

# WZB

Social Science Research Center  
Berlin

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PIREDEU Design Study - Providing an Infrastructure for Research on Electoral Democracy in the European Union

## 2009 European Election Candidate Study

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### Methodological Annex

Heiko Giebler & Bernhard Weißels

Social Science Research Center Berlin (WZB)  
Reichpietschufer 50  
10785 Berlin  
Germany

If you have any comments or questions, please, contact Heiko Giebler ([giebler@wzb.eu](mailto:giebler@wzb.eu)) or Bernhard Weißels ([wessels@wzb.eu](mailto:wessels@wzb.eu)).

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## **1. Introduction**

The 2009 European Parliament Election Candidate Study (EECS) is part of the larger research project PIREDEU that investigates electoral democracy and political representation in the European Union in conjunction with the European Parliament Elections 2009. The EECS was conducted in all 27 member states of the Union. It is a core part of the PIREDEU project, funded by the European Union's 7<sup>th</sup> Framework Programme. The PIREDEU project is also engaged in the study of the electorate, party programs, and the role of the mass media in all member countries.

The general aim of the candidate survey is to analyze – in conjunction with the other components of the PIREDEU project – the link between the peoples of the member countries and the European level as it is organized through elections. One of the major questions is as to which degree political representation at the European level follows the responsible party model of the nation states. The survey is concerned with a variety of aspects of being a candidate to the European Parliament. The substantive questions to be answered by the project are concerned with the relationship between citizens and candidates as well as representatives with regard to mobilization efforts, contacts, the issues in the election, and how candidates and elected conceptualize political representation at the European level.

This report gives additional information on methodological and related issues for the 2009 European Election Candidate Study. Various aspects are covered in this document, ranging from sampling and data collection to things like post-processing and response rates. Information on individual survey items and variables can be found in the code-book.<sup>1</sup>

## **2. Country teams**

Although the 2009 European Election Candidate Study was centrally coordinated at the Social Science Research Centre Berlin (WZB), the establishment of a network of country teams was indispensable. For implementing the fieldwork, namely generating the addresses of candidates and providing them in a machine-readable form, checking the translations of contact letters as well as the questionnaires, support of country col-

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<sup>1</sup> Giebler, Heiko, Elmar Haus, and Bernhard Weißels (2010): 2009 European Election Candidate Study - Code-book. Berlin: WZB.

laborators was essential.<sup>2</sup> For this reason, the candidate study team has worked from the very beginning on getting country collaborators involved and committed.<sup>3</sup> Table 1 displays all country collaborators.

TABLE 1: Country Teams

Country	Experts	Institution	E-Mail
Austria	Sylvia Kritzing	University of Vienna	sylvia.kritzing@univie.ac.at
Belgium	Lieven de Winter	University of Louvain	lieven.dewinter@uclouvain.be
Bulgaria	Blagovesta Cholova	Université libre de Bruxelles	Blagovesta.Cholova@ulb.ac.be
Cyprus	Bambos Papageorgiou	European University Cyprus	B.Papageorgiou@euc.ac.cy
Czech Republic	Lukáš Linek	Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic	Lukas.Linek@soc.cas.cz
Denmark	Robert Klemmensen	University of Southern Denmark	rkl@sam.sdu.dk
Estonia	Piret Ehin	University of Tartu	piret.ehin@ut.ee
Finland	Mikko Mattila	University of Helsinki	mikko.mattila@helsinki.fi
	Tapio Raunio	University of Tampere	tapio.raunio@uta.fi
France	Olivier Rozenberg	Sciences Po	olivier.rozenberg@sciences-po.fr
Germany	Heiko Giebler	Social Science Research Centre Berlin	giebler@wzb.eu
	Bernhard Weßels	Social Science Research Centre Berlin	wessels@wzb.eu
Greece	Theodore Chadjiapadelis	Aristotle University of Thessaloniki	chadji@polsci.auth.gr
	Eftichia Teperoglou	Aristotle University of Thessaloniki	efteperoglou@gmail.com
Hungary	Zsolt Enyedi	Central European University	enyedizs@ceu.hu
Ireland	Michael Marsh	Trinity College Dublin	mmarsh@tcd.ie
	Maria Laura Sudulich	Trinity College Dublin	sudulicm@tcd.ie
Italy	Massimiliano Andretta	University of Pisa	andretta@sp.unipi.it
	Luciano Bardi	University of Pisa	bardi@sp.unipi.it

<sup>2</sup> A more detailed description of the tasks can be found in Annex 1.

<sup>3</sup> The research team is very grateful for all the effort of the country teams.

TABLE 1: Country Teams, continued

Country	Experts	Institution	E-Mail
Latvia	Janis Ikstens	University of Latvia	ikstens@latnet.lv
Lithuania	Algis Krupavicius	Kaunas University of Technology	pvai@ktu.lt
Luxembourg	Patrick Dumont	University of Luxembourg	patrick.dumont@uni.lu
	Astrid Spreitzer	University of Luxembourg	astrid.spreitzer@uni.lu
Malta	Dominic Fenech	University of Malta	dominic.fenech@um.edu.mt
Netherlands	Martin Rosema	University of Twente	m.rosema@utwente.nl
Poland	Mikolaj Czesnik	Polish Academy of Science	mczesnik@swps.edu.pl
Portugal	André Freire	Lisbon University Institute	andre.freire@iscte.pt
Romania	Marina Popescu	University of Essex	marina.popescu.1@googlemail.com
Slovakia	Olga Gyarfassova	Institute for Public Affairs (IVO)	olga@ivo.sk
Slovenia	Cirila Toplak	University of Ljubljana	cirila.toplak@fdv.uni-lj.si
Spain	Ignacio Molina	Autonomous University of Madrid	ignacio.molina@uam.es
	Alberto Sanz Cazorla	Autonomous University of Madrid	a.sanz@uam.es
Sweden	Louise Haglund	Göteborg University	louise.haglund@pol.gu.se
	Sören Holmberg	Göteborg University	soren.holmberg@pol.gu.se
United Kingdom	Thomas Saalfeld	University of Kent	t.k.saalfeld@kent.ac.uk

### **3. Sample**

More than 10,000 candidates run in the 2009 European Parliament Election. The financial resources of the 2009 European Election Candidate Study were too limited to enable the survey of all those candidates. At the same time, it is reasonable to introduce restrictions to the sample from a theoretical perspective as well: Parties and/or candidates without the smallest possibility to win at least one seat or to become an MEP are of no interest for the 2009 European Election Study. In contrary, they might lead to distortions in any kind of analyses. Nevertheless, the basic aim of the project was to enable research on the whole universe of relevant parties and candidates, meaning that not just candidates of parties with seats in the national or former European Parliament or top-

candidates (in terms of, e.g., list positions) should be surveyed. To come as close as possible to the golden mean, a specific strategy to identify relevant parties and candidates was developed. The following criteria for the sample selection for the 2009 EECS have been applied to identify relevant parties and relevant candidates:

*Relevant candidates:* The criterion for relevant candidates is a numeric one. All candidates of a party on a list position which does not exceed 125 percent of the country's seats in the European Parliament are defined as relevant. If the number of candidates exceeded the threshold, the inclusion of candidates is based on the respective party list position.

*Relevant parties:* Avoiding a too strict rule, all parties are included, which receive votes equal to half of the nation-wide electoral threshold. For example, the threshold in Germany is 5 and hence, all parties which are assumed to gain at least 2.5 percent of the votes are included.

The following exceptions have been applied:

*Small countries/small number of candidates:* In order to have as much possibilities to work also with countries with small N, in all countries in which the number of candidates is below 100, all candidates will be included.

*Independent candidates:* If independent candidates have had a reasonable chance to gain a relevant proportion of votes according to the country teams, they were included into the sample.

As a result, more than 260 parties have been identified to be relevant parties. In several countries, e.g. Estonia and Ireland, independent candidates were also included according to the information from the respective country teams. In regard to relevant candidates, 6558 candidates for the 2009 European Parliament Election were identified as relevant.<sup>4</sup>

## **4. Fieldwork and Design**

### **Development of the Questionnaire**

The Candidate Survey Team has made assiduous efforts to ensure the content validity, feasibility and translation quality of the questionnaire. All in all, 22 language ver-

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<sup>4</sup> Detailed information on the number of relevant candidates per country can be found in Table 4.

sions and 33 country-specific questionnaires were produced. Equal importance was assigned to backward comparability to earlier studies and to political and cultural aptness of question wordings. To accomplish these tasks close and extensive communication with the country experts and other components of PIREDEU took place.

The EECS 2009 master questionnaire was compiled in English. Basically, the survey includes three types of items: (1) Items used in the EEVS 2009 and EECS 2009, (2) items in the EECS 2009 which are related to items in the EEVS 2009 and (3) items which are only used in the EECS 2009. Regardless of the item type prior studies were used as a source of items to accomplish backward comparability as well as to secure content validity and feasibility.

One of the major advantages and strengths of the PIREDEU project is its comprehensive study design, meaning the close coordination of different study components. In the case of the candidate and voter survey, this crucial idea resulted in continuous communication between the candidate and the voter survey team. Communication with the voter survey team was especially needed to coordinate items of type 1 and 2. The Steering Committee of PIREDEU made final decisions on several issues on 20-22 November 2009 in Florence.

As already stated above, the vast majority of items used in the EECS 2009 have been part of earlier studies, either elite or mass surveys. Although acknowledging the importance of backward comparability, the candidate survey team ensured continued improvement of the instrument in line with new insights in the field. At the same time, some items had to be modified to fit into the PIREDEU study design, e.g. answer categories were added or the tense was changed. Additionally, some modifications were forced by mode-specific issues. The latter two types of changes are assumed to have only minor or no effects on the basic nature of the items. The performance of those items already used in earlier studies, e.g. in the sense of content validity and feasibility, was carefully checked to ensure not only backward comparability but also a high overall quality. In addition, all items were part of comparative studies which highlights their adequateness for usage in a cross-country and cross-cultural survey like the EECS 2009.

All in all, about 10 percent of the items used in the EECS 2009 are 'new' and therefore, haven't been tested in earlier comparative studies. The majority of new items was included into section 13 'Nomination and Recruitment'. Only a small number of surveys ask questions about the nomination and recruitment process in detail and most of the

studies are not conceptualized with a comparative focus. Nevertheless, existing items were used as a starting point to develop an adequate set of questions for the EECS 2009. Due to the relatively small knowledge concerning the collection of comparative data in this field of research, the EECS 2009 provides important insights on validity and feasibility on the base of its data.

To further increase the overall quality, the country teams were not only asked to comment on the translations but also to point out country-specific peculiarities which might decrease validity and feasibility. For example, it is illegal to make personal advertisement for a candidate in some countries. In accordance, items referring to electoral campaigning were modified in those countries.

The EECS 2009 is a dual-mode survey. As described elsewhere, each candidate was able to choose between a paper questionnaire send by mail and an online survey with a personalized login.<sup>5</sup> The master questionnaire was designed to fit the necessities of both modes. The over-all layout and design follows common standards. Additionally, several mode-specific features were applied to ensure the validity and feasibility of the online survey. It was possible to re-login, meaning that respondents could continue the survey later on and they were as well allowed to go back and change their entries. Both measures automatically exist with a postal survey and therefore, mode differences (if any) are reduced.<sup>6</sup> Different warning messages were included, e.g. telling respondents that only numbers can be filled in when asking for age or that they haven't answered all questions on a screen.<sup>7</sup> Those features should help respondents, especially if not too familiar with the internet and/or online surveys to complete the questionnaire.

No pre-test interviews were conducted. There are several reasons to abstain from pre-tests. First of all, the majority of items used was already part of earlier comparative surveys which were organized and conducted by members of PIREDEU. This ensures not only a strong familiarity with the items but gave also the possibility to check their content validity and the general feasibility on the base of existing research projects with a much higher number of observations than the number of pre-tests possible. Some ques-

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5 Unfortunately, the country teams were not able to collect both postal and email address for all candidates in the sample.

