item non-response and inconsistent answers. On the other hand, significant interviewer variance has also been observed on such evaluations, suggesting that interviewers differ in the way they report similar problems (Loosveldt et al, 1999).

For the 17 countries whose main data-files are in the first release, we find some indications of data quality as evaluated by the interviewers. In more than 2/3 of all interviews, on average, respondents asked for clarification 'almost never or never'. The exceptions were in the Czech Republic and Estonia where respondents were significantly more likely to ask for clarification than in the other countries. Also in Spain, but to a lesser extent, respondents asked for clarification. This should be studied carefully since it can indicate that some of the concepts used are not clear for these countries. In more than 80% of the interviews, the respondents were 'never or almost never' reluctant to answer the questions. Exceptions are this time (again) Czech Republic, and Austria where in more than 30% of the interviews there were 'now and then' signs of reluctance. The small interviewer questionnaire contains no information in order to detect the questions that are sensitive for reluctance.

In more than 90% of the interviews, respondents answered the questions to the best of their abilities according to the interviewers. Once again in the Czech Republic and Estonia, there is some indication that slightly more respondents only 'now and then' answered to the best of their abilities. But even there, this happens not in more than 15% of the interviews. Finally, the interviewers had to evaluate how well the questions were understood by the respondents. Again in more than 90% of the interviews, according to the interviewers, the respondents (very) often understood the questions. Exceptions on this general finding include Spain, Luxemburg, Slovenia, and again the Czech Republic where in about 15% of the cases there were 'now and then' problems with understanding the questions. Since in some of these countries several languages are

used, this may be an indication of some translation problems. Further research is needed in order to find out what possible reasons are.

8.6. Item non-response and substantive responses: the study of outliers

According to Krosnick (1991) the use of 'don't know' or 'no opinion' answers are often a form of 'satisficing' behaviour – where the respondent, faced by the difficulty or lack of interest in the task, settles for responses that are less than optimal. He or she will fail to answer certain questions and take the easy way out on others. In any event, high item non-response decreases the available sample size and, if respondents differ from non-respondents on the item, the survey estimates might be biased. So 'don't know' (DK) answers are worth examining and comparing systematically as a form both of question and interview evaluation.

In this section, we will focus on the detection of large deviations in the response distributions within the country samples. Large deviations in both substantive responses and missing data (or item non-response) may be signs that something was going wrong in the measurement of variables. For example, in Round 1 it was found that defective translation in some countries was responsible for large differences in response categories of some questions (Billiet & Meuleman, 2005). This was detected by means of tests of equivalence within the context of substantive research questions.

Within the Central Coordination Team, it was discussed whether it was possible to detect such problems at an earlier stage, and what method should be used. It was decided to search for large deviations in the response distributions by means of an analysis of outliers. All distributions of the core variables and a selection of variables in the rotating modules were checked by means of box plots, and by means of partial chi-square contributions of bi-variate tables with variable X by country. Large chi-square contributions are possible indications of problematic questions. A list of potential problematic cases was then discussed and sent to researchers at NSD, the data archive. A number of problems could be solved by asking for information from the National Coordinators. The deviations were also compared with the distributions in the first round of ESS. In most cases, the deviations seemed to be un-problematic and reflecting real differences. Illustrations of this method are in the Technical Report of ESS Round 2.

In the case of questions or items that had a ten-point (or *quasi* interval) response scale, a second, additional technique could be used; for these variables, box plots were created for each country. Box plots have the advantage that they represent visually several

important elements of the response distribution of the question, in one single figure⁶. The mean is indicated with a '+', the horizontal lines represent the median, the first and third quartile of the distribution. Therefore, the 'box' contains the inter-quartile range, or 50% of the observations or respondents; furthermore, the extreme values (within 1.5 times the inter-quartile range from the upper or lower quartile) are the ends of the lines extending from the box. Points at a greater distance from the median than 1.5 times the inter-quartile range are plotted individually as small rectangles. These points represent potential outliers.

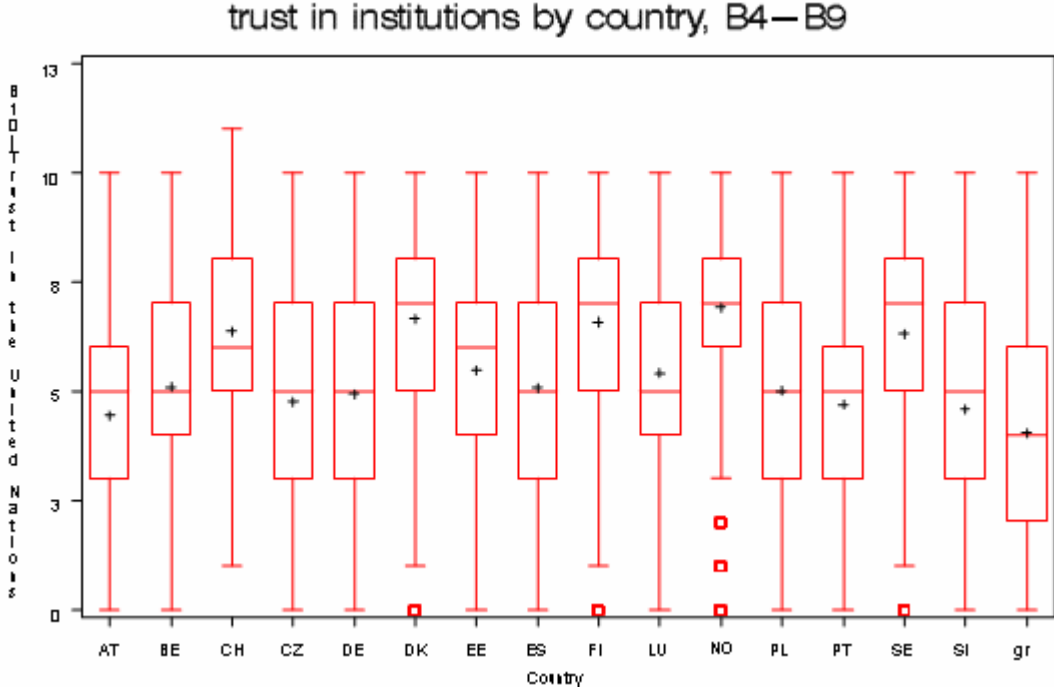
Obviously, box plots are interesting in cleaning and screening the data; Figure 3. plots box plots for 16 countries on the variable TRSTUN ('Trust in the United Nations'). The figure shows how Switzerland (CH), instead of the prescribed ten point scale, ranging from 0 (= 'no trust at all') to 10 (= 'complete trust'), probably used a ten point scale, but ranging from 1 to 11.

Since the ESS has an elaborate data cleaning procedure, where wild or false coding is filtered out in later stages of the cleaning process, the above application is not our main concern. Nevertheless, it could be useful also to trace potentially 'dangerous' outliers, although logically possible values. Depending on the analyses one wishes to do, it could be sensible to omit these outliers.

However, the reason we wish to use box plots in the ESS, is to discover large and potentially suspicious deviations or variance across countries in the answers on certain questions. Obviously, this largely depends on the type and context of the question: on certain questions large deviations between countries can be expected, and if otherwise, this could be suspicious. For example, one can and should expect large differences on questions concerning the household income; as these differences are in line with the expectations (Czech Republic, Estonia, Poland and Portugal are relatively low income countries, as opposed to Switzerland, Luxembourg and Norway, which are high income countries). This should not concern us, at least not at first sight. Another example is the large number of citizens involved in demonstrations in Spain in 2004. It is very likely that this is the reflection of a real difference because of the events in Spain in 2004.

⁶ Obviously, as a box plot is the representation of the (interval) distribution, additional categories such as 'refusal', 'don't know' and 'no answer' have to be omitted.

Figure 3. Box plots for TRSTUN ('Trust in the United Nations') by Country



Box plots and cross tabulations (with cell Chi-square deviations), can obviously only be a first step; of course, if the item at stake is part of a larger construct, one could also fall back on the more profound techniques and analyses we discussed previously (Billiet & Welkenhuysen-Gybels, 2004a; 2004b). Generally speaking however, if large and suspicious differences are detected –independent of how this is done- the next task is to establish whether measurement, question wording or translating problems are responsible, or whether it is ‘simply’ a reflection of true cultural or national differences. In our opinion, this second –and undoubtedly larger task- should, in the case of the ESS, not be done solely by the CCT, but needs the vital and indispensable contribution of the National Coordinators, the questionnaire design and translation teams.

Obviously, as the ESS enters a longitudinal stage with its second consecutive round, longitudinal comparisons (the evaluation of increases or decreases in a tendency across time) are also dependent of the equivalence of the measures at stake and therefore bound to the same assumption of measurement equivalence. Different scores on an item (set) across time are not necessarily the reflection of true differences or a tendency, but possibly a reflection of a different or changed understanding of the concept or the constitutive indicators (Pleysier e.a., 2005).

8.7. Systematic response tendencies

The credibility of survey research is based on the assumption that people's answers to survey questions are a reasonably accurate reflection of the 'truth'. In other words, we assume that they have heard and understood the questions and conscientiously answered them as accurately and rationally as they can. On the other hand we know that responses are in fact also influenced to some extent by artefacts to do with the question form or the available response options. Certain rating scales, for instance, might induce a systematic pattern of responses that distorts the 'true' responses. Since the detection of response tendencies needs a more sophisticated analysis in which sets of questions are included, the methods described before are not useful for that. A more sophisticated analysis of response sets will be done in future research.

8.8. Cross-cultural measurement equivalence

At this level, we are interested in the potential occurrence of *item bias*, which is related to incidental differences in the contextual fitness of the item, inadequate phrasing, wording or translation of that item. The presence of item bias then, also referred to as *differential item functioning* (DIF), hypothesizes the assumption of measurement invariance. In a more technical approach, Welkenhuysen-Gybels states that measurement invariance, unbiasedness and absence of DIF can be defined as the independence of the item score I_j and the violator variable V , conditional on the latent trait W' (Welkenhuysen-Gybels, 2003). The idea is to illustrate the detection of potential item bias -or interesting cultural differences for that matter- by using two different but very simple methods. Obviously, in the case of items that are indicators of a construct or scale, and are therefore belonging to a broader, theoretical concept, this could be an initial step towards further analyses of the factor structure of this construct across countries, using either factor correspondence analyses or multiple group comparisons. These are the techniques illustrated in Billiet & Welkenhuysen-Gybels (2004a; 2004b).

Similar to non-response error, cross-national and cross-cultural research adds an extra dimension to the problem of measurement error. Survey respondents exist by definition within complex social matrices that influence their thoughts, feelings and behaviour (Johnson e.a., 2002). In order for cross-cultural comparisons to be meaningful, the instruments used to measure the constructs at stake, have to exhibit adequate cross-cultural equivalence (Billiet, 2003). Comparison between (cultural) groups can be useful only when the relevant instruments are interpreted identically in all groups. In general, we refer to the problem of *measurement invariance*. "The general question of invariance

of measurement is one of whether or not, under different conditions of observing and studying phenomena, measurements yield measures of the same attributes. If there is no evidence indicating presence or absence of measurement invariance –the usual case- or there is evidence that such invariance does not obtain, then the basis for drawing scientific inference is severely lacking: findings of differences between individuals and groups cannot be unambiguously interpreted” (Horn & McArdle, 1992:117; Vandenberg & Lance, 2000).

Because of the heterogeneity of populations, cultures and languages within a large scale survey project such as the ESS, it cannot be excluded that measurement instruments may operate in different ways among distinct subgroups. Smith (2003) indicates that the great challenge in cross-national survey research is that both social conventions and cognitive abilities and styles vary across societies. In order to obtain valid, equivalent measurement across countries and cultures, one must therefore minimize -or equalize- measurement error from these sources so that emerging information is valid, reliable, consistent, and substantive. “To achieve this high quality, substantive information, the cross-national survey researcher, like Oliver Twist, must want ‘more’” (Smith, 2003:91). We therefore stress that the equivalence of scores in different cultural groups cannot be taken for granted, but needs to be supported by empirical evidence (Welkenhuysen-Gybels, 1998). Lack of attention to the issue of cross-cultural equivalence makes any comparison by definition hazardous, and is therefore a threat to the validity and overall quality of the survey outcome. This lack of attention can easily lead “(...) to incorrect interpretations of cross-cultural differences if, for example, one country is held to score higher than another, ignoring the fact that the questionnaire did not measure the target construct in one country, thereby rendering the comparison of scores meaningless” (Van de Vijver, 2003:208). However, Van de Vijver (2003) adds an important nuance: although instruments that are not equivalent across cultures cannot be used for cross-cultural comparisons, they could at the same time point to the presence of interesting cross-cultural differences.

In the literature, several classifications and levels of ‘measurement invariance’ or ‘equivalence’ are distinguished (Steenkamp & Baumgartner, 1998; Vandenberg & Lance, 2000; Van de Vijver & Leung, 1997; Billiet, Cambré & Welkenhuysen-Gybels, 2002; Welkenhuysen-Gybels, Billiet & Cambré, 2003). We refer to the relevant literature on this point; also, since there are well explained applications of the assessment of measurement invariance in item sets or scales in ESS, Round 1, we refer to these papers. There are illustrations of ‘assessing cross-national construct equivalence’ based on ESS Round 1 data, on six immigration items (Billiet & Welkenhuysen-Gybels, 2004a), and on items concerning religious involvement (Billiet & Welkenhuysen-Gybels, 2004b).

Due to the extensive amount of time required to carry out these kinds of analyses for more than twenty countries, these papers were all prepared after Round 1 had ended. Concerning Round 2, we plan again conference papers on cross-cultural equivalence of latent constructs in the rotating modules.

In order to prepare more in-depth analysis of the cross-cultural measurement quality of the latent constructs, a principal factor analysis was performed on separate sets of items that were expected to measure latent variables. This was done for 16 countries that were in the first release. The latent variables that were inspected are: interpersonal trust (3 items), interest in politics (3 items), trust in institutions (7 items), life satisfaction (4 items), attitude towards immigrants (5 items), religious involvement (3 items), economic morality (4 items). The internal consistencies of the scales (Cronbach's α) are generally good to very good in all countries, and comparable. There are deviations but they are not very large. The equivalence of the measurement models will be tested in future research.

As in Round 1, within the context of the formal contract period, priority was given to the analysis of the contacts forms in order to assess the quality of the fieldwork. The reason for this choice is the consideration that the results of this kind of analyses are most useful in view of improvement in Round 3. The studies on cross-cultural equivalence, although important, are less urgent and will be largely done – with our support – by researchers in many research institutes across Europe.

9. Contract adherence and deviations

The Specification for Participating Countries contained details of the various responsibilities and obligations of National Co-ordinators, survey houses and the CCT itself (as the overall co-ordinating group).

9.1. Content of contracts

In Round 3, similar to Round 1, the costs for fielding the ESS were to be borne by the national funders. Therefore, the participating countries were responsible for the selection of the survey organisations. The Specifications laid down that only high quality survey organisations should be appointed for ESS. In the CCT, a special workpackage was installed to oversee the commissioning of fieldwork organisations and to help and support the countries in the selection process. The CCT was eager to ensure that the contracts with the survey organisations complied as closely as possible with the Specifications.

The precise nature and content of the ESS contracts with survey houses differed from country to country, but they naturally had many common elements. To check on the content of these contracts, National Co-ordinators were urged to send a draft contract or

draft proposal to the CCT (in English language) before signing was undertaken. Members of the CCT scrutinised the drafts and came back with questions and proposals for amendments to the National Co-ordinators where deemed necessary.

9.2. Fieldwork projections

A particular improvement in Round 2 concerned the preparation of fieldwork projections (Annex 7.). All countries and survey organisations were asked to provide a projection of completed interviews by week of fieldwork at least one month prior to the start of fieldwork. These projections allowed for the early identification of difficulties during fieldwork. And the early diagnosis of problems made them easier to remedy, within the allocated fieldwork period. The vast majority of countries participating in Round 2 delivered a projection.

9.3. Progress checking of fieldwork

National Co-ordinators were responsible for regular checks on the progress achieved by the survey organisations throughout the fieldwork period. As noted in the Specification, "fieldwork progress must be closely monitored, including producing a fortnightly report on response...". A set of recommendations for the content of these fortnightly progress reports and complementary measures was devised. Based on the experiences in Round 1, these recommendations had been updated for Round 2, with particular emphasis on more guidance on how to interpret any output.

During the fieldwork period several members of the CCT acted as contact persons for the participating countries. The contact persons kept in touch with the National Coordinators, they checked the progress reports, and discussed any problems that emerged with the National Coordinators. Based on the information gathered, global progress reports were prepared and presented to the National Coordinators and other relevant bodies of the ESS.

9.4. Compliance and divergence

The overall Co-ordinator and the CCT had to ensure that standards and procedures were equivalent throughout the project and deal with any difficulties that arose at both macro or micro levels. Doing this involved striking a delicate balance between strict comparability between countries on the one hand and appropriate variation on the other.

In some cases, participating countries wished to deviate from the Specifications in order to accommodate their local situation. For instance, Germany which had problems in finalising fieldwork in due time in Round 1, wanted to start fieldwork one or two weeks

before the official start date of data collection, in order to be able to finish fieldwork before Christmas. In contrast, another country - Ukraine -, wanted to postpone the start of fieldwork until the presidential election had taken place. In both cases, this was agreed. Another country, for example, wished to use household members as translators to interview target persons belonging to a minority language group. This was not agreed.

In other cases, unplanned deviations occurred and came to light only once the data from each country were scrutinised. What to do about such deviations had to be decided case by case. In most instances, all that could be done in the event was to 'flag' the issue in the technical report as a way of making data users aware of the deviation. For instance, in several countries the call schedule was not adhered to since quite a lot of the target persons, which could not be contacted by the interviewers, did not receive the required number of calls and/or were not called at least one time in the evening or at the weekend (see below). In a minority of cases, however, remedial action was still possible. For instance, the CCT identified that the target population of Iceland did not include the 15-17 and the 81+ age groups. Having discussed this with the National Co-ordinator from Iceland, it was agreed that the error should be corrected and the survey organisation was asked to randomly sample and interview the requisite number of members of the respective age groups.

