European Social Survey

20 Years of Impact: Celebrating the European Social Survey

Professor Rory Fitzgerald

Director, European Social Survey

Tuesday 4 June 2024

europeansocialsurvey.org

ESS is a European Research Infrastructure Consortium (ESS ERIC)

ESS ERIC Aims

The survey measures the attitudes, beliefs and behaviour patterns of diverse populations in more than thirty nations. The main aims of the ESS are to:

- operate a Research Infrastructure providing high quality data measuring change (and stability) over time within and between European countries in their living conditions, social structure, public opinion and attitudes;
- practise and promote the highest scientific standards in cross-national comparative research in the social sciences;
- continue the development of ESS infrastructure through ongoing methodological research and innovation;
- facilitate training in the effective use of ESS data;
- ensure the visibility, accessibility and reach of ESS data among researchers in the social sciences and beyond, policy makers and the wider public, at both the national and international level

European Social Survey: History

- **First funded in 2001**
  Funded by the European Commission, following preparatory work by Roger Jowell and Max Kaase at the European Science Foundation

- **Descartes Prize (2005)**
  Became the first social science project to win the European Union prize

- **ESFRI Roadmap > Landmark**
  Named on Roadmap (2006, 2008, 2010) and as Landmark (2016, 2018, 2021)

- **Became European Research Infrastructure Consortium (2013)**
  Currently the highest number of members (28) of any ERIC

- **Lijphart/Przeworski/Verba (LPV) Dataset Award (2020)**
  Awarded LPV by the Comparative Politics Section of the American Political Science Association (APSA)

- **Kohli Foundation Prize (2024)**
  Infrastructure Prize for Sociology

"When considering new policies, governments in the past were often ignorant of their citizens' preferences and needs. Now European governments have a source for counteracting that ignorance."

Professor Sir Roger Jowell CBE
Co-founder of the ESS

European Social Survey: Overview

- **Academic cross-national survey**
  Measuring attitudes and behaviour

- **10 rounds completed**
  Every two years since 2002/03 -
  in 39 participating countries

- **Face-to-face interviews R1-9**
  The questionnaire lasts one-hour and
  has been translated into 50 languages

- **Self-completion methods in R10**
  Due to the pandemic, national teams
  could implement self-completion
  methods in Round 10 for the first time

- **Over 480,000 interviews completed**
  Data collection by range of providers

- **All data free for non-commercial use**
  Available to view or download via ESS
  Data Portal; range of file formats for
  statistical software programmes

- **Round 10 data available**
  Latest available dataset includes 31
  countries and post-stratification
  weights (22 face-to-face, 9 self-
  completion)

- **Over 230,000 registered users**

- **6,585 academic publications**
  Journal articles, books, working and
  conference papers that analysed our
  data have been published (2003-22)

European Social Survey: Core Scientific Team (CST)

1. **HQ: City, University of London (UK)**

2. **Centerdata (Netherlands)**

3. **GESIS - Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences (Germany)**

4. **Sikt - Norwegian Agency for Shared Services in Education and Research (Norway)**

5. **SCP - The Netherlands Institute for Social Research (Netherlands)**

6. **Universitat Pompeu Fabra (Spain)**

7. **University of Essex (UK)**

8. **University of Ljubljana (Slovenia)**

Participating countries

11 ROUNDS
1. Belgium
2. Finland
3. France
4. Germany
5. Hungary
6. Ireland
7. The Netherlands
8. Norway
9. Poland
10. Portugal
11. Slovenia
12. Spain
13. Sweden
14. Switzerland
15. United Kingdom

10 ROUNDS
16. Austria
17. Czechia
18. Estonia

8 ROUNDS
19. Denmark
20. Israel
21. Lithuania
22. Slovak Republic

7 ROUNDS
23. Bulgaria
24. Cyprus
25. Italy

6 ROUNDS
26. Greece
27. Iceland
28. Ukraine

5 ROUNDS
29. Croatia
30. Latvia
31. Russia

3 ROUNDS
32. Montenegro
33. Serbia

2 ROUNDS
34. Albania
35. Luxembourg
36. Romania
37. Turkey

1 ROUND
38. Kosovo
39. North Macedonia
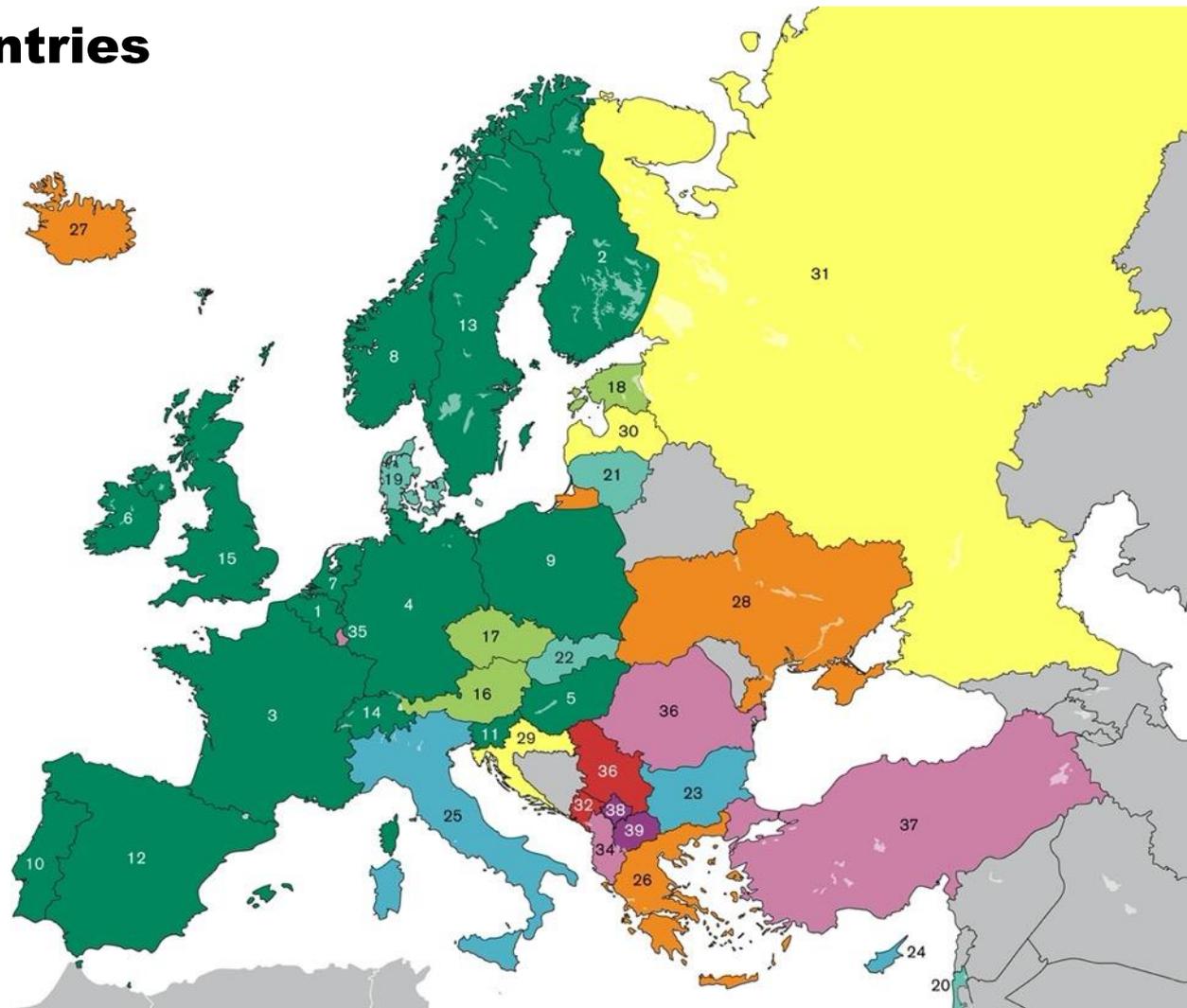
# European Social Survey: Methods promoting quality

- **Probability Samples**
  Equivalent designs and effective sample size

- **Questionnaire**
  Constructed on theory, designed and pre-tested using state of the art methods

- **Translation**
  Committee TRAPD approach to ensure quality

- **Single data collection mode**
  To promote equivalence and comparability

- **Fieldwork prep and monitoring**
  Close working between national and international team

- **Data processing and structure**
  Harmonised data structure and processing for all countries

- **Weights**
  Centralsied approach to producing design and post-stratification weights

- **Quality reporting**
  Quality reporting on overall process and key stages eg cross-national equivalence of core concepts

- **Free and open access to all**
  No privileged access. Well documented data and transparent documentation

Questionnaire

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

ROUND 1
2002/03
- Citizenship
- Immigration

ROUND 2
2004/05
- Work, family and wellbeing
- Health care seeking
- Economic morality

ROUND 3
2006/07
- Personal and social wellbeing
- The timing of life

ROUND 4
2008/09
- Attitudes to age and ageism
- Welfare

ROUND 5
2010/11
- Work, family and wellbeing in recession
- Trust in justice

ROUND 6
2012/13
- Personal and social wellbeing
- Understanding and evaluations of democracy

ROUND 7
2014/15
- Health inequalities
- Immigration

ROUND 8
2016/17
- Climate change and energy
- Welfare

ROUND 9
2018/19
- Justice and fairness
- The timing of life

ROUND 10
2020-22
- Understandings and evaluations of democracy
- Digital social contacts in work and family life

20 years of impact

Registered users (2005-23)

234430
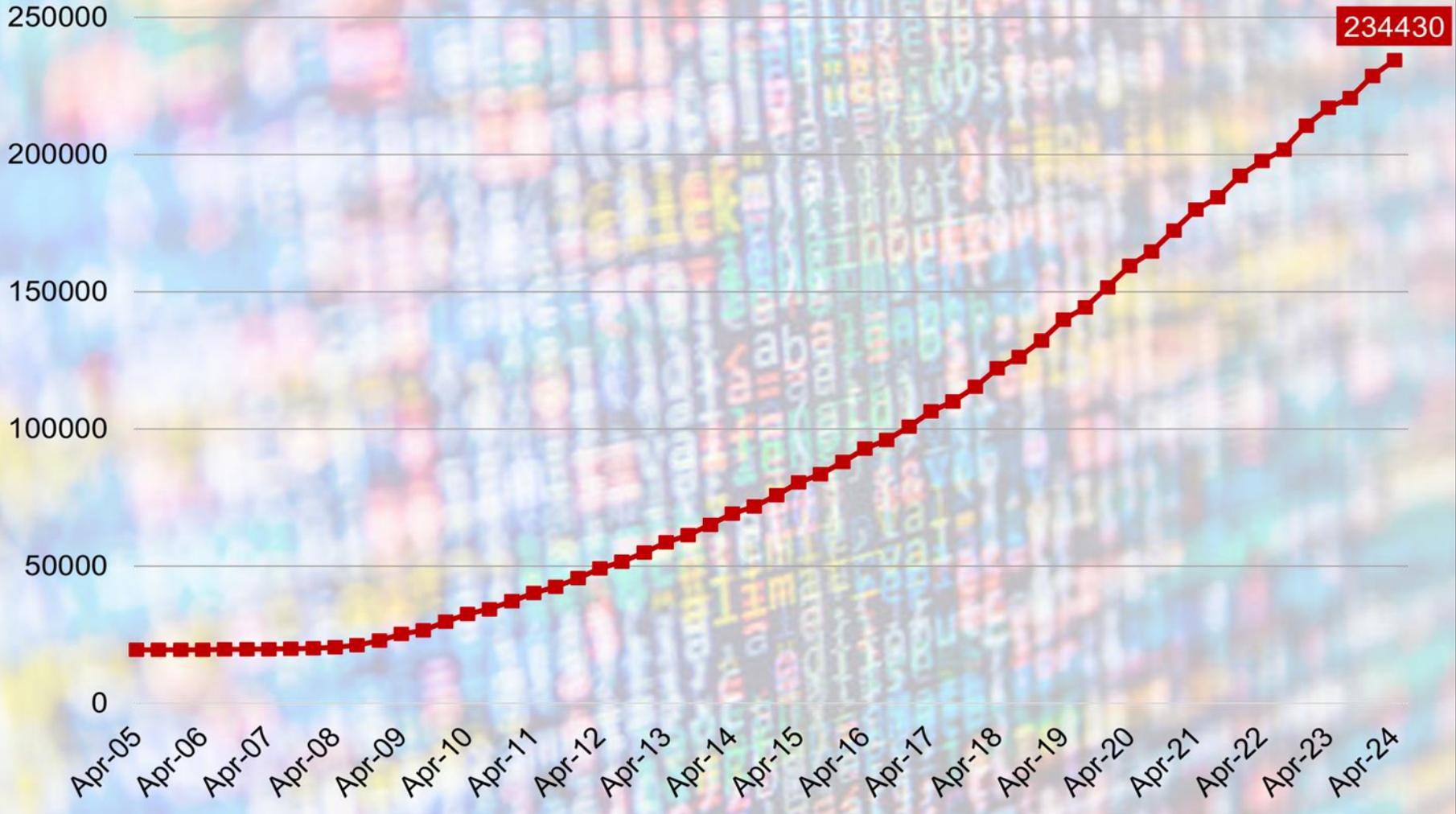
ESS Academic Publications (2005-22)
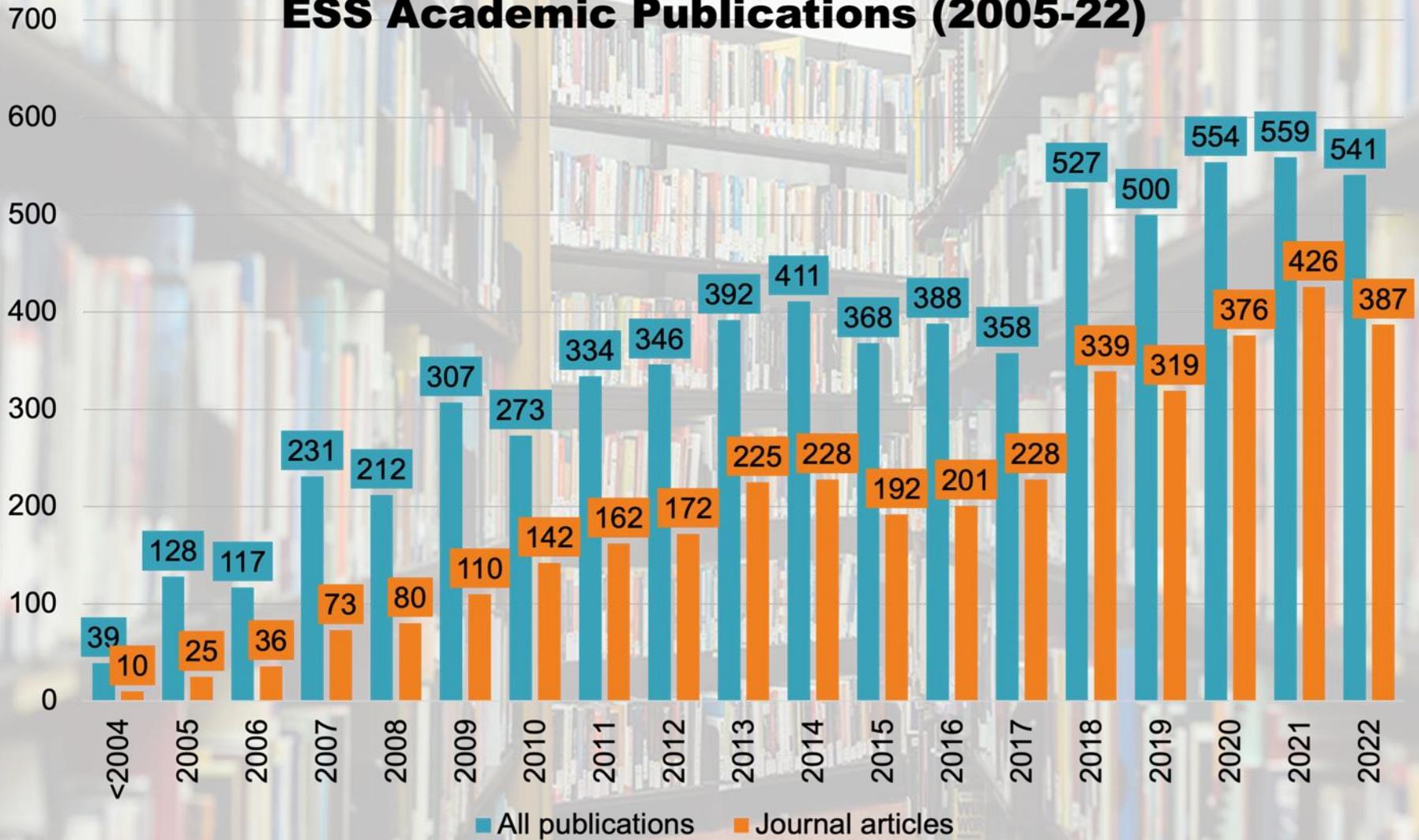
Media mentions of ESS (2022-23)

