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ESS3

**European Social Survey Round 3
Measuring social and political change in Europe**

Instrument -

Thematic Priority: Thematic Priority 7 Research Area 3.2

Publishable Final Activity Report

By the ESS Central Coordinating Team

Edited by Rory Fitzgerald and Sally Widdop

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Section 1 - Project Execution

Project objectives and background

The three aims of the European Social Survey are:

- to chart and explain changes in Europe's social, political and moral climate;
- to achieve and spread standards of rigour in cross-national attitude measurement never accomplished before; and
- to achieve recognition for social and attitudinal indicators on a par with those currently awarded to economic indicators.

The European Social Survey (ESS) started in 2001 with support from the Commission under FP5 Call 2 (Round 1 of the survey), and then continued under FP5 Call 3 (Round 2 of the survey). This project, funded under FP6 Priority 7, is the third round of the survey. The third round of the ESS seeks to build on the collection of organisations, individuals and data gathering facilities amassed for the previous rounds. It therefore shares the key objectives shown above with earlier rounds. In particular the focus is on:

- Producing rigorous trend data, at both a national and a European level, about continuity and change in people's underlying values – climate shifts in attitudes rather than fluctuations in the weather.
- Tackling head-on the longstanding and notorious difficulties of collecting rigorous cross-national attitudinal data. Perversely, the very factors that make political and cultural differences interesting and important also make them difficult to measure in a comparative perspective.

Europe's unique combination of diversity and integration makes it a natural laboratory for tackling these problems. More importantly, its governance requires them to be solved. Evidence-informed policy at a European level needs high-quality data that help to understand and explain the interactions between Europe's institutional structures on the one hand and both the behaviour patterns and attitudes of its citizens on the other. Therefore, a key objective of the European Social Survey is to raise methods of cross-national attitude research to a level of rigour comparable with the best research at a national level.

These objectives are reflected directly by the work packages within the project. In general, the work packages are concerned with ensuring high methodological standards within particular areas of the survey (thus contributing to the first objective). The experience of adhering to these standards, the resulting example set, the transparent documentation of the procedures and the capacity for assessment of the procedures, feed equally well into the second objective.

The ESS is widely considered to be state of the art. Its scale and high methodological standards are rarely implemented on a cross-national basis. This achievement was recently recognised by the European Science Foundation's initiated review report which has also been made available to the Commission. The report stated:

“The panel unanimously finds that the importance of ESS, its demonstrated success in initial launch, and its clear signals of impact justify fully continuous funding at levels necessary to achieve its vision and maintain its quality” (Bethlehem et al. 2008).

Contractors involved

Participant name	Short name	Country	Contact	E-mail
1. City University (Coordinator)	City	GB	Roger Jowell	ess@city.ac.uk
2. GESIS	GESIS	DE	Peter Mohler	eu-centre@gesis.org
3. Sociaal en Cultureel Planbureau	SCP	NL	Ineke Stoop	i.stoop@scp.nl
4. University of Amsterdam	Amsterdam	NL	Willem Saris	w.saris@telefonica.net
5. Catholic University of Leuven	KUL	BE	Jaak Billiet	jaak.billiet@soc.kuleuven.ac.be
6. Norwegian Social Science Data Services	NSD	NO	Bjorn Henrichsen	ess@nsd.uib.no

Five partner institutions (Partners 2,3,4,5 & 6) all report to and work with the Coordinator (Partner 1) to fulfil the numerous central management roles in the project. Personnel from the six organisations together constitute the Central Coordinating Team (CCT). Each Partner has pre-specified responsibilities, some of which continue throughout the project's life, others for shorter periods. The six institutions are also jointly responsible for overall quality control and transparent quality assessment, producing a series of papers, reports and analyses on all aspects of the project so that future users of the data, coordinators of future rounds, or planners of similar projects, may draw on our successes and avoid repeating our failures.

Work performed and end results

Workpackage Number	Description	Responsibility
1	Coordination and implementation of a multi-nation survey (management)	City
2	Design, development, and process quality control	City
3	Sampling Coordination	GESIS*
4	Translation of instruments	GESIS
5	Fieldwork Commissioning	SCP
6	Contract Monitoring	GESIS
7	Piloting and Quality Control	Leuven
8	Design and Analysis of pilot studies	Amsterdam
9	Analysis of reliability and validity of main stage questions	Amsterdam
10	Data Archiving and Dissemination	NSD
11	Event Reporting	SCP
12	Impact of the project	City

*Please note: During the third reporting period ZUMA ceased to exist as an independent legal entity instead becoming part of GESIS. From the 24th of April 2007 all of ZUMA's responsibilities under the contract were assumed by GESIS.

Workpackage 1: Coordination and implementation of a multi-nation survey (City)

1.1 Workpackage objectives and progress

The objective of this Workpackage was to ensure delivery of ‘...the third round of a 23-nation European-wide social survey carried out to exacting standards and according to timetable’. This objective was achieved in totality.

The overall description of work was as follows: ‘Oversee the specified tasks allocated to all Partners on the one hand, and the national teams on the other. Assess equivalence of procedures and standards and remedy deviations, giving practical assistance where necessary’.

This workpackage involved leadership of the project, responsibility for all deliverables as well as for overall budget and contractual matters. The consortium ensured that both national project teams and questionnaire design teams were put in place in order to facilitate ESS Round 3. The project team also took responsibility for arranging and accounting for plenary sessions, board meetings and specialist meetings throughout project.

The overall coordination of the project was the responsibility of the Central Coordinating Team (CCT) within City University (London) (Partner 1), headed by the Principal Investigator (PI), Professor Roger Jowell and supported by Rory Fitzgerald, Caroline Roberts, Gillian Eva / Daniella Hawkins and Mary Keane. This team was legally and contractually answerable for a range of things, including:

- the delivery of the project in its entirety to the standards specified;
- adherence to the budget, timetable and quality standards;
- liaison with the Commission and compliance with its detailed and exacting progress-reporting;
- fulfilment of the PI role with responsibility for achieving the project’s aims.

These responsibilities were fulfilled through close liaison with the other five partners (the **Central Coordinating Team - CCT**), as well as with the numerous other bodies which have been set up to ensure the smooth running of the project.

A crucial element of the coordination workpackage has been to maintain and develop the organisational structure necessary for the project. In fact for a multi national project like the ESS the organisational structure becomes a central component of the methodology itself (Fitzgerald and Jowell, 2008). This infrastructure includes groups set up for advice and guidance, together with working groups with roles within the various workpackages. These groups are -

The **CCT** constitute the central management of the project and is a defining feature of the ESS. As well as the specified and self-contained responsibilities of the individual partners, the group ensures the achievement of uniformly high standards within all participating nations. The CCT meets around once every four months to report on progress with individual workpackages, to plan coordination with other groups, and to discuss the strategic development of the project as a whole.

The **Scientific Advisory Board** (SAB), chaired by Professor Max Kaase consists of one representative of each participating country (selected by the principal funding agency in that country), plus two representatives from the Commission and the ESF. Some CCT members are also present at SAB meetings and the City team play a key role in agenda setting for this group. The SAB is important not just for potential scientific advice and guidance, but also for possible liaison and intervention within participating nations. It also makes an important contribution to critical aspects of the project, such as – in the first year – considerable input into changes being made to the core questionnaire. The SAB met three times during Round 3. Funding for SAB meetings is provided by the European Science Foundation (ESF).

The **Funders’ Forum** consists of one representative from the principal funding agency of each participating country. This body aims to ensure that participating countries can fund their fieldwork and National Coordination (which is not covered at all by the EC). The costs of fieldwork and national coordination are the largest financial component of the project. The funders forum is organised by the ESF.

The **National Coordinators** are appointed by the funding agency in each participating country to head the team that will carry out the national survey in each case. There were 3 meetings during Round 3 at which general information about the project as well as possible improvements from Round 2 of the survey were discussed. National Coordinators (NCs) were also involved in the questionnaire design process, discussing this at the Hague meeting.

The **Methods Group**, chaired by Denise Lievesley, consists of five members from different countries, chosen by virtue of their survey and statistical expertise. They have met twice during Round 3 to discuss technical issues raised by the CCT. The costs for the 2nd meeting were met through the ESSi EC grant (these meetings were previously funded by the ESF).

The **Sampling Panel** is convened by Sabine Häder (GESIS) and is made up of five experts in the field. Responsibility for the participating countries has been divided between the members, each working directly with five or six countries. They liaise regularly with individual countries and assist with sample design issues whilst also dealing with problem areas. The group has met collectively to discuss both central and country-specific issues.

The **Translation Taskforce** is convened by Janet Harkness (GESIS) and is made up of five specialists drawn from relevant survey and translation fields. The group has been responsible for designing the ESS translation and assessment strategy, building on their considerable experience and research in the area. The team also assisted with the Polish pilot. They provided updated guidelines to National Coordinators on the implementation of the strategy and consulted with individual countries on their particular situations.

Two Questionnaire Design Teams were selected through an open competition which followed a Europe-wide call. The call was organised and overseen by the City group following instruction from the SAB. The multi-national teams were selected by the SAB after discussions at their meeting on 21 April 2005. It was decided by the SAB to have two rotating modules for Round 3, each of 50 items. The two successful teams were charged with the design of the rotating modules for the second round of the ESS. The subjects were: *“The timing of life: The organisation of the life course in Europe”* and *“Personal and Social Well-being: creating indicators for a flourishing Europe”*. The two teams worked closely with the CCT to produce one module of around 50 items. Design work is covered under workpackage 2.

Another key task of the City team was to work closely with the European Science Foundation in securing participation from as many countries as possible. Participation during each round of the ESS including Round 3 is shown below. It was a major achievement that 26 countries took part in Round 3 including a number of new countries from central and Eastern Europe. Greater consistency of participation in future is hoped for once the ESS becomes a long term Infrastructure.

Table 1.1: ESS participating countries (Rounds 1-3)

Country	R1	R2	R3	Country	R1	R2	R3
Austria	✓	✓	✓	Latvia			✓
Belgium	✓	✓	✓	Luxembourg	✓	✓	
Bulgaria			✓	Netherlands	✓	✓	✓
Croatia			✓	Norway	✓	✓	✓
Cyprus			✓	Poland	✓	✓	✓
Czech Republic	✓	✓		Portugal	✓	✓	✓
Denmark	✓	✓	✓	Romania			✓
Estonia		✓	✓	Russia			✓
Finland	✓	✓	✓	Slovakia		✓	✓
France	✓	✓	✓	Slovenia	✓	✓	✓
Germany	✓	✓	✓	Spain	✓	✓	✓
Greece	✓	✓		Sweden	✓	✓	✓
Hungary	✓	✓	✓	Switzerland	✓	✓	✓
Iceland		✓		Turkey		✓	
Ireland	✓	✓	✓	Ukraine		✓	✓
Israel	✓			UK	✓	✓	✓
Italy	✓	✓					

1.2 Communication with the groups

The ESS website (www.europeansocialsurvey.org) is a crucial means of keeping participants, users and other parties informed about the project. The site contains background information about the development of the ESS, details of all participants, news and copies of key documents. The site is regularly updated by the City team. In Round 3 a work area specifically for NCs was established. This password protected area ensures that NCs can keep up to date with the questionnaire development and also provides access to all minutes of NCs meetings and key documents for each round.

Workpackage 2: Design, development, and process quality control (City)

Ensuring equivalence on a cross-national survey like the ESS is no easy task (Jowell et al, 2008). Balancing the need for central specification with sensitivity to the requirements of measurement across a range of different countries is challenging. The City team under Workpackage 2 were charged with this task. In this report we discuss how this was achieved in ESS Round 3.

2.1 Design and implementation of consistent survey methods, instruments and procedures

The City team in conjunction with GESIS and SCP were responsible for developing the ESS Round 3 Specification for participating countries. This document outlines the aims and objectives of the ESS and provides detailed instructions covering how the project should be implemented in each participating country. This document then forms the basis by which the CCT execute the project in collaboration with each National Coordinator and their team. The specification was updated following experience gained during rounds 1-3 of the ESS. For example the guidelines on quality control back checks of fieldwork were improved to place more focus on refusals rather than non contact cases, key dates for the appointment of National Coordinators were emphasised and the additional space on the core questionnaire was flagged.

The City team also act as a central focus for the design development and process quality control for the whole project. This involves detailed discussions with workpackage leaders at CCT meetings and during the interim about the detailed planning and execution of all tasks. The City team are there to support whilst also trying to ensure a central and coordinated approach at all times. The City team takes responsibility for the final quality control of many of the public documents and protocols that are sent to ESS participating countries editing them in collaboration with the workpackage responsible for them. So for example proposed changes to the contact forms were discussed with Leuven prior to them being made available to the National Coordinators. And comments were given to the translation team on proposed amendments to the translation guidelines for Round 3. Furthermore the proposed fieldwork checklist was discussed in some detail with the fieldwork and contracting teams prior to its finalisation. This is critical in a project where cross-national equivalence is central and where a single language is used which is not necessarily the first language of most of the participants.

Questionnaire for ESS Round 3

A major element of this workpackage was overseeing the design of the questionnaire. The ESS questionnaire consists of a ‘core’ module lasting about half an hour – which remained relatively constant (this allowing measurement of change) – plus two ‘rotating’ modules, designed potentially to be repeated at intervals, each of which is 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.

Changes to the content of the core

Owing to the importance of continuity in a time series, the CCT and the SAB have agreed that no questions will be deleted from the core unless there are compelling reasons for so doing. This will however always remain a difficult area on a time series survey like the ESS. On the one hand changes to the measures make the measurement of change over time difficult or impossible and therefore need to be avoided. However as circumstances change there is a natural pressure to augment existing measures and further pressure too as increasing scientific developments further improve our ability to assess the quality of questions in cross-national surveys (see Fitzgerald and Jowell 2008). In Round 3, however, because of changes made by the SAB that reduced the number of items available to rotating modules at each round, space for a small number of items on the ESS questionnaire became available.

The City team, after discussion with the CCT, presented five topics for possible addition:

- ICT access and use
- Political knowledge
- Fear of crime
- European and national identity
- A regular slot for methodological testing.

The SAB discussed the proposed topics and asked the CCT to additionally consider 'support for democracy and the rule of law in light of the increased risk from terrorism'. The SAB asked the CCT to consider which topics to take forward and it was agreed that 'Fear of Crime', Democracy / terrorism and ICT use would be piloted because they were important long term issues that could be operationalised via a small number of questions. Political knowledge was felt to be too difficult to be operationalised in an equivalent way across countries via a small number of questions as was European and national identity. It was also felt that the ESS already has a regular slot for methodological testing via its Supplementary Questionnaire which the SAB felt should be sufficient for the testing required.

The City team oversaw the development and testing of questions for the additional topics. External substantive experts were consulted about the proposed question formulations. Following the piloting of questions on 'Fear of Crime' and 'Democracy / terrorism' they were included in the Round 3 questionnaire. A document that describes in detail the changes between rounds was made available to national teams and appears as an Annex to this report (see Annex 1).

Rotating modules

The timetable for the **two rotating modules** was less truncated than in previous Rounds. The City team placed an advertisement in the Supplement of the Official Journal of the European Communities in January 2005 inviting proposals from potential questionnaire design teams, with a deadline of 1st March 2005, 17:00 CET. Letters or e-mails were also sent to all ESF member organisations, all SAB members and National Coordinators enclosing the advertisement and asking them to publicise it within their countries. ESS data users were also informed about the call through the ESS data user bulletin and the call was also posted onto the ESS website. In the event, we received 20 applications by the due date. A new section was introduced to the application form asking teams to demonstrate how they would propose to operationalise their proposal in a survey administered in 25 or more European countries. These applications were then considered by a sub group of referees who were appointed by the SAB. This group includes SAB members, the ESS PI and external social scientists. The SAB then discussed the recommendations for the sub group and appointed two modules teams at its meeting on 21 April 2005.

The teams / modules selected were:

1. Personal and Social Well-being: Creating indicators for a flourishing Europe -

50-item module

Proposal Abstract:

It has become customary to judge the quality of a society by the use of objective indicators, predominantly socio-economic ones. Yet in most developed nations in Europe and elsewhere, increases in income, health and education have not produced comparable increases in happiness or life satisfaction. To address this issue, this proposal seeks to evaluate the success of European countries at promoting the personal and social well-being of their citizens. Whilst much has been learnt from introducing subjective measures of global happiness or life satisfaction into survey research, significant recent progress in the development of high quality subjective measures of personal and social well-being is not being fully utilised, and should be systematically developed across Europe. We suggest that domain-specific measures, such as income, family and work satisfaction, require further understanding both in terms of their causes and effects. Most importantly, we argue that the next generation of advancement in the field requires us to look beyond 'hedonic' measures of well-being (feeling and evaluation) to 'eudaimonic' measures of capabilities and functionings since these are associated with sustainable rather than transient well-being. This module represents the first systematic attempt to create a set of policy-relevant national well-being accounts.

Team:

Felicia Huppert, University of Cambridge, UK
Andrew Clark, Paris-Jourdan Sciences Economiques, France
Bruno Frey, University of Zürich, Switzerland
Nic Marks, New Economics Foundation, UK
Johannes Siegrist, Düsseldorf University, Germany

2. The Timing of Life: The organisation of the life course in Europe

50-item module

Proposal abstract:

The module aims at furthering our understanding of the views of European citizens on the organisation of the life course and of their strategies to influence and plan their own lives. Three main research topics concerning the organisation of the life course are to be studied:

- 1) to what extent do citizens perceive the life course as a structured sequence of life stages, and which events mark the transition from one stage to the other?;
- 2) do social norms concerning the life course exist, and if so, to what extent are these norms backed by sanctions?;
- 3) what are the expectations and capacities of citizens concerning life course planning?

Based on life course theory, we expect that the three questions have heterogeneous answers between societies with different cultures and institutional settings, and that there is also an important intra-societal variation. Besides its primary scientific relevance, the proposed topics relate to recent public debates about the (re-)structuring of welfare states.

Team:

Francesco Billari, Università Bocconi, Italy

Gunhild Hagestad, Agder University College, Norway

Aart Liefbroer, Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute and Free University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Zsolt Spéder, Hungarian Central Statistical Office, Hungary

In order to improve the transparency of the questionnaire development process from Round 3 each team produced a document bridging their successful application to a draft questionnaire. Following a meeting with the CCT questionnaire design subgroup, the documents were designed outlining the rationale for asking different sets of items and how they might be analysed. These were available in late June 2005 and were then discussed at a second meeting with the CCT in late July. A series of further drafts were produced by the QDTs followed by comments from the CCT with the CT acting as the expert review panel for the ESS. The CCT subgroup provided expert advice including SQP prediction analysis from Willem Saris, advice on scaling from Jaak Billiet and advice on translation issues from Janet Harkness. Overall coordination of the process was performed by the City team.

In November 2005 a draft of both modules was made available to the National Coordinators for their detailed comments. National Coordinators were asked to comments from two perspectives. First, in their role as leading social scientists in their country to provide comments on the theoretical basis of the module and the proposed operationalisation. Secondly, from the perspective of a national representative to consider issues related to comparability, at both a conceptual and translation level. Following this meeting, in conjunction with both the CCT and National Coordinators, the teams produced a version for piloting by the end of December 2005. This was then passed to fieldwork agencies in both Ireland and Poland.

Pilots and analysis

At the start of 2006 pilots to test the Round 3 questionnaire took place in Ireland and Poland and were organised by the City team (in association with Jaak Billiet at the University of Leuven). The tendering and selection of agencies was handled by Leuven but the detailed interactions with the agencies fell to the City team. Questionnaires were provided to the agencies in each country along with detailed guidelines for translating the questionnaire in Poland. The city team also produced briefing guidelines, interviewer instructions, data protocols and other associated documentation to maximise comparability between the piloting in each country. Each survey agency was expected to follow a specification that was agreed with them during the tendering process. Debriefings of interviewers were held and representatives from City University attended the Irish debrief. The City team provided an outline and agreed on the structure of the debriefing with each agency in advance. In addition the City team produced a questionnaire to facilitate interviewer feedback from all interviewers (not only those attending the interviewer

debrief). The agencies in both countries produced a summary report of the findings from the pilot for the CCT. Details on the extent and scope of the piloting are covered under Workpackage 7.

Following the pilot the CCT questionnaire subgroup (City team, Jaak Billiet, Janet Harkness and Willem Saris) split up the analysis between them. The questionnaire was examined in relation to reliability and validity assessment and the extent to which items formed scales and measured the required underlying latent concepts. In addition the Translation Taskforce provided guidance on issues arising from the translation process. The City team then compiled the information into a single report along with feedback from the survey agencies (primarily interviewer feedback with some additional expert review from the survey agencies) essentially triangulating all available evidence about each question.

A meeting of the subgroup was then held with the Questionnaire Design Teams to agree on a strategy for finalising the questionnaire and to discuss some of the more difficult problems that had arisen in the pilot.

It should be noted that ESS has only a single round of quantitative pretesting and so changes made after the pretest cannot be validated prior to the main stage fieldwork. It would be optimal in future for there to be additional quantitative pretesting and qualitative pretesting too. However this would require additional funds to facilitate the process.

Finalising the ESS Round 3 questionnaire

After the pilot and associated meetings the questionnaire was duly amended. The questionnaire and showcards were then sent to ESS National Coordinators for a final round of comments. The City team compiled these comments and arranged a further set of amendments in consultation with the CCT subgroup and the QDTs. In addition the City team continued to update the on-line dynamic record of questionnaire development.

The CCT then approved the ESS Round 3 questionnaire. A meeting was held with NCs to present the questionnaire to them and highlight any key implementation points. The City team also produced a list of changes between rounds for the core questionnaire that carefully documented each change made.

Next the City team worked with Willem Saris (Amsterdam) to finalise the three versions of the Supplementary questionnaire for the main stage survey and the associated implementation guidelines. Countries then had to request either the face to face version or self completion version of this document from City and confirm the method for randomisation that would be employed to allocate respondents to a particular version. This sometimes involved a discussion with the national team.

Following the launch of the ESS Round 3 questionnaire the City team worked closely with the Translation Taskforce at GESIS in dealing with queries from national teams about the source questionnaire which were impacting on translation. This sometimes involved consultation with the ESS Round 3 QDTs.

As a result of issues arising during translation it was sometimes necessary to amend the source questionnaire. A series of questionnaire alerts were therefore issued. However it was only possible to do this for a month or two after the questionnaire had been issued because after that point some countries had advanced their CAPI programming or paper questionnaire production too far for amendments to be made. Therefore for countries which started late it was not always possible to make an amendment to reflect their concerns. This is a key disadvantage of very differing pre fieldwork timetables.

Fieldwork

In preparation for fieldwork, guidelines on certain aspects and fieldwork documents were updated and made available to National Coordinators either via email or the ESS website. These included interviewer instructions, advanced letters and briefing guidelines. The City team worked with those in the other workpackages to ensure relevant guidelines were both clear and accessible including guidelines for maximising response rates and monitoring fieldwork.

The City team along with others from the CCT have also been involved in supporting NCs in their fieldwork monitoring role. Some countries sought specific guidance on how to overcome problems in the field (eg Ireland and Spain). In order to facilitate this process the City team produced a document outlining the number of achieved interviews during each fieldwork week in Round 2. NCs then used this to develop their fieldwork plans which in turn facilitated fieldwork monitoring which was overseen by the City team in collaboration with others on the CCT.

A new online fieldwork log was set up to allow members of the CCT access to updated information on all countries' pre-fieldwork activity (translation, sampling and checklist sign off) as well as their fieldwork progress. This helped to improve the overall coordination and communication.

One difficulty that arose in Round 3 was that countries had not always had sampling plans and fieldwork checklist signed off prior to starting fieldwork. This issue needs revisiting in future rounds and communication with NCs and between the CCT should be reviewed.

Establishing equivalence of methodology and procedures

This area of work is achieved through close working with partners involved in the various workpackages. For example, in order to ensure equivalence in sampling procedures, City liaises with the Sampling Panel, who report on any difficulties and potential solutions. Where an issue needs to be dealt with centrally, City takes responsibility in consultation with the rest of the CCT for finding a resolution. In addition City quality controls all guideline and protocol documents before they are issued to national ESS teams in order to ensure both clarity and equivalence of methodology and procedures. Examples include the ESS contact forms, translation guidelines and instructions for implementation of the Supplementary questionnaire.

In addition some issues of equivalence that do not naturally fall within the remit of a particular workpackage are addressed centrally, such as fieldwork procedures. City therefore oversaw the updating of guidelines on certain aspects of fieldwork including advance letters, interviewer instructions and briefing guidelines. These were not templates to simply be translated into the language of each participating country, but guidelines to be adapted to national circumstances as appropriate. All these documents are available on the ESS website.

Towards the end of the project the City team helped to address a number of key issues related to development and process quality control. These involved working closely with other CCT partners. Issues that were addressed included:

- data checking procedures
- evaluating efforts made to document the questionnaire design process with a series of recommendations for how this process could be improved for ESS Round 4
- evaluating the seriousness of different types of deviations
- developing procedures related to late ESS entrants and their participation
- potential pre-testing improvements in future rounds via cognitive interviewing
- assessing the extent to which the ESS has met its original aims as set out in the ESS blueprint.

The City team also conducted a consultation with ESS Round 3 National Coordinators. The consultation aimed to get feedback on the experience of participating in ESS Round 3 with a view to making improvements for future rounds. The consultation survey was sent to all ESS Round 3 participating countries. Key findings were included in the end of period 3 report and were fed into the design of Round 4.

2.2. Oversee the specified tasks allocated to all Partners and the national teams

City was responsible for overseeing the work of all the Partners as well as the national teams. The details of all workpackages are discussed and determined both at CCT meetings and between the Coordinating Institution and the workpackage leader in between meetings.

2.3. Assessment of equivalence of procedures and standards & remedying deviations where necessary

The Principal Investigator had ultimate responsibility for ensuring equivalence of standards and procedures throughout the project, dealing with any difficulties that arise either on a macro or micro level in individual countries. This often involves negotiating a delicate balance between maintaining strict comparability and allowing flexibility in certain countries. There have been instances where participating countries have asked to be allowed to deviate from the ESS Specifications in order to accommodate their local situation. One example of how the City team dealt with this in Round 3, in conjunction with other CCT members, was responding to a request from the Spanish national team to provide advice and guidance for increasing response rates. This included the discussion of various issues where the CCT was able to advise on interviewer pay schemes, the maximum number of cases that should be allocated to a single interviewer and improved procedures for monitoring fieldwork. It was, however, also necessary to agree to a longer fieldwork period to allow a sufficient time to maximise response rates.

