



## Invitation

# Welcome to our survey!

Thank you for your interest in participating in this study.

Please read this information before deciding whether to participate.



## Purpose of the Study

-  This research aims to understand better political opinions.
-  We are also interested in how people interact with "chatbots": a chatbot is a computer program that simulates a conversation.




## Study Procedures

As a participant, you will be asked to complete a short survey. Additionally, you will interact with a chatbot designed to simulate meaningful conversations on everyday life topics. Following the chatbot conversation, we will ask about your experience.


## Risks of Participating

-  Participation in this study involves minimal risk, and this study was approved by the responsible Ethical Committee .
-  However, it's important to understand that the chatbot does not represent the views of the research team: there may be instances where the chatbot's responses are unexpected or inaccurate. The research team does not directly control the chatbot responses.

## Confidentiality and Data Usage

-  You have the right to withdraw from the study at any time, without any negative consequences and without needing to provide a reason. Your participation in this study is entirely voluntary.
-  Should you choose to withdraw, any data collected from you will be excluded from the study.
-  We ask your permission to use the anonymized data for scientific publications and to share it in scientific databases.

## Who is Leading this Study?

 Behind this study there is an international team of researchers. The project is financed by the Swiss National Science Foundation and the Principal Investigator is Dr. Andrea De Angelis, a scientist affiliated with the Department of Political Science at the University of Zurich.

## What if there is a Problem?

If you have any concerns or questions about the study, please contact Dr. Andrea De Angelis at [deangelis@ipz.uzh.ch](mailto:deangelis@ipz.uzh.ch). We will respond to your inquiry promptly.

If you are dissatisfied with the response or wish to file a formal complaint, please contact the Chair of the Research Ethics Committee at the University of Zurich, Prof. Dr. Christopher Hopwood, at [chair.ethics.committee@phil.uzh.ch](mailto:chair.ethics.committee@phil.uzh.ch).

## Consent

By checking the box below and continuing with the study, you acknowledge that you have read and understood the information provided in this document. You agree to participate in the study under the terms described.

- ☐ Yes, I have read and understood the information provided and consent to participate in this study
- ☐ No, I don't consent to this terms and will not participate in this study

## Prolific ID

What is your Prolific ID?

*Please note that this response should auto-fill with the correct ID*

## Pre-treatment

For us to get the most accurate measures of your opinions, it is important that you provide thoughtful answers to each question in the survey.

Do you commit to providing thoughtful answers to the questions in this survey?

- ☐ No, I will not
- ☐ Yes, I will
- ☐ I can't promise either way

To start, how often do you pay attention to what's going on in government and politics?

- ☐ 1. Always
- ☐ 2. Most of the time
- ☐ 3. About half of the time
- ☐ 4. Some of the time
- ☐ 5. Never

The next three questions allow you to **express your thoughts in your own words**.

We encourage you to take a moment to reflect on your answers, providing thoughtful responses that reflect your personal perspectives. A few sentences on each topic would be appreciated—we're not looking for long essays. Your opinions are crucial to us; please share them freely.

In your opinion, **what role should the government play in assisting those in need?**

Consider programs like healthcare, unemployment benefits, and support for low-income families.

- Should there be an expansion of these government programs, reflecting a more active role in providing aid?
- Or do you believe in reducing government intervention, favoring lower taxes and limited involvement?

Please share your initial thoughts on this matter. We're looking for your honest, spontaneous reflections.

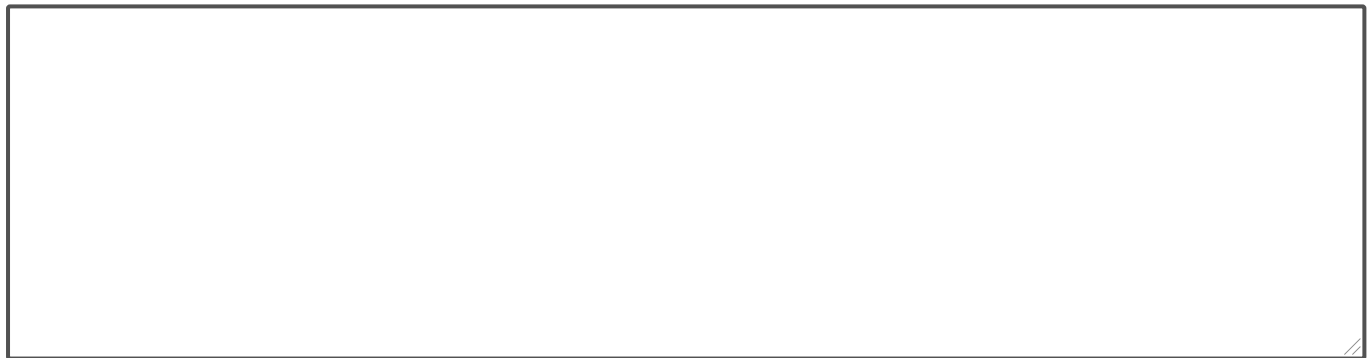


And how do you feel about **changes and traditions in our society**?