Month	Mentions
June 2022	44
July 2022	50
August 2022	62
September 2022	88
October 2022	80
November 2022	55
December 2022	53
January 2023	272
February 2023	147
March 2023	74
April 2023	54
May 2023	53
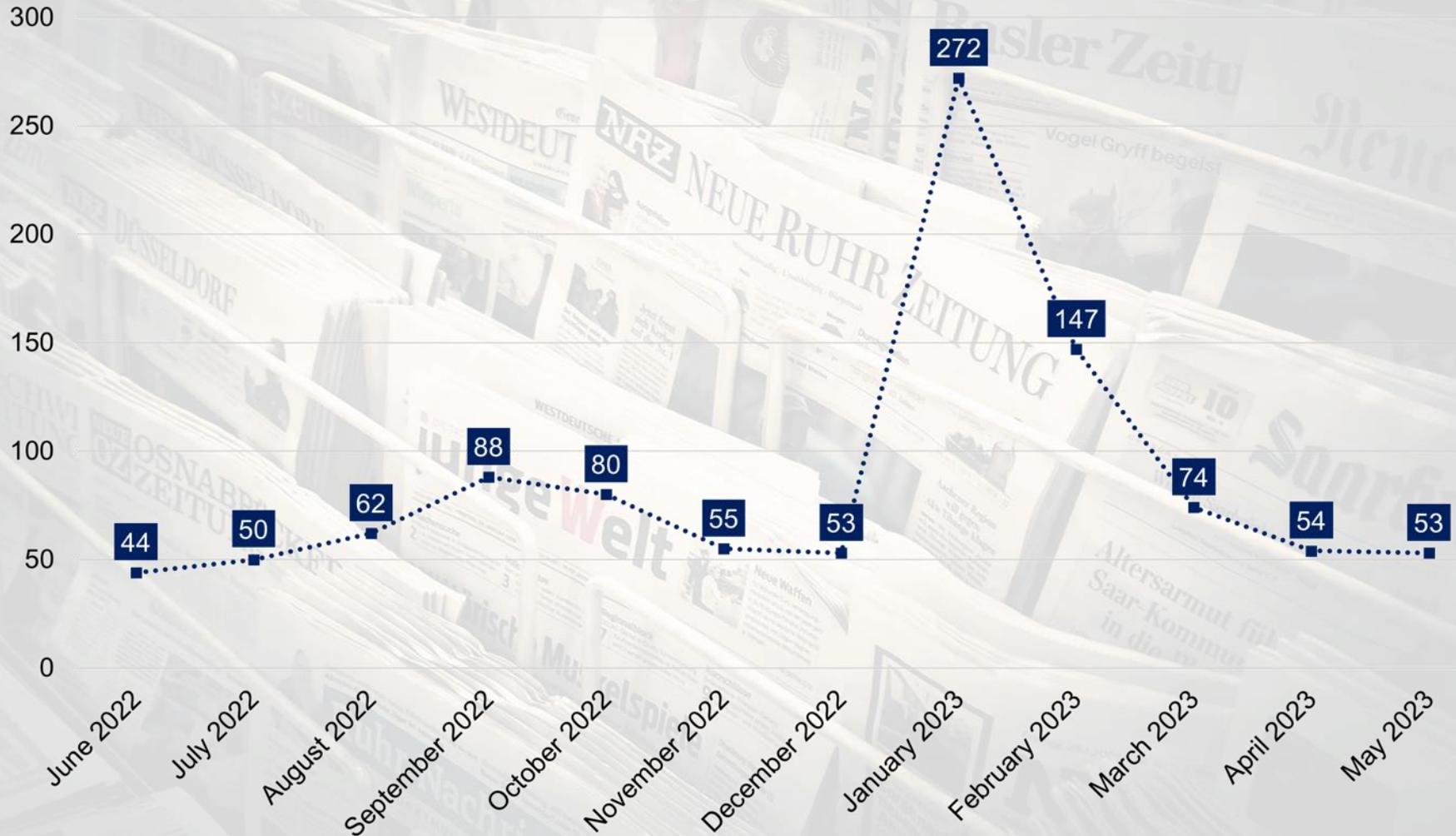
Observations from desk research in Overton.io

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%

EFISCENTRE

Overton.io: References per country / organisation

Country / Org	N=
Germany	530
IGO	502
UK	414
Belgium	202
USA	151
Netherlands	134
Sweden	80
Finland	76

Country / Org	N=
Norway	66
Estonia	49
Ireland	48
France	46
Australia	44
Czechia	44
Switzerland	39
Austria	35
Spain	22

Country / Org	N=
Hungary	19
Italy	19
Canada	17
Poland	16
Iceland	13
Portugal	13
Serbia	13
Latvia	12
Greece	7

Selected findings

Trust in... (2020-22)

Police

Trust in... (2020-22)

European Social Survey

europeansocialsurvey.org

Trust in... (2020-22)

