



# QUESTIONNAIRE FOR CANDIDATES IN THE 2008 AUSTRIAN ELECTIONS

This questionnaire is part of an international and comparative research project on campaigning, based on a co-operation of the University of Vienna, the Mannheim Centre for European Social Research (MZES) and more than 20 other universities in Europe, America and Asia. It was first conducted in Austria in the context of the 2006 national election (see enclosed brochure).

The questionnaire can be completed quickly and easily by ticking a box or providing a short written answer. It should take you about 30 minutes to answer all the questions. We would very much appreciate if you could spend this short amount of your valuable time to contribute to our research.

Please provide those answers that best reflect your own views or situation. If you do not approve of one of our questions and/or would rather not provide an answer, please turn to the next question.

All your answers and statements will be treated as confidential. The data will only be used for scientific research and analysis. All answers will only be used and published in such a way that a corresponding individual can no longer be identified (this is also illustrated in the enclosed brochure). If you have any further questions, feel free to contact me by e-mail or telephone.

**I would like to thank you for your  
contribution to our research!**

**If you are interested in any of the results, please see page 18.**

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**Once you have completed this questionnaire,  
please send it back to us in the enclosed envelope.  
You do not need to pay any postage or to stamp it.**



## A: Political Background and Activities

A1. For which party did you run in this election?

<b>SPÖ</b>	<b>ÖVP</b>	<b>GRÜNE</b>	<b>FPÖ</b>	<b>BZÖ</b>					
<input type="checkbox"/>									
<b>FRITZ</b>	<b>DC</b>	<b>KPÖ</b>	<b>LIF</b>	<b>RETTÖ</b>	<b>LINKE</b>	<b>STARK</b>	<b>TRP</b>	<b>KHK</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/>									

A2. What is your party (membership)?

<b>SPÖ</b>	<b>ÖVP</b>	<b>GRÜNE</b>	<b>FPÖ</b>	<b>BZÖ</b>					<b>NONE</b>	<b>OTHER*</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
<b>FRITZ</b>	<b>DC</b>	<b>KPÖ</b>	<b>LIF</b>	<b>RETTÖ</b>	<b>LINKE</b>	<b>STARK</b>	<b>TRP</b>	<b>KHK</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/>										

\* If other: please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

A3. In which year did you join this party?

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A4. Have you ever been a member of another party? If yes, of which party or parties?

no	yes	if yes, please specify: party	from ...	until ...
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		(not in CCS)	(not in CCS)
			(not in CCS)	(not in CCS)

A5. How important were the following reasons for your personal decision to become involved in your party?

*(Tick one box in each row!)*

	very important	fairly important	not very important	not at all important
a. The party represented my own values and political opinions.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Family members have been involved in the party.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. My friends have been involved in the party.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. The party offered me a chance to take on political responsibilities.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. I wanted to meet interesting people.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Party membership was helpful for my career.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. I became involved via my activities in a union, club or association.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h. I was invited by the party.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
i. I wanted to support a real political alternative to the other parties.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



A10. Please indicate how many years you have held a ...  
 (Please print "0" for never.)

a. local party office	_____	years
b. regional party office	_____	years
c. national party office	_____	years

A11. And how many years have you been a ...  
 (Please print "0" for never.)

a. Mayor	_____	years
b. member of a regional government	_____	years
c. member of the national government	_____	years
d. member of a local assembly	_____	years
e. member of a regional assembly	_____	years
f. member of the national parliament	_____	years
g. member of the European Parliament	_____	years

A12. Prior to the election campaign, about how much time do you usually devote to party activities in an average month?

none	up to 10 hours	more than 10 hours	more than 20 hours	more than 40 hours
<input type="checkbox"/>				

## B: Campaigning

B1. About how much time did you devote to campaigning per week during the last month before the election?