Considering issues such as marriage, education, abortion, and equal rights regardless of gender or sexual orientation.

- Do you find yourself supporting more traditional views on these matters?
- Or are you in favor of new principles and ideas?

Please share your initial thoughts on this matter. We're looking for your honest, spontaneous reflections.



And what do you think about the **upcoming presidential election**?

How do you feel about the potential candidates, President **Biden** and former President **Trump**?

Please share your initial thoughts on this matter. We're looking for your honest, spontaneous reflections.



Generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself as a Democrat, a Republican, an independent, or what?

- ☐ Democrat
- ☐ Republican
- ☐ Independent
- ☐  Other

Would you call yourself a strong Democrat or a not very strong Democrat?

- ☐ Strong Democrat
- ☐ Not very strong Democrat

Would you call yourself a strong Republican or a not very strong Republican?

- ☐ Strong Republican
- ☐ Not very strong Republican

Do you think of yourself as closer to the Republican Party or to the Democratic Party?

- ☐ Closer to Republican
- ☐ Closer to Democrats
- ☐ Neither

In your opinion, what is the most important issue facing the United States today?

Considering the four political issues listed below, which one do you believe is the most important for the United States to address?

- ☐ Climate change and environmental issues
- ☐ The state of democracy in America

- ☐ Immigration and border security
- ☐ International relations and national security

How do you believe the U.S. should address the issue of climate change?

- ☐ 1. Urgent Action: Prioritize immediate and extensive environmental policies, even if it impacts jobs and the economy.
- ☐ 2. Balanced Approach: Support environmental policies but balance them with economic and job considerations.
- ☐ 3. Economic Focus: Prioritize economic growth and job preservation over immediate enactment of extensive environmental policies.
- ☐ 4. Climate Skepticism: Question the urgency or extent of climate change and oppose significant policies that could impact the economy

What is your perspective for American democracy if Donald Trump runs for, and potentially wins, the presidency again?

- ☐ 1. Significant Concern: A potential political return of Donald Trump is a serious concern for American democracy.
- ☐ 2. Cautiously Concerned: Have reservations about Donald Trump's influence, but trust in the democratic process to manage these concerns.
- ☐ 3. Neutral or No Threat: Do not see Donald Trump's potential return as a significant threat to American democracy.
- ☐ 4. Supportive: A potential return of Donald Trump is positive and beneficial for American democracy.

What is your view on immigration policy in the United States?

- ☐ 1. Open Policy: Support highly open immigration policies with minimal restrictions on entry into the United States.
- ☐ 2. Controlled Policy: Favor immigration but with reasonable controls and vetting to manage it effectively.
- ☐ 3. Restrictive Policy: Believe current immigration levels are too high and advocate for stricter policies to reduce immigration.
- ☐ 4. Zero Tolerance: I support reinstating the immigration policies from the Trump administration, including travel bans, deportations and stricter border controls.

What approach do you believe the United States should take in addressing national security

issues with Russia and China?

- ☐ 1. Aggressive Posture: Advocate for a strong and aggressive stance against perceived national security threats from Russia and China.
- ☐ 2. Diplomatic Engagement: Support a firm but diplomatic approach, prioritizing dialogue and negotiations with Russia and China.
- ☐ 3. Emphasis on Cooperation: Favor focusing more on cooperation and collaboration rather than confrontation with Russia and China.
- ☐ 4. Limited Threat View: Do not view Russia and China as significant threats and oppose aggressive policies towards them.

Thank you for sharing your perspective on the most important problem facing our country.

To further explore your views and ideas on this topic, you will now have the opportunity to engage in a **conversation with a chatbot** to discuss further your thoughts and opinions on the issue you've identified as most critical. The conversation is limited to just **five messages from the chatbot**.

Your insights are invaluable to us, and this interactive dialogue will help us understand your perspective better.

