



# Household surveys in policy making workshop

**Professor Rory Fitzgerald**

Director, European Social Survey ERIC

5 December 2023

Brussels

**[europeansocialsurvey.org](http://europeansocialsurvey.org)**

ESS is a European Research Infrastructure Consortium (ESS ERIC)

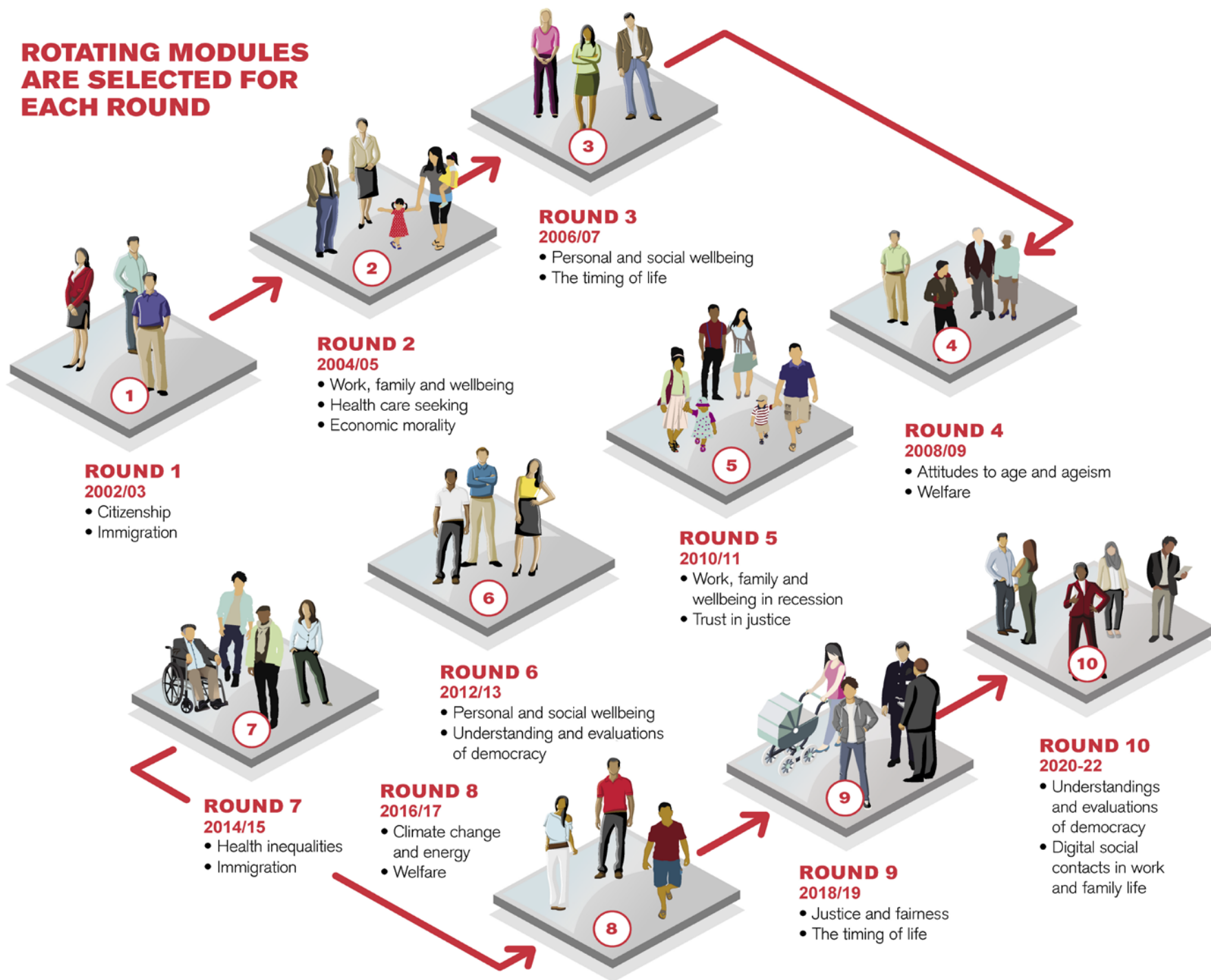


# The impact of the European Social Survey

## Questionnaire

- **Media/Internet use, social trust**  
***6 questions***
- **Political interest, trust in others / institutions, electoral and other forms of participation, party allegiance, socio-political orientations, immigration**  
***43 questions***
- **Subjective wellbeing, social exclusion, crime, religion, perceived discrimination, national and ethnic identity, vote intention in EU referendum**  
***35 questions***
- **Socio-demographic profile: household composition, sex, age, marital status, type of area, education & occupation of respondent, partner, parents, union membership, income and ancestry**  
***35 questions***
- **Human Values Scale**  
***21 questions***
- **Rotating modules**  
***Two sections of 30 questions on a single academic and/or policy concern within Europe***

# ROTATING MODULES ARE SELECTED FOR EACH ROUND



## Measuring our impact: Sources

- **Activities within the core scientific team (CST)**

- Bibliographic monitoring (University of Ljubljana)



- Media monitoring (HQ)




- User Statistics (Sikt)