Police — Legal Sytem — Parliament
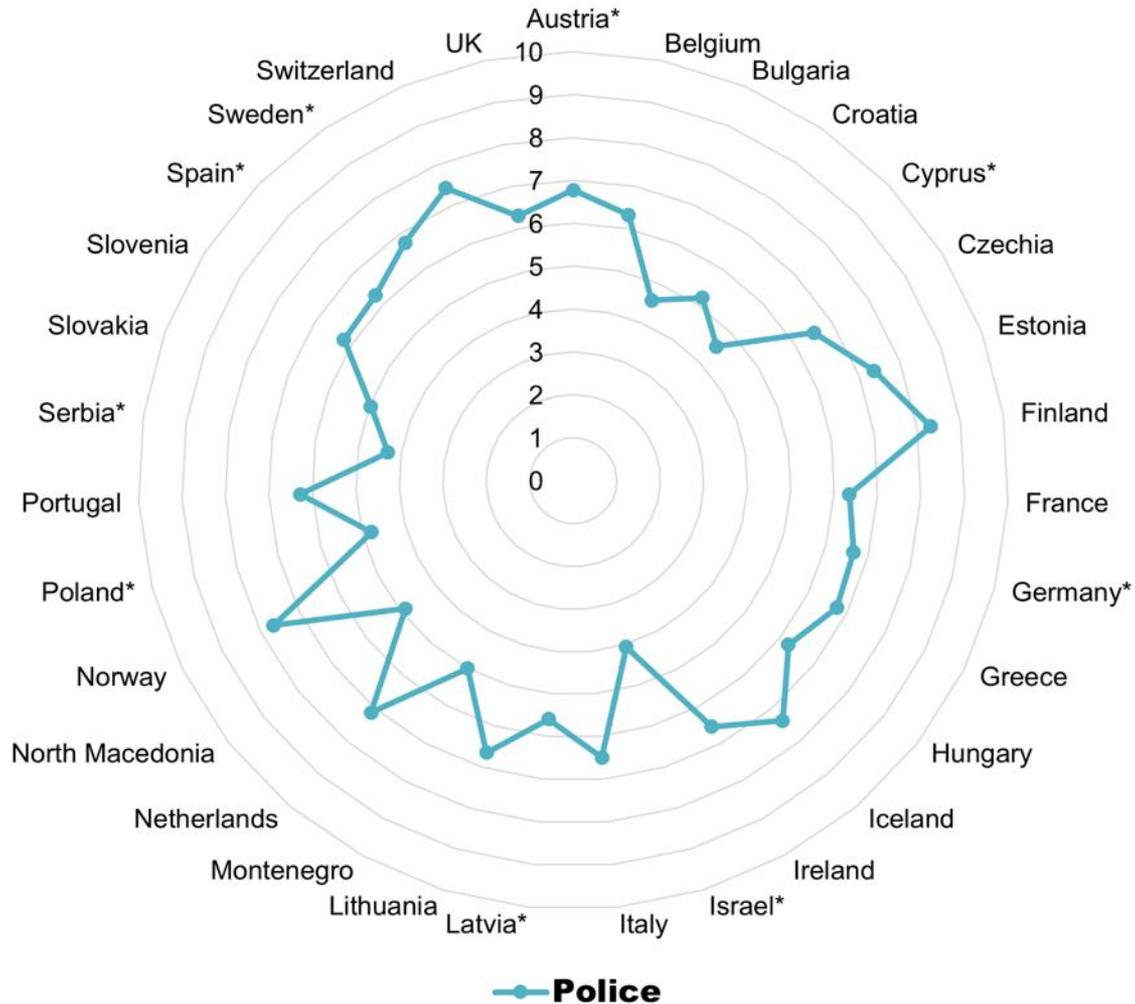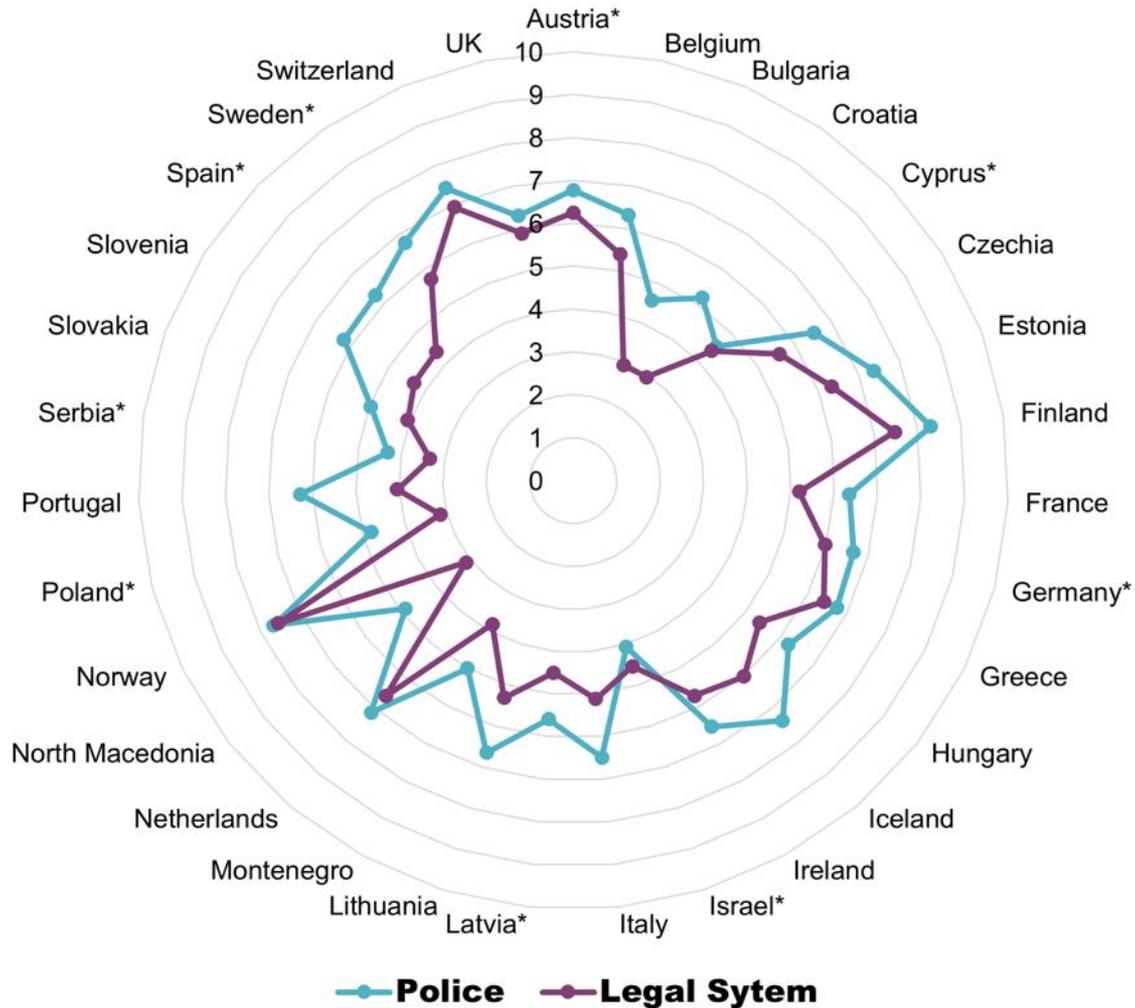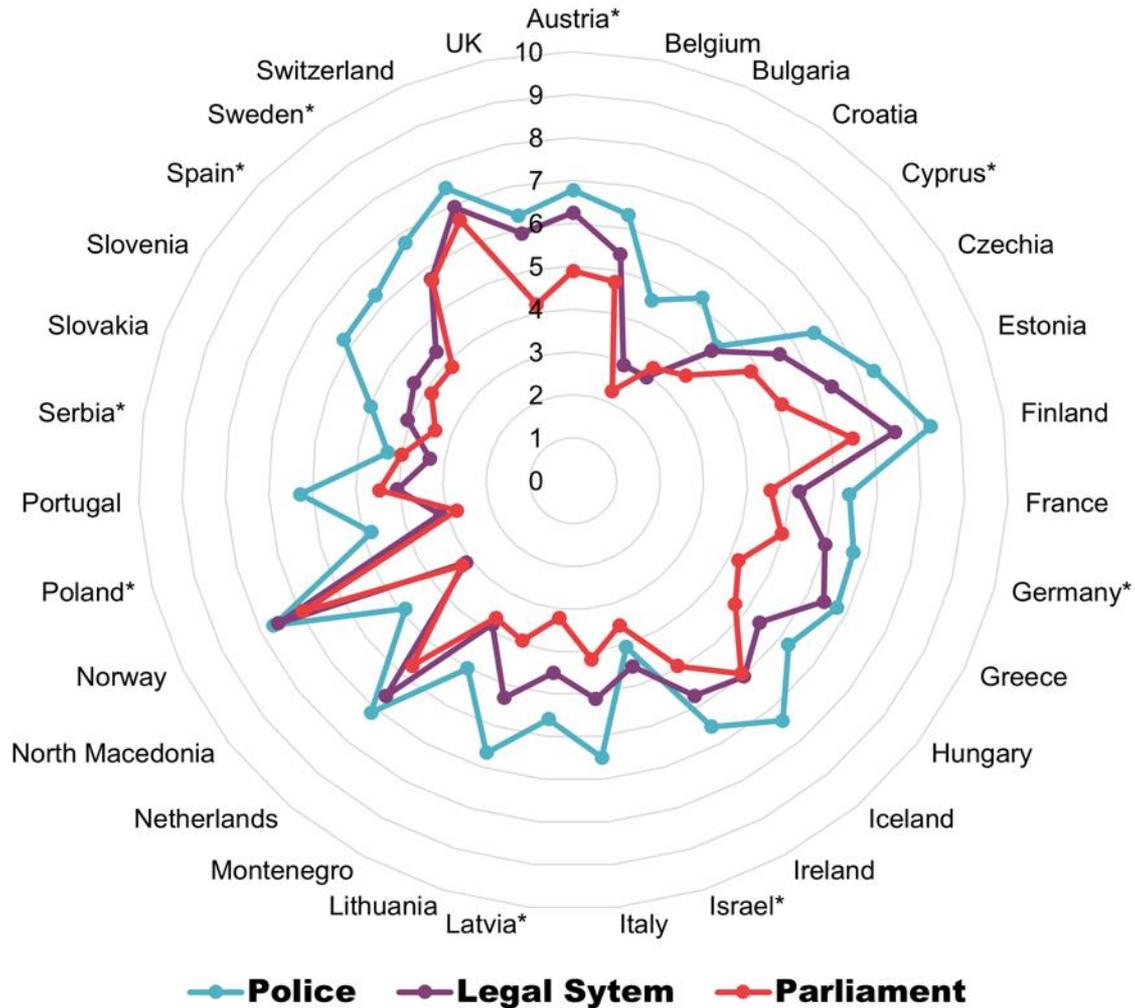
Trust in... (2020-22)
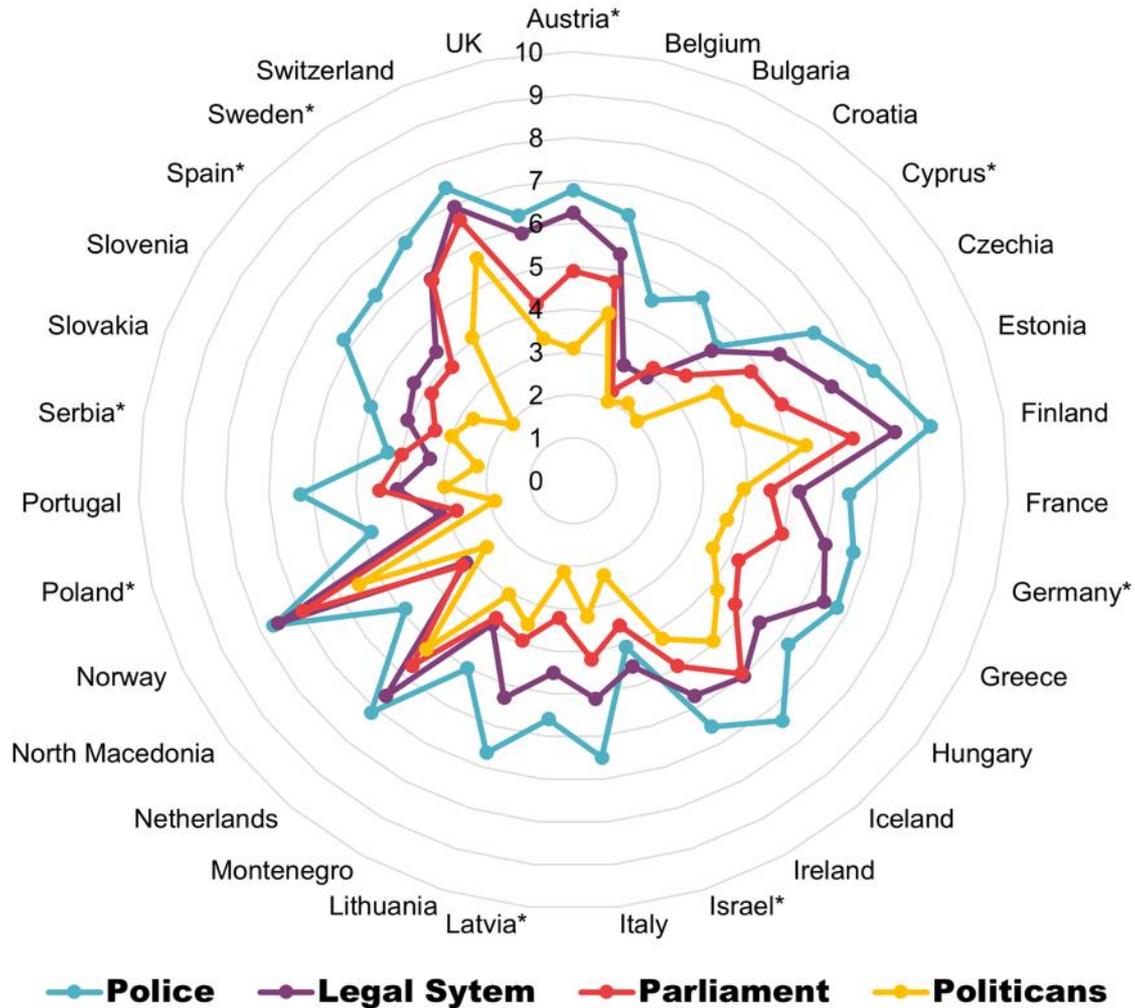
Personal responsibility to reduce climate change
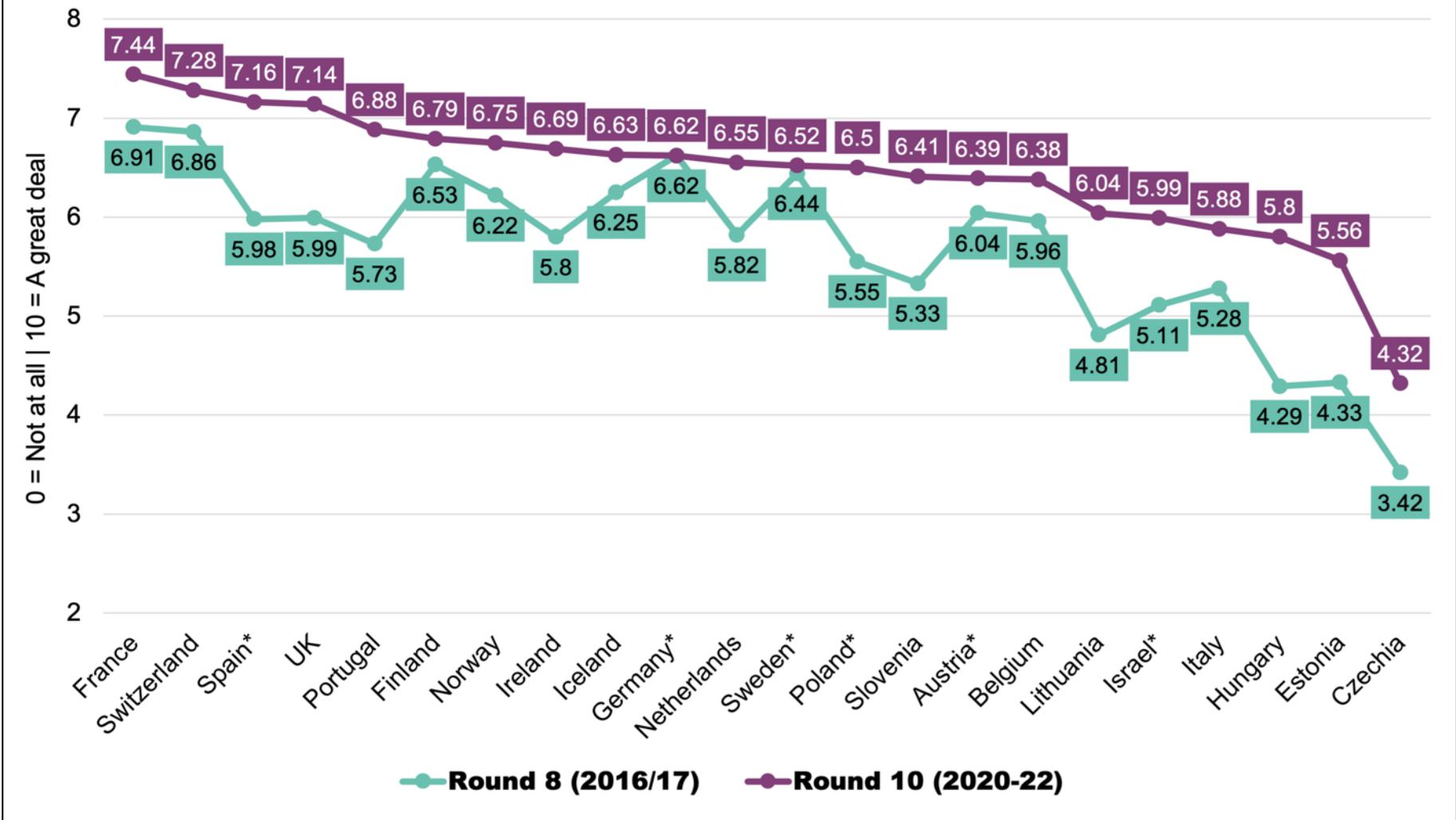
The next 20 years...