All deviations which adversely affected equivalence are of course fully documented in the final technical report. The documentation covers important aspects of all stages of the survey process, like sampling, questionnaire, fieldwork, data sets, and so on. In addition, this information will be reported back to the National Co-ordinators on an individual basis. Measures on how to avoid similar problems in the future will be discussed with the National Co-ordinators, in order to achieve learning and continuous improvement from round to round.

We summarise below *all* deviations from the specification, however minor, by no means most of which will actually affect the reliability of data comparisons. But for the sake of transparency they are all recorded and made available to all users. Please note, that the summary covers only the 17 countries included in the first data release of ESS Round 2. This release covered all countries having deposited their data at the archive before 01.06.2005.⁷ We divide the deviations into eight headings each to do with a different aspect of the project. In each case we first set out the requirement and then the specific deviations. For fuller details, please see the Technical Report available on the ESS website (www.europeansocialsurvey.org).

⁷ Information mainly based on ESS 2004 Documentation Report, Edition 1.0, October 2005.

a) Set-up and contractual issues

Requirement: Each national funding agency is to appoint (or cause to be appointed) a National Coordinator and a Survey Organisation (2.1).

No deviations

Requirement: A copy of the draft contract or proposal (in English) should be forwarded to the CCT before signing is undertaken. The Specification of the Survey ... should form part of the contract or proposal. In cases where the contract for the first round also spans the second or more rounds, the revised specifications for the relevant round should be agreed and signed off by the survey organisation. A copy of the final contract (in English) should be forwarded to the CCT as soon as it has been agreed by all partners (4.2).

All countries forwarded a copy of the contract/proposal to the CCT.

Requirement: The scheduled deadline for depositing Round 2 data to the ESS archive was end January 2005 (5.13).

Countries with late data delivery, but before end of May 2005:

Austria, Germany, Switzerland, United Kingdom, Spain, Portugal, Belgium, Greece, Estonia, Luxembourg, Norway, Sweden, Czech Republic

b) Sample size and design

Requirement: The survey will be representative of all persons aged 15 and over (no upper age limit) resident within private households in each country, regardless of their nationality, citizenship or language (5.1).

Countries with minor deviations from the above definition (for

details see Final Report on Sampling): Austria, Finland, Luxembourg, Portugal, Switzerland, United Kingdom

Requirement: The sample is to be selected by strict random probability methods at every stage (5.2).

No deviations

Requirement: In any event, the relative selection probabilities of every sample member must be known and recorded (5.2).

No deviation from this basic requirement.

Requirement: The minimum 'effective achieved sample size' should be 1,500, after discounting for design effects..., or 800 in countries with populations of less than 2 million. (5.3)

No deviation from this requirement.

Requirement: The translated questionnaires will be pre-tested...on a quota-controlled, demographically-balanced sample of around 50 people (5.11). ['Around 50' interpreted for deviation purposes as not less than 45.]

Countries with pre-test sample size less than 45
No pre-test at all: Austria, Luxembourg
Less than 30: Belgium, Finland, Slovenia
Between 30 and 44: Sweden

c) Response and non-response

Requirement: The minimum 'target' response rate... should be 70% (5.5).

Countries with less than 70% actual response rates
Less than 60%: Switzerland, United Kingdom, Luxembourg, Germany, Czech Republic, Spain
Between 60% and 69%: Belgium, Austria, Denmark, Norway, Sweden

Requirement: The proportion of non-contacts should not exceed 3% of all sampled units (5.5).

Countries with non-contact rates over 3%
More than 5% non-contacts: Spain, Slovenia, United Kingdom, Austria, Luxembourg, Belgium, Germany, Denmark, Estonia
Between 3 and 5% non-contacts: Sweden, Greece
No answer: Czech Republic

Requirement: Regardless of how the supplementary questionnaire is administered, a target response rate of 90% of those who completed the main interview must be aimed at (5.9).

Countries with response rate to supplementary questionnaire less than 90%: Sweden, Finland

d) Questionnaire

Requirement: Participating countries were required to implement the core and supplementary questionnaire as specified by the CCT.

No major deviations from this requirement.⁸

Requirement: The supplementary questionnaire may be administered in either one of the following ways:

1. as an extension of the main interview questionnaire
2. as a self-completion questionnaire. A combination of the two methods above may NOT be used (5.9).

no deviations

e) Contact forms dataset

Requirement: All information from the contact forms for both respondents and unsuccessful contacts (i.e. the total selected sample) will be submitted to the NSD Archive as a separate datafile alongside the interview data (5.13).

Countries with some variables missing in the contact forms dataset: Germany, Sweden, Norway

f) Fieldwork

Requirement: The main fieldwork period will last for at least one month within a four-month period between 1 September and end December 2004 (5.12).

Countries with fieldwork not completed by December 31st 2005

Fieldwork ending January 2005: Belgium, Spain, Denmark, Luxembourg, Estonia, Sweden, Germany, Norway

Fieldwork ending February 2005: Switzerland

Fieldwork ending March or April 2005: Austria, Greece, Portugal, United Kingdom

⁸ For details of individual questions that were not implemented in line with the source questionnaire, please refer to the Documentation Report (paragraph 26) available on the ESS data website.

Countries with fieldwork lasting longer than 4 months
Between 4 and 5 months: Germany, Spain, Norway, Luxembourg
More than 5 months: United Kingdom, Switzerland, Portugal

There was no country with a fieldwork period of less than a month.

Requirement: The first contact with potential respondents, following a possible advance letter, will be face-to-face. ... The one exception to this is where the country's sample is one of named individuals with telephone numbers (5.12).

There was no country where the call schedule envisaged first contacts by telephone, where no sample of named individuals with telephone numbers was used.

Requirement: Various specific steps designed to enhance response rates should also be allowed for. They include **at least four personal visits** by interviewers to each sampling unit before it is abandoned as non-productive, including at least one visit in the evening and at least one at the weekend (5.6).

Countries with less than four visits to non-contacts
Countries where 5%- 40% of non-contacts had less than four visits: Finland, United Kingdom, Czech Republic, Slovenia, Luxembourg, Belgium
Countries where 41%- 70% of non-contacts had less than four visits: Estonia, Switzerland, Poland, Sweden, Denmark
Countries where more than 71% of non-contacts had less than four visits: Norway, Spain, Germany

Countries with non-contacts not visited in the evening
Countries where 5%- 40% of non-contacts were not visited in the evening: United Kingdom, Portugal, Finland, Greece, Switzerland, Austria, Poland, Luxembourg, Denmark
Countries where 41%- 70% of non-contacts were not visited in the evening: Belgium, Norway, Estonia, Czech Republic, Sweden, Germany, Spain

Countries with non-contacts not visited at the weekend
Countries where 5%- 40% of non-contacts were not visited at the weekend: Czech Republic, Slovenia, Estonia, Austria, Luxembourg
Countries where 41%- 70% of non-contacts were not visited at the weekend: United Kingdom, Belgium, Switzerland, Denmark, Norway, Finland
Countries where more than 71% of non-contacts were not visited at the weekend: Poland, Spain, Germany, Sweden

g) Interviewers

Requirement: All interviewers will be personally briefed by the National Co-ordinator or members of the research team from the survey organisation before carrying out an assignment, drawing on detailed interviewer instructions prepared by the CCT (5.12).

Countries where not all interviewers were personally briefed
Countries where no interviewer briefings took place: Sweden
Countries where not all interviewers were personally briefed: Spain, Poland, Luxembourg, Estonia

Requirement: Interviewers' assignment sizes (workload) should not exceed 24 issued sampling units (i.e. 24 named individuals, households or addresses) and no interviewer should carry out more than two assignments (5.12). This implies that the maximum number of interviews one interviewer can conduct is 48 interviews.

Countries with some interviewers conducting more than 48 interviews Switzerland, Portugal, Luxembourg, Spain, Estonia, Poland, Belgium, Germany

h) Events data

Requirement: The National Co-ordinator ... His or her role will be to: ...submit to the CCT monthly reports on major events that may influence national fieldwork progress or that may be closely related to topics in the questionnaire, according to pre-specified guidelines ..., starting in August 2004 and continuing until the fieldwork has ended (3.3).⁹

Countries without events data: Austria

⁹ ESS event reports website:
http://www.scp.nl/users/stoop/ess-events-r2/events_overview_round2.htm

10. Data archiving and web dissemination

As in Round 1, NSD was responsible for data archiving and distribution of the second wave of ESS data. This work includes different tasks such as developing and maintaining the ESS Data Archive Web Site, the processing of data and documentation, and developing and maintaining the official ESS Data Web Site. The Archive Web Site enables participating countries to download necessary material for the preparation of national files and deliverables, and to upload these files to the archive at NSD. NSD then checks and edits data thoroughly, before a draft file is presented to the national teams for their final validation and approval. All steps of data processing are available to the national teams through the Archive Web Site. Hence, this process is transparent and editing can be constantly monitored by national teams. Approved data, together with required documentation, are then integrated and published on the official ESS Data Web Site, where there is free access to data and documentation download.

10.1. The ESS Archive Web Site

During the first round of ESS the data archive team developed a comprehensive and user-friendly Archive Web Site (<http://essdata.nsd.uib.no/>) to be used by national data producers and the CCT. The web site served as the central archive service for the ESS 2002, and included all services necessary to plan and produce the required data and documentation deliverables.

Updating this web site involved preparing new versions of international classifications and standards, a revised version of the specifications for the production and delivery of data and documentation files (The Data Protocol), as well as a new form for documentation of meta data (National Technical Summary). This work started during the first year of Round 2 and was completed by November 2004 in the second year of the project, providing the data producers with updated specifications, programmes and instructions relating to the production and deposit of the ESS Round 2 data and documentation files.

ESS 2004 Data Protocol

<http://essdata.nsd.uib.no/passord/dok/Protocol2004.zip>

One of the most important documents available from the ESS Archive Web Site is the ESS 2004 Data Protocol. The Data Protocol is a comprehensive document with specifications and procedures to be used in the production of national ESS data files. In general, the Data Protocol gives specifications for the coding of data, the production and delivery of data files and other electronic deliverables. Some of the specifications, for example coding standards, relate directly to the ESS Archive Web Site. The Data Protocol

also defines what the national teams are required to deposit to the data archive, and pays special attention to the anonymisation of data.

The largest part of the Data Protocol offers specifications of variables from all questionnaires as well as country specific variables and administrative variables. The specifications give detailed instruction on all attributes of the variables. As a result the Data Protocol can only be completed after the source questionnaires are finalised, and the first edition of the 2004 Data Protocol was made available to the national teams in July 2004.

Programmes for applying Data Protocol attributes to data files

<http://essdata.nsd.uib.no/passord/dok/ESS2spss.zip>

Another central resource of the Archive Web Site is the programmes for applying Data Protocol Attributes to the variables in the data files. These programmes were available from the Archive Web Site parallel to the Data Protocol. They are available in SPSS and SAS; the two most widely used statistical packages in academia.

National Technical Summaries

<http://essdata.nsd.uib.no/passord/dok/NTech2004xx.zip>

The National Technical Summary form is yet another central document available from the Archive Web Site. The form is completed by the national teams and includes all the elements selected for the meta data documentation and is made available both as an electronic form (Adobe Acrobat) as well as a regular text document (Microsoft Word). The form was revised, updated and improved during the autumn of 2004 and was made available to the participating countries in November 2004. Among the improvements were a more specific check list for ensuring anonymity of all files and some more elaborate descriptions of how to document the political system in each country.

The form is set up with the aim of both making the documentations process less strenuous for the data producers as well as facilitating a higher degree of standardisation of reporting and thus hopefully contributing to higher quality documentation. Elements incorporated match the structure of the Data Documentation Initiative (DDI) Document Type Definition, so that meta data can be presented on the Internet in a standardised and structured language along with the data files. The archive's final ESS2-2004 Documentation Report

(<http://ess.nsd.uib.no/index.jsp?year=2005&country=MT&module=documentation>) is based on the information given in the technical summaries.

10.2. Processing - Data and Documentation

The development of data control and editing procedures began in September 2004. The procedures combine a wide range of automatic controls that go into detail of every single variable in the data files. The automatic procedures are combined with similarly thorough manual controls. The basic principle for processing data is to produce integrated data files that balance two goals: 1) the data files should be as standardised and user-friendly as possible, and 2) the data files should reflect the reliability and quality of the data, i.e. data editing at the archive is exercised with great caution.

Transparency and security

The national teams deposit all required data files and documentation on-line to the ESS Archive Web Site. Once a file is deposited, the content list of the country's upload directory is refreshed, confirming a successful upload. The ESS data team at NSD is at the same time notified by an automatic mail and can start the processing of the data files. It was up to the National Coordinators and survey houses in each country to ensure that the data themselves were suitably anonymised to comply both with their national laws and regulations and with spirit of the ISI Declaration on Ethics. The integrated data set has thus had all personal identifiers removed or anonymised.

Programs used and files produced during the data control and editing are available for the national team from the web site, ensuring full transparency of the archive's processing. All steps and actions are documented in the programs used, and all programs and preliminary data files are permanently archived. This makes it possible to trace back and eventually redo all decisions, actions and results of the data processing.

Access to programs and data files on the Archive Web Site is controlled by login using usernames and passwords. The national coordinators/teams have access to their own catalogue only, while the CCT members have full access, making the Archive Web Site an on-line workbench for the project.

Processing and procedures

NSD focuses on the processing of the data files produced from the Main, Supplementary and (Interviewer) questionnaires, while data files from the Contact Forms, and the Sample Data are checked by other work packages and only undergo basic control procedures at NSD. The processing is organised in two main steps, each resulting in a

report that documents the data checking and editing done, with outputs attached. Feedback from the national team on the issues and questions raised in these reports plays an important role in the finalisation of data. Thus, processing ESS data also includes a communicational aspect, which serves to improve data quality and the final product.

Step 1:

- Automatic content control
 - ID number uniqueness (files from all work packages)
 - Absence of/diverging names of ESS variables
 - Presence of ESS country-specific variables
 - Presence of extra variables not specified in the Data protocol
 - Wild code checking of post-coded variables
 - Comparison of post-coded variables in ESS R1 and ESS R2
 - Comprehensive filter checks
- Manual content control
 - Browsing of variable distributions
 - Browsing of structural consistency
- 1st Data Processing Report to National Team, documenting Step 1
 - ID number duplicates
 - Deviations from Data Protocol triggering actions from national team
 - Listing of wild codes in post-coded variables
 - Wild codes with large Ns, structural inconsistencies
 - Item non response
 - Missing documentation in National Technical Summary
- Feedback from national teams based on report

Step 2:

- Data editing
 - Wild codes of pre-coded variables are set to "No answer"

- "Not applicable" is only used when data unambiguously confirm this
- Inconsistency between substantive variables is not edited
- Inconsistency between filter (routing) variables, ex. interviewer variables, and substantial variables: data in substantial variables not edited, data in filter variables are set to "No answer"
- Controlling data editing
 - The input file of the data editing is compared with the result file
 - Incidents of edited inconsistencies
 - Incidents of observed but not edited inconsistencies
- 2nd Data Processing Report to National Team, documenting step 2
 - The national teams are informed about the processing of the data files (with reference to programs and output that can be downloaded) and the rules of data editing in the 2nd Data Processing report
- Draft file produced and ready for NC validation
 - The national team is asked to download the country's data files for validation
- Feedback and final NC approval of draft file
 - When the national team has approved the processing, the data files are included in the integrated files
 - If processing of data reveals deviations from ESS specifications, whether it is systematic error in filter instruction, questions not asked correctly etc., this could be a reason to make such variables country specific and move them to a separate country specific (CS) file. If decided to keep them in the integrated file, detected deviations are "flagged" to notify users. Decisions to remove variables are made by the CCT following consultation with the National Coordinator.

Status of data processing as of 25.01.06

The data processing started as soon as the first country data (Finland, Slovenia, Denmark) came in on the 31st of January. A month and a half after the announced deadline for depositing data and documentation to the archive, 8 of the 24 countries who had started fieldwork had deposited their data and parts of their meta data.

The processing of the first 8 countries was carried out in a parallel manner to allow for an extra quality check of programs and procedures against real data. After the final sign-off of programs and procedures, the data processing became more efficient, and data for 17 countries were ready to be published in the first edition at <http://ess.nsd.uib.no/>. This release took place on September 28th 2005 and included all countries that deposited data before June 2005. A new release including countries with later deposits will take place in early March 2006. By the 25th of January 2006 NSD have yet not received data from all participating countries, which has implications for the schedule and planning of future releases.

10.3. ESS Data Web Site

<http://ess.nsd.uib.no/>

The ESS Data Web Site is the main gateway for all users of data and meta data of the ESS. Access is free, only subject to a straightforward user registration. For the new Round 2 release, The Data Web Site has been revised. Additions and improvements are made in order to keep it as user friendly and functional as possible. The web site already has a comprehensive holding of data and documents from Round one of the ESS, including for example questionnaires and show cards in all languages used in different countries. It offers services such as:

- Direct download of data
- Survey documentation
 - Documentation Report
 - Data Protocol
- Fieldwork documents
 - Questionnaires
 - Showcards
 - Interviewer instructions
- Guidance on use and weighting of the data
- On-line browsing, analysis and download of data
 - Data are presented alongside documentation following DDI standard
- ESS EduNet

Besides the addition of the ESS Round 2 data and documents, the main updates since Round 1 are the new version of the "On-line browsing and analysis" tool (<http://ess.nsd.uib.no/webview/index.jsp>) now run by Nesstar 3.0 software, and the "ESS EduNet" (<http://essedunet.nsd.uib.no/opencms.war/opencms/ess/en/>). Many users access and explore data through the online option, which perhaps contributes to a more widespread distribution of the ESS survey data, also reaching people beyond the academic communities. For instance, NSD has experienced a rising number of queries from media. This option offers users a possibility to explore data without using separate statistical packages and software. "ESS EduNet" is a thorough student and educational orientated training resource, offering a methodological as well as analytical guide through selected sections of the ESS data. (See 10.5)

Information and support system

Since the release of the first round of ESS data in September 2003, the activity on the ESS Data Web Site has increased considerably. As a consequence there have been numerous inquiries relating to the use of the web site, the data and the various documents and meta data. There have also been queries of a more technical nature. The new release of Round 2 data thus confirms the need for support services. The quest for user support is a logical consequence of running an active online data service. NSD gives these queries high priority and responds as precisely and swiftly as possible.

