

## European Social Survey (ESS) – Purposes

Maps attitudes, beliefs, and behavior patterns of various populations in Europe since 2001

Before, existing cross-national attitude surveys regarded as not methodologically rigorous enough to generate reliable knowledge about changes over time in Europe

Initiated by European Science Foundation

Questionnaires consist of core module (repeated each round) and rotating modules on specific themes

## ESS – Key Design Features

Target population

- Persons aged 15 and over

- Residents within private households in 36 countries, regardless of nationality, citizenship or language

Different forms of probability sampling

- Sampling guidelines implemented in each country

- Minimum 'effective achieved sample size' per country of 1,500 or 800 in countries with ESS populations of less than 2 million

Repeated cross-section survey

- Biannually

- Wave 8 in 2016

Interviewer-administered

- Computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI)

- In some countries paper and pencil interviewing (PAPI)

# ESS – Questionnaire

**CARD 11** Using this card, please tell me on a score of 0-10 how much you personally trust each of the institutions I read out. 0 means you do not trust an institution at all, and 10 means you have complete trust. Firstly...**READ OUT...**

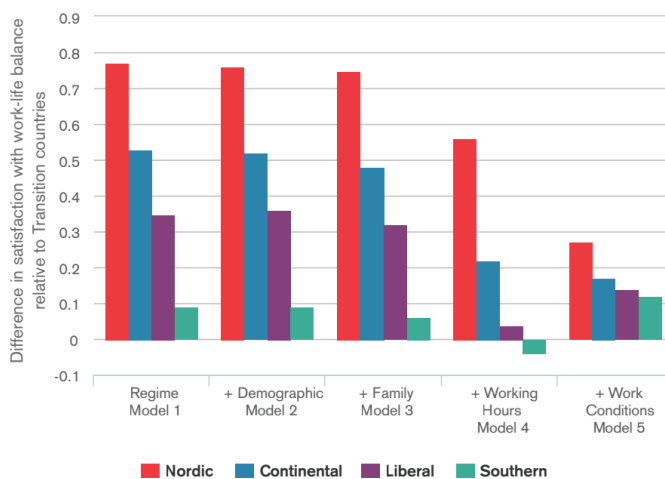
		No trust at all										Complete trust	(Don't know)
B2	...[country]'s parliament?	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	88
B3	...the legal system?	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	88
B4	...the police?	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	88
B5	...politicians?	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	88
B6	...political parties?	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	88
B7	...the European Parliament?	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	88
B8	...the United Nations?	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	88

[http://www.europeansocialsurvey.org/docs/round7/questionnaire/ESS7\\_source\\_main\\_questionnaire\\_final\\_alert\\_03.pdf](http://www.europeansocialsurvey.org/docs/round7/questionnaire/ESS7_source_main_questionnaire_final_alert_03.pdf)

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## ESS – Satisfaction with Work-Life Balance by Country Group (Round 5)

Satisfaction with work-life balance by country group



[http://www.europeansocialsurvey.org/docs/findings/ESS1-6\\_measuring\\_and\\_reporting\\_on\\_europeans\\_wellbeing.pdf](http://www.europeansocialsurvey.org/docs/findings/ESS1-6_measuring_and_reporting_on_europeans_wellbeing.pdf)

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## ESS – Design Issues

Translation of questionnaire into different languages

Effect of mixed mode on coverage, non-response, and measurement error

Improving question quality – Survey Quality Predictor (SQP)

## Lessons from Example Surveys

1. All are key indicators in society
2. Their designs are customized to their needs
  - Different target populations
  - Sampling frames fit populations
  - Different modes of data collection
3. Surveys are ongoing

# Questions to Ask of All Surveys

What is the target population (whom is it studying)?

What is the sampling frame (how do they identify the people or units to be included in the survey)?

What is the sample design (how do they select the respondents)?

What is the method of data collection?

Is it an ongoing or a one-time survey?