Future Data Collection

Data collection: A self-completion future

- **Round 10 (2020/22):** Pilots of self-completion ESS due to pandemic. 9 of 31 countries used SC instead of face-to-face

- **May 2022:** General Assembly endorsed change in data collection methods

- **Round 11 (2023/24):** face-to-face fieldwork

- **Round 12 (2025/26):** face-to-face (50% sample) and self-completion (50% sample) fieldwork in <u>all</u> participating countries

- **Round 13 (2027/28):** web and paper self-completion fieldwork in <u>all</u> participating countries

Data collection: A self-completion future – response rates

Survey	RR
Austria R10 experiment	34%*
Austria R10	34%
Cyprus R10	15%
Germany R10	37%
Israel R10	33%
Latvia R10	23%
Poland R10	39%
Serbia R10	30%
Spain R10	36%
Sweden R10	38%
UK R10 experiment	39%**
Finland R10 experiment	39%
Lithuania R11 test	37-38%***
France R11 test	35%***
Slovakia R11 test	20%***

* Based on 50 min questionnaire/€10 conditional incentive condition
** Based on adjusted response rate (i.e. not taking into account F2F ineligibility) and €10 conditional incentive condition
*** Based on provisional response rates (no unconditional incentives used)

GB self-completion experiment (R10)

- Conducted a self-completion ESS alongside part of the ESS Round 10 face-to-face CAPI fieldwork

- Used same sample frame (PAF)

- Different agencies

- SC protocol: Invitation (push to web), 2 reminders (paper Q'aire with final reminder), Relaunch

- Unconditional incentives used in face-to-face (voucher) and self-completion (cash)

- Conditional incentives used in SC (expt) and at interviewer discretion (face-to-face)

- Almost identical Q'aire between modes

Data collection: GB self-completion results (R10)

Outcome	Total		Web		Paper		Conditional incentive group					
							£0		£5		£10	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Complete/ usable partial response	2,908	36.4	2,120	26.5	788	9.9	904	33.9	958	35.9	1,046	39.2
Ineligible address	8	0.1					2	0.1	4	0.1	2	0.1
Nonresponse (including unusable partial responses)	5,084	63.6					1,761	66.0	1,705	63.9	1,618	60.7
Total	8,000	100					2,667	100	2,667	100	2,666	100

Data collection: GB Response Rates (R10)

	Total	Web	Paper	Conditional incentive group		
				£0	£5	£10
SC Response rate (unadjusted eligibility)	36.4%	26.5%	9.9%	33.9%	36.0%	39.2%
SC Response rate (adjusted eligibility)	39.6%	28.8%	10.8%	36.9%	39.1%	42.7%
Face to face response rate (UK)	20.9%					

GB Sample composition: SC vs Face to face (R10)

Sample composition	GB		
	SC	**F2F**	**t-test**
Share of female %	55.0	56.0	t(2037)=.61, p =.55
Mean age	55.1	56.8	t(2003)=2.76, p = .006
Mean years in education	14.1	15.2	t(1443)=4.25, p< .001
Share of citizens %	94.7	94.1	t(1949)=0.70, p=.49

Mode comparability - Looking across all countries (Lugtig)

"…when countries are compared that use face-to-face interviewing in both round 9 and 10 of the European Social Survey, we find no strong differences on means, variances and covariances. This is as expected, as the only likely cause of change here is a time effect. When we compare countries that switched from using face-to-face interviewing in round 9 to self-interviewing in round 10, we see that we find some changes in means, but not for variances and covariances. There are approximately 25 variables in the ESS for which the change in Standidzed Means that comes with the change of mode is larger than about .20, which is considered to be a small effect in intervention research. Overall, our findings are comforting in the sense that the number of variables for which mode-effects occur are limited, and they mainly affect means".

Accessing data

ESS Data Portal

- **All data freely available (2002-22): <u>ess.sikt.no</u>**

- **Download all data from each specific round (CSV, SPSS, Stata)**

- **Datafile Builder (Wizard) allows users to download a subset**
  - **Choose from countries, rounds and variables**

- **Multilevel data links ESS data with statistics from external sources**
  - **Data on demography, economy, education, democratic indicators, political institutions, health, crime and migration**

- **Web panel data available (CRONOS)**

- **Data from other Horizon projects also available (EOSC Future)**

- **Recently launched Variable Viewer tool**
  - **Automatically weights data for individual survey items**

Contact

- ✉ **r.fitzgerald@city.ac.uk**
- ☁ **europeansocialsurvey.org**
- ⓕ **EuropeanSocialSurvey**
- in **European-Social-Survey**
- 𝕏 **ESS_Survey**
- ▶ **EuropeanSocialSurveyERIC**

European
Social
Survey

The UK in the World Values Survey

Bobby Duffy
Professor of Public
Policy and Director,
the Policy Institute at
King's College London

About the UK in the World Values Survey Project

- …trends from 1981, covering over 110 countries, over 290 questions, most cited survey

- …3,600 random probability interviews in UK, incl boosts in Scotland, Wales and NI, in 2022

- …first time UK a full participant in over 15 years: UK in world, polarisation and UK Nations

Nine survey releases…

UK attitudes to immigration: how the public became more positive
February 2023

Democracy in theory and practice: how UK attitudes compare internationally
April 2023

A growing liberalisation: how social attitudes have shifted in the UK and beyond
March 2023

Love thy neighbour? Public trust and acceptance of the people who live alongside us
April 2023

Trust in trouble? UK and international confidence in institutions
March 2023

Belief, faith and religion: shifting attitudes in the UK
May 2023

The state of social trust: how the UK compares internationally
June 2023

What the world thinks about work
September 2023

Parenting priorities: international attitudes towards raising children
September 2023

Over 1k pieces of media

First…

…the UK public stand out as being

the most tolerant nations, with large shifts

in last 10-15 years…

The change in the UK has accelerated in the last two decades…

% of British public who say _____ is "justifiable"
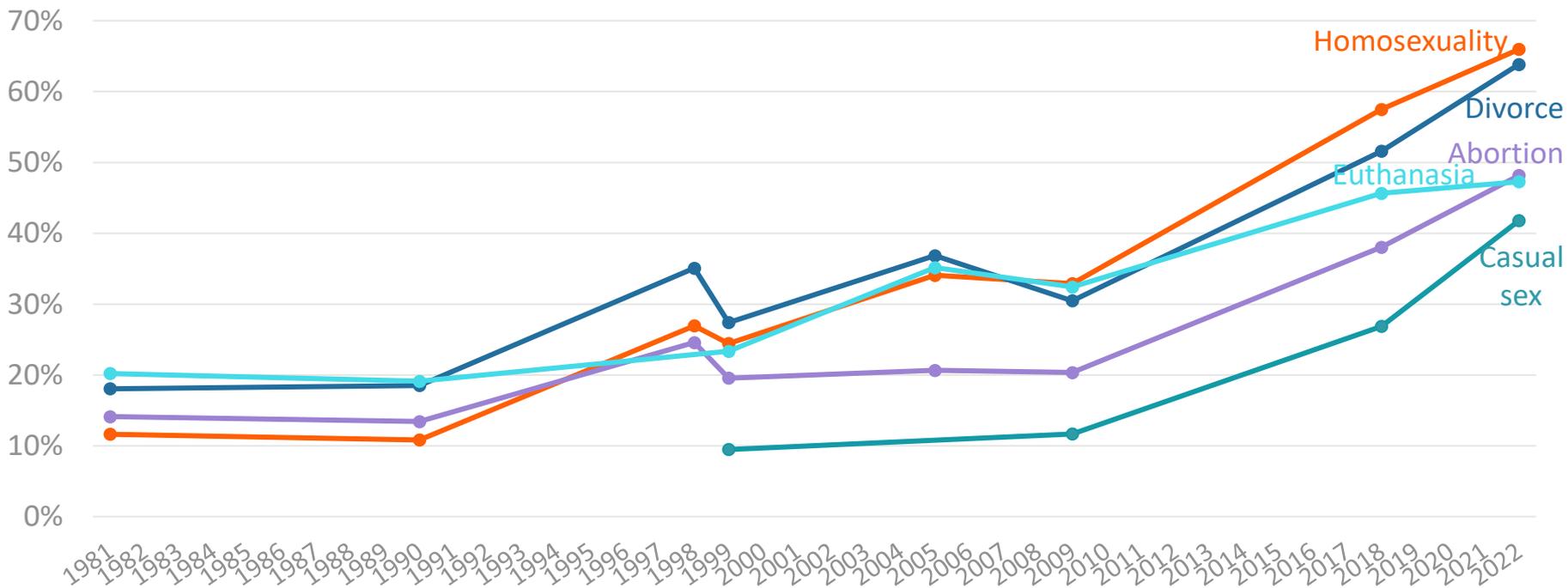
UK respondents have high levels of social trust in other

Trust in GB – 2022

98%
(2nd)

Say they trust **people they know** somewhat or a great deal

Adam Evans
@A_B_Evans

···

Christ - the rest of the world must be in an even worse state than I'd thought

The UK in the WORLD VALUES SURVEY

Global values divergence, not national polarisation, is the real challenge?

Social-liberal index measure – trends by region
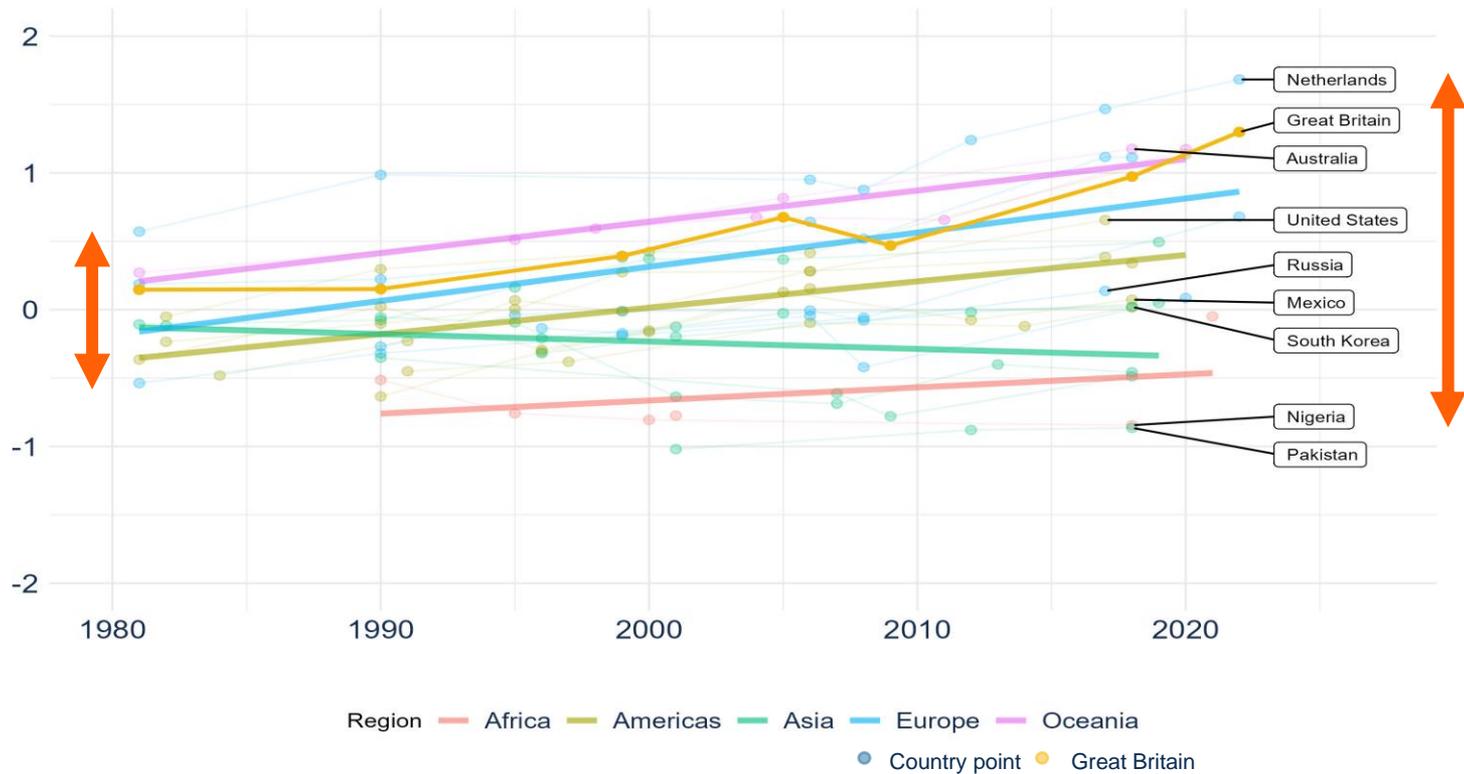
Note: questions used to construct index measures can be found in the technical appendix.

Second

...

...the UK public express continued support for democracy, in principle...