10.4. Code-book

Based on the assessment of the Round 1 End of Grant Report, work has begun on an ESS code-book. It was felt it would be most useful to wait and include data from both Rounds 1 and 2. The code-book is set to be released later in 2006.

10.5. Internet-based training resource

ESS EduNet (<http://essedunet.nsd.uib.no>) was launched in September 2005. The resource is freely available at no cost for all types of users, but the main target group is students (and lecturers) in higher education. ESS EduNet is developed by NSD on behalf of the CCT.

Pedagogical idea

The idea behind the development of ESS EduNet is to create a resource that brings together different elements of social science; theory, data and methodology. Our wish has been to create an environment for learning that simultaneously challenges the students on theoretical, methodological and practical issues. In this way our hope is to

develop the students' knowledge about the different approaches in the social sciences, stimulate independent thinking, and offer them the means to investigate empirical data and interpret results. We could say that ESS EduNet is a social science research simulator: in safe surroundings the students get the opportunity to see how empirical research can be conducted to get statistical results that make sense.

Content

ESS EduNet contains two modules, each written on a substantial theme of the ESS Round 1: Human Values, written by Professor Shalom Schwartz, and Citizenship, written by Professor Kenneth Newton. Typically, a module contains a short presentation of one or several related research questions, and exercises with relevance to the text. The exercises are partly meant to be solved online, using NESSTAR technology, and partly require data to be downloaded and processed locally in more sophisticated statistical packages.

Each module refers to a carefully selected but limited subset of ESS data designed to focus the training on a manageable selection of dependent and independent variables. We have prepared several extracts, containing both original variables from the ESS survey and constructed variables, for the resource. In addition we have prepared a dataset with information about the countries participating in the first round of the ESS. In cooperation with NESSTAR LTD we have added correlation as a new option for online analysis.

From the web site it is also possible to download runtime NSDstat. By including this option, those with no statistical software will have the opportunity to go deeper into the data.

In addition to the methodological explanations in the text, we have developed a glossary with statistical concepts. This makes it possible for students to get the information where they need it. A strictly chronological reading is not necessary; the definitions of key concepts are always easily accessible.

11. Methodological work

Apart from its substantive aim of monitoring and interpreting cross-national and cross-cultural changes in European attitudes and values, the ESS has from the start also been intent on contributing to methods of comparative survey research. Numerous innovative methodological features are already embedded in the ESS design and protocols. Examples are:

- its uniform and rigorous random sampling methods designed to result in consistent 'effective' sample sizes in all countries;
- its expert-led, evidence-informed approach to questionnaire design and construction;
- its detailed protocols and procedures to achieve optimal equivalence in translation;
- its wide range of procedures for assessing and improving data quality;
- its compilation of relevant event and context data from all participating countries;
- its sophisticated and accessible data archiving arrangements;
- its on-line facilities for speedy data analysis and downloading.

But the ESS promised not only to be more rigorous than previous cross-national (and indeed many national) attitude surveys. It also aimed to contribute to methodological advancement more generally through conducting methodological experimentation and trials alongside its substantive work.

During Round 1, we began a collaborative programme of research with (and partly financed by) Gallup Europe investigating the feasibility of moving to a mixed-mode approach to data collection in some future round of the ESS. This work has continued during Round 2 of the survey.

The fact is that countries vary in their preferred interviewing modes. Among ESS nations, for instance, several now tend to use telephone interviewing as opposed to face-to-face interviewing as their main form of data collection in household surveys. Although often prompted solely by cost considerations, the use of telephone interviewing in some countries is also said to reflect respondent preferences, where 'cold-calling' at a household is apparently seen as more intrusive than a telephone call. In any event, many countries are increasingly concerned with the high costs of face-to-face interviewing, and are beginning to weigh its clear 'quality' advantages against its relative cost disadvantages. So, while face-to-face interviewing will still almost certainly be *among* the main modes of data collection for the foreseeable future, we must consider whether it will remain the *exclusive* mode for surveys such as the ESS.

The aim of the research is to provide information that will help to inform decisions regarding:

- whether mixed-mode data collection should be allowed on future rounds of the ESS;
- which modes should be allowed;
- within which kinds of overall survey design mixed modes could be employed.

This information will include assessment of the following issues:

- coverage and response rates that are likely to be achieved with different modes and mode combinations;
- likely differential error between modes (particularly non-response error and measurement error), its causes and possible remedies.

The research carried out to date has been focused on the latter of these two issues and specifically on measurement error. The fieldwork is being conducted in phases, with the first phase completed during Round 1, and phase 2 undertaken during Round 2.

Phase 1

The first phase of fieldwork was conducted in Hungary in 2003 and provided an opportunity to pre-test an appropriate design for future phases of the experimental research. The study employed a quota sample of 1,983 participants, representative of the Hungarian urban population by age, gender and education, selected in four locations in Hungary (two in Budapest, two in other major cities). Participants were randomly assigned to one of four modes – face-to-face interview, telephone interview, self-completion paper and pencil questionnaire and web-based questionnaire. With the exception of those interviewed by web, they were then re-interviewed in a different mode. The interviews took place in the context of a 'hall test' – using venues specifically rented for the purpose, located in areas with a high density of pedestrians to facilitate convenience sampling.

All participants received the same stimuli questions in each of the four interviewing modes, making it possible to examine the effect of mode on responses to different types of survey question. The questions were selected from the ESS and the Eurobarometer to encompass the main question types for which mode effects might be expected. In other words, they were deliberately chosen to be the types of questions for which mode effects were most likely to be observed. The rationale for this was that a mixed-mode future for

ESS could not be contemplated unless it proved possible to develop mode-insensitive versions of these kinds of questions.

The following highlights some of the findings from phase 1:

- Overall, responses in the telephone mode were found to differ most from other modes – especially when compared with those in the paper self-completion conditions. By contrast, the greatest correspondence between responses in different modes was observed between the face-to-face interviews and the paper self-completion mode.
- Certain questions were more susceptible to mode difference than others. These included more abstract questions – such as attitudinal items on multilevel governance¹⁰ and the European Union¹¹ – and sensitive questions – for example about tolerance towards homosexuals. In addition to being either abstract or sensitive, these items also all used response scales. This finding is consistent with much of the literature on mode effects, which has found that opinion questions are more mode-sensitive than other types of question, particularly when respondents may not have strong pre-formed opinions on the topic. This makes mode effects a particular concern for an attitude survey such as the ESS.
- For items that were particularly sensitive for respondents, interviewer-administered modes obtained a significantly higher number of socially-desirable responses than self-administered modes. Socially desirable responses were highest in the telephone mode, followed by face-to-face interviews.
- Modes using visual stimuli varied from those using aural stimuli – particularly on scale items such as those in the examples above. Scale items were susceptible to response order effects - with a primacy effect observed for the visual modes, and a recency effect evident in the aural modes.

On the basis of the analysis of phase 1 data, a number of issues were identified as needing further investigation. The decision was taken – on advice from the ESS Methods Group – to focus the second phase of the research on a comparison between face-to-face-interviewing and telephone interviews. The main reason for this focus was that a switch to telephone interviewing – either in addition to or instead of face-to-face interviewing in certain countries – was by far the most likely for the ESS in the

¹⁰ These items have been removed from the core questionnaire for Round 2 of the ESS.

¹¹ Used in the Eurobarometer survey.

foreseeable future. Moreover, since the pilot study appeared to show that data quality differed most between this pair of modes, this problem merited most urgent attention. Narrowing the focus of the research in this way also made it possible to improve the methodology, to enable more robust conclusions to be drawn about the likely causes of mode effects.

Phase 2

As stated, the objective of phase 2 was to address any particular problems associated with administering the ESS interview by telephone. It involved a direct comparison between the current face-to-face methods employed in the ESS and telephone alternatives. The specific principal aims were to:

- 1) assess the mode sensitivity of the ESS face-to-face questionnaire;
- 2) investigate the potential impact on data quality of a switch to telephone interviewing on ESS;
- 3) isolate the primary causes of inter-mode differences in order to make recommendations about how to mitigate their effects.

We tested assumptions about different types of survey question, based on our expectations of how the two modes might differ in the extent to which they promoted different types of response error, including forms of respondent satisficing and social desirability bias.

Methods

The basic experimental design involved two groups: one interviewed face-to-face, the other by telephone. However, because of the large number of items in the ESS questionnaire which employ showcards, it would not have been possible simply to compare responses from the face-to-face interview with those obtained by telephone; the question stimuli across the two modes would have been too different (one providing a mixed aural & visual stimulus, the other an aural stimulus only). Thus, in order to ensure strict comparability between the modes (and thus isolate mode effects *per se* from question wording effects), we included a third treatment condition in the experiment, which used the same questionnaire in the face-to-face interview as that used over the telephone (i.e. one without showcards).

The experimental design therefore included 3 treatment groups and no repeat measures (just one interview with each sample member). Two groups were interviewed face-to-face

and the other was interviewed in telephone mode (split between fixed-line and mobile phones) as follows:

- Group 1 Face-to-face interview with showcards
- Group 2 Face-to-face interview without showcards
- Group 3 Telephone interview (fixed-line and mobile)

Fieldwork was carried out by Gallup Europe. The experiment was conducted in Hungary and Portugal starting in July 2005.¹²In order to reduce costs, the fieldwork was concentrated in the countries' capital cities (Budapest and Lisbon), which also offered the advantage of suitable sampling frames in both locations, including telephone numbers *and* addresses, thereby holding any error from sampling/coverage consistent across the experimental groups. An equal-probability sample of fixed residential phone numbers within the defined areas was selected. Each unit was randomly allocated to one of the 3 treatment groups, and for those allocated to the telephone group, the units were randomly assigned to be interviewed either by fixed-line telephone or by mobile phone.¹³At each contacted household, one person aged 15 or over was randomly selected for interview (as on the ESS).

The *target* responding sample sizes in each city was 500 in each of the two face-to-face treatments and 1000 in the telephone group, of which 500 minimum were to be interviewed on a fixed line. Selected sample sizes were calculated according to expected response rates in each of the groups and in each location.

The interviews consisted of a subset of questions from the core questionnaire of the European Social Survey. Items in the questionnaire were selected to ensure that those most likely to give rise to mode effects were included. Since we wished to focus our analysis on different types of response errors associated with respondent satisficing and social desirability bias (both of which we assume are in part related to mode). Thus, we selected items from the core of the ESS that would enable us to detect effects such as acquiescence (items with agree-disagree scales; yes/no items); non-differentiation (batteries of items using the same response scales); and response order effects (items using showcards in the standard ESS interview; items with a long list of response options). In order to investigate the extent of social desirability bias by mode, we included items likely to have strong social desirability connotations, or items on sensitive topics.

¹² The fieldwork period in Portugal was extended due to poor response rates.

¹³ There was an initial screening of respondents interviewed by telephone to establish mobile phone ownership. Sample members in the telephone group with no mobile phone subscription were interviewed by fixed line.

We also included a range of background variables, to allow us to investigate the impact of mode on response in relation to and in interaction with other variables, such as respondents' level of education, sex and socio-economic status.

Preliminary Results

Owing to delayed completion of fieldwork in Lisbon, we have so far only been working with the Budapest data. Analysis has been focused on comparisons across the three main treatment groups, while controlling for demographic differences between the samples¹⁴. Our design allows us to distinguish between what we refer to as 'stimulus' or 'showcard effects' (resulting from differences in the nature of the question stimulus across the different modes) and 'pure mode effects' (resulting from other characteristics of the mode). The former are identifiable where we find differences between groups, whilst controlling for mode of data collection (i.e. where we find differences between the two face-to-face groups, and no difference between the no-showcard groups); the latter are evident where we find differences between groups, whilst controlling for the nature of the stimulus (i.e. where we find differences between the no-showcard groups, and no differences between the face-to-face groups).

The following represents a short summary of some of what we have found so far:

Stimulus effects

- As in phase 1, there were significant differences in response distributions to questions that were re-designed for the telephone. These were items that used showcards in the standard ESS interview, where we sought to test the equivalence of a possible alternative (household income, time spent watching news programmes on tv, frequency of church attendance).
- Response order effects (also known as primacy and recency effects) were observed where responses to face-to-face interviews using showcards were compared with responses to telephone interviews. However, the same effects were not observed between the two face-to-face groups.
- Item non-response was greatest for the income question. Respondents interviewed face-to-face were asked to indicate their household's total annual net income using the standard ESS showcard. The no-showcard groups were simply asked to state

¹⁴ This involved regressing responses to each item on mode and key demographics (sex, age, education and manual vs. non-manual occupation). Two model specifications were used: 1) including main effects only; 2) including main effects and interaction effects for the demographic variables with mode.

their income. The face-to-face no-showcard respondents were most likely to refuse to answer this question, whilst the telephone respondents were most likely to give a 'Don't Know' response to this question. Nevertheless, non-response was high on this item across all three groups. Non-response was also very high for the party voted for, and again telephone respondents were most likely to give a 'Don't Know' response, although all respondents were equally likely to refuse an answer.

Pure Mode effects

- Respondents interviewed by telephone gave shorter responses to the open-ended description of their occupation than those interviewed face-to-face, but there was no difference in the length of the occupation title.
- Respondents interviewed by telephone were more likely to give socially desirable responses than those interviewed face-to-face (in 7 of 21 items).
- The evidence on different forms of satisficing is mixed. In addition to response order effects, we have looked at non-differentiation between objects evaluated on the same scale and acquiescence bias. With respect to the former, we found few differences between the modes. However, non-differentiation was slightly more likely among respondents interviewed face-to-face with showcards, and these respondents were also more likely to acquiesce. We will continue to investigate whether these results should be interpreted as evidence of satisficing in our samples.
- Respondents interviewed by telephone were more likely to give 'Don't Know' responses. However, the findings on other forms of item non-response are less consistent.

Analysis of the data is ongoing. At the next stage, we will begin to investigate the implications of interviewing via mobile phones, and start to look at cross-national differences between the Hungarian and Portuguese data. Funding has been secured under the infrastructure grant to extend this research as a "Joint Research Activity", with further experiments to be built into Round 3 of the ESS and a review of survey practice in participating countries to improve our knowledge of the capacity and demand for alternative modes on the survey.

IV. CONCLUSIONS AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

As a time series, the influence of the ESS grows with each Round. It is designed, not as separate one-off surveys, but as a long-term survey to measure change in attitudes. Given that the second round data have only recently been released and so have not yet been analysed, we cannot at present determine any change. And so it will not be until future rounds that the true policy implications could be measured and evaluated.

The long term aim of this time series is to inform and enrich policy analysis by uncovering the nature, direction and salience of shifting public attitudes towards a variety of socio-political issues. But in these early rounds it hopes to achieve the more modest (though in practice perhaps, no less difficult) aim of producing reliable benchmark measures against which long-run changes in social values may subsequently be charted and monitored. Repeated rounds of the ESS will, we hope, begin to generate data that should have a clear influence on the content and quality of policy debates in Europe and beyond. Even so, the long-term quantifiable impact of social survey data on any *particular* set of policies will tend for the most part to be indirect and attenuated.

However, in terms of its methodological implications, there is already much evidence that the ESS is having major effects on survey methodology across Europe. Alongside the aim of measuring changes in attitudes, was the aim of improving methodological standards of cross-national research within Europe. Even after the first Round the success of this aim was evident as many countries carried out the ESS to a much higher standard methodologically than any previous national survey.

However, ESS participating countries were given clear specifications that they were obliged to follow which would not necessarily translate to these methodologies being used in other research. Yet the evidence that we have following the second round suggests that these specifications have been adopted as 'best practice' in a number of institutions across Europe. At a recent conference at CEVIPOF in Paris, an assessment was given by INSEE at the French Statistical Office in which the ESS methodology was given a clean bill of health. This will undoubtedly influence the standard of other surveys in France.

Further proof of the effect the ESS standards are having can be seen in the dissemination activities being carried out in participating countries (see chapter V.). In over 10 countries, the ESS methodology and data are now being used as an example of 'best practice' in university courses. And students are being encouraged to use the data for dissertations and theses.

This chapter focuses on the likely implications of the ESS not for specific policies but for European governance more generally.

1. Why social attitudes matter

Government statistical services rarely involve themselves in large-scale surveys of social attitudes such as the ESS. They concentrate instead on charting trends in demographic and behavioural patterns, economic conditions and social circumstances. While they meticulously measure major shifts in population, the labour market, the economy, crime, health, welfare and so on, they tend to exclude trends in socio-political attitudes from their purview.

This omission is not of course a function of official indifference towards the role of socio-political attitudes within a democracy. On the contrary, governments and oppositions tend to be among the most avid followers of opinion polls and other such makeshift monitors of public attitudes. Nor can the omission be attributed to the fact that attitudes, unlike behaviour patterns, are especially resistant to accurate measurement and validation. Several routinely-collected and regularly-published behavioural and factual trend measurements present similar - or even more intractable - obstacles to reliable measurement.

Rather, the primary reason for the paucity of attitudinal data within official statistics more or less worldwide is that such data are prone to controversy and political dispute – the more so perhaps if they were to be produced by official agencies which may be suspected of being *party prix*. Rightly or wrongly, the perceived authority of attitudinal statistics seems to rely above all on the sort of *demonstrable* independence and impartiality that the ESS has been designed to embody.