2.4. Communication with ESS users

The City team operates the main ESS website www.europeansocialsurvey.org. This site acts as the focal point for the ESS providing background to the study, information on ESS methodology, documentation for the project designed for National Coordinators and details about the project's funding. The site also operates a news service keeping interest parties abreast of the latest developments.

Workpackage 3: Sampling Coordination (GESIS)

3.1. Principles and requirements of sampling for the ESS

Before Round 1 of the ESS a specialist Sampling Panel, chaired by Sabine Häder of GESIS, was formed to oversee the ESS sample design and implementation. The membership of this panel remained the same for Round 2 but at the start of Round 3, a new member, Matthias Ganninger, joined the team¹. The panel wanted to ensure that enough attention could be given to each participating country in each round of the survey.

The objective of the Sampling Workpackage 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 strategy, 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 achieves the best probability sample available in a 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 or language.
- Probability samples: 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 nonresponding 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. Any over-sampling had to be discussed with the sampling panel in advance.
- 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’ (explicitly defined by the CCT) – was 70%.

Sampling requirements were laid out fully in a document for participating countries, which was made available from the ESS website. A short guide was also developed for those countries that had participated in previous rounds and who only required a refresher. The guidelines for Round 3 can be found here:

http://www.europeansocialsurvey.org/index.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_download&gid=51&itemid=80.

¹ Sampling Panel Members from Round 3 onwards: Sabine Häder, Siegfried Gabler and Matthias Ganninger (all from GESIS-ZUMA, Germany), Seppo Laaksonen (University of Helsinki, Finland) and Peter Lynn (University of Essex, UK).

3.2. “Signing off” of sample designs

In Round 3, each specialist member of the sampling panel was allocated about four to five countries to liaise with and support. In collaboration with the respective National Coordinators, 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 hand be capable of being implemented efficiently in each country. This involved developing completely new designs in several countries; in others it was simply a case of revising Round 2 designs, whilst for some it was more a matter of clarifying details. It was also often necessary to provide support for the calculation of effective sample sizes. On occasions the sampling panellists also visited countries for a more detailed investigation and discussion of anticipated problems which might compromise the achievement of a high quality random sample.

Special consideration was given to countries who were participating in the ESS for the first time in Round 3 (Bulgaria, Cyprus, Latvia, Romania and Russia). Intensive discussions with the National Coordinators took place in these countries in order to clarify the details of the respective sampling schemes. The sampling panel used a standard form on which they completed 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.

A routine check procedure was installed in Round 3 that enabled the sampling panel to run a quick check on the sample design data files that were submitted by the National Coordinators after fieldwork was completed. This enabled the panel to identify errors or ambiguities in the files and check back with the National Coordinators to resolve these.

3.3. 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:

a) 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 properly taken into account when the data were 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 Finish Population Register which is regularly updated. In other countries there are reliable and accessible lists of households, such as the frame of households of the 2001 Census in Cyprus. In other cases countries possess reliable and accessible lists of addresses, such as the “TPG-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 sufficient aggregated demographic information available to develop 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 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 (see Table 3.2). Indeed, even in countries where reliable frames existed, it was often the case that some problems had to be solved. 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 under representation in the sample frame is documented.

b) 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 achieved varied from 46% to 73% among countries (see Table 3.1).

Table 3.1: Achieved Response Rates in ESS Round 3

Country	Response Rate (%)
Austria	64,0
Belgium	61,0
Bulgaria	64,8
Cyprus	67,3
Denmark	50,8
Estonia	65,0
Finland	64,4
France	46,0
Germany	54,5
Hungary	66,1
Ireland	56,8
Latvia	71,2
Netherlands	59,8
Norway	65,5
Poland	70,2
Portugal	72,8
Romania	71,8
Russian Federation	69,5
Slovenia	65,1
Slovakia	73,2
Spain	65,9
Sweden	65,9
Switzerland	51,5
Ukraine	66,4
United Kingdom	54,6

Data source for Response rates: National technical summaries.
Might deviate from Contact form data, which will be published later.

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

c) Final sample designs

Table 3.2 summarises the most important elements of each country's final sample designs. Almost all countries met the sampling requirements for the ESS. No quota elements or substitution of individuals or households were used. Thus, ESS samples continue to observe a high 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.

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

Below are some remarks concerning details of the work of the expert Sampling Panel;

- In many countries with complex sample designs, the Sampling Panel was able to improve details of the sampling plans for Round 3, eg increase the number of PSUs. For an overview of the frames and designs, see Table 3.2. However, in some countries (such as Portugal) the design effect is still very high. The Sampling Panel therefore met with the Portuguese ESS team and discussed further possible improvements of the design. Another Sampling Panel meeting was held in Estonia where the panel met the field director to learn more about sampling details. Furthermore, the sampling panel also met in Leuven to discuss the problem of the Belgian population register, which was not available for ESS sampling in Round 3.
- The process of co-operation between the National Coordinator 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 (eg 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 $neff$ 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 Panel has provided estimates for design effects of Round 3. However, first calculations have already shown that improvements in sample designs have substantially decreased the design effects.
- The number of PSUs varies notably between countries. For example, in Germany only 168 PSUs exist, in Belgium there are 220 PSUs, whereas in Spain the number of PSUs is 500 and so on. From the sampling point of view, one way of reducing the total survey error is to encourage countries with a low number of PSUs to increase the number in the next round.
- Much work was spent on checking the sample design data files where details of the sample design of each participating country such as PSUs, inclusion probabilities of each stage and stratification variables are stored. For this, a special check routine was developed.
- The Sampling Panel used a variety of conferences and publications to communicate the ESS sampling strategy and to present results of statistical analysis of sample design features.
- To provide guidance to the data users, the Sampling Panel also published several papers concerning special issues of sampling such as a glossary of frequently used terms.

Table 3.2: Final Sample Designs in ESS Round 3

Country	Frame	Design Effect			Anticipated Response rate (%)	n _{net}	n _{gross}	n _{eff}
		Deff _c	Deff _p	Deff				
Austria	Selection of individuals: Telephone book	1,27	1,26	1,59		2406	3800	1509
Belgium	Selection of individuals: National register	1,30	1,00	1,30	63,00	1798	3249	1388
Bulgaria	Area based	1,76	1,22	2,15	60,00	1400	2357	653
Cyprus	Selection of households: Census 2001	1,00	1,21	1,21	70,00	995	1485	822
Denmark	Selection of individuals: Central Person Register	1,00	1,00	1,00	62,00	1505	3000	1505
Estonia	Selection of individuals: Population register	1,00	1,00	1,00	75,00	1517	2800	1517
Finland	Selection of individuals: Population register	1,00	1,00	1,00	70,00	1896	3000	1896
France	Area based	1,24	1,17	1,45	50,00	1986	4680	1368
Germany	Selection of individuals: Local residents registers	2,19	1,11	2,43	70,00	2916	5712	1202
Hungary	Selection of individuals: Electronic population register	1,41	1,25	1,77		1518	2635	858
Ireland	Selection of addresses: GeoDirectory	1,31	1,27	1,67	70,00	1802	3400	1080
Latvia	Selection of addresses: State Land Services				70,00			
The Netherlands	Selection of addresses: List of postal delivery points	1,00	1,21	1,21	70,00	1889	3254	1561
Norway	Selection of individuals: National Population Register	1,00	1,00	1,00	70,00	1750	2750	1750
Poland	Selection of individuals: Personal records of population	1,12	1,05	1,17	66,39	1721	2574	1467
Portugal	Area based	1,80	1,24	2,23	70,00	2222	3135	998
Romania	Area based				2139			
Russian Federation	Area based	1,83	1,32	2,42	70,00	2437	3551	1008
Slovakia	Selection of individuals: Central register of citizens	1,00	1,00	1,00	70,00	1766	2500	1766
Slovenia	Selection of individuals: Central register of population	1,38	1,00	1,38	70,00	1476	2340	1066
Spain	Selection of individuals: Continuous Census	1,16	1,02	1,18	70,00	1876	3290	1592
Sweden	Selection of individuals: Population register	1,00	1,00	1,00	67,00	1926	3000	1926
Switzerland	Selection of households: Telephone book	1,00	1,21	1,21	53,00	1804	3713	1491
United Kingdom	Selection of addresses: Postcode address files	1,36	1,27	1,73	55,00	2394	4752	1386
Ukraine	Area based	1,45	2,13	3,08	67,00	2002	3014	651

Workpackage 4: Translation of instruments (GESIS)

4.1 Process and method

A specialist multi-nation Translation Taskforce², chaired by Janet Harkness of GESIS was set up in Round 1 to develop and implement the most appropriate approach to ESS translation and review. A revised version of the Guidelines on translation and assessment were produced in the course of Round 3 and were posted on the ESS website.

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.
- All ESS translations have to be available as written applications or questionnaires. Oral / live translations are not permitted and this was emphasised to avoid their use (one country had allowed this in a previous round of the ESS).
- 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 4.1) should be able to benefit from each other’s translations. Such countries were therefore encouraged to consult and reduce differences across translations when this was beneficial. At the same time, the aim was to ensure that every country used the 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 Coordinators at a series of plenary meetings. An ‘Asked Question’ function was introduced in Round 2 to support activities of the ESS translation helpline and in Round 3 a FAQ document was posted on the ESS website.
- The revised version of the Translation Guidelines³ produced in Round 3 incorporated material that was developed in supplements in Round 2 into the main body of the guidelines. Newcomers to the ESS can now receive all the translation information in one document.

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 comparable 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 encouraged to provide feedback on draft versions of the source questionnaire by the City team before questions were finally formulated. In addition, the structured procedures proposed in the ESS translation assessment guidelines required participating countries to put great care into their translation efforts. Details of requirements were explicitly included in the ESS Project Specification so that they could be appropriately costed.

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 need to 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 more people.

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

² The ESS Translation Taskforce consists of: Janet Harkness, Convenor; GESIS-ZUMA, USA; Beth-Ellen Pennell; University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, USA; Alisú Schoua-Glusberg; Research Support Services, Evanston, Illinois, USA; Paul Kussmaul; formerly University of Mainz, Germany; independent consultant and Christine W. L. Wilson; Heriot-Watt University, UK.

³ Accessible from the ESS website:

http://www.europeansocialsurvey.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=66&Itemid=112

- 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 were asked to produce either parallel or split translations:

- Parallel translations involve several people making independent translations of the same questionnaire. Then at a reconciliation meeting the reviewer and translators review the questionnaire item-by-item and agree on a final reviewed 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 receives fifty per cent of the material, spread across the questionnaire. Each translator then 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 Rounds 1-3 of the ESS produced parallel translations. In most cases, too, review and adjudication processes were merged wholly or in part. No problems were reported by national teams 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 and the 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, Pennell and Schoua-Glusberg, 2004, Harkness and Schoua-Glusberg, 1998; Hambleton, 2005).

4.3 Procedures for countries with ‘shared’ languages

Table 4.1 shows the ESS countries that shared languages in Round 3

Table 4.1: ‘Shared’ languages in ESS Round 3

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

As noted, the ESS encourages countries sharing languages to consult and cooperate but does not follow a policy of deliberate and strict harmonisation. Differences in usage between countries sharing a language may sometimes be quite marked. It was emphasised that no country’s version could or should be considered as definitive or even preferred. At the same time, consultation after providing one’s own first draft can be useful in multiple ways. 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 section 2.3 of the current Translation Guidelines (available from the ESS website).

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 Taskforce before the consultation process began
- include in their documentation a record of initial differences and subsequent ‘solutions’. The ESS Translation Taskforce 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. However, in effect the translation panel was often only informed about collaboration once it had been undertaken.

Table 4.2 lists the countries from Round 3 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.

Table 4.2: Countries producing more than one translation

Country	Languages	Shared
Belgium	Flemish (Dutch)	Yes
	French	Yes
Estonia	Estonian	No
	Russian	Yes
Finland	Finnish	No
	Swedish	Yes
Latvia	Latvian	No
	Russian	Yes
Slovakia	Slovak	No
	Hungarian	Yes
Spain	Spanish	No
	Catalan	No
	French	Yes
Switzerland	German	Yes
	Italian	No
	Ukrainian	No
Ukraine	Russian	Yes

A preliminary and partial review of some of the translations from Round 2 amongst countries sharing languages suggested 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 will always limit the degree of consultation possible across countries within the existing ESS funding framework. 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 schedule to facilitate such efforts. Such areas might form part of a future ESS infrastructure.

4.4 Selecting translators, reviewers and adjudicators

Guidelines were provided to National Coordinators on what were 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 Guidelines - available from the ESS website), 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 to 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 optimal translations from the original English. The annotations were developed in collaboration with the City team and the QDTs.

4.6 Translation and documentation

As noted, all National Coordinators 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 that comprises all the comments from participating countries on individual questions designed to inform future rounds of the ESS and future analysts more generally. For more discussion of translation documentation see the ESS Translation Guidelines and Harkness, Pennell & Schoua-Glusberg, 2004.

4.7 Translation assessment

Translation assessment activities during Round 3 focused on the following:

- External assessment of ESS questions: In 2006, external translation assessment was carried out on a sample of ESS questions. The aim in doing so was to gain some insight into how countries were faring, but not in any way to act as a substitute for the internal review process that countries must undertake as part of the ESS process. Thirteen languages were involved: 1. Catalan, 2. Czech, 3. Dutch (The Netherlands), 4. Finnish, 5. French (Belgium, France, Luxembourg, Switzerland), 6. German (Switzerland), 7. Greek, 8. Hungarian (Hungary, Slovakia), 9. Luxembourgish, 10. Portuguese (Portugal, Luxembourg), 11. Russian (Estonia, Ukraine and Round 1 translations of Israel), 12 Slovak, and 13 Spanish. The goal was to gain some insight into individual country translations and give the participating countries relevant feedback on their translations. A further goal was to gain insights into recurring translation problems. Findings of this kind can inform future translation guidelines and protocols and also survey design. In some cases countries were individually informed of relevant findings. All ESS National Coordinators were provided with several presentations based on assessment activities at plenary meetings.
- Following the assessment work, we conducted a review of literature on assessment and translation quality benchmarking. This work was also not covered by an ESS budget. Depending on resources, the plan is to draw together findings from this literature and findings from the ESS assessment work and from other international project assessments.

- In collaboration with the City team, we consulted with a few countries on changes to their translation of core questions, indicating that translations should only be changed if it was expected that the existing translation introduced bias.

4.8 Participation in question design sub-group

As a member of the subgroup on questionnaire design, members of the Translation Taskforce participated in reviews of questionnaire drafts of rotating modules to be used in Round 3 and in discussions and meetings with the drafting teams.

Workpackage 5: Fieldwork commissioning (SCP)

5.1 Central specifications

For Round 3 new project specifications were drafted in close cooperation between Workpackages 1, 3 and 6. The specifications for Round 3 were based on the specifications for Round 2 which had in turn drawn on those developed for the first round. Differences between the documents originate from new methodological insights, from clarifications requested by National Coordinators in previous rounds and from observed deviations in previous rounds. The general rules for fieldwork procedures, however, remained essentially the same:

- Countries are set a target response rate of 70%, and a maximum noncontact rate of 3%. Naturally, these targets could not be turned into contractual conditions. In the contracting phase (see below) extensive discussions based on experiences from previous rounds, general best practices and costings took place with many National Coordinators to ensure that these targets were pursued as far as possible within the available budget. The procedures for calculating 'response rates' were also set out in the specification.
- The specification required that interviewers had to make at least four personal visits to a sampled 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 two 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 four month period from September-December 2006.
- 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 two assignments.
- Interviewers were to be personally briefed about all aspects of the survey.

Aside from general revisions of guidelines, all documents were evaluated and amended for Round 3 a task overseen by Workpackage 2. Changes arose partly as a result of consultation with National Coordinators that was set up to determine the successes and weaknesses of the Round 2 documents. The Project Instructions were also revised. As always, all documents are available on the ESS website. The ESS-R3 specifications are available from:

http://www.europeansocialsurvey.org/index.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_view&gid=86&Itemid=80

5.2. Contracting

Activities with respect to contracting in ESS Round 3 were focused on overseeing commissioning of fieldwork in all participating countries in accordance with the central specifications, previous experiences with contracting, deviances in Round 2 and best practice guidelines. In Round 3, based on experiences from previous rounds a checklist for fieldwork commissioning was developed for the first time. Both of these activities were carried out jointly with Workpackage 6 (more information about contract monitoring is reported in WP6) and the checklist was also developed in cooperation with Workpackage 2.

The ESS Round 3 fieldwork checklist includes information on the following:

- Name of person filling in the questionnaire
- Name of survey organisation selected for fielding the ESS
- Contract/agreement made with the survey organisation
- Questionnaire information (mode used, translation issues, additional questions in ESS questionnaire)
- Pretesting of questions
- Interviewers
- Contact schedule and response rate enhancing procedures during fieldwork
- Fieldwork (timing, target response rates, number of interviews, fieldwork monitoring)
- Fieldwork quality control procedures (back-check)
- Survey costs
- Amendments and Remarks

Questions in the fieldwork checklist included basic practical information often requiring a simple tick to indicate that a requirement was or would be met. In other cases questions would ask for detailed information about targets and how these would be pursued. Often the completed checklist was the start of subsequent discussions on how to meet the ESS specifications and how to improve quality. After the checklists had been signed off by the contracting team, the National Coordinators were asked to send the final contract or agreement to the CCT – if such a document existed. Contrary to previous rounds, this document did not have to be translated into English as the checklist comprised the necessary information.

An overview of fieldwork organisations selected to conduct ESS fieldwork in Round 3 is given below.

Table 5.1: ESS fieldwork organisations Round 3

Country	Fieldwork organisation: Name	Website
Austria	ipr-Sozialforschung	www.ipr.co.at
Belgium	TNS Dimarso	www.tns-global.be/Dimarso.htm
Bulgaria	Vitosha Research EOOD	www.vitosha-research.com
Cyprus	Research Center, Cyprus College	www.rsunit.com
Denmark	SFI-Survey	www.sfi.dk
Estonia	OÜ Saar Poll	www.saarpoll.ee
Finland	Statistics Finland	www.stat.fi
France	ISL (GfK)	www.islavialle.fr
Germany	Infas (Institut für angewandte Sozialwissenschaft GmbH)	www.infas.de
Hungary	Gallup Organization Hungary	www.gallup.hu
Ireland	Economic and Social Research Institute	www.esri.ie
Latvia	Institute of Sociological Research	www.sociology.lv
Netherlands	GfK Panel Services Benelux Nederland	www.gfk.nl
Norway	Statistics Norway	www.ssb.no
Poland	Centre of Sociological Research (ORBS), Institute of Philosophy and Sociology PAN	www.ifispan.waw.pl
Portugal	TNS Euroteste	www.tnsglobal.com/global/europe/portugal/
Romania	Center for Urban and Regional Sociology – CURS-SA	www.curs.ro
Russia	CESSI-Russia	www.cessi.ru
Slovak Republic	GfK Slovakia, Institute for Market Research, Ltd.	www.gfk.sk
Slovenia	Public Opinion and Mass Communications Research Center, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ljubljana	www.fdv.uni-lj.si www.cjm.si/index.php/Glavna_stran
Spain	Metroscopia	www.metroscopia.es
Sweden	Statistics Sweden	www.scb.se
Switzerland	MIS Trend	www.mistrend.ch
UK	BMRB	www.bmrbb.co.uk
Ukraine	Center for Social and Political Investigations SOCIS	www.socis.kiev.ua

Workpackage 6: Contract adherence and deviations

The Specification for Participating Countries contained details of the various responsibilities and obligations of National Coordinators, survey houses and the CCT itself (as the overall co-ordinating group). To ensure adherence with the Specification the countries were monitored and supported at several stages of their survey preparation: (1) Where applicable, feedback was given on performance in previous rounds on the **IMPORTANT** aspects of the survey process, before plans for Round 3 fieldwork were made. (2) The CCT signed-off a fieldwork questionnaire with each country to check the content of the contracts with the survey organisations, before the contract with the survey organisation was signed. (3) During fieldwork several members of the CCT were involved with monitoring fieldwork progress. (4) After fieldwork completion and data deposit the CCT prepared a report on compliance with the Specifications.

6.1 Feedback on previous performance

For each country participating in a previous round of the ESS, WP6 prepared an individual feedback report on compliance with the Specification regarding key aspects of the survey process, such as sampling, translation and fieldwork implementation in the previous round. The reports were sent to each country in advance of the Round 3 preparations, to be used in deciding on the ESS implementation in Round 3. In a few instances countries (eg UK and Hungary) came back with queries regarding their deviations and discussed these issues with their survey organisation.

6.2 Content of contracts

As in previous rounds, the costs for fielding the ESS Round 3 were to be borne by national funders. As a consequence, the participating countries were responsible for the selection of the national survey organisations. The Specifications laid down that only high quality survey organisations should be appointed for the ESS. In the CCT, WP5 oversees the commissioning of fieldwork organisations to help and support the countries in the selection process, and works in close cooperation with WP6. The two workpackages were eager to ensure that the contracts with the survey organisations complied as closely as possible with the Specification.

The precise nature and content of the ESS contracts with survey houses differed from country to country, but they naturally had many common elements. In order to consistently monitor the plans for implementing the ESS in 25 different countries, WP6 and WP5, in cooperation with WP2, developed a fieldwork questionnaire, which covered all important aspects of the survey process, including sampling, translation, interviewing and data deposit. All countries were required to fill in the questionnaire and return it to WP5 and WP6. The plans for ESS implementation were then further discussed with the countries aiming to find an optimal strategy in each country. In the end, all implementation plans were signed-off.

6.3 Fieldwork projections and progress checking of fieldwork

During the ESS fieldwork period, fieldwork progress is closely monitored, both by the National Coordinators and members of the Central Coordinating Team. For each country a contact person from the CCT was appointed to act as fieldwork monitor. Persons from WP2, WP5 and WP6 were engaged in this task with the work designed overseen by WP2. As in Round 2, all countries and survey organisations were asked to provide a projection of interviews to be completed each week of fieldwork at least one month prior to the start of fieldwork. These projections should allow for the early identification of difficulties during fieldwork. And the early diagnosis of problems should make them easier to remedy, within the allocated fieldwork period. The vast majority of countries participating in Round 3 delivered a projection.

National Coordinators 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 experience gained from Round 2, these recommendations had been updated for Round 3.

During the fieldwork period, monitors kept in touch with the National Coordinators, they checked the progress reports, and discussed any problems that emerged with them. Based on the information gathered, global progress reports were prepared and presented to the National Coordinators and other relevant bodies of the ESS.

6.4 Compliance and divergence

The overall Coordinator (City) 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 equivalence between countries on the one hand and appropriate variation on the other (see WP2).

In some cases, participating countries wished to deviate from the Specifications in order to accommodate their local situation. For instance, Norway, which had problems in finalising fieldwork in due time in Round 2, wanted to start fieldwork a week before the official start date of data collection in order to be able to finish fieldwork before Christmas. In another case, Switzerland asked to use fewer interviewers with a higher workload than allowed in the Specification because of a lack of well-trained face-to-face interviewers. In both cases, it was agreed that these were necessary deviations.

In other cases, unplanned deviations occurred and came to light only once the deposited 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).

All deviations which adversely affected equivalence are documented in this report and on the data website. The documentation covers important aspects of all stages of the survey process. In addition, this information will be reported back to the National Coordinators on an individual basis. Measures on how to avoid similar problems in the future will be discussed with the National Coordinators, in order to achieve learning and continuous improvement from round to round.

Below we summarise *all* deviations from the Specification, no matter how minor. By no means will all of these actually affect the reliability of the data collected. But for the sake of transparency they are all recorded and made available to all users so that they have access to information about all stages of the survey process that might have impacted on the data. 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.

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)*

All countries complied with this requirement.

Requirement: *Before the fieldwork contract has been signed or the fieldwork proposal has been agreed upon, a checklist – to be provided by the CCT – detailing data collection procedures will have to be completed by the NC and then signed off by the CCT. Adherence to the fieldwork specifications...will be one item on the checklist.... A copy of the final contract, referring to the survey specifications and the signed off checklist, must be forwarded to the CCT as soon as it has been agreed upon by all partners. (4.2)*

All countries filled-in the checklist and discussed it with the CCT. All checklists were signed-off.

All but four countries (Austria, Bulgaria, Romania and Latvia) have forwarded their contract or proposal to the CCT.

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): Portugal, United Kingdom

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

All countries complied with this requirement.

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

All but two countries (Latvia and Romania) provided the CCT with a data set containing the selection probabilities of every sample unit in the gross sample.

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)

All but 7 countries reached the required effective sample size. Countries with deviations from the effective sample size (for details see sampling section of this report): Ukraine, Bulgaria, Hungary, Portugal, Russia, Ireland, Germany

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.]

Except for Austria, all countries carried out pre-tests of the translated questionnaire.

Countries with pre-test sample size less than 45

Less than 30: Belgium, Latvia, Spain, Ireland, United Kingdom

Between 30 and 44: Slovakia, Finland, Sweden, Denmark

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%: France, Denmark, Switzerland, Germany, United Kingdom, Ireland, the Netherlands

Between 60% and 69%: Belgium, Austria, Finland, Estonia, Slovenia, Norway, Ukraine, Bulgaria, Hungary, Spain, Cyprus, Sweden, Russia

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

Five countries reached the target non-contact rate of 3% and another five countries reached a non-contact rate of below 5%.

Countries with non-contact rates above 3%

More than 5% non-contacts: Cyprus⁴, Ireland, Denmark⁵, Estonia, Romania, Latvia, Austria, United Kingdom, Spain, France, Ukraine, Poland, Russia, Finland, Slovenia

Between 3 and 5% non-contacts: Germany, Hungary, Slovakia, Portugal, Sweden

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

⁴ In Cyprus the fieldwork agency stopped fieldwork when the target number of interviews had been reached. 381 sample units were never attempted and counted as non-contacts.