6 The biggest mode difference is commonly based on problems of sampling. The character of the EECS 2009, an elite survey with people running for a seat in the EP, and its non-random selection of respondents negates those problems.

7 Respondents were able to continue without filling out all questions but this should reduce the amount of missing information as well as prevent respondents from accidentally skipping a page.



tions were taken from mass surveys, e.g. prior European Election Studies, the Eurobarometer or the CSES. These items have been tested and applied with all necessary concern in the respective projects and are therefore considered to be unproblematic in regard to validity issues. Second, as described above, the majority of new items ask about the nomination of candidates. A valid test of those items is only possible with respondents who have been nominated for the European Parliament Election 2009. Due to the fact that candidates are nominated only shortly before the elections, no pre-tests for those questions were feasible. Moreover, the EECS 2009 itself can be described as a feasibility study when it comes to items asking about nomination processes.

### **Translation**

The whole translation process can be described as follows:

1. After completing the English master questionnaire, existing translations of questions into languages relevant for the PIRDEU project were collected if possible. It was carefully noted whether there have been changes to the original wording or whether the items were used identically.
2. At the beginning of January 2009, a decentering meeting took place in Berlin. Members of PIREDEU discussed the quality of the instruments on the base of a comparison of the English master questionnaire and a German questionnaire.<sup>8</sup> The discussion especially focused on items relevant for both survey instruments (type 1 and 2) and on questions of cultural neutrality and applicability in different languages as well as different national contexts. Suggestions for improvement of the master questionnaire resulting from the decentering effort were adopted by the Steering Committee.
3. A team of translators which consisted of PhD students at the EUI was set up.<sup>9</sup> The improved master questionnaire and information on existing translations into their respective mother language was sent to each translator. Each translation was checked by a second PhD student to increase the overall quality.
4. Each country team was instructed in detail for the examination of the instrument. Collaborators were asked to compare the wording to the English original, identity of question subject and wording in source and the target language and signal any

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<sup>8</sup> German translations of new items were made by members of the Decentering Team in advance.

<sup>9</sup> The Czech and the Lithuanian translators were situated at the University of Essex but close communication was ensured.

potential issue with a specific question. The reports of the country teams were used to further improve the quality of the translations and to ensure content validity. Any changes of items of type 1 or 2 were only implemented if both teams agreed. In this final evaluation of proposed changes, weight was given both to suitability of the questionnaires in the specific countries, as well as the overall aim of achieving an identical questionnaire for all 27 EU member states.

5. Finally, the researchers received comments on the questionnaire from Gallup Europe, the partner for the fieldwork of the voter study. Their country affiliates sent comments on the translated questionnaires.

### **Fieldwork Time**

The fieldwork began shortly before the election date. On June 2<sup>nd</sup>, the first paper questionnaires were sent out and shortly afterwards the email invitations were sent to the candidates. Each candidate received one postal and three email reminders, again including the paper questionnaire and the direct link and password to the online survey respectively. The basic fieldwork time ended on November 15<sup>th</sup>. To increase the number of elected candidates in the sample, a second fieldwork period started in November 20<sup>th</sup> and it ended on February 20<sup>th</sup> (2010).

### **Dual Mode Design**

In general, mobilizing electoral candidates is far from easy. It becomes even more complicated if a study should cover as many different topics and scientific concepts as it is the case with the underlying pilot study. To increase response rates, each candidate was able to choose between a paper questionnaire sent by mail and an online survey with a personalized login. The over-all layout and design follows common standards. Additionally, several mode-specific features were applied to ensure the validity and feasibility of the online survey. It was possible to re-login, meaning that respondents could continue the survey later on and they were as well allowed to go back and change their entries. Both features automatically exist with a postal survey and therefore, mode differences (if any) are reduced.<sup>10</sup> Different warning messages were included, e.g. telling respondents that only numbers can be filled in when asking for age or that they haven't

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<sup>10</sup> The biggest mode difference is commonly based on problems of sampling. The character of the EECS 2009, an elite survey with people running for a seat in the EP, and its non-random selection of respondents negates those problems.

answered all questions on a screen.<sup>11</sup> Those features helped respondents, especially if not too familiar with the internet and/or online surveys to complete the questionnaire. Each candidate received a postal reminder including a questionnaire and three email reminders including again a direct link to the online questionnaire as well as his or her personalized password. Finally, all elected candidates were contacted again, receiving a postal questionnaire and two email reminders. Additionally, if necessary due to low response rates, country teams were asked to mobilize candidates in the most appropriate manner (phone calls, activating party leaders or heads of party offices).

Special attention was paid on the usage of a similar design and structure of the postal as well as the online questionnaire. The order and wording of items are identical in both questionnaire and the design and layout of the online survey corresponds to the design and layout of the postal survey. This decreases significantly the possibility of mode effects.<sup>12</sup>

## **5. Response Rates**

The following section presents the response rates for the 2009 European Election Candidate Study. The response rates for each country as well as the cross-country mean and the over-all response rate are shown in Table 2. The table depicts response rates, the absolute number of responses and the proportion of postal returns. All numbers are given for two different sets of respondents, sample 1 and sample 2. Sample 1 includes all respondents which gave at least one valid response to one of the questionnaire items. Sample 2 includes all respondents which gave more valid than invalid answers. Therefore, sample 2 is a sub-set of sample 1.<sup>13</sup> The necessity of this strategy can directly be deducted from the two survey modes applied. Whereas any mode involving direct interaction between respondent and interviewer enables the distinction between completed and non-completed interviews, this is not possible for postal or online questionnaires. In the underlying study, it cannot be determined whether respondents were not able OR willing to answer questions. The statistics for sample 1 can be interpreted as a participa-

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<sup>11</sup> Respondents were able to continue without filling out all questions but this should reduce the amount of missing information as well as prevent respondents from accidentally skipping a page.

<sup>12</sup> It has to be noted that significant differences between postal and online responses are possible due to the different likelihood of choosing a specific mode of response. For example, younger candidates are more likely to opt for the online mode and, at the same time, younger candidates might have different attitudes when it comes to certain issues. In any case, this should not have an effect on the validity of data.

<sup>13</sup> Items based on open-ended answers are not taken into account.

tion rate while sample 2 will basically be used as the 2009 European Election Candidate Study data set.

Table 2 illustrates clear differences between the 27 member states of the European Union. For sample 2, the response rates range from 4.4% in Bulgaria or 5.6% in Poland to 34.4% in Malta or even 42.9% in Sweden. There seems to be a divide between many of the newer member states and older member states as well as the rather classical differences between southern and northern countries. The cross-country mean is 22.0% and the response rate for all countries combined is slightly above 20% which is a bit lower than genuinely expected. Further implications in regard to representativeness will be discussed in one of the following sections.

The same vast differences are present in regard to parties. As Appendix 2 shows, the response rates actually vary between 0 and 100%.<sup>14</sup> The average response rate is 23.3%. Unfortunately, a small number of major parties (measured in terms of vote shares) are not represented in the dataset, because none of their candidates have participated in the survey (e.g., the Latvian PSD/PC or the Slovenian Democratic Party).

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<sup>14</sup> The latter response rates have been realized for very small parties only.

TABLE 2: Response Rates, Number of Responses and Proportion of Postal Returns

Country	N	Response Rate		Total		Postal Return	
		Sample 1	Sample 2	Sample 1	Sample 2	Sample 1	Sample 2
Austria	156	33.3%	25.0%	52	39	32.1%	43.6%
Belgium	172	43.6%	33.1%	75	57	41.0%	54.4%
Bulgaria	136	5.1%	4.4%	7	6	42.9%	50.0%
Cyprus	30	26.7%	26.7%	8	8	37.5%	37.5%
Czech Republic	134	20.9%	15.7%	28	21	28.6%	38.1%
Denmark	102	30.4%	23.5%	31	24	29.0%	37.5%
Estonia	105	32.4%	21.9%	34	23	40.0%	60.9%
Finland	140	39.3%	29.3%	55	41	43.6%	58.5%
France	753	16.6%	15.5%	125	117	76.8%	82.1%
Germany	478	33.5%	29.9%	160	143	62.7%	69.2%
Greece	154	21.4%	12.3%	33	19	18.2%	31.6%
Hungary	136	22.8%	19.1%	31	26	35.5%	42.3%
Ireland	45	17.8%	17.8%	8	8	75.0%	75.0%
Italy	536	13.6%	10.8%	73	58	37.8%	45.8%
Latvia	115	47.0%	33.9%	54	39	23.7%	35.9%
Lithuania	149	25.5%	20.1%	38	30	31.6%	40.0%
Luxembourg	48	41.7%	33.3%	20	16	50.0%	62.5%
Malta	32	43.8%	34.4%	14	11	21.4%	27.3%
Netherlands	294	26.5%	24.8%	78	73	71.8%	76.7%
Poland	648	6.2%	5.6%	40	36	40.0%	44.4%
Portugal	120	14.2%	14.2%	17	17	82.4%	82.4%
Romania	247	11.3%	9.7%	28	24	46.4%	54.2%
Slovakia	128	27.3%	22.7%	35	29	40.0%	48.3%
Slovenia	81	28.4%	22.2%	23	18	39.1%	50.0%
Spain	356	19.1%	16.0%	68	57	23.5%	28.1%
Sweden	382	47.9%	42.4%	183	162	41.7%	47.6%
United Kingdom	881	29.3%	27.7%	258	244	69.8%	71.8%
<b>Cross Country Mean</b>	<b>242.9</b>	<b>26.9%</b>	<b>21.9%</b>	<b>58.4</b>	<b>49.9</b>	<b>43.8%</b>	<b>51.7%</b>
<b>All countries</b>	<b>6558</b>	<b>23.9%</b>	<b>20.5%</b>	<b>1567</b>	<b>1346</b>	<b>49.8%</b>	<b>58.2%</b>

In regard to mode differences and the character of the underlying project as a pilot and feasibility study, it can be noted that the over-all proportion of postal returns is higher in comparison to online returns for sample 2. Interestingly, this is not the case for sample 1. Here, the proportion of postal returns is slightly below 50%. Two basic findings have to be highlighted: On the one hand, the decision to run both, postal and online survey, proved to be fruitful. At a very early stage of the project, it was discussed whether only an online survey should be conducted. It can be assumed that the response rates would have been significantly lower without the postal mode. Therefore, any future endeavour should include (at least) a postal survey. On the other hand, the proportion of postal returns increases in all countries except Cyprus, Ireland and Portugal – the proportion does not change in those three countries – when comparing sample 1 and 2. Overall, the number of respondents with less than 50% valid answers is higher for the online mode. Whether this fact is based on an increased probability of dropouts or on a tendency not to send back postal questionnaires which are not filled out more or less completely cannot be decided.

Finally, the response rates of the 2009 study are compared to respective numbers of the study in 1994 undertaken by Thomassen, Katz, Norris and Weßels. All in all, candidates in 12 countries were included into the 1994 study.<sup>15</sup> Table 3 compares the results for those 12 countries. The figures for the 2009 study are based on sample 2.

For most of the countries, the columns presenting the differences between the two studies show negative values, meaning that the 1994 candidate survey performed better than the 2009 EECS. This becomes especially obvious when looking at Denmark, the Netherlands and Sweden. Both cross-country means are also significantly lower in 2009. At the same time, the over-all response rate is identical (24%). The explanation for this encouraging fact is rather simple. With the exception of the United Kingdom, the number of candidates running in the election dramatically decreased. For example, Spain had more than 1800 candidates running in 1994, whereas there were only 356 candidates for the 2009 election. In sum, the representativeness of the 2009 European Election Candidate Study seems acceptable in comparison to the 1994 study which produced highly enlightening insights into European political elites competing for seats in the European Parliament.

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<sup>15</sup> The Swedish survey took place at a later stage shortly after Sweden became a member state.