Past resistance to attitude monitoring was based on a number of sparsely supported assertions, the most common of which was that people's feelings and beliefs were inherently too elusive, unstable and unreliable to be captured via quantitative measurement techniques. Public opinion, the argument ran, was not only inherently too ambivalent and volatile to be tapped successfully, but also too abstract and individual to be encapsulated within generic categories. In short, these detractors dismissed attitude measurements as themselves 'subjective', lacking the apparent impartiality of what were seen to be their more 'objective' behavioural and demographic counterparts. In truth of course, all data - behavioural and attitudinal – are subject to similar problems of reliability and validity which need to be mitigated via appropriated design and execution.

Admittedly, these sorts of disparaging reactions to attitude measurement *per se* were usually made in reference to the excessive attention increasingly accorded to sure-fire media opinion polls, which tend to be over-interpreted and over-publicised in more or less inverse proportion to their quality. Journalists and other social commentators persistently draw inferences from media polls that were never remotely designed to sustain the weight of such conclusions. The shallowness of these data, exacerbated by their illegitimate subsequent use, results in an over-simplification of complex phenomena, blurring rather than sharpening the image of social reality they are trying to describe and explain.

Naturally, however, these legitimate criticisms of certain forms of opinion monitoring do not apply to all forms of attitude measurement. As with all forms of research, the credibility or otherwise of a particular piece of attitudinal measurement depends on its intrinsic merits - in particular on the extent to which it achieves or fails to achieve a range of well-established scientific criteria for such studies in general, or (as in this case) for cross-national studies in particular. In any event, the ESS is a very unusual attempt to apply the very highest standards of scientific endeavour in its field. While based on an extensive and well-documented body of academic literature, such standards have nonetheless only very rarely been applied to such a large multinational endeavour.

Once it is accepted that public attitudes (and how they change over time) can indeed be measured successfully across countries, there can be no possible case against ensuring that a range of such studies exists at a European level. Public attitudes are always important to the formation of social policy, and on occasions critical, enabling existing or future policies to be evaluated directly by the electorate. Their rigorous collection and analysis in an era of falling political participation and electoral turnout helps to mitigate the democratic deficit. It is axiomatic that no democracy these days - whether within an individual nation state or across nations - can any longer survive without accurate information on shifting public attitudes and values.

2. Methodological fallout from the ESS

As noted, one of the primary longer-run policy benefits of the ESS is to provide regular high quality information (on the same basis throughout Europe) about the ebbs and flows of socio-political attitudes and human values. But an equally important role of the ESS is to help improve Europe-wide methods of social measurement.

In the context of an expanding and more closely integrated European Union, it is increasingly important for the techniques of cross-national measurement to approach the quality and precision of such measurements at a national level. Eurostat has of course

made considerable strides to ensure this on a range of subjects, but not on the important topic of social attitude change across nations and over time. Nor - for the reasons described earlier in this chapter - is a body such as Eurostat likely to be able to rectify this omission.

Yet the quest for better methods of cross-national attitude measurement at a European level is increasingly urgent. Not only is poor research and intelligence sometimes worse than no intelligence at all, but accurate, verifiable data sources are now an indispensable tool of modern governance. More importantly, we now know that good *cross-national* research capacity does not flow automatically from good *national* research capacities. Indeed, the flow may often be in precisely the opposite direction. Either way, Europe is in pole position to lead the world in establishing best practice in multicultural social research.

The role of the ESS in this respect should be pivotal. Although great strides have previously been made by other distinguished time series such as the *Eurobarometers*, the *European Values Surveys* and the *International Social Surveys Programme*, the ESS marks a new departure in comparability and rigour in a cross-national attitude survey. This was one of the ESF's principal aims when it promoted and funded the ESS Expert Group in the first place, and has since been inextricably interwoven into the fabric of the project. A key objective of the ESS is to lift the standards of social attitude measurement throughout Europe and beyond, so that reliable trends in social values may in future be accorded equivalent weight to similar data on behaviour and population movements.

Financial contributions come to the ESS not only from the Commission and the ESF, but also from the principal academic funding agencies of 27 countries (over both rounds) - all strictly on the basis that the ESS's demanding specification will be fulfilled. This level of endorsement for a highly rigorous new time series of surveys is almost certainly unprecedented. Indeed, for over twenty seven sources from all corners of Europe - all with different funding rules and priorities - to have committed themselves jointly to this costly new long term venture suggests an astonishing community of purpose. The time for a rigorous new comparative attitude survey in the shape of the ESS has surely arrived.

Even at such an early stage, the ESS's impact on methods of comparative attitude surveys may well be equivalent to what, for instance, Eurostat's Labour Force Survey or the UN's World Fertility Survey had previously achieved for comparative behavioural surveys. It has demonstrated levels of quality and rigour in a Europe-wide comparative social survey that had hitherto been ruled out as unachievable. This task could never

remotely have been achieved without the enthusiastic consensus of the Commission, the ESF and the principal funding agencies of 27 disparate nations, by no means all of them then (or even now) member nations of the EU. In this respect particularly, the ESS is a clear example of the European Research Area in action.

3. Developing new European social indicators

Arising out of the report to the Commission by Sir Anthony Atkinson and colleagues (Atkinson et al, 2001), eighteen standard social indicators have now been adopted by the Commission for regular publication and analysis. They are to stand alongside the exclusively economic indicators (eg GDP, RPI, unemployment figures, growth rates) which have hitherto served as a proxy for monitoring *overall* national progress. Although these 18 new measures will surely fill what has been a debilitating long-term gap in the means by which we are routinely supposed to judge societal progress, they are just a starting-point. For one thing, the list of new indicators is heavily biased towards socio-*economic* rather than socio-*political* phenomena. Thus there is a preponderance of measures to do with aspects of poverty, income and exclusion and only scant or no attention given to broader aspects of quality of life – such as health, life satisfaction and the absence of the fear of crime.

Notably, only one of the eighteen new indicators (on health) is to be based on people's own assessments of how they view their world and themselves. The remainder are to be generated from administrative statistics of one sort or another, untouched by public input into either their choice or compilation.

The ESS should thus provide an ideal opportunity to broaden the present narrow range of criteria by which we routinely evaluate national success and quality of life. Based as it is on high quality data collected in a standardised form from the bulk of EU countries, the ESS already provides an obvious source of data for the new 'subjective health' indicator proposed by Atkinson and his colleagues. But it should in time offer the chance to monitor many other important aspects of national success or social progress.

It is widely accepted, for instance, that fear of crime can wreak havoc with people's quality of life. Fear of crime is a far more important determinant of people's actual behaviour than is the crime rate itself (whether based on reported crime or victimisation events). Indeed, people change their patterns of behaviour and decide, for instance, not to go out after dark not on the basis of statistical analysis of trends in crimes of violence on the streets, but because of their own increasing sense of vulnerability – whether justified or imagined.

Yet 'fear of crime' has unaccountably still been overlooked as even one of the social indicators by which we will routinely judge the quality of life across EU countries. It would be convenient to argue in this context that fear of crime has been omitted primarily because it is an 'attitudinal' or 'subjective' variable. But that case would be more convincing if 'objective' crime figures were themselves among the new list of social indicators. They are not. As noted, the new list - while greatly to be welcomed as a major and thoughtful advance - nonetheless provides only a narrow shaft of light on social determinants of national progress or quality of life. A bigger picture is in due course bound to be demanded.

A range of variables already included in the ESS (or due to be in future rounds) could be invaluable in helping to expand the existing list of EU social indicators. Because the ESS is a multi-nation, high quality, repeat and representative source, it represents an important new source of statistics. But unusually its content brings into focus important aspects of Europe's social condition that the primarily economic emphasis of present evaluation mechanisms unavoidably ignores.

What aspects might an expanded list comprise? 'Crime victimisation' of one type or another and 'fear of crime' (a set of administrative indicators juxtaposed against an attitudinal indicator) would be just a start. 'Electoral turnout' and 'political trust' would be a similarly intriguing twosome. Then a range of other variables would suggest themselves - such as 'trust in democratic institutions', 'perceptions of equal opportunity', 'system efficacy', 'confidence in the judicial system' - all of them fundamental to democratic stability in an otherwise changing Europe.

Changes in such variables need to be monitored and understood. Indeed, overlooking or ignoring such changes would be negligent and possibly dangerous. They must therefore either become strong contenders for a larger list of official European social criteria of national success, or - if not - in time comprise an 'unofficial' list that can be evaluated by scholars and politicians alongside the existing mainly economic criteria.

Either way, the ESS is at last available to fill the gap with reliable data along these lines.

V. DISSEMINATION AND EXPLOITATION OF RESULTS

Following Round 1, and throughout Round 2, CCT members continued to disseminate the ESS data at various conferences and seminars. Publications have also been mounting in various journals (see section 2. below). In keeping with the broad target audience of the ESS data, these papers and presentations cover a wide range of topics, both substantive and methodological. These include papers about the project as a whole and the contribution it will make to social science and European governance. Further papers have been presented on particular methodological aspects, including sample design, translation, question design and assessment, survey non-response and mixed-mode methodology. Members of the CCT, as well as other invited authors, are currently producing a book, primarily methodological, that will be published in 2006.

The National Co-ordinators have also continued their excellent work in disseminating the ESS at a national level (see section 1. below). All participating countries are being urged to encourage data use within their countries, and we are getting very encouraging feedback about workshops, publications and other dissemination. At the last count seven books based on ESS data had been published in Germany, Hungary, Poland, England, Spain, Greece and Portugal.

Encouragingly, the largest number of papers and presentations have come from data users who are not part of the ESS team. Information about these is submitted to the ESS Central Co-ordinating Team using the 'ESS Publications Form', which can be found on the website (<http://naticent02.uuhost.uk.uu.net/publicity/index.htm>). Since Round 1, a full list of all papers has been made available on the website (see the above link) and these are also listed in the ESS User Bulletins (<http://naticent02.uuhost.uk.uu.net/news/index.htm>). The next step will be to create an on-line dynamic bibliography that will allow users to search by author and keywords.

Use of the data has exceeded our expectations. Following the first release of Round 2 data there was a large increase in the number of registered users. We can expect future publications to take advantage of the time-series aspect of the ESS by using data from both Rounds.

1. European Social Survey Publicity and Dissemination across Europe

National teams were all asked to make plans for disseminating the ESS data in their own countries. Below are details of events and publicity in several countries. Obviously most of the dissemination undertaken under Round 2 of the project, was in fact dissemination of the Round 1 data. For further information please contact the relevant National Coordinator, using the email address given.

BELGIUM Frédéric Heselmans - frederic.heselmans@ulg.ac.be

Geert Loosveldt – geert.loosveldt@soc.kuleuven.ac.be

Research seminar for 8 master students with Round 1 datasets: from February 7 to May 20, 2005. Held at K.U. Leuven in course "Data analysis in social sciences". Instructor: J. Billiet.

Research seminar planned for 9 master students from February 16 to May 20 2006. To be organised at K.U. Leuven in course "Data analysis in social sciences). Round 2 data will be used.

CZECH REPUBLIC Klára Plecítá - Klara.Plecita@soc.cas.cz

A poster presenting the profile and activities of the research team "Value Orientations in Society" of the IS AS CR, which also covered basic information on the ESS project and the Czech participation in it has been displayed to the public in the library of the Institute of Sociology IS AS CR

An article was published in the widely disseminated journal/newsletter 'SDA Info': Plecítá-Vlachová, K., Kalvas, F. 2005. "The European Social Survey (ESS): o projektu a dostupnosti dat" (The European Social Survey (ESS): on the project and data access). SDA Info 2: 14-16.

A block of articles based on analyses of the data from ESS round 1 were published in the scientific journal 'Sociologický časopis/Czech Sociological Review':

- Hamplová, D. 2006. „Životní spokojenost, štěstí a rodinný stav v 21 evropských zemích: mezinárodní srovnání“. Sociologický časopis/Czech Sociological Review Vol. 42, No.1.

- Chaloupková, J., Šalamounová, P. 2006. „Postoje k imigrantům a dopadům migrace v evropských zemích“. Sociologický časopis/Czech Sociological Review Vol. 42, No. 1.
- Řeháková, B. 2006. „Měření hodnotových orientací s použitím Schwarzových hodnotových portrétů“. Sociologický časopis/Czech Sociological Review Vol. 42, No. 1.
- Vlachová, K., Lebeda, T. 2006. „Aktivní občanství a spokojenost s demokracií v Evropě“. Sociologický časopis/Czech Sociological Review Vol. 42, No. 1.
- Vlachová, K. 2006. „Úvodem k tematickému bloku The European Social Survey (ESS)“. Sociologický časopis/Czech Sociological Review Vol. 42, No. 1.
- Krejčí, J. 2006. „Mezinárodní sociální komparativní výzkum a Česká republika“. Sociologický časopis/Czech Sociological Review Vol. 42, No. 1.

Information will be included on the ESS project and the Descartes award in the April 2006 edition of Echo journal (a journal providing information on European research and scientific development).

DENMARK Torben Fridberg – tf@sfi.dk

Introduction to ESS in seminars and conferences (like 26. Symposium of Applied Statistics at University of Copenhagen).

Research seminar held in spring 2004.

Danish ESS homepage with introduction in Danish and links to data.

Plans for publication in Danish on ESS results.

ESTONIA Mare Ainsaar - mare.ainsaar@ut.ee

Introduction to ESS in seminars and conferences. Several presentations for students and scientists, including a presentation at the Annual meeting of the Estonian social Scientists November 2004.

ESS database became a part of courses taught in statistics in the two largest Universities in Estonia.

A national dissemination report October 2005. The report is available on http://www.tai.ee/failid/ESS04_Eesti_raport_uus.pdf.

Ainsaar, M. Kutsar, D., Harro, M. (eds 2005) European Social Survey 2004 Report. Centre of Excellence of Behavioural and Health Sciences in Estonia (in Estonian).

Press release targeted to interested in journalists and policy makers.

Press conference October 2005.

Several presentations by scientists on the radio and in the press.

FINLAND Heikki Ervasti - heikki.ervasti@utu.fi

Several presentations about ESS by national team at University of Lapland, University of Helsinki, University of Turku and Academy of Finland.

Short articles about the ESS were published in the newsletter of the Finnish Social Science Data Archive.

Articles to be published in national newsletters, professional periodicals and journals, introducing the data sets and presenting some main findings.

A special section about the ESS in the web site of the Finnish Social Science Data Archive.

An interview of the national coordinator about the ESS and its main findings in local TV channel (Turku TV) in January 2006.

Seminar held in February '04.

FRANCE Bruno Cautrès - bruno.cautres@sciences-po.fr

Etienne Schweisguth - Etienne.Schweisguth@Cevipof.Sciences-Po.Fr

Conference devoted to ESS to be held on February 2006. Methodological, interpretative and substantive aspects to be covered. Comparison of ESS with other pan-European surveys (ISSP; European Values Survey).

Post-graduate teaching programme (Sciences Po, Paris and IEP Bordeaux). Systemic use of ESS data in the framework of advanced courses on quantitative methods.

GERMANY Jan van Deth - jvdeth@rumms.uni-mannheim.de

Short information notes were/will be sent to the most important scientific journals and to the main professional organizations of Political Scientists and Sociologists, covering technical aspects, downloading data, ESS Edunet etc.

Articles introducing the ESS and covering methodological aspects (refusal conversion) published in scientific journals (ZA-Information, ZUMA-Nachrichten).

A special issue of the journal "Aus Politik und Zeitgeschichte" ("Politics and Contemporary History"), published by the German Federal Agency for Civic Education, will appear in May or June 2006.

Book covering the main topics of the questionnaire appeared in 2004. The articles are written by the members of the National Coordinating Team and other authors ("Deutschland in Europa"/Germany in Europe, edited by Jan van Deth).

A second book, edited by Heiner Meulemann, a member of the National Coordinating Team, will appear in 2006 and will be published in English. The articles will be written by the members of the National Coordinating team and other authors. Its main focus are multilevel analyses. Working title: Social capital in Europe.

Articles were and will be published in national newsletters, professional periodicals and journals, introducing the data sets and presenting some main findings.

German ESS homepage was designed, including some selected results.

Data are used for teaching and students are encouraged to write their diploma or thesis using the data.

The ESS data were/are widely used in different scientific conference lectures (for example: Ad hoc group on the 32nd Congress of the "Deutsche Gesellschaft für Soziologie" (German Sociological Association), Munich, October 4-8 2004: "West and East in Germany and Europe – Politics and society in the European Social Survey (ESS)").

On March 10th 2005, there was a conference presenting some selected results from ESS 1 to a broad German public. The German Research Foundation (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, DFG) invited the members of the German Parliament, journalists, experts, researchers, representatives of infrastructure organizations for the social sciences and other people interested in the development of social and political orientations in Europe. The conference took place in Berlin. Based on the results of the publication "Germany in Europe" (Deutschland in Europa), edited by Jan van Deth, 2004, there were presentations by representatives of the DFG and members of the German National Coordinating Team for the ESS, giving a short overview of some important results and the possibilities for research the ESS provides.

There will be a kick-off-conference for ESS 3 on October 26th 2006 in Berlin. The conference is organized by the National Coordinating Team and the German Research Foundation (DFG).

There were/will be several press releases and press conferences informing the public about the ESS (the project itself and some main findings)

GREECE Yannis Voulgaris - y_v@ekke.gr

The presentation of the ESS first results concerning Greece induced an intensive public debate through the Media: newspapers, TV and radio.

Daily press published around 60 press releases concerning the ESS in Greece. An interview was published with the National Coordinator and various articles examining the findings of the survey.

HUNGARY Peter Robert - robert@tarki.hu

Meeting held on April 4, 2003 where the ESS project and first draft of the Hungarian results were presented to interested researchers in social sciences and journalists.

New comparative international ESS file to be archived in the TARKI Data Archive and advertising of the availability of the new data-set on our website.