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

B2. During this final month of the campaign, how many hours per week did you **personally** spend on the following campaign activities?

a. door-knocking, canvassing	_____ hours per week
b. calling up voters on the phone	_____ hours per week
c. direct mailing	_____ hours per week
d. debating with competing candidates in public	_____ hours per week
e. providing information and communicating via the internet	_____ hours per week
f. meeting local party members	_____ hours per week
g. meeting regional party officials or other candidates	_____ hours per week
h. meeting national party officials	_____ hours per week
i. visiting national events in business, sports and culture	_____ hours per week
j. visiting local events in business, sports and culture	_____ hours per week
k. appointments with companies in constituency	_____ hours per week
l. appointments with associations and clubs in constituency	_____ hours per week
m. appointments with NGOs in constituency	_____ hours per week
n. appointments with citizen action groups in constituency	_____ hours per week
o. organising and joining large rallies in the constituency	_____ hours per week
p. local and regional newspaper interviews	_____ hours per week
q. national newspaper interviews	_____ hours per week
r. local and regional radio and TV interviews	_____ hours per week
s. national radio and TV interviews	_____ hours per week
t. other campaign activities	_____ hours per week

B3. Not considering your party's website, did you as a candidate make use of the internet to reach voters?

<i>(Tick one box in each row!)</i>	<b>no</b>	<b>yes</b>
a. I had an own webpage which was largely designed and maintained by the party.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. I had an own webpage which was largely designed and maintained by my local campaign.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. I used EMAIL LISTS to distribute information and organise activities.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. I offered a personal campaign video on the web.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. I conducted a number of online chats with voters.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. I advertised my webpage and/or email address in my campaign leaflets.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. I used a blog during my campaign.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

B4. Now thinking about the overall campaign, did you use any of the following means? If yes, how important were they?

<i>(Tick one box in each row!)</i>	<b>no</b>	<b>yes</b>	<b>very important</b>	<b>fairly important</b>	<b>not very important</b>	<b>not at all important</b>
a. door-knocking, canvassing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
b. own campaign events / rally	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
c. personal campaign posters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
d. personal ads in the local press	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
e. office hours	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
f. social gatherings	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
g. personal flyers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
h. personal spots in radio, TV, and movie houses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
i. personal website	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				

B5. Independently from your party, did your personal campaign produce any of the above campaign means?

<b>no</b>	<b>yes</b>	<b>If yes: which ones?</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<hr/>

B6. Did you raise any issues during your campaign that were specific to your constituency and that were not raised by the national or regional party?

<b>no</b>	<b>yes</b>	<b>If yes, what were the most important ones?</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<hr/>

B7. What was the primary aim of your campaign? Where would you place yourself on a scale from I to II, where I means "to attract as much attention as possible for me as a candidate" and II means "to attract as much as possible attention for my party"? *(Tick just one box.)*

<b>attract as much attention as possible for me</b>						<b>attract as much attention as possible for my party</b>				
<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"/>
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)

B8. How strongly did you emphasise each of the following in your campaign?

*(Tick one box in each row!)*

	not at all	not much	much	very much
a. Taking care of the economic well-being of the constituency.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Advocating the policy demands of the voters in the constituency.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Openness to the voters in the constituency and communicating with them extensively.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Promoting local customs and traditions.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. My own political experience.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. My party's manifesto.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

B9. How long before the election ...

*(Tick one box in each row!)*

	more than two months	more than one month	one or less than one month
a. ... have you been nominated by your party?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. ... did you begin organising your campaign?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. ...did you start campaigning full-time?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

B10. Was your recent nomination as a candidate contested?

*(Tick one box in each row!)*

	not at all	not much	much	very much	no candidacy
a. for federal list	<input type="checkbox"/>				
b. for Land list	<input type="checkbox"/>				
c. for electoral district	<input type="checkbox"/>				

B11. Did you have your own personal campaign team? If yes, how large was it?

<b>no</b>	<b>yes</b>	<b>Number of people:</b> _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

B12. Did you have your own personal campaign funds? If yes: Thinking about your campaign budget, what would be your best estimate (including party funds, donations, and private funds)?

<b>no</b>	<b>yes</b>	<b>Campaign fundes (estimate):</b> _____ €
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

B13. What portion of that sum came from the party, from donations, and from your own private funds?

a. party funds	approx. _____ percent
b. donations	approx. _____ percent
c. private funds	approx. _____ percent

B14. How intensively did you coordinate your campaign with ...

(Tick one box in each row!)

	not at all	not much	much	very much
a. your national party organization?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. your regional party organization?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. the party organization in your district?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. your local party organization?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. other organizations within your party?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. other candidates of your party?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

B15. Did members of the central party leadership visit your constituency during the campaign?

no	yes, once	yes, more than once
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

B16. What was the aim of your personal campaign?

to win as many preferential votes as possible for myself	to win as many preferential votes as possible for another candidate	to win as many party votes as possible	to win as many party as well as preferential votes as possible
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

B17. In the beginning of the campaign, how did you evaluate your chances to win the mandate?