TABLE 3: Comparison between EECS 1994 and EECS 2009

Country	1994		2009		Differences	
	Response Rate	Responses	Response Rate	Responses	Response rate	Responses
Belgium	35%	117	33%	57	-2%	-60
Denmark	57%	105	24%	24	-33%	-81
France	13%	104	16%	117	3%	13
Germany	34%	395	30%	143	-4%	-252
Ireland	23%	12	18%	8	-5%	-4
Italy	10%	137	11%	59	1%	-78
Luxembourg	33%	55	33%	16	0%	-39
Netherlands	51%	125	25%	73	-26%	-52
Portugal	8%	24	14%	17	6%	-7
Spain	4%	74	16%	57	12%	-17
Sweden	86%	514	42%	162	-44%	-352
United Kingdom	38%	134	28%	244	-10%	111
Cross Country Mean	33%	150	24%	82	-9%	-68
All countries	24%	1796	24%	970	0%	-826

## **6. Candidate Contact Information**

The EECS 2009 is a dual-mode survey. Therefore, both, postal and email addresses have been collected. Unfortunately, the country teams were not able to collect both postal and email address for all candidates in the sample. At the same time, several postal and email addresses were wrong. It has to be noted that these shortcomings cannot automatically be attributed to the quality of the work of the country teams. For example, in the case of Germany, candidates' postal addresses were taken directly from the official webpage of the *Bundeswahlleiter* (Federal Returning Officer). Nevertheless, at least 1.7% of the postal addresses turned out to be incorrect.<sup>16</sup>

Table 4 gives a general overview of address information delivered and the number of incorrect addresses. The last column refers to those cases, in which neither a postal nor an email address was delivered. This proportion is probably even higher because of the numerous incorrect addresses. Obviously, there are significant differences between

<sup>16</sup> Postal questionnaires were returned to sender.

countries in all columns. It can be assumed that these differences had an effect on the response rates. At the same time, the corrected participation rate which corrects for wrong contact information and for the number of candidates for which no contact information was identified initially is significantly higher. For example, if only the latter correction is applied to Italy, the participation rate increases to 13.4% (Sample 2) while the response rate is only 10.8%.

TABLE 4: Overview of Candidate Information

Country	N	Missing addresses		Incorrect addresses		No contact information delivered
		Postal	Email	Postal	Email	
Austria	156	0.64%	3.85%	0.00%	4.00%	0.00%
Belgium	172	0.00%	1.16%	4.65%	12.35%	0.00%
Bulgaria	136	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Cyprus	30	0.00%	13.33%	0.00%	7.69%	0.00%
Czech Republic	134	0.00%	32.09%	0.75%	19.78%	0.00%
Denmark	102	0.98%	0.98%	38.61%	6.93%	0.00%
Estonia	105	1.90%	15.24%	0.00%	8.99%	0.95%
Finland	140	0.00%	0.00%	0.71%	7.14%	0.00%
France	753	1.86%	62.68%	0.14%	13.17%	1.20%
Germany	478	0.00%	18.83%	1.67%	5.93%	0.00%
Greece	154	0.00%	0.00%	11.69%	1.30%	0.00%
Hungary	136	0.00%	17.65%	6.62%	3.57%	0.00%
Ireland	45	2.22%	53.33%	0.00%	4.76%	0.00%
Italy	536	72.57%	20.15%	2.04%	5.84%	18.84%
Latvia	115	6.96%	4.35%	0.93%	2.73%	2.61%
Lithuania	149	0.00%	0.67%	0.00%	3.38%	0.00%
Luxembourg	48	0.00%	22.92%	14.58%	2.70%	0.00%
Malta	32	3.13%	6.25%	0.00%	6.67%	0.00%
Netherlands	294	0.00%	81.63%	0.68%	5.56%	0.00%
Poland	648	19.75%	13.89%	0.00%	1.61%	4.63%
Portugal	120	3.33%	54.17%	3.45%	1.82%	0.00%
Romania	247	0.40%	72.47%	0.41%	7.35%	0.00%
Slovakia	128	6.25%	41.41%	15.83%	4.00%	0.00%
Slovenia	81	0.00%	3.70%	0.00%	5.13%	0.00%



Spain	356	0.00%	1.97%	0.00%	2.01%	0.00%
Sweden	382	0.00%	2.62%	0.52%	3.49%	0.00%
United Kingdom	881	0.00%	17.03%	2.95%	3.42%	0.00%
<b>Cross Country mean</b>	<b>242.89</b>	<b>4.44%</b>	<b>20.83%</b>	<b>3.93%</b>	<b>5.60%</b>	<b>1.05%</b>
<b>All countries</b>	<b>6558</b>	<b>8.51%</b>	<b>24.49%</b>	<b>2.50%</b>	<b>4.95%</b>	<b>2.20%</b>

Additionally, some country teams were only able to deliver collective postal or email addresses. For example, in Austria, candidates' postal addresses are not officially published. Each political party names a single person (*Postbevollmächtigter*) who can be contacted by post and this person is supposed to forward mail to the candidates. In other countries, some candidates do not possess an email address or they are not publishing their addresses.

Whenever possible, candidates were contacted with personalized envelopes, letters and emails via collective postal or collective email addresses, e.g. the email address of the local party office. Unfortunately, it seems doubtful that all postal questionnaires and emails were forwarded. Table 5 gives information about the proportion of non-unique addresses. Again, there are vast differences between countries.<sup>17</sup>

It can be concluded that the proportion of relevant candidates which the candidate study team was not able to contact properly is a multiple of the 2.2% shown in Table 4. Hence, the 'real' response rate is also higher than shown in Table 3.

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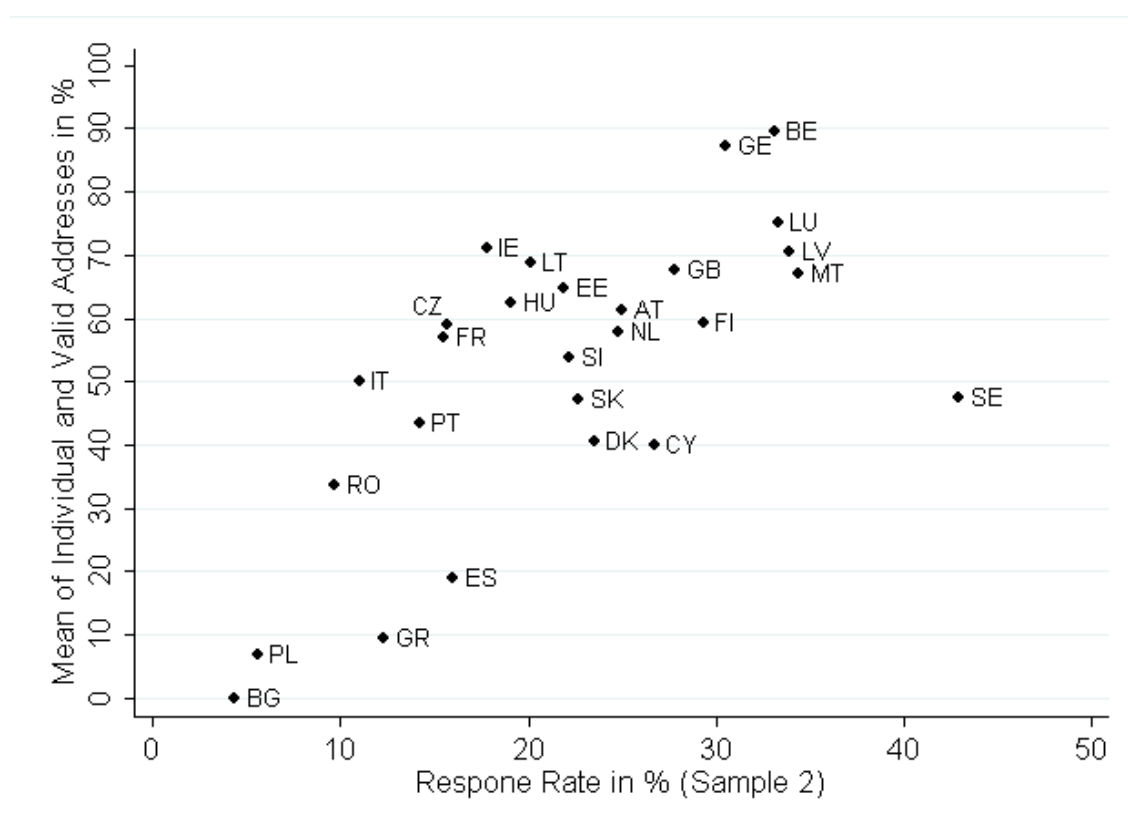
<sup>17</sup> Additionally, missing or non-unique candidate information had an effect on the response rates of specific parties. For example, the Italian Lega Nord did not provide unique addresses, but only the addresses of regional party offices. As a consequence, there is not a singly response of Lega Nord's candidates.

TABLE 5: Non-unique Addresses

Country	N <sup>18</sup>	Non-unique Addresses	
		Postal	Email
Austria	156	69.2%	0.0%
Belgium	172	0.0%	2.9%
Bulgaria	136	100.0%	100.0%
Cyprus	30	100.0%	0.0%
Czech Republic	134	35.8%	0.0%
Denmark	102	71.6%	0.0%
Estonia	104	45.7%	0.0%
Finland	140	73.6%	0.0%
France	744	14.3%	1.9%
Germany	478	0.0%	0.0%
Greece	154	96.8%	71.4%
Hungary	136	47.8%	0.0%
Ireland	45	0.0%	0.0%
Italy	434	0.0%	2.1%
Latvia	112	44.3%	0.0%
Lithuania	149	58.4%	0.0%
Luxembourg	48	0.0%	10.4%
Malta	32	40.6%	9.4%
Netherlands	294	0.7%	0.0%
Poland	617	80.2%	71.0%
Portugal	120	16.7%	35.0%
Romania	247	57.1%	0.0%
Slovakia	128	40.6%	0.0%
Slovenia	81	34.6%	49.4%
Spain	356	88.5%	69.7%
Sweden	382	92.1%	8.4%
United Kingdom	881	1.1%	41.0%
<b>Cross Country Mean</b>	<b>237.5</b>	43.9%	18.2%
<b>All Countries</b>	<b>6412</b>	37.5%	22.4%

<sup>18</sup> The number of addresses differs to the numbers presented in Table 4 because all candidates without any contact information (last column in Table 4) are excluded. Accordingly, the percentages are calculated with the corrected number of candidates.

Figure 1 visualizes the relationship between the quality of collected candidate information on the one hand and response rates on the other hand. The X-axis gives the response rate (sample 2) for each country. The proportion of individual and valid addresses is depicted on the Y-axis.<sup>19</sup> It can be shown, that the quality of candidate information is crucial for higher response rates. The more individual and valid addresses are collected the more candidates are inclined to participate. Sweden seems to be an outlier in this regard because it has the highest response rate but only a mediocre quality of candidate information.



Any future candidate study has to be highly concerned about ensuring the collection of individual and valid contact addresses. Due to privacy law and missing or very late official publication by the state, this proved to be very difficult in various member countries.

## **7. Quality of Data Input and Data Punching**

The dual-mode structure of the 2009 EECS leads to different strategies to ensure data quality in regard to data input and data punching.

<sup>19</sup> The values for the Y-axis are calculated as the mean of personal and valid postal and email addresses in relation to the number of candidates running in the election.

The data punching of the postal returns was done at the WZB and by an external contractor, FAU GmbH. At the WZB, all non-numeric open answers were typed into Excel sheets. To decrease the probability of errors, an input mask was programmed at the WZB. The design of the Excel sheets was jointly agreed upon with the Media Study Team which is in charge of organizing the coding of those open-ended answers.

The following criteria to ensure data quality were developed in cooperation between the candidate study team and FAU GmbH:

1. Creation of code plans and input masks adjusted to every country.
2. Briefing of the data punching staff on the basis of a conjoint entering of five different questionnaires of different countries.
3. Discussion with the typists on the clarification of questions which occurred; if necessary, consultation with the candidate study team.
4. Random (~ 3%) full control of the already punched questionnaires of every typist for congruence with the original values in the postal questionnaire. Evaluation of errors with the typist.
5. Final Technical checks:
  - Congruence of the number of variables in the code plan with the number of variables in the data set.
  - Congruence of the number of original questionnaires with the number of questionnaires in the data sets.
  - Assessment of the typed numbers in regard to the congruence with the plausible range of the respective variable.<sup>20</sup>

The quality of data input of the online survey was directly assured, as far as possible, while programming the survey. For example, respondents were asked to type in their average time per week spend on campaigning. Candidates were only allowed to type in numbers between 0 and 168 hours.<sup>21</sup> Needless to say, the data was provided by IVOX in electronic format (including open-ended answers which were added to the typed open-ended answers of the postal survey).

