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Variable name	Variable Label	Values & value labels	Question text	Additional information
v011_09	IMPORTANCE OF ADDITIONAL MEDIA OUTLET	1 Very important 2 Fairly important 3 Not very important 4 Not at all important -98 Not applicable -99 No valid answer	11.9 How important would you rate the following media for the 2009 EP election campaign in [COUNTRY]? Additional Media Outlet	In Germany, Malta, and Spain, respondents were asked to rate additional media outlets. All other respondents were coded as 'not applicable'.
v011_10	IMPORTANCE OF ADDITIONAL MEDIA OUTLET	1 Very important 2 Fairly important 3 Not very important 4 Not at all important -98 Not applicable -99 No valid answer	11.10 How important would you rate the following media for the 2009 EP election campaign in [COUNTRY]? Additional Media Outlet	In Germany, respondents were asked to rate additional media outlets. All other respondents were coded as 'not applicable'.
v045_1	ARE YOU / HAVE YOU EVER BEEN A MEMBER OF A LOCAL REPRESENTATIVE BODY?	1 Yes, at the moment 2 Yes, in the past 3 No, never -99 No valid answer	45.1 Can you tell us about your political experience? Are you now or have you ever been a member of any of the following bodies? Local representative body	
v045_2	ARE YOU / HAVE YOU EVER BEEN A MEMBER OF A REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE BODY?	1 Yes, at the moment 2 Yes, in the past 3 No, never -99 No valid answer	45.2 Can you tell us about your political experience? Are you now or have you ever been a member of any of the following bodies? Regional representative body	In Cyprus, Estonia, Greece, Luxemburg, Malta, and Slovenia, this question was not asked. Therefore, those respondents were coded as 'not applicable.'
v045_3	ARE YOU / HAVE YOU EVER BEEN A MEMBER OF A NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE BODY?	1 Yes, at the moment 2 Yes, in the past 3 No, never -99 No valid answer	45.3 Can you tell us about your political experience? Are you now or have you ever been a member of any of the following bodies? National representative body	

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v045_4	ARE YOU / HAVE YOU EVER BEEN A MEMBER OF THE EP?	1 Yes, at the moment 2 Yes, in the past 3 No, never -99 No valid answer	45.4 Can you tell us about your political experience? Are you now or have you ever been a member of any of the following bodies? Member of the European Parliament	
v045_5	ARE YOU / HAVE YOU EVER BEEN A MEMBER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT?	1 Yes, at the moment 2 Yes, in the past 3 No, never -99 No valid answer	45.5 Can you tell us about your political experience? Are you now or have you ever been a member of any of the following bodies? Member of local government	In Denmark, this question was not asked. Therefore, those respondents were coded as 'not applicable.'
v045_6	ARE YOU / HAVE YOU EVER BEEN A MEMBER OF REGIONAL GOVERNMENT?	1 Yes, at the moment 2 Yes, in the past 3 No, never -99 No valid answer	45.6 Can you tell us about your political experience? Are you now or have you ever been a member of any of the following bodies? Member of regional government	In Cyprus, Estonia, Greece, Luxemburg, Malta, and Slovenia, this question was not asked. Therefore, those respondents were coded as 'not applicable.'
v045_7	ARE YOU / HAVE YOU EVER BEEN A MEMBER OF NATIONAL GOVERNMENT?	1 Yes, at the moment 2 Yes, in the past 3 No, never -99 No valid answer	45.1 Can you tell us about your political experience? Are you now or have you ever been a member of any of the following bodies? Local representative body	
v046_3	ARE YOU / HAVE YOU EVER BEEN A 'LOBBYIST' IN BRUSSELS?	1 I am a member 2 I am a member and hold an office 3 I am / have been member and have held an office 4 I am not a member -99 No valid answer	46.3 Are you a member or do you hold or did you ever hold office in any of the following organizations? As a 'lobbyist' in Brussels	