Information on the ESS to be presented at the Hungarian Sociological Association annual meeting in November.

Plans for a TARKI workshop sometime in the future.

IRELAND Michael O'Connell - michael.f.oconnell@ucd.ie

The Irish Social Science Data Archive (ISSDA) website contains a detailed explanation of the ESS, as well as a description and tips on the practical use of the data.

Release of Round 2 data, and any other relevant news or developments regarding ESS are posted in the home page of ISSDA.

Short articles about the ESS to be published in the ISSDA newsletter.

Articles making extensive use of data from the ESS Round 1 have been published by the Members of the Irish National Coordinating Team. More articles using data from ESS Round 2 are under preparation to be published.

Emails to be sent to relevant researchers and departments in Irish universities

ITALY Sonia Stefanizzi - sonia.stefanizzi@unimib.it

Conference to be held. Speakers to discuss general substantive and methodological features of the ESS and present some provisional comparative analyses as examples of possible uses of the ESS data base.

LUXEMBOURG Monique Borsenberger- monique.borsenberger@ceps.lu

All members of the Luxembourg science foundation to be emailed.

Flyer to be published in French for the university members.

One day seminar held at the beginning of 2004.

Use of ESS data to be promoted at the International Masters in Social Policy Analysis by Luxembourg, Leuven and Associate Institutes programme.

Short article published in the publications series of Luxembourg statistical office and findings to be summarised in CEPS working paper series on "Population and Employment".

NETHERLANDS Rob Eisinga - r.eisinga@maw.ru.nl

Articles to spread ESS news were published in electronic magazines by the DANS, the Dutch Central Data Archive, as well as by NWO, the Dutch Science Foundation, supporting ESS financially.

Academic colleagues were informed about the ESS on special NWO meetings.

The NC organized a meeting for Dutch methodologists on traps in cross-cultural research with papers on ESS data.

Methodological targets set by ESS are used as examples of 'best practices' in research master courses where students are encouraged to use the data for their master thesis.

ESS data were incorporated in research proposals, one of which is already granted as a post-doc project.

The ESS data were included in a report for the European Union Monitoring Racism and Xenophobia.

Other parts of the ESS data will be used for analyses as part of research projects for the Dutch Social and Cultural Planning Office as well as for the Central Planning Office, eventually to be delivered to the Dutch Parliament.

NORWAY Kristen Ringdal - kristen.ringdal@svt.ntnu.no

One day seminar arranged by the Norwegian Research Council in Oslo, November 11, 2003, which gathered 35 participants. The program included a presentation of the ESS by Roger Jowell, as well as several presentations of the possibilities in the ESS as well as a couple of analyses of the data.

An overview article published in 2004 describing Norway in a European context.

POLAND Pawel Sztabinski - psztabin@ifispan.waw.pl

Information containing a description of the ESS project was sent to over 400 social scientists and representatives of a variety of institutions.

E-mail announcing the availability of the international data from ESS Round 1 was sent to all research centres in Social Sciences and Marketing – both academic and commercial.

“European Social Survey. Integration in area of research” - 1st Dissemination Conference devoted to ESS Round 1 was held on January 22nd 2004. Methodological, interpretative and substantive aspects were covered based on results of ESS 2002 (Round 1), also research quality standards in Poland were presented. Over 170 representatives of social science, market research institutes, public opinion research institutes and representatives of public administration and local government.

E-mail announcing the availability of the international data from ESS Round 2 was sent to all research centres in Social Sciences and Marketing.

“European Social Survey (Round 2) - Poland in Europe” - 2nd Dissemination Conference devoted to ESS Round 2 Poland in Europe was held on December 13th 2005. Mainly substantive aspects were covered.

Book discussing topics covered in the ESS will be published in October 2006. Articles will be based mainly on presentations carried out during the 2nd Dissemination Conference. The National Coordinator will add an introduction covering all methodological targets set and achieved by ESS. This book will be distributed as jubilee publications to celebrate 50th anniversary of the Institute of Sociology and Philosophy Polish Academy of Science.

Information on the ESS project and links to data will start up on the web site of Institute of Philosophy and Sociology Polish Academy of Sciences (<http://www.ifispan.waw.pl/>)

Methodological presentations based on ESS data during:

- "How to combine pre-test and trial study? Case of European Social Survey 2004. - presentation during XII Congress of Polish Sociological Association in Poznan (Poland) concerning merging pre-test and trial study based on ESS 2004. (Pawel B. Sztabinski, Franciszek Sztabiński);
- Respondents and Non-respondents in European Social Survey: similar or not? A case of Poland" – presentation during EASR conference in Barcelona concerning non-response based on results ESS Round 1 and ESS Round 2. (Pawel B. Sztabinski, Franciszek Sztabiński, Dariusz Przybysz).

Data are used for teaching as examples of 'best practices' and students are encouraged to write their diploma or thesis using the data.

PORTUGAL Jorge Vala - jorge.vala@ics.ul.pt

E-mail has been sent to all research centres in Social Sciences announcing the availability of the international data.

April/May 2006 – Dissemination report including the presentation of ESS teams, modules, methodological aspects, sampling and global results of ESS2. The report will include a CD-Rom with the integrated data set. It will be distributed to social scientists of main research and academic institutions in Portugal.

May/June 2006– Newsletter presenting the ESS2 to be sent by e-mail to a wide range of social scientists and post-graduated students on social sciences.

November/December 2006 – Press conference (before the research seminar).

November/December 2006 - One day research seminar devoted to ESS2 (the papers will be part of the book to be published).

2007 – Book covering the main topics of ESS2. The articles will be written by members of the research team and other authors (national and international).

2008 – Special Issue of Portuguese Journal of Social Sciences.

SLOVAKIA Jozef Vyrost - vyrost@saske.sk

Launch conference based on the ESS data. Methodological, • interpretative and substantive aspects to be covered.

Email introducing the ESS sent to relevant institutes and organisations.

A book based on ESS data will be published in 2006. It will discuss the main topics covered in the ESS and it will be written by the members of Slovak NC team.

Information on the ESS project and links to data will be put on the website of the Institute on Social Sciences (www.saske.sk/SVU/)

Press conference to be held with a brief presentation of the ESS results.

SLOVENIA Brina Malnar - brina.malnar@uni-lj.si

Press conference held in November 2003 with a brief presentation of descriptive comparative results.

E-mail information note on ESS distributed to all relevant departments.

A short seminar on ESS methodology and results held for researchers and lecturers at the Faculty of Social Sciences, Ljubljana (December 2003).

A short seminar on ESS organized for undergraduate students of the Theological Faculty, Ljubljana (January 2004).

Short Presentation of the project and some of the results to members of diplomatic missions in Slovenia (October 2004).

Interview of Max Kaase in a leading national newspaper Delo on the goals and significance of the ESS project (April 2004).

A 200 page electronic publication on ESS 2002 data containing descriptive results and analysis, published in January 2005 (http://cjm.fdv.uni-lj.si/e-dokumenti_sjm/aESS2002_ELABORAT_mega.pdf)

Publication of various papers containing ESS Round 1 data in a multi-author monograph published by Ljubljana University (2005).

Annual meeting of Slovenian Sociological Society - partial presentation of results and the project (Isola, October 2005).

International NOHA seminar in Ljubljana - partial presentation of results and the project (Ljubljana, December 2005).

Round table organized by of Slovenian Sociological Society on social reforms - partial presentation of results, reported in national written and electronic media (Ljubljana, January 2006).

SPAIN Mariano Torcal - mariano.torcal@upf.edu

ESS presented at the National Congress of Political Scientists (AECPA) September 2003.

ESS officially presented to the media on October 17th 2003.

500 brochures on the ESS distributed to all mass media and major institutions of Spain.

One book covering the main topics of the questionnaire written by members of the National Coordinating Team is already published and another one is coming out during 2006.

100-page report on the basic results for Spain compared with other countries.

Spanish ESS homepage, including some selected results and questionnaire (www.spain-ess.upf.edu)

Data to be used for teaching and students to be encouraged to write their diploma or thesis using the data.

Seminar organised by Centra, Granada, October 2003.

International Congress of Survey Methods, Granada, September 2004.

Seminar for the presentation of the ESS in the Universidad Complutense of Madrid, January 2005.

Technical seminar for the experts of the National center of Sociological Research in Madrid (CIS), May 2005.

Public presentation of the survey in the Universidad de Murcia, May 2005.

Postgraduate seminar on the ESS at the National Center of Sociological Research in Madrid (CIS), January 2005 and January 2006.

Presentation of the first and second wave at the National Congress of Political Scientists (AECPA), September 2005.

Other seminars or papers presented for the dissemination of the ESS:

Seminar "L'Enquesta Social Europea (ESE): Un esforç per a millorar la qualitat de les enquestes", Center of Mathematics Research, Universitat Autònoma of Barcelona, March 2004. (Anna Cuxart and Clara Riba).

Use of the ESS data in a Multilevel Course, EMAS, Salamanca, July 2005.

IV Catalan Congress of Sociology. Reus 2003. Títol de la comunicació: L'Enquesta Social Europea: Un esforç per a millorar la qualitat de les enquestes. (Clara Riba and Anna Cuxart).

VIII Spanish National Congress in Sociology. Alicante 2004. Title: "Aspectos metodológicos de la Encuesta Social Europea." (Laura Morales).

SWEDEN Stefan Svallfors - stefan.svallfors@soc.umu.se

Article on the ESS was published in the newsletter for the Swedish Research Council.

Interview published in "Universitetsläraren".

E-mail advertising of the survey to research groups was carried out.

SWITZERLAND Dominique Joye - dominique.joye@sidos.unine.ch

Announcement regarding the ESS made in the "Bulletin" of the Swiss Sociology and Political Science Associations.

E-mail sent to over 1800 social scientists.

ESS publicised on SIDOS website.

UK Alison Park - a.park@natcen.ac.uk

Launch conference for the ESS was held on Oct 22nd 2003.

Parts of the GB ESS data on immigration have been used in the forthcoming British Social Attitudes report (released in December 2003).

A page about ESS has been added to the Economic and Social Data Service website. This describes the ESS and provides information on how to access the data. See www.esds.ac.uk/international/access/ess.asp

An email announcing the 2004 dataset is being sent to relevant academic list-servers.

2. CCT presentations and publications

2.1. Presentations

31 March-2 April 2003

International Workshop on Comparative Survey Design and Implementation, Brussels

- Ineke Stoop, 2 papers: 'European Social Survey' and 'Collecting event data'

4 April 2003

CESSDA (Council of European Social Science Data Archives) Business Meeting, Prague

- Bjørn Henrichsen, 'The European Social Survey'

2 May 2003

Manchester University Conference on 'Threats and opportunities for labour market statistics'

- Caroline Bryson, 'The European Social Survey'

20 June 2003

Queen Mary College London, Summer School

- Roger Jowell, 'Challenges of comparative research'

9 July 2003

DWP Summer School, Kings College Cambridge

- Roger Jowell, 'How comparative is comparative research?'

4 September 2003

ECSR Summer School, Belfast

- Roger Jowell, 'The European Social Survey'

26 September 2003

CHANGEQUAL Seminar, Nuffield

- Caroline Bryson, 'The European Social Survey'

22-24 September 2003

14th International Workshop on Household Survey Nonresponse, Leuven (Belgium)

- Michel Phillipens, Ineke Stoop, Geert Loosveldt & Jaak Billiet, '*Refusal conversion procedures in the ESS*'
- Ineke Stoop, Silke Devacht & Jaak Billiet, '*The development of a uniform contact description form in the ESS*'
- Michel Philippens, Ineke Stoop, Geert Loosveldt & Jaak Billiet, '*Contacting procedures and calling strategies in the ESS*'

12 October 2003

ICPSR Biannual Meeting, Ann Arbor, USA

- NSD, 'European Social Survey'

17 October 2003

ESS launch, Spain

- Ineke Stoop, 'Monitoring attitude change in Europe'

22 October 2003

ESS launch, UK

- Ineke Stoop & Jurjen Iedema, 'Contextual and event data in the ESS'
- NSD, 'Access to ESS data: the ESS Data Web site'
- Roger Jowell, 'The pursuit of equivalence in cross-national surveys'
- Caroline Bryson & Ruth O'Shea, 'The European Social Survey'

17 October 2003

ESS presentation, Iceland

- Ruth O'Shea, 'The European Social Survey'

11 November 2003

ESS launch, Norway;

- NSD, 'Access to ESS data: the ESS Data Web site'
- Roger Jowell, 'The European Social Survey: building a new time series (with difficulty)'

25th/26th November 2003

ESS Launch Conference, Brussels

- Jaak Billiet, 'The religious divide'
- Michel Philippens & Achim Koch, 'Fieldwork efforts in ESS'
- Ineke Stoop & Jurjen Iedema, 'Context, events and attitudes'
- NSD, 'ESS data: immediate access for all'
- Roger Jowell, Caroline Bryson & Ruth O'Shea, 'The European Social Survey'
- Sabine Häder & Peter Lynn, 'How representative are the ESS samples?'
- Janet Harkness, 'Asking survey questions in many tongues'

November 2003

Seminar, Bratislava

- Roger Jowell, 'The European Social Survey – is it worth all the effort and exposure?'

14 January 2004

Department of Sociology, University of Bergen, Norway;

- NSD, presentation of the ESS Data Web Site (Bachelor & Master students)

21-22 January 2004

Presentation to Poland's ESS representatives

- Roger Jowell, 'Pursuing Equivalence in Multinational Surveys'

26 January 2004

National Centre for Social Research seminar, London

- Roger Jowell, 'How comparative are comparative surveys?'

27 January 2004

London School of Economics, seminar (MSc students)

- Roger Jowell, 'Surveys to Monitor Public Attitudes'

4 February 2004

Brussels Workshop on Support for Research Infrastructures

- Roger Jowell, 'The European Social Survey'

6 February 2004

Presentation of ESS to researchers in Flemish universities, Leuven

- Geert Loosveldt, 'Kennismaking met de datasets van het ESS eerste ronde' (Introduction to the datasets of ESS round 1)
- Jaak Billiet, 'Religieuze verscheidenheid in Europa' (The religious divide in Europe)
- Jaak Billiet & Katrien Meireman, 'Immigratie en asiel. De opvattingen en houdingen van de Belgen in een Europese context' (Immigration and asylum: the attitudes of the Belgians in a European context)
- Michel Phillipens, 'Evaluatie van de datakwaliteit van het European Social Survey' (Evaluation of data quality of the ESS)

13 February 2004

MSc student seminar, City University London, UK:

- Roger Jowell, 'Survey research ethics'

17 February 2004

MRS Social Research Conference, London

- Roger Jowell, 'The contribution of comparative research to policy'

10 March 2004

ESS launch, the Netherlands:

- Ineke Stoop, 'Geschiedenis en organisatie van het ESS' (History and organisation of the ESS)
- Peer Scheepers, 'Thema's en methodologie van het ESS 1' (Themes and methodology of the ESS 1)
- Peter Willems/Kamieke van der Riet, 'Dataverzameling voor het ESS' (Data collection for the ESS)
- Michel Philippens, 'Evaluatie data kwaliteit ESS' (Evaluating ESS data quality)
- Ineke Stoop, 'Context informatie voor ESS' (Context information in the ESS)
- Willem Saris, 'Experimentele designs in ESS' (Experimental designs in the ESS)
- Jacques Thomassen, 'Heeft Europa een gemeenschappelijke politieke cultuur?' (Does Europe have a distinct political culture?)
- Rob Eisinga, 'Thema's en methodologie van het ESS 2' (Themes and methodology of the ESS 2)

18 March 2004

ARCISS Workshop, Warwickshire, UK:

- Roger Jowell, 'Pursuing first class social science research'

15 April 2004

National Economic & Social Council's 2nd Annual Summit, Mauritius

- Roger Jowell, 'Measuring social attitudes as an aid to policy' & 'The need for a social observatory'

19 May 2004

ESS launch in Portugal, Lisbon:

- Roger Jowell, 'The ESS as a source of European social indicators'

May 2004

European Conference on Quality & Methodology in Official Statistics, Mainz:

- Billiet J & Welkenhuysen-Gybels J, 'Assessing cross-national construct equivalence in the ESS: the case of religious involvement'
- Billiet J & Welkenhuysen-Gybels J, 'Assessing cross-national construct equivalence in the ESS: the case of six immigration items'
- Philippens M & Billiet J, 'Monitoring and evaluating non-response issues and fieldwork efforts in the European Social Survey'

9-14 August 2004

ESS Data Confrontation Workshop, 36th Essex Summer School in Social Science Data Analysis and Collection, UK:

- Jaak Billiet – instructor on the workshop

August 2004

International Conference on Social Science Methodology (RC3), Amsterdam:

- Billiet J, & Welkenhuysen-Gybels J, 'Assessing cross-national construct equivalence in the ESS: the case of religious involvement'
- Billiet J, & Welkenhuysen-Gybels J, 'Assessing cross-national construct equivalence in the ESS: the case of six immigration items'
- Jowell, R, 'Pursuing equivalence in cross-national surveys'- Saris, W, 'Comparability across Countries of Responses in the ESS'
- Harkness, J, 'Trapped in Translation? ESS Translation Protocols Provide a Key'
- Laaksonen S, Gabler S, Häder S. & Lynn P, 'Sampling for the European Social Survey'
- Billiet, J & Philippens, M, 'Data quality assessment in ESS Round 1: Between wishes and reality'- Stoop, I, 'Context, events and attitudes'
- Loosveldt G & Philippens M, 'Modelling interviewer-effects in the European Social Survey'

- Lynn P, Gabler S, Häder S & Laaksonen S, 'Methods for achieving equivalence of samples in cross-national surveys'

- Kolsrud K, & Skjåk K, 'Harmonizing background variables in international surveys'

12-13 October 2004

Infrastructure Meeting, European Commission, Brussels:

- Roger Jowell, 'The ESS as a social science infrastructure'

9-10 November 2004

Strategic Workshop on Social & Human Sciences (INTAS), Brussels:

- Roger Jowell, 'The European Social Survey'

11-12 November 2004

Kick-off Meeting Priority 7 & Priority 8 Projects, European Commission, Brussels:

- Roger Jowell, 'The European Social Survey: Round 3'

30 November 2004

Eurobarometer Meeting, Brussels:

- Roger Jowell, 'The ESS – origins and approach'

8 December 2004

Department for Transport (UK Government Office) Seminar on Attitudinal Research:

- Roger Jowell, 'Why measure public attitudes?'