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<sup>20</sup> For example, if an 11-point scale was used in the questionnaires all numbers except numbers from 0 to 11 and missing values were identified as wrong and corrected in accordance to the original number in the questionnaire.

<sup>21</sup> Obviously, 24-7 campaigning is not plausible but it was decided to define the range of possible answers in accordance to the logical minima and maxima.

## **8. Representativeness and Weights**

As a starting point, Duncan indices of dissimilarity have been calculated for three characteristics of candidates. It has to be noted that a comparison with the ‘population’, in the case of the 2009 EECS the over-all number of relevant candidates and their characteristics, is highly limited. The country teams were only able to collect a small number of indicators for this purpose, e.g. gender. In addition to gender, the dissimilarity measures will be calculated for party affiliation and proportion of MEPs per country. Dissimilarity measures provide basic information on the proportion of respondents with certain characteristics in comparison of the respective proportion in the population of the 2009 EECS. The deviations are calculated as the sums of absolute differences. Hence, the lower the difference between the proportions is, the higher the representativeness.<sup>22</sup> The dissimilarity measures as well as the response rates are presented in Table 6. Again, numbers are presented for sample 1 and sample 2.

In regard to gender, the deviation between the population proportions and the sample proportions are only small or moderate. Only Bulgaria, Denmark, Greece and Portugal show values above 10. The dissimilarity for all countries is especially small. It can be assumed that the representativeness in regard to gender is acceptable.

The dissimilarity indices for parties are presented as averages for all parties in a country. The deviation of proportion is calculated as differences between the vote share in 2009 election and the proportion of candidates of a party in percent of all answers in the respective country. In comparison to the other two characteristics, these dissimilarities are significantly higher. Primarily, these higher values are based on the fact, that candidates of smaller parties, in this case meaning that they received a smaller vote share, are equally or even more inclined to participate in the study. For example, the Austrian Greens received only 9.9% of the vote but 13 candidates (sample 2) participated in the study which corresponds to a share of Austrian respondents of more than 33%. At the same time, some of the major parties, for example in Spain, are underrepresented in terms of response rates. The last columns related to the proportions of MEPs show similar results to the dissimilarity figures for gender.

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<sup>22</sup> It has to be emphasized that the representativeness is in addition related to a country’s response rate.

**TABLE 6: Dissimilarity Figures**

Country	Response Rate		Gender (Dissimilarity Index)		Parties (Dissimilarity Index)		MEPs (Dissimilarity Index)	
	Sample 1	Sample 2	Sample 1	Sample 2	Sample 1	Sample 2	Sample 1	Sample 2
Austria	33.3%	25.0%	1.9	7.5	48.3	49.2	1.99	6.12
Belgium	43.6%	33.1%	4.1	5.6	32.1	29.9	2.65	3.52
Bulgaria	5.1%	4.4%	19.8	17.4	34.5	48.7	36.96	53.63
Cyprus	26.7%	26.7%	2.6	2.6	26.3	26.3	19.32	19.32
Czech Republic	20.9%	15.7%	4.9	1.3	32.1	36.0	0.15	5.34
Denmark	30.4%	23.5%	14.8	17.9	30.7	26.7	1.34	0.96
Estonia	32.4%	21.9%	2.2	5.6	41.1	52.7	0.15	3.14
Finland	39.3%	29.3%	4.0	6.5	16.4	21.7	2.14	0.04
France	16.6%	15.5%	4.9	3.6	20.4	17.4	4.51	4.02
Germany	33.5%	29.9%	5.9	4.9	28.5	29.7	3.47	3.61
Greece	21.4%	12.3%	19	27.7	39.3	30.7	5.37	3.66
Hungary	22.8%	19.1%	5.6	6.3	56.4	56.5	3.82	8.25
Ireland	17.8%	17.8%	13	13	33.6	33.6	7.71	7.71
Italy	13.6%	10.8%	5.7	8.3	42.0	47.7	1.84	1.16
Latvia	47.0%	33.9%	5.7	0.8	24.4	30.1	2.53	4.46
Lithuania	25.5%	20.1%	3.6	0.6	44.5	42.0	0.72	2.37
Luxembourg	41.7%	33.3%	0.0	3.7	32.6	36.3	9.27	11.54
Malta	43.8%	34.4%	0.5	3.7	39.6	42.3	8.49	7.3
Netherlands	26.5%	24.8%	0.3	0.7	35.8	18.5	3.39	4.34
Poland	6.2%	5.6%	6.6	1.3	45.0	47.2	0.19	2.13
Portugal	14.2%	14.2%	18.5	18.5	13.8	13.8	1.1	1.1
Romania	11.3%	9.7%	5.3	5.9	41.4	42.8	12.16	6.32
Slovakia	27.3%	22.7%	5.6	2.3	40.7	43.1	5.9	0.43
Slovenia	28.4%	22.2%	9.7	4.4	45.3	50.3	0.37	8.33
Spain	19.1%	16.0%	1.4	4.3	78.8	78.0	6.56	5.04
Sweden	47.9%	42.4%	1.9	2.4	31.3	31.1	1.15	0.49
United Kingdom	29.3%	27.7%	3.9	3.5	44.7	45.9	0.88	1.78
<b>Cross Country mean</b>	<b>26.9%</b>	<b>21.9%</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>37.0</b>	<b>38.1</b>	<b>5.34</b>	<b>6.52</b>
<b>All Countries</b>	<b>23.9%</b>	<b>20.5%</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>1.3</b>

Dissimilarities in comparison to the population are far from unproblematic but at the same time to a certain degree inevitable, even in large-N mass surveys based on random sampling. To compensate for dissimilarities, population or survey weights are commonly calculated to increase the representativeness of descriptive or analytic statistics.

The candidate study team has calculated and provided different weights with the first release of data to account for the deviations. For example, weights were calculated for gender or the number of candidates per party running in the campaign. In addition, weights to control for population size or the number of MEPs are provided as well.

## **9. Coding of open-ended answers**

The 2009 EECS includes several open-ended answers, e.g., questions on the most important problem or possibility to specify answers falling into the ‘other’ category. To ensure quality, transparency and the possibility to link the data with other components of PIREDEU, the coding strategies and procedures of the voter survey as well as the media study were applied. The coding was organized at the University of Exeter which was also involved in the coding processes for the other two components of mentioned above. The applicability of the established procedure and the coding schemes was carefully checked. The actual coding was done by the team established and trained in the context of the 2009 European Election Media Study.<sup>23</sup> Appendix 3 presents the coding schemes used.

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<sup>23</sup> Detailed information is given in the reports of the 2009 European Election Media Study.

## **Annex**

### **Annex 1: Tasks of country teams**

In order to do the fieldwork, the candidate team needs support from the country teams. Tasks include:

#### *1 Addresses and other information about candidates*

In order to be able to contact the candidates, the following information is essential and must be provided by country teams (a template [Excel sheet]), is included in the attachment):

- Last name,
- First name
- Title (if applicable)
- Gender = 0 male, 1 female
- Party
- List position and/or constituency
- The appropriate language for that person
- Postal address (Street & Number, city, Area code)
- E-mail address
- Phone number if easy at hand

#### *2 Checking the cover letter, questionnaire, and reminders*

The country teams will be provided with the language versions need in their countries. These documents have to be carefully checked and returned with corrections if necessary.

#### *3 Brief report about the central features of the election campaign*

A brief report, which covers the major topics/issues in the campaign, differences in the campaign strategies of parties/candidates, and other major events/characteristics relevant to the European Parliament Elections should help to put the survey result in its context.

#### *4 Election results*

For later analysis, election results should be provided as detailed as possible.

#### *5 Mobilizing candidates*

If necessary due to low response rates, country teams will be asked to mobilize candidates to participate.



## **Annex 2: Response rates by parties**

The following tables show the response rate for each party covered in the 2009 EECS. The response rates are calculated for Sample 2. Gray-shaded parties have won at least one seat in the 2009 election.

### **Austria**

<b>Party code</b>	<b>Party name (translation)</b>	<b>Party name (original)</b>	<b>Share of valid votes</b>	<b>Number of candidates</b>	<b>Number of responses</b>	<b>Response rate</b>
1040110	The Greens	Grüne	9.93	24	14	58.33
1040220	Communist Party of Austria	KPÖ	0.66	24	5	20.83
1040320	Social Democratic Party of Austria	SPÖ	23.74	24	3	12.50
1040422	Young Liberals	JuLis	0.72	17	5	29.41
1040520	Austrian People's Party	ÖVP	29.98	24	8	33.33
1040700	Alliance for the Future of Austria	BZÖ	4.58	23	1	4.35
1040720	Freedom Party of Austria	FPÖ	12.71	15	2	13.33
1040951	Hans-Peter Martin's List	Liste Martin	17.67	4	1	25.00

# Belgium

Party code	Party name (translation)	Party name (original)	Share of valid votes	Number of candidates	Number of responses	Response rate
1056098	Socialist Party (German Minority)	SP	0.09	2	0	0.00
1056099	Freedom and Progress Party	PFF	0.12	2	0	0.00
1056111	Ecolo	Ecolo	8.55	12	5	41.67
1056112	Green!	Groen!	4.90	15	8	53.33
1056322	Socialist Party	PS	10.88	10	4	40.00
1056327	Socialist Party Different	SP.A	8.21	15	4	26.67
1056328	Social Liberal Party	SLP	0.40	15	8	53.33
1056421	Flemish Liberals and Democrats	Open VLD	12.75	15	6	40.00
1056427	Reformist Movement	MR	9.74	10	3	30.00
1056521	Christian Democratic and Flemish Party	CD&V	14.43	15	4	26.67
1056522	Humanist Democratic Centre	CDH	4.99	10	2	20.00
1056523	Christian Social Party	CSP	0.19	2	0	0.00
1056600	List Dedecker	Lijst Dedecker	4.51	14	5	35.71
1056710	National Front	FN	1.33	8	2	25.00
1056711	Flemish Interest	Vlaams Belang	9.85	13	2	15.38
1056913	New Flemish Alliance	N-VA	6.13	14	4	28.57

## Bulgaria

Party code	Party name (translation)	Party name (original)	Share of valid votes	Number of candidates	Number of responses	Response rate
1100003	Lider	Lider	5.70	17	0	0.00
1100300	Coalition for Bulgaria (BSP)	BSP	18.50	17	0	0.00
1100400	National Movement for Stability and Progress (NDSV)	NDSV	7.96	17	0	0.00
1100600	Citizens for European Development of Bulgaria (GERB)	GERB	24.36	17	2	11.76
1100601	Order. Lawfulness. and Justice (RZS)	RZS	4.67	17	2	11.76
1100700	National Union Attack (ATAKA)	Ataka	11.96	17	1	5.88
1100900	Movement for Rights and Freedoms (DPS)	DPS	14.14	16	0	0.00

## Cyprus

Party code	Party name (translation)	Party name (original)	Share of valid votes	Number of candidates	Number of responses	Response rate
1196321	Progressive Party of Working People	AKEL	34.90	5	2	40.00
1196322	Movement for Social Democracy	EDEK	9.85	6	2	33.33
1196422	Democratic Party	DHKO	12.28	6	2	33.33
1196600	European Party	EYROKO	4.12	6	0	0.00
1196711	Democratic Rally	DHSY	35.65	6	2	33.33

## Czech Republic

Party code	Party name (translation)	Party name (original)	Share of valid votes	Number of candidates	Number of responses	Response rate
1203110	Green Party	SZ	2.06	25	3	12.00
1203220	Communist Party of Bohemia and Moravia	KSCM	14.18	22	2	9.09
1203320	Czech Social Democratic Party	CSSD	22.39	29	6	20.69
1203413	Civic Democratic Party	ODS	31.45	29	3	10.34
1203523	Christian and Democratic Union-Czechoslovak People's Party	KDU-CSL	7.65	29	7	24.14

