

**ZA4566**

**European Election Study 2004**

**Basic Questionnaire**

QUESTIONNAIRE  
OF THE  
VOTERS STUDY  
OF THE  
EUROPEAN ELECTIONS STUDY 2004

21 April 2004

This questionnaire was prepared by the Planning Committee of the 2004 European Election Study. It was discussed during the meeting of the National Directors of the Study in Mannheim in early March 2004 and thereafter, and revised accordingly.

Q01\_x What do you think are the most important problems [in country] at present?

Any other important problems? [INT: note as many problems as R mentions.] <Source A1-A4: EES99>

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998 dk

999 na

Q01 If more than one problem mentioned: Of those you have mentioned what would you say is the single most important problem?

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998 dk

999 na

Q02 Which political party do you think would be best at dealing with <the most important problem>?

1 party A

2 party B

...

98 dk

99 na

Q03 As of today, is <the most important issue> mainly dealt with by regional, national, or European political authorities?

1 regional

2 national

3 European

8 dk

9 na

Q04 And who do you think would be most appropriate to deal with <the most important issue>: regional, national, or European political authorities?

1 regional

2 national

3 European

8 dk

9 na

Q05 Normally, how many days of the week do you watch the news on television? <Source C1-C5: EES'99>

0

.

.

7

8 dk

9 na

Q05\_x Which channels or television news programmes do you watch regularly? [open, precodes, multiple answers possible]

- 1 Channel 1
- 2 Channel 2
- ...
- 98 dk
- 99 na

Q06 And how many days of the week do you read a newspaper?

- 0
- ...
- 7
- 8 dk
- 9 na

Q06\_x Which newspaper or newspapers do you read regularly? [open, precodes, multiple answers possible]

- 1 Newspaper 1
- 2 Newspaper 2
- ...
- 998 dk
- 999 na

How often did you do any of the following during the three or four weeks before the European election?  
How often did you:

Q07\_1 ... watch a program about the election on television? Often, sometimes, or never?

- 1 often
- 2 sometimes
- 3 never
- 8 dk
- 9 na

Q07\_2 ... read about the election in a newspaper? Often, sometimes, or never?

- 1 often
- 2 sometimes
- 3 never
- 8 dk
- 9 na

Q07\_3... talk to friends or family about the election?

- 1 often
- 2 sometimes
- 3 never
- 8 dk
- 9 na

Q07\_4 ... attend a public meeting or rally about the election?

- 1 often
- 2 sometimes

- 3 never
- 8 dk
- 9 na

Q07\_5 ... look into a website concerned with the election?

- 1 often
- 2 sometimes
- 3 never
- 8 dk
- 9 na

Q08 Thinking back to just before the elections for the European Parliament were held, how interested were you in the campaign for those elections: very, somewhat, a little, or not at all?

- 1 very
- 2 somewhat
- 3 a little
- 4 not at all
- 8 dk
- 9 na

Q09 A lot of people abstained in the European Parliament elections of June 13 [check date if workday voting applied], while others voted. Did you cast your vote? <Source Q10 to Q13d: EES99 and earlier studies>

- 1 yes, voted
  - 2 no, did not vote
  - 8 dk
  - 9 na
- } go to Q11

Q10 Which party did you vote for?

- 1 Party 1
- 2 Party 2
- ...
- 95 refused
- 96 did vote blanc or nil
- 97 did not vote
- 98 do not remember
- 99 no answer

Q11 Which party did you vote for at the [General Election] of [Year of Last General Election]?

- 1 Party 1
- 2 Party 2
- ...
- 95 refused
- 96 did vote blanc or nil
- 97 did not vote
- 98 do not remember
- 99 no answer

Q12 And if there was a general election tomorrow, which party would you vote for?

- 1 Party 1

- 2 Party 2
- ...
- 95 refused
- 96 would vote blanc or nil
- 97 would not vote
- 98 do not know
- 99 no answer

Q12\_1 We have a number of parties in [country] each of which would like to get your vote. How probable is it that you will ever vote for the following parties? Please specify your views on a 10-point-scale where 1 means "not at all probable" and 10 means "very probable". If you think of [Party 1]: what mark out of ten best describes how probable it is that you will ever vote for [Party 1]?

- 1 not at all probable
- 2
- ...
- 10 very probable
- 98 dk
- 99 na

Q12\_2 And [Party 2]: what mark out of ten best describes how probable it is that you will ever vote for [Party 2]?