v046_4	ARE YOU / WERE YOU A MEMBER / HELD OFFICE IN A PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION?	1 I am a member 2 I am a member and hold an office 3 I am / have been member and have held an office 4 I am not a member -99 No valid answer	46.4 Are you a member or do you hold or did you ever hold office in any of the following organizations? A professional association	
v046_6	ARE YOU / WERE YOU A MEMBER / HELD OFFICE IN A BUSINESS ORGANIZATION?	1 I am a member 2 I am a member and hold an office 3 I am / have been member and have held an office 4 I am not a member -99 No valid answer	46.6 Are you a member or do you hold or did you ever hold office in any of the following organizations? A business organization	
v047_12	(BELGIUM) 10 YEARS FROM NOW I'D WANT TO BE MEMBER OF A REGIONAL PARLIAMENT	1 Yes 2 No -98 Not applicable -99 No valid answer	47.12 What would you like to be ten years from now on? Please tick as many boxes as appropriate. A member of your regional parliament	This question was only asked in Belgium. All other respondents were coded as 'not applicable.'
v047_13	(BELGIUM) 10 YEARS FROM NOW I'D WANT TO BE MEMBER OF A REGIONAL EXECUTIVE	1 Yes 2 No -98 Not applicable -99 No valid answer	47.13 What would you like to be ten years from now on? Please tick as many boxes as appropriate. A member of a regional executive	COUNTRY-SPECIFIC VARIABLE This question was only asked in Belgium. All other respondents were coded as 'not applicable.'
v048	ARE YOU MALE OR FEMALE?	1 Male 2 Female -99 No valid answer	48 Are you …	
v049	IN WHAT YEAR WERE YOU BORN?	19_____ -99 No valid answer	49 In what year were you born?	

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v050a	BORN IN WHICH COUNTRY?	50a In which country were you born?	The code for the country of birth was also inserted for respondents born in country (v050=1). 'Not specified' means in this context, that a respondent was not born in [country] (according to v050) but gave no information on country of birth. Only officially recognized countries were accepted. Sub-territories were coded as the respective country.
v051a	CITIZENSHIP	51a What is your citizenship?	The code for citizenship was also inserted for respondents living in the country they are citizen of (v051=1). 'Not specified' means in this context, that a respondent did not have [NATIONALITY] (according to v051) but gave no information on his nationality. Only officially recognized citizenships were accepted. Sub-territories were coded as the respective country.
v052a	CITIZENSHIP AT BIRTH	52a What was your citizenship at birth?	The code for citizenship at birth was also inserted for respondents that were born as [NATIONALITY] (v051=1). 'Not specified' means in this context, that a respondent did not have [NATIONALITY] at birth(according to v051) but gave no information on his nationality at birth. Only officially recognized citizenships were accepted. Sub-territories were coded as the respective country.

v053_1a	MOTHER BORN IN?		53.1a In which country were your parents born?	The code for 'Mother born in?' was also inserted for respondent's whose mothers were born in [COUNTRY] (v053_1=1). 'Not specified' means in this context, that a respondent's mother was not born in [COUNTRY] (according to v053_1=1) but no information on her country of birth was given. Only officially recognized countries were accepted. Sub-territories were coded as the respective country.
v053_2a	FATHER BORN IN?		53.2a In which country were your parents born?	The code for 'Father born in?' was also inserted for respondent's whose fathers were born in [COUNTRY] (v053_2=1). 'Not specified' means in this context, that a respondent's father was not born in [COUNTRY] (according to v053_2=1) but no information on his country of birth was given. Only officially recognized countries were accepted. Sub-territories were coded as the respective country.
v054a	(ADDITIONALLY,) I BELONG TO ANOTHER GROUP, NAMELY	I belong to another group, namely…	54a 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?	