## Denmark

Party code	Party name (translation)	Party name (original)	Share of valid votes	Number of candidates	Number of responses	Response rate
1208054	People's Movement against the EU	FB	7.20	19	2	10.53
1208055	June Movement	JB	2.37	7	1	14.29
1208320	Social Democrats	SD	21.49	10	4	40.00
1208330	Socialist People's Party	SF	15.87	14	7	50.00
1208410	Danish Social Liberal Party	RV	4.27	13	3	23.08
1208420	Liberal Party	V	20.24	14	2	14.29
1208421	Liberal Alliance	LA	0.59	3	0	0.00
1208620	Conservative People's Party	DF	12.69	9	1	11.11
1208720	Danish People's Party	KF	15.28	13	4	30.77

# Estonia

Party code	Party name (translation)	Party name (original)	Share of valid votes	Number of candidates	Number of responses	Response rate
1233001	Russian Party in Estonia	Russian Party in Estonia	0.32	6	0	0.00
1233002	Farmer's Union	Farmers' Assembly	0.16	2	2	100.00
1233098	Independent	Independent	---	6	3	50.00
1233099	Estonian Independence Party	Estonian Independence Party	---	4	0	0.00
1233100	Estonian Greens	Estonian Greens	2.73	12	6	50.00
1233300	Estonian United Left	Estonian United Left Party	0.89	6	2	33.33
1233410	Social Democratic Party	Social Democratic Party	8.69	12	1	8.33
1233411	Estonian Centre Party	Centre Party	26.07	12	2	16.67
1233430	Estonian Reform Party	Reform Party	15.33	12	2	16.67
1233431	Libertas Estonia	Libertas Estonia	0.56	6	0	0.00
1233510	Estonian Christian Democrats	Party of Estonian Christian Democrats	0.43	3	1	33.33
1233612	People's Union of Estonia	People's Union	2.23	12	3	25.00
1233613	Union of Pro Patria and Res Publica	Union of Pro Patria and Res Publica	12.22	12	1	8.33

# Finland

Party code	Party name (translation)	Party name (original)	Share of valid votes	Number of candidates	Number of responses	Response rate
1246110	Green League	Green League	12.40	20	5	25.00
1246223	Left Alliance	Left Alliance	5.93	20	4	20.00
1246320	Social Democratic Party of Finland	SD	17.54	20	9	45.00
1246520	Christian Democrats in Finland	Christian Democrats	4.17	10	2	20.00
1246620	National Coalition Party	National Coalition Party	23.21	20	1	5.00
1246810	Centre Party	Finnish Centre Party	19.03	20	8	40.00
1246820	True Finns	True Finns	9.79	10	5	50.00
1246901	Swedish People's Party	Swedish People's Party	6.09	20	7	35.00

France

Party code	Party name (translation)	Party name (original)	Share of valid votes	Number of candidates	Number of responses	Response rate
1250024	Libertas	Libertas	4.80	95	16	16.84
1250026	The Left Front (Left Party + French Communist Party)	Front de gauche	6.48	91	16	17.58
1250190	Europe Écologie	Europe Ecologie	16.28	95	13	13.68
1250226	Extreme left (New Anticapitalist Party, Workers' Struggle)	NPA	4.88	91	8	8.79
1250320	Socialist Party	PS	16.48	95	20	21.05
1250336	Democratic Movement	MODEM	8.46	95	12	12.63
1250626	Union for a Popular Movement	UMP	27.88	99	23	23.23
1250720	National Front	FN	6.34	92	9	9.78

## Germany

Party code	Party name (translation)	Party name (original)	Share of valid votes	Number of candidates	Number of responses	Response rate
1276099	Free Voters	FW	1.68	59	17	28.81
1276113	Alliance '90/The Greens	Grüne	12.13	25	7	28.00
1276320	Social Democratic Party	SPD	20.78	98	33	33.67
1276321	The Left	Linke	7.48	30	10	33.33
1276420	Free Democratic Party	FDP	10.97	124	46	37.10
1276521	Christian Democratic Union/Christian Social Union	CDU	30.65	102	21	20.59
1276522	Christian Social Democrats	CSU	7.20	41	9	21.95

## Greece

Party code	Party name (translation)	Party name (original)	Share of valid votes	Number of candidates	Number of responses	Response rate
1300099	Action	Drasi	0.76	22	3	13.64
1300116	Ecologist Greens	Ikologi Prasini	3.49	22	1	4.55
1300210	Communist Party of Greece	K.K.E.	8.35	22	0	0.00
1300215	Coalition of the Radical Left	Synaspismós Rizospastikís Aristerás	4.70	22	2	9.09
1300313	Panhellenic Socialist Movement	PASOK	36.64	22	3	13.64
1300511	New Democracy	ND	32.29	22	8	36.36
1300703	Popular Orthodox Rally	LAOS	7.15	22	2	9.09

## Hungary



Party code	Party name (translation)	Party name (original)	Share of valid votes	Number of candidates	Number of responses	Response rate
1348220	Hungarian Socialist Party	MSzP	17.37	30	3	10.00
1348421	Fidesz-Hungarian Civic Union	Fidesz-KDNP	56.36	30	2	6.67
1348422	Alliance of Free Democrats	SzDSz	2.16	22	5	22.73
1348521	Hungarian Democratic Forum	MDF	5.31	30	8	26.67
1348700	Movement for a Better Hungary	Jobbik	14.77	24	8	33.33

#### Ireland

Party code	Party name (translation)	Party name (original)	Share of valid votes	Number of candidates	Number of responses	Response rate
1372001	Libertas	Libertas	5.45	3	0	0.00
1372098	Independent	Independent	---	14	2	14.29
1372099	Marian Harkin (Independent)	Marian Harkin (Independent)	4.64	1	0	0.00
1372110	Green Party	Green Party	1.89	2	0	0.00
1372320	Labour Party	Labour party	13.92	4	2	50.00
1372321	Socialist Party (SP)	The Socialist party	2.76	1	0	0.00
1372520	Fine Gael	Fine Gael	29.13	7	2	28.57
1372620	Fianna Fail	Fianna Fail	24.08	8	2	25.00
1372951	Sinn Fein	Sinn Fein	11.24	5	0	0.00

# Italy

Party code	Party name (translation)	Party name (original)	Share of valid votes	Number of candidates	Number of responses	Response rate
1380007	Left and Freedom	Sinistra e Libertà	3.12	65	9	13.85
1380212	Anticapitalist List	Rifondazione – Comunisti Italiani (Lista comunista)– Comun. Ital.	3.39	68	15	22.06
1380331	Democratic Party	PD	26.13	72	11	15.28
1380523	Union of Christian and Centre Democrats	UDC	6.52	72	8	11.11
1380630	The People of Freedom	PDL	35.27	69	5	7.25
1380720	North League	Lega Nord	10.20	66	0	0.00
1380902	Italy of Values	IDV	8.00	54	4	7.41
1380955	Movement for Autonomy	Pensionati - L'Autonomia	2.23	66	6	9.09

## Lithuania

Party code	Party name (translation)	Party name (original)	Share of valid votes	Number of candidates	Number of responses	Response rate
1440001	Nation's Resurrection Party	National Resurrection Party	1.04	10	4	40.00
1440021	Party „Order and Justice“	Party „Order and Justice“	12.22	15	0	0.00
1440099	Civic Democratic Party	Civic Democracy Party	1.35	8	3	37.50
1440320	Lithuanian Social Democratic Party	Lithuanian Social Democratic Party	18.61	15	4	26.67
1440323	Frontas Party	Party „Frontas“	2.43	11	2	18.18
1440420	Liberal and Centre Union	Liberal and Centre Union	3.47	15	2	13.33
1440421	Liberals' Movement of the Republic of Lithuania	Liberal Movement of Lithuanian Republic	7.36	15	4	26.67
1440422	Labour Party	Labour Party	8.79	15	2	13.33
1440620	Homeland Union - Lithuanian Christian Democrats	Homeland Union – Lithuanian Christian Democrats	26.86	15	3	20.00
1440824	Lithuanian Peasant People Union	Lithuanian Peasants People Party	1.87	15	4	26.67
1440952	Lithuanian Poles' Electoral Action	Electoral Action of Lithuanian Poles	8.42	15	2	13.33

## Latvia

Party code	Party name (translation)	Party name (original)	Share of valid votes	Number of candidates	Number of responses	Response rate
1428009	Libertas	Libertas.lv	4.30	8	2	25.00
1428110	Union of Greens and Farmers	ZZS	3.72	10	3	30.00
1428315	Latvian Social Democratic Labour Party	LSDSP	3.79	10	5	50.00
1428317	Harmony Centre	SC	19.57	10	2	20.00
1428422	For Human Rights in United Latvia	PCTVL	9.66	10	5	50.00
1428423	New Era Party	JL	6.66	10	3	30.00
1428424	Latvia's First Party/Latvia's Way	LPP/LC	7.49	10	1	10.00
1428425	Society for Other Politics	SCP	3.85	9	3	33.33
1428610	People's Party	TP	2.78	10	3	30.00
1428611	Civic Union	PS	24.32	10	6	60.00
1428723	For Fatherland and Freedom	TB/LNNK	7.45	10	4	40.00
1428724	All for Latvia	VL	2.81	8	2	25.00

# Luxembourg

Party code	Party name (translation)	Party name (original)	Share of valid votes	Number of candidates	Number of responses	Response rate
1442009	Citizens' List	BIERGERLESCHT	1.38	6	0	0.00
1442113	The Greens	GRENG	16.82	6	0	0.00
1442220	Communist Party of Luxembourg	KPL	1.54	6	1	16.67
1442222	The Left	DEI LENK	3.41	6	3	50.00
1442320	Luxembourg Socialist Workers' Party	LSAP	19.49	6	5	83.33
1442420	Democratic Party	DP	18.65	6	0	0.00
1442520	Christian Social People's Party	CSV	31.32	6	5	83.33
1442951	Alternative Democratic Reform Party	ADR	7.38	6	2	33.33

Malta

Party code	Party name (translation)	Party name (original)	Share of valid votes	Number of candidates	Number of responses	Response rate
1470000	Liberal Democratic Alliance	Alleanza Liberali	0.08	1	1	100.00
1470001	Alpha Liberal Democratic Party	Alpha Liberal Democratic Party	0.05	1	0	0.00
1470002	Imperium Europa	Imperium Europa	1.47	2	0	0.00
1470004	Libertas Malta	Libertas Malta	0.12	1	1	100.00
1470100	Democratic Alternative	Alternattiva Demokratika	2.34	2	1	50.00
1470300	Labour Party	Partit Laburista	54.77	12	4	33.33
1470500	Nationalist Party	Partit Nazzjonalista	40.49	10	2	20.00
1470700	National Action	Azzjoni Nazzjonali	0.64	3	2	66.67

# Netherlands

Party code	Party name (translation)	Party name (original)	Share of valid votes	Number of candidates	Number of responses	Response rate
1528006	Party for Animals	Partij voor de Dieren	3.50	15	1	6.67
1528014	Newropeans	Newropeans	0.40	8	2	25.00
1528015	Affordable and Sustainable Europe	Europa Voordelig! & Duurzaam	0.10	5	0	0.00
1528016	Solidarity	Solidara	0.20	27	6	22.22
1528017	Dutch Whistleblowers' Party	Europese Klokkenluiders Partij (EKP)	0.50	12	2	16.67
1528018	European Politics Party	Partij voor Europese Politiek (PEP)	0.10	6	2	33.33
1528019	Libertas	Libertas	0.30	25	6	24.00
1528110	Green Left	GroenLinks	8.90	19	4	21.05
1528120	The Greens	De Groenen	0.20	8	3	37.50
1528220	Socialist Party	SP (Socialistische Partij)	7.10	30	5	16.67
1528320	Labour Party	PvdA	12.00	13	5	38.46
1528330	Democrats 66	D66 (Democraten 66)	11.30	30	10	33.33
1528420	People's Party for Freedom and Democracy	VVD	11.40	30	10	33.33
1528431	Liberal Democrat Party	Liberaal Democratische Partij	0.20	11	2	18.18
1528521	Christian Democratic Appeal	CDA	20.10	25	7	28.00
1528528	Christian Union-Reformed Political Party	ChristenUnie-SGP	6.80	20	7	35.00