⁵ In Denmark the population can declare that they do not want to be contacted for any research purposes (including academic and government research). 360 sample units that had opted out in this way. They could therefore not be attempted by the interviewers and were counted as non-contacts.

d) Questionnaire

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

All countries implemented the core and supplementary questionnaire as specified without major deviations.⁶

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)

All countries complied with this requirement.⁷

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 data file alongside the interview data. (5.13)

All countries submitted contact form data.

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

Countries with some sample members missing in the contact forms dataset: Romania, Cyprus, United Kingdom, Germany

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 2006. (5.12)

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

Countries with fieldwork not completed by December 31st 2006

Fieldwork ending later than June 2007: Austria, Latvia, Ireland

Fieldwork ending March through May 2007: Estonia, Denmark, France, Switzerland, Spain, the Netherlands

Fieldwork ending February 2007: Slovakia, Portugal, Belgium, Sweden

Fieldwork ending January 2007: Romania, Hungary, Germany, United Kingdom, Russia, Bulgaria, Ukraine

Countries with fieldwork lasting longer than 4 months

More than 5 months: Ireland, Denmark, Switzerland, Estonia, France, the Netherlands

Between 4 and 5 months: Spain, Portugal, Germany, Sweden, United Kingdom, Norway

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)

All countries complied with this requirement.

⁶ For details of individual questions that were not implemented in line with the source questionnaire, please refer to the Documentation Report available on the ESS data website.

⁷ Based on the analysis of the variable SPLTADMA in version 1 of the integrated ESS3 data set (ESS3e01)

Requirement: At least four personal visits by interviewers to each sampling unit are required before it is abandoned as non-productive, including at least one visit in the evening and at least one at the weekend. (5.6)

All but two countries (Finland, Austria) required their interviewers to carry out at least 4 visits. All but two countries (Germany, Finland) required their interviewers to carry out at least 1 visit in the evening and at least 1 visit on the weekend.

Nevertheless, not all interviewers actually kept to these requirements, as the analysis of the contact forms data shows.

Countries with less than four visits to non-contacts

Countries where more than 71% of non-contacts had less than four visits:

Germany

Countries where 41%- 70% of non-contacts had less than four visits: Denmark, Russia, Slovenia

Countries where 10%- 40% of non-contacts had less than four visits: Finland, Poland

Countries with non-contacts not visited in the evening

Countries where 41%- 70% of non-contacts were not visited in the evening:

Germany

Countries where 10%- 40% of non-contacts were not visited in the evening: Slovenia, Denmark, Cyprus, Russia, Poland, Sweden, Portugal

Countries with non-contacts not visited at the weekend

Countries where more than 71% of non-contacts were not visited at the weekend: Finland, Germany

Countries where 41%- 70% of non-contacts were not visited at the weekend: Denmark

Countries where 10%- 40% of non-contacts were not visited at the weekend: Sweden, Slovenia, Russia, United Kingdom, Poland, Cyprus, Portugal, Spain

Requirement: All interviews had to be conducted face-to-face.

All countries complied with this requirement.

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)

All but one country (Sweden) carried out personal interviewer briefings.

Countries where not all interviewers were briefed personally: Estonia, Bulgaria, Spain, Finland

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. This implies that the maximum number of interviews one interviewer can conduct is 48 interviews. (5.12)

Countries with some interviewers conducting more than 48 interviews: Switzerland, Portugal, Spain, United Kingdom, Norway, Cyprus, Belgium

Requirement: "Quality control back-checks (in person, by telephone or by post) must be carried out and documented in a pre-specified form on at least 5% of respondents, 10% of refusals and 10% of non-contacts." Quality control back-checks of respondents have to be carried out in person or by phone. (5.12)

All but one country (Norway) carried out back-checking.

h) Events data

*Requirement: The National Coordinator needs 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 two weeks before the start of fieldwork and continuing until the fieldwork has ended. (3.3)*⁸

Countries without events data: Austria, Latvia

Workpackage 7: Piloting and Quality Control (University of Leuven)

The objectives of this workpackage are: overseeing a successful two-nation quantitative pilot study; assessing the quality of constructs in the pilot study; detecting problems in interviewer-respondent interaction in the pilot study; subsequently setting up and implementing evaluation procedures that help to assess and, wherever possible, improve data quality in the main survey; obtain information of response processes, differential response rates and possible bias as a consequence of non-response.

7.1 Overseeing a successful two-nation quantitative pilot study

The questionnaires to be used in the pilots were prepared in several meetings during the months July-November 2005 (see Workpackage 2). A specification for the pilot was written in collaboration with City and then a tendering process conducted by Leuven. After negotiations in December 2005 the contracts with the fieldwork organisations that were to conduct the pilot fieldwork were prepared. These organisations were the Economic and Social Research Institute (ESRI) in Ireland, and the Centre of Sociological Research (ORBS), Institute of Philosophy and Sociology, Polish Academy of Science. The fieldwork in Ireland and Poland was scheduled to start in the third week of January 2006 and to finish at the end of the second week of February.

The institutes agreed to deliver 400 completed interviews each at the end of February 2006. Full pilot reports describing the methodology used are available on request from ESS@City.ac.uk. The pilot studies were designed to test some possible additions to the core questions and the two new rotating modules on the life course and well-being (see Workpackage 2). The pilot was also designed to include the methodological testing instrument - the supplementary questionnaire.

The contracts agreed with the survey organisations oblige them to provide extensive reports on problems that were found during the interviews which would then be discussed with the Questionnaire Design Teams prior to the preparation of the final questionnaires.

In view of data quality control, the analysis was focused on specific characteristics of the distributions of all new questions (% missing, % in extreme categories, % in middle categories). This step was in close cooperation with WP2.

Correlations and factor structure tests were performed on sets of items that were intended to measure theoretical concepts. This step was in close cooperation with WP2 and WP8. Several concepts and their indicators were discussed with the Questionnaire Design Teams (QDTs), and proposals for improvement made. The QDTs also conducted their own detailed analysis of the pilot data. As in previous Rounds, final decisions were made in agreement with the QDTs (see WP2 for more detail about this).

7.2 Setting up and implementing evaluation procedures that help to assess and, wherever possible, improve data quality in the main survey

1) Overview of data quality issues

Data quality concerns all stages of the ESS.⁹ This workpackage is concerned with quality assessment of the datasets before they are released to users. Quality control procedures rely on close cooperation between the CCT, National Coordinators and the survey organisations carrying out the fieldwork in each country. The aim is to ensure continuous supervision and control of interviewers and fieldwork procedures. Thus, this workpackage is integrally linked with

⁸Information from event reports website (<http://www.scp.nl/ess/events/r3/>) on 12-12-07.

⁹ A complete description of the philosophy behind the quality assessment is described in: Loosveldt et al. (2004).

Workpackages 2, 3, 5 and 6. A key focus of this workpackage has been on data quality in the main survey and particularly assessing response rates, contact rates and the resulting bias in survey estimates. The following section gives an overview of the essential (and preliminary) steps to assess data quality in the ESS.

Call record data was delivered by participating countries (from February 2007 onwards) according to an agreed data protocol. Call record data records every contact attempt with every selected sample unit throughout the survey process. The data protocol was developed together with the corresponding syntax (a SAS programme), which enabled systematic and standardised control of the data sets¹⁰.

The following steps were then undertaken:

- ensuring call record data was present for all sample units;
- matching of call record data between each sample unit in the contact forms and the main files;
- ensuring all variable codes and value categories are recorded in the data set in line with the data protocol;
- ensuring all records are related to visits and calls made by interviewers;
- ensuring full information for each visit eg timing (dates and hours), sequence and mode used;
- checking information related to non-response units: neighbourhood characteristics;
- checking information related to refusals: the sequence and reason for refusals; estimation of future cooperation; and age and gender;
- checking information on ineligible units; and
- checking interviewer information.

2) Process of data quality assessment on call record data

The success of these tasks requires excellent communication with National Coordinators because queries often require further investigation. Some countries respond fairly quickly when queries were raised but others did not. In addition the volume of queries differs markedly between countries. Some countries, for example Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus and Finland, had a relatively small number of queries whereas the number of queries in other countries, for example Germany, Portugal, Slovenia and Switzerland, was relatively high.

3) Summary of assessment

A number of other issues arose during the assessment process:

- Due to national data protection legislation some countries had to restrict access to full information related to neighbourhood characteristics and the age and gender of non-productive sample units leading to a complete loss of information (Denmark, Norway, Sweden);
- In Cyprus a misunderstanding about the response rate calculation process led to fieldwork being terminated once a response rate close to 70% had been achieved resulting in an extremely high non contact rate.
- Loss of contact forms themselves or the loss of all information on several key variables resulted in difficulties in retrieving accurate records for all cases (Slovenia, Slovakia, UK);
- There was generally a high number of errors in cases where there was no interview;
- There was a high concentration of errors related to refusals (the sequence and reason for refusals, the estimation of future cooperation as well as the age and gender);
- There were frequent and consistent errors related to the coding of ineligible units.

4) Recommendations for future rounds

Based on these findings recommendations for future rounds of the ESS have been made:

- To provide detailed briefings for National Coordinators to ensure that the contact forms are filled out in a standardised way across countries and that the information is correctly recorded in the final dataset;
- To try to capture more information about refusal cases;
- To make some adjustments to the contact forms:
 - Set up additional categories to (i) record information from those who refuse any interaction with the survey organisation at all; ii) clearly record cases where an error in the information in the sample frame itself prevents contact with the sample unit (eg Belgium)
 - Correct routing procedures to ensure the neighbourhood characteristics are recorded among all sample units

¹⁰ For a detailed description of this process see Symons et al. (2008).

including all ineligible units.

5) Overview of overall results

Among the first 19 countries that were investigated some of the ESS rules were followed better than others. The final nonresponse codes per country are displayed in Table 7.1

Table 7.1: Final Nonresponse Codes by country¹¹

Country	Final code					Total
	Response	Non-contact	Refusal	Not able/other nonresponse		
BE N	1798	85	710	354	2947	
%	61.01	2.88	24.09	12.01	100	
BG N	1400	58	565	139	2162	
%	64.75	2.68	26.13	6.43	100	
CH N	1801	80	1467	253	3601	
%	50.01	2.22	40.74	7.03	100	
CY N	995	32	62	390 ⁽¹²⁾	1479	
%	67.28	2.16	4.19	26.37	100	
DE N	2916	276	1400	916 ⁽¹³⁾	5508	
%	52.94	5.01	25.42	16.63	100	
DK N	1505	99	1122 ⁽¹⁴⁾	238	2964	
%	50.78	3.34	37.85	8.03	100	
ES N	1876	93	615	248	2832	
%	66.24	3.28	21.72	8.76	100	
FI N	1896	79	683	288	2946	
%	64.36	2.68	23.18	9.78	100	
FR N	1987	286	1754	293	4320	
%	46.00	6.62	40.60	6.78	100	
GB N	2293	315	1174	620 ⁽¹⁵⁾	4402	
%	52.09	7.16	26.67	14.08	100	
HU N	1516	67	607	108	2298	
%	65.97	2.92	26.41	4.70	100	
NO N	1749	21	703 ⁽¹⁶⁾	245 ⁽¹⁷⁾	2718	
%	64.35	0.77	25.86	9	100	
NL N	1889	81	1052	137	3159	
%	59.80	2.56	33.30	4.34	100	
PL N	1718	31	400	302	2451	
%	70.09	1.26	16.32	12.32	100	
PT N	2220	115	640	79	3054	
%	72.69	3.77	20.96	2.59	100	
RU N	2437	174	837	59	3507	
%	69.49	4.96	23.87	1.68	100	
SE N	1926	60	673	280	2939	
%	65.53	2.04	22.90	9.53	100	
SI N	1474	65	361	373	2273	
%	64.85	2.86	15.88	16.41	100	
SK N	1766	93	356	198	2413	
%	73.19	3.85	14.75	8.21	100	

Looking at Table 7.1 we can identify the following key points:

- Minimum response rate of 70%: only 3 countries (Poland, Portugal and Slovakia) achieved a 70% response rate or above, while a fairly large number of countries (10) achieved response rates of between 60 and 69%;

¹¹ Citation from report (Symons, et al., 2008)

¹² Of which 381 units got never contacted because fieldwork got stopped prematurely.

¹³ Of which 87 units got never contacted for unclear reasons and 76 units are ‘contact form missing’.

¹⁴ Of which 360 units are ‘blocked units’.

¹⁵ Of which 87 units are ‘contact form missing’.

¹⁶ Of which 4 units refused on beforehand by writing to fieldwork administration.

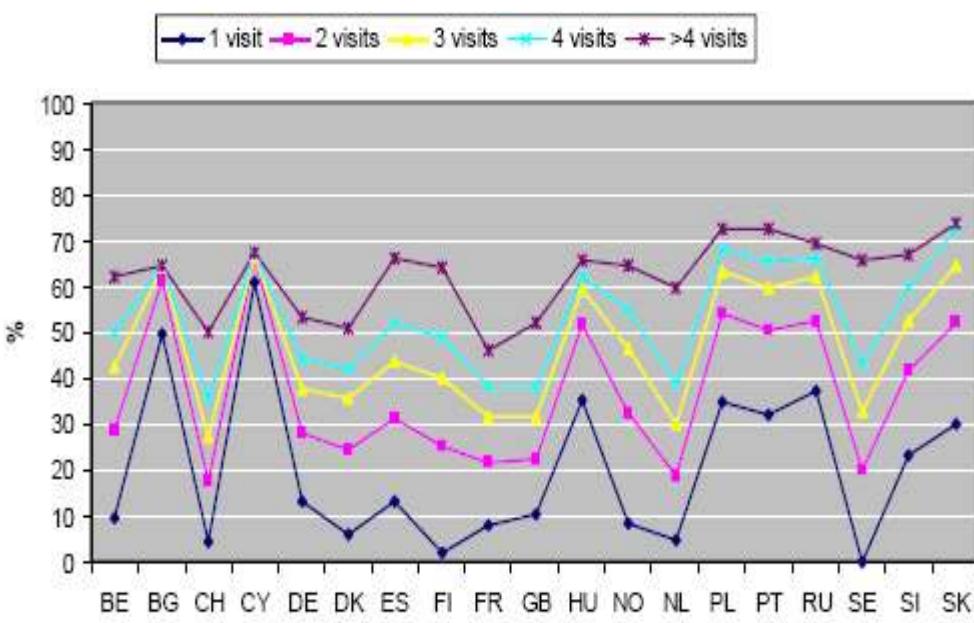
¹⁷ Of which 5 units did not get assigned to an interviewer by mistake.

- The maximum non-contact rate of 3%: a relatively high number of countries (11: Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Finland, Hungary, Poland, Norway, the Netherlands, Slovenia, Slovakia and Switzerland) had less than 3% non-contact rate;
- Response rate trends: performance was relatively stable for most countries between rounds. In addition, improved performance was confirmed for three countries (Spain, Slovakia and Switzerland) but reduced performance was noted for five countries (Denmark, Finland, Hungary, the Netherlands and Slovenia);
- Higher response rates were associated with lower refusal rates and vice versa.

As far as the contact procedure was concerned, in general we can conclude the following:

- Substantial diversity in the implementation of the contact procedure was found between countries;
- Not all countries rigorously implemented the four rules set out in the ESS Project Specification (at least four personal, face-to-face visits; at least one visit in the evening (after 5 pm); at least one visit at the weekend; and minimum fieldwork period for 30 days);
- Adhering to these four protocol rules, however, did not always lead to lower non-contact rates and higher response rates as some countries implemented less but achieved better results; and
- There was an increased chance of interview by each additional visit by an interviewer (see Figure 7.1)

Figure 7.1 Obtained response (interview) rate after number of visits¹⁸

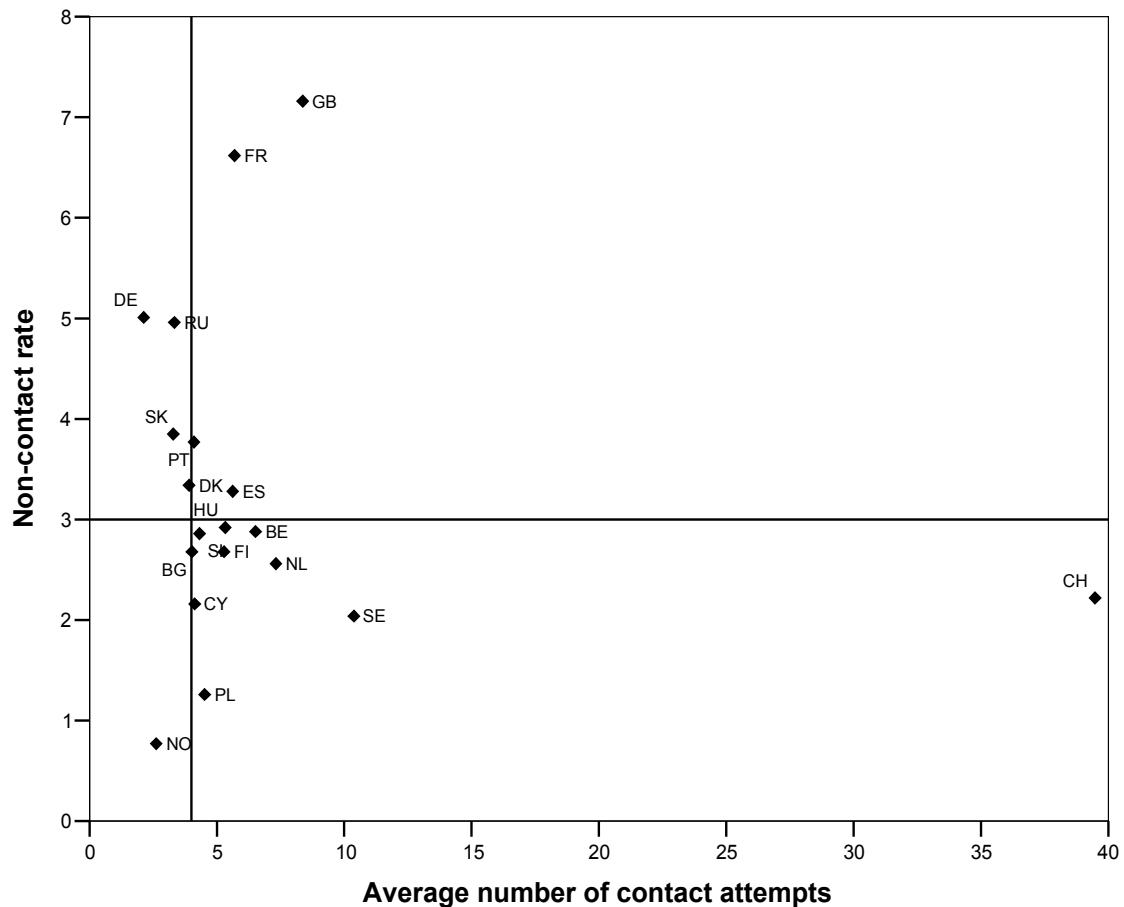


Other aspects of the contact attempts are also studied in view of making suggestions to National Coordinators for strategies to enhance response in future rounds of the ESS. Special attention was paid to the probability of successful contact according to the time of the contact. The full report of the findings can be found in the data quality report (Deliverable 06).¹⁹ One important aspect is the relation between the number of contact attempts and the number of non contacted sampling units (see Figure 7.2).

¹⁸ Citation from report (Symons, et al., 2008)

¹⁹ See Symons et al., 2008.

Figure 7.2 Non-contact rate according to number of contact attempts (ESS Round 3)



6) Refusal conversion activities

The ESS Project Specification recommends refusal conversion activities should be carried out on sample units classified as 'soft refusals' ie there was the possibility of future cooperation. Experienced interviewers were requested to re-approach these units. Our results show that large differences were found between countries in the scale of implementing refusal conversion activities and also in the final response rate after this activity took place (see Table 7.2).

Table 7.2 Outcome refusal conversion activities after initial refusal²⁰

Country	Outcome refusal conversion attempt				Total
	No attempt	Attempt, no contact made	Attempt, contact but no interview	Attempt, completed interview	
BE	n 276	77	378	140	871
	% 31.69	8.84	43.4	16.07	
BG	n 565	0	0	0	565
	% 100	0	0	0	
CH	n 461	24	994	174	1653
	% 27.89	1.45	60.13	10.53	
CY	n 62	0	0	0	62
	% 100	0	0	0	
DE	n 1029	25	431	547	2032
	% 50.64	1.23	21.21	26.92	
DK21	n 757	0	5	2	764
	% 99.08	0	0.65	0.26	
ES	n 311	21	286	154	772
	% 40.28	2.72	37.05	19.95	
FI	n 501	23	159	30	713
	% 70.27	3.23	22.3	4.21	
FR	n 815	128	882	163	1988
	% 41	6.44	44.37	8.2	
GB	n 385	230	577	122	1314
	% 29.3	17.5	43.91	9.28	
HU	n 402	22	183	72	679
	% 59.2	3.24	26.95	10.6	
NL	n 198	69	785	415	1467
	% 13.5	4.7	53.51	28.29	
NO22	n 424	10	266	103	803
	% 52.8	1.25	33.13	12.83	
PL	n 278	7	115	53	453
	% 61.37	1.55	25.39	11.7	
PT	n 594	45	3	16	658
	% 90.27	6.84	0.46	2.43	
RU	n 659	22	156	40	877
	% 75.14	2.51	17.79	4.56	
SE	n 220	9	445	246	920
	% 23.91	0.98	48.37	26.74	
SI	n 237	10	121	91	459
	% 51.63	2.18	26.36	19.83	
SK	n 279	6	74	67	426
	% 65.49	1.41	17.37	15.73	

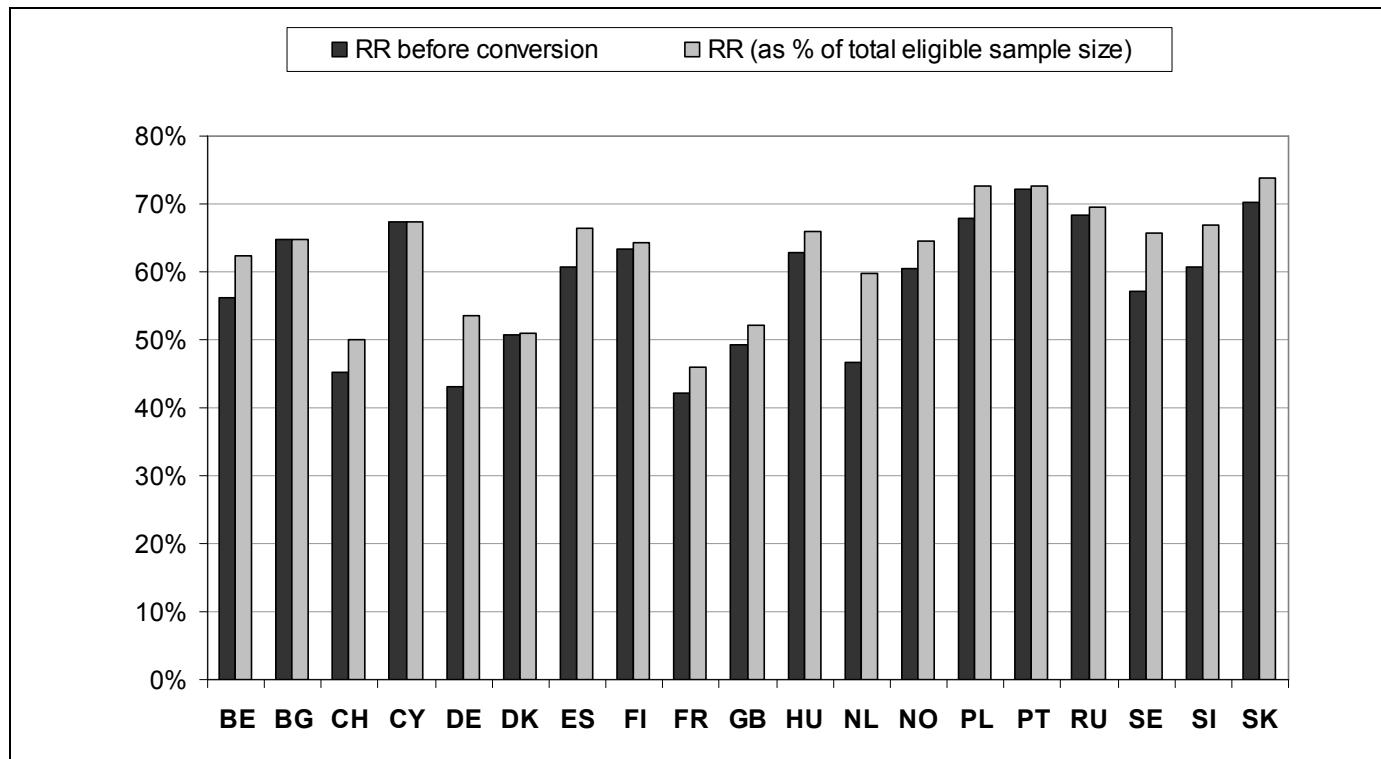
The effect of refusal conversion on response enhancement in Round 3 seems to have improved further - more countries now have substantially higher response rates because of refusal conversion. The figures for Round 3 are shown in Figure 7.3.

²⁰ Ibid.

²¹ The 360 'blocked units' are counted as 'refusal', but are not included in this table because they are not convertible.

²² The four units that refused on forehand are counted as 'refusal', but are not included in this table because they are not convertible.

Figure 7.3 Effects on final response rates of refusal conversion in ESS Round 3



7) Equivalence of measurements

Another aspect of data quality deals with cross-cultural equivalence tests for latent variables. This work has mainly been conducted in the context of substantive studies that are beyond the scope of the funding provided for under this contract. Several value sets and attitudinal variables (trust in politics, political efficacy, ethnic treat, etc) are tested in the context of a study on religion and values²³, a study on ethnic discrimination²⁴ and a study on attitudes towards immigrants and values. These papers have been included in two book volumes and included in the European Journal of Sociology.