The British public have become more positive about democracy

% who say a democratic political system is a _____ way of governing the country

76%

90%

Very or fairly good

41%

64%

Very good

Little sign of "authoritarian reflex" in UK – BUT…

% who say they think having _____ is a good way of governing the country (2017-2022)

A strong leader who doesn't bother with parliament or elections

Country	Value
	75
Mexico	72
	69
South Korea	67
	66
Argentina	66
	60
Morocco	58
	56
Pakistan	50
	46
Average	45
	45
China	42
	38
Netherlands	36
	35
Australia	32
	32
Northern Ireland	30
	26
Canada	24
	23
New Zealand	17
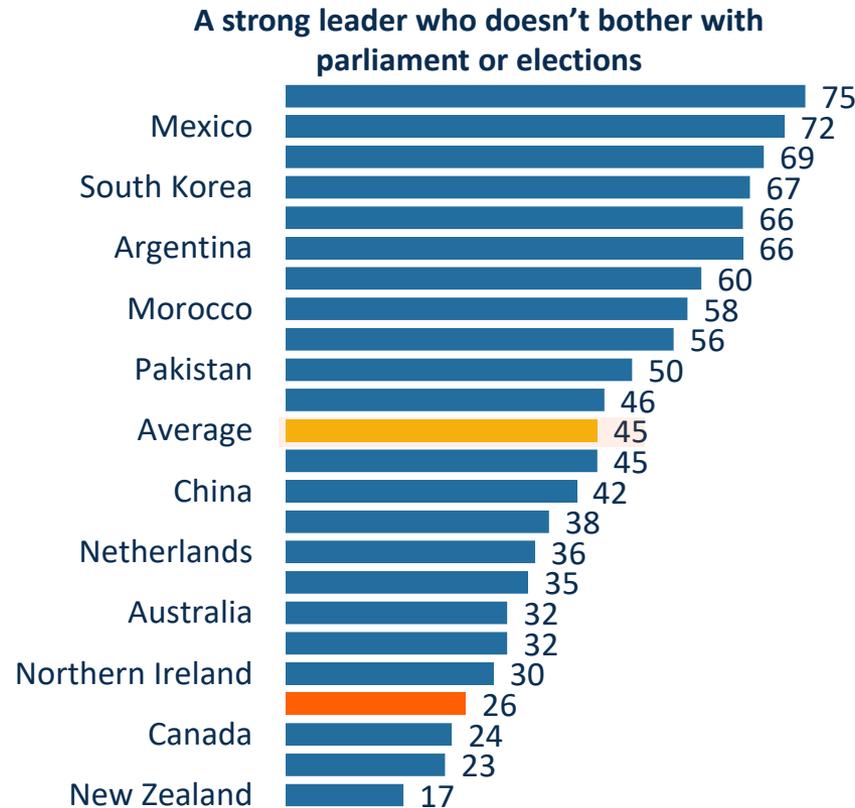
Differences are emerging on support for authoritarianism across regions

% who say having a strong leader who doesn't need to bother with parliament or elections is a good way of governing the country – trends by region

Region: Africa, Americas, Asia, Europe, Oceania

Country point, Great Britain

Labels: Philippines, Mexico, South Korea, Nigeria, Russia, United States, Great Britain, New Zealand
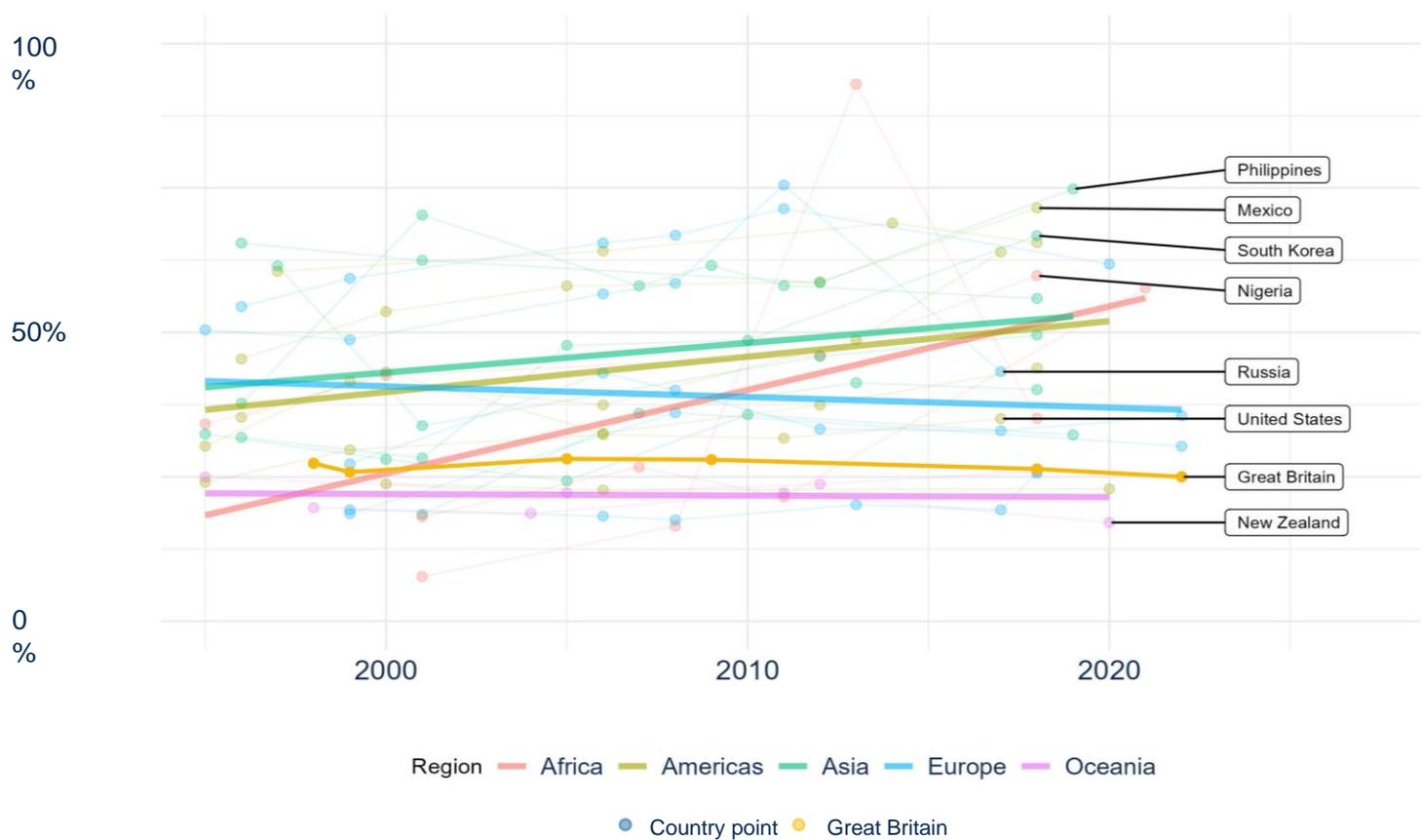
Third

...

While the UK public continues to support the principle of democracy, it's losing confidence in some key institutions...

NOT a new "crisis of trust" in institutions BUT…

% who say they have confidence in _____

87%
The police
67%

41%
Parliament
23%

30%
The press
13%
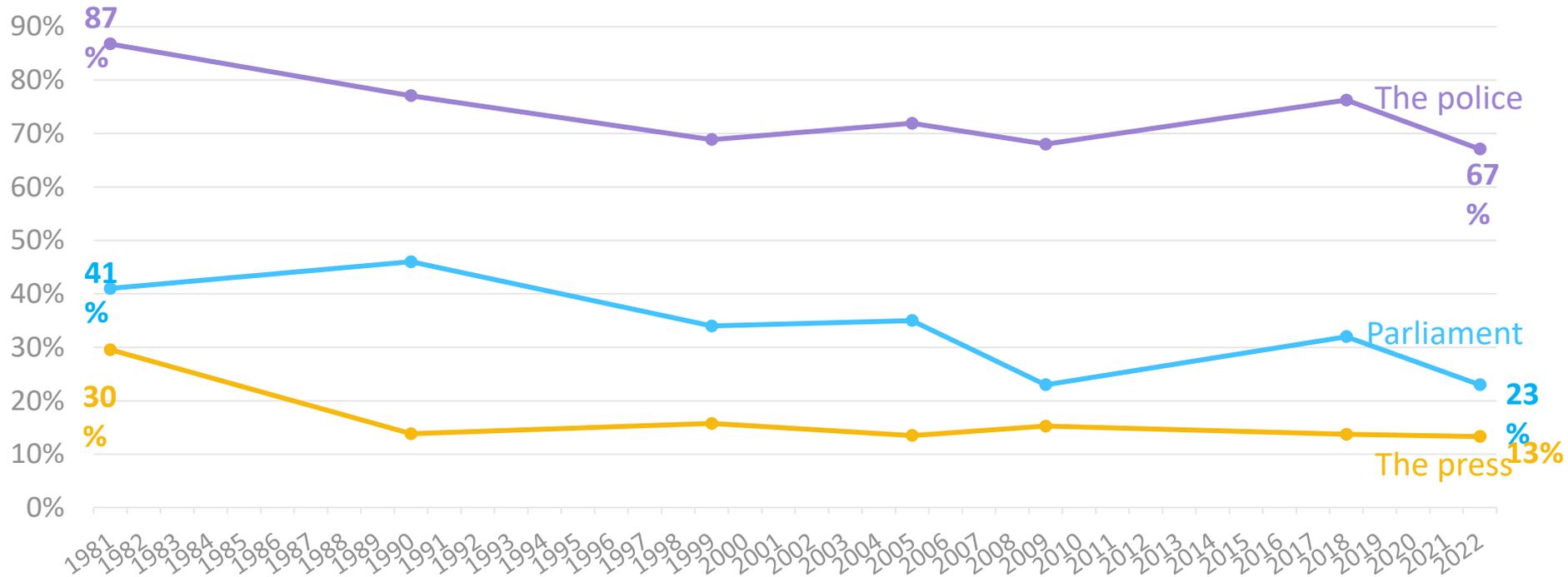
We may be used to it, but it's not the norm – wide variety…

% who say they have quite a lot or a great deal of confidence in _____ (2017-2022)

The Government

Country	Value
China	95
	82
Turkey	70
	64
Russia	55
	54
South Korea	51
	46
Germany	45
Average	45
Japan	43
	40
Chile	37
	34
Australia	30
	30
Argentina	30
Great Britain	24
Brazil	23
	21
Ukraine	20
	19
Mexico	17

Parliament

Country	Value
China	93
Philippines	70
	61
Pakistan	55
	44
Russia	43
	43
Germany	41
	37
Average	37
	35
Nigeria	34
	28
Great Britain	27
	22
Argentina	21
	21
Morocco	20
	19
Brazil	16
	15
Mexico	15
	12
Egypt	9

Political Parties

Country	Value
China	91
Philippines	63
	52
Pakistan	45
	33
Nigeria	33
	29
Average	29
	24
Canada	24
	22
Netherlands	21
	20
Morocco	19
	18
Ukraine	16
Great Britain	15
Brazil	14
	12
Mexico	11
	11
Australia	11
	9
Egypt	3

But are we polarising?

...focus for our upcoming Policy Lab...

The UK is NOT the US…

Social attitudes, 1990

Republican **Democrat**
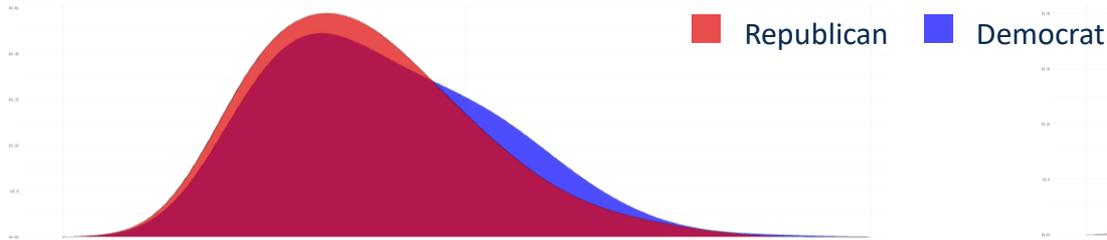
Social attitudes, 2017/2022
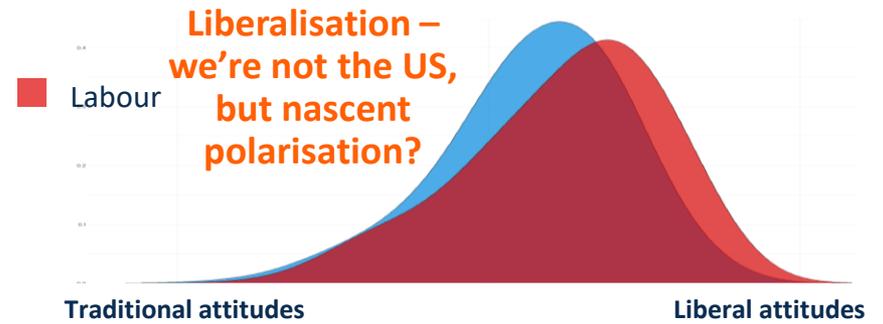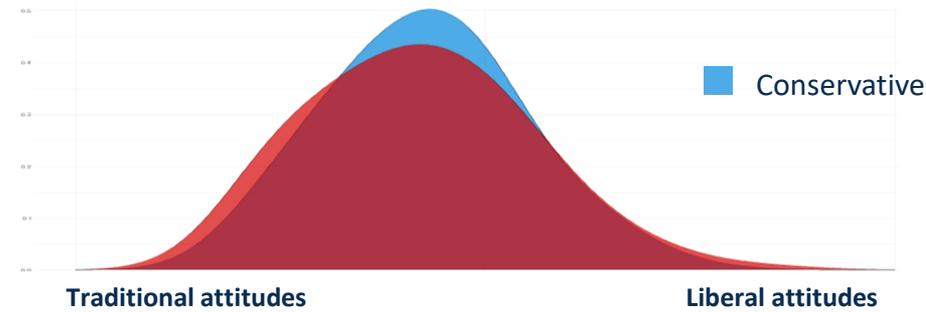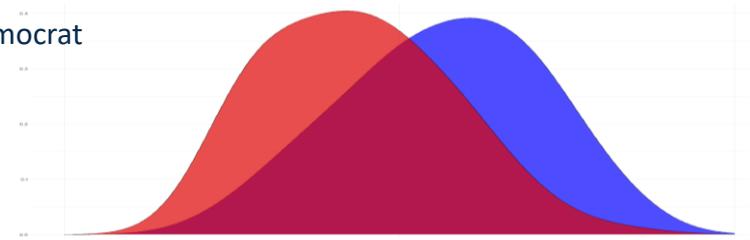
Conservative **Labour**

Liberalisation – we're not the US, but nascent polarisation?