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v056_1	EDUCATION (ISCED)	0 Left school without qualification … [Country specific categories] -99 No valid answer	56.1 What is the highest level of education you have completed in your education?	The country-specific categories were recoded in to a comparable scale. Detailed information on the coding can be found in the appendix. Please, note that for Denmark and Germany, two items were used to capture educational achievement.
v056_2	1ST EDUCATION QUESTION (NON-COMPARABLE)	0 Left school without qualification … [Country specific categories] -99 No valid answer	56.2 What is the highest level of education you have completed in your education?	
v056_3	2ND EDUCATION QUESTION (DENMARK AND GERMANY)	0 NO vocational training … [Country specific categories] -99 No valid answer	56.3 What is the highest level of education you have completed in your education?	To capture the complex educational system in Denmark and Germany, two items were used to measure educational achievements.
v057	WHAT IS YOUR WORK SITUATION? (BEFORE ELECTION IF HOLDING FULL-TIME MANDATE)	1 self-employed 2 employed 3 in school/still in education 4 working in the household 5 military service 6 retired 7 unemployed 8 other -99 No valid answer	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:	
v058	WHAT SECTOR ARE / WERE YOU WORKING IN?	1 agriculture 2 state industry 3 private industry 4 public services 5 private services 6 other 7 inappropriate	58 Are/were you working in …	

-99 No valid answer

| v059 | WHAT IS YOUR CURRENT JOB (LAST JOB IF UNEMPLOYED, RETIRED, ETC.)? | 1 Still in education
2 I have never had a job
3 Professional and technical (for example: doctor, teacher, engineer, artist, accountant)
4 Higher administrative (for example: banker, executive in big business, high government official, union official
5 Clerical (for example: secretary, clerk, office manager, civil servant, bookkeeper)
6 Sales (for example: sales manager, shop owner, shop assistant, insurance agent, buyer)
7 Service (for example: restaurant owner, police officer, waitress, barber, caretaker, nurse)
8 Skilled worker (for example: foreman, motor mechanic, printer, seamstress, tool and | 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) |

		diemaker, electrician) 9 Semi-skilled worker (for example: bricklayer, bus driver, cannery worker, carpenter, sheet metal worker, baker) 10 Unskilled worker (for example: labourer, porter, unskilled factory worker, cleaner) 11 Farm worker (for example: farm labourer, tractor driver) 12 Farm proprietor, farm manager -99 No valid answer	
v062	HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN LIVING IN YOUR CURRENT RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY?	____ years -99 No valid answer	62 How long have you been living in your current residential community?
v063	DO YOU BELONG TO A RELIGION OR RELIGIOUS DENOMINATION? IF YES, WHICH ONE?	1 No, do not belong to a denomination 2 Roman Catholic 3 Protestant 4 Orthodox (Russian/Greek/etc.) 5 Jewish 6 Muslim 7 Hindu 8 Buddhist 9 Other -99 No valid answer	63 Do you belong to a religion or religious denomination? If yes, which one?

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iso_code	ISO CODE ('1' + 3 DIGITS)		ISO Code ('1' + 3 digits)	This variable identifies countries by using the 3-digit ISO code. '1' was added at the beginning because most statistical software cannot deal with '0'.
country_abr	COUNTRY ABBREVIATION		Country abbreviation	2-digit country abbreviations are used in these variable. This variable is coded as a string variable.
ccode	COUNTRY CODE		Country code	
ptycode	PARTY CODE ('1' + 3-DIGIT ISO-CODE + 3 DIGIT PARTY CODE)	see 'party codes'	Party Code ('1' + 3-digit ISO-Code + 3 digit party code)	This variable presents the party codes used in all modules of the 2009 EES. To enable direct linkage to the countries of origin, the party code consists of the ISO Code ('iso_code') as well as information on the respective party. The 5th digit gives information on the party family. A detailed overview is presented in the appendix.
ptyname_eng	PARTY NAME (IN ENGLISH)	see 'party codes'	Party name (in English)	This variable shows the names of the party the candidate is running for.
ptyname_special	PARTY NAME (AS USED IN CANDIDATE STUDY)	see 'party codes'	Party name (as used in candidate study)	This variable shows the names of the party the candidate is running for. The names are given in the original language. Please, note that the statistical software which was used to produce this dataset is not able to deal with cirillic or other non-western scripts. Hence, not all of the names will be presented correctly.