Party code	Party name (translation)	Party name (original)	Share of valid votes	Number of candidates	Number of responses	Response rate
1528600	Party for Freedom	PVV (Partij voor de Vrijheid)	17.00	10	1	10.00

#### Poland

Party code	Party name (translation)	Party name (original)	Share of valid votes	Number of candidates	Number of responses	Response rate
1616011	Coalition Agreement for the Future - CenterLeft	CentroLewica	2.44	128	13	10.16
1616012	Election Coalition Committee of the Democratic Left Alliance - Labour Union	SLD-UP	12.34	130	7	5.38
1616435	Civic Platform	Komitet Wyborczy Platforma Obywatelska RP	44.43	130	6	4.62
1616436	Law and Justice	Komitet Wyborczy Prawo i Sprawiedliwosc	27.40	130	4	3.08
1616811	Polish People's Party	PSL	7.01	130	6	4.62



## Portugal

Party code	Party name (translation)	Party name (original)	Share of valid votes	Number of candidates	Number of responses	Response rate
1620211	Left Bloc	BE - Bloco de Esquerda (Left Bloc)	10.73	22	3	13.64
1620229	Democratic Union Coalition (Portuguese Communist Party and the Greens)	CDU-PCP-PV Coligação Democrática Unitária (Unitarian Democratic Coalition)	10.66	22	1	4.55
1620311	Socialist Party	PS - Partido Socialista (Socialist Party)	26.58	22	4	18.18
1620313	Social Democratic Party	PSD-MPT-PMP Partido Social Democrata (Social Democrat Party)	31.71	22	6	27.27
1620314	Democratic and Social Center - Popular Party	CDS-PP Partido Popular (People's Party)	8.37	22	3	13.64

Romania

Party code	Party name (translation)	Party name (original)	Share of valid votes	Number of candidates	Number of responses	Response rate
1642000	Elena Basescu	Basescu, Elena (Independent)	4.22	1	0	0.00
1642001	Pavel Avraham	Pavel, Abraham	1.03	1	0	0.00
1642300	Social Democratic Party / Conservative Party	PSD / PC	31.07	43	0	0.00
1642400	Democratic Liberal Party	PD-L	29.71	41	10	24.39
1642401	National Liberal Party	PNL	14.52	43	3	6.98
1642700	Greater Romania Party	PRM	8.66	43	9	20.93
1642800	Christian-Democratic National Peasants' Party	PNTCD	1.46	30	1	3.33
1642900	Democratic Union of Hungarians in Romania	UDMR	8.92	43	1	2.33

## Slovakia

Party code	Party name (translation)	Party name (original)	Share of valid votes	Number of candidates	Number of responses	Response rate
1703190	Green Party	Strana Zelených	2.11	13	5	38.46
1703222	Communist Party of Slovakia	KSS	1.65	12	3	25.00
1703423	Direction - Social Democracy	Smer-SD	32.02	13	3	23.08
1703521	Christian Democratic Movement	KDH	10.87	13	1	7.69
1703523	Slovak Democratic and Christian Union	SDKÚ-DS	16.98	12	4	33.33
1703524	Free Forum	Slobodné fórum	1.58	13	5	38.46
1703601	Conservative Democrats of Slovakia	KDS-OKS	2.11	13	3	23.08
1703710	Slovak National Party	SNS	5.56	13	1	7.69
1703711	People's Party - Movement for Democratic Slovakia	LS-HZDS	8.98	13	3	23.08
1703954	Party of the Hungarian Coalition	SMK	11.34	13	1	7.69

## Slovenia

Party code	Party name (translation)	Party name (original)	Share of valid votes	Number of candidates	Number of responses	Response rate
1705003	Independent List for the Rights of Patients	NLPB	0.45	4	1	25.00
1705100	United Greens	Zeleni Slovenije	0.73	7	0	0.00
1705320	Slovenian Democratic Party	SDS	26.66	7	0	0.00
1705323	Social Democrats	SD	18.43	7	1	14.29
1705324	For Real	Zares	9.76	7	1	14.29
1705421	Liberal Democracy of Slovenia	LDS	11.48	7	3	42.86
1705521	Slovenian People's Party	SLS	3.58	7	2	28.57
1705522	New Slovenia - Christian People's Party	Nsi	16.58	7	2	28.57
1705523	Christian Socialists of Slovenia	KSS	0.33	7	0	0.00
1705710	Slovenian National Party	SNS	2.85	7	1	14.29
1705951	Democratic Party of Pensioners of Slovenia	DeSUS	7.18	7	2	28.57
1705952	Youth Party	SMS	1.96	7	5	71.43

# Spain

Party code	Party name (translation)	Party name (original)	Share of valid votes	Number of candidates	Number of responses	Response rate
1724010	Union. Progress. and Democracy	UPyD	2.89	60	26	43.33
1724099	Independent	Independiente	---	5	0	0.00
1724220	United Left	IU-ICV	3.77	55	4	7.27
1724320	Spanish Socialist Workers' Party	PSOE	39.33	56	1	1.79
1724610	People's Party	PP	42.72	60	2	3.33
1724930	Europe of the Peoples-The Greens	EdP-V	2.53	60	12	20.00
1724950	Coalition for Europe	CpE	5.18	60	12	20.00

Sweden

Party code	Party name (translation)	Party name (original)	Share of valid votes	Number of candidates	Number of responses	Response rate
1752000	Pirate Party	Piratpartiet	7.13	20	7	35.00
1752110	Green Party	Miljöpartiet	11.02	30	16	53.33
1752220	Left Party	Vänsterpartiet	5.66	42	12	28.57
1752320	Social Democrats	Social Demokraterna	24.41	30	13	43.33
1752420	Liberal People's Party	Folkpartiet liberalerna	13.58	42	22	52.38
1752520	Christian Democrats	Kristdemokraterna	4.68	54	23	42.59
1752620	Moderate Party	Moderaterna	18.83	43	16	37.21
1752700	Sweden Democrats	Sverigedemokraternas	3.27	30	14	46.67
1752810	Centre Party	Centerpartiet	5.47	45	23	51.11
1752952	June List	Junilistan	3.55	45	16	35.56

# United Kingdom

Party code	Party name (translation)	Party name (original)	Share of valid votes	Number of candidates	Number of responses	Response rate
1826009	Pro Democracy: Libertas.eu	Libertas	0.47	57	15	26.32
1826083	Independent	Independent	---	9	2	22.22
1826084	Socialist Party of Great Britain	Socialist Party of Great Britain	0.03	8	2	25.00
1826085	Yes 2 Europe	Yes 2 Europe	0.02	1	0	0.00
1826087	Wai D	Wai D	0.01	2	0	0.00
1826088	United Kingdom First	United Kingdom First Party	0.47	14	3	21.43
1826089	Traditional Unionist Voice	Traditional Unionist Voice	0.42	1	0	0.00
1826090	Animals Count	Animals Count	0.08	3	0	0.00
1826091	Scottish Green Party	Scottish Green Party	0.51	6	1	16.67
1826092	Roman Party	Roman Party	0.03	1	1	100.00
1826093	Pensioners Party	Pensioners Party	0.24	6	1	16.67
1826094	Peace Party	Peace Party	0.06	10	4	40.00
1826095	Mebyon Kernow	Mebyon Kernow	0.10	6	3	50.00
1826096	Jury Team	Jury Team	0.50	59	17	28.81
1826098	Fair Pay Fair Trade Party	Fair Pay Fair Trade Party	0.05	2	0	0.00
1826110	Green Party	Green Party	8.45	64	35	54.69
1826210	Sinn Fein	Sinn Féin	0.81	1	0	0.00

Party code	Party name (translation)	Party name (original)	Share of valid votes	Number of candidates	Number of responses	Response rate
1826320	Labour	Labour Party	15.25	69	17	24.64
1826341	No2EU: Yes to Democracy	No to EU	0.98	69	6	8.70
1826390	Scottish Socialist Party SSP	Scottish Socialist Party	0.07	6	3	50.00
1826391	Socialist Labour Party SLP	Socialist Labour Party	1.11	69	8	11.59
1826421	Liberal Democrats	Liberal Democrats	13.32	69	24	34.78
1826430	Alliance Party	Alliance Party	0.17	1	1	100.00
1826522	Christian Party - Christian People's Alliance	Christian Party - Christian People's Alliance	1.60	69	18	26.09
1826620	Conservatives	Conservative Party	26.88	70	11	15.71
1826720	British National Party (BNP)	British National Party	6.04	69	24	34.78
1826723	England Democrats	English Democrats	1.79	59	19	32.20
1826724	Social Democratic and Labour Party	Social Democratic and Labour Party	0.50	1	0	0.00
1826901	Plaid Cymru	Plaid Cymru	0.81	4	1	25.00
1826902	Scottish National Party	Scottish National Party	2.05	6	2	33.33
1826903	Democratic Unionist Party	Democratic Unionist Party	0.57	1	0	0.00
1826951	UK Independence Party (UKIP)	United Kingdom Independence Party	15.99	69	26	37.68



### **Annex 3: Coding schemes**

#### **List of ethnic minority groups**

- 1 African in general
- 2 Afro-Caribbean
- 3 North African in general
- 4 Moroccan
- 5 Tunisian
- 6 Central or South African
- 7 Arabic in general
- 8 Middle Eastern in general
- 9 Iranian
- 10 Iraqi
- 11 Israeli
- 12 Palestinian
- 13 Turkish
- 14 Indian Subcontinent in general
- 15 Indian
- 16 Afghan
- 17 Pakistani
- 18 Asian in general
- 19 South-East Asian in general
- 20 Indonesian
- 21 Chinese
- 22 Japanese
- 23 Korean
- 24 South American in general
- 25 North American in general
- 26 American
- 27 Canadian
- 28 Oceanian in general
- 29 Eastern European in general
- 30 Russian or other former CIS republics (if not specified below)
- 31 Yugoslavian or former Yugoslavian republics (if not specified below)
- 32 Polish
- 33 Pomaks
- 34 Roma
- 35 Gypsy
- 36 Croatians
- 37 Hungarian
- 38 Serb
- 39 Slovak
- 40 Czech
- 41 Moravian
- 42 Slovenes
- 43 Polish
- 44 Bosniak
- 45 Bulgarian
- 46 Romanian
- 47 Estonian
- 48 Ukrainian
- 49 Latvian
- 50 Byelorussian

- 51 Lithuanian
- 52 Southern European in general
- 53 Castellan speakers
- 54 Catalan
- 55 Galician
- 56 Basques
- 57 Portuguese
- 58 Greek
- 59 Italians
- 60 Northern European in general
- 61 Finish
- 62 Swedes
- 63 Danes
- 64 Western European in general
- 65 German
- 66 Austrians
- 67 English
- 68 Scottish
- 69 Welsh
- 70 Irish
- 71 Anglican
- 72 Dutch
- 73 French
- 74 Bretons
- 75 Flemish
- 76 Walloon
- 80 Religions
- 81 Muslim/ Islamic
- 90 Unidentifiable but clearly foreign ethnicity