## Block 7 - Variables

Testing the chatbot variables:

**Your conversation with our chatbot is about to begin.** Please note:

- 1. It could take up to 20 seconds for the chatbot to initiate the conversation.
- 2. Responses from the chatbot may take a few seconds. We kindly ask for your patience and request that you wait for the chatbot to respond before submitting additional text.
- 3. If at any point you feel uncomfortable, you have the option to exit the survey by simply closing your browser window.

Please wait on this page...

ResponseVariableNames: \${e://Field/varResponseSubject}  
& \${e://Field/varResponseSubjectPosition}

ResponsePolviews:

`{q://QID3/ChoiceTextEntryValue}` `{q://QID6/ChoiceTextEntryValue}`  
`{q://QID45/ChoiceTextEntryValue}` `{q://QID77/ChoiceTextEntryValue}`  
`{q://QID46/ChoiceTextEntryValue}` `{q://QID78/ChoiceTextEntryValue}`

PartyID: `{q://QID79/ChoiceGroup/SelectedChoices}`  
& `{q://QID28/ChoiceGroup/SelectedChoices}`, `{q://QID29/ChoiceGroup/SelectedChoices}`

PolViews: `{q://QID25/ChoiceTextEntryValue}`

Subject: `{q://QID31/ChoiceGroup/SelectedChoices}`

Subject

Position: `{q://QID32/ChoiceGroup/SelectedChoices}`, `{q://QID33/ChoiceGroup/SelectedChoices}`

SessionID: `{e://Field/SessionID}`

## Block 6 - CONTROL GROUP Chatbot Interactions

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Please wait on this page...

## Block 7 - MANIPULATIVE REINFORCING Chatbot Interactions



**Your conversation with our chatbot is about to begin.** Please note:

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2. Responses from the chatbot may take a few seconds. We kindly ask for your patience and request that you wait for the chatbot to respond before submitting additional text.
3. If at any point you feel uncomfortable, you have the option to exit the survey by simply closing your browser window.

Please wait on this page...

## **Block 8 - MANIPULATIVE PERSUASIVE Chatbot Interactions**

**Your conversation with our chatbot is about to begin.** Please note:

1. It could take up to 20 seconds for the chatbot to initiate the conversation.
2. Responses from the chatbot may take a few seconds. We kindly ask for your patience and request that you wait for the chatbot to respond before submitting additional text.
3. If at any point you feel uncomfortable, you have the option to exit the survey by simply closing your browser window.

Please wait on this page...

## **Block 9 - REASONED Chatbot Interactions**

**Your conversation with our chatbot is about to begin.** Please note:

1. It could take up to 20 seconds for the chatbot to initiate the conversation.
2. Responses from the chatbot may take a few seconds. We kindly ask for your patience and request that you wait for the chatbot to respond before submitting additional text.
3. If at any point you feel uncomfortable, you have the option to exit the survey by simply closing your browser window.

Please wait on this page...

## **Feedback**

Now that you've had a conversation about climate change, **we'd like to hear more about your personal views on this issue.**

In light of your recent discussion, **please share your thoughts and any additional insights you may have.**

We're interested in your opinions and perspectives, not the chatbot's responses or your experience of the conversation with the chatbot.

What are your views regarding climate change and environmental issues?


A large, empty rectangular text input box with a thin black border, intended for the respondent to provide their views on climate change and environmental issues.

Now that you've had a conversation about the state of democracy in America, **we'd like to hear more about your personal views on this issue.**

In light of your recent discussion, **please share your thoughts and any additional insights you may have.**

We're interested in your opinions and perspectives, not the chatbot's responses or your experience of the conversation with the chatbot.

What are your views on the state of democracy in America?

A large, empty rectangular text input box with a thin black border, intended for the respondent to provide their views on the state of democracy in America.

Now that you've had a conversation about immigration and border security, **we'd like to hear more about your personal views on this issue.**

In light of your recent discussion, **please share your thoughts and any additional insights you may have.**

We're interested in your opinions and perspectives, not the chatbot's responses or your experience of the conversation with the chatbot.

What are your views on immigration and border security?



Now that you've had a conversation about international relations and national security, **we'd like to hear more about your personal views on this issue.**

In light of your recent discussion, **please share your thoughts and any additional insights you may have.**

We're interested in your opinions and perspectives, not the chatbot's responses or your experience of the conversation with the chatbot.

What are your views on the state of international relations and national security?