- 1 not at all probable
- 2
- ...
- 10 very probable
- 98 dk
- 99 na

Q12\_x [Party x]

- 1 not at all probable
- 2
- ...
- 10 very probable
- 98 dk
- 99 na

Please tell me on a score of 1-10 how much you personally trust each of the institutions I read out. 1 means that you do not trust an institution at all, and 10 means you have complete trust. If you do not know an institution well enough, just say so and I will go on to the next. <Source T1 to T5: ESS adapted>

Q13\_1 Firstly, the [country] parliament?

- 1 no trust at all
- 2
- ...
- 10 complete trust
- 98 dk
- 99 na

Q13\_2 The European Parliament?

- 1 no trust at all

2  
...  
10 complete trust  
98 dk  
99 na

Q13\_3 The [country] government?  
1 no trust at all  
2  
...  
10 complete trust  
98 dk  
99 na

Q13\_4 The European Commission?  
1 no trust at all  
2  
...  
10 complete trust  
98 dk  
99 na

Q13\_5 The Council of Ministers?  
1 no trust at all  
2  
...  
10 complete trust  
98 dk  
99 na

Q14 In political matters people talk of "the left" and "the right". What is your position? Please indicate your views using any number on a 10-point-scale. On this scale, where 1 means "left" and 10 means "right," which number best describes your position?

1 left  
2  
...  
10 right  
97 refused  
98 dk  
99 na

Q14\_1 And about where would you place the following parties on this scale? How about the [Party 1]?

1 left  
2  
...  
10 right  
98 dk  
99 na

Q14\_2 [Party 2]?

- 1 left
- 2
- ...
- 10 right
- 98 dk
- 99 na

Q14\_x [Party x]?

- 1 left
- 2
- ...
- 10 right
- 98 dk
- 99 na

Q15 What do you think about the economy? Compared to 12 months ago, do you think that the general economic situation in this country is <Source Q16a,b: EES94>

- 1 a lot better
- 2 a little better
- 3 stayed the same
- 4 a little worse
- 5 a lot worse
- 8 dk
- 9 na

Q16 And over the next 12 months, how do you think the general economic situation in this country will be?

- 1 get a lot better
- ...
- 5 get a lot worse
- 8 dk
- 9 na

Q17 When jobs are scarce, employers should give priority to [country] people over citizens from other EU member-countries who want to work here <Source CL1 to CL3: WVS 2000, adapted>

- 1 agree very much
- 2 agree
- 3 disagree
- 4 disagree very much
- 8 dk
- 9 na

Q18 Citizens from other EU member-countries who live in [country] should be entitled to vote in local elections.

- 1 agree very much
- 2 agree
- 3 disagree
- 4 disagree very much
- 8 dk
- 9 na



Q19 Citizens from other EU member-countries who live in [country] should not be entitled to social security or unemployment benefits.

- 1 agree very much
- 2 agree
- 3 disagree
- 4 disagree very much
- 8 dk
- 9 na

Q20 To what extent would you say you are interested in politics? Very, somewhat, a little, or not at all?  
<Source: EES89, EES94, and EES99>

- 1 very
- 2 somewhat
- 3 a little
- 4 not at all
- 8 dk
- 9 na

Q21 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? <Source: EES89, EES94, and EES99>

- 1 good thing
- 2 bad thing
- 3 neither
- 8 dk
- 9 na

Q22 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 10-point-scale. On this scale, 1 means unification 'has already gone too far' and 10 means it 'should be pushed further'. What number on this scale best describes your position? <Source: EES99>

- 1 unification has already gone too far
- 2
- ...
- 10 unification should be pushed further
- 98 dk
- 99 na

Q22\_1 And about where would you place the following parties on this scale? How about the [Party 1]?

- 1 unification has already gone too far
- 2
- ...
- 10 unification should be pushed further
- 98 dk
- 99 na

Q22\_2 [Party 2]?

- 1 unification has already gone too far
- 2
- ...
- 10 unification should be pushed further

98 dk

99 na

Q22\_x [Party x]?

1 unification has already gone too far

2

...