## List of topics (e.g., most important problems)

- 1 European Integration
- 2 Environment
- 3 Globalization
- 4 Economic Conditions
- 5 Immigration
- 6 Interest Rates
- 7 Health Care
- 8 Climate Change
- 9 Foreign policy in general, relations between states or (international) p
- 10 Foreign policy towards Eastern European countries that are now members
- 11 Foreign policy towards Eastern European countries that are not members
- 12 Foreign Policy towards Russia
- 13 Foreign Policy towards United States of America
- 14 Defence and national security of national government
- 15 Imperialism: : references to exerting influence (political, military or
- 16 Military in general (code this if you cannot use specific codes)
- 17 Military expenditure
- 18 Armed forces (modernization, structure, military strength)
- 19 NATO, Military treaties obligations, Military cooperation
- 20 Peace (code this if you cannot use specific codes)
- 21 Peace negotiations
- 22 Peace keeping missions/troops
- 23 Freedom and Human Rights (code this if you cannot use specific codes)
- 24 Civil rights, Civil liberties, Rights in general
- 25 Equality before Law
- 26 Democracy (code this if you cannot use specific codes)
- 27 Democracy, sovereignty of the people
- 28 Division of power among brunches of government
- 29 Separation of church and state
- 30 Rule of Law
- 31 Democratic role of political parties
- 32 Democratic role of the media
- 33 Constitutionalism (code this if you cannot use specific codes)
- 34 Discussion about national constitution
- 35 Decentralization (code this if you cannot use specific codes)
- 36 Federalism, Devolution, Regional Autonomy
- 37 Executive and Administrative Efficiency; Efficient government and admini
- 38 Political Corruption (code this if you cannot use specific codes)
- 39 EU political corruption, fraud, scandals EU-level politicians or institu
- 40 National Political corruption (political parties, politicians, abuse of
- 41 Political Authority: Strong Government, Government Stability
- 42 Financing the EC/EU: National contributions to finance the EC/EU (from
- 43 Competences of the European Commission (Powers of the European Commissio
- 44 Competences of the European Council/Council of Ministers (Powers of the
- 45 Voting procedures in the (European) Council
- 46 Competences of the European Court of Justice (references to the powers o
- 47 Competences of Other EC/EU Institutions (References to the Powers of oth
- 48 European Central Bank
- 49 Membership in the EU of East European countries currently not in the EU
- 50 Membership in the EU of Balkan countries currently not in the EU
- 51 Economic structure/policies/goals/conditions (code this if you cannot us
- 52 Free enterprise capitalism
- 53 Private property rights

- 54 Government intervention/control over the economy (prices , wages rents)
- 55 Social Ownership
- 56 Publicly-Owned Industry
- 57 Economic Planning (of long-term economic planning, create of such a plan
- 58 EC/EU Structural Fund (EU funds for underdeveloped regions/areas)
- 59 Government Ownership, nationalisation in general (land. Banks, etc)
- 60 Privatisation (of government owned business or industry)
- 61 Corporatism (involvement of collaborations of employees and trade unions
- 62 National policy on monopolies, Trusts, consumer and small businesses pro
- 63 Incentives (references to tax and wage policies, financial incentives to
- 64 Productivity (e.g., references to economic growth, the need to increase)
- 65 Technology and Infrastructure (modernization, development of industry, m
- 66 National energy policy
- 67 National transportation policy
- 68 National media and ICT policy
- 69 Protectionism (as opposed to international cooperation)
- 70 Anti-Growth Economy (references to alternative economic planning)
- 71 Creating Jobs (specifically)
- 72 Labour Migration
- 73 Single Market/Common market
- 74 Inflation
- 75 Unemployment
- 76 National employment policies
- 77 Stock market and its developments (shares, bonds, AEX, DAX, Dow Jones et
- 78 Business (companies, banks, industry, mergers, manufacturing,)
- 79 Bankruptcy of business, companies, banks (specifically)
- 80 Debt (public debt of a state, a community etc.)
- 81 Taxes
- 82 Trade (international trade), trade deficits
- 83 Wages and Earnings
- 84 Effect of Euro on the Economy
- 85 Effects of financial crisis on domestic/ EU/ global economy
- 86 Environmental Protection
- 87 National environmental policy
- 88 Culture (code this if you cannot use specific codes)
- 89 National cultural policy (subsidies for theatre's, movies, music etc.; t
- 90 Social Justice
- 91 Welfare State (code this if you cannot use specific codes)
- 92 Pensions
- 93 Nursing Services
- 94 National health care policy
- 95 Social Housing
- 96 Child Care
- 97 Education (code this if you cannot use specific codes)
- 98 National Education Policy
- 99 Multiculturalism (cultural diversity, cultural plurality)
- 100 Law and Order (code this if you cannot use specific codes)
- 101 Fight against terrorism
- 102 National Crime prevention policy(ies)
- 103 Courts, trials, court decisions
- 104 National Way of Life (reference to patriotism/nationalism, support/opposition for es-
- 105 tablished national ideas and/or values
- 106 National Immigration policy
- 107 Cyprus Issue
- 108 Labour Groups (references to trade unions, unemployed, employees)
- 109 Agriculture and Farmers (code this if you cannot use specific codes)

- 109 National Agricultural policy
- 110 Underprivileged Minority Groups (code this if you cannot use specific codes)
- 111 Handicapped (policies aimed at, treatment)
- 112 Homosexuals
- 113 Gay marriage
- 114 Ethnic Minorities
- 115 Non-economic Demographic Groups (code this if you cannot use specific codes)
- 116 Women (policies aimed at, treatment)
- 117 Abortion
- 118 Old People (policies aimed at, treatment)
- 119 Young People (policies aimed at, treatment)
- 120 Linguistic Groups (policies aimed at, treatment)
- 121 National language policies
- 122 European Elections: European Elections in general  
European Elections: profiles of candidates, politicians, parties; their images and strate-
- 123 gic positions  
European Elections: Electioneering, campaigning (strategy, style, finance, fundraising, events, media appearances, endorsements, targeting of electoral groups, political mar-
- 124 keting, publicity, advertising)
- 125 Media coverage of the campaign
- 126 European elections: Voters, public opinion, polls, (anticipated) electoral success
- 127 European Election: Voter turnout (e.g. expectations) (only if EU elections)
- 128 European Elections: list of party positions on issues (a "manifesto story")
- 129 European Elections: Voting procedures (e.g. electronic voting machines, foreign votes
- 130 European Elections: Election laws, rules, regulations
- 131 European Elections: (Formal, public) debates (as an event) between parties, politicians
- 132 Political consequences of EP election outcome (e.g. for national-level politicians, parties)  
EU-level politicians' personality (e.g., candidate MEP's personal character, background,
- 133 leadership qualities)
- 134 Vote advice for European Elections
- 135 Other EU election-related topics
- 136 National elections in EU Countries
- 137 National elections in non-EU Countries
- 138 Other topic related to elections
- 139 Accidents
- 140 Crime story
- 141 Culture (arts, films/movies, theatre, music, media)  
Human interest (soft news: about prominent persons, celebrities, anniversaries, wed-
- 142 dings, animals, strange/funny events, etc.)
- 143 (Natural) disasters (earthquakes, floods)
- 144 Religion
- 145 Sports
- 146 Weather Report/ Forecast
- 147 Any other topic
- 148 Everyone
- 149 Myself
- 150 Animals
- 151 Men

#### **Annex 4: Core questionnaire**

1. What do you think is the most important problem facing [country] today?

---

2. And what do you think is the second most important problem facing [country] today?

---

3. And what do you think is the third most important problem facing [country] today?

---

4. As of today, are these three most important problems mainly dealt with at the regional, the national, or the European level?

	Regional Level	National Level	European Level
Most important problem	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Second most important problem	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Third most important problem	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

5. And what do you think would be the most appropriate level to deal with the three most important problems: at the regional, the national, or the European level?

	Regional Level	National Level	European Level
Most important problem	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Second most important problem	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Third most important problem	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

6. Are you a member of the party that nominated you for the European Parliament election?

☐ No

☐ Yes. In what year did you join the party? \_\_\_\_\_

What is your party group in the European Parliament? \_\_\_\_\_

7. How long before the European Parliament election ...

	...were you nominated by your party?	...did you begin organizing your campaign?	...did you start campaigning full- time?
More than 12 months before	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12 to 9 months before	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9 to 6 months before	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6 to 3 months before	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
One or two months before	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Less than 1 month before	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

8. Do you use any of the following in the 2009 EP election campaign? Please tick “yes” or “no”.

	Yes	No
A personal webpage which is largely designed and maintained by the party	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A personal webpage which is largely designed and maintained by me/my local campaign team	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Personal flyers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Party brochures	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Personal campaign posters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Party posters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Personal newspaper ads	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Personal spots on TV	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Personal radio commercials	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Podcasts (audio or video files on the internet)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Weblog/blog (public diary or journal on the Internet)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Networking on the internet (Myspace, Facebook, LinkedIn etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Online chat with voters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

9. About how much time do you devote to campaigning per week during the last month before the election?

\_\_\_\_\_ hours per week

10. During the final month of the campaign, how many hours per week do you personally and does your campaign team devote to the following campaign activities?

	<u>Average hours per week:</u>	
	You personally	Your campaign team
Contacting voters by e-mail	_____	_____
Updating your personal web page	_____	_____
Calling up voters on the phone	_____	_____
Writing letters to voters	_____	_____
Door-knocking, canvassing	_____	_____
Brief talks with people on streets, at markets, etc.	_____	_____
Attending fund raising events	_____	_____
Addresses or public debates at convened meetings	_____	_____
Visits of firms, associations and clubs, or other meetings	_____	_____
Radio and TV interviews	_____	_____
Press activities (press interviews, press releases)	_____	_____
Meeting party members	_____	_____
Meeting party officials	_____	_____



**11. How important would you rate the following media for the 2009 EP election campaign in [country]?**

	Very important	Fairly important	Not very important	Not at all important
[News program 1]	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
[News program 2]	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
[Newspaper 1]	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
[Newspaper 2]	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
[Newspaper 3]	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Radio	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Internet	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vote advice website: for example, EU profiler	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**12. Which are the policy issues you emphasize in your campaign? Please name only the most important ones, three at maximum**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**13. To what extent do you focus on the following aspects in your election campaign?**

	Very much	Fairly much	Rather little	Very little
Your personal qualifications	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Local/regional points of view	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Your party's election program	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Personal emphasis on specific issues	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**14. Thinking about your campaign budget, what would be your best estimate of the financial resources you use for your campaign (including party funds, donations, and private funds)?**

\_\_\_\_\_ [national currency]

**15. What portion of that sum comes from the party, from donations, and from your private funds?**

Party funds: approx. \_\_\_\_ percent

Donations: approx. \_\_\_\_ percent

Private funds: approx. \_\_\_\_ percent

**16. Besides yourself, how many people help in your personal election campaign?**

Nobody besides myself ☐

Number of Persons \_\_\_\_\_

**17. What is the primary aim of your campaign? Where would you place yourself on a scale from 0 to 10, where 0 means "to attract as much attention as possible for me as a candi-**

date" and 10 means "to attract as much as possible attention for my party"? (Tick just one box.)

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Attract as much attention as possible for me	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Attract as much attention as possible for my party

18. In political matters people talk of "the left" and "the right". What is your position? Please indicate your views using any number on a scale from 0 to 10, where 0 means "left" and 10 means "right". Which number best describes your position?

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Left	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Right

Using the same scale, where would you place your party? (Tick just one box.)

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Left	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Right

Using the same scale, where would you place your party's voters? (Tick just one box.)

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Left	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Right

19. Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statements. Do you 'strongly agree', or 'strongly disagree', or somewhere in between?