13-15 January 2005

European Union Women in Engineering Open Workshop, Kosice, Slovakia:

- Janet Harkness, 'Translation, Quality and Source Questionnaires: the example of the European Social Survey'

25 January 2005

London School of Economics, MSc student seminar:

- Roger Jowell, 'Running a large scale survey: Measuring long-term attitude change'

31 January 2005

Social Research Association Seminar, London, UK:

- Roger Jowell, 'Can we properly measure changing public attitudes across Europe and – if so – why bother?'

16 February 2005

European Youth Researchers Conference, European Commission, Brussels:

- Rory Fitzgerald, 'Using the ESS to measure youth attitudes'

18 February 2005

City University London, MSc students seminar:

- Roger Jowell, 'Survey Research Ethics'

11 March 2005

MSc in Social Research Methods Programme, University of Surrey, UK:

- Caroline Roberts, 'Comparative social surveys – about the ESS'

12 April 2005

IPSA Seminar, Grenoble:

- Roger Jowell, 'ESS Origins and Approach'

21-23 April 2005

European Commission, Villa Vigoni meeting, Milan:

- Roger Jowell, 'Comparative long-term research'

26 April 2005

City University London, Research Day 2005:

- Roger Jowell, 'Monitoring attitude change in Europe'

12-15 May 2005

AAPOR 60th Annual Conference, Miami Beach, Florida

- Caroline Roberts, Peter Lynn & Annette Jäckle 'Methodological advances on the ESS: a mixed mode future?'
- Roger Jowell, Rory Fitzgerald & Gillian Eva, 'From design to implementation: methodological innovation on the ESS'
- Jaak Billiet, Michel Philippens, Rory Fitzgerald & Ineke Stoop, 'Refusal conversion and the estimation of non-response bias in the European Social Survey (Round 1): An analysis of contact forms combined with substantive data'
- Janet Harkness & Alisu Schoua-Glusberg, 'Survey translation theory and practice' – a short course as part of AAPOR conference

25 May 2005

IASSIST Conference, Edinburgh, UK:

- Roger Jowell, 'Rigour and accessibility in cross-national research'

13 June 2005

ESS Round 2 Launch conference 'Poland in Europe', Warsaw, Poland:

- Ineke Stoop & Achim Koch, 'Response and Nonresponse in the ESS: Do response rates differ?'

17 June 2005

ESFRI meeting, Brussels:

- Roger Jowell, 'A new Europe-wide infrastructure'

13 July 2005

Descartes Prize – presentation to the Grand Jury, European Commission, Brussels:

- Roger Jowell, 'A vehicle for measuring social change in Europe'

18-22 July 2005

First European Conference on Survey Research (EASR), Barcelona:

- Billiet, J, 'Religious Divide in Europe: measurements and opportunities for analysis in the European Social Survey Round 1'
- Meuleman, B & Billiet, J, 'Corrections for non-response in the ESS Round 1: weighting for background variables'
- Billiet, J & Meuleman, B, 'Are differences in meaning detected by tests of factorial invariance? Evidence from ESS Round 1'
- Meuleman, B & Billiet, J, 'Attitudes towards immigration: a cross-cultural and contextual approach'
- Jowell, R, 'How low standards endanger high ones: Gresham's Law and survey research'
- Jowell, R, 'Unresolved issues in measuring social attitudes'
- Saris, W. 'Criteria for equivalence of measurement instruments in cross cultural research'
- Saris, W, 'Question characteristics and data quality: detection and correction for measurement error in survey research'
- Stoop, I, 'How to increase response rates and reduce bias'
- Stoop, I, 'Events across Europe: Why and how to collect media-reported events'
- Sabine Häder, 'Sampling for the European Social Survey'
- Peter Mohler, Panel discussion chair, 'Teaching survey research methodology using large scale surveys'

August 2005

International Workshop on Household Survey Nonresponse, Sweden:

- Stoop, I & Koch, A, 'Response and Nonresponse in the ESS: Why do response rates differ?'

15 September 2005

One day conference on Mixed Mode Data Collection in Comparative Social Surveys, City University, London, UK:

- Caroline Roberts, 'Mixing modes on the European Social Survey: Implications for data quality'
- Roger Jowell, 'Mode dilemmas in cross-national survey time series'

17 October 2005

Sociology Seminar, Nuffield College Oxford, UK:

- Caroline Roberts, 'Measuring attitudes cross-nationally: Lessons from the European Social Survey'

21 October 2005

Ukraine ESS Launch:

- Roger Jowell, 'The European Social Survey – a new comparative tool'

26 October 2005

CESSDA Expert Seminar:

- Alette Gilhus Mykkeltvedt (NSD ESS team), 'European Social Survey Education Net'

4 November 2005

Yearly meeting of the Society for Sociology of Religion in the Netherlands, Utrecht:

- Jaak Billiet, 'The religious diversity in Europe in ESS Round 1'

9-11 November 2005

WAPOR/ISSC Conference, Ljubljana, Slovenia:

- Jaak Billiet, Stefaan Pleysier, Ineke Stoop, Achim Koch, Rory Fitzgerald & Gillian Eva, 'Searching for clues to differential response rates in the European social Survey'

25 November 2005

Netherlands Methodological Society conference on 'Bias in cross-cultural research',
Nijmegen, Netherlands:

- Jaak Billiet, 'Opening session: Traps in cross-cultural research' – using examples from the ESS.

2 December 2005

MSc in Social Research Methods Programme, University of Surrey:

- Caroline Roberts, 'Comparative social surveys – about the ESS'

6 December 2005

London School of Economics, UK, Seminar:

- Roger Jowell, 'Surveys to measure attitude change'

7 December 2005

Research Seminar, University of Winchester, UK:

- Caroline Roberts, 'Methodological advances on the ESS: A mixed mode future?'

7 December 2005

European Conference on Research Infrastructures, Nottingham, UK:

- Roger Jowell, 'The ESS – a new social science infrastructure'

12/13 December 2005

Social Sciences and Humanities – New Challenges and Opportunities Conference,
Brussels:

- Roger Jowell, 'Why Europe needs regular attitude monitoring'

14 December 2005

ESRC Comparative Methods Workshop, Bristol, UK:

- Roger Jowell, 'The European Social Survey'

21 December 2005

Executive Committee of the European Value Study Group:

- Jaak Billiet, 'Quality criteria for comparative social research in Europe' – based on the ESS.

5 January 2006

National Political Science Conference, Norway:

- Atle Jástad (NSD ESS team), 'European Social Survey Education Net'

20 January 2006

Managerial Center of European Value Study Group:

- Jaak Billiet, 'Minimal quality criteria for cross-cultural surveys' – based on the ESS.

30-31 January 2006

Centre for Research into Life-long Learning (CRELL) – meeting on Indicators for active democratic citizenship, Ispra, Italy:

- Roger Jowell, 'The European Social Survey'

3 February 2006

City University London, Survey Methods Seminar:

- Roger Jowell, 'Survey research ethics'
- Rory Fitzgerald, 'Cross-national surveys: the ESS'

21 February 2006

International Institute for Society & Health, Public Seminar, University College London, UK:

- Roger Jowell, 'Measuring national differences in attitudes: do cultural variations defy appropriate rigour?'

23 February 2006

CEVIPOF Seminar, Paris:

- Roger Jowell, 'Pursuing equivalence and comparability in the ESS'
- Caroline Roberts, 'Methodological advances on the ESS: A mixed mode future?'

2.2. Publications

Billiet, J & Meireman, K (2004), 'Immigratie en asiel: de opvattingen en houdingen van de Belgen in het Europees Sociaal Survey' (Immigration and asylum: beliefs and attitudes of the Belgians in the European Social Survey), *Bulletin No. DA/2004-36 of the Department of Sociology, K.U. Leuven, 30 pp.* (This is a real working paper (in Dutch) on immigration items in Belgium and comparison with other countries.).

Loosveldt, G, Carton, A & Billiet, J (2004), 'Assessment of survey data quality: a pragmatic approach focused on interviewer tasks', *International Journal of Market Research, Vol 46 (1), pp. 65-82.*

Lynn, P, Gabler, S, Häder, S & Laaksonen, S (2004), 'Methods for achieving equivalence of samples in cross-national surveys', *ISER Working Paper, 2004-09.*

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NSD Newsletter No.1 (2004), 'Data from European Social Survey – direct access for all'.

Saris, W E, Satorra, S & Coenders, G (2004), 'A new approach to evaluating the quality of measurement instruments: the split-ballot MTMM design', *Sociological Methodology, 311-34.7*

Saris, W E, van der Veld, W & Gallhofer, I (2004), 'Development and improvement of questionnaires using predictions of reliability and validity' in Presser et al (eds), *Methods for testing and evaluating survey questionnaires, 275-299*, Hoboken: Wiley.

Stoop, I & Philippens, M (2004), 'Non-respons in Nederland: van swart schaap naar witte raaf', in *Sociaal en Cultureel Planbureau, Hollandse taferelen, Nieuwjaarsuitgave 2004*, pp 41-47.

Billiet, J (2005), 'De religieuze diversiteit in Europa' (Religious diversity in Europe), *Research Report of the Centre for Sociological Research (CESO), DA/2005-46, 19pp.*

Billiet, J & Meuleman, B (2005), 'Corrections for non-response in the ESS round 1: weighting for background variables - a simulation', *Research Report of Centre for Sociological Research (CESO), DA/2005-49, 17 pp.*

Jowell, R (2004), 'Indicators of subjective well-being', Paper 2.3: Statistics Users' Council Annual Conference Nov 2003.

Pleysier, S & Billiet, J (2005), 'Data Quality Assessment in ESS Round 2. Between Wishes and Reality: Closing the Gap?', Report of data-quality assessment of ESS Round 2, *Research Report of Centre for Sociological Research (CESO)*, DA/2005-47, 57 pp.

<http://ess.nsd.uib.no/index.jsp?year=2005&country=BE&module=documentation>

2.3. Other dissemination

Dissemination ESSdata web site:

All registered users were notified by e- mail of the release of the first 17 countries from round 2.

Dissemination ESS EduNet:

All National Coordinators have been contacted by e -mail, asking them to inform key institutions and persons about ESS EduNet.

Key institutions and persons have been contacted by e-mail in Norway, Germany, Ukraine and Estonia.

A pdf-leaflet and a powerpoint presentation with information about ESS EduNet have been made available for download from the ESS EduNet website.

2.4. Awards

17 September

Roger Jowell received the Dinerman Award for 'career contributions to innovative research and methodology' – ceremony in Cannes, France

1 December 2005

ESS Central Coordinating Team – awarded the Descartes Prize for excellence in scientific collaboration – ceremony in London, UK

VI. REFERENCES AND BIBLIOGRAPHY

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VII. ANNEXES

1. Expert Group on a European Social Survey – List of Members

Professor Max Kaase (Chairman)

Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin für Sozialforschung

GERMANY

Mr. Bruno Cautrès

CIDSP/IEP de Grenoble Domaine Universitaire

FRANCE

Professor Juan Diez Nicolas

ASEP, Madrid

SPAIN

Professor Fredrik Engelstad

Institute for Social Research (ISF), Oslo

NORWAY

Professor Roger Jowell

National Centre for Social Research (formerly SCPR)

UNITED KINGDOM

Professor Leif Nordberg

Åbo Academy University, Turku

FINLAND

Professor Antonio Schizzerotto

Università degli Studi di Trento

ITALY

Dr. L. Henk Stronkhorst

Scientific Statistical Agency

NETHERLANDS

Dr. John H. Smith

European Science Foundation

2. Steering Committee - List of Members

Professor Max Kaase (Chairman)

Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin für Sozialforschung

GERMANY

Professor Rune Åberg

University of Umeå

SWEDEN

Professor Jaak Billiet

Catholic University Leuven

BELGIUM

Professor Antonio Brandao Moniz

Universidade Nova de Lisboa

PORTUGAL

Mr. Bruno Cautrès

Institut d'Études Politiques de Grenoble

FRANCE

Professor Nikiforos Diamandouros

National Centre for Social Research

GREECE

Professor Henryk Domanski

Polish Academy of Sciences

POLAND

Professor Yilmaz Esmer

Bogazici University, Istanbul

TURKEY

Dr. Peter Farago

Landert Farago, Davatz & Partner, Zurich

SWITZERLAND

Professor Roger Jowell

National Centre for Social Research (formerly SCPR)

UNITED KINGDOM

Professor Stein Kuhnle

University of Bergen

NORWAY

Professor Michael Laver

Trinity College, Dublin

IRELAND

Substitute to Michael Laver:

Professor Michael Marsh

Trinity College, Dublin

IRELAND

Professor Guido Martinotti

University of Milan

ITALY

Professor José Ramón Montero

Centro de Estudios Avanzados en Ciencias Sociales

SPAIN

Dr. Karl H. Müller

Institute for Advanced Studies, Vienna

AUSTRIA

Professor Leif Nordberg

Åbo Academy University, Turku

FINLAND

Ms Klara Plecita

Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic

CZECH REPUBLIC

Dr. Niels Ploug

National Institute for Social Research

DENMARK

Substitute to Dr. Niels Ploug:

Mr Torben Fridberg

National Institute for Social Research

DENMARK

Professor Shalom Schwartz

Hebrew University of Jerusalem

ISRAEL

Mrs. Ineke Stoop

Sociaal en Cultureel Planbureau

THE NETHERLANDS

Dr. Eva Tall

MTA Politikai Tudományok Intézete

HUNGARY

Professor Françoise Thys-Clement

Université Libre de Bruxelles

BELGIUM

Substitute to Professor F. Thys-Clement:

Professor Pierre Desmarez

Université Libre de Bruxelles

BELGIUM

Professor Niko Toš

University of Ljubljana

SLOVENIA

Professor Michael Warren

UNITED KINGDOM

Dr. John H. Smith

European Science Foundation

3.Methodology Committee - List of Members

Professor Roger Jowell (Chairman)

National Centre for Social Research (formerly SCPR)

UNITED KINGDOM

Professor Jacques Billiet

Catholic University Leuven

BELGIUM

Professor Max Kaase

Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin für Sozialforschung

GERMANY

Mr Peter Lynn

National Centre for Social Research (formerly SCPR)

UNITED KINGDOM

Dr. Nonna Mayer

Centre d'Etude de la Vie Politique Française

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Dr. Ekkehard Mochmann

Zentralarchiv für Empirische Sozialforschung, Universität zu Köln

GERMANY

Professor José Ramón Montero

Fundación Juan March, Centro de Estudios Avanzados Ciencias Sociales

SPAIN

Professor Willem Saris

University of Amsterdam

THE NETHERLANDS

Professor Antonio Schizzeroto

Università di Trento

ITALY

Professor Dr. Jan van Deth

Universität Mannheim

GERMANY

Dr. Joachim Vogel

Statistics Sweden

SWEDEN

Dr. John H. Smith

European Science Foundation

4. Who's who in the ESS

Central Co-ordinating Team (Management Board)

A seven-nation Central Co-ordinating Team is responsible for the overall design, development, implementation, archiving and dissemination of the project. It meets regularly and co-ordinates the work of both national and expert teams.

Roger Jowell (*PI*) Rory Fitzgerald, Caroline Roberts,

Gillian Eva, Mary Keane City University, UK

Jaak Billiet, Stefaan Pleysier Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium

Bjørn Henrichsen, Knut Skjåk, Kirstine Kolsrud NSD, Norway

Peter Mohler, Janet Harkness, Sabine Häder, Achim Koch ZUMA, Germany

Willem Saris, Irmtraud Gallhofer SRC, Spain

Ineke Stoop SCP, Netherlands

Brina Malnar University of Ljubljana, Slovenia

Sampling Panel

A specialist team advises and 'signs off' the sample designs of all countries:

Sabine Häder ZUMA, Germany

Siegfried Gabler ZUMA, Germany

Seppo Laaksonen Statistics Finland

Peter Lynn University of Essex, UK

Translation Taskforce

Similarly, a group of specialists guides the translation process:

Janet Harkness ZUMA, Germany

Paul Kussmaul University of Mainz, Germany

Beth-Ellen Pennell University of Michigan, USA

Alisú Schoua-Glousberg Research Support Services, USA

Question Module Design Teams

Question Module Design Teams, selected at each Round following a competition, help to design the rotating modules of questions.

In Round 2, they were:

Family, work and well-being

Robert Erikson SOFI, Stockholm University, Sweden

Janne Jonsson SOFI, Stockholm University, Sweden

Duncan Gallie Nuffield College Oxford, UK

Josef Bruederl University of Mannheim, Germany

Louis-Andre Vallet LASMAS, France

Helen Russell ESRI, Ireland

Opinions on health & care seeking

Sjoerd Kooiker SCP, Netherlands

Nicky Britten Peninsula Medical School Universities of Exter & Plymouth, UK

Alicja Oltarzewska Medical Univ of Bialystok, Poland

Jakob Kragstrup University of Southern Denmark

Ebba Holme Danish University of Pharmaceutical Sciences

Economic morality in Europe: Market Society & Citizenship

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				Tercentenary Foundation
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5. Changes in the Specification for Participating countries for Round 2

IMPORTANT: Changes for Round 2

This appendix highlights the changes that have been made to the previous round's Specification for Participating Countries for Round 2. This is intended as a guide to the major changes that have been made, but it is by no means exhaustive. The Specification should be read in its entirety by national teams to ensure that Round 2 is conducted according to these updated specifications.