10 unification should be pushed further

98 dk

99 na

Q23 Do you ever think of yourself not only as a [country] citizen, but also as a citizen of the European Union? <Source: Eurobarometers >

1 often

2 sometimes

3 never

8 dk

9 na

Q24 Are you personally proud or not to be a citizen of the European Union? Would you say you are <Source: Eurobarometers and EES94>

1 very proud

2 fairly proud

3 not very proud

4 not at all proud

8 dk

9 na

Q25a IN OLD MEMBER COUNTRIES WITH REFERENDUM ON NICE [=IRELAND ONLY]

Thinking back to the second referendum held in [IRELAND] on the Nice Treaty in which the Eastern enlargement of the EU is laid down, do you remember whether you cast your vote and whether you voted in favour or against?

1 did not cast a vote

2 voted in favour

3 voted against

8 dk

9 na

Q25b IN OLD MEMBER COUNTRIES Thinking back to the referendum held in [country] on the question of EU membership, do you remember whether you cast a vote and whether you voted in favour or against?

1 did not cast a vote

2 voted in favour

3 voted against

8 dk

9 na

Q25c IN NEW MEMBER COUNTRIES Thinking back to the referendum held in [country] on the question of EU membership, do you remember whether you cast a vote and whether you voted in favour or against?

- 1 did not cast a vote
- 2 voted in favour
- 3 voted against
- 8 dk
- 9 na

Q26\_x Now I would like to ask you a question about how much trust you have in people from various countries. Can you please tell me for each, whether you have a lot of trust of them or not very much trust. If you do not know a country well enough, just say so and I will go on to the next. How about the Austrians: do have a lot of trust of them or not very much trust? And the Belgians? ... <Eurobarometer trend modified, question wording kept, four-fold scale collapsed to dichotomy>

		a lot of trust (0)	not very much trust (1)	dk (8)	na (9)
q26_1	Austrians	( )	( )	( )	( )
q26_2	Belgians	( )	( )	( )	( )
q26_3	Country	( )	( )	( )	( )
q26_4	Bulgarians	( )	( )	( )	( )
q26_5	Croatians	( )	( )	( )	( )
q26_6	Cypriots	( )	( )	( )	( )
q26_7	Czechs	( )	( )	( )	( )
q26_8	Danes	( )	( )	( )	( )
q26_9	Dutch	( )	( )	( )	( )
q26_10	Estonians	( )	( )	( )	( )
q26_11	Finns	( )	( )	( )	( )
q26_12	French	( )	( )	( )	( )
q26_13	Germans	( )	( )	( )	( )
q26_14	Greek	( )	( )	( )	( )
q26_15	Hungarians	( )	( )	( )	( )
q26_16	Irish	( )	( )	( )	( )
q26_17	Italians	( )	( )	( )	( )
q26_18	Latvians	( )	( )	( )	( )
q26_19	Lithuanians	( )	( )	( )	( )
q26_20	Luxembourgers	( )	( )	( )	( )
q26_21	Maltese	( )	( )	( )	( )
q26_22	Norwegians	( )	( )	( )	( )
q26_23	Poles	( )	( )	( )	( )
q26_24	Portuguese	( )	( )	( )	( )
q26_25	Romanians	( )	( )	( )	( )
q26_26	Serbs	( )	( )	( )	( )
q26_27	Slovaks	( )	( )	( )	( )
q26_28	Slovenes	( )	( )	( )	( )
q26_29	Spaniards	( )	( )	( )	( )
q26_30	Swedes	( )	( )	( )	( )
q26_31	Swiss	( )	( )	( )	( )
q26_32	Turks	( )	( )	( )	( )

Q27 On the whole, how satisfied are you with the way democracy works in [country]? Are you <Source RS1 and RS2: EES89, EES94, EES99>

- 1 very satisfied
- 2 fairly satisfied
- 3 not very satisfied
- 4 not at all satisfied
- 8 dk
- 9 na

Q28 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?

- 1 very satisfied
- 2 fairly satisfied
- 3 not very satisfied
- 4 not at all satisfied
- 8 dk
- 9 na

Q29 Let us now come back to [country]. Do you approve or disapprove the government's record to date? <Source: EES89 and EES99>

- 1 approve
- 2 disapprove
- 8 dk
- 9 na

Q30 Do you consider yourself to be close to any particular party? If so, which party do you feel close to? <Source Q30a+b: EES89, EES94, and EES99>

- 1 Party 1
  - 2 Party 2
  - ...
  - 96 no
  - 97 refused
  - 98 dk
  - 99 na
- } GO TO Q31

Q30a Do you feel yourself to be very close to this party, fairly close, or merely a sympathiser?