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ptyname1	PARTY NAME (AS USED IN CANDIDATE STUDY), DETAILS	see 'party codes'	Party name (as used in candidate study), details	This variable gives additional information for the party the candidate is running for, e.g. if the party was part of an electoral coalition, the name of the coalition will be presented in the variables 'ptyname_eng' and 'ptyname' while this variable contains information on the respective party of the candidate.
no_of_constituency	CONSTITUENCY ('1' + ISO + NUMBER)		Constituency ('1' + ISO + number)	This variable contains information on the constituency a candidate is running in. Please, note that this information was included whenever available and not only for those countries in which more than one constituencies is used as a 'real' electoral constituency. The latter group consists of Belgium, France, Ireland and the UK. The values for each constituency are based on the ISO code and a 2-digit number for each constituency.
mep	WAS THE CANDIDATE ELECTED?	1 MEP 2 No MEP	Was the candidate elected	This variable contains information on whether the candidate has been a member of the EP at the first session after the 2009 elections.
ep_party_group	EP PARTY GROUP (MISSING IF NOT ELECTED)	1 EPP 2 S&D 3 ALDE 4 Greens-EFA 5 ECR 6 GUE / NGL 7 EFD 8 Non-Attached	EP party group (missing if not elected)	This variable contains information on the respondent's EP party group. The information is only available if he or she was elected.

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- 99 Not elected

toc	TYPE OF CANDIDATE (1 = SAVE; 2 = DOUBTFUL; 3 = UNPROMISING)	1 Save 2 Doubtful 3 Unpromising -99 Missing information	Type of candidate (1 = save; 2 = doubtful; 3 = unpromising)	This variable presents information on the candidate's probability to get elected. The categorization is based on the candidates list position in relation to the potential number of seats won by his or her party. For countries with completely open lists or equivalent systems, all candidates were set on the same list position. The potential seats are based on pre-election seat predictions made by Hix et al. (2009). To incorporate uncertainty, the standard deviation of discrepancy between the predictions and the seats that were actually won was calculated for each country. Candidates with a list position below the predicted seats minus one standard deviation (rounded) were classified as save. Candidates with a list position above the predicted seats plus one standard deviation (rounded) were classified as unpromising. All other candiates were classified as doubtful.

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weight_mep	MEP WEIGHT	MEP Weight	This weight corrects for the number of MEPs in a country in relation the number of MEPs in the dataset on a country-base. For example, the MEPs of Country A represent 10% of the candidates contacted in a country. The proportion of MEPs in Country A in the dataset is 13%. For those MEPs, this would result in a weight of 10/13=.769.
weight_gender	GENDER WEIGHT	Gender Weight	This weight corrects for the number of male and female candidates in a country in relation the number of male and female candidates in the dataset on a country-base. For example, the male candidates of Country A represent 60% of the candidates contacted in a country. The proportion of male candidates in Country A in the dataset is 56%. For those candidates, this would result in a weight of 60/56=1.071. Please, not that necessary information was not available for all respondents.

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weight_eu_pop	COUNRY WEIGHT BASED ON SIZE OF POPULATION	Country weight based on size of population	This weight can be used to correct for population size of a country. The calculation is based on the proportion of the population of a country of the population of the EU related to the proportion of respondents of the respective country of all respondents. For example, the population proportion of Country A is 8%. The proportion of the candidates of Country A in the dataset is 6%. For those candidates, this would result in a weight of 8/6=1.333.
weight_eu_meps	COUNRY WEIGHT BASED ON NUMBER OF MEPS	Country weight based on number of MEPs	This weight can be used to correct for number of MEPs of a country. The calculation is based on the proportion of the MEPs of a country of the all MEPs related to the proportion of respondents of the respective country of all respondents. For example, the proportion of MEPs of Country A is 8%. The proportion of the candidates of Country A in the dataset is 6%. For those candidates, this would result in a weight of 8/6=1.333.

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weight_eu_elec	COUNRY WEIGHT BASED ON SIZE OF ELECTORATE	Country weight based on size of electorate	This weight can be used to correct for size of the electorate of a country. The calculation is based on the proportion of the electorate of a country of the electorate of the EU related to the proportion of respondents of the respective country of all respondents. For example, the proportion of the electorate of Country A is 8%. The proportion of the candidates of Country A in the dataset is 6%. For those candidates, this would result in a weight of 8/6=1.333.