I thought I could not win	I thought I could hardly win	I thought it was an open race	I thought I could hardly lose	I thought I could not lose
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

B18. Did you try to get any sort of media attention?

no	yes
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

If yes, how hard was that attempt?

very easy	fairly easy	fairly hard	very hard
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

B19. Thinking about your personal campaign efforts: What would you estimate as the proportion of party votes in your electoral district that resulted from your own personal dedication and work during the campaign?

\_\_\_\_\_ proportion of party votes (in percent)

B20. How important are the following candidate's attributes for their personal success in a campaign?

<i>(Tick one box in each row!)</i>	<b>very important</b>						<b>not at all important</b>
a. competence	<input type="checkbox"/>						
b. character	<input type="checkbox"/>						
c. leadership	<input type="checkbox"/>						
d. charisma	<input type="checkbox"/>						
e. openness to the voters	<input type="checkbox"/>						
f. experience	<input type="checkbox"/>						
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)

B21. How much did the following factors contribute to the election result of your party?

<i>(Tick one box in each row!)</i>	<b>very much</b>						<b>nothing at all</b>
a. issue positions of the party	<input type="checkbox"/>						
b. top candidate of the party	<input type="checkbox"/>						
c. other candidates of the party	<input type="checkbox"/>						
d. dedication and work of party and officials and party members	<input type="checkbox"/>						
e. the party's ability and competence to govern	<input type="checkbox"/>						
f. the snap elections	<input type="checkbox"/>						
g. campaign strategies of the party	<input type="checkbox"/>						
h. level of media coverage about the party	<input type="checkbox"/>						
i. the positions of some print media during the campaign	<input type="checkbox"/>						
j. the global banking and financial crisis	<input type="checkbox"/>						
k. the legislative enactments in the last pre-electoral meeting of parliament	<input type="checkbox"/>						
l. expectations about the election results	<input type="checkbox"/>						
m. statements of my party concerning potential coalitions	<input type="checkbox"/>						
n. statements of other parties concerning potential coalitions	<input type="checkbox"/>						
o. voters' coalition considerations	<input type="checkbox"/>						
p. electoral law	<input type="checkbox"/>						
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)



C5. People hold different views on political issues. What do you think of the following?

<i>(Tick one box in each row!)</i>	<b>strongly agree</b>	<b>agree</b>	<b>neither</b>	<b>disagree</b>	<b>strongly disagree</b>
a. Immigrants should be required to adapt to the customs of Austria.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. The state should not hold ownership of business companies.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Any market economy can only work with strong regulation by the state.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Stronger measures should be taken to protect the environment.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Same-sex marriages should be prohibited by law.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Women should be given preferential treatment when applying for jobs and promotions.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. People who break the law should be given stiffer sentences.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h. Our democracy needs serious reform.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
i. Immigrants are good for Austria's economy.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
j. The rights and freedoms of individual citizens should be protected under all circumstances.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
k. Globalisation should be promoted.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
l. Providing a stable network of social security should be the prime goal of government.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
m. Fighting unemployment is more important than containing inflation.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
n. Income and wealth should be redistributed towards ordinary people.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
o. 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"/>
p. Torturing a prisoner is never justified, even if it might prevent a terrorist attack	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
q. Austria should provide military assistance to "the war on terror".	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

C6. In politics, people sometimes talk about the 'left' and the 'right'. Where would you place your own views on a scale from I to II, where I means the most left and II means the most right? *(Tick just one box.)*

<b>left</b>											<b>right</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>											
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(11)

C7. Using the same scale, where would you place Austria's parties?  
(Tick one box in each row!) (In CCS: Own party only!)

	left											right
SPÖ	<input type="checkbox"/>											
ÖVP	<input type="checkbox"/>											
GRÜNE	<input type="checkbox"/>											
FPÖ	<input type="checkbox"/>											
BZÖ	<input type="checkbox"/>											
FRITZ	<input type="checkbox"/>											
DC	<input type="checkbox"/>											
KPÖ	<input type="checkbox"/>											
LIF	<input type="checkbox"/>											
RETTÖ	<input type="checkbox"/>											
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	