Workpackage 8: Design and Analysis of pilot studies (University of Amsterdam)

The objectives of this workpackage were to ensure quality control during the questionnaire design process, design experiments to evaluate new measures and to analyse the pilot survey results with a view to maximising the reliability and validity of the final questionnaire.

8.1 Progress towards the objectives – tasks worked on and achievements made with reference to planned objectives

The main tasks that were given attention were:

- an evaluation of the proposed questionnaires for ESS Round 3 and
- proposals for MTMM (Multi-trait, multi-method) experiments for this round.

The first activity concentrated on commenting on the module and question proposals produced by the Questionnaire Design Teams. Willem Saris from Amsterdam acted as a member of the questionnaire design subgroup and worked with the teams to improve their modules. After much work, discussion and design the questions that would be used for each module in the pilot study were established. This process highlighted a number of questions with outstanding issues that needed to be explored during the pilot.

²³ Billiet, J. & Meulemann, B., 'Religious diversity in Europe and its relation to social attitudes and value orientations' Paper presented at ESSRHA International Conference, Istanbul: 18-19 October 2007

²⁴ Billiet, J. & Meulemann, B. 'Measuring attitudes and feelings towards discrimination in cross-nation research: lessons learned from the European Social Survey' 33rd CEIES Seminar on Ethnic and Racial Discrimination in the Labour Market, Malta, 6-7 June 2007

In order to test various alternative question formats to assist in the selection of the optimal form for main stage data collection, a Supplementary questionnaire is used in the pilot. A supplementary questionnaire is used to test core and rotating module questions at the pilot stage. It is administered after the main questionnaire using face-to-face mode in the two pilot countries (in Round 3 in Ireland and Poland). Respondents are randomly allocated to one of three versions of the supplementary questionnaire.

The issues that were considered in the Round 3 pilot were as follows:

a) Does an increase in the number of response categories lead to better data?

One point that was discussed in the design of the well-being module is whether a fully labelled 5 point scale, anchored 7 point scale or the standard ESS 11 point scale would produce the highest quality. It was decided that tests would be done in the pilot to compare the quality of each of these scales.

b) Can variation in the scales increase data quality?

Another discussion that arose during the design of the rotating modules was whether or not variation in scales keeps respondents engaged with the questions and in turn produces better data. The argument is that too many similar question formats lead to response set and/or acquiescence, otherwise known as 'method effects'. If method effects are present they would lead to bias, in turn increasing correlations which have no substantive meaning. A second test therefore explored the hypothesis that these method effects will be increased by the repeated use of the same scales.

c) Is the 7 point scale better in cross cultural research?

Another suggestion that was considered was that anchored 7 point scales are better for cross national research. However, it was decided to test this in the main stage fieldwork for the third round rather than during the pilot.

These various research questions were transformed into experiments, which were evaluated in the pilot study – with the exception of the third question that was tested in the main stage.

8.2 The results of the tests in the Round 3 pilot

The analysis of the data from the first experiment showed that the mean quality of 11 point scales is higher than the quality of either the 5 point scale or the 7 point scale. This result holds for both pilot countries (Ireland and Poland). This result is also in agreement with findings from over 87 experiments of this kind reported in Saris et al. (2004). The difference in quality between the 11 point scale and the 5 point scales was not very large but both scales were much better than the 7 point scale tested. This is not in line with earlier results. The reason for this may be that the 7 point scale was labelled from 'strongly agree' to 'strongly disagree' but the numbers did not range from 0 – 6 as used in the other scales but in the opposite direction. This could have been confusing for respondents.

The conclusion that was drawn on the basis of these results is that the increase in the number of response categories from 5 to 11 improves data quality. The quality could even be increased somewhat more by use of fixed reference points on the scale such as "completely agree" and "completely disagree" (Saris et al 2004). The results for the 7 point scale were different from the expectations. The reversal of the numbers at the categories may have been the cause.

The second experiment aimed to look at the impact of varying scales. The hypothesis was that variation would help keep respondents engaged, awake and reduce the likelihood of satisficing. Variation was introduced by using only five point scales for the first experimental group for all of the items in the supplementary questionnaire; while Group 2 had 11 point scales first and then 5 point scales. So if variation reduces method effects, the effect should be smaller in Group 2 than in Group 1. Alongside this experiment, 7 point scales were used with Group 3. The purpose was to see whether the 7 point scale had more method effects than the 5 point scale.

Although the hypotheses sound plausible the expected effects were not found in the pilot study. A possible reason for the lack of method effects in this case was that the items in the scale tested represented both positive and negative points of view and a positive item was always followed by a negative one and vice versa which itself acts as a form of variation. The conclusion here is that the questionnaire designer has to think about the use of the scales carefully. If a respondent answers the questions a bit attentively they would have to switch from agree to disagree all the time. This is what seems to have happened here. However the experimental conclusion was that this experiment did not work as it was intended and in future would have to be designed in a different way.

9.1 Workpackage objectives and starting point of work at beginning of reporting period

The main responsibilities for this workpackage were to design experiments to evaluate questionnaire measures in all countries and to analyse the main stage survey results. In turn it would be possible to help determine the validity and reliability of measures within the questionnaire thus informing analysts of ways to mitigate residual problems in the data.

9.2 Progress towards objectives

As in the pilot (see WP8) the Supplementary Questionnaire is used to test core and rotating module questions included in the main questionnaire. This time however the testing occurs in all participating countries of the main stage fieldwork. The Supplementary Questionnaire is administered after the main questionnaire, either face-to-face or self-completion methods. However each country has to decide in advance which method to use and then apply that uniformly. Respondents were randomly allocated to one of three versions of the supplementary questionnaire. The method of randomisation and choice of mode were confirmed prior to fieldwork to the WP2 team at City to reduce the likelihood of implementation errors.

Summary of proposals

Based on the findings of the experiments conducted in the pilot questionnaire for Round 3 (see WP8), the following experiments were included in the Round 3 mainstage supplementary questionnaire.

1) Rotating module questions

- The pilot experiment on 7-point scales was repeated since the results had not been as expected, probably for methodological reasons. The numbering of the categories was corrected and the experiment included only the three positive items in the question set.
- The pilot experiment on the effect of variation in scales on method effects was repeated. Since the inclusion of both positive and negative items might have reduced method effects the main stage experiment used only positive items. This will make it possible to assess whether balancing the scale reduces the method effects.

2) Core questions

Two topics from the core questionnaire that had not yet been evaluated were also included in the experiments.

- The first topic was questions on immigration. These are currently asked using a 4-point agree/disagree scale but were tested using a 5-point scale, a 4-point scale and a 7-point scale. In this way we can get more information about the effect of the variation of scales and the number of categories included.
- The second topic was the consequences of immigration. These are currently asked using an anchored 11-point scale. The test questions include: a 5-point agree/disagree scale; an 11-point agree/disagree scale; and a 7-point scale.

The design of the experiments included in the main and supplementary questionnaire for Round 3 is indicated in Table 9.1.

Table 9.1 The combination of scales in the main and supplementary questionnaires

Questions (R3 question no.)	Main Questionnaire	Scales used in the supplementary questionnaires of the different groups		
	All	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3
Immigration (B35-B37)	4 TS	5 A/D	4 TS	7 D/A
Consequences of immigration (B38-B40)	11 TS	5 A/D	11 D/A	7 D/A
Satisfaction with work (E26 –E28)	5 A/D	5 A/D	11 TS	11 D/A
Satisfaction with contacts (E40, E43, E45)	5 A/D	5 A/D	5 A/D	7 D/A

Notes: TS = trait specific question A/D = Agree /disagree scale D/A = Disagree/agree scale

In the supplementary questionnaire design, each group was asked 12 questions which enabled the following evaluations to be made:

- The quality of the measure of immigration
- The quality of the measure of the consequences of more immigration
- The effect of the number of answer categories
- The quality of the trait specific scales can be compared with the quality of different agree / disagree scales
- The effect of the lack of variation of scales after 2 and 3 sets of the same scale
- The cross cultural comparability of the 11, 7 and 5 point scale can be compared.

Results of the MTMM experiments

The results of the tests are based on the analysis of 14 countries whose data were available in October 2007. However, a number of countries were omitted. The Scandinavian countries have been omitted for the moment because a different mode of data collection was used for the supplementary questionnaire. Cyprus, Hungary and Romania have also been omitted because of various deviations. These made analysis too complex but it is anticipated that the data from these countries will be analysed at a later date (along with data from the countries which were not available at the time of analysis).

In all 14 countries four MTMM experiments were done according to the Split-Ballot-MTMM design (Saris et al 2004). Using this approach the reliability, validity and method effect can be estimated and the total quality (reliability * validity) of each question can be determined. These quality indices have been estimated and put together in a database, on the basis of which the following conclusions are drawn. The full results of these analyses are presented in a paper by Saris et al (2008) but are summarised below.

i. The quality of the measure of immigration

It is clear that the form chosen for the main questionnaire, using a ‘trait specific’ scale, is far better than the two agree / disagree scales even though the number of categories has been reduced and irrespective of the direction of the scale from ‘agree’ to ‘disagree’ or from ‘disagree’ to ‘agree’.

ii. The quality of the measure of the consequences of more immigration

The same result as noted above can also be seen for the topic ‘consequences of immigration’. Here the trait specific questions again perform much better irrespective of the number of response categories. This is also true for the 7 and 11 point scales which both have a very low quality.

iii. The effect of the number of answer categories

The above results show very clearly that an increase in the number of categories does not automatically mean that better quality data is produced. It is clear that the use of trait specific scales is more important. For the topic ‘immigration’ a trait specific 4-point scale is better than a 5-point and 7-point agree/disagree scale. For the topic ‘consequences of

immigration' the trait specific 11-point scale is twice as good as an 11-point agree/disagree scale. For the 'satisfaction with work' topic the 11-point trait specific scale is also better than the 11-point disagree/agree scale but the difference is smaller²⁵. We also see that the 7-point scale gives rather poor quality results. This requires further research because the scale used each time is in the disagree/agree form. This same result was also found in the equivalent experiment in the pilot of Round 3 (Saris and Gallhofer, 2007). This seems to suggest that there is a specific problem with the 7-point scale.

iv. The quality of the trait specific scales compared with agree/disagree scales

From the above results it is very clear that the use of trait specific scales has important advantages with respect to the quality of the questions. In all cases where a trait specific scale has been used the quality is considerably better than for any form of an agree/disagree scale. This point has previously been made by Saris and Gallhofer (2007). The reason is that the answer categories are much clearer for the respondents and that the cognitive effort for them is much less demanding (Krosnick and Fabrigar, forthcoming).

v. The effect of the similarity of scales on the data quality

For the third and fourth topics the questions in the main questionnaire and in the first version of the supplementary questionnaire (here denoted as group 1) are exactly the same (see Table 9.1 above). The only difference between these questions is that in group 1 more questions with the same format were asked before these specific questions. For the topic 'satisfaction with work' it looks as if the repetition of the same format has a *positive* effect on the quality of the questions because the quality in group 1 is much higher than in the main questionnaire. However, if that is so, this should also be found for the topic 'satisfaction with contacts' because in group 1 the same format is repeated once more. But for these items the quality of the questions in the main questionnaire is better than those for group 1. Given these contradictory results we cannot draw any conclusions about whether the similarity of scales or variation of the scales in the questionnaire improves or reduces the quality of the questions.

vi. The cross cultural comparability of the 11-point, 7-point and 5-point scale

These results suggest that there is no clear indication in this experiment that one scale is more cross culturally comparable than the other. Certainly the 7-point scale is not a good candidate because this scale has rather poor quality most of the time and produces a relatively high variation in quality across countries.

Workpackage 10: Data Archiving and Dissemination (NSD)

As in Round 1 and 2, NSD was responsible for data archiving and distribution of the third wave of ESS data and documentation. This work includes different tasks such as upgrading and maintaining the ESS Archive website, the processing of data and metadata and the upgrading and maintenance of the data distribution mechanism; the official ESS Data website at <http://ess.nsd.uib.no>. Other major tasks have been substantial upgrades and improvements of the data checking and editing programmes, conscientious archiving and back up of all data and metadata, and the provision of information and support services to users.

10.1 The "online workbench"

The ESS Archive website

During the first round of ESS the data archive team developed a comprehensive and user-friendly archive website to be used by national data producers and the CCT. The website served as the central archive service for the ESS 1 and 2, and included all services necessary to plan and produce the required data and documentation deliverables. Updating this website 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 metadata (National Technical Summary). This work started during the first year of Round 3 and was completed by November 2006 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 3 data and documentation files.

The Archive website 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 the data thoroughly, before a draft file is presented to the national teams for their final validation and approval. Through the Archive website, the national teams have access to all programs used and files produced during the data control and editing through the archive website. This ensures full transparency of NSD's processing. All steps and actions are documented in the programs used,

²⁵ A deviating result has been obtained in group 1 for this topic but we believe that this is a memory effect because the questions for the topic in this group were exactly the same as those in the main questionnaire.

and all programs and preliminary data files are permanently archived. This makes it possible to trace back and eventually replicate all decisions, actions and results of the data processing. Approved data, together with required documentation, are then integrated and published on the official ESS Data Website, where there is free access to data and documentation download.

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

ESS 2006 Data Protocol

One of the most important documents available from the ESS Archive website is the [ESS3 - Data Protocol](#) (2006). 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 website. 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 2006 Data Protocol was made available to the national teams on the 26th of June 2006.

Programmes for applying Data Protocol attributes to data files

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

National Technical Summaries

The National Technical Summary form is also a central document that is available from the Archive Website. The form is completed by the national teams and includes all the elements selected for the metadata documentation. It is 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 2006 and was made available to the participating countries in November 2006.

The form is set up with the aim of making the documentation 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 metadata can be presented on the Internet in a standardised and structured language along with the data files. The archive's final ESS3-2006 Documentation Report ([ESS3 -2006 Documentation Report, ed. 2.0](#)) is based on the information given in the technical summaries.

10.2 Data processing

The processing programs

NSD's processing of the national files includes a wide range of completeness and consistency checks. In ESS Round 3, the national files were processed in two major steps engaging 14 programmes of more than 8000 lines altogether. Substantial upgrades to the data processing has been carried out, both as an upgrade of the processing programs to match the new variables in ESS Round 3 but also involving considerable improvements of the checks performed. The automatic procedures were complemented by 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 was exercised with great caution.

Processing and procedures

In Round 3, NSD focused on processing the data files produced from the Main, Supplementary and Interviewer questionnaires, while data files from the Contact Forms and the Sample Data were checked by other work packages and only underwent basic control procedures at NSD. The processing was organised in two main steps, each resulting in a report that documented the data checking and editing that was completed with outputs attached as evidence. Feedback from the national teams on the issues and questions raised in these reports plays an important role in the finalisation of data. Thus, processing ESS data depends on extensive communication between NSD and the National teams. This communication has been crucial to ensure the high quality of the final data. To ensure comparability over time, the comparison of post-coded variables (education, religion, occupation and industry) between rounds was expanded in ESS Round 3.

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.
 - Check of logical inconsistency for selected variables (introduced in this round).
 - Comparison of post-coded variables in ESS Round 2 and ESS Round 3
 - 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 substantive variables: data in substantive 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 a systematic error in a filter instruction or questions not asked correctly etc., this could be a reason to make such variables ‘country specific’ and to move them to a separate country specific file. If the decision is made to retain them in the integrated file, detected deviations are “flagged” to notify users. Decisions to remove variables are made in consultation with both CCT members and National Coordinators.

Metadata processing

Just as important as the processing and merging of the actual ESS data sets, was the processing of the metadata, and the preparation and accommodation for metadata dissemination. The ESS metadata system, producing documentation reports on the ESS Data website as well as through the Nesstar on-line system consists of the following sources, storage databases and outputs:

- ✓ “National Technical Summaries” (NTS), filled in by the National teams, have provided detailed information on administration, funding, implementation, fieldwork, data processing, educational and political systems etc. at a country level. In addition the National teams have delivered other country specific documentation and statistics, for example population statistics.
- ✓ Metadata documenting the ESS in general, and country-specific metadata centrally organised by other work packages in ESS Round 3, were also been collected. This type of metadata consists of, for example, sampling documentation, documentation of design weights, information about module topics, the ESS organisation, general information about the data files and disclaimer for use of data.
- ✓ The ESS metadata were then archived in a generic format in two different databases; a Documentation database with the information from the sources mentioned above, and a Question database combining all information from the Main questionnaire with the variable descriptions in the data files.
- ✓ The generic format of the databases ensures flexibility in the output formats of the metadata, and NSD has generated DDI-xml files to be used in the Nesstar system, and word and pdf-files to produce the ESS3-2006 Documentation Report and its appendices.

The documentation report consists of the following sections:

- ✓ Study description containing general information on the ESS survey:
 - Information on the study and its frame.
 - Key persons and institutions.
 - Information on access to ESS data.
 - Summary description of the data file.
 - Legal aspects concerning the use of ESS data.
- ✓ The country reports consisting:
 - Information on the data collector
 - Funding agencies
 - The sampling procedures
 - Fieldwork procedures
 - Response rates
 - Other country specific study related information, such as information on geographical units, educational system and political parties.

In addition to the documentation report, five separate appendixes are available for separate download:

- Appendix 1: Population statistics.
- Appendix 2: Classifications and standards used in the ESS3-2006.
- Appendix 3: Variables and questions, main and supplementary questionnaires.
- Appendix 4: Variable lists sorted by question number and by variable name.
- Appendix 5: Other country specific documentation.

Data processing progress

The official deadline for all data deposit to NSD was the end of January 2007. The data processing started as soon as the first country data was deposited on 31 January. After the final sign-off of programs and procedures, the data processing ran efficiently and on the 27 September 2007 as many as 20 countries were ready to be published in the first edition of the integrated file at the ESS Data website (<http://ess.nsd.uib.no>). A new release took place on 4 April 2008 including all 25 participating countries.

10.3 Data and metadata archiving

The actual archiving of the ESS data, the merged datasets, codebooks, documentation and so on is a key part of NSD's responsibilities. NSD's ICT systems conform to high security standards, including environmental and access controls. Within this infrastructure NSD's work with ESS data and documentation is performed on several high-capacity servers. For the dissemination of ESS data and metadata NSD uses two servers. One is used for test publications of the ESS, but is also a hot backup for the ESS Data website. All data, metadata, programmes and systems are thus immediately available if problems with the main dissemination server should arise. The main dissemination server is exclusively used for the ESS and hosts the ESS Data website and the on-line Nesstar system.

All servers involved in the ESS have one feature in common, namely that all files from all rounds of the ESS are permanently stored and thereby continuously included in the backup routines. Full backups are performed weekly, while differential backups are performed daily. The backup tapes are stored in-house in a fireproof cabinet, while a full out-of-house backup is scheduled every three months.

10.4 Data distribution and dissemination

ESS Data website (<http://ess.nsd.uib.no>)

The ESS Data website is the main gateway for all users of ESS data and metadata. Access is free and only subject to a straightforward user registration process. The website has a comprehensive holding of data and documents from all rounds 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 with additional appendixes
 - Methodology reports
 - Data Protocol
- ✓ Fieldwork documents:
 - Questionnaires
 - Showcards
 - Interviewer instructions
- ✓ Guidance on use and weighting of the data
- ✓ On-line browsing, analysis and download of data (Nesstar system)
 - Data are presented alongside with metadata following the DDI standard.

The data website now holds data and metadata from all three rounds of the ESS, and access to data is possible both through direct download of SPSS/SAS data files, and through the "On-line browsing and analysis" option (<http://ess.nsd.uib.no/webview/index.jsp>) run by Nesstar 3.5 software. The website also contains an educational program, the ESS EduNet (<http://essedunet.nsd.uib.no/>), which introduces users to common statistical tools step by step by drawing on the vast amount of data available at the ESS Data website. In addition, a recently developed Bibliography is also available online allowing users to register their publications based on ESS data²⁶.

Many users access and explore data through the online option, which perhaps contribute 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 the media. This option offers users a possibility to explore data without using separate statistical packages and software. However, recent analysis of the user statistics has shown that a considerable amount of the users also tend to make use of the direct download option.

10.5 Information and support service to users

Since the release of the first round of ESS data in September 2003, the activity on the ESS Data website has increased considerably, and by 23 January 2008, 1,625 unique users were registered using the ESS3 data. Requests for user support are a logical consequence of running an active online data service, and there has been daily enquiries from the users of the site. NSD give all enquiries high priority, and both technical and substantive questions have been answered swiftly and consciously. Many queries are also answered in collaboration with or by the City team (See WP2).

²⁶ Recent EduNet modules and bibliography are financed through the ESSI Infrastructure grant.

Workpackage 11: Event Reporting (Context/event data) (SCP)

11.1. Contextual data

As in the previous rounds, context data were made available to aid analysis of the survey data and for methodological purposes (eg weighting of survey outcomes). A wide range of population statistics have been provided by the National Coordinators in each participating country and are available at the ESS Data Archive Website at NSD (see ESS Round 3, Survey documentation, ESS3 Appendix 1 Population Statistics). In addition, the inventory of publicly available information on country context has been updated and expanded. The databases included in the inventory differ with regard to coverage, completeness, reliability, and the extent to which the information is up to date. Two positive developments enhance the value of the context inventory. Firstly, an increasing number of organisations publish country files that include metadata, for instance, sources and information on the calculation of indices. Secondly, international organisations such as Eurostat now as a matter of routine give access to all their data free of charge. However assessing the quality data, adding different sources and combining countries is a time consuming job. Valuable information on the availability and comparability of existing regional and contextual data has been produced as part of the project “European Social Survey Infrastructure – Improving Social Survey Infrastructure – Improving Social measurement in Europe”²⁷. An overview of the inventory of context data is given below.

Figure 11.1: Web pages detailing an overview of the inventory of context data

The screenshot shows a Microsoft Internet Explorer window with the following details:

- Title Bar:** http://www.scp.nu/users/stoop/ess_events/links_contextual_data2003.htm - Windows Internet Explorer
- Address Bar:** http://www.scp.nu/users/stoop/ess_events/links_contextual_data2003.htm
- Content Area:**
 - Header:** European Social Survey **Overview websites with free information on European countries**
The ESS-CDT is not responsible for the content of external internet sites
 - General:**
 - a. EUROSTAT: Statistical Office of the European Communities
http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/eurostat/bridge?_pageid=1090,30070682,1090_30079575&_dih=portal&_schema=PORTAL
 - b. European System of Social Indicators (EUSTAT) Population, Households and Families, Housing, Education and Vocational Training, Labour Market and Working Conditions, Health, Income, Standard of Living and Consumption Patterns
http://eurostat.ec.europa.eu/eurostat/bridge?_pageid=1090,30070682,1090_30079575&_dih=portal&_schema=PORTAL
 - c. UNICEF statistical database maintained by the Statistical Division of the UNICEF Secretariat, provides detailed statistical information on countries in Europe, North America and Central Asia. Data are organized by domains and subject or policy areas.
<http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/index.htm>
 - d. Human Development Reports: Report and Statistics 2004 (including country files)
<http://www.undp.org/statistics/>
 - e. BBC World: country profiles (overview, facts, leaders, media)
http://www.bbc.co.uk/UKCountry_profiles/default.htm
 - f. CIA World Factbook
<http://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook>
 - g. Country Reports
<http://www.country-reports.org>
 - h. Country profiles: the Spire Project (overview of country profiles)
<http://www.spire-project.org/country.htm>
 - i. World Flag Database: flags and basic information per country
<http://www.flamethrower.com/countries.htm>
 - Education:**
 - a. UNESCO statistics
<http://www.uis.unesco.org/UIS/UIS/UIS.htm>
 - b. IIE (International Bureau of Education): world data on education, educational profiles, country dossiers
<http://www.uis.unesco.org/UIS/UIS/UIS.htm>
 - c. Eurydice: information database on education systems in Europe
http://eurodice.education.esidatadb?_pageid=197,101454&_dih=portal&_schema=PORTAL
 - d. OECD Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) 2000, 2003
<http://www.pisa.oecd.org>
 - Health:**
 - a. European observatory on health care systems: country information
<http://www.euro.who.int/observatory/countryinfo.htm>
 - b. World Health Organization (WHO): country reports
<http://www.who.int/WHO/countryinfo>
 - c. International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF): country profiles
<http://www.ippf.org/regions/countries>
 - d. Environmental Performance Index (EPI): country scores
<http://epi.yale.edu/CountyScores>
 - Social and economic issues:**
 - a. International Labour Organization: ILO databases
<http://www.ilo.org/public/english/bulletin/iloilo.htm>
 - b. EROMLINE: European industrial relations observatory on-line (including working time, quality of work, work-related stress, progressive retirement)
http://www.ilo.org/eround/eurocountry_index.htm
 - c. European Observatory on Demography and the Social Situation: demography, social inclusion and income distribution, social capital, health status and living conditions
http://euro.observatory.europa.eu/employment_social/social_studies.htm
 - d. MISSOC: Mutual Information system on Social Protection in the EU member states and the EEA
http://euro.observatory.europa.eu/employment_social/missoc/index.htm
 - e. MISSCDC: Mutual Information system on Social Protection in European candidate countries
http://euro.observatory.europa.eu/employment_social/missoc/index.htm
 - f. IMF: Country Information

²⁷ Rydland, L.T., Arnesen, S. and Østensen, A.G (2007). *Contextual data for the ESS project: An overview and assessment of extant sources*, NSD, Norway.

http://www.scp.nl/users/stop/ess_events/links_contextual_data2003.htm - Windows Internet Explorer

http://www.scp.nl/users/stop/ess_events/links_contextual_data2003.htm

Social and economic issues

- a. International Labour Organization: ILO databases
 - www.ilo.org/publicationsandstatistics/iloilostat.htm
- b. EROUNIE: European industrial relations observatory on-line (including working time, quality of work, work-related stress, progressive retirement)
 - www.eroeuropa.eu/eurocountry_index.htm
- c. European Observatory on Demography and the Social Situation: demography, social inclusion and income distribution, social capital, health status and living conditions
 - http://eurocensus.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/estat-social/situation/eso_en.htm
- d. MESISOC: Mutual Information system on Social Protection in the EU member states and the EEA
 - europa.eu/employment_social/socialprotection_en.htm
- e. MESISOC: Mutual Information system on Social Protection in European candidate countries
 - europa.eu/employment_social/socialprotection_en.htm
- f. IMF: Country Information
 - www.intl.ilo.org/led/led/country/index.htm
- g. OECD Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (education, employment, health, international migration, social issues)
 - www.oecd.org
- h. International Reform monitor: social policy (health care, pensions provision, family policy, state welfare), labour market policy and industrial relations
 - www.reformmonitor.org
- i. World Economic Forum's Global Competitiveness Reports, Global Information Technology Report
 - www.weforum.org/knowledge_center/Global-Country-Profiles
 - www.weforum.org/knowledge_center/Content/Global-Competitiveness-Programme/Global-Competitiveness-Report
- j. IMD World Competitiveness Yearbook
 - www02.intellichoice.com
- k. International Telecommunication Union (ITU): (mobile) telephone and internet indicators
 - www.itu.int/ITU-D/Statistics

Politics and civil society

- a. Comparative Study of Electoral Systems on aggregate electoral returns, electoral rules and formulas, and regime characteristics
 - www.judicialwatch.org
- b. Election Resources on the Internet:
 - http://electionresources.org/
- c. International organization of Parliaments of sovereign States (IPU); Parline country database
 - www.ipu.org/parline-electoralresearch.asp
- d. Transparency International: international centre of expertise on combating corruption
 - www.transparency.org
- e. Reporters without borders: Press Freedom Index
 - www.rsf.org/rubrique.php?Id_rubrique=254
- f. Democracy and Freedom Index:
 - www.freedomhouse.org
- g. Index of Economic Freedom
 - www.heritage.org/research/features/index
- h. Bertelsmann Transformation Index (BTI)
 - http://www.bertelsmann-transformation-index.de
- i. Economist Intelligence Unit Democracy Index:
 - www.eiu.com/media/pdf/Democracy_Index_2007_v3.pdf
- j. Commitment to Development Index: 2007 – Center for Global Development
 - www.cgdev.org/country/initiatives/commitment

Culture and languages

- a. Compendium: Cultural Policies and Trends in Europe (Council of Europe and EPOCarts), including country profiles
 - www.culturepolicy.net
- b. UNESCO statistics
 - www.unesco.org/unesco/statistics.htm
- c. Languages across Europe (EBC)
 - www.ebc.ca/unesco/european_languages/countries/index.shtml

Regional

- a. EUROCITIES: a network of some 100 major cities from the EU, Norway, Switzerland, Central and Eastern Europe and the New Independent States (NIS).
 - www.eurocities.org/main.php
- b. Urban audit: assessing the quality of life of Europe's cities
 - europa.eu/comm/regional_policy/urban/urbanaudit/irc.htm

Last update: 1 February 2008

11.2. Event data

Before the start of Round 3 fieldwork, the event reporting guidelines from Round 2 were re-drafted. The substantive changes were very small, but differences in the practical implementation in event reporting were substantial. For Round 3 a web tool for event reporting has been developed. This tool allows National Coordinators to upload individual events rather than weekly reports, an improvement compared to Round 2. Reported events in Round 3 are automatically stored in a simple database that made it possible to generate straightforward “reports on event reports”. Reported events and the guidelines are accessible via www.scp.nl/ess/events. An overview of the database model and the events webpage is given below.