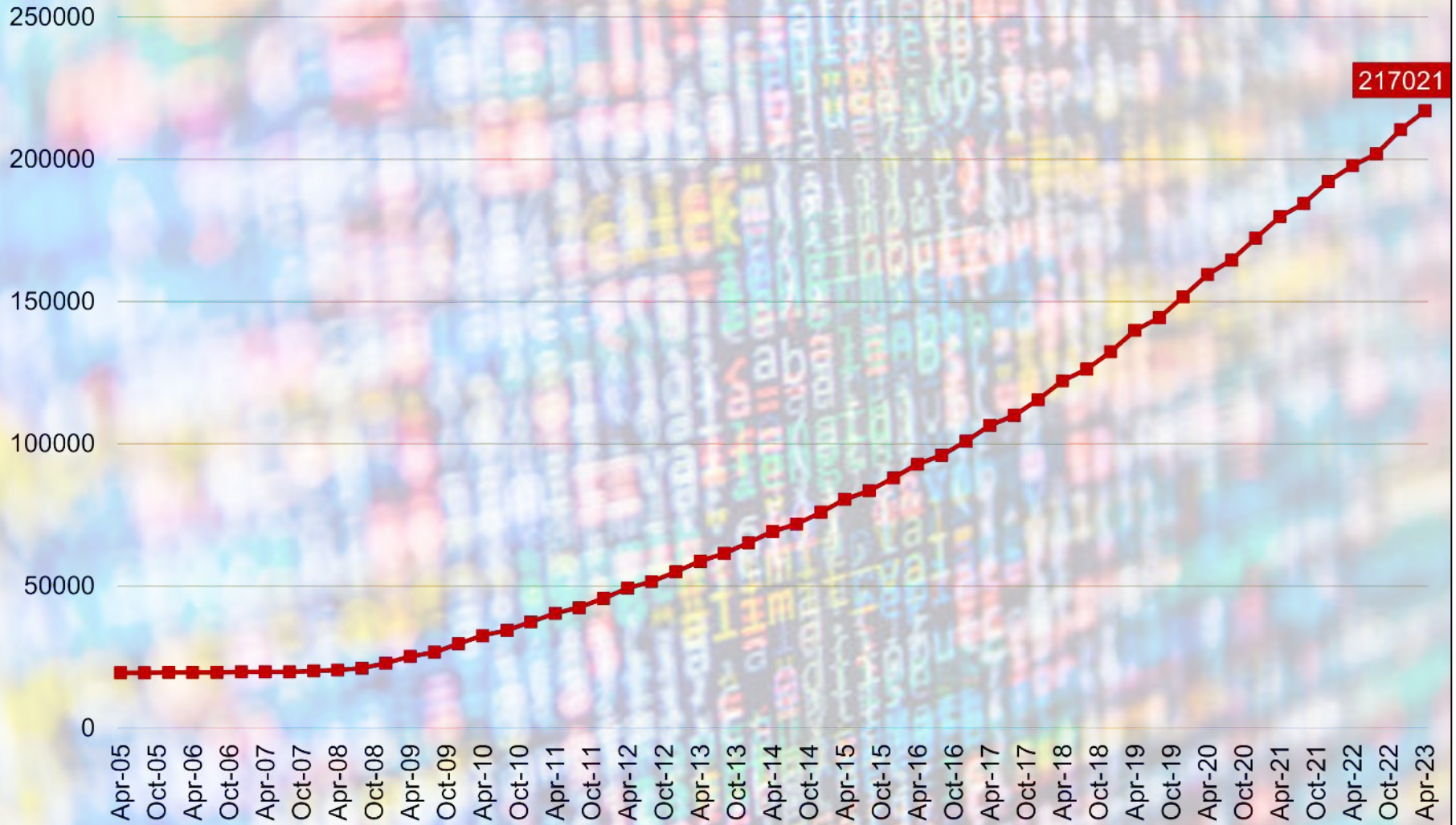
Sikt

- **Comparative impact study of the ESS ERIC (2017)** 

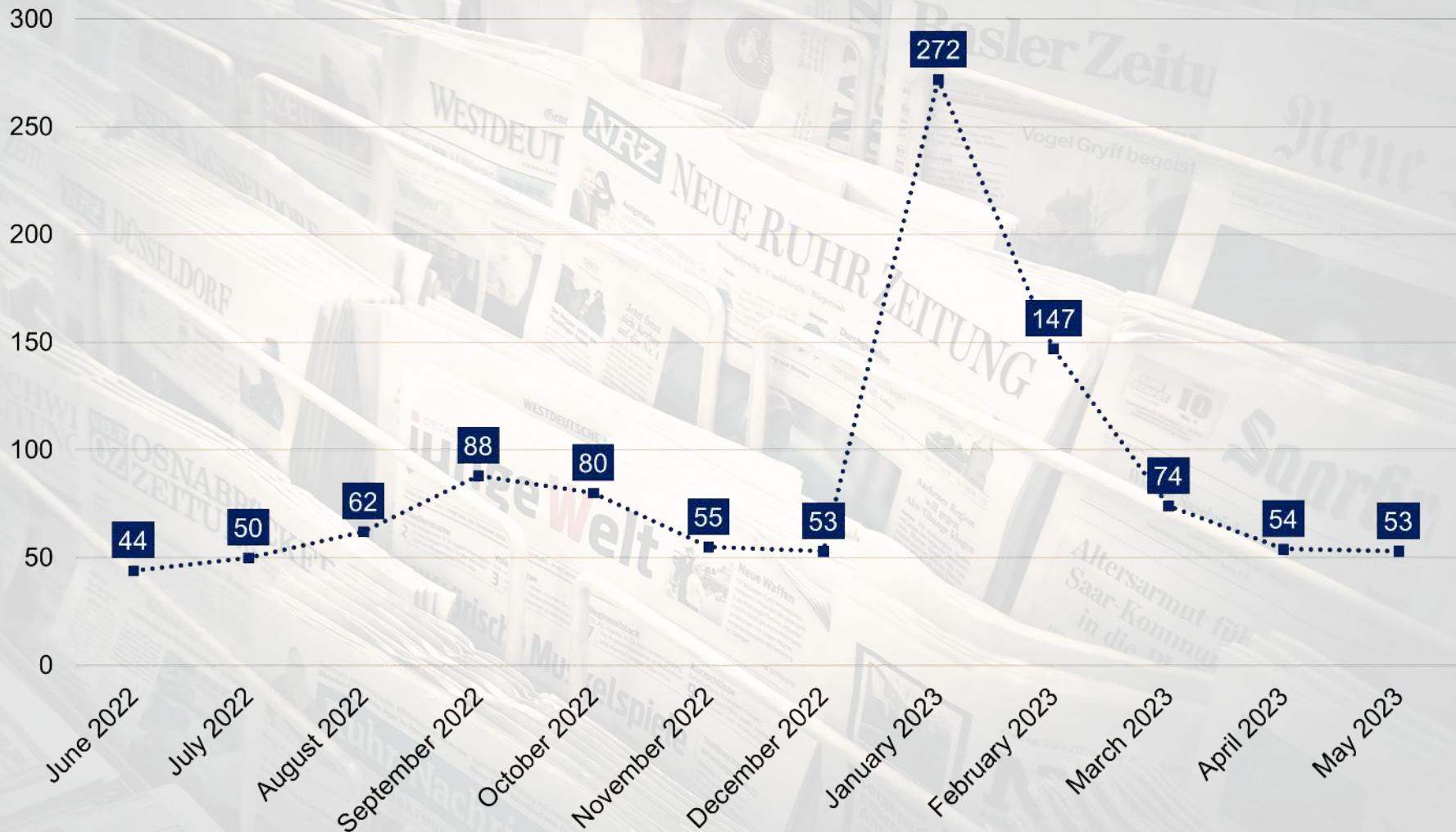