Still talking about environment protection, some people think we need **much tougher government regulations on business in order to protect the environment.**

Others think that **current regulations to protect the environment are already too much of a burden on business.**

And, of course, some other people think that both these positions have their own merits.

**To what extent do you agree with these two positions on a scale from 1 "Strongly agree" to 5 "Strongly disagree"?**

Tougher regulations on  
business needed to protect  
environment

Regulations to protect  
environment already too much  
a burden on business

1. Strongly agree

☐☐

2. Agree

☐☐

3. Neither agree nor

☐☐

	Tougher regulations on business needed to protect environment	Regulations to protect environment already too much a burden on business
disagree		
4. Disagree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5. Strongly disagree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Still talking about the American democracy, some people believe that **Donald Trump running for, and potentially winning, the presidency again would pose a serious threat to American democracy.**

Others think that **Donald Trump's potential return would strengthen American democracy** and bring positive changes.

And, of course, some other people think that both these positions have their own merits.

**To what extent do you agree with these two positions on a scale from 1 "Strongly agree" to 5 "Strongly disagree"?**

	Trump is a serious threat to American democracy	Trump strengthens American democracy
1. Strongly agree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2. Agree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3. Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4. Disagree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5. Strongly disagree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Still talking about immigration and border security, some people **support highly open immigration policies with minimal restrictions on entry into the United States**, believing it enriches the country and supports diversity.

Others advocate for **strict immigration policies**, including significant restrictions on entry and prioritizing security and economic concerns.

And, of course, some other people think that both these positions have their own merits.

To what extent do you agree with these two positions on a scale from 1 "Strongly agree" to 5 "Strongly disagree"?

	Support open immigration policies	Advocate for strict immigration policies
1. Strongly agree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2. Agree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3. Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4. Disagree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5. Strongly disagree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Still talking about international relations and national security, some people believe the **United States should take an aggressive stance against perceived national security threats from Russia and China**, advocating for strong defensive and offensive measures.

Others feel that the **best approach is through diplomacy and cooperation**, focusing on dialogue and mutual benefits to manage relations.

And, of course, some other people think that both these positions have their own merits.

To what extent do you agree with these two positions on a scale from 1 "Strongly agree" to 5 "Strongly disagree"?

	Support aggressive stance against Russia and China	Favor democracy and cooperation with Russia and China
1. Strongly agree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2. Agree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3. Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4. Disagree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5. Strongly disagree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Thank you for sharing your thoughtful perspectives on these important issues.

As we move towards the conclusion of our survey, we'd like to ask you a **few final questions**

**about your chatbot conversation experience.**

Your feedback is crucial to us, as it helps us understand how we might improve future interactions.

How would you rate your **overall experience** interacting with the chatbot?

- ☐ 1. Very poor
- ☐ 2. Poor
- ☐ 3. Fair
- ☐ 4. Good
- ☐ 5. Very good

Did you experience any problem or inconvenience during the chatbot conversation? Please tell us more about it.

How **interesting** did you find the conversation with the chatbot?

- ☐ 1. Not at all interesting
- ☐ 2. Slightly interesting
- ☐ 3. Somewhat interesting
- ☐ 4. Quite interesting
- ☐ 5. Very interesting

How **convincing** did you find the responses from the chatbot?

- ☐ 1. Not at all convincing
- ☐ 2. Slightly convincing
- ☐ 3. Somewhat convincing
- ☐ 4. Quite convincing
- ☐ 5. Very convincing

Did you feel that the chatbot was **steering you towards a specific opinion**?

- ☐ 1. No, not at all
- ☐ 2. Yes, slightly
- ☐ 3. Yes, somewhat
- ☐ 4. Yes, quite
- ☐ 5. Yes, very much

If yes, was the chatbot trying to reinforce your existing opinion or persuade you towards an opposing viewpoint? Please specify.

- ☐ 1. Reinforce my existing opinion
- ☐ 2. Persuade me towards an opposing viewpoint
- ☐ 3. I cannot say

Did the chatbot maintain a **fair and balanced perspective**?

- ☐ 1. No, not at all
- ☐ 2. No, not much
- ☐ 3. Yes, quite
- ☐ 4. Yes, very much

## Thanks



Thank you very much for your participation in this survey.



Your insights and responses are invaluable to our understanding of how people express their political opinions. We appreciate the time and thought you've invested in sharing your views.

**Please click the button below to be redirected back to Prolific and register your submission.**

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