Figure 11.2: Data base model event reports R3

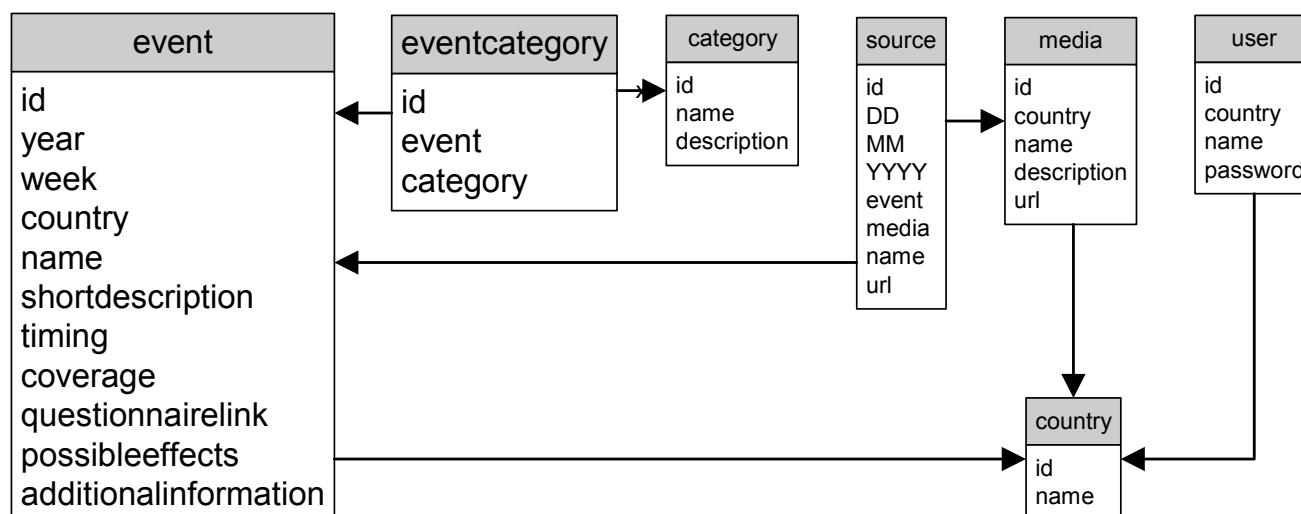
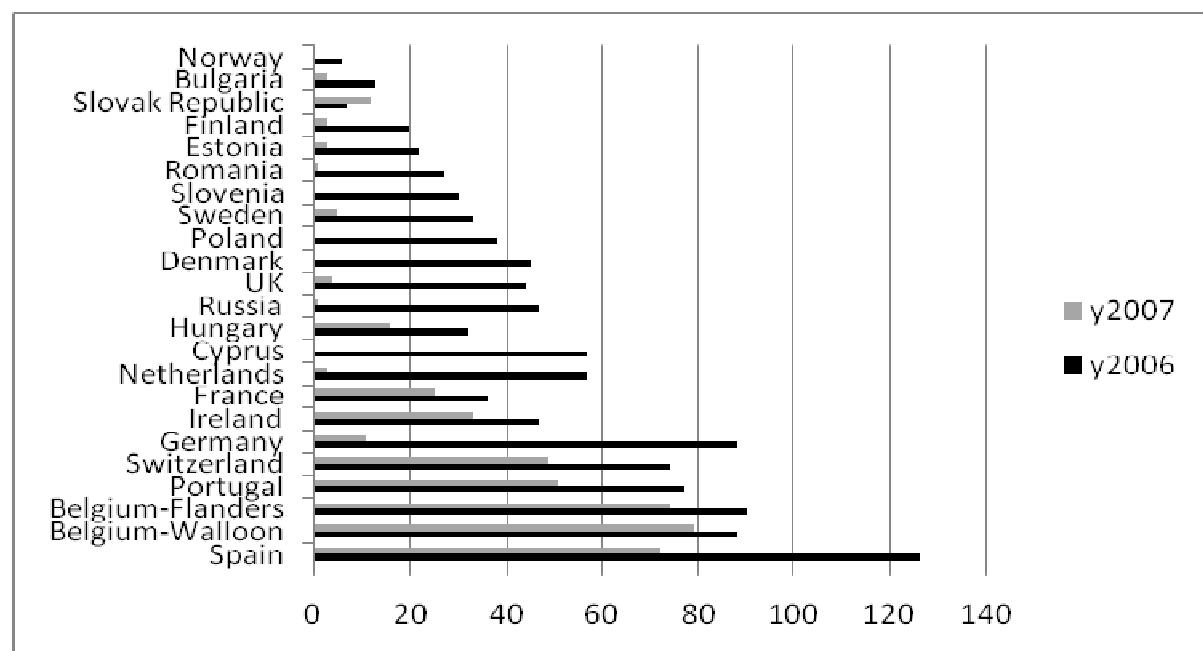


Figure 11.3: Events webpage for Round 3

The new event reporting tool resulted in extensive, detailed information on a wide range of events that could be related to the ESS questionnaire, and also gave as a general background an overview of concerns and interest of the citizens of the participating countries. The number of events reported by the countries varied widely however. The graph below represents that in total 1549 events were reported in Round 3 in 2006 and 2007, per country.

Figure 11.4: Number of events reported per country during 2006 and 2007



Because the collection and analysis of media-reported events as a corollary to survey data is fairly new, the event data generates interest and discussion. Event reporting was on the agenda during meetings with National Coordinators in Mannheim (February 2007) and Barcelona (November 2007). At several scientific meetings, event reporting in the ESS was presented and discussed as a new addition to survey data collection. Special ‘ESS event’ sessions at the ESRA2007 and ASC2007 conferences on events led to useful interchange of ideas and suggestions for further improvement. At the ESRA2007 conferences several papers on ESS event reporting were presented²⁸ and the future of event reporting was discussed during a working meeting. During Round 3, work has started on the event reporting work package that is a part of the project “European Social Survey Infrastructure – Improving Social Survey Infrastructure – Improving Social measurement in Europe”. This work package involves representatives from Bristol University, City University, London, GESIS in Mannheim, and Ekke, Athens.

²⁸ See the dissemination section of this report for more details about these papers.

Section 2 - Dissemination and use

2.1 Impact of the project

As a time series, the influence of the ESS grows with each Round. It is designed, not as a series of separate one-off surveys, but as a long-term survey to measure changes in attitudes. Given that the third round data have only recently been released and so have not yet been analysed in detail we cannot at present determine definitive change. Furthermore the EC grants for each round of the project do include workpackages devoted to the analysis of ESS data. But now that data from 3 rounds is available it will only be a matter of time before that process starts allowing the true policy implications to be measured and evaluated.

Some initial exploratory analysis suggests that change has occurred and this bodes well for future analysis of the data

Some examples are given below of the types of changes the project is allowing data analysts to uncover:

1. First, its results may be more or less confirmatory, charting a phenomenon that everyone thinks they know about, such as the explosion of internet use. Data from the first three rounds of the ESS monitor the astonishing rate at which the proportion of people who have no access to the internet has been falling all over Europe – although from very different starting points. So while in the Nordic countries over 85% of people now have internet access, in Russia and Ukraine – where the *rate* of change has not been that dissimilar – internet penetration extends to about one-third of the population. So we can now see clearly that the internet divide persists, but at a different level from before.
2. Second, the data may provide unexpected and sometimes unwelcome insights, such as in cross-national comparisons of people's fear of crime. Although it is the case that fear of crime has been slowly diminishing in most countries since 2001, the problem persists both in fast-growing economies such as Ireland, Portugal and Spain and - even more so - in the more developed economies of Germany, France and the UK, where between a quarter and a third of people fear going out in their neighbourhoods after dark – a debilitating problem that local and central governments need to address.
3. Third, the ESS informs a number of current policy debates. Since it started the survey has, for instance, measured respondents' attitudes to new migration. The findings make for uncomfortable reading, showing rising resistance to immigrants – in particular from countries outside Europe, even though much recent migration has come from within Europe. But although the data show sharp variations between countries, public support for stringent anti-immigrant policies is in almost all countries still well below 20 percent.
4. Fourth, some ESS findings are both surprising and – for some people at any rate – rather welcome. It has long been accepted that public trust in politicians seems to be in irreversible decline. ESS time trends show that the longstanding decline in political trust seems at least to have been arrested in recent years. Only three countries have experienced a significant decline in political trust since 2001, while the rest have seen either no shift or a modest revival.

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. And the recent ESS review report has noted the wider impact that the ESS is having on cross-national survey standards.

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. For example 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. The ESS translation procedures TRAPD were adopted by the SHARE study when developing its methodology.

Further proof of the effect ESS standards are having can be seen in the dissemination activities being carried out in participating countries, evidence of which is presented later in this report. Furthermore 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.

We now focus on the likely implications of the ESS not for specific policies but for European governance more generally.

2.1.2 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 pris. 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 flourish without accurate information on shifting public attitudes and values.

2.1.2 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 section – 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 30 countries (over both rounds) - all strictly on the basis that the ESS's demanding specification will be fulfilled. In fact the national funding agencies together fund the vast majority of costs at each round of the ESS. 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. Those responsible for facilitating the next phase of infrastructure development are now charged to take this forward and ensure its future.

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 30 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.

2.1.3 Developing new European social indicators

Arising out of the report to the Commission by Sir Anthony Atkinson and colleagues (Atkinson et al, 2002), 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. Support for development of the eventual indicators comes from the EC ESSI grant. However without the data collected in each round of ESS a future set of attitudinal indicators would be necessarily limited. Data from ESS Round 3 will eventually act as some of the water to fill the reservoir that will serve and refresh the social attitudinal indicators of the future.

2.2 European Social Survey: Publicity and Dissemination across Europe

Following Round 2, and throughout Round 3, CCT members continued to disseminate the ESS data at various conferences and seminars. Publications have also been mounting in various journals (see section 2.2 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. Members of the CCT, as well as other invited authors, recently published a much anticipated book based upon the ESS, primarily methodological, that was published in 2007. It should be noted that work often builds upon multiple rounds of the ESS.

The National Coordinators have also continued their excellent work in disseminating the ESS at a national level (see section 2.1 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 11 books based on ESS data had been published in France, Germany, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Spain, the Ukraine and the UK.

Encouragingly, most of the papers and presentations that have been produced have been written by data users who are not part of the ESS team. Information about these publications can be submitted directly to an on-line dynamic bibliography²⁹, which is hosted by the ESS Data Archive. Not only does this enable authors to input their publication details directly into the bibliography but also allows users to search by author and keywords.

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. For further information please contact the relevant National Co-ordinator, using the email address given.

²⁹ See: <http://ess.nsd.uib.no/index.jsp?year=2003&country=&module=essbib>

AUSTRIA

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No report provided.

BELGIUM

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- Papers written by second year students at the University of Ghent, Sociology, Prof. dr. Piet Bracke, class 2006:
 - Ghekiere, K. et al., 'Verschillen in tevredenheid over werk-gezin balans bij koppels: een multi-levelanalyse').
 - Boone, S. et al., 'Sociale Klasse en subjectief welbevinden: een cross-nationale analyse').
- ESS used in teaching at the University of Antwerp, Faculty of Social and Political Sciences Prof. dr. Dimitri Mortelmans
- Text book, that makes use of ESS data, is made available for undergraduates.
- The following have been published:
 - Mortelmans, D. and B. Dehertoch (2006) *Kennismaken met SPSS en SAS*. Acco, Leuven.
 - Mortelmans, D. and B. Dehertoch (2006) *Databeheer in SPSS en SAS*. Acco, Leuven

BULGARIA

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- A special website ESS-Bulgaria has been created (<http://www.ess-bulgaria.org>) to make all ESS documents, data, analyses, publications and news available in English and Bulgarian.
- The Department “Methods of Sociological Surveys” of the Institute of Sociology at the Bulgarian Academy of Science organised a Seminar on refusals rate at the end of 2006 where ESS methods were presented to social scientists, academicians, researchers and students by Polish and Bulgarian participants in the ESS.
- The contribution of ESS to the field of quality of life and well-being issues and appearance of the Bulgarian team in Round 3 of ESS is commented in the article: Tilkidjiev, N. 2006. “Quality of Life and Happiness: European Revival of One Tradition”. In: *Beyond Disciplinary Limitations*. Sofia: Sofia University Publishing House “St. Kliment Ochridski”, pp. 122-144 (in Bulgarian).
- A Masters course on research methods in the comparative studies is to be organised at the University of National and World Economy (Sofia) in order to introduce students to the main goals, research approaches and features of international comparative research projects, including the ESS and the ISSP.
- A press-conference was organized at the end of 2007 to introduce the ESS and Bulgarian participation to the media and research community in Bulgaria. All national newspapers, radio and TV companies disseminated the presented comparative results of the ESS. Members of the science team in Bulgaria also gave several interviews for different media companies.
- A purposeful analysis of ESS data is to be prepared for Bulgarian members of the European Parliament, national MPs and policy makers.
- Several articles are planned that will be published in leading academic journals.
- Future plans: A purposeful international science conference on ESS results is to be organised in 2008.
- Future plans: A collective book with ESS data analyses is planned to be published in 2008-2009.

CYPRUS

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- ESS presentation (poster, leaflets and interaction with public) during a national fair on Research and Innovation (May 2007)
- Published five newspaper articles - commenting on ESS results regarding Cyprus, introducing the datasets and presenting some main findings. (September-November 2007)
- Press releases (to all national media) with the release of ESS R3 results (September-November 2007)
- A number of interviews in papers, national TV stations and radio regarding the ESS Round 3 data analysis.
- Data are used for teaching at Cyprus College and students are encouraged to write their diploma or thesis using data from the ESS.
- Post-graduate teaching programme. Systemic use of ESS methodology and data in the framework of advanced courses on quantitative methods.
- During 2006 and along with the fieldwork of ESS Round 3 ESS leaflets were distributed to 1500 households (along with the advance letter of the survey).

- Future plans: The ESS methodology will be promoted as an example of “best practices” in the local scientific community through a nationally funded project regarding the advance of social research in Cyprus (work towards this is already underway). In the same context the ESS methodology and results will be presented on the website that will be created for this project.
- Future plans: Work on a collective volume regarding the ESS Round 3 results (Cyprus social profile according to ESS Round 3 data) is underway and due to be published summer 2008.

DENMARK

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- 50 ESS brochures distributed
- “Information letters” were distributed to announce the third data release. These were sent to all heads of social science institutes (asking them to publicise it at their institute), all researchers (who have made use of, or been interested in the ESS), to research contacts in ministries, to teachers in social sciences at schools and universities and to the press.
- ESS open research seminar was held at SFI (The Danish National Centre for Social Research) on 14 March 2006. Another seminar is scheduled to take place later this year - in September 2008.
- An application was made to The Danish Data Protection Agency to request a change of the notification for the first three rounds - to allow for the merging of Danish ESS data with registration data.
- Merged data from the first two rounds has been utilised by a group of economists from the University of Copenhagen and Copenhagen Business School.
- First three rounds of data have now been included in the Danish Data Archive.
- As ESS data is widely used in teaching quantitative methods in social sciences at the universities, the National Coordinator receives and answers a number of questions from students who are working with the data.
- Maintenance of the Danish ESS web page: <http://www.sfi.dk/sw6513.asp>
- Future plans: The SFI webpage will also be updated in 2008 – and the ESS page will also be revised.

ESTONIA

Mare Ainsaar – Mare.Ainsaar@ut.ee

- 30 ESS brochures will be distributed at conferences.
- The following have been published:
 - Ainsaar, M (2006). *Regional differences of happiness and satisfaction*. Servinski, Mihkel; Kivilaid, Marika (Toim.). Cities and Rural Municipalities in Figures 2006 (114 - 118). Tallinn: Statistics Estonia
 - Strenze, T (forthcoming). *Intelligence and socioeconomic success: A meta-analytic review of longitudinal research*, Intelligence (in press), doi:10.1016/j.intell.2006.09.004
- The following conference papers have been given:
 - Kutsar, D (2006). *Poverty, social assistance and social inclusion: pressure from inside*, paper presented at Conference of Poverty, social assistance and social inclusion - developments in Estonia and Latvia in a comparative perspective, Riga, 09 May 2006.
 - Kutsar, D (2006). *Civic marriages and community support to counterbalance certain impacts of democracy*, paper presented at 53rd ICCFR CONFERENCE Families and Democracy: Compatibility, Incompatibility, Opportunity or Challenge?, Lyon, 07-10 June 2006.
 - Kutsar, D (2006). *Position Paper of the Baltic Countries: Some Reflections*, paper presented at 2nd workshop of the Social Capital and Social Policy Network, London, 28 June 2006.
 - Kutsar, D (2006). *From the Centre to Social Periphery? A Journey without Return? A study on long-term unemployment and social exclusion processes*, paper presented at ZUMA Colloquium, Mannheim, 6th December 2006.
 - Kasearu, K (2006). *The changing family patterns in Eastern and Western Europe*, paper presented at BASEES (British Association for Slavonic and East-European Studies) Conference, Cambridge, 1-3 April 2006.
 - Kasearu, K (2006). *Perceived discrimination and social cohesion among Russian-speaking population in Estonia*, paper presented at EQUALSOC Summer School, Trento, 04-09 September 2006.
 - Kasearu, K (2006). *The impact of family forms on intergenerational support in Europe and in three Baltic states (Estonia, Lithuania and Latvia)*, paper presented at EQUALSOC Network Conference, Barcelona, 22-24 September 2006.
 - Laas A (2006). Naine ja karjäär Eestis. Töö- ja pereelu ühitamine läbi pere perspektiivi. EQUAL-WHOLE rahvusvaheline konverents. 7. juuni 2006, Tartu, Eesti [Women and Career in Estonia. Paper presented at the EQUAL-WHOLE Conference. 7 June, Tartu, Estonia]

- Laas A (2006). Attitudes towards immigration in Estonia, Finland and Sweden. ESF workshop Eastern European Women as Immigrants in Western European Transregions - Gender Perspectives on Everyday Life, Citizenship and Social Justice, June 1-3, 2006, Helsinki, Finland.
- Laas A (2006) Reconciliation of Work and Family Life. Paper presented at the ESF EQUAL Conference, Holding a job; Having a life. EQUAL Exchange Event, 3 - 4 April 2006, Tallinn, Estonia.
- Laas A (2005). Sotsiaalturundusest maskuliinses ühiskonnas. Ettekanne konverentsil Eesti Naisliit 85. 10. Detsember 2005, Tallinn. [Social Marketing of Gender in Masculine Society. Paper presented at the Conference dedicated to the 85th Anniversary of the Estonian Women's Union. December 10, 2005, Tallinn, Estonia]
- Future plans: An Estonian - English language book will be published. The book consists of a collection of articles – including comparative analyses based on the ESS. The book is ready except for final editing work and will be released in late 2008.

FINLAND

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- Several presentations about ESS by national team at the University of Helsinki, University of Turku and Abo Akademi University.
- Articles about the ESS were published in the newsletters of the Academy of Finland and the Finnish Social Science Data Archive.
- A special section about the ESS in the website of the Finnish Social Science Data Archive has been launched (<http://www.fsd.uta.fi/aineistot/kvdata/ess.html>).
- Seminar about the ESS took place in November 2007.

FRANCE

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- February, 23rd, 2006: Conference held in Paris: "ESS: apport et perspective". Methodological, interpretative and substantive aspects covered. Comparison of ESS with other pan-European surveys (ISSP; European Values Survey).
- January 2007: article published in the CNRS international magazine: "A close look at Europeans" about the ESS framework.
- February 2007 (17th): two page article on the ESS in leading national newspaper *Libération* (Title: *Le hasard mène l'enquête*, by Corinne Bensimon)
- April 2007: Textbook "La politique en France et en Europe" edited by Pascal Perrineau & Luc Rouban, published in Paris by Presses de Sciences Po. Textbook on the French political system in a comparative perspective based on ESS data.
- Post-graduate teaching programme (Sciences Po, Paris and IEP Bordeaux). Systemic use of ESS data in the framework of advanced courses on quantitative methods. The ESS data used for methodological training inside the Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris. ESS data used by Louis-Andre Vallet and Brigitte Le Roux for courses on regression analysis and multivariate statistical methods. Students often choose to use ESS data for their assignment to study and analyse a small subject using survey data conducted on a representative sample.
- Future plans : 2008 (to be published): *Un modèle français ?* (Daniel Boy, Bruno Cautrès, Nicolas Sauger (eds), Paris, Presses de Sciences Po). Edited book on various political issues (trust, immigration, participation) fully based on ESS data (first and second rounds).

GERMANY

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- Short information notes were/will be sent to the most important scientific journals and to the main professional organisations 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, appeared in July 2006. The articles are written by the members of the National Coordinating Team and other authors ("Deutschland in Europa"/Germany in Europe).
- Articles were and will be published in national newsletters, professional periodicals and journals, introducing the datasets and presenting some main findings.
- 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 33rd Congress of the “Deutsche Gesellschaft für Soziologie” (German Sociological Association), Kassel, October 9-13 2006: "Social Capital in Europe - Multilevel Analyses of the European Social Survey".
- On October 26th 2006, there was a kick-off-conference for ESS 3 in Berlin. The conference was organised by the National Coordinating Team and the German Research Foundation (DFG). Invited were journalists, experts, researchers, representatives of infrastructure organisations for the social sciences and other people interested in the development of social and political orientations in Europe. Roger Jowell, the Principal Investigator of the ESS and Jan van Deth, the National Coordinator in Germany, introduced ideas, development and the structure of the ESS. Afterwards members of the National Coordinating team and another author presented some main findings from the ESS.
- 2007: Keil, S.I./Neller, K.: Ex-ante-Qualitätskontrolle im European Social Survey ('Ex-ante quality checks in the European Social Survey'). Published in: Qualitätsmanagement und Qualitätssicherung (Quality management and quality assurance), editd by König, Ch./Stahl, M./Wiegand E..
- On 29 June 2007, a scientific conference took place focussing on quality management and quality assurance in social, opinion and market research - especially surveys and data. This conference was organised by the Federal Statistical Office. The former and current manager of the German team will give a lecture about the ex-ante quality control within the ESS.
- There were/will be several press releases and press conferences informing the public about the ESS (the project itself and some main findings) and the ESS brochure will be distributed.
- Future plans: A book of the German ESS-Team, edited by Oscar W. Gabriel, a member of the National Coordinating Team, will appear in 2009 and will be published in English. The articles will be written by members of the National Coordinating team and other authors. The Book will include all three rounds of the survey. Title: *Society and Democracy in Europe*.
- Future plans: Another book, edited by Heiner Meulemann, a member of the National Coordinating Team, will appear in spring 2008 (Brill) and will be published in English. The articles will be written by the members of the National Coordinating team and other authors. The main focus is on multilevel analyses. Title: *The Fruits of Social Capital in Europe - The homogeneity of European Countries and the diversity of European people*. The chapters will be:
 - 2008: Van der Meer, T., Scheepers, P. and te Grotenhuis, M. Does the state affect informal connections between its citizens? New institutionalist explanations of social participation in everyday life.
 - 2008: Meulemann, H. Is altruism more effective where it is required more? Collectivity orientation and involvement in interest; issue and religious associations.
 - 2008: Neller, K. What makes people trust in their fellow citizens?
 - 2008: Denters, B. and van der Kolk, H. What determines citizens' normative conception of their civic duties
 - 2008: Schmitt-Beck, R- Why television does erode social capital and why newspaper reading does not.
 - 2008: Van Deth, J.W. Social Capital and political involvement.
 - 2008: Gabriel, O.W. and Walter-Rogg, M. Social capital and political trust.
 - 2008: Roller, E. and Rudi, T. Explaining level and equality of participation. The role of social capital, socioeconomic modernity, and political institutions.
 - 2008: Meulemann, H. Social capital and empowerment at the work place.
 - 2008: Kaase, M. Retrospect and prospect.
- 2007/2008: Re-launch of the German ESS Homepage (including some selected results for each round):
www.europeansocialsurvey.de

HUNGARY

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- Comparative analysis papers written by young researchers at TARKI using ESS data and available online (in Hungarian):
 - Hungarian trust in medical doctors: <http://www.tarki.hu/hu/news/2006/kitekint/20061113.html>
 - Frequency of becoming a victim: <http://www.tarki.hu/hu/news/2006/kitekint/20061020.html>

IRELAND

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- 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 ESS data, and any other relevant news or developments regarding ESS are posted on the home page of ISSDA.
- Short articles about the ESS have been published in the ISSDA newsletter.