Traditional attitudes — Liberal attitudes

Traditional attitudes — Liberal attitudes

Most important trends of our times: NOT culture war divisions in UK, rather how diverse and polarised values becoming worldwide?
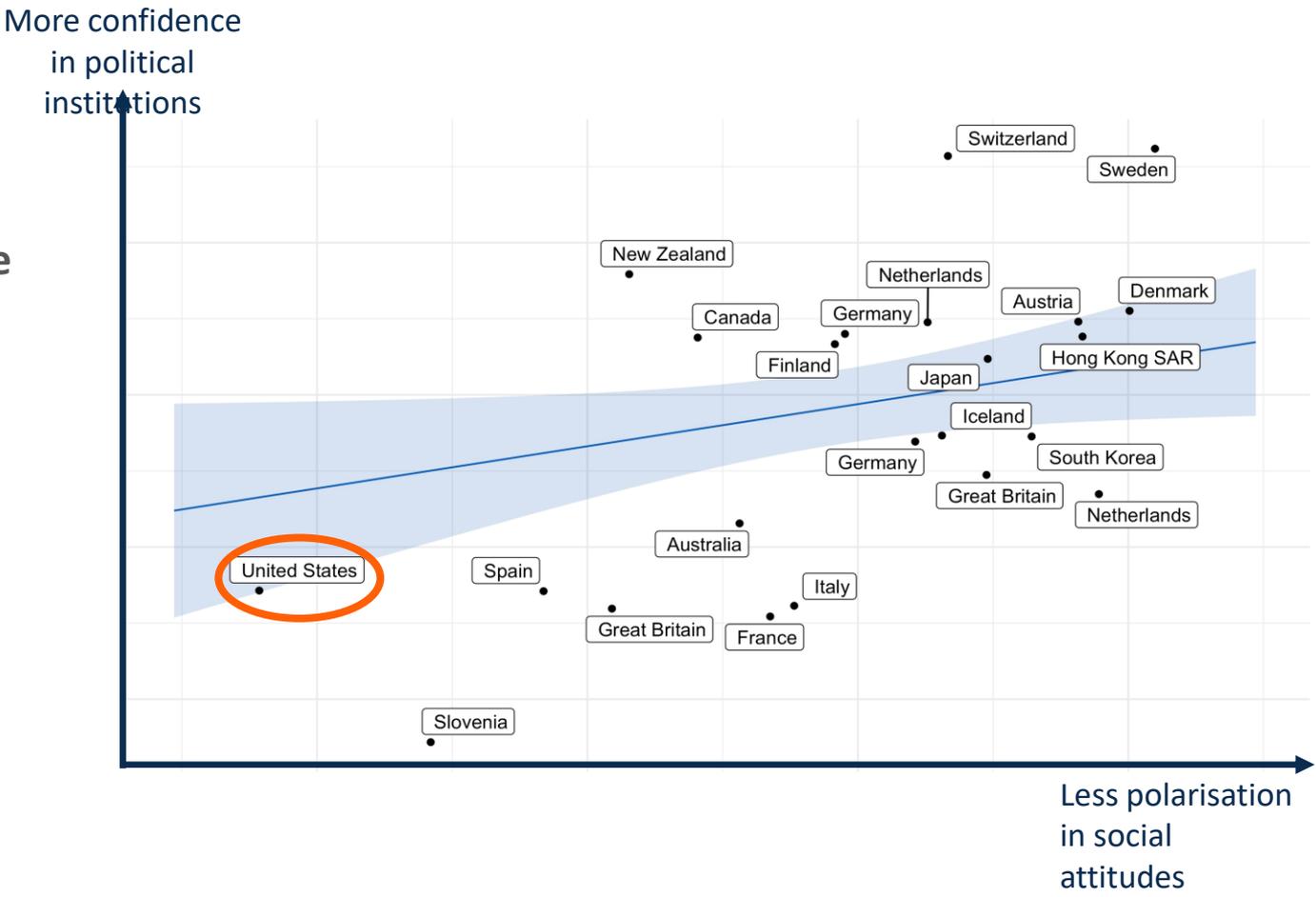
More confidence in political institutions

Less polarisation in social attitudes

Switzerland
Sweden
New Zealand
Netherlands
Austria
Denmark
Canada
Germany
Hong Kong SAR
Finland
Japan
Iceland
Germany
South Korea
Great Britain
Netherlands
Australia
United States
Spain
Italy
Great Britain
France
Slovenia

Thank you

Bobby Duffy
Professor of Public
Policy and Director,
the Policy Institute at
King's College London

#UKinWVS | @policyatkings

Cross-national research on fertility and family change: The Generations and Gender Survey

Brienna Perelli-Harris
20th Anniversary of ESS

4 June 2024

@CPCpopulation

Congratulations to the European Social Survey!

The social sciences research infrastructures

The Generations and Gender Programme

- **GGS Round 1**: 2004-2011,
  - Wave 1: 19 countries;
    Wave 2: 14; Wave 3: 3

- **Harmonized Histories** of

  partnership and fertility events
  - 26 Countries
  - From GGSs and other surveys (e.g. Understanding Society)

- **Contextual Database** (policies, economic indicators, etc.)

https://www.ggp-i.org/
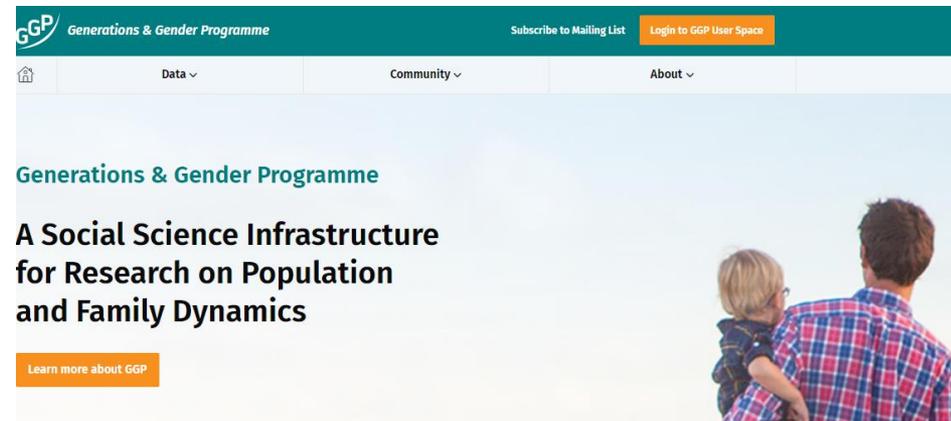
The Generations and Gender Programme

- **GGS Round 2 Wave 1**: 2020+,
  - Currently available for 10 countries:
    Belarus, Denmark, Estonia, Kazakhstan, Moldova, Norway, Sweden, the UK, Czech Republic, Austria,

  - Forthcoming for 9 countries/territories:
    Buenos Aires (Argentina), Croatia, Finland, France, Germany, Hong Kong, the Netherlands, Taiwan, Uruguay,

  - More countries in progress (e.g. Italy, Balkans, Poland)
- **GGS Round 2 Wave 2**
  - Norway in the field

Topics Covered

Timing births
Gender of children
Timing children left household

Fertility history

Parental divorce
Number of siblings
Parental education and occupation

Childhood family

Timing cohabitations & marriages
Timing separations & divorces
Age of partners
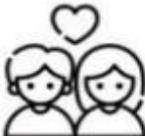
Partnership history

Educational level
Religiosity
Ethnicity

Country of birth respondent
Place of current residence
Country of birth parents

Residence

Latent class growth models describing relationship patterns
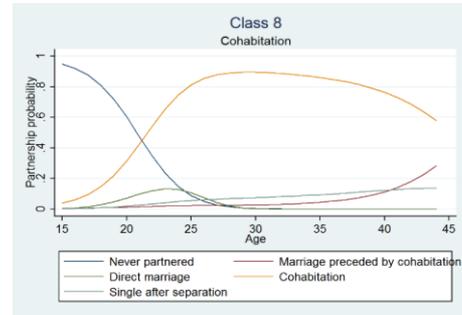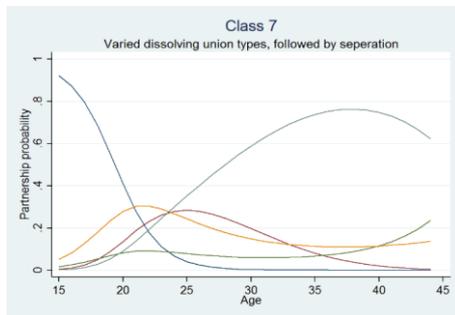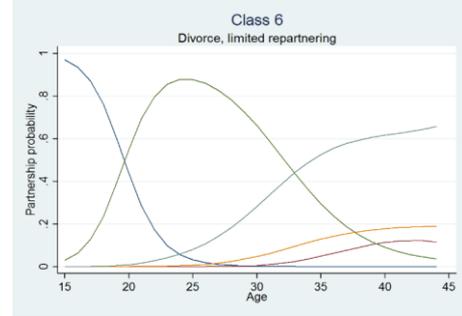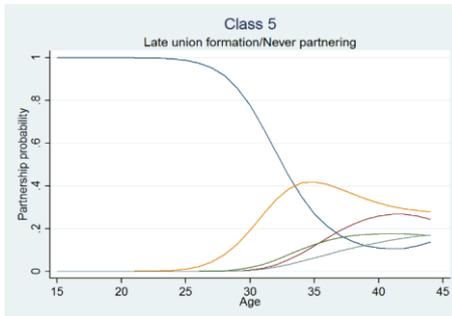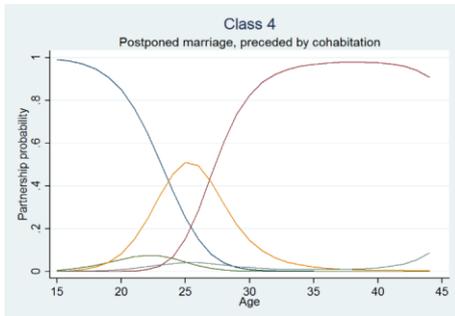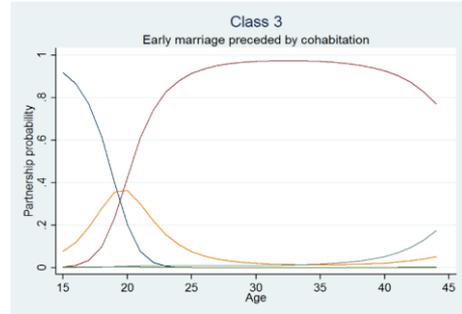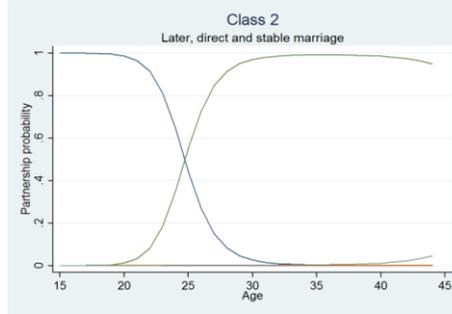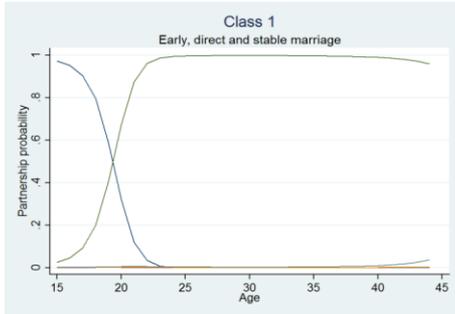
Perelli-Harris, B., & Lyons-Amos, M. (2016). Partnership patterns in the United States and across Europe: The role of education and country context. *Social Forces*, *95*(1), 251-282.

