

Comparative Candidate Surveys (CCS)

The entity that has organized the survey and is responsible for data collection – as well as key data on the entity's membership, governance arrangements, source of funding etc.

The CCS project was initiated by the Mannheimer Zentrum für Europäische Sozialforschung (MZES). The data collection is done on the national level with locally raised funds. The Project Coordinator is Hermann Schmitt at the MZES.

A historical sketch of the initiation and origin of the survey

The CSS has noted recent changes in the relationship between citizens and parties and believes that this makes individual candidates' activities, attitudes and beliefs highly attractive research objects. Thus the CSS aims at surveying parliamentary candidates at first-order national elections in as many different contexts as possible, and to relate variations in individual attitudes and behaviours to varying properties of constituencies and political regimes.

Internet links to the website of the responsible organization.

<http://www.comparativecandidates.org>

The frequency or repetitions of the survey. Possible explanation of this.

CCS I: 2007-2012

CCS II: 2013-2018

A description of the survey's content, i.e. both focused rotational and/or core modules of the survey.

The first round's "Macro Questionnaire" was divided thematically into several parts:

Part I: Data pertinent to the election at which the CCS was administered

Part II: Data on Electoral Institutions

Part III: Data on Regime Type

Part IV: Data pertinent to the process of intra-party candidate selection

The candidate questionnaire focused on:

Political background and activities, campaigning, issues and policies, democracy and representation, and the background of the respondent/candidate.

An outline of the type of sample and the main data collection methods used.

Where possible, the whole universe is surveyed. Where not possible, representative samples of the universe of all candidates of all relevant parties are drawn. Sometimes a stratified sample may be drawn to over-sample potentially successful candidates; in this case a weighting factor will be provided that creates a representative sample of all candidates.

The CSS allows for using both mail survey, face-to-face interviews, telephone interviews and on-line surveys. However it is expected that mail surveys will most often be used, according to their [Data Collection Rules](#). Response rates below 20 % are not accepted.

An account of the availability of the data to researchers, restrictions on access, etc.

The data is available exclusively for those who participate in the project until the data collection ends. In 2015 the data will be made publicly available.

Questionnaires, English version

[CCS I Macro Questionnaire](#)

[CCS I Candidate Questionnaire](#)

[CCS II Candidate Questionnaire](#)

The countries included in the different rounds

Some 28 countries have participated thus far: Some have conducted several surveys, some are yet to conduct any. For a full and detailed list, please refer to [Participating Countries](#).

Cumulative file of the various rounds

There is no cumulative file.

Publications based on data

[The CCS Bibliography](#)

Analytical summary...

Sources

Unless otherwise noted, all information is extracted from the website of the Comparative Candidate Survey.