- Articles using data from ESS Round 2 have been published by the members of the Irish National Coordinating Team.
- Emails have been sent to psychologists, sociologists and other potentially interested social scientists in Trinity College, UCD, NUI Maynooth and other institutions (eg Children's Research Centre, University of Limerick and University of Galway) about recent updates on the ESS and the availability of data from the second round.
- Professor Richard Sinnott (UCD) delivered a presentation on the ESS at an Information Meeting on the Seventh EU Framework Programme - Research Infrastructures, 12th December 2007 at Enterprise Ireland, Dublin, Ireland
- James McBride (ISSDA) has included detailed descriptions of the ESS as part of his presentations on the Irish Social Science Data Archive to postgraduate students at the following presentations:

2006

- 9 November: NUI Galway
- 27 October: All Hallows College Dublin
- 14 February: University College Dublin
- 10 January: Trinity College Dublin

2007

- 6 December: NUI Galway
- 28 February: University College Dublin
- 23 January: Trinity College Dublin

2008

- 15 January: University College Cork

LATVIA

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- Some comparative results from ESS were given to media to inform them about the comparative data on the themes of ESS, particularly on family issues.
- Academia (sociologists, political scientists) have been informed about the ESS Rounds 1 and 2 in 2005 meeting of Latvian Sociological Association.
- Latvian participation in the ESS 3 was discussed at the Board meetings of the Latvian Sociological Association in 2006; and at the Baltic sociology conference "Baltic Readings" in November, 2006 in Riga.
- The ESS data were presented and discussed in at least 4 University sociology programmes (University of Latvia, professor A.Tabuns, I.Koroleva; Liepaja Academy, I.Trapenciere) and communication sciences programme (University of Latvia, S.Senkane).
- ESS data will be used as part of research project of Institute of Philosophy and Sociology, University of Latvia, other research institutions and universities. After the survey ESS data will be disseminated to universities, research community, Ministry of Education and Science, Ministry of Children and Family Affairs and Latvian Parliament.
- ESS data will be presented in the Latvian Science afternoon meeting (popularisation of research among doctoral students, researchers and wider public).
- BA, MA and PhD students are encouraged to use ESS data in their papers.
- The possibility of the inclusion of ESS data in the Latvian Youth Policy Report, produced in 2007 for the European Council, is being explored.

NETHERLANDS

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- 75 ESS brochures distributed
- We organised a symposium titled "ESS in a Comparative Perspective" which took place on 20 November 2007, together with DANS (Data Archive and Networked Services), an institute of the Dutch Royal Academy of Sciences.

NORWAY

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- All Nordic national coordinators (except for Iceland) are working on a book in English based on the first two rounds of the ESS with the tentative title *Nordic exceptionalism, reality or myth?* Due to be published in 2008.
- NSD has a newsletter which is distributed to most of the Norwegian research community and some of the media community.
- The NSD Newsletter (*NSD Nytt*) has a good distribution and has included several articles on the ESS:
 - 2006 no 1: Economic morality, religiosity
 - 2006 no 2: Interest in politics
- The Norwegian team also cooperated with the press to obtain good newspaper coverage of Round 3.

- NSD held a user seminar on 28th February 2007, in Bergen where the National Coordinator presented information about the ESS.
- Future plans: Seminar scheduled for Autumn 2008 on ESS themes.

POLAND

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- Information on the ESS project and links to data are available in Polish language on the web site of Institute of Philosophy and Sociology Polish Academy of Sciences: <http://www.ifispan.waw.pl/badania/ess/>
- “European Social Survey (Round 2) - Poland in Europe” - 2nd Dissemination Conference devoted to ESS Round 2 Poland in Europe was held on 13 December 2005. Mainly substantive aspects were covered.
- Book discussing topics covered in the ESS: “In the middle of the Europe? Results of European Social Survey” was published in October 2006. Articles are mainly based on presentations carried out during the 2nd Dissemination Conference. The National Coordinator added an introduction covering all methodological targets set and achieved by ESS. This book was distributed as jubilee publications to celebrate 50th anniversary of the Institute of Sociology and Philosophy Polish Academy of Science.
- Methodological presentations based on ESS data including:
 - “European Social Survey: one survey in 23 countries” – presentation during open seminar in Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (Franciszek Sztabiński)
 - “European Social Survey in Poland: How are we doing it?” – presentation during open seminar in Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (Franciszek Sztabiński)
 - “Respondents and Non-respondents in European Social Survey: similar or not? A case of Poland” – presentation concerning non-response based on results ESS Round 1 and Round 2 and Pilot Study before Round 3, during open seminar in Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (Pawel B. Sztabinski, Franciszek Sztabiński, Dariusz Przybysz).
 - “ESS Fieldwork Experience in Poland” presentation during dissemination conference “European Social Survey Round 2: Slovakia in Europe” in Slovak Academy of Sciences
- Data are used for teaching as examples of 'best practices' and students are encouraged to write their diploma or thesis using the data.
- Planned conference in 2007/08 after Round 3 has been completed. 150 ESS brochures are to be distributed at the conference.
- The following are details of the book chapters (listed above):
 - 2006. F. Sztabiński, Konferencja „Europejski Sondaż Społeczny” Runda 2. Polska w Europie. Upowszechnienie wyników badania, [‘Conference European Social Survey’]. Round 2. Poland in Europe. Popularization of findings of ESS’], ASK 15, s. 163 – 171.
 - 2006. P.B. Sztabiński, Dlaczego respondenci uczestniczą lub nie uczestniczą w badaniach? Porównanie 1994-2004, [‘Why do respondents participate in surveys? Comparative analysis for Poland in 1994-2004’], ASK 15, s. 7 – 28.
 - 2006. H. Domański, Liczba wizyt i czas trwania badań. [‘Number of visits and duration of surveys’], ASK 15, s. 29 – 49.
 - 2006. H. Domański, A. Ostrowska, P.B. Sztabiński, W środku Europy? Wyniki europejskiego sondażu społecznego [‘In the middle of the Europe? Results of European Social Survey’]. Warsaw: IFiS PAN Press
 - 2006. H. Domański, Wpływ wykształcenia na zawód [‘How education influences career choices’], in: W środku Europy? Wyniki europejskiego sondażu społecznego [‘In the middle of the Europe? Results of European Social Survey’], H. Domański, A. Ostrowska, P.B. Sztabiński (eds). Warsaw: IFiS PAN Press
 - 2006. P. B. Sztabiński, F. Sztabiński: Europejski Sondaż Społeczny: integracja w dziedzinie badań. [‘European Social Survey: integration in research’], in: W środku Europy? Wyniki europejskiego sondażu społecznego [‘In the middle of the Europe? Results of European Social Survey’], H. Domański, A. Ostrowska, P.B. Sztabiński (eds). Warsaw: IFiS PAN Press
 - 2006. W. Pańkow, B. Gąciarz: Praca w Polsce na tle innych krajów europejskich. [‘Work in Poland in the context of other European countries’], in: W środku Europy? Wyniki europejskiego sondażu społecznego [‘In the middle of the Europe? Results of European Social Survey’], H. Domański, A. Ostrowska, P.B. Sztabiński (eds). Warsaw: IFiS PAN Press
 - 2006. K. M. Słomczyński, K. Janicka: Strukturalne uwarunkowania postaw prodemokratycznych: analizy międzynarodowe [‘Structural framework behind prodemocratic attitudes in a cross-national perspective’], in: W środku Europy? Wyniki europejskiego sondażu społecznego [‘In the middle of the Europe? Results of European Social Survey’], H. Domański, A. Ostrowska, P.B. Sztabiński (eds). Warsaw: IFiS PAN Press
 - 2006. H. Domański, D. Przybysz: Podobieństwo poziomu wykształcenia małżonków [‘Spouse similarity in education’], in: W środku Europy? Wyniki europejskiego sondażu społecznego [‘In the middle of the

Europe? Results of European Social Survey’], H. Domański, A. Ostrowska, P.B. Sztabiński (eds). Warsaw: IFiS PAN Press

- 2006. D. Duch-Krzystoszek, A. Titkow: Polka i jej rodzina na tle Europy. Redystrybucja prac domowych: jej uczestnicy i konteksty [‘Polish woman and her family compared with Europe. Redistribution of household chores: participants and contexts’], in: W środku Europy? Wyniki europejskiego sondażu społecznego [‘In the middle of the Europe? Results of European Social Survey’], H. Domański, A. Ostrowska, P.B. Sztabiński (eds). Warsaw: IFiS PAN Press
- 2006. A. Ostrowska: Paternalizm czy partnerstwo? Relacje między pacjentami a lekarzami w Europie [‘Paternalism or partnership? Relationships between patients and physicians in Europe’], in: W środku Europy? Wyniki europejskiego sondażu społecznego [‘In the middle of the Europe? Results of European Social Survey’], H. Domański, A. Ostrowska, P.B. Sztabiński (eds). Warsaw: IFiS PAN Press
- 2006. A. Rychard: Kapitał społeczny a instytucje. Wstępne rozważania[‘Social capital versus institutions. A preliminary discussion’], in: W środku Europy? Wyniki europejskiego sondażu społecznego [‘In the middle of the Europe? Results of European Social Survey’], H. Domański, A. Ostrowska, P.B. Sztabiński (eds). Warsaw: IFiS PAN Press
- 2006. A. Kościański, P. Gliński: Aktywność obywatelska i kapitał społeczny a zróżnicowanie orientacji życiowych w Polsce i wybranych krajach europejskich [‘Civic activity and social capital versus differentiation in life orientations in Poland and selected European countries’], in: W środku Europy? Wyniki europejskiego sondażu społecznego [‘In the middle of the Europe? Results of European Social Survey’], H. Domański, A. Ostrowska, P.B. Sztabiński (eds). Warsaw: IFiS PAN Press
- 2006. A. Lewicka-Strzałecka: Moralność ekonomiczna w krajach europejskich [‘Economic morality in European countries’], in: W środku Europy? Wyniki europejskiego sondażu społecznego [‘In the middle of the Europe? Results of European Social Survey’], H. Domański, A. Ostrowska, P.B. Sztabiński (eds). Warsaw: IFiS PAN Press
- 2006. U. Jarecka: Struktura czasu użytkowników nowych technologii komunikacyjnych. Konsekwencje antropologiczne zmian [‘How users of new communication technologies structure their time. Anthropological consequences of change’], in: W środku Europy? Wyniki europejskiego sondażu społecznego [‘In the middle of the Europe? Results of European Social Survey’], H. Domański, A. Ostrowska, P.B. Sztabiński (eds). Warsaw: IFiS PAN Press
- 2006. A. Ostrowska (eds.): Sondaże socjologiczne. Europejski Sondaż Społeczny (2002) [Sociological Surveys. European Social Survey.] Warsaw: IFiS PAN Press.
- 2006. A. Ostrowska (eds.): Sondaże socjologiczne. Europejski Sondaż Społeczny (2004) [Sociological Surveys. European Social Survey.] Warsaw: IFiS PAN Press.

- In March 2007 a set of tables from the Polish data crossed by ESS Round 1, 2 and 3 was also made available on the website of Institute of Philosophy and Sociology Polish Academy of Sciences (<http://www.ifispan.waw.pl/badania/ess/>).
- “European Social Survey (Round 3): Social Process in early 21st Century. Poland and Europe 2002-2004-2006.” – The 3rd Dissemination Conference was held in Warsaw on December 12th 2007. The conference was organised by the National Coordinating Team and the Institute of Philosophy and Sociology Polish Academy of Sciences. Scientists, researchers and representatives of government were invited to attend. Henryk Domański (Member of the *Advisory Board ESS*) Paweł B. Sztabiński (NC of ESS in Poland) and Franciszek Sztabiński (Member of Polish ESS Team) chaired the conference. Substantive aspects of the ESS were mainly covered during the conference. More than 100 people took part and ESS brochures were distributed.
- Methodological publications based on ESS data including:
 - 2007. H. Domański: A New Dimension of Social Stratification in Poland? Class Membership and Electoral Voting in 1991 – 2001, European Sociological Review, Number 156, Vol. 4, pp. 471 – 488
 - 2007. P. B. Sztabiński, F. Sztabiński, D. Przybysz, Are Non-Respondents similar to Respondents? Findings from the ESS-2004 in Poland. ASK, 16, 25-54
 - 2006. F. Sztabiński, Konferencja „Europejski Sondaż Społeczny” Runda 2. Polska w Europie. Upowszechnienie wyników badania, [‘Conference ”European Social Survey”. Round 2. Poland in Europe. Popularization of findings of ESS’], ASK 15, s. 163 – 171.
 - 2006. P.B. Sztabiński, Dlaczego respondenci uczestniczą lub nie uczestniczą w badaniach? Porównanie 1994-2004, [‘Why do respondents participate in surveys? Comparative analysis for Poland in 1994-2004’], ASK 15, s. 7 – 28.
 - 2006. H. Domański, Liczba wizyt i czas trwania badań. [‘Number of visits and duration of surveys’], ASK 15, s. 29 – 49.
 - 2006. A. Ostrowska (eds.): Sondaże socjologiczne. Europejski Sondaż Społeczny (2002) [Sociological Surveys. European Social Survey.] Warsaw: IFiS PAN Press.
 - 2006. A. Ostrowska (eds.): Sondaże socjologiczne. Europejski Sondaż Społeczny (2004) [Sociological Surveys. European Social Survey.] Warsaw: IFiS PAN Press.

- Methodological presentations based on ESS data including:
 - 2008. “ESS in Poland. ‘Handling’ the interviewers” – presentation during 1st ESS Field Directors’ Meeting (Franciszek Sztabiński, Zbigniew Sawiński)
 - 2007. “How does length of fieldwork period influence non-response phenomenon and differences between Respondents and Non-Respondents? Findings from the ESS Project in Poland 2nd – presentation at the European Survey Research Association Conference in Praha (Paweł Sztabiński, Franciszek Sztabiński, Dariusz Przybysz)
 - 2007. “European Social Survey: methodology of cross-countries research” – presentation at the University of National and Word Economy, Sofia (Paweł Sztabiński, Franciszek Sztabiński)
 - 2007. “European Social Survey. Joint Research Activities 1: Data Collection Strategies” – presentation at the Institute of Sociology Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Sofia (Franciszek Sztabiński)
 - 2007. “How does length of fieldwork period influence non-response phenomenon and differences between Respondents and Non-Respondents? Findings from the ESS Project in Poland” – presentation at the Institute of Sociology Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Sofia (Paweł Sztabiński)
 - 2007 “Identification with the EU. What does it mean and how can it be interpreted? A Case of Portugal, Switzerland and Poland” presentation during European Social Survey 2004 Seminar, Lisbon (Paweł B. Sztabinski, Franciszek Sztabinski, Anna Dyjas-Pokorska)

PORUGAL

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- May/June 2006– Newsletter presenting the ESS2 and ESS3 sent by e-mail to a wide range of social scientists and post-graduate social sciences students.
- February 2007– 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.
- December 2006 – Edition of the book covering the results of ESS1: *Contextos e atitudes sociais na europa* [Social Contexts and Attitudes in Europe]
- February 2007 – Newsletter with results of ESS2, news on ESS3 and the book on ESS1.
- February 2007 - One day research seminar devoted to ESS2 (the papers will be part of the book to be published).
- 2007/2008 – Book covering the main topics of ESS2. The articles will be written by members of the research team and other authors (national and international).
- 2006/2007 – Special Issue of Portuguese *Journal of Social Sciences*: 3 numbers (abstracts of issue 1 are available at <http://www.intellectbooks.co.uk/journalissues.php?issn=1476413X&v=5&i=1>), issue 2 is imminent and issue 3 is in edition.
- Future plans: May-June 2008– Dissemination report including the presentation of ESS teams, modules, methodological aspects, sampling and global results of ESS3. 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.
- Future plans: May-June 2008 – Dissemination of a comparative report regarding the main questionnaire for Rounds 1, 2 and 3. Besides the comparative analysis of global results for the three rounds, the report will also include presentation of the ESS teams, the modules for the 3 rounds, methodological aspects and sampling.
- Future plans: October-November 2008 – Seminar will be held at the Institute (ICS-UL) for the presentation of the results regarding the rotating modules of ESS Round 3. Two research teams are responsible for analysing the data – Social and Personal Well-Being (coordinator Luísa Lima) and Timing of Life (cords. José Machado Pais and Vitor Sérgio Ferreira).

ROMANIA

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- The local academic community has been informed about Round 3 of the ESS at various different local conferences and meetings in Romania.
- A press release is planned after submission of the data, covering key areas of the ESS and details of the availability of the data.
- An academic conference dedicated to the ESS is planned in October or November 2007. We intend to organise several sessions as follows:
 - A general session dedicated to presenting the ESS project and the methodology we have employed to conduct the survey in Romania;
 - A session dedicated to presenting the main results of the Round 3 by themes.

- The presentation will be based on brief papers delivered by academics and graduate students from the National School for Political and Administrative Studies;
- Several sessions in which local academics and graduate students will present papers that use data from previous rounds of the ESS. To this end, we have advertised the fact that ESS data is available to the [academic and non-academic] public and we have encouraged people from the local academic community to request and use ESS data from Round 1 and 2 and employ the data in their studies/papers;
- A session on the methodology of the ESS. The academic conference will be open to and attended by academics from university centres and research institutes throughout Romania.

- Within two weeks of the academic conference, a press conference to disseminate information about the ESS and the results of Round 3 in Romania will be organised. We expect that the press conference will be attended by representatives of major Romanian media outlets, public officials (MPs, government officials), opinion-makers and representatives of civil society.
- A document containing the main features of the ESS and the results from Round 3 will be sent to the Romanian Parliament, the Romanian Presidency, the Prime Minister's Office and other relevant agencies such as the National University Research Council (NUCR) – the local funding agency, the National Institute for Statistics, the Agency for Governmental Strategies, the Ministry of Work, Family, and Social Solidarity, the Anti-Discrimination National Council, as well as to major NGOs such as the Foundation for the Development of Civil Society, Pro-Democracy Association, Open Society Foundation).
- The ESS data will be available to undergraduate and graduate students from SNSPA as well as from other university centres, throughout the country. The Romanian NCs will encourage both students and academics to employ the ESS data in their academic endeavours. In particular, students and academics will be encouraged to apply for local funds to support research projects that use ESS data.
- The ESS methodology will be promoted as an example of “best practices” in the local scientific community. To this end, the Romanian NCs will meet with bodies such as “The Methodological Forum” of the Romanian Sociological Association and with the Romanian Society of Political Science to disseminate the methodology of the ESS and promote it as a standard for conducting (comparative) social surveys.
- Future plans: At the beginning of 2008, we expect to publish a book with studies employing the data from Round 3 of the ESS. The volume will be edited by Professor Mihaela Vlasceanu and Dr. Augustin Stoica – the NCs of Round 3 in Romania – and will include studies written by academics and graduate students from the National School of Administrative and Political Sciences (SNSPA). The working title of this book is *Romania and Romanians in Comparative Perspective*.

RUSSIA

Anna Andreenkova – anna.andreenkova@cessi.ru

- A large press-conference was organised by the Russian ESS Scientific Board and National Coordinator for all Russian major press on March 28, 2008 in RIA-Novosti to announce the results of Round 3 of ESS. The press conference had a lot of attention from journalists and many articles have been written. Some of articles can be found online. A press-release with a description of the ESS and the main results of Round 3 for Russia was distributed amongst the mass media community and can be found in Russian from: www.cessi.ru
- Articles appeared in a variety of newspapers in late March / early April 2008 some of these are linked or listed below:
 - <http://www.rian.ru/pressclub/20080328/102164234.html>
 - http://www.strf.ru/material.aspx?CatalogId=347&d_no=13944
 - <http://www.rambler.ru/news/economy/statistics/12473202.html?print=1>
 - <http://www.vedomosti.ru/newspaper/article.shtml?2008/03/31/144603>
 - <http://www.finmarket.ru/z/nws/hn.asp?id=808652&nt=&p=1>
 - <http://www.eer.ru/statistics/10775.html>
 - <http://www.svobodanews.ru/Article/2008/03/29/20080329164749313.html>
 - <http://www.nashi-detи.ru/events/583/>
 - <http://newsarmenia.ru/sng1/20080328/41850404.html>
 - <http://www.point.ru/print/forecasts/2008/03/28/15728>
 - <http://news.tipok.ru/news-148545-pagenum-1.html>
 - <http://news.mail.ru/society/1678642>
 - “Komsomolskaya pravda”, 9 April, 2008
 - RB.ru - 28.03.08 Survey: Russia is located within socio-cultural space of Europe
 - Radio Freedom, 29.03.2008. Marriage is not a fashion in Russia. The results of European Social survey (Брак у россиян не в чести. Итоги социального исследования ЕС)
 - Rossiyskaya gazeta, 29.03.2008, Russia is not behind Europe (Россия от Европы не отстает)
 - Gazeta, 31.03.2008, Euromeasure of Russian soul (Евромерка для русской души)
 - Kommersant, 31.03.2008, Россияне работают как нанятые.
(<http://www.kommersant.ru/doc.aspx?DocsID=873286&print=true>)

- NEWSru.com, 31.03.2008, Russians are satisfied with their life less than all other Europeans (Россияне меньше всех европейцев довольны жизнью в своей «стране наемных рабочих»)
- RB.ru. 31.03 10:56, There are more blue-collar workers and less happy people in Russia than in the rest of Europe (В России больше рабочих и меньше счастливых, чем в остальной Европе)
- Russkaya linia, 31.03.2008 10:20, Russians are also Europeans – they just have more problems (Россияне тоже европейцы - Только проблем у них больше)
- Fontanka.ru. 31.03.2008 09:56, В России самая высокая доля наемных работников в Европе
- Bolshoi business, 31.03.2008, For transition to innovative economy Russian needs to the change the structure of employment (Для перехода России к инновационной экономике нужно изменить структуру занятости)
- Gukok, 08.04.2008, There are the same as we are (ОНИ ТАКИЕ, КАК МЫ)
- <http://www.newsland.ru/News/Detail/id/239723/page/1/>
- http://allbestnews.eu/novosti/news_2008-03-28-12-26-27-447.html
- <http://www.miacum.ru/gazeta/2008/03/28/1206713702622>

- An analytical report was produced including the main results from Round 3 of ESS in Russia and other European countries “European Social Survey: studying basis social, political and cultural changes in comparative perspective”. The report was written by the scientific board of Russian ESS (Nikolai Lapin, Anna Andreenkova, Vladimir Andreenkov, Ludmila Belyaeva, Leokadia Drobizheva, Vladimir Magun). The report was distributed among journalistic, academic and educational communities in Russia.
- A special section on the ESS was organised at IX International scientific conference of High School of Economics Moscow “Modernization of economy and globalization”, 1-3 April, 2008. The section included the papers of;
 - Vladimir Andreenkov “Introduction to ESS: methodological issues of implementation of the project in Russia”
 - Vladimir Magun, Maxim Rudnev “Life values of Russians on European background”
 - Galina Monusova “Satisfaction with work: intercountries comparison”
 - Anna Andreenkova “Political views and political participation of citizens in Russia and other European countries”
 - Sergei Sakharov “Value-normative perceptions about “schedule” of human life: comparison of Russia with other European countries”
- Workshop on the ESS were held at the Department of Philosophy and Sociology of Moscow State Institute of International Relations (workshop with teachers of this leading college in Russia), April, 2008. Three papers were presented there:
 - Vladimir Andreenkov “Introduction to ESS: methodological issues of implementation of the project in Russia”
 - Nikolai Lapin “Russia in socio-cultural dimension of Europe”
 - Anna Andreenkova “Political views and political participation of citizens in Russia and other European countries”
- A teaching course on the ESS was organised at High School of Economics. The course was organised by Russian scholars (Leonid Kosals and Chepurenko) and German scholars from University of Colon for master degree students.
- Future Plans: Anna Andreenkova will present a paper based on ESS translation experience into Russian “Translating the instrument for comparative surveys into Russian” at the International Conference on Survey Methods in Multinational, Multiregional, and Multicultural Contexts (3MC), June 25-29, 2008 in Berlin Germany.
- Future Plans: We are working on the book “Russia and Europe: common and different” with 6 contributing authors from different fields – Vladimir Andreenkov (comparative survey methodology), Nikolai Lapin (theoretical framework, macro-cultural analysis), Ludmila Belyaeva (social stratification and inequality), Anna Andreenkova (political attitudes and political behaviour), Galina Monusova (work and satisfaction with work), Vladimir Magun (Life values), Leokadia Drobizheva (ethnic prejudice and migration issues).
- Future Plans: The ESS will be presented on special section 3 “Russia and European countries” in III Sociological congress of Russia in September 2008.
- Future Plans: Construction of a Russian-language website for the ESS survey. Currently, the information about the ESS in Russian can be found at CESSI web-site (www.cessi.ru)

SLOVAKIA

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Round 2

- Launch conference based on data from ESS Round 2 took place in June 2006 in Bratislava covering methodological, interpretative and substantive topics.
- Press conference held during the launch conference in June 2006 in Bratislava. Several interviews for the media were provided.
- Two emails were sent to over 20 institutions and organisations, firstly to publicise the launch conference and secondly to provide information about the call for proposals for the ESS 4 rotating modules.