Additional topics covered by the GGS

- Employment, including irregular work schedules, parental leave, remote working

- Partner's education and employment

- Attitudes to work-family balance, parenting, gender division of labour

- Parents and intergenerational relations

The Generations and Gender Survey in the UK

- First time UK GGS is funded by the ESRC in 2022
  - Directly comparable to international GGS
  - All adults aged 18-59, N=7204
  - Worked with NatCen to conduct survey online

- Work packages in ESRC grant
  1) Methodological development: data quality, representativeness, incentive experiment, QR-code experiment

Olga Maslovskaya, CoI; Grace Chang, Post-doc

2) Analysis of partnership and fertility histories, childcare

Ann Berrington, CoI; Bernice Kuang, Post-doc

The GGS in the UK, 2022-2023

- Took place post-Covid, during the Cost of Living Crisis

- Additional questions on:
    - Ethnicity
    - Brexit

- Now available at the UK Data Service and GGP hub (ggp-i.org)

Economic Uncertainty and Intentions to Remain Childless in the UK

Prof. Ann Berrington
Dr. Bernice Kuang
Prof. Brienna Perelli-Harris

@CPCpopulation

Total Fertility Rates, 2000-2020
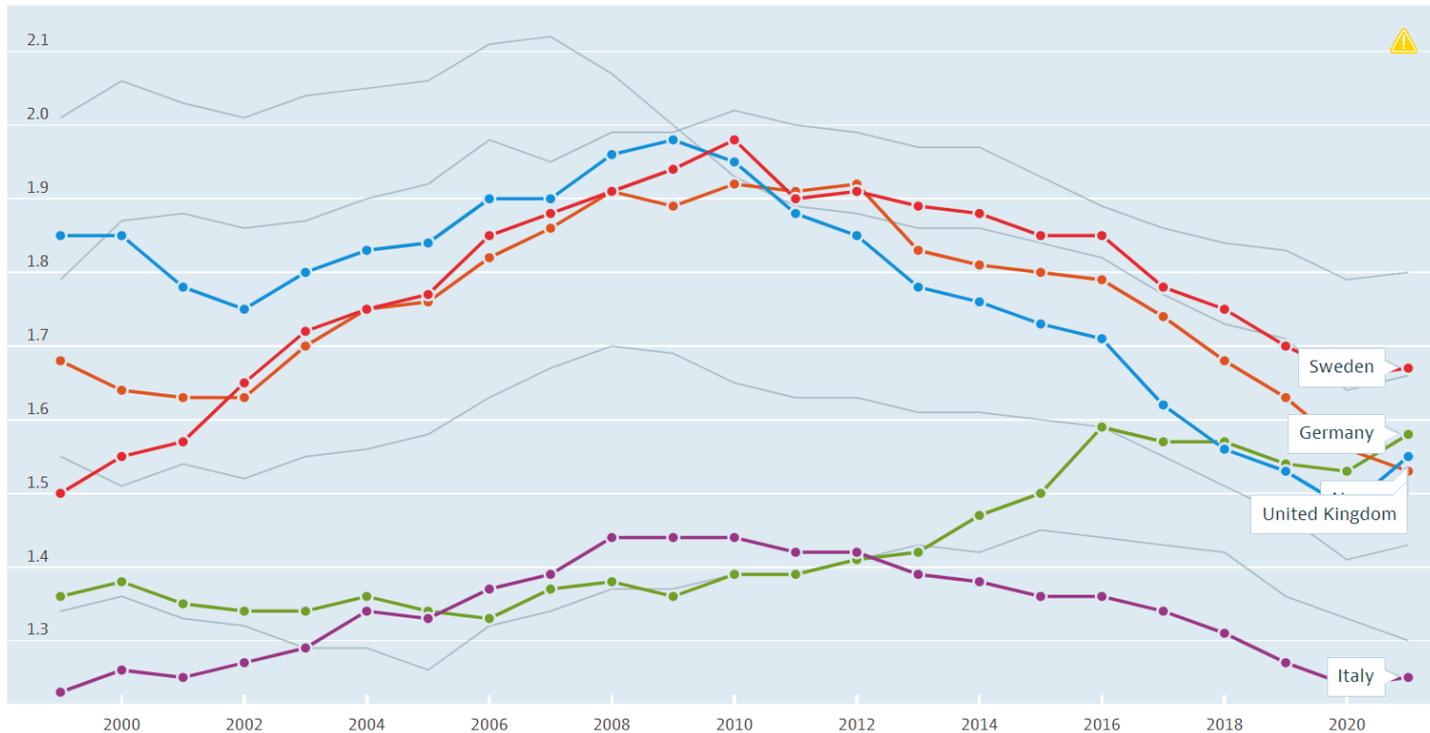
OECD (2024), Fertility rates (indicator). doi: 10.1787/8272fb01-en (Accessed on 23 May 2024)

Differences by cohort? Intention to ever have a child among childless men and women

(Ni Bhrolchain et al. 2010: 2005-2007 General Household Survey)

50-60% of childless millennials said "yes"

5-10% of childless millennials said "no"

Gen Z- age 18-24 n=652

Younger Millennial age 25-34 n=1005

Older Millennial age 35-41 n=385

Gen X - age 42-44 n=132

■ Definitely Not ■ Probably Not ■ Unsure ■ Probably Yes ■ Definitely Yes
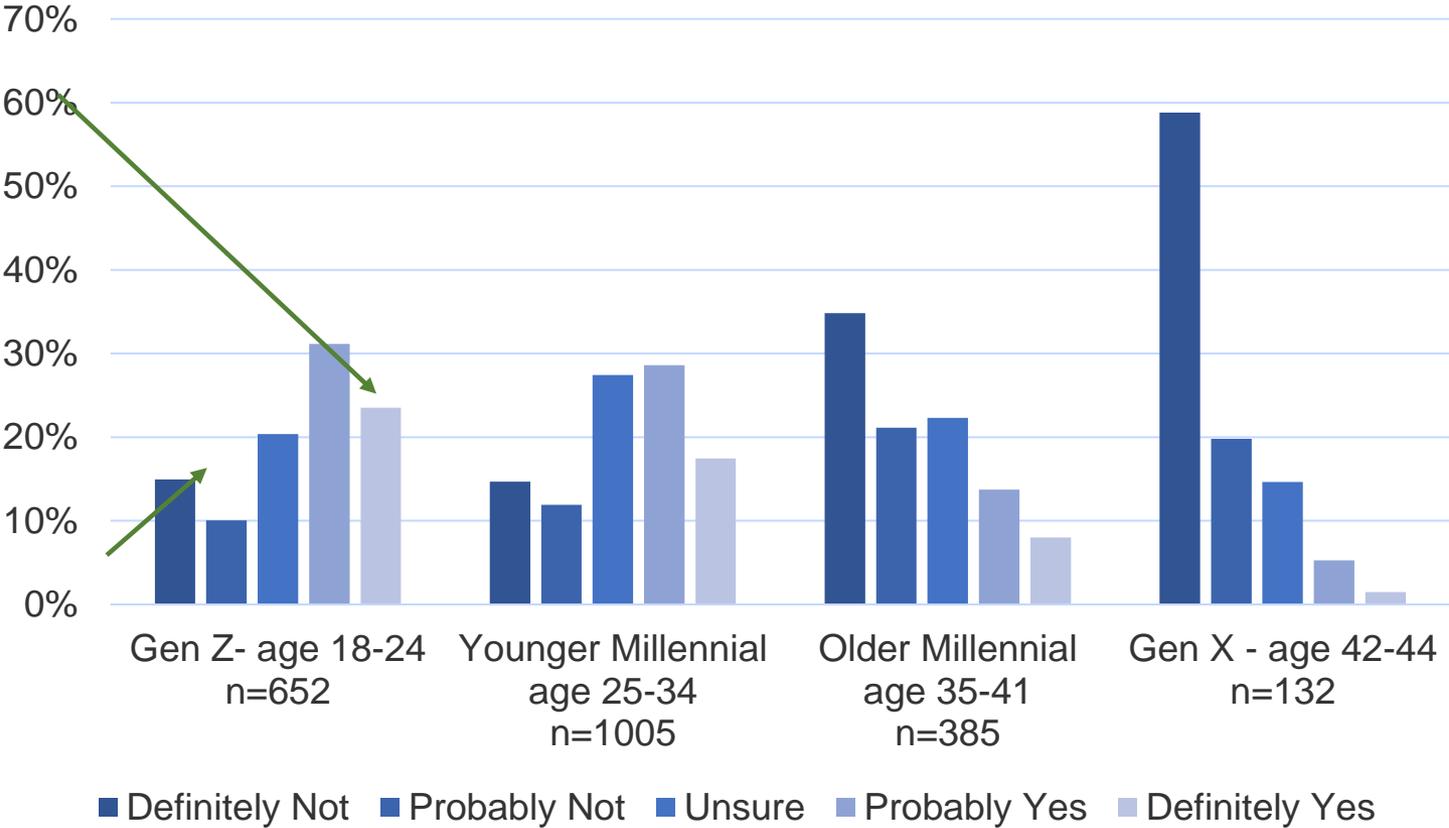
Declines in childbearing as a response to increased global uncertainties?

- Economic uncertainty
- Worries about global conflicts
- Environmental uncertainty

Research Questions

1. How do intentions to remain childless differ according to global uncertainties (environment and economy)?

2. Are individuals' concerns about own economic uncertainty associated with the intention to have a child?

Data and Methods

- Sample
  - Childless men and women aged 18-44, not currently pregnant/partner pregnant
  - N=2130

- Outcome variable – intention to have a child
  - 1) "Definitely no/probably no" (baseline)
  - 2) "Unsure"
  - 3) "Definitely yes/probably yes"

- Multinomial logistic regression

- Controls
  Sex, Age, Partnership status, Education, General health, Religion

Global uncertainties questions (Andersson et al., 2020)

"Thinking about the future, how much does the following worry you? "

Very worrying (=4),Somewhat worrying (=3),Not particularly worrying (=2),Not at all worrying (=1)

EFA: 2 factors

- ➤ Climate change
- ➤ Overpopulation/population pressure

→ **Environmental worries score Range= 2-8, α=0.77**

- ➤ Increased number of refugees
- ➤ Economic crisis/rising prices
- ➤ High un-employment
- ➤ Military conflict
- ➤ Global epidemics

→ **Economic, epidemics, conflict worries score Range=4-16, α=0.82**

Independent variables: <u>Individual-level</u> economic uncertainty

Objective measures	Subjective measures
Economic activity status *Employed, Unemployed, Student, other Inactive* Household income (annual) *£0-19,999, £20,000-39,999, £40,000-59,999, £60,000-79,999, 80,000+*	Compared to your parents when they were at your age, do you consider yourself better off than they were? *Much better or better, neither, worse or much worse* Do you think that your financial situation will get better or worse or will be about the same in three years from now? *Much better or better, neither, worse or much worse*

Results: Weak evidence that intentions vary according to concerns about the environment

Adjusted probability of fertility intentions by environmental worry score
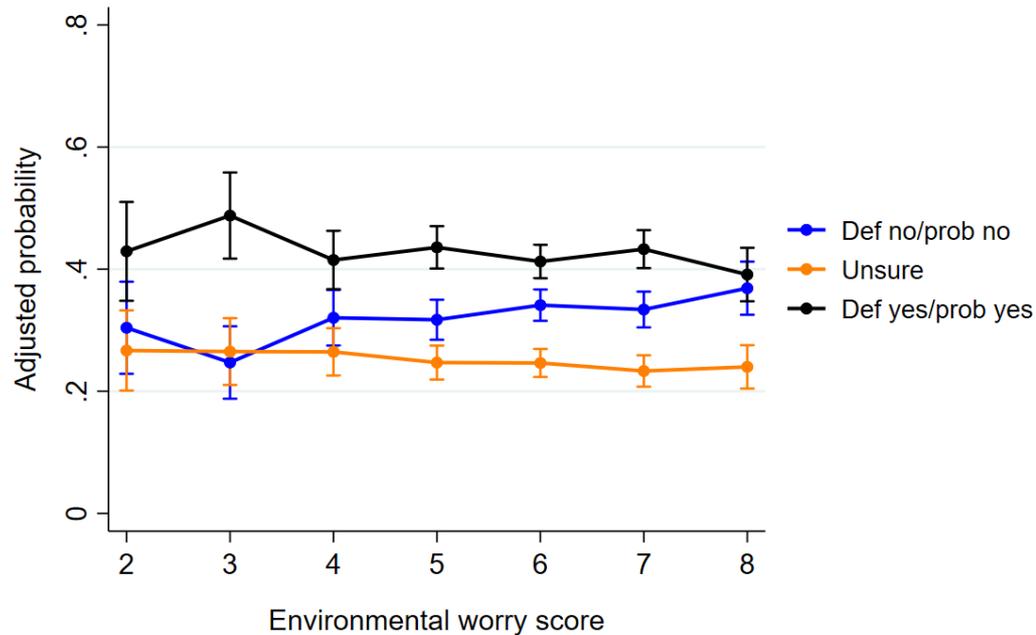
No Association

- Control variables: age, sex, partnership status, sibship, education, employment, health

Results: Predicted probability of intending to have a child according to

Worries for the Economy
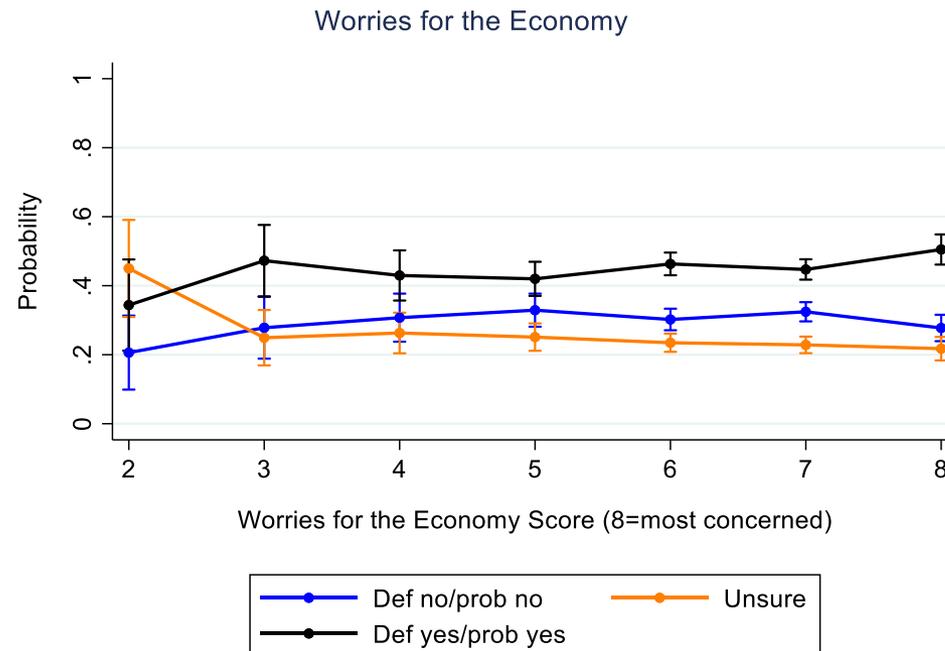
No Association

Estimates from multinomial logistic regression which additionally included: Age, sex, partnership status, education, general health, religion, environmental concern, HH income, economic activity status, expected future financial situation, income compared to parents at same age