C8. Generally speaking, do you think that Austria's membership of the European Union is a good thing, a bad thing, or neither good nor bad? (Tick one box only.)

a good thing	a bad thing	neither good nor bad
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

C9. In your opinion, should Austria remain a member of the European Union or should it withdraw from the EU?

remain a member	withdraw from the EU	withdraw under certain circumstances
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

C10. Some say European unification should be pushed further. Others say it already has gone too far. What is your opinion? (Tick one box only.)

has already gone too far											should be pushed further
<input type="checkbox"/>											
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	

C11. All in all, are you very satisfied, fairly satisfied, not very satisfied or not at all satisfied with the way democracy works in the European Union?

very satisfied	fairly satisfied	not very satisfied	not at all satisfied
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

C12. How should changes and revisions of EU treaties be ratified? What is your opinion about substantial changes and revisions of EU treaties, changes and revisions important from an Austrian perspective, and any changes?

<i>(Tick one box in each row!)</i>	<b>act of the national parliament (qualified majority)</b>	<b>act of the national parliament + national referendum</b>	<b>act of the national parliament + EU-wide referendum</b>
a. substantial changes and revisions of EU treaties	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. changes and revisions of EU treaties important from an Austrian perspective	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. any changes and revisions of EU treaties	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

C13. Should the EU be enlarged to include more countries?

<b>yes, definitely</b>	<b>yes, probably</b>	<b>undecided</b>	<b>no, probably not</b>	<b>no, definitely not</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>				

**If yes (definitely and probably): Which further countries should be admitted?**

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## D: Democracy and Representation

D1. On the whole are you very satisfied, fairly satisfied, not very satisfied or not at all satisfied with the way democracy works in Austria?

<b>very satisfied</b>	<b>fairly satisfied</b>	<b>not very satisfied</b>	<b>not at all satisfied</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

D2. What do you generally think about the formation of a government without a parliamentary majority, i.e. a minority government?

<b>The government needs a majority of seats in parliament</b>	<b>A majority of seats in parliament is not that important</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

D3. Thinking about the performance of the national government: Generally speaking, did they do a good job or a bad job in the last legislative term?

<b>did a very good job</b>	<b>did a fairly good job</b>	<b>did a fairly bad job</b>	<b>did a very bad job</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

D4. There are different opinions about whom an elected member of parliament should primarily represent. What is your opinion?

<i>(Tick one box in each row!)</i>	<b>very important</b>						<b>not important</b>
a. Own voters in the constituency.	<input type="checkbox"/>						
b. All citizens in the constituency.	<input type="checkbox"/>						
c. The party electorate at large.	<input type="checkbox"/>						
d. Their party.	<input type="checkbox"/>						
e. Members of a social group.	<input type="checkbox"/>						
f. The Austrian citizenry.	<input type="checkbox"/>						
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)

D5. What should an elected MP accomplish in his/her electoral district? Please rank the following goals from the most important (1) to the least important (5).

a. Providing services and help to people of the constituency coping with individual problems.	_____
b. Advocating the policy demands of the voters in the constituency.	_____
c. Taking care of the economic well-being of the constituency.	_____
d. Openness to the voters in the constituency and communicating with them extensively.	_____
e. Promoting local customs and traditions.	_____

D6. Thinking about how elections in Austria work in practice, how well do you think they ensure that the views of MPs accurately reflect the views of voters?

<b>very well</b>	<b>fairly well</b>	<b>not very well</b>	<b>not well at all</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

D7. How should a Member of Parliament vote in parliament?

*(Tick one box in each row!)*

a. If the voters in his/her constituency have one opinion and his/her party takes a different position?	<input type="checkbox"/>	MP should vote according to his/her party's opinion	<input type="checkbox"/>	MP should vote according to his/her voters opinion
b. If his/her own opinion on an issue does not correspond with the opinion of the voters in his/her constituency?	<input type="checkbox"/>	MP should vote according to his/her own opinion	<input type="checkbox"/>	MP should vote according to the opinion of the voters in his/her constituency
c. If his/her own opinion on an issue does not correspond with his/her party's opinion?	<input type="checkbox"/>	MP should vote according to his/her own opinion	<input type="checkbox"/>	MP should vote according to his/her party's opinion

D8. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements on the work of parliament in the last legislative period?