- 1 very close
- 2 fairly close
- 3 merely a sympathiser
- 8 dk
- 9 na

Q31 How much confidence do you have that decisions made by the European Union will be in the interest of [country]? <Source Q31 and Q32: EES94>

- 1 a great deal of confidence
- 2 a fair amount
- 3 not very much
- 4 no confidence at all
- 8 dk
- 9 na

Q32 And how much confidence do you have that decisions made by the European Union will be in the interest of people like you?

- 1 a great deal of confidence
- 2 a fair amount
- 3 not very much
- 4 no confidence at all
- 8 dk
- 9 na

D01 Are you yourself a member of a trade union or is anyone else in your household a member of a trade union?

- 1 yes, I am
- 2 yes, someone else is
- 3 yes both (1) and (2)
- 4 no
- 8 dk
- 9 na

D02 How old were you when you stopped full-time education?

- xy [age in years]
- 97 still studying
- 98 dk
- 99 na

D03 Are you ...

- 1 male
- 2 female
- 8 dk
- 9 na

D04 What year were you born?

- wxyz [year]
- 9998 dk
- 9999 na

D04a In which country were you born?

- 1 [Country]
- 2 other, please specify
- 98 dk
- 99 na

D04b IF OTHER When did you first come to [country]?

- wxyz [year]
- 9998 dk
- 9999 na

D05 How many people live in your household including yourself, who are 18 years of age or older?

- 1
- 2

- ...
- 9 and more
- 98 dk
- 99 na

D06 What is your current work situation? Are you:

- 1 self-employed
- 2 employed
- 3 in school
- 4 working in the household
- 5 retired
- 6 unemployed
- 7 other
- 98 dk
- 99 na

D06a IF SELF-EMPLOYED, UNEMPLOYED or RETIRED: Are/were you working in ...

- 1 agriculture
- 2 state industry
- 3 private industry
- 4 public services
- 5 private services
- 6 other
- 7 inap
- 8 dk
- 9 na

D07 If you were asked to chose one of these five names for your social class, which would you say you belong to - the working class, the lower middle class, the middle class, the upper middle class or the upper class?

- 1 working class
- 2 lower middle class
- 3 middle class
- 4 upper middle class
- 5 upper class
- 6 other
- 7 refused to be classified
- 8 dk
- 9 na

D08 Would you say you live in a rural area or village, in a small or middle size town, or in a large town?

- 1 rural area or village
- 2 small or middle size town
- 3 large town
- 8 dk
- 9 na

D09 Do you consider yourself as belonging to a particular religion? (If yes:) Which one?

- 1 roman catholic
- 2 protestant

- 3 orthodox
- 4 jewish
- 5 muslim
- 6 buddhist
- 7 hindu
- 8 other
- 9 none
- 98 dk
- 99 na

D10 How often do you attend religious services: several times a week, once a week, a few times a year, once a year or less, or never?

- 1 several times a week
- 2 once a week
- 3 a few times a year
- 4 once a year or less
- 5 never
- 8 dk
- 9 na

D11 We also need some information about the income of this household to be able to analyse the survey results for different types of households. Please count the total wages and salaries per month of all members of this household; all pensions and social insurance benefits; child allowances and any other income like rents etc ... Of course your answer as all other replies in this survey will be treated confidentially and referring back to you or your household will be impossible. Can you please tell me, what about is the monthly income of your household?

- |        |                       |
|--------|-----------------------|
| uvwxyp | [in country currency] |
| 999997 | refusal               |
| 999998 | dk                    |
| 999999 | na                    |

At the end of the interview, there are usually a number of technical variables filled in by the interviewer. Those of common interest for the study as a whole are:

T01 Date of Interview

T02 Time Interview Started

T03 Duration of Interview -- minutes

T04 Region of Interview (e.g., Bundesland in Germany)

**Additional Questions (for a select number of countries):**

Thinking about the campaign before European elections, how much do you agree with the following statements:

CDV1: The candidates were very superficial in their debates

- 1 agree very much
- 2 agree
- 3 disagree
- 4 disagree very much
- 8 dk
- 9 na

CDV2: The electoral campaign was more concerned with political strategies than with actual problems

- 1 agree very much
- 2 agree
- 3 disagree
- 4 disagree very much
- 8 dk
- 9 na