- **Impact Study of the ESS (2022)** 

- **Policy Consultant (2023)** 

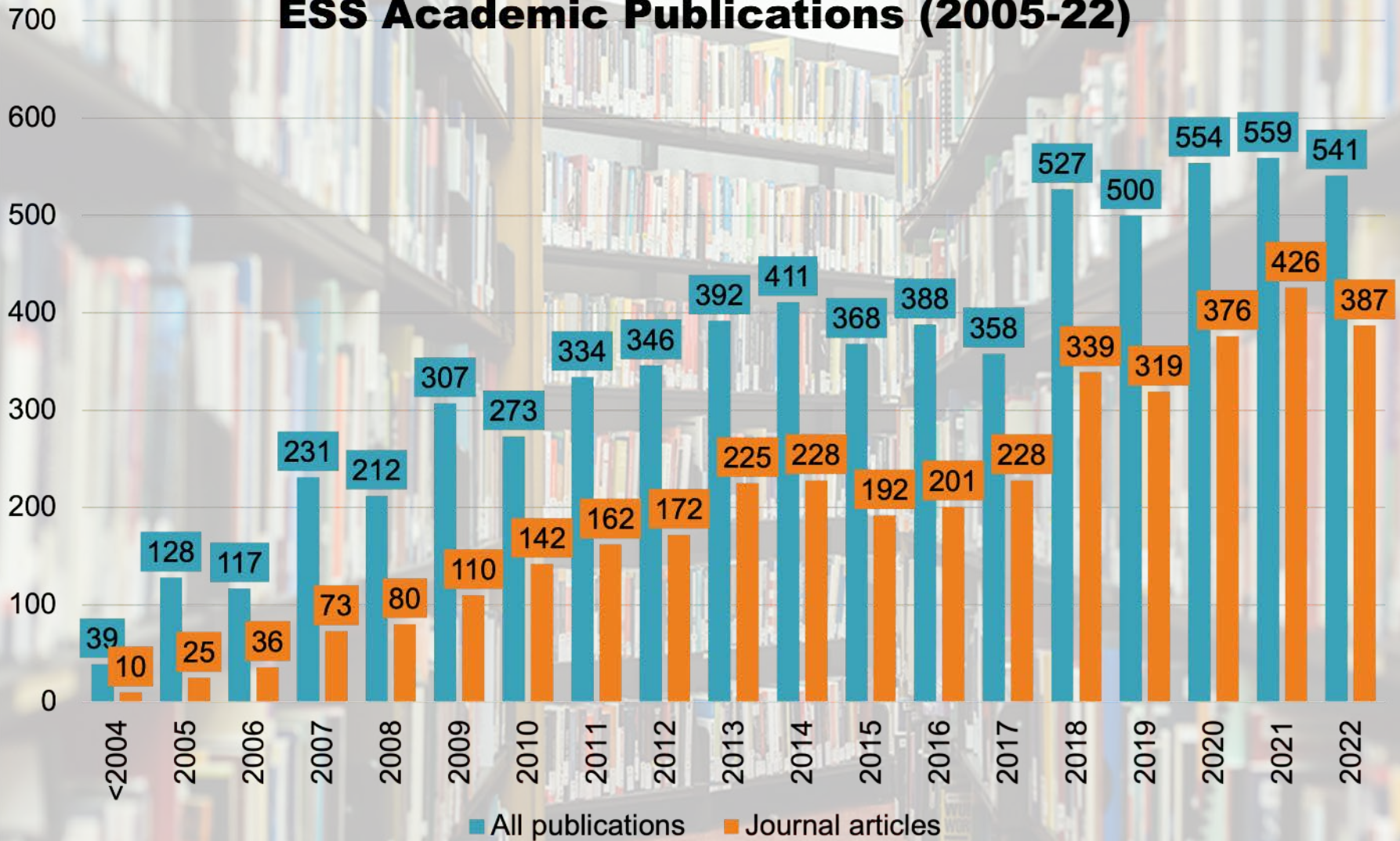
## Registered users (2005-23)



