

The European Voter Project

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 European Voter Project was initiated by the International Committee for Research into Elections and Representative Democracy (ICORE), which was founded at the end of the 1980s by study directors from some of the older national election studies programs in Western Europe, in particular Norway, Sweden, Great Britain, the Netherlands, Denmark, and Germany. These are still the participants of the European Voter Group.

In order to facilitate the systematic study of trends in electoral behavior and its correlates across countries, comparable measures across time within countries for all key concepts were developed. This resulted in The European Voter Data Base, which is archived in the GESIS Data Archive for the Social Sciences.

The EVP is funded by ICORE and national academic research institutes.

A historical sketch of the initiation and origin of the survey

ICORE was established at a CPR Research Session on Electoral Studies held in Rimini in 1989. Its members are directors of established surveys of national electorates in Europe. The initiative to establish ICORE was taken by John Curtice. He found that while electoral research in Europe seemed to be one of the best developed parts of political science on a national level, a well-developed comparative program did not exist. There were logistical barriers, like language. Thus ICORE decided to create a database of pre-existing national elections, but with the questionnaires, code books etc. translated into English to facilitate comparative, cross-national use.

A list of internet links to the websites of the responsible organization and/or the survey results.

The European Voter Project does not appear to have an official website. However, there is a small site for it located at GESIS: [The European Voter Project](#). [ICORE](#) also has a site there.

An explanation of the frequency or repetitions of the survey

This varies between countries.

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

The following keywords are listed for the survey's content: Sex, age, civil status, urbanisation, education, region, religion, church attendance, occupation, working, sector, subjective class, occupational group, income, trade union member, own house/apartment. Political interest, political discussions, efficacy, party attachment, party sympathy, party leader sympathy, party left-right placement, economic evaluation, important issues. Value dimensions: state, moral, authoritarian/libertarian, growth/ecology, Inglehart-Index, when decide to vote, voting behaviour.

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

This is country-specific: Samples are representative within each participating country. Samples vary in size between 1,000 and 4,000.

The data collection methodology is country-specific according to the respective election study.

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

Data and documents are only released for academic research and teaching after the data depositor's written authorization. For this purpose the Data Archive obtains a written permission with specification of the user and the analysis intention.

Questionnaires, English version

These were not to be found in the GESIS European Voter Project site, the GESIS ICORE site or the actual database.

The countries included in the different rounds

Denmark, Germany, Great Britain, the Netherlands, Norway, and Sweden.

Cumulative file of the various rounds

There are separate Cumulative or Continuity Files of National Election studies from Denmark, Germany, Great Britain, the Netherlands, Norway and Sweden.

Publications based on the data

This was primarily a book project: Thomassen, Jaques. (2005) (ed.): *The European Voter: A Comparative Study Of Modern Democracies*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

<http://info1.gesis.org/dbksearch19/SDesc2.asp?no=3911&ll=10&af=&nf=1&db=e&search=&search2=¬abs=>

Analytical summary...

Sources

Unless otherwise noted, all information is extracted from the GESIS site for the European Voter Project.