The major changes from the Round 1 Specification are as follows:

1. National level appointments

(Section 2.5)

We have specified that National Co-ordinators should ideally be appointed earlier than they were during Round1, in order for them to engage fully in the process of designing the rotating modules of the questionnaire. They should ideally be appointed by September 2003.

2. Specification for the National Co-ordinator

(Section 3.1)

In Round1 we stipulated a 50% time commitment for all National Co-ordinators over an 18 month period. The time we suggest to be allocated for each National Co-ordinator in Round2 will vary by country, depending on whether the country was involved in Round1 and if so, whether the National Co-ordinator has remained the same, or a new appointment has been made. The time to be allocated in Round2 should be from 25% time to 50% time over 18 months. See section 3.1 for the details.

(Section 3.2)

We have specified for Round2 that the National Co-ordinator should **not** have any other key role within the ESS organisational structure (e.g. should not also represent their country as a member of the Scientific Advisory Board).

(Section 3.3)

Information on the requirements for the submission of monthly reports on **major events** during the fieldwork period is now incorporated for Round2.

3. Specification for the Survey Organisation

(Section 4.2)

In Round2, a copy of the draft contract between the survey organisation and the funding body (in English) should be forwarded to the CCT before signing, followed by a copy of the final contact once agreed.

4. Specification for the Survey

(Section 5.3 – effective sample size)

In Round1 countries were asked to achieve a minimum of 2000 interviews, with a 'minimum *effective* sample size' of 1500 (taking into account design effects). In Round2, we have removed the requirement for a minimum number of achieved interviews. Instead we merely stipulate the effective sample size, which remains 1500. The sampling panel will assist every country to calculate the gross sample size required in order to achieve an effective sample size of 1500.

(Section 5.4 – documentation of the sampling procedures)

We have specified in greater detail the details that each country will be required to provide to the sampling panel before its sample design can be 'signed off'.

(Section 5.7 – response rate calculation)

For Round2, the CCT has specified that two separate response rates should be calculated by national teams: an '**ESS**' **response rate** and a '**field**' **response rate**, which have slightly different definitions of what counts as ineligible. These have been specified in detail. The target response rate of 70% is the 'ESS' response rate and remains at this level for Round2.

(Section 5.8 – field outcomes)

At this stage, survey organisations should budget for the same level of detail included in the Round 1 contact forms. In practice, however, the CCT may reduce the detail of the contact forms in future, after analysis of Round 1.

(Section 5.9 – the supplementary questionnaire)

For the administration of the Round2 supplementary questionnaire, the sample should be split into **3 groups** in every country, rather than into either 2 or 6 groups as in Round 1. The supplementary questionnaire may still be administered either as an extension of

the face-to-face interview or as a self-completion supplement. However, a combination of these two methods may not be used. If the supplementary questionnaire is to be administered as a self-completion supplement, the interviewer should not assist the respondent to fill in the questionnaire in any way.

(Section 5.11 – translation)

Further detail has been included on the translation procedures to be followed. It should be noted that whilst it would be prudent to allow when budgeting for the degree of documentation of the translation procedures required in Round 1, in practice the CCT may reduce the requirements for Round 2 after analysis of Round 1.

(Section 5.12 - fieldwork)

The guidelines from Round1's Information Note 2 regarding first contacts with respondents have been incorporated into the Specification.

(Section 5.13 – coding and editing)

Further details of the classifications and standards to be used for coding variables such as occupation and education have been included.

Appendix 1

This has been updated to incorporate the changes included in Round1's Information Note 1.

6. Advance letter template and instructions

Autumn 2002

[Dear]

European Social Survey 2002

[You have/your address/household has] been selected to take part in an international study on what people think about various important issues affecting [country]. The study is being carried out simultaneously in 24 countries across Europe and will help to find out how much or how little people in different countries share the same views and beliefs. It is being paid for from both [country] and European sources.

The questionnaire covers a wide range of topics and no special knowledge is needed to answer any questions. Your [name/household/address] has been selected from [sampling

frame] by scientific methods to ensure that we get a representative picture of people in [country].We cannot therefore substitute any [name/household/address].All information you provide will be treated in strict confidence and will never be linked to your name or address.

Most people taking part in the study find it an interesting and enjoyable experience, and we hope that you will too. An interviewer will [visit] you shortly to explain more about the study and, if you agree, will arrange a suitable time for the actual interview, which will be carried out in person. Interviews normally take just under an hour. We certainly hope we can rely on your co-operation.

Meanwhile, if you wish to have any further information about the study, please feel free to contact me on the number above.

Thank you in advance for your help,

XXXX XXXXXX

The interviewer who will be contacting you is:.....

Using the advance letter template

The letter above is provided as a guide for participating countries to formulate their own advance letters. There is no need to follow the contents exactly: countries should adapt the guide letter so that it refers to the most relevant issues to their potential respondents .It may be useful therefore, particularly for new entrants, to see how the letter template was mainly adapted in Round 1:

- in some countries, more details were given about the **particular topics** included in the interview. It is obviously not possible to list all the topics covered, but the letter can mention those with the most appeal to potential respondents in each country.
- a number of countries did not mention the **length of the interview** in the advance letter. It was thought that this could discourage respondents if the estimation was too long, or annoy them if the estimate was too short.
- some countries placed more emphasis on how **respondents' confidentiality** was safeguarded.
- countries using **an incentive** can inform respondents about this in the advance letter.

- as well as contact details for the survey organisation, it could be useful to add contact details about the **survey** itself, e.g. the ESS home website or the individual country website, if there is one.
- it is possible to use the **reverse page** of the letter to provide more information, if NCs do not wish to use a leaflet, although avoid making the letter look too 'crowded'.

These adaptations are, obviously, not exhaustive and there may be other changes that are required in individual countries.

Using a leaflet

Although not part of the central specifications for the survey, a small number of countries additionally used a leaflet in Round 1. Using a leaflet will not be deemed necessary in all countries, and there are obviously cost and time implications. Some reasons for using a leaflet are:

- to underline the authority or reputation of the survey;
- to provide more, or more detailed, information about the study to respondents (see below for ideas for contents);
- to make the project more salient to respondents as different types of information can be conveyed e.g. the inclusion of graphs or pictures.

Ideas for contents

Leaflets can be used to re-emphasise particular points that may already be mentioned in the advance letter or provide completely new information. For example:

- providing more details about the survey process to the respondent e.g. how they were selected, when an interviewer is likely to call, what procedures the interviewer will follow, how confidentiality is protected.
- including more information about the study, for example, a fuller listing of topics, which other countries are taking part, who will use the data and what for.
- including findings from previous rounds of the survey. This could focus just on the country itself or how it compares with other countries, and could incorporate graphics.

7. Fieldwork progress template and instructions



'Extract from'

ESS FIELDWORK PROGRESS AT ROUND 1

AND PROJECTIONS FOR ROUND 2

Using this document

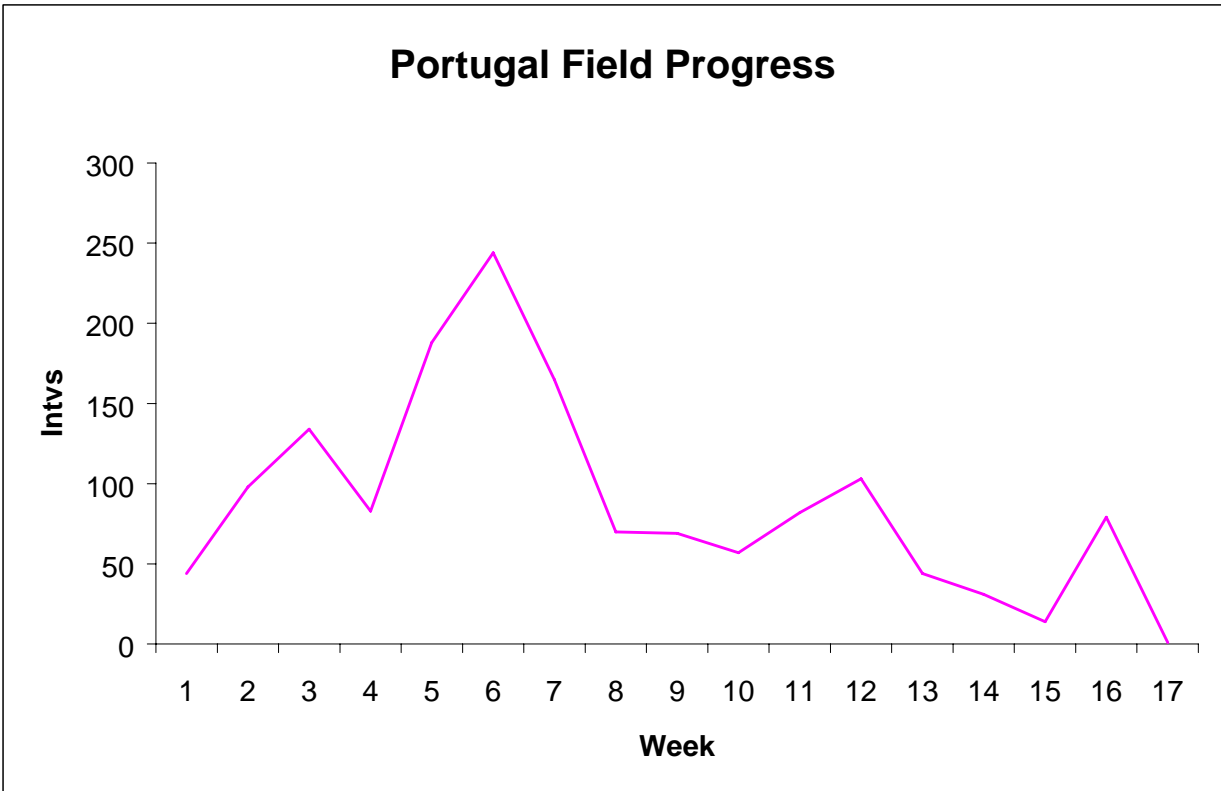
This document lists the number of achieved interviews, by week of fieldwork, for each of the countries that participated in ESS Round 1. It should be read in conjunction with ESS Round 2 Response Enhancement and Progress Reporting guidelines.

The document also provides an indication of how compliant each country was at Round 1 in terms of:

- achieving a 70% response rate
- fieldwork being completed within the maximum number of weeks specified.

National coordinators and CCT fieldwork contacts will also be asked to use this document to assess the progress of the fieldwork agencies in each country.

For guidance, Portugal in Round 1 shows one effective model. They were almost compliant on response (68.8%) and fieldwork took around 17 weeks to complete. This example may prove useful when agreeing minimum targets with field agencies .Note the large number of interviews achieved in the first 8 weeks followed by strong persistence for the remaining period.



National co-ordinators are expected to get a projected number of completed interviews by week of fieldwork(maximum 4 months with completion by the end of December 2004) and forward this to their fieldwork contact **at least 1 month prior to the start of fieldwork.**

The template below should be used:

Gross sample size

Target number to achieve

Week	Projected R2 interviews per week
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	
16	
17	

Remember: Fieldwork must be completed by 31 December 2004

The following procedure will be in place at round 2:

- 1.A month before start of fieldwork - NC sends projected number of completed interviews (obtained from field agency) to CCT fieldwork contact.
- 2.Mid August 2004 onwards - NCs provide an estimated start date for fieldwork (and update this if it changes before fieldwork commences).
- 3.Fieldwork commences - NC's inform designated CCT fieldwork contact.
- 4.Fortnightly intervals until fieldwork complete - NCs provide running total of completed interviews to CCT fieldwork contact **within 3 working days of the end of each 14 day period**. If not forthcoming fortnightly, fieldwork contact will chase up NC. Field contact

will compare the actual number of interviews with projection and if below asks NC for explanation and intended remedy. Further discussion as necessary.

Please note that the number of realised interviews is the bare minimum of information that should be provided to the CCT contact person. Please see the paper '**Progress reports from survey organisations**' for further details.

For the Ukraine & Slovak Republic the CCT fieldwork contact will be:

Fieldwork contact: Rory Fitzgerald

Email address: r.fitzgerald@city.ac.uk

Telephone No: + 44207 040 4903

For Estonia the contact will be:

Fieldwork contact: Gillian Eva

Email address: g.eva@city.ac.uk

Telephone No: + 44 207 040 4902

For Iceland the contact will be:

Fieldwork contact: Ineke Stoop

Email address: i.stoop@scp.nl

Telephone No: + 31 70 340 76 71

For Romania the contact will be:

Fieldwork contact: Achim Koch

Email address: koch@zuma-mannheim.de

Telephone No: +49 621 1246 280

GERMANY (only Germany shown, an example was produced for each ESS country).

Fieldwork contact: Rory Fitzgerald

Email address: r.fitzgerald@city.ac.uk

Telephone No:

+ 44207 040 4903

Fieldwork week	No of interviews	Cumulative	% of issued sample
1	12	12	0%
2	51	63	1%
3	61	124	2%
4	75	199	3%
5	15	214	4%
6	9	223	4%
7	49	272	5%
8	68	340	6%
9	167	507	9%
10	194	701	12%
11	163	864	15%
12	131	995	17%
13	84	1079	19%
14	145	1224	21%
15	113	1337	23%
16	207	1544	27%
17	211	1755	30%
18	178	1933	33%
19	109	2042	35%
20	94	2136	37%
21+	783	2919	50%
Total	2919		

*****Germany is different as an election impacted on the start of fieldwork. The total elapsed time of fieldwork was 20/11/2002 – 16/5/2003

Fieldwork period: 20.11.02 – 16.05.03

Germany achieved a response rate of 57.1%.

8. Example of questions used in Round 2 MTMM experiments.

1. Main questionnaire.

Using this card, please indicate how often you think the following applies to doctors in general:

	Never or almost never	Some of the time	About half of the time	Most of the time	Always or almost always	(Don't know)
D25 Doctors keep the whole truth from their patients.	1	2	3	4	5	8
D26 GPs treat their patients as their equals.	1	2	3	4	5	8
D27 Before doctors decide on a treatment, they discuss it with their patient.	1	2	3	4	5	8

2. Supplementary Questionnaire Version 1.

CARD C Using this card, please say how much you agree or disagree with each of these statements about doctors in general:

	Agree strongly	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Disagree strongly	(Don't know)
i5 Doctors rarely keep the whole truth from their patients.	1	2	3	4	5	8
i6 GPs rarely treat their patients as their equals.	1	2	3	4	5	8
i7 Before doctors decide on a treatment, they rarely discuss it with their patient.	1	2	3	4	5	8

3. Supplementary questionnaire Version 3

CARD J Using this card, please say how much you agree or disagree with each of these statements about doctors in general:

	Agree strongly	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Disagree strongly	(Don't know)
i28 Doctors usually keep the whole truth from their patients.	1	2	3	4	5	8
i29 GPs usually treat their patients as their equals.	1	2	3	4	5	8
i30 Before doctors decide on a treatment, they usually discuss it with their patient.	1	2	3	4	5	8

9. List of changes from R1 to R2



LIST OF CHANGES FROM ROUND 1 TO ROUND 2

This document is to be used by Round 1 participating countries. It shows where changes have been made to the Round 1 questionnaire for Round 2 – in other words, where you will have to make changes to your Round 1 questionnaire.

This document refers to

- Question number changes
- Question wording changes
- Question additions and deletions
- Interviewer instruction changes
- Showcard numbering changes

- Showcard changes
- Routing changes
- New annotations

Please note that most of these changes will not require complete re-translation, only small changes in the formatting.

This document should be used **in conjunction with** the 'Changes to Round 1 Questionnaire' document (a version of the Round 1 questionnaire with the places where changes have been made highlighted in red) AND with the Round 2 source questionnaire.

This document shows where changes have been made and the type of change. But to see what the actual change is, it is imperative that you consult the **ROUND 2 SOURCE QUESTIONNAIRE**.

You should ensure that each change listed in this document has been made to your questionnaire.

Footnotes.

Only **changes** to footnotes will be listed here. There are a number of new footnotes highlighting new questions or questions that have been added to the core – these footnotes are NOT listed in the document but will appear wherever there is a new/added question. It is important to remember that where questions have been deleted, the accompanying footnote will also have been deleted. Where questions have been moved, the accompanying footnote will also have been moved. These latter changes have also NOT been listed here.

This document will only be released once. Any changes to the core after this document was distributed on 15th June, will not be updated here. They will, however, be outlined in the alerts that accompany questionnaire updates.

NOTE: Where this document refers to the 'Round 1 Immigration module', Round 1 Section D is meant

Where this document refers to the 'Round 1 Citizenship module', Round 1 Section E is meant.