## Media mentions of ESS (2022-23)

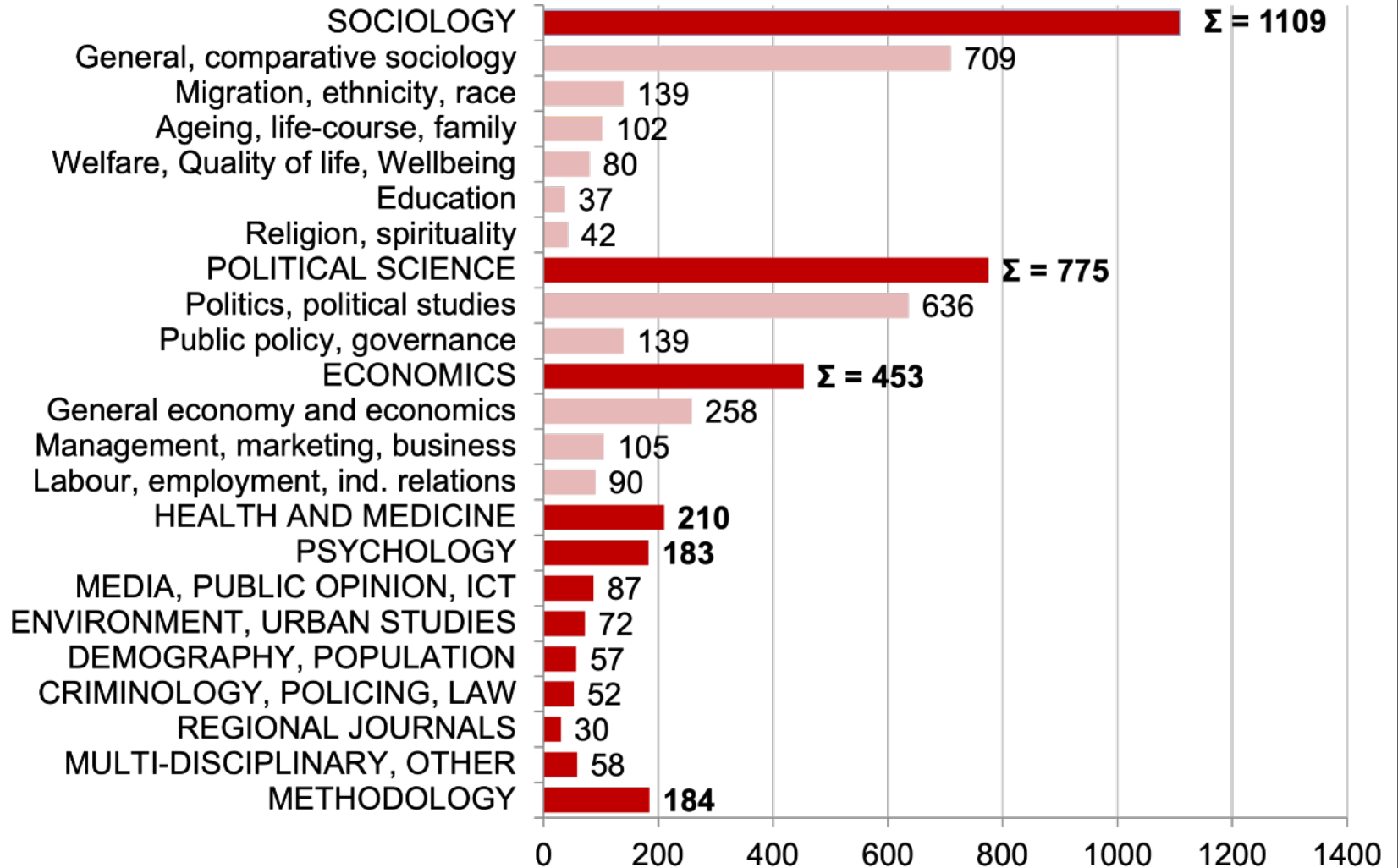


## ESS Academic Publications (2005-22)





## Research topics

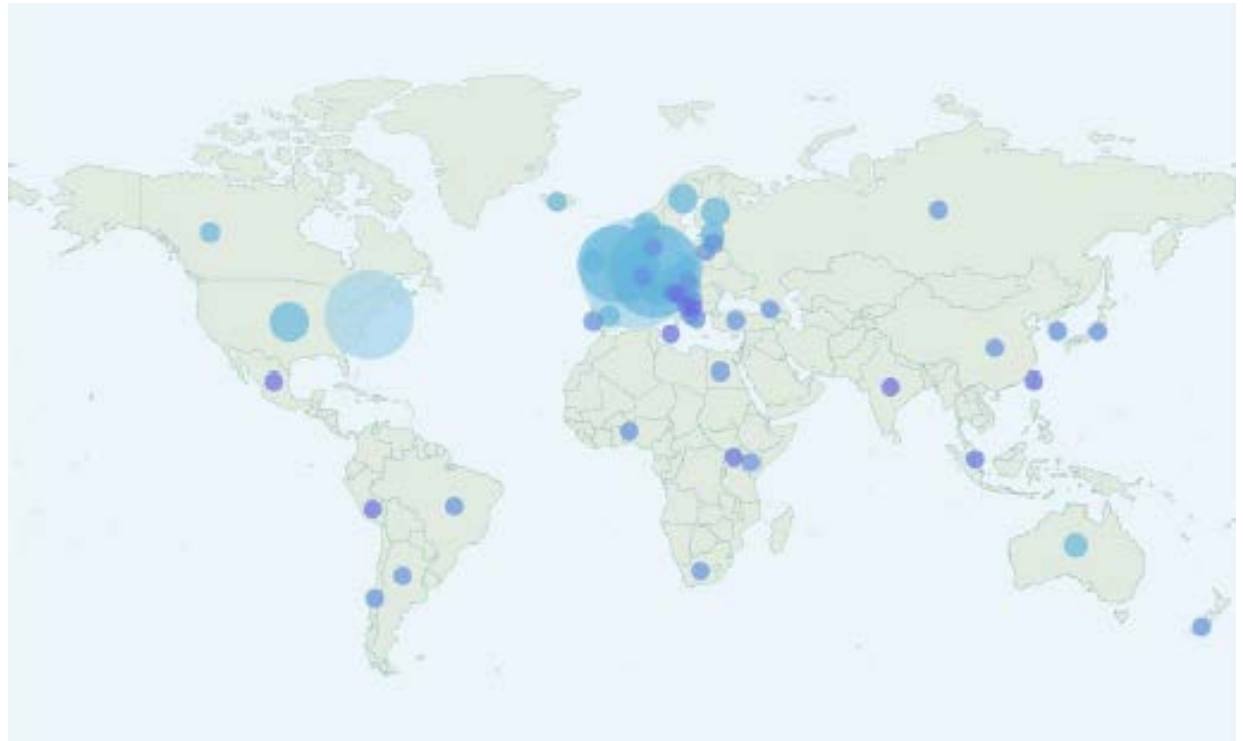


# Overton study

## Preliminary observations from desk research in Overton.io

### References to European Social Survey found in:

- 3,246 policy documents
- Across 57 countries
- 355 sources:
  - Government: 46%
  - Think tanks: 39%
  - International governmental organisations: 15%



## Overton.io: Organisations with high citations

Country / Org	N=
EU	392
IZA (DE)	237
OECD	208
IFO Institute (DE)	95
UK Government	202
JRC (EC)	84
SCP (NL)	79
Government of Flanders (BE)	74
DIW (DE)	70

Country / Org	N=
Eurofound	65
WHO	64
World Bank	58
Government of Finland (FI)	54
NBER (US)	48
ISER (UK)	44
Government of Czechia (CZ)	43
Federal Planning Bureau (BE)	39

Country / Org	N=
Government of Switzerland (CH)	37
Analysis & Policy Observatory (AUS)	36
FAFO (NO)	30
Swedish Government (SE)	30
Government of Estonia (EE)	27
ETUI (BE)	26
ESRI (IE)	25

# Technopolis study

## A rough typology of non-academic impacts

- General intelligence and insight for NGOs or government ministries, agencies or advisory bodies
- Agenda setting: ESS data highlight a particular problem or challenge, triggering various types of policy action
- Influence on public debate or highlighting certain issues to the general public
- Monitoring: using ESS data as indicators to track certain aspects of societal progress
- Methodological impact on other surveys (e.g. for policy monitoring)

## Some (of many) examples of non-academic impact

- **Hungary:** ESS used to examine the social relationships of people aged 65 and over and warned of the potential impact that quarantine rules during COVID-19
- **Finland:** The ESS survey design and data were used in evaluating the Universal Basic Income (UBI) trial
- **Slovenia:** ESS data provided to inform “Resolution on Family Policy 2018 – 2028: A Family-Friendly Society”, which was adopted in February 2018
- **Ireland:** The Healthy and Positive Aging Initiative (HaPAI) has used the ESS as the basis for some of its own survey questions to improve policy and services for Irish citizens as they age
- **Lithuania:** The Lithuanian Strategy for Demography, Migration and Integration Policy 2018–2030 references ESS data to support strengthening Lithuanian NGOs and community organisations in order to foster stronger communities
- **Switzerland:** The Military Academy uses ESS data for its annual report on safety, to assess attitudes towards Swiss foreign, security and defence policy