- A book based on the ESS data was published in 2006. It is entitled *European Social Survey (ESS 2) in Slovakia* and discusses the main topics covered in the ESS. The details are: VÝROST, J. eds: Európska sociálna sonda - 2.kolo. Prešov: Universum, 2006, ISBN 80-89046-42-8.
- The website of the Institute of Social Sciences (www.saske.sk/SVU) provides information on the ESS as well as the results from Round 2.
- ESS Slovak team researchers were invited to several mass media broadcastings where the ideas and outputs of the ESS were presented.
- A brochure on ESS Round 2 was published.
- Several of the Slovakian ESS Team have released publications and presented papers at conferences a selection of these are:
 - FEDÁKOVÁ, D., KENTOŠ, M., VÝROST, J.: Differences in response rate on the ESS. WAPOR / ISSC Conference, Ljubljana, Slovenia 9th-11th November 2005 <http://ciss.ris.org/uploadi/editor/1132560450Fedakova.ppt>
 - KENTOŠ, M. - VÝROST, J. Enhancing Response Rate in ESS Round 2: Case of Slovakia. In Človek a spoločnosť, 8, 4, (2005). <http://www.saske.sk/cas/4-2005/index.html>
 - VÝROST, J. – BAUMGARTNER, F. Influencing error of central tendency in self-rating scales. In Človek a spoločnosť. Roč. 8, č. 4 (2005). <http://www.saske.sk/cas/42005/index.html>
 - TAKÁČOVÁ, A. - FRANKOVSKÝ, M.: Economic morality in international context. In FRANKOVSKÝ, M.: MANAŽMENT 2006 (management, theory, trends and practice) - zborník z medzinárodnej vedeckej konferencie, 06. – 07. október 2006, Kúpele Nový Smokovec, Vysoké Tatry, Slovensko. Prešov: Prešovská univerzita v Prešove, 2006, s. 78 – 83. ISBN ISBN 80-8068-512-6.
 - VÝROST, Jozef - KENTOŠ, Michal - FEDÁKOVÁ, Denisa. Value orientations as factors of social trust, political participation, and life satisfaction. In *Studio Psychologica : an International Journal for Research and Theory in Psychological Sciences*. ISSN 0039-3320, 2007, vol. 49, no 4, p. 283-294. (0,410 – IF2006)
 - BAUMGARTNER, František. Vzťahy lekárov a pacientov ako súčasť modulu zdravie vo výskume ESS. (Physician – patient relations as a part of ESS modul). In *Sociálne procesy a osobnosť 2006 : zborník príspevkov*. - Košice : Spoločenskovedný ústav SAV, 2007. ISBN 978-80-969628-4-6, s. 17-25.
 - FEDÁKOVÁ, Denisa - KENTOŠ, Michal - VÝROST, Jozef. The Impact of Natural Disaster on Opinions and Attitudes of ESS 2 Respondents in Slovakia. International annual conference: Social Processes and Personality 2007, Telč, Czech rep., september 2007
 - FRANKOVSKÝ, Miroslav - TAKÁČOVÁ, Anna. International comparison of management morality in economic context. In *Studies & Proceedings of Polish association for knowledge management*. ISSN 1732-324X, 2007, no. 11, p. 57-65.
 - VÝROST, Jozef. V-4: Do We Resemble Each Other? (Are We Alike?) A Look on the ESS Round 2 Results. Paper presented on the conference “Central Europe in the Union and the Union in Central Europe”, Charles University, Faculty of Social Sciences, Prague, September 19.-21.
 - VÝROST, Jozef - FEDÁKOVA, Denisa - KENTOŠ, Michal. Natural Disaster and its Reflections in Opinions and Attitudes of ESS 2 Respondents in Slovakia. Príspevok prezentovaný na 2nd ESRA Conference, Prague, 25-29 June 2007.
 - VÝROST, Jozef – FEDÁKOVÁ, Denisa – KENTOŠ, Michal – TAKÁČOVÁ, Anna. ESS fieldwork experience in Slovakia. Paper presented on the dissemination conference European Social Survey (Round 3), Social Processes in Early 21st century. Poland and Europe 2002 – 2004 – 2006. Warsaw, 12th December 2007.

Round 3

- The website of the Institute of Social Sciences (www.saske.sk/SVU) provides continuous information on the ESS as well as the results from Round 3.
- Future plans: Dissemination conference based on the ESS Round 3 data held at Stara Lesna, High Tatras, Slovakia; February 27th 2008, covering methodological, interpretative and substantive topics.
- Future plans: A book based on the ESS Round 3 data will be published in June 2008.
- Future plans: During this year (2008), the National ESS team will prepare publications and papers based on ESS Round 3 data.

SLOVENIA

Slavko Kurdija – slavko.kurdija@uni-lj.si

- Paper presented at 16th Statistical Days in Radenci - MALNAR, Brina, HAFNER-FINK, Mitja, ŠTEBE, Janez. Zmožnosti mednarodnih anketnih družboslovnih primerjalnih raziskav za oblikovanje subjektivnih indikatorjev razvitiosti. V: TKAČIK, Boris (ur.), URBAS, Marina (ur.). Merjenje razvojne vloge in učinkovitosti javnega sektorja in politik : zbornik : proceedings volume. Ljubljana: Statistični urad Republike Slovenije: Statistično društvo Slovenije: = Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia: Statistical Society of Slovenia, 2006, str. 64-76.

- Annual meeting of Slovenian Sociological Society. Presentation of ESS results - political culture section. (Murska Sobota, November 2006).
- Institute of Macroeconomic Analysis and Development: Development report 2006. Government expertise partly based on the ESS data <http://www.sigov.com/umar/projekti/pr/2006/pr2006.pdf>
- Institute of Macroeconomic Analysis and Development: Socialni razgledi (Social development report). Government expertise that includes ESS data on subjective well-being. <http://www.sigov.si/zmar/projekti/socr/SR2006.pdf>
- ESS data and methodological expertise used as part of undergraduate and postgraduate courses at the Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ljubljana (Methods for Social Scientists; Comparative social research; European attitudes and values; Research seminar) <http://www.fdv.uni-lj.si/>
- National grant based on the 2006-2008 ESS survey received (V5-0274); partly to fund research and analytical work on social indicators.
- A cooperation between the Faculty of Social Sciences and the Institute of Economic Research Topic: Measuring and evaluation of developmental policy. Funder: Slovenian Research Agency.
- National grant based on ESS survey 2007-2010 received (J5-9069-0582-06). Aims: Promoting data-based policy-making and promoting methodological innovation and standardization Funder: Slovenian Research Agency.
- E-mail information notes sent to academic community informing them of the first release of Round 3 data.
- Participation at a conference: Perception of Law in Society, 6-7. Held in December 2007 in Ljubljana. Dr. Slavko Kurdija presented a conference paper on public confidence in juridical institutions focusing on the concepts of social trust and trust in institutions. The paper was mainly based on empirical data from all previous rounds of the ESS from an international comparative perspective.
- Undergraduate diploma work from Eva Dolinar: Subjective Well-Being in Wider Frame of Quality of Life (mentor: Dr. Slavko Kurdija). The empirical analysis is based on data from Slovenia from Round 1 of the ESS.
- Dr. Slavko Kurdija organised a course on Social science methodology. It was held at the Faculty of Criminal Justice and Security in 2007 and was based on ESS data.

SPAIN

Mariano Torcal - mariano.torcal@upf.edu

- ESS presented at the National Congress of Survey Methods a monographic panel with different papers (September 2006).
- An ESS press release was distributed on May 27 2006.
- 500 brochures on the ESS distributed to all mass media and major institutions in Spain.
- 50 new English brochures distributed to all the universities and research institutions in Spain.
- Article by M. Torcal, L. Morales and C. Riba (2006) 'Supervisión y Control de Calidad del Trabajo de Campo de la Encuesta Social Europea en Espana: Evaluación y Resultados', *Methodología de Encuestas*, 7 (2): 75-96.
- 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.
- Paper presented by Laura Morales titled "Supervision and quality control of the fieldwork for the European Social Survey in Spain: evaluation and results." Presented at Instituto de Estudios Sociales Avanzados (Institute for Advanced Social Studies), Juan March Foundation, Madrid 9th March 2007.
- A press conference was organised in Madrid on 28 November 2007, to present the Round 3 data set.
- A paper by C. Riba and A. Cuxart, titled: "Learning from the Experience: The Design of the Third Wave of the ESS," was presented at the 9th Spanish Congress of Sociology, Barcelona, 13-15th September 2007.
- A paper by C. Riba and A. Cuxart, titled: "Learning from the Experience: The Design of the Third Wave of the ESS," was also presented at a workshop about Surveys on Satisfaction with the Health System organized by The Servei Català de la Salut (CatSalut), Barcelona, 12th November, 2007.
- Future plans: Edited book by M.Torcal, 'Comportamiento Político Comparado de los Europeos del Siglo XXI' (Comparative Political behaviour of the Europeans of the 21st Century), CIS, 2008

SWEDEN

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- Presentation of ESS on an open seminar arranged by the Swedish research Council.
- Presentation of ESS on the Gothenburg book fair.
- A number of interviews in papers and radio.
- Statistics Sweden (fieldwork organisation) is promoting ESS and their part in it.

SWITZERLAND

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No report provided.

UK

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- Printed copies of the ESS EduNet leaflet and distributed these.
- Publicised the call for QDTs by asking the ESRC to announce it on their website and link it to the ESS website.
- Publicised the release of the 2006 dataset.
- Future plans: A workshop has been organised on data analysis using cross-national data (with ESS and ISSP as the two example datasets). This is being run by the national data archive in the UK (ESDS), and will involve talks by Alison Park and Stefan Svallfors. It is aimed primarily at students and will take place on 11th April 2008.

UKRAINE

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- 25 ESS brochures distributed
- In 2005 the Ukrainian ESS team made the presentation of the first results of ESS Round 2 in the Institute of Sociology. Several members of Ukrainian Parliament, officials of Ukrainian President Office (Secretariat of Ukrainian President), journalists, scholars from the institutes of Academy of Sciences of Ukraine and universities were present. Prof. R. Jowell and Assoc. Prof. A. Gorbachyk (NC of ESS in Ukraine) presented reports.
- Several publications (articles, interviews) have appeared in all-Ukrainian newspapers (particularly, "The Day", "Mirror of the Week", "Komsomolskaya Pravda in Ukraine", "Grani+") based on the data of ESS Round 2.
- Several articles, based on ESS Round 2 data, have been published in Ukrainian peer-review sociological journals.
- One monograph, based on ESS Round 2 data, is now in print. Another monograph will be finished by the end of March 2007.
- Graduate and postgraduate students of several Ukrainian universities (particularly, Kyiv national Taras Shevchenko University, Kharkiv National University, National University of "Kyiv-Mohyla Academy") use ESS Round 2 for Masters and PhD theses.
- Advisory group of the Ministry of Labour and Social Maintenance use ESS Round 2 data in the preparation of the reforms of Ukrainian public health service.
- Economic advisory group of Ukrainian President's office (Secretariat of Ukrainian President) have used ESS Round 2 data.
- Ukrainian book published in 2007 by the Ukrainian National team: Golovakha E., Gorbachyk A., Panina N. Ukraina ta Evropa: resultaty mizhnarodnogo porivnyalnogo sociologichnogo doslidzhennya (Ukraine and Europe: outcomes of international comparative sociological survey) - Kyiv, Institute of Sociology- 142 pp. This book mainly consists of tables with comments and is based exclusively on the data of ESS Round 2.
- English book – this is a translation into English of the Ukrainian book listed above.
- Russian book – this is a collective monograph: Ukrainskoe obschestvo v evropeyskom prostranstve (Ukrainian Society in a European Dimension) / Eds. Golovakha E., Makeev S. - Kyiv, Institute of Sociology - 274 pp.

2.3 CCT Dissemination: Presentations and Publications (2005-2007)

- **CCT Presentations**

2005

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, Rory Fitzgerald, Stefaan Pleysier, Ineke Stoop, Achim Koch, & 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.

2006

5 January 2006

National Political Science Conference, Norway:

- Atle Jåstad (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?'

14 March 2006

International micro data conference (ESDS), London

- Roger Jowell: 'The European Social Survey: a new multi-nation infrastructure'

16 March 2006

National Science Week lecture (representing the Academy), City University, London

- Roger Jowell: Keynote speech 'How different nations view the world and themselves: the hazardous pursuit of evidence in place of stereotypes'

17 March 2006

Fourth International Workshop on Comparative Survey Design and Implementation, The Hague

- Ineke Stoop, Achim Koch, & Annelies Blom, 'The Devil is in the Details: How to Minimize Deviations and Improve Quality in Cross-National Surveys'

24-26 April 2006

European Conference on Quality in Survey Statistics, Cardiff, UK

- Ineke Stoop, Jaak Billiet, Achim Koch: 'Family members as gatekeepers: The extent of refusal by proxy'

4 May 2006

Higher Institute of Labor (HVA), Leuven

- Jaak Billiet: 'Nonresponse in general surveys: size, causes and remedies'

18-21 May 2006

AAPOR meeting, Montreal

- Caroline Roberts: 'Mixing modes on the European Social Survey: Implications for data quality'

22 May 2006

40th International Field Director's & Technologies Conference, Montreal, *Workshop on cross-cultural cross-national research*

- Achim Koch & Peter Ph. Mohler: 'Data Collection in Cross-National Surveys: The ESS as an Example'

22 May 2006

40th International Field Director's & Technologies Conference, Montreal, *Workshop on cross-cultural cross-national research*

- Janet Harkness: 'Questionnaire Translation'

1 June 2006

EPROS (Eurostat) meeting, Luxembourg

- Roger Jowell: 'Measuring underlying attitude change via the European Social Survey'

1 June 2006

Workshop on religious diversity, Copenhagen

- Jaak Billiet: 'Religion in Belgium. A country report'

8-9 June 2006

Project Management Conference, Brussels

- Rory Fitzgerald: 'European Social Survey: Round 4'

12 June 2006

LSE seminar

- Roger Jowell: 'Measuring attitudes across nations and over time'

12 June 2006

1st Leuven Statistical Day

- Jaak Billiet: 'Attitudes towards Migration in Europe: a Cross-Cultural and Contextual Approach'

2 July 2006

International Conference for Society for Multivariate Analysis in the Behavioural Sciences (SMABS), Budapest

- Jaak Billiet and Bart Meuleman: 'Quality and comparability of measures in the ESS: attitudes toward migration and immigrants'

17- 28 July 2006

Institute of Social Research, University of Michigan, *Understanding Multi-cultural, Multinational Survey Research*

- Janet Harkness: 'Questionnaire design and translation'

19 July 2006

ESOF Scientific Session, Munich

- Rory Fitzgerald: 'Do Nations see things differently? Large Scale Social Science and the problem of equivalence'

20 July 2006

Methods Festival, St Catherine's College Oxford

- Rory Fitzgerald: 'The rationale and pitfalls of cross-national surveys'
- Caroline Roberts: 'Mixing modes on the European Social Survey – implications for data quality'
- Caroline Roberts: 'Resources for International Comparative Analysis: the European Social Survey'
- Jaak Billiet: 'Things that go wrong in comparative surveys – evidence from ESS'

17 August 2006

Plenary session of the ECRR Summer School in Quantitative Analysis, Ljubljana

- Jaak Billiet: 'Data quality in cross-national surveys: dealing with differential response rates and non-response bias in ESS'

24 July 2006

XVI. World Congress of Sociology Durban, South Africa

- Sabine Häder, Siegfried Gabler, Matthias Ganninger: Results of the estimation of design effects in ESS round 2 and implications for the calculation of effective sample sizes in ESS Round 3.

24 August 2006

QMSS workshop on Measurement, Data Collection and Data Quality Issues for Cross-National Survey Data, Lugano

- Jaak Billiet: 'Response and non-response in the ESS. What we know and how to lean about non-response bias'
- Jaak Billiet: 'Evaluation of the cross-nation comparability of several ESS measurement instruments'

25 August 2006

QMSS Workshop on 'Measurement, Data Collection and Data Quality Issues for Cross-National Survey Data' at Lugano

- Matthias Ganninger: 'Effective Sample Size - Theoretic Perspectives and Empirical Insights from the ESS'.

28-30 August 2006

International Workshop on Household Survey Nonresponse, Omaha, Nebraska

- Jaak Billiet, Geert Loosveldt & Ineke Stoop 'How general are findings about assumed non-response bias in cross-nation surveys?'
- Ineke Stoop, Achim Koch, Geert Loosveld, Jaak Billiet 'Sample frames and survey nonresponse: Family members as gatekeepers'

17 September 2006

Gallup Eurobarometer Seminar, Gallup, London

- Caroline Roberts: 'Report on phase II of the ESS-Gallup Mixed Mode Methodology Project'

20-22 September 2006

Active Citizenship Conference, Ispra, Milan

- Roger Jowell: 'The need for indicators in the field of active citizenship'

20 October 2006

Award ceremony University of Umea, Sweden

- Roger Jowell: 'Measuring how different nations view their world and themselves'

20 October 2006

New Citizens, New Policies? Developments in Diversity Policy in Canada and Flanders, Bruges

- Jaak Billiet: 'Attitudes towards ethnic minorities in Flanders: changes 1989-2004, and comparisons with Wallonia and the Netherlands'

27 October 2006

Eurobarometer Conference, "Understanding European public opinion", Madrid

- Roger Jowell: 'Achieving equivalent samples across Europe'

30 November 2006

ESF General Assembly, Strasbourg

- Roger Jowell: 'The European Social Survey – a new European Infrastructure'

1 December 2006

Invited talk to Surrey University MSc students

- Caroline Roberts: 'Measuring attitudes cross-nationally: The European Social Survey'

5 December 2006

LSE seminar for MSc students

- Roger Jowell: 'Surveys to measure attitude change'

5 December 2006

Sixth ZUMA Symposium on Cross-Cultural Survey Methodology, Mannheim

- Achim Koch: 'Data Collection in the European Social Survey (ESS)'
- Ineke Stoop & Achim Koch: 'Cross-national differences in response rates: Cultural, financial or organizational causes?'

2007

23-24 February 2007

4th International Conference of Panel Data Users in Switzerland, Neuchatel:

- Annelies Blom & Achim Koch: 'Optimising Response Rates in Household Surveys – the case for the European Social Survey (ESS)'

17 March 2007

Lecture at Flemish Royal Academy of Science, Brussels

- Jaak Billiet: 'Grootschalig crossnational onderzoek naar attitudes en waarden in Europa: voornaamste methodologische uitdagingen met illustraties van enkele bevindingen' (Large scale cross-national research into attitudes and values in Europe: Main methodological challenges with illustration of findings)

23 March 2007

Lecture for MSc students City University, London:

- Rory Fitzgerald: 'The challenges of cross-national surveys: The European Social Survey'

29-31 March 2007

Fifth International Workshop on Comparative Survey Design and Implementation, Chicago, USA:

- Rory Fitzgerald: 'The European Social Survey Infrastructure'
- Ineke Stoop, Thomas van Putten & Josine Verhagen: 'Recording events: Impact on opinions and attitudes'
- Annelies Blom, Peter Lynn & Annette Jäckle: 'Using Para- and Meta-Data to better understand cross-national differences in non-response bias'

5-7 June 2007

Foundation Conference, International Data Forum, Beijing:

- Roger Jowell: 'The European Social Survey and the 'ESFRI' process'

6-7 June 2007

33rd CEIES Seminar on Ethnic and Racial Discrimination in the Labour Market, Malta:

- Jaak Billiet & Bart Meulemann: 'Measuring attitudes and feelings towards discrimination in cross-nation research: lessons learned from the European Social Survey'

8-9 June 2007

Conference on On-line Surveys, Colchester, Essex:

- Willem Saris: 'Making internet surveys representative'

20-23 June 2007

QMSS Conference, Prague:

- Willem Saris: 'Requirements for comparative research'
- Jaak Billiet: 'Non-response bias in cross-national surveys: Designs for detection and adjustment in the European social survey'

25-29 June 2007

Annual Conference of the European Survey Research Association (ESRA),

Prague, Czech Republic:

- Willem Saris: 'Coping with measurement error in survey research' – course at the conference
- Roger Jowell & Gillian Eva: 'The need for 'attitudinal' social indicators'
- Rory Fitzgerald: 'Improving documentation of (cross-national) questionnaire development on the ESS'
- Caroline Roberts: 'Mixing modes of data collection in surveys'
- Annette Jäckle, Caroline Roberts and Peter Lynn: 'Causes of Mode Effects: Separating out Interviewer and Stimulus Effects in Comparisons of Face-to-Face and Telephone Surveys'
- Eric Harrison & Marc Morje Howard: 'Social Capital and Political Cohesion: How exceptional is America?'
- Sally Widdop & Gillian Eva: 'Mixed mode data collection in Europe'

- Willem Saris: 'Measurement quality of concepts of the ESS'
- Geert Loosveldt and Nathalie Sonck: 'Evaluation of the representivity of an opt-in online access panel'
- Olena Kaminska & Jaak Billiet: 'Satisficing for reluctant respondents in a cross-national survey'
- Hideko Matsuo, Geert Loosveldt & Jaak Billiet: 'A micro-level analysis of ESS Round 2 contact forms: the determinants of the duration to achieving direct contact and survey cooperation'
- Bart Mueleman, Eldad Davidov, P Schmidt & Jaak Billiet: 'The relation between human values and attitudes towards immigration policy: a comparison across 19 European countries'
- Leen Vandecasteele & Jaak Billiet: 'Cross-national differences in response rates in the European Social Survey: an assessment and attempt at explanation'
- Jaak Billiet, Geert Loosveldt, Ineke Stoop & Koen Beullens: 'How general are findings about assumed non-response bias in cross-national surveys?'
- Kirstine Kolsrud: 'The Work and Challenges of the Data Archive'
- Hilde Orten: 'Bazaar style data and metadata in the age of the Data Cube: a few ideas based on the European Social Survey'
- Knut Kalgraff Skjåk: 'Clean data or cleaned data? Data editing procedures and experiences of the ESS Data Archive'
- Ineke Stoop: 'Event Data and Social Surveys'
- Ineke Stoop: 'Indicators of difficulty: Measuring the impact of fieldwork efforts in social surveys'
- Michael Blohm & Achim Koch: 'Data Quality in the European Social Survey (ESS): The case of item nonresponse'
- Annelies Blom, Peter Lynn & Annette Jäckle: 'Explaining differences in contact rates across countries'
- Annelies Blom, Achim Koch & Beth-Ellen Pennell: 'Data collection in cross-cultural and cross-national surveys'

9-13 July 2007

International meeting of the Psychometric Society, Tokyo

- Willem Saris: 'Requirements for cross cultural research'

11 July 2007

UKDA Workshop, University of Essex:

- Roger Jowell: 'The future of cross-national research infrastructures'

19 July-4 August

2-week ECPR Summer course on Methods and Techniques, Ljubljana, Slovenia

- Ineke Stoop: 'Comparative Survey Design'

22-29 August 2007

56th Session of the International Statistical Institute, Lisbon, Portugal:

- Annette Jäckle and Caroline Roberts: 'Assessing the effect of data collection mode on measurement'
- Ineke Stoop & Jaak Billiet: 'Nonresponse bias in cross-national surveys'

31 August 2007

Measurement and Experimentation with Internet Panels: The state of the art of internet interviewing conference, Tilburg:

- Willem Saris: 'Quality of internet surveys'
- Ineke Stoop: 'The Impact of Events on Attitudes: Real-time measurement'

3-5 September 2007

International Workshop on Household Survey Nonresponse, Southampton, UK:

- Ineke Stoop & Jaak Billiet: 'Nonresponse bias in cross-national surveys'
- Ineke Stoop & Josine Verhagen: 'Nonresponse and change in environment'
- Annelies Blom & Michael Blohm: 'The effects of first contact by phone: Evidence from the European Social Survey'

12-14 September 2007

The Challenges of a changing world: ASC2007, Southampton:

- Ineke Stoop: 'Survey data, context and event data'

23-26 September 2007

International Conference in Applied Statistics, Bled, Slovenia:

- Koen Beullens & Jaak Billiet: 'Estimation of non response bias in the second round of the European Social Survey' (using information from reluctant respondents)

12 October 2007

(Gallop Europe) Flash Barometer Training Workshop, Brussels:

- Jaak Billiet: 'Assessing cross-national construct equivalence in cross-nation research: some examples of ESS Rounds 1 & 2'

18-19 October 2007

(TUBITAK) ESSRHA International Conference, Istanbul:

- Jaak Billiet & Bart Meuleman: 'Religious diversity in Europe and its relation to social attitudes and value orientations'

19 October 2007

SCSS Plenary Session, Strasbourg

- Roger Jowell: 'Plans for an International Data Forum'

24 October 2007

ESRC Research Methods Programme, London,

- Roger Jowell: 'Obstacles to equivalence in comparative surveys'

25 October 2007

ESFRI SSH RWG meeting, British Academy London

- Roger Jowell: 'The European Social Survey'

8 November 2007

1-day course at MA Comparative European Social Studies, Hogeschool-Zuyd, Maastricht:

- Ineke Stoop: 'Cross-national Surveys: The European Social Survey and EUROSTAT'

12 November 2007

Polish Academy of Science (Psychology) presentation, Bratislava:

- Jaak Billiet: 'Assessing cross-national construct equivalence in cross-nation research: some examples of ESS Rounds 1 & 2'

14 November 2007

Joint Empirical Social Science (JESS) Seminar, Institute for Social & Economic Research (ISER), Essex University, UK:

- Annelies Blom, Annette Jäckle & Peter Lynn: 'Explaining differences in contact rates across countries'

21 November 2007

HM Treasury 50th anniversary event, London:

- Roger Jowell: 'The growth of sample surveys in government social research'

12 December 2007

Polish Academy of Sciences (Social Science) Round 3 introduction, Warsaw:

- Willem Saris: 'Requirements for comparative research'
- Jaak Billiet: 'Non-response bias in cross-national surveys: Designs for detection and adjustment in the European Social Survey'

12-13 December 2007

FP7 Research Infrastructure Information meeting, Dublin:

- Rory Fitzgerald: 'The European Social Survey Infrastructure'

14 December 2007

Measuring meaningful data in social research conference, K.U. Leuven, Belgium:

- Roger Jowell: 'The ESS – its origins, purpose and prospects'
- Willem Saris: 'Some highlights of methodological research'
- Kirstine Kolsrud: 'ESS data for all – the work and challenges of the data archive'
- Ineke Stoop: 'Is Belgium one or two countries? A study of ESS media-reported events'

- CCT Publications

2005

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.