Round 1 question number	Round 2 question number	Changes/new question/new routing	Round 1 card number (or NEW) & adaptation	Round 2 card number
A1	A1		1	1
A2	A2		1	1
A3	A3		1	1
A4	A4		1	1
A5	A5		1	1
A6	A6		1	1
A7	A7		2	2
A8	A8		3	3
A9	A9		4	4
A10	A10	NO CHANGE (note: question from Round 1 Citizenship module is now part of core)	5	5
B1	B1			
B2	B2		6	6
B3		DELETED		
B4	B3		8	7
B5		DELETED (note: question is from R1 Citizenship rotating module so will not be included in R2 core.)		
B6		DELETED (note: question is from R1 Citizenship rotating module so will not be included in R2 core.)		
B7	B4	SMALL FORMAT CHANGE - '...' added after READ OUT	11	8
B8	B5		11	8
B9	B6		11	8
B10	B7		11	8
	B8	NEW QUESTION		8
B11	B9	SMALL FORMAT CHANGE - '...' added after READ OUT	11	8
B12	B10		11	8
B13	B11	ROUTING CHANGE- Yes - ASK B12 No, Not eligible to vote, Don't know - GO TO B13		

ABOVE B14	ABOVE B12	INSTRUCTION CHANGE- Ask if yes at B11 (code 1)		
B14	B12			
B15	B13	WORDING CHANGE – delete 'Firstly..' and replace with 'Have you...' SLIGHT FORMAT CHANGE – ('...' added after READ OUT and before each item. Question marks added after each item.Start each question with lower case)		
B16	B14			
B17	B15			
B18	B16			
B19	B17			
B20	B18			
B21	B19			
B21	B19		(note: question from R1 Citizenship rotating module is now part of core)	
B22		DELETED (note: questions are from R1 Citizenship rotating module so will not be included in R2 core.)		
B23				
B24				
B25a	B20a	ROUTING CHANGE- Yes – ASK B20b No, Don't know – GO TO B21		
B25b	B20b	ROUTING CHANGE- 01-07 – ASK B20c 77 and 88 – GO TO B21		
ABOVE B25c	ABOVE B20c	CHANGE TO – ASK IF PARTY GIVEN AT B20b (codes 01-07)		
B25c	B20c	SLIGHT FORMAT CHANGE – '...' added after READ OUT.		
B26	B21	ROUTING CHANGE – Yes – ASK B22 No, Don't know – GO TO B23		
ABOVE B27	ABOVE B22	CHANGE- ASK IF YES AT B21 (code 1)		
B27	B22			
Round 1 question number	Round 2 question number	Changes/new question/new routing.	Round 1 card number (or NEW) & adaptation	Round 2 card number
B28	B23		12	9
B29	B24		13	10
B30	B25		13	10

B31	B26		13	10
B32	B27		13	10
B33	B28		14	11
B34	B29		14	11
B35		Round 1 B35-B42 DELETED		
B36				
B37				
B38				
B39				
B40				
B41				
B42				
B43		DELETED		
B44	B30		16	12
B45		DELETED		
B46	B31		16	12
B47		DELETED		
B48	B32		16	12
B49		DELETED		
B50	B33		16	12
	B34	NEW QUESTION	NEW CARD	13
D4	B35	MOVED TO SECTION B (note: questions from R1 Immigration module now part of core). Introduction has been added before B35.	24	14
D5	B36		24	14
D9	B37		24	14
D27	B38		29	15
D28	B39		30	16
D29	B40		31	17
C1	C1		17	18
C2	C2		18	19
C3	C3			
C4	C4		19	20
C5	C5			

C6	C6	SMALL FORMAT CHANGE-`...' added after READ OUT and before 'very safe'		
C7	C7	SMALL FORMAT CHANGE `...' added after READ OUT and before 'very good'		
C8	C8	Delete - PROMPT IN RELATION TO PRECODES. Add - 'If, yes, is that a lot or to some extent?'		
C9	C9			
C10	C10			
ABOVE C11	ABOVE C11	INSTRUCTIONCHANGE Add - (codes 2 or 8 at C9)		
C11	C11			
C12	C12	Unnecessary routing instruction (GO TO C13) removed		
C13	C13		20	21
C14	C14	WORDING CHANGE - sentence added - 'Please use this card.'	21	22
C15	C15	WORDING CHANGE - from 'CARD 22 AGAIN' to 'STILL CARD 22'	21	22
C16	C16			
C17	C17			
C18	C18			
C19	C19	Coding instruction added		
C20	C20			
C21	C21	Coding instruction added Format changed to A2 (2- character response) NB - Don't know is now 88		
C22	C22		22	23

Round 1 question number	Round 2 question number	Changes/new question/new routing	Round 1 card number (or NEW) & adaptation	Round 2 card number
C23	C23	Coding instruction changed		
C24	C24			
C25	C25			
C26		DELETED		
	C26	NEW COUNTRY SPECIFIC QUESTION		
C27	C27			
C28		DELETED		
	C28	NEW COUNTRY SPECIFIC QUESTION		
	D1	NEW QUESTIONS - Health and care-seeking module	NEW CARD	24
	D2			24
	D3			24
	D4			24
	D5			24
	D6		NEW CARD	25
	D7			25
	D8			25
	D9		NEW CARD	26
	D10			
	D11		NEW CARD	27
	D12		NEW CARD	28
	D12a		NEW CARD	28a
	D13		NEW CARD	28
	D13a		NEW CARD	28a
	D14	NEW CARD	28	
	D14a	NEW CARD	28a	
	D15	NEW CARD	28	
	D15a	NEW CARD	28a	

	D16			
	D17			
	D18		NEW CARD	29
	D19		NEW CARD	30
	D20		NEW CARD	30
	D21			30
	D22			30
	D23			30
	D24			30
	D25		NEW CARD	31
	D26			31
	D27			31
	D28			31
	D29			31
	D30			31
	E1	NEW QUESTIONS -economic morality module	NEW CARD	32
	E2			32
	E3			32
	E4		NEW CARD	33
	E5			33
	E6			33
	E7		NEW CARD	34
	E8			34
	E9			34
	E10			34
	E11			34
	E12		NEW CARD	35
	E13		NEW CARD	36
	E14			36
	E15			36
	E16			36

Round 1 question number	Round 2 question number	Changes/new question/new routing	Round 1 card number (or NEW) & adaptation	Round 2 card number
	E17	NEW QUESTIONS -economic morality module	NEW CARD	37
	E18			37
	E19			37
	E20			37
	E21			37
	E22			37
	E23		NEW CARD	38
	E24		NEW CARD	39
	E25			39
	E26			39
	E27			39
	E28			39
	E29			39
	E30		39	
ABOVE F1	ABOVE F1	WORDING CHANGES- Replace 'And finally' with 'Now' Replace 'a few' with 'some'		
F1	F1			
ABOVE F2	ABOVE F2	INSTRUCTION CHANGEWORDING AMENDED- 'IN DESCENDING ORDER OF AGE (OLDEST FIRST)		
F2	F2			
F3	F3			
F4	F4	CODE ADDED- Extra code added – 04 'brother/sister'.All subsequent code numbers will change accordingly. Format of all codes changed to F2.0 (2 digit response). Code 4 becomes code 05 and code 5 becomes code 06.	51 and change according to question code change.	40
AFTER F4	AFTER F4	Instruction added (stating that this page and household grid must be on facing pages).		
Household grid	Household grid	Household grid – instruction at top of grid amended 'descending age		

		order (oldest first)'		
F5	F5		52	41
	F5a	NEW QUESTIONS – part of rotating module on Family Work and Wellbeing – in Round 2 only.		
	F5b			
F6	F6	Coding instruction changed	53	42
	F6a	NEW QUESTION – now part of core	NEW CARD	42a
ABOVE F7		ASK ALL – deleted		
F7	F7			
F8a	F8a	LAYOUT CHANGE. List of response categories is now listed here as well. WORDING CHANGE Add 'Select all that apply' CODE CHANGE: Annotation has been added to code 07. Wording of code 02 has changed to ' <u>in education</u> , (not paid for by employer) even if on vacation.'	54 and change according to question code change.	43
	F8b	NEW INTERVIEWER CODE QUESTION - introduced to reduce errors between F8a and F8b		
ABOVE F8b		Interviewer instruction 'IF MORE THAN ONE CODED AT F8a' deleted.		

Round 1 question number	Round 2 question number	Changes/new question/new routing	Round 1 card number (or NEW) & adaptation	Round 2 card number
F8b	F8c	LAYOUT CHANGE. List of response categories listed here. WORDING – 'Please select only one' added CODE CHANGE: Annotation has been added to code 07. Wording of code 02 has changed to ' <u>in education</u> , (not paid for by employer) even if on vacation.'	54 and change according to question code change.	43
	F8d	NEW QUESTION – summary question for MAIN ACTIVITY from F8a and F8c		
ABOVE F9	ABOVE F9	INSTRUCTION CHANGE Add		

		(codes 02-09, 88) and (code 01 at F8a)		
F9	F9			
F10	F10	ROUTING CHANGE- No, Don't know – GO TO F27		
F11	F11			
ABOVE F12	ABOVE F12	INSTRUCTION CHANGE Now reads 'ask F12 to F25' not 'F12 to F24' and add (code 01 at F8a or code 1 at F9) and (code 1 at F10)		
F12	F12	SMALL FORMAT CHANGE '...' and commas added. 'or' and '?' added to code 3.		
F13	F13	Format changed to F5.0 (5 digit response) NB – 'Don't know' will become 88888		
F14	F14	WORDING/CODE CHANGE - A third code has been added: 3 – or do/did you have no contract? SMALL FORMAT CHANGE '...' and commas added		
F15	F15	SMALL FORMAT CHANGE '...' and commas added. '...' deleted before codes 2, 3, 4 and 5.		
F17	F17	Format changed to F5.0 (5 digit response) NB - 'Don't know' category will become 88888		
F18		DELETED		
	F18	NEW QUESTION (adapted from Round 1 Citizenship module E31, now part of core)	47 and change according to question wording change	44
	F19	NEW QUESTION (adapted from Round 1 Citizenship module, now part of core)	47 and change according to question wording change	44
	F19a	NEW QUESTION - part of rotating module on Family Work and Wellbeing – in Round 2 only.	47 and change according to question wording change	44
F19	F20			

F20	F21			
F21	F22			
F22	F23			
F23	F24			
F24	F25			
	F26	NEW QUESTION		
F25	F27	ROUTING CHANGE- Yes – ASK F28 No – GO TO F30		
F26	F28	WORDING CHANGE- Replace 'Has' with 'Have'		
F27	F29	Interviewer note added.		

Round 1 question number	Round 2 question number	Changes/new question/new routing	Round 1 card number (or NEW) & adaptation	Round 2 card number
F28	F30	Replace 'PROMPT IN RELATION TO PRECODES' with 'If yes, is that currently or previously?'		
F29	F31	CODE CHANGE A new code has been added: 03 – Income from farming. And code 02 has changed: 02 – Income from self-employment (excluding farming) All other code numbers will change accordingly.	55 and change according to question code change.	45
F30	F32	Annotation added for 'net'	56	46
	F32a	NEW QUESTION - part of rotating module on Family Work and Wellbeing – in Round 2 only.	NEW CARD	47
F31	F33		57	48
F32	F34		58	49
F35a	F37a	LAYOUT CHANGE: List of options has been listed here as well. WORDING CHANGE Add 'Select all that apply' CODE CHANGE: Annotation has been added to code 07. Wording of code 02 has changed to ' <u>in education</u> , (not paid for by employer) even if on vacation.'	60 and change according to question code change.	51

	F37b	NEW QUESTION- New interviewer code introduced to reduce errors between F37a and F37b		
ABOVE F35b		Interviewer instruction 'IF MORE THAN ONE CODED AT F8a' deleted.		
F35b	F37c	LAYOUT CHANGE: Now only one list of codes at this question. WORDING – Add 'Please select only one.' CODE CHANGE: Annotation has been added to code 07. Wording of code 02 has changed to ' <u>in education</u> , (not paid for by employer) even if on vacation.'	60 and change according to question code change.	51
ABOVE F36	ABOVE F38	INSTRUCTION CHANGE- GO TO F39 And wording changes		
F36	F38	ROUTING CHANGE- Yes – ASK F39 No, Don't know – GO TO F49		
ABOVE F37	ABOVE F39	INSTRUCTION CHANGE- 'AT F37a OR F38' and add codes to the instruction		
F37	F39			
F39	F41			
F41	F43	Format changed to F5.0 (5 digit response) NB – 'Don't know' will become 88888		
ABOVE F42	ABOVE F44	INSTRUCTION CHANGE- 'AT F37a OR F38.' And add codes to the instruction		
F42	F44	ROUTING CHANGE- 1 – ASK F45 2, 8 – GO TO F46		
F43	F45	Format changed to F5.0 (5 digit response) NB – 'Don't know' will become 88888		
	ABOVE F46	NEW INSTRUCTION		
	F46	NEW QUESTION (adapted from R1 Citizenship module (E31) now part of core)	47 and change according to question wording change	52
	F47	NEW QUESTION (adapted from R1 Citizenship module, now part of	47 and change according to	52

		core – see R2 F19)	question wording change	
Round 1 question number	Round 2 question number	Changes/new question/new routing.	Round 1 card number (or NEW) & adaptation	Round 2 card number
ABOVE F44		INSTRUCTION deleted		
F44	F48			
F45	F49	CODE CHANGE- codes now from 00-06	61	53
F46	F50	ROUTING CHANGE- 1 – GO TO F52 2 – ASK F51 3, 4 – GO TO F55 8 – GO TO F53		
F47	F51	ROUTING CHANGE- GO TO F53		
ABOVE F48	ABOVE F52	INSTRUCTION CHANGE- (code 1 at F50)		
F48	F52			
ABOVE F49	ABOVE F53	INSTRUCTION CHANGE- codes 1,2 or 8 at F50		
F49	F53			
F50	F54	SMALL FORMAT CHANGE- question mark added CODECHANGE Some changes to codes: 05 – ‘farmer’ added 08 – ‘farm manager’ added. email address in footnote changed – ‘harkness@zuma-mannheim.de	62 and change according to question code change.	54
F51	F55	CODE CHANGE- codes now from 00-06	63	55
F52	F56	Annotation added to code 4. ROUTING CHANGE- 1 – GO TO F58 2 – ASK F57 3, 4 – GO TO F61 8 – GO TO F59		
F53	F57	ROUTING CHANGE- GO TO F59		
ABOVE F54	ABOVE F58	INSTRUCTION CHANGE- (code 1 at F56)		
F54	F58			

ABOVE F55	ABOVE F59	INSTRUCTION CHANGE- (codes 1, 2 or 8 at F56)		
F55	F59			
F56	F60	SMALL FORMAT CHANGE- question mark added CODECHANGE Some changes to codes: 05 - 'farmer' added 08 - 'farm manager' added	64 and change according to question code change.	56
F57	F61			
F58	F62	Format changed to F1.0 (1 digit response) ROUTING CHANGE- 01 - ASK F63 All others - GO TO F65	65	57
F59	F63	ROUTING CHANGE- 1 - GO TO F66 2, 7, 8 - ASK F64		
F60	F64	ROUTING CHANGE- 1 - GO TO F67 2, 7, 8 - GO TO F66		
ABOVE F61	ABOVE F65	INSTRUCTION added		
F61	F65	ROUTING CHANGE- 1- GO TO F67 2, 7, 8 - ASK F66		
F62	F66			
	F67	NEW INTERVIEWER CODE		
ABOVE F63	ABOVE F68	Routing reminder deleted		
F63	F68			
F64	F69	ROUTING CHANGE- 1- GO TO F70a 2- ASK F70 Add (code 02 at F4)		
F65	F70			

Round 1 question number	Round 2 question number	Changes/new question/new routing.	Round 1 card number (or NEW) & adaptation	Round 2 card number
	F70a	NEW QUESTION - part of rotating module on Family Work and Wellbeing – in Round 2 only.		
	F70b	NEW QUESTION - part of rotating module on Family Work and Wellbeing – in Round 2 only.		
	G1	NEW QUESTIONS family work and well being module	NEW CARD	58
	G2			58
	G3			58
	G4			58
	G5			58
	G6		NEW CARD	59
	G7			59
	G8			59
	G9			59
	G10			59
	G11			
	G12			
	G13		NEW CARD	60
	G14			60
	G15			60
	G16		NEW CARD	61
	G17			61
	G18			
	G19		NEW CARD	62
	G20			62
	G21		NEW CARD	63
	G22		NEW CARD	64

	G23		NEW CARD	65
	G24			65
	G25			
	G26		NEW CARD	65
	G27			65
	G28			
	G29		NEW CARD	64
	G30		NEW CARD	65
	G31			
	G32		NEW CARD	65
	G33			
	G34		NEW CARD	66
	G35			66
	G36			66
	G37			66
	G38		NEW CARD	67
	G39			
	G40		NEW CARD	68
	G41			
	G42			
	G43		NEW CARD	69
	G44			
	G45			
	G46			
	G47			
	G48			
	G49			
	G50			
	G51			
	G52			
	G53		NEW CARD	70
	G54			70

	G55			70
	G56			70
Round 1 question number	Round 2 question number	Changes/new question/new routing.	Round 1 card number (or NEW) & adaptation	Round 2 card number
	G57			
	G58		NEW CARD	71
	G59			
	G60			
	G61			
	G62			
	G63		NEW CARD	72
	G64		NEW CARD	73
	G65			73
	G66			73
	G67			73
	G68			73
	G69			73
	G70			73
	G71		NEW CARD	74
	G72			74
	G73			74
	G74			
	G75			
	G75a		NEW CARD	75
	G76			
	G77		NEW CARD	76
	G78			76
	G79	Question adapted from Round 1 Citizenship module (R1 E35)	NEW CARD	77
	G80			77
	G81			
	G82		NEW CARD	78

	G83			78
	G84		NEW CARD	79
	G85		NEW CARD	80
	G86			80
	G87			80
	G88			
	G89		NEW CARD	80
	G90			80
	G90a			
	G91			
	G92			
	G93			
	G94		NEW CARD	81
	G95		NEW CARD	82
	G96			82
	G97			82
	G98			82
	G99			82
	G100			82
	G101			82
	G102		82	
	G103		82	
	G104		NEW CARD	83
	G105			
	G106			
	G107			
	G108			
	G109			
	G110			
	G111		NEW CARD	84
	G112			84
	G113			84

	G114			84
	G115			84
	G116			
	G117			
	G118			
Round 1 question number	Round 2 question number	Changes/new question/new routing.	Round 1 card number (or NEW) & adaptation	Round 2 card number
	G119			
	G120			
	G121		NEW CARD	85
	G122			
	G123		NEW CARD	85
	G124			
Section G	Section H	R2 Section H to follow		
Section H	Section I	R2 Section I to follow		
INSTRUCTION ABOVE I1	INSTRUCTION ABOVE J1	Shaded instruction has been changed.		
I1		Deleted		
I2	J1			
I3	J2			
I4	J3			
I5	J4			
I6	J5	Routing has changed		
I7	J6			
	J7	NEW QUESTION		
	J8	NEW QUESTION		
I8	J9			
Footnote at B33	Footnote at B28	Change B35 to B29		

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