# Accessing data



## ESS Data Portal

- **All data now available via the ESS Data Portal**
- **Developed through Social Sciences & Humanities Open Cloud (SSHOC) project**
- **FAIR principles (findability, accessibility, interoperability, and reusability)**
- **Includes data from all 483,089 interviews**
- **Variable visualisation now available**
- **Datafile Builder (Wizard) allows you to create own subset of data**
- **Stores previous searches on your profile**
- **Also includes data from CROss-National Online Survey (CRONOS)**
- **Includes Multilevel data which applies contextual data collected externally to ESS data**

# ESS Data Portal

- Search, download or visualize data from the European Social Survey.
- Access data from [EOSC Future](#) and [CRONOS](#).
- Create your own datasets using the [Datafile Builder \(Wizard\)](#).


Q Search for ESS data e.g. trust politicians, election





## European Social Survey 2002 - 2022


Search and download European Social Survey data for 18,000 questions and variables contained in 60 downloadable data files. This service is a work in progress, to improve your access to ESS data.


[Overview](#) [Datafile Builder \(Wizard\)](#)


ESS round 10 - 2020. Democracy, Digital social contacts 

ESS round 9 - 2018. Timing of life, Justice and fairness 

ESS round 8 - 2016. Welfare attitudes, Attitudes to climate change 

ESS round 7 - 2014. Immigration, Social inequalities in health 

ESS round 6 - 2012. Personal wellbeing, Democracy 

ESS round 5 - 2010. Family work and wellbeing, Justice 



## ESS9 - integrated file, edition 3.2

CSV

SPSS

Stata

The European Social Survey (ESS) →

Documentation Variable Viewer Analysis

Theme (Filter)