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither nor	Disagree	Strongly disagree
The European Parliament takes into consideration the concerns of European citizens	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
You trust the institutions of the European Union	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
It is very important which particular candidates win seats and become MEPs in the European Parliament elections	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
It is very important for you which particular political party gains the most seats in the European Parliament elections	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The [country's] Parliament takes into consideration the concerns of the [country's] citizens	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
It is very important for you which particular political party gains the most seats in the [country's] Parliament elections	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**20. People hold different views on political issues. What do you think of the following?**

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither nor	Disagree	Strongly disagree
Immigrants should be required to adapt to the customs of [country]	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Private enterprise is the best way to solve [country's] economic problems	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Same-sex marriages should be prohibited by law	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Major public services and industries ought to be in state ownership	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Women should be free to decide on matters of abortion	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Politics should abstain from intervening in the economy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
People who break the law should be given much harsher sentences than they are these days	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Income and wealth should be redistributed towards ordinary people	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Schools must teach children to obey authority	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
EU treaty changes should be decided by referendum	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A woman should be prepared to cut down on her paid work for the sake of her family	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Immigration to [country] should be decreased significantly	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**21. To what extent do you agree with the following statements about the powers of the European Union? Please use the scale to indicate your position.**

	Strongly agree							Strongly disagree
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
The European Parliament should have the right to initiate legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
The European Parliament should have equal power with the Council in <b>all</b> areas of EU legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
The European Parliament should have equal power with the Council to amend <b>all</b> areas of expenditure in the budget	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
The Commission President should be nominated by the European Parliament, rather than by the European Council	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
The European Parliament should be able to remove individual Commissioners from office	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
The European Parliament should be allowed to hold all its plenary sessions in Brussels	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

**22. To what extent should each of the following policy areas be decided at the national level and to what extent at the European level? Please rate each area on the scale.**

	Exclusively at the national level	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Exclusively at the European level
Agriculture and fisheries		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Unemployment policies		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Economic policy		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Fighting crime		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Regional development		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Security and defense		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Protection of the environment		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Monetary policy		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Health		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Social policy		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Education		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Basic rules for broadcasting and press		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Scientific and technological research		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Foreign policy		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Taxation policy		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Development aid policy		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Immigration policy		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

**23. Do you see yourself as...?**

- ☐ [Nationality] only
- ☐ [Nationality] and European
- ☐ European and [Nationality]
- ☐ European only

**24. Generally speaking, do you think that [country's] membership of the European Union is a good thing, a bad thing, or neither good nor bad?**

- ☐ Good thing
- ☐ Bad thing
- ☐ Neither good nor bad

**25. What do you think: Are enlargement and deepening of the European Union conflicting goals?**

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

**26. Which would you say should have priority, enlargement or deepening the European Union?**

- ☐ Enlargement
- ☐ Deepening

**27. In general, do you think that enlargement of the European Union would be a good thing, a bad thing, or neither good nor bad?**

- ☐ A good thing
- ☐ A bad thing
- ☐ Neither good nor bad

**28. In general, do you think that deepening of the European Union would be a good thing, a bad thing, or neither good nor bad?**

- ☐ A good thing
- ☐ A bad thing
- ☐ Neither good nor bad

**29. Some say European unification should be pushed further. Others say it already has gone too far. What is your opinion? Please indicate your views using a scale from 0 to 10, where 0 means unification 'has already gone too far' and 10 means it 'should be pushed further'.**

**What number on this scale best describes your position?**

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Has already gone too far	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Should be pushed further

**Where would you place your party on this question?**

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Has already gone too far	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Should be pushed further

**And where do your party's voters stand on this question?**

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Has already gone too far	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Should be pushed further

**30. How much confidence do you have that decisions made by the European Union will be in the interest of [country]?**

- ☐ A great deal of confidence
- ☐ A fair amount
- ☐ Not very much
- ☐ No confidence at all

**31. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements on Europe and the issue of European identity? Please use the scale to indicate your position.**

	Agree strongly						Disagree strongly
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
The differences between European countries are far less than the similarities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I feel proud to be a European	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
European unity threatens my country's cultural identity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The European Union has strengthened democracy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The European Union subjects member states to too much regulation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The European Union has greatly harmed [country's] economy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Citizens of other EU countries should have the same rights to live in [country] as we do	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stronger measures should be taken to restrict immigration from countries outside the European Union	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The financial contribution of [country] to the EU is too high compared to what other member states contribute	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**32. What about the working of democracy in your country and in the European Union?**

	Very satisfied	Fairly satisfied	Not very satisfied	Not at all satis- fied
On the whole, how satisfied are you with the way democracy works in [country]?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
All in all again, are you very satisfied, fairly satisfied, not very satisfied or not at all satisfied with the way democracy works in the European Union?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**33. How important is it to you to represent the following groups of people in the European Parliament?**

	Of little importance					Of great importance	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
All people in Europe	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
All people in [country]	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
All the people who voted for your party	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
All the people in your region	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Your national party	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Your EP group	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>A specific group in society:</i>							
- Women	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
- Elderly	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
- Workers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
- Younger generation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
- Socially disadvantaged	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
- Minorities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
- Other, which:							
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**34. How should, in your opinion, a member of European Parliament vote if her/his voters have one opinion and his/her party takes a different position?**

- ☐ Should vote according to her/his party's opinion
- ☐ Should vote according to her/his voters' opinion

**35. How should, in your opinion, a member of European Parliament vote if his/her own opinion does not correspond with the opinion of her/his voters?**

- ☐ Should vote according to her/his own opinion
- ☐ Should vote according to her/his voters' opinion

**36. How should, in your opinion, a member of European Parliament vote if her/his own opinion does not correspond with his/her party's position?**

- ☐ Should vote according to her/his own opinion
- ☐ Should vote according to her/his party's position

**37. How should, in your opinion, a member of European Parliament vote if the country's interest does not correspond with the position of her/his European party group?**

- ☐ Should vote according to the interests of her/his country
- ☐ Should vote according to his/her European Party group's position

**38. When you first became a candidate for the European Parliament, did any of the following encourage you to stand? *Tick all boxes that apply.***

- ☐ A national party official
- ☐ A regional/local party official
- ☐ A sitting MEP
- ☐ A retired MEP
- ☐ Other community leaders
- ☐ A representative of an interest group
- ☐ My spouse/partner
- ☐ Other members of my family
- ☐ No one encouraged me to stand
- ☐ Other

**39. Were you nominated as an official candidate for the European Parliament election...**

- ☐ ...on the national level
- ☐ ...the regional level or
- ☐ ...the local level?

**40. On this level, who officially nominated you to run in the European Parliament elections?**

- ☐ The executive board of your party
- ☐ Appointed party members
- ☐ Elected party members (delegates)
- ☐ All party members
- ☐ Voters

**41. Have there been alternatives for nomination (in your constituency or on your place on the party list)?**

- ☐ I was the only candidate proposed
- ☐ I was one of two possible candidates
- ☐ There were three or more possible candidates

**42. To become the official nominee, was it necessary ...**

- ☐ ...to get at least 50% of votes by the nominating body
- ☐ ...to get more votes than any other candidate
- ☐ ...to get a certain share of votes, or
- ☐ ...was there no vote?

**43. In your party, how important are the following groups in the selection of candidates for the European Parliament? *Tick one box per line.***

	Not at all important				Very important	
	1	2	3	4	5	
European Parliamentarians of your party	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
National party officials	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Regional/local party officials	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Individual party members	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Non-party members	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Minority organizations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Interest groups	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	



**44. In your view, who should make the final decision on the nomination of candidates to the European Parliament?**

- ☐ National party leaders  
☐ Local/regional party leaders  
☐ Elected delegates  
☐ Party members  
☐ Voters

**45. Can you tell us about your political experience? Are you now or have you ever been a member of any of the following bodies?**

	Yes, at the moment	Yes, in the past	No, never
Local representative body	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Regional representative body	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
National representative body	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Member of the European Parliament	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Member of local government	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Member of regional government	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Member of national government	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**46. Are you a member or do you hold or did you ever hold office in any of the following organizations?**

	I am a member	I am a member and hold an office	I am/I have been a member and have held an office	I am not a member
Local / regional party organization	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
National party organization	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
As a 'lobbyist' in Brussels	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A professional association	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A trade union	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A business organization	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A women's organization	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
An environmental group	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A religious organization	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**47. What would you like to be ten years from now on? Please tick as many boxes as appropriate.**

- ☐ A member of the European Parliament
- ☐ Chair of your party group in the EP
- ☐ Chair of an EP committee
- ☐ Leader of a European organization
- ☐ A member of the European Commission
- ☐ A member of your national parliament
- ☐ Chair of a parliamentary group in your national parliament
- ☐ Chair of a committee in your national parliament
- ☐ Leader of a national organization
- ☐ A member of your national government
- ☐ Want to withdraw from politics

**48. Are you ...**

- ☐ male or
- ☐ female?

**49. In what year were you born?**

19\_\_\_\_\_

**50. In which country were you born?**

- ☐ In [country]
- ☐ Other, please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

**51. What is your citizenship?**

- ☐ [Nationality]
- ☐ Other, please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

**52. What was your citizenship at birth?**

- ☐ [Nationality]
- ☐ Other, please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

**53. In which country were your parents born?**

- ☐ Mother in [country]
- ☐ Father in [country]
- ☐ Mother in \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Father in \_\_\_\_\_

**54. Many people in this country consider themselves to be [nationality] while others don't. How about you? Do you consider yourself [nationality], or do you feel you belong to another group? Or do you perhaps see yourself as [nationality] as well as belonging to this other group?**

- ☐ I see myself as just [nationality]
- ☐ I belong to another group, namely \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ I am [nationality], but I also belong to another group, namely \_\_\_\_\_

**55. What is your current marital status?**

- ☐ Married
- ☐ Unmarried, living with partner
- ☐ Widowed
- ☐ Divorced
- ☐ Separated
- ☐ Single

**56. What is the highest level of education you have completed in your education?**

- ☐ Left school without qualification
- ☐ [Country specific categories]

**57. What is your current work situation? If you hold a full-time political mandate, please note your occupation immediately before being elected.**

**Are you:**

- ☐ self-employed
- ☐ employed
- ☐ in school/still in education
- ☐ working in the household
- ☐ military service
- ☐ retired
- ☐ unemployed
- ☐ other

**58. Are/were you working in ...**

- ☐ agriculture
- ☐ state industry
- ☐ private industry
- ☐ public services
- ☐ private services
- ☐ other
- ☐ inappropriate

**59. Please pick one box for your current job (if retired/unemployed/work in household/full-time political mandate, please, pick one box for your last job)**

- ☐ Still in education
- ☐ I have never had a job
- ☐ Professional and technical (for example: doctor, teacher, engineer, artist, accountant)
- ☐ Higher administrative (for example: banker, executive in big business, high government official, union official)
- ☐ Clerical (for example: secretary, clerk, office manager, civil servant, bookkeeper)
- ☐ Sales (for example: sales manager, shop owner, shop assistant, insurance agent, buyer)
- ☐ Service (for example: restaurant owner, police officer, waitress, barber, caretaker, nurse)
- ☐ Skilled worker (for example: foreman, motor mechanic, printer, seamstress, tool and die-maker, electrician)
- ☐ Semi-skilled worker (for example: bricklayer, bus driver, cannery worker, carpenter, sheet metal worker, baker)
- ☐ Unskilled worker (for example: labourer, porter, unskilled factory worker, cleaner)
- ☐ Farm worker (for example: farm labourer, tractor driver)
- ☐ Farm proprietor, farm manager

**60. If you were asked to choose one of these five names for your social class, which would you say you belong to?**

- ☐ Working class
- ☐ Lower middle class
- ☐ Middle class
- ☐ Upper middle class
- ☐ Upper class

**61. Would you say you live in a ...**

- ☐ rural area or village
- ☐ small or middle-sized town
- ☐ suburb of large town or city
- ☐ large town or city?

**62. How long have you been living in your current residential community?**

\_\_\_\_\_ years

**63. Do you belong to a religion or religious denomination? If yes, which one?**

- ☐ No, do not belong to a denomination

**Yes:**

- ☐ Roman Catholic
- ☐ Protestant
- ☐ Orthodox (Russian/Greek/etc.)
- ☐ Jewish
- ☐ Muslim
- ☐ Hindu
- ☐ Buddhist
- ☐ Other (write in): \_\_\_\_\_

**64. Apart from special occasions such as weddings and funerals, about how often do you attend religious services nowadays?**

- ☐ Several times a week
- ☐ Once a week
- ☐ At least once a month
- ☐ A few times a year
- ☐ Once a year or less
- ☐ Never

**65. Regardless of whether you belong to a particular religion, how religious would you say you are?**

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Not at all religious	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Very religious

**66. Taking everything into account, at about what level is your family's standard of living? If you think of a scale from 1 to 7, where 1 means a poor family, 7 a rich family, and the other numbers are for the positions in between, about where would you place your family?**

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Poor family	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rich family

**Thank you very much!**