

Surveys in the „Harmonia” project

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Criteria of selection of surveys

- ▶ **Academic surveys (associated with academic entities, reliable methodology)**
 - ▶ **Proper documentation: questionnaires and codebooks available**
 - ▶ **Cross-national, involving at least 5 countries (exception – Caucasus Barometer)**
 - ▶ **On random representative sample of adult population**
 - ▶ **Should not be over-specific in their focus (e.g. health surveys);**
 - ▶ **Conducted in at least two waves (but only single waves considered: 1992 Survey of Soviet Values, 2000 Asia Europe Survey, 2007 Arab Barometer)**
 - ▶ **In the public domain – access free of charge**
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Surveys

Survey	Abbr	Years, first/ last	Min/max number of countries
European Social Survey	ESS	2002/2013	22/30
European Values Study	EVS	1981/2009	16/47
World Values Survey	WVS	1981/2012	21/73
International Social Survey Program	ISSP	1985/2012	6/43
Eurobarometer	EB	1973/2012	5/35
Asian Barometer	ASB	2001/2008	8/18
Afrobarometer	AFB	2000/2012	12/22
Arab Barometer	ARB	2007/2011	7/13
Latinobarometer	LB	1995/2011	8/19
Consolidation of Democracy in Central and Eastern Europe	CEE	1990/2001	11/23
European Quality of Life Survey	EQLS	2003/2012	28/34
Panel Study of Political Values in Former Soviet Union	FSU	1990/1992	9/12
Caucasus Barometer	CB	2004/2012	3/3
Americas Barometer	AMB	2004/2012	11/26
Asia Europe Survey	ASES	2000	18

Survey topics

- ▶ Values and activities relating to democracy, economic transformations and governance; civic engagement, livelihoods, social capital, trust; social, political and religious identities
- ▶ Some surveys – more specific but still general enough:

SURVEY OF SOVIET VALUES: Questions about current political events, including respondents' interest in print and broadcast media, their views on the Soviet political scene, interactions with government officials at different levels, the rights of union republics to leave the Soviet Union, relations between the United States and the Soviet Union, Soviet foreign policies

EUROPEAN QUALITY OF LIFE SURVEY Focused on subjective topics, such as people's levels of happiness, life satisfaction, work-life balance, and perceived quality of life in society. But it also covered more general issues such as: employment, income, education, housing, family, health

Limitations of usage of survey data

- ▶ **Multiple languages vs. English translation of documentation**
 - ▶ **Different construction of survey sample in various countries**
 - ▶ **Different methodology regarding various countries even in a single survey (face-to-face interviews vs. other forms)**
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Questions to discuss

- ▶ **Should we make exceptions to the criteria of survey selection, and if so, which of the criteria should be made more flexible?**
 - ▶ **Given the scientific purpose of the „Harmonia” project - understanding protest behavior in the context of people’s democratic attitudes - how many surveys should be harmonized?**
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