All themes

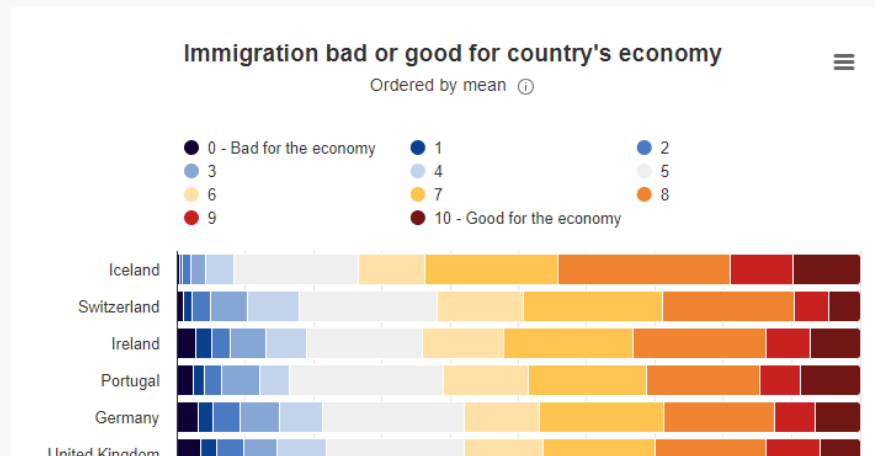
Question/variable

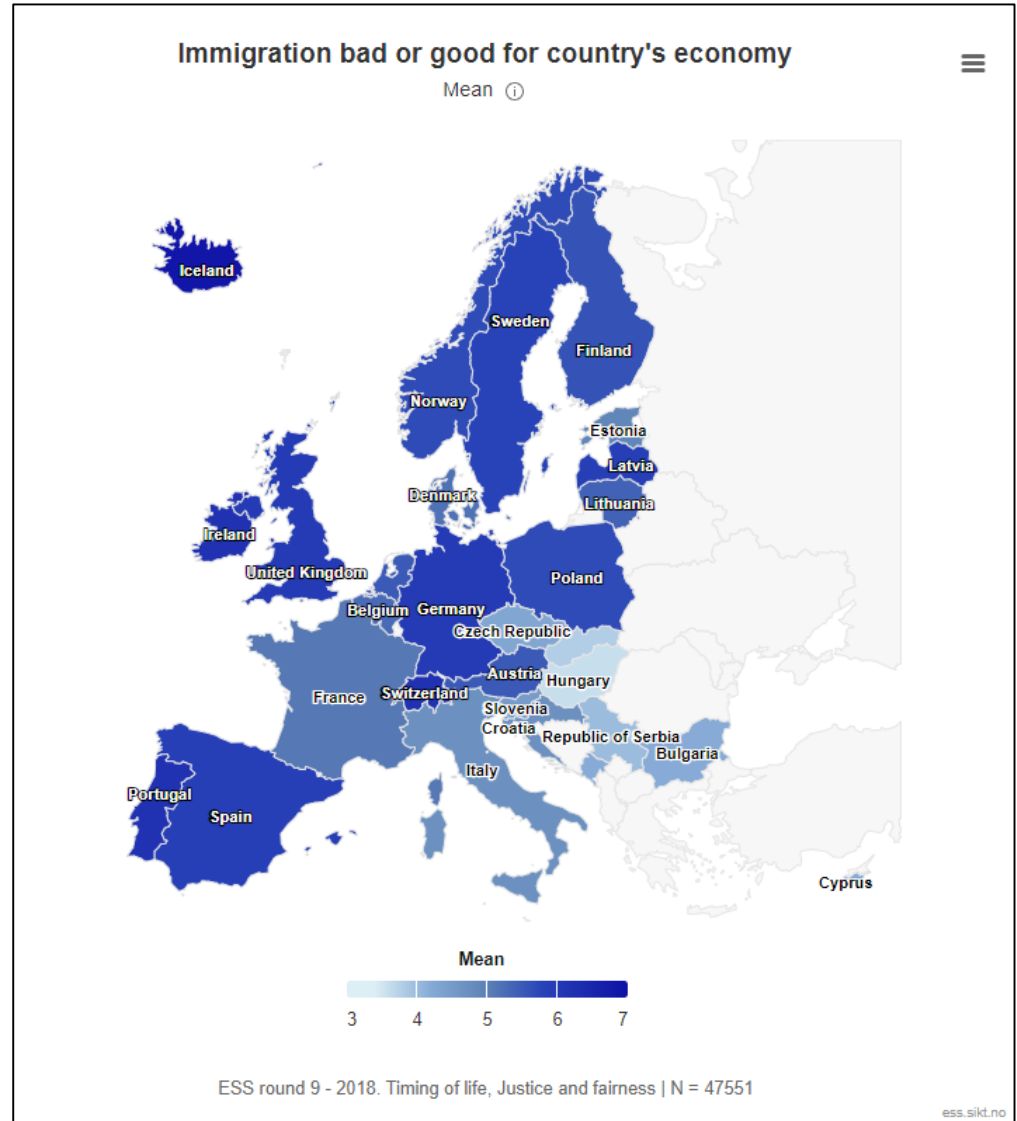
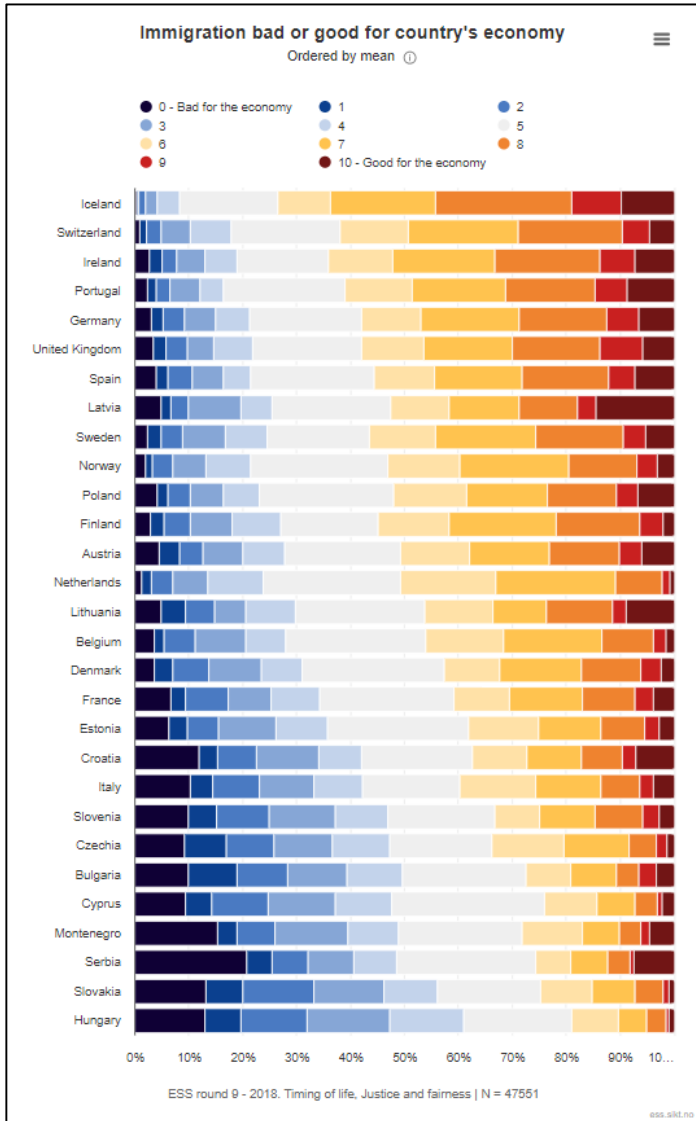
imbgeco - Immigration bad or good for country's economy

imbgeco - Immigration bad or good for country's economy

Would you say it is generally bad or good for [country]'s economy that people come to live here from other countries?

*The results are weighted by the variable: pspwght - Post-stratification weight including design weight*





## Datafile Builder (Wizard)

Create your own datafile. Select rounds and countries, plus the variables you want to download.