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.

2006

Billiet, J., Maddens, B. & Frognier, A.P. (2006), "Does Belgium still exists? Differences in political culture between Flemish and Walloons". *Journal of Western Politics*, vol. 29 (5), pp. 912-932.

Billiet, J. (2006), "Attitudes towards ethnic minorities in Flanders: changes between 1989 and 2003 and a comparison with the Netherlands". Pp. 35-56 in Dhaenens, L., Hooghe, M., Vanheule, D. & Gezduci, H. (Ed.), 'New' Citizens, New Policies? *Developments in Diversity Policy in Canada and Flanders*. Gent: Academia Press.

Gabler, S, Häder S & Lynn, P (2006), 'Design Effects for Multiple Design Samples'. In: *Survey Methodology, June 2006 115, Vol. 32, No. 1*, pp. 115-120

Jowell R (2006), 'Measuring how different nations view the world', *21st Century Society Vol 1, Journal of the Academy of Social Sciences*

Orkin M & Jowell R (2006), 'Ten years into democracy: How South Africans view their world and themselves', in *South African Social Attitudes: Changing Times, Diverse Voices*, South Africa: HSRC Press, ISBN: 0-7969-2117-2

Meuleman, B., Meireman, K., & Billiet, J. (2006), Immigratie en asiel. Opvattingen en houdingen van Belgen, Duitsers, Nederlanders en Britten in het Europees Sociaal Survey ». Pp. 63-88 in: Foblets, M.C., Vrielink, J. & Billiet, J. (Red.). *Multiculturalisme ontleed. Een staalkaart van onderzoek aan de K.U. Leuven*. Leuven: Universitaire Pers Leuven.

Meuleman, B. & Billiet, J. (2006). *Quality and comparability of measures in the ESS: attitudes toward migration and immigrants*. Paper presented at the SMABS-EAM conference 2006, July 2nd-5th, 18 pp. (available as CeSO working paper)

2007

Beullens K, Vandecasteele L & Billiet J (2007): *Refusal Conversion in the Second Round of the European Social Survey*, Working Paper of the Centre for Sociological Research

Billiet J, Koch A & Philippens M (2007) 'Understanding & improving response rates' in Jowell R, Roberts C, Fitzgerald R & Eva G (eds), *Measuring attitudes cross-nationally: Lessons from the European Social Survey*, London: Sage

Billiet J & Meuleman B (2007) 'Measuring attitudes and feelings towards discrimination in cross-nation research: lessons learned from the European Social Survey' in *Proceedings of the 33rd CEIES Seminar on Ethnic and Racial Discrimination in the Labour Market*

Billiet, J., Phillipens, M., Fitzgerald, R. & Stoop, I. (2007), "Estimation of Nonresponse Bias in the European Social Survey: using Information from Reluctant Respondents. *Journal Of Official Statistics*, Vol 23, No 2, pp135-162

Billiet, J. (2007) *Response Based Quality Assessment in the ESS – Round 2. An update for 26 countries*. Centre of Sociological Research (CeSO), K. U. Leuven.

Blohm, M., Hox, J. & Koch, A. (2007) 'The influence of interviewers' contact behaviour on the contact and cooperation rate in face-to-face household surveys', *International Journal of Public Opinion Research*, 19, 97-111

Davidov E, Meuleman B, Billiet J & Schmidt P (in press) 'Values and support for immigration: a cross-country comparison', *European Sociological Review*

Häder, S & Lynn, P (2007), 'How representative can a multi-nation survey be?', in: Jowell R, Roberts C, Fitzgerald R and Eva G, (2007), *Measuring attitudes cross-nationally: lessons from the European Social Survey*, London: Sage. pp. 31-50.

Harkness, J. (in press) 'Comparative Survey Research: Goals and Challenges.' in: Dillman, D., Hox, J. and de Leeuw, E. (eds.) *International Handbook of Survey Methodology*, Hyattsville, VA: Erlbaum.

Harkness, J. (2007) 'Improving the comparability of translations' in: Jowell R, Roberts C, Fitzgerald R & Eva G (eds), *Measuring attitudes cross-nationally: Lessons from the European Social Survey*, London: Sage,

Harkness, J.A., Schoebi, N., Joye, D., Mohler, P., Faass, T., and Behr, D. (2007), 'Oral Translation in Telephone Surveys', in *Advances in Telephone Survey Methodology* J.M. Lepkowski, C. Tucker, J.M. Brick, E. de Leeuw, L. Japec, P. Lavrakas, M.W. Link and R. Sangster, (eds.) Hoboken: John Wiley and Sons.

Harrison E, Jowell R & Fitzgerald R (2007) 'Non-respondents in the ESS: in a Class of their own?' in Loosveldt G, Swyngedouw M & Cambré (eds), *Measuring Meaningful Data in Social Research*, Leuven: Acco

Jowell R, Kaase M, Fitzgerald R & Eva G (eds) (2007), 'Attitude change in Europe' in Jowell R, Roberts C, Fitzgerald R and Eva, G. *Measuring attitudes cross-nationally: lessons from the European Social Survey*, London: Sage.

Jowell R, Roberts C, Fitzgerald R and Eva G, (2007), *Measuring attitudes cross-nationally: lessons from the European Social Survey*, London: Sage.

Lynn, P, Häder, S, Gabler S & Laaksonen, S (2007). 'Methods for Achieving Equivalence of Samples in Cross-National Surveys: The European Social Survey Experience'. *Journal of Official Statistics*. Vol. 22 No. 4.

Loosveldt G, Heerwegh D & Matsuo H: 'Possibilities of evaluating interviewer effects through the use of interviewer variance' in Loosveldt G, Swyngedouw M & Cambré: *Measuring Meaningful Data in Social Research*, Leuven: Acco 2007

Loosveldt G, Swyngedouw M & Cambré: *Measuring Meaningful Data in Social Research*, Leuven: Acco 2007

Matsuo H (2007), 'Reflections on motherhood and work in Europe and Japan – from 'either/or' to 'both', *Journal of Population Studies (Jinkougaku kenkyuu)*

Matsuo H, Loosveldt G & Billiet J (2007), *European Social Survey Round 3 Belgium: Process evaluation for the data collection*, Working Paper of the Centre for Sociological Research

Meuleman B, Reeskens T & Billiet J (2007), *How many countries are needed for multilevel SEM? A simulation study*, Sixth International Conference on Multilevel Analysis, Amsterdam

Mohler P: 'What is being learned from the ESS' in Jowell R, Roberts C, Fitzgerald R & Eva G (eds), *Measuring attitudes cross-nationally: Lessons from the European Social Survey*, London: Sage, 2007

Oberski D, Saris W E & Hagenaars J A, 'Differences in quality of questions across countries' in *Festschrift for Jaak Billiet*

Kolsrud K, Kalgraff Skjak K & Henrichsen B (2007) 'Free and immediate access to data' in Jowell R, Roberts C, Fitzgerald R & Eva G (eds), *Measuring attitudes cross-nationally: Lessons from the European Social Survey*, London: Sage

Roberts C & Jowell R (eds) (forthcoming, 2008), *Attitude Measurement*, Vols 1-4, London: Sage

Roberts, C (2007), 'Mixing modes of data collection in surveys: A methodological review', *Methods Review Papers, NCRM/008*, ESRC National Centre for Research Methods

Roberts C, Eva, G & Widdop, S (forthcoming 2008), 'Assessing the demand and capacity for mixing modes of data collection on the European Social Survey: Final report of the mapping exercise', *Working Paper of the Centre for Comparative Social Surveys*, paper 2008-01, London: City University.

Saris, W E & Gallhofer I (2007) 'Can questions travel successfully?' in Jowell R, Roberts C, Fitzgerald R & Eva G (eds.), *Measuring attitudes cross-nationally: Lessons from the European Social Survey*, London: Sage

Saris W E & Gallhofer I N (2007) 'Estimation of the effect of measurement characteristics on the quality of survey questions' in *Survey Research Methods*, 1, 31-46

Saris W E & Gallhofer I. N. (2007), *Design, evaluation and analysis of questionnaires for survey research*, New York: Wiley

Saris W E, Batista-Foguet J M & Coenders G (2007) 'Selection of indicators for the interaction term' in *Structural equation models with interaction, Quality and Quantity*, 41, 55-72

Stoop I (2007) 'If it bleeds, it leads: the impact of media-reported events' in Jowell R, Roberts C, Fitzgerald R & Eva G (eds), *Measuring attitudes cross-nationally: Lessons from the European Social Survey*, London: Sage

Stoop I (2007) 'No time, too busy: Time strain and survey cooperation' in Loosveldt G, Swyngedouw M & Cambré B (eds), *Measuring Meaningful Data in Social Research*, Leuven: Acco

Stoop I (2007) 'Survey data, context and event data' in Trotman M et al (eds.), *The Challenges of a Changing World*, proceedings of the 5th International Conference of the Association for Survey Computing, University of Southampton, September

Stoop I & Billiet J (2007) 'Nonresponse bias in comparative surveys' – Invited paper presented at 56th Session of the International Statistical Institute, Lisbon, Portugal, August

Widdop, S. (2007) *European Social Survey Codebook: Round 1 and Round 2*, London: City University

2.3 Other dissemination

Dissemination ESS data web site

All registered users were notified by e-mail of the release of the first 19 countries from Round 3 and were informed of the second release of the five remaining countries in April 2008.

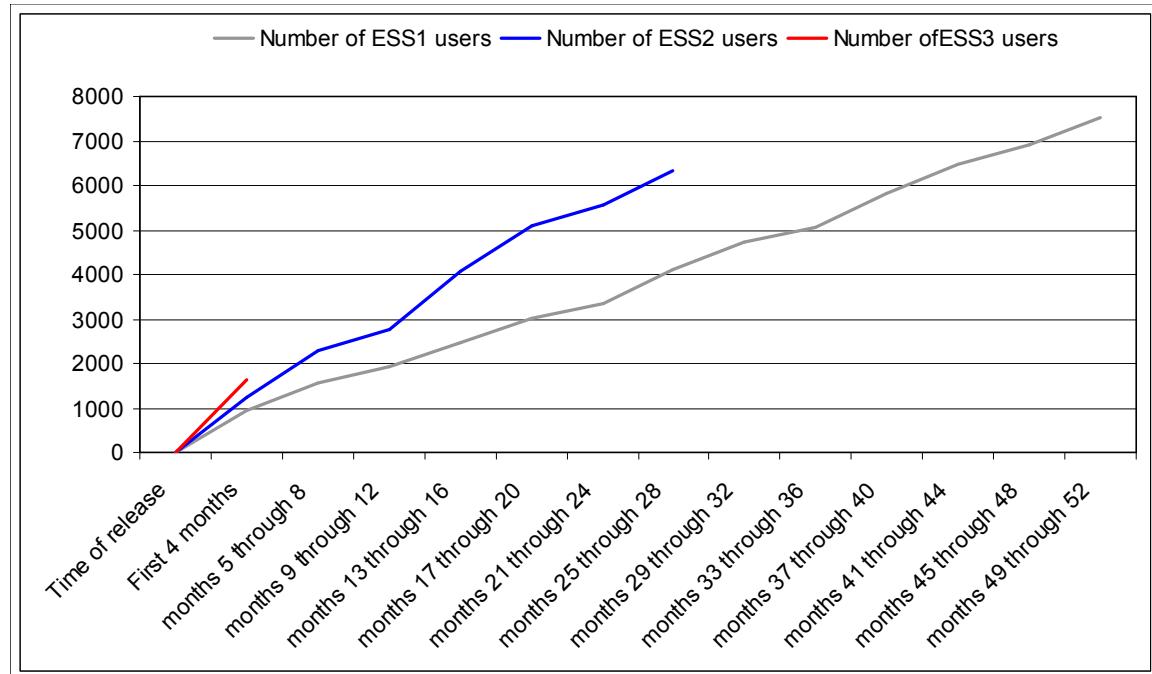
So far NSD has registered 7,542 unique users of ESS Round 1, 6,321 of Round 2, while 1,625 people have been registered as ESS Round 3 users during the first four months after the first release on 27.09.07. This is higher than in Round 1 and 2, where 945 and 1,248 users respectively registered during the four first months.

Table 2.3.1: number of ESS users (by round)

Time of release	ESS 1	ESS 2	ESS 3
First 4 months	945	1248	1625
months 5 through 8	1563	2283	
months 9 through 12	1929	2765	
months 13 through 16	2469	4085	
months 17 through 20	3029	5098	
months 21 through 24	3341	5567	
months 25 through 28	4098	6321	
months 29 through 32	4713		
months 33 through 36	5063		
months 37 through 40	5803		
months 41 through 44	6488		
months 45 through 48	6905		
months 49 through 52	7542		

The figure shows the cumulative growth of unique users by ESS Round 1, 2 and 3, i.e. persons who have downloaded either data or results from the ESS Data archive website.

Figure 2.3.1



In addition, there were as at April 3rd 2008 18,305 registered users at the ESS Data Archive, of which 10, 994 people have downloaded at least one data file. Further information about the ESS Data Users can be found on the ESS website³⁰.

Dissemination by Rotating Module Teams

From the rotating module ‘Personal & Social Well-being: Creating indicators for a flourishing Europe’:

Measuring well-being across Europe: Description of the ESS Well-being Module and preliminary findings. Huppert, F.A., Marks, N., Clark, A., Siegrist, J., Stutzer, A. & Vittersø, J. Special Issue of Social Indicators Research. (In press).

From the rotating module ‘Timing of Life’:

‘Timing of life on the ESS’ Aart Liefbroer, Presentation to the ESS Scientific Advisory Board, 13th SAB meeting, Larnaca, Cyprus, 21 April 2008.

Awards

17 September 2005

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

December 2007

Roger Jowell received a knighthood in the Queen’s New Year’s Honours list.

³⁰ http://www.europeansocialsurvey.org/index.php?option=com_docman&task=cat_view&gid=82&Itemid=80

References

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Bethlehem, J. Medrano, J. Groves, M. Gundelach, P. and Norris, P. (2008) ‘Report of the Review Panel for the European Social Survey’. ESF.

Billiet, J. & Meulemann, B., ‘Religious diversity in Europe and its relation to social attitudes and value orientations’ Paper presented at ESSRHA International Conference, Istanbul: 18-19 October 2007

Billiet, J. & Meulemann, B. ‘Measuring attitudes and feelings towards discrimination in cross-nation research: lessons learned from the European Social Survey’ 33rd CEIES Seminar on Ethnic and Racial Discrimination in the Labour Market, Malta, 6-7 June 2007

Braun, M. and Harkness, J. (2005) “Text and Context: Challenges to Comparability of Survey Questions”, In Hoffmeyer Zlotnik, J. and Harkness, J. (eds.), ZUMA Nachrichten Special Number 11. *Proceedings from comparative sessions at the 2004 Sixth International conference on Social Science Methodology (RC33)*. Mannheim, ZUMA.

Fitzgerald, R. and Jowell, R. (2008) *Measurement equivalence in comparative surveys: The European Social Survey (ESS) - from design to implementation and beyond*, Paper at the 3Mc conference, Berlin: 25-28 June 2008.

Häder, S. and Gabler, S. (2003) ‘Sampling and estimation.’ In: *Cross-cultural Survey Methods*. J. Harkness, F. van de Vijver, P. Mohler (eds). New York: Wiley.

Hambleton, R. K. (2005). “Issues, Designs, and Technical Guidelines for Adapting Tests Into Multiple Languages and Cultures.” In: R.K. Hambleton, P.F. Merenda and C.D. Spielberger (Eds.), *Adapting educational and psychological tests for cross-cultural assessment*. Mahwah, NJ: Erlbaum.

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Harkness, J., Van de Vijver, F.J.R. and Johnson, T.P. (2003) ‘Questionnaire Design in Comparative Research’, in: Harkness, J.A., Van de Vijver, F.J.R. and Mohler, P.Ph.(eds.), *Cross-Cultural Survey Methods*, New Jersey: John Wiley and Sons Inc: 19-34.

Harkness, J., Pennell, B.-E. and Schoua-Glusberg, A. (2004) ‘Questionnaire Translation and Assessment’, in: Presser, S., Rothgeb, J., Couper, M., Lessler, J., Martin, J. and Singer, E. (eds.), *Methods for Testing and Evaluating Survey Questionnaires*, New Jersey: John Wiley and Sons: 453-473.

Jowell R, Roberts C, Fitzgerald R & Eva G (2007b) (eds), *Measuring attitudes cross-nationally: lessons from the European Social Survey*, London:Sage Publications

Kish, L. (1994), ‘Multipopulation Survey Designs: Five Types with Seven Shared Aspects’, *International Statistical Review* 62, 167-186.

Krosnick, J. A., & Fabrigar, L. R. (forthcoming). *The Handbook of Questionnaire Design*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Loosveldt, G., Carton, A. & Billiet, J. (2004) ‘Assessment of survey data quality: a pragmatic approach focuses on the interviewer tasks’, *International Journal of Market Research*, 46 (1): 65-82.

Saris W.E., Satorra A. and Coenders G. (2004) ‘A new approach for evaluating quality of measurement instruments’. *Sociological Methodology* 2004, 311-347

Saris W.E. and Gallhofer I.N. (2007) *Design, Evaluation and Analysis of Questionnaires for Survey Research*, New York, Wiley

Saris WE and Gallhofer IN (2007), *MTMM Experiments in the Supplementary Questionnaires of Round 3*, Report presented to the CCT of the ESS

Saris WE, Gallhofer IN, Coromina L and Oberski D (2008) *Report about the MTMM Experiments in Round 3*. Report presented to the CCT of the ESS

Symons, K., H. Matsuo, K. Buellens and J. Billiet (2008) *Response based quality assessment in the ESS –Round 3*, CeSO document (deliverable no. 10).

ESS Document Date 04/07/06
ALERTS TAKEN ON BOARD: 01



LIST OF CHANGES FROM ROUND 2 TO ROUND 3 AMENDMENT 01

This document is to be used by Round 2 participating countries only. It shows where changes have been made to the Round 2 questionnaire for Round 3 – in other words, where you will have to make changes to your Round 2 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 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 3 SOURCE QUESTIONNAIRE**.

You should ensure that each change listed in this document has been made to your questionnaire.

Where question numbers have changed, be aware that all references to those questions must also change.

Footnotes.

New footnotes highlighting new questions or questions that have been added to the core, or footnotes that have been deleted are NOT listed in the document but will appear wherever there is a new/added/removed question in the source questionnaire.

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 changes are also NOT listed in this document.

This document will only be released once. Any changes to the core after this document was distributed on 17th of May, will not be updated here. They will, however, be outlined in the alerts that accompany questionnaire updates.

Round 2 question number	Round 3 question number	Changes/ new question/ new routing.	Round 2 card number	Round 3 card number
	ABOVE 'ENTER START TIME'	NEW INSTRUCTION: new instruction to enter start date.		
A1-A10	A1-A10	NO CHANGE	1-5	1-5
B1-B40	B1-B40	NO CHANGE	6-17	6-17
C1	C1		18	18
C2	C2		19	19
C3	C3			
C4	C4		20	20
C5	C5			
C6	C6			
	C7	NEW QUESTION– now part of core		21
	C8	NEW QUESTION– now part of core		
	C9	NEW QUESTION– now part of core		21
	C10	NEW QUESTION– now part of core		
ABOVE C11	ABOVE C11	New introduction		
	C11	NEW QUESTION– now part of core		
	C12	NEW QUESTION– now part of core		
	C13	NEW QUESTION– now part of core		22
	C14	NEW QUESTION– now part of core		22
	ABOVE C15	New introduction		
C7	C15			
C8	C16	FORMAT CHANGE; 'If yes' now in capitals – IF YES		
C9	C17	ROUTING CHANGE: Yes - ASK C18 No/DK – GO TO C19		
C10	C18	ROUTING CHANGE: GO TO C21		
Note before C11	Note before C19	Now refers to C17		
C11	C19	ROUTING CHANGE: Yes – ASK C20 No.DK – GO TO C21		
C12	C20			
C13	C21		21	23
C14	C22		22	24
C15	C23		22	24
C16	C24	ROUTING CHANGE: Yes – ASK C25 No/DK – GO TO C26		
C17	C25			
C18	C26	ROUTING CHANGE: Yes – GO TO C28 No/DK – ASK C27		
C19	C27	FORMAT CHANGE: coding instruction now in bold.		
C20	C28	ROUTING CHANGE: Yes/DK – GO TO C31 No – ASK C29		

Round 2 question number	Round 3 question number	Changes/ new question/ new routing.	Round 2 card number	Round 3 card number
C21	C29	FORMAT CHANGE: coding instruction now in bold.		
C22	C30		23	25
C23	C31			
C24	C32			
C25	C33	ROUTING CHANGE: Yes/DK – GO TO C35 No – ASK C34		
C26	C34			
C27	C35	ROUTING CHANGE: Yes/DK – GO TOD1 No – ASK C36		
C28	C36			
	D1-D16 D17a-D51a D17b-D51b D52-D55	NEW QUESTIONS – Timing of life module THIS MODULE INCLUDES A SPLIT BALLOT SECTION FROM D17-D51		26-31
	E1	NEW QUESTIONS –Well-being module		32-45
F1-F3	F1-F3	NO CHANGE		
F4	F4		40	46
F5	F5		41	47
F5a		QUESTIONS REMOVED: part of Round 2 rotating module.		
F5b				
F6	F6	FORMAT CHANGE: coding instruction now in bold.	42	48
F6a	F6a		42a	48a
F7	F7	WORDING CHANGE: question now reads “About how many years of education have you completed, whether full time or part-time? Please report these in full-time equivalents and include compulsory years of schooling. CHANGE TO INTERVIEWER NOTE: interviewer note now reads “round answer up or down to the nearest whole year.”		
F8a	F8a		43	49
F8b	F8b			
F8c	F8c		43	49
F8d		QUESTION REMOVED		
	F8d	NEW INTERVIEWER CODE: part of rotating module ‘Timing of Life’		
	F8e	NEW QUESTION: part of rotating module ‘Timing of Life’		
	F8f	NEW QUESTION: part of rotating module ‘Timing of Life’		50
	F8g	NEW INTERVIEWER CODE – now part of core		
ABOVE F9	ABOVE F9	INSTRUCTIONS REMOVED		

Round 2 question number	Round 3 question number	Changes/ new question/ new routing.	Round 2 card number	Round 3 card number
F9	F9	WORDING CHANGE: brackets removed from around 'of an hour or more'.		
F10-F17	F10-F17	NO CHANGE		
F18	F18		44	51
F19	F19		44	51
F19a		QUESTION REMOVED: part of Round 2 rotating module.	44	
F20-F30	F20-F30	NO CHANGE		
F31	F31		45	52
F32	F32		46	53
F32a		QUESTION REMOVED: part of Round 2 rotating module.	47	
F33	F33		48	54
F34	F34		49	55
F35	F35	NO CHANGE		
F36	F36	FORMAT CHANGE: question is now shaded NEW CODING INSTRUCTION	50	56
F37a	F37a		51	57
F37b	F37b	NO CHANGE		
F37c	F37c		51	57
F38-F45	F38-F45	NO CHANGE		
F46	F46		52	58
F47	F47		52	58
F48	F48	NO CHANGE		
F49	F49	FORMAT CHANGE: question is now shaded NEW CODING INSTRUCTION	53	59
F50	F50	WORDING CHANGE: at code 4 'died' replaced with 'dead'.		
F51-F53	F51-F53	NO CHANGE		
F54	F54		54	60
F55	F55	FORMAT CHANGE: question is now shaded NEW CODING INSTRUCTION	55	61
F56	F56	WORDING CHANGE: at code 4 'died' replaced with 'dead'.		
F57-F59	F57-F59	NO CHANGE		
F60	F60		56	62
F61	F61	NO CHANGE		
F62-F68	F62-F68	NEW QUESTIONS: new questions replace existing F62-F68. Please note there are 2 versions of these new questions.	57 (for F62)	63 (For f62 Version A and Version B)
F69	F69	ROUTING CHANGE- 1- GO TO F71 2- ASK F70		
F70	F70	NO CHANGE		
F70a		QUESTION REMOVED: part of Round 2 rotating module.		
F70b		QUESTION REMOVED: part of Round 2 rotating module.		
	F71	NEW QUESTION- now part of core		
	F72	NEW QUESTION- now part of core		

Round 2 question number	Round 3 question number	Changes/ new question/ new routing.	Round 2 card number	Round 3 card number
	F73	NEW QUESTION– now part of core		
	Under F73	NEW INSTRUCTION: to now complete interview end date		
	ABOVE 'ENTER END TIME'	NEW INSTRUCTION: new instruction to collect end date of interview.		
Note before section J	Note before section I	Now refers to sections G and H (rather than		
Section G		QUESTIONS REMOVED: Round 2 rotating module		
Section H	Section G	NO CHANGE		
Section I	Section H	Section H to follow (supplementary questions)		
J1	I1			
J2	I2			
J3	I3			
J4	I4			
J5	I5	ROUTING CHANGE: Yes - ASK I6 No –ASK I7		
J6	I6			
J7	I7			
J8	I8			
J9	I9			
	BEFORE I10	NEW INSTRUCTION: new instruction for survey organisation		
J10	I10			
J11	I11			
J12	I12	Instruction before question deleted		
J13	I13			
J14	I14			