<i>(Tick one box in each row!)</i>	<b>strongly agree</b>	<b>agree</b>	<b>neither</b>	<b>disagree</b>	<b>strongly disagree</b>
a. Decisions on the EU level have been deliberated sufficiently in the Nationalrat (national parliament).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. The government was ready to compromise with the opposition in legislative decision-making.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. The opposition made constructive contributions towards legislation.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Parliamentary control of the government was sufficient.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. The most important problems in Austria and their potential solutions have been well covered and communicated in the parliamentary debates.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

D9. Recently, demands have been issued for electoral reform in Austria. In your opinion, what is the most important function of an electoral system?

<b>To adequately represent the opinions and preferences of voters in parliament.</b>	<b>To allow the formation of a stable majority government without delay.</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

D10. Should the electoral law be reformed substantially, reformed to some extent, or should it remain unchanged?

<b>electoral law should be reformed substantially</b>	<b>electoral law should be reformed to some extent</b>	<b>electoral law should remain unchanged</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

D11. If you support a reform of the electoral law in Austria, what changes or innovations would you favour?  
*(Please make notes!)*

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D12. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements on direct democracy in Austria?

<i>(Tick one box in each row!)</i>	<b>strongly agree</b>	<b>agree</b>	<b>neither</b>	<b>disagree</b>	<b>strongly disagree</b>
a. Referendums enable citizens to get politicians attention.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
b. Referendums are poorly thought out and make bad law.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
c. Referendums should be used more often for making important decisions.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
d. Parliament, not voters, should make final decisions on law and policy.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
e. Referendums help to stimulate political interest.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
f. A certain number of citizens should be able to initiate a referendum.	<input type="checkbox"/>				

D13. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements on democracy in Austria?

<i>(Tick one box in each row!)</i>	<b>strongly agree</b>	<b>agree</b>	<b>neither</b>	<b>disagree</b>	<b>strongly disagree</b>
a. Citizens have ample opportunity to participate in political decisions.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
b. Our democracy is about to lose the trust of the citizens.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
c. The legislation reflects the interests of the majority of the population.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
d. Political parties are the essential link between citizens and the state.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
e. Special interests have too much influence on law making.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
f. Too many legislative acts in the Austrian parliament require a qualified majority (2/3 of votes).	<input type="checkbox"/>				
g. Austria's membership in the European Union leaves too little leeway for national government and parliament.	<input type="checkbox"/>				

## E: You and Your Background

E1. Are you ...

male       female

E2. Year of birth

1	9		
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E3. Country of birth

                      
in Austria

abroad

If abroad, please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

E4. If born abroad:  
When did you first come to Austria?

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E5. If born abroad:  
When did you become a citizen?

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E6. What is your level of education?  
*(Tick one box only!)*

Primary school completed	Secondary school (incomplete)	Secondary school (complete)	University (incomplete)	University (complete)	Other degree or level of education
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

E7. Irrespective of whether or not you are a Member of Parliament, what is your employment status? Are you ...

	full time	part time
a. self-employed (freelancer)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. self-employed	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. employee (white-colour worker)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. civil servant, public official	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. blue-colour worker (manual worker)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. farmer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. retired	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h. housewife, responsible for home duties	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
i. student, in school, vocational training	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
j. unemployed	<input type="checkbox"/>	
k. others not in the labour force	<input type="checkbox"/>	

E8. What is your religion?

roman catholic	protestant	other christian	muslim	jewish	hinduism	other religions	none
<input type="checkbox"/>							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)

E9. About how often do you attend religious services these days? (Tick one box only!)

at least once a week	at least once a month	at least once a year	less often or never
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

E10. What is your current marital status? (Tick one box only!)

married	divorced	widowed	living in cohabitation	single
<input type="checkbox"/>				

E11. We have one last question for you: can you please, very briefly, indicate what “left” and “right” means in politics to you nowadays?

„Left“ means:

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„Right“ means:

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**This is the end of the questionnaire.**

**Thank you again for your co-operation!**

If you would like to obtain a summary of the results of this survey, please provide an e-mail address below. You can also submit your e-mail address electronically or by mail. Due to financial limitations we are only able to provide the summary by electronic means.

**e-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**If you would like to provide any additional statements, please use this page.**