Select Country/year   Select Variables   Download

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	10SC	All
All	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Albania						<input type="checkbox"/>						<input type="checkbox"/>
Austria	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Belgium	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Bulgaria			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
Croatia				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
Cyprus			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Czechia	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
Denmark	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input type="checkbox"/>
Estonia		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
Finland	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
France	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
Germany	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Datafile Builder (Wizard)

Create your own datafile. Select rounds and countries, plus the variables you want to download.

Select Country/year Select Variables Download

This step is optional.

Please select variables if you wish to download custom datafile with specific variables. If no variables are selected, then all the variables for the selected rounds are included in the datafile.

- >  Media use and trust 13/13
- ▼  Politics, including: political interest, efficacy, trust, electoral and other forms of participation, party allegiance, socio-political orientations 5/568
  - ▼  ESS standard variables, Politics 5/78
    - actrolg - Able to take active role in political group
    - actrolga - Able to take active role in political group
    - badge - Worn or displayed campaign badge/sticker last 12 months
    - bctprd - Boycotted certain products last 12 months
    - bghtprd - Bought product for political/ethical/environment reason last 12 months
    - clsprt - Feel closer to a particular party than all other parties
    - contplt - Contacted politician or government official last 12 months
    - cptppol - Confident in own ability to participate in politics
    - cptppola - Confident in own ability to participate in politics
    - dclagr - Preferred decision level of agricultural policies

## Datafile Builder (Wizard)

Create your own datafile. Select rounds and countries, plus the variables you want to download.

Select Country/year   Select Variables   Download

Your dataset is ready for download.

ESS1: Belgium

ESS2: Belgium, Finland

ESS3: Belgium

ESS4: Belgium, Cyprus

ESS5: Belgium, Croatia

ESS6: Belgium, Denmark ... (4 total)

ESS7: Belgium

ESS8: Belgium

ESS9: All countries

ESS10: Belgium

Variables: netuse, netusoft ... (18 total)

CSV 

SPSS 


Stata 


## CROSS-NATIONAL ONLINE SURVEY (CRONOS)


The European Social Survey ERIC has been developing its web-interviewing infrastructure since 2017 when the world's first cross-national probability-based input-harmonised web panel was launched (CRONOS1). This web pilot study aimed to assess the effectiveness of panel recruitment off the back of an existing crossnational face-to-face survey (European Social Survey Round 8) in terms of costs, samp... [Read More >>](#)


### Overview


#### CRONOS2


CRONOS2 Welcome Survey Welfare, Wellbeing, Citizenship 


CRONOS2 Wave 1 Vaccinations, Institutional trust, Surveys, Climate change 

CRONOS2 Wave 2 Social Europe, Memory policies, Financial wellbeing, EVS morals 

CRONOS2 Wave 3 Country-specific questions 

CRONOS2 Wave 4 Societal development, Family diversity, Populism, Technocracy, Mental health, Institutional trust 

CRONOS2 Wave 5 Trust in science, Ostracism, COVID-19, Income generating and redistribution, Vaccinations, Surveys, Financial wellbeing 

CRONOS2 Wave 6 Country-specific questions 

#### CRONOS1



## Multilevel data

ESS data merged with the entire set of contextual variables. All levels are included in these files: For each respondent, we have added information (when possible) on countries, on ESS regions, on NUTS 1 regions, on NUTS 2 regions and on NUTS 3 regions.

ESS round	SPSS	Stata	SAS
Round 4	<a href="#">ESS4</a>	<a href="#">ESS4</a>	<a href="#">ESS4</a>
Round 5	<a href="#">ESS5</a>	<a href="#">ESS5</a>	<a href="#">ESS5</a>
Round 6	<a href="#">ESS6</a>	<a href="#">ESS6</a>	<a href="#">ESS6</a>
Round 7	<a href="#">ESS7</a>	<a href="#">ESS7</a>	<a href="#">ESS7</a>
Round 8	<a href="#">ESS8</a>	<a href="#">ESS8</a>	<a href="#">ESS8</a>
Round 9	<a href="#">ESS9</a>	<a href="#">ESS9</a>	<a href="#">ESS9</a>

# Infra4NextGen



## Horizon Europe: Infra4NextGen

- new **€9.75m**, 4-year project from March 2024
- ESS ERIC coordinator; **5** other affiliated entities and **24** beneficiaries
- Support the five themes of the **NextGenerationEU** programme
  - Make it Green | Make it Digital | Make it Healthy | Make it Strong | Make it Equal
- In each of the five themes, provide an **inventory of relevant data** already collected by cross-national surveys
- A panel of experts for each theme will **analyse data for policy audiences**
- Existing data will be supplemented with **new web panel data**
- Old and new data made available via **online analysis tool**
- An **educational tool** will allow for simple data analysis
- Hold **deliberative workshops** with young people (18-34) in 4 countries
- Comprehensive **training materials** will be generated



## Contact

✉ [rory.fitzgerald@city.ac.uk](mailto:rory.fitzgerald@city.ac.uk)

🌐 [europeansocialsurvey.org](http://europeansocialsurvey.org)

📘 EuropeanSocialSurvey  
in European-Social-Survey

🐦 [ESS\\_Survey](https://twitter.com/ESS_Survey)

📺 [EuropeanSocialSurveyERIC](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCz311a81t8811111111111111)