Results: Predicted probability of intending to have a child according to

Expected Future Financial Situation
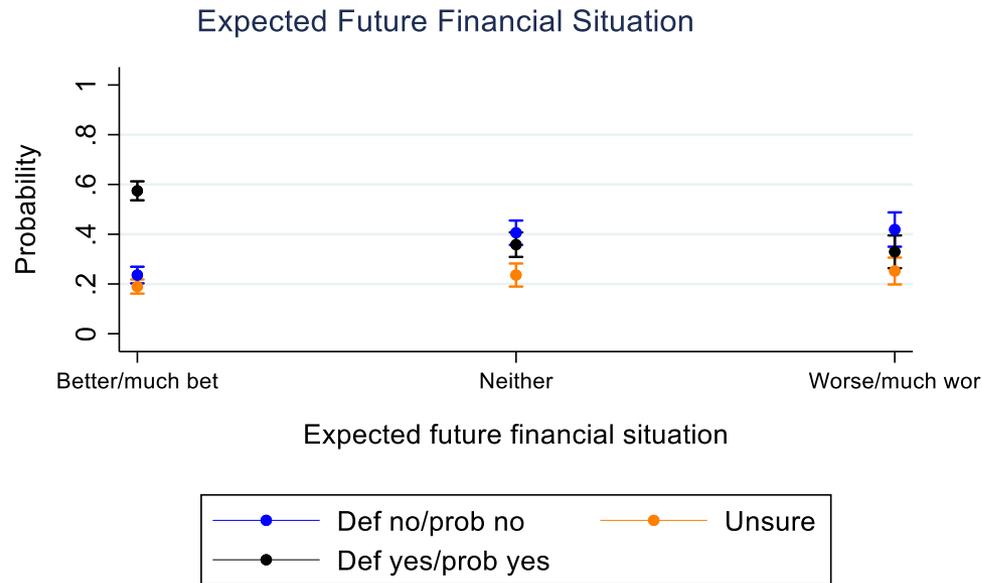
Those who think financial situation will **improve** more likely to intend to have a child

Estimates from multinomial logistic regression which additionally included: Age, sex, partnership status, education, general health, religion, environmental concern, HH income, economic activity status, income compared to parents at same age, worries for the economy

Results: Predicted probability of intending to have a child according to

Income compared to parents at the same age

18-29 age group

Income compared to parents at same age

Legend:
- Def no/prob no
- Def yes/prob yes
- Unsure
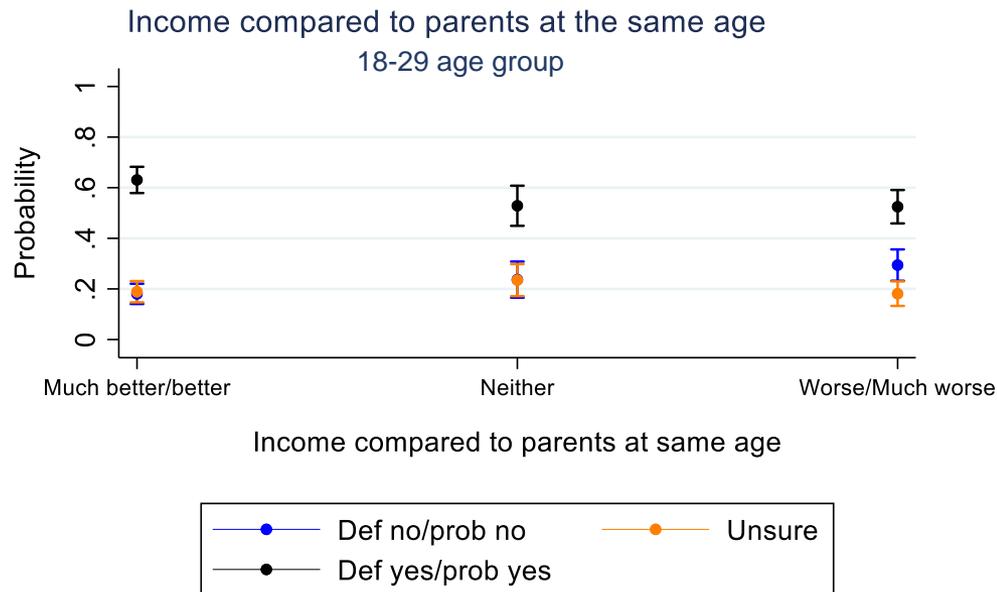
Those who think financial situation is **better than parents** more likely to intend to have a child

Estimates from multinomial logistic regression which additionally included: Age, sex, partnership status, education, general health, religion, environmental concern, HH income, economic activity status, expected future financial situation, worries for the economy

Conclusion (1)

- Dramatic increase in reported intentions to remain childless– how should this be interpreted?
  - Is this reflecting societal change in the acceptability of saying that they don't want children?
  - Do responses reflect short term decisions, rather than a lifetime of childlessness?
  - Or are these permanent shifts in people's desires for children?

Conclusion (2)

- Concerns about the environment or economy not very important – if anything those who are more concerned were more likely to intend to have a child

- Both objective and subjective measures of individual-level economic uncertainty are consistently associated with lower intentions to have a child

- Intentions to have a child are lower for:
  - economically inactive
  - lower household income
  - pessimistic about their future income
  - think they are worse off compared to their parents at the same age

- Economic concerns most important for future childbearing

Conclusions

- How do these UK results in the compare to those in other European countries?

- GGS intended to be a longitudinal survey, with follow-up every 3 years

- Generations and Gender Programme aims for long-term future, like ESS

- Value of cross-national research !

Thank you!

Find out more and contact us!

Web: www.cpc.ac.uk

Email: cpc@soton.ac.uk

Twitter: @CPCpopulation

Facebook: CPCpopulation

Me: b.g.perelli-harris@soton.ac.uk

University of Southampton

GGP

Introducing the International Social Survey Programme

Presentation Plan

- What is the International Social Survey Programme (ISSP)?

- Which topics are covered on ISSP?

- What are the findings from ISSP?

- How can I access ISSP data?

What is the ISSP?

What is the ISSP?

- International collaborative programme

- Conducts annual surveys

- Representative samples of adult population in ISSP member countries

- Modules on beliefs, attitudes, opinions, behaviour are asked at regular intervals so data enables cross-sectional and longitudinal analysis

- Organisation:

  - ISSP Secretariat (2021-2024 Switzerland)

  - Methodology Committee; working groups on methodological issues; drafting groups to develop ISSP source questionnaires, archive integrating the national data into ISSP data

A short history of the ISSP

- Founded in 1984 by four countries: Australia, Germany, Great Britain, USA

- Developed out of cooperation of general social surveys and projects

- First module 1985 "Role of Government"

- 2024: **45** member countries. Members consist of academic organisations, universities or survey institutes. No membership fees

- No central or common funds - each member funds its own survey

- Since its inception, **more than one million respondents** have participated in ISSP surveys

ISSP members in 2024

EUROPE

Austria	Germany	Norway
Bulgaria	Great Britain	Poland
Croatia	Greece	Russia
Czech Rep.	Hungary	Slovakia
Denmark	Israel	Slovenia
Estonia	Italy	Spain
Finland	Iceland	Sweden
France	Lithuania	Switzerland
Georgia	Netherlands	

ASIA

Bangladesh	South Korea
China	Taiwan
India	Thailand
Japan	Turkey
The Philippines	

NORTH- & SOUTH AMERICA

Canada
Chile
Mexico
Suriname
USA
Venezuela

AFRICA

South Africa
Tunisia

AUSTRALIA/ OCEANICA

Australia
New Zealand

ISSP in Britain

- Funded by Economic & Social Research Council

- Fielded on British Social Attitudes (BSA) and Scottish Social Attitudes (SSA) surveys

  - Web survey with option of telephone interview

  - Sample of c. 1,500 respondents asked ISSP module

  - BSA 2023 and SSA 2023 – National identity and citizenship

  - BSA 2024 and SSA 2024 to cover Digital Societies (In field Aug/Sept 2024)

National Centre for Social Research

BRITISH SOCIAL ATTITUDES

Gender roles

Authors: Jules Allen and Imogen Stevenson, National Centre for Social Research

British Social Attitudes 40

September 2023

Which topics are covered on the ISSP?

Which topics are covered on ISSP?

Title of module	Module I	II	III	IV	V	VI
Citizenship	2004	2014	2023*			
Digital Societies	2024					
Environment	1993	2000	2010	2020		
Family and Changing Gender Roles	1988	1994	2002	2012	2022	
Health and Health Care	2011	2021				
Leisure Time and Sports	2007					
National Identity	1995	2003	2013	2023*		
Religion	1991	1998	2008	2018		
Role of Government	1985	1990	1996	2006	2016	2026
Social Inequality	1987	1992	1999	2009	2019	
Social Networks	1986	2001	2017			
Work Orientations	1989	1997	2005	2015	2025	

How are modules developed?

Module proposal

Questionnaire developed by drafting group

Pre-test in selected countries

Discussion and voting at General Assembly

Implementation in member countries

National Centre for Social Research

What are the findings from the ISSP?

ISSP Publications

Publications using ISSP data are available in the ISSP Bibliography of GESIS gesis.org/issp

Since 2017, the International Journal of Sociology publishes an annual special issue on the latest ISSP data

Findings from BSA and SSA and international findings

Findings from BSA – Who should provide childcare?

- Used data from ISSP 2022 Family and Changing Gender roles module.

- Explored who should primarily provide childcare for children under school age/primarily cover the costs of childcare for children under school age.

- In both 2012 and 2022, family members most frequently selected as the category which should primarily provide such childcare, with slightly less than half selecting this category on each occasion.

- Slight increase in the proportion who feel that government agencies should be responsible for providing childcare to pre-school children – from 16% in 2012 to 20% now. Majority of people thought children should be looked after by family rather than public daycare.

Findings from BSA (cont.)

- People are more supportive of government agencies having a role in terms of funding childcare for children of pre-school age, than they are in relation to its provision.

- Fairly evenly split between thinking that government agencies (45%) and family members (39%) should primarily cover the costs of childcare for children under school age, although slightly more people believe that government should be responsible for these costs.

- The proportion of people who think that government should primarily fund childcare has increased by 50% since 2012, from 30% to 45%.

Findings from SSA – Is Scotland more Nordic than liberal?

- Used data from SSA, BSA and ISSP 2019 Social Inequality module

- People in Scotland are most likely to think the income distribution is unfair

  - 73% of people in Scotland say the distribution of incomes in Britain is unfair, compared with 65% in England.

  - In the Nordic countries, where income inequality is much lower, only 38% of people in Denmark and 52% of people in Norway claim the income differences between high and low earners is unfair.

  - In Finland, where income inequality has increased substantially, 63% claim the income distribution is unfair.

Findings from SSA (cont.)

- Scotland lies between England and the Nordic countries in its attitude towards buying better education and healthcare.

  o 46% of people in Scotland say that it is wrong for people to buy better education, while 42% say the same of buying better healthcare.

  o In England the equivalent figures are 34% and 32% respectively.

  o In Norway 70% feel it is wrong to buy better education, while 65% feel that way about buying better healthcare. The figures in both Finland (62% and 51%) and Denmark (60% and 50%) are also higher than in Scotland.

- People in Scotland are most likely to say they live in an unequal society

  o Only 11% of people living in Scotland claim British society is broadly equal with most people in the middle, compared with 17% of people living in England.

  o People in the Nordic countries are much more likely to feel their society is broadly equal – 53% in Norway, 51% in Denmark and 39% in Finland.

Upcoming findings from BSA/SSA 2023

- BSA 2023 report to be launched at online event on 12th June

- Using data from ISSP 2023 module on national identity and citizenship in chapters covering:
  - Attitudes to immigration
  - Differences in attitudes to national identity and national pride in England and Scotland

International Findings

- Used data from ISSP 2015 Work Orientations module to measure Job satisfaction levels across 37 countries.

- Mean job satisfaction scores in 5.2–5.4 range (overall world-wide mean is 5.3). United Kingdom is 5.4.

- Highest job satisfaction levels in Venezuela, Switzerland, Austria, and Mexico (means between 5.7 and 5.9). Lowest job satisfaction levels in Poland, China, and Japan (means between 4.5 and 4.8).

- Significant difference in mean job satisfaction scores between employees in public (5.41) and private sector (5.29) employees.

Andrade, M. S., & Westover, J. H. (2022). Job Satisfaction – An International Comparison of Public and Private Sector Employees. *International Journal of Public Administration*, *46*(16), 1151–1165. https://doi.org/10.1080/01900692.2022.2076696

International Findings (cont.)

- Analysed data from 23 countries completing ISSP 2016 Role of Government module using multilevel regression models to explore perceptions of civil servant corruption.

- Wide variation in public perceptions of civil servant corruption. Highest aggregate perceived corruption are Chile (75.1%), Lithuania (70.8%), and Turkey (60.1%).

- Conversely, the lowest are found in New Zealand (12.2%), Norway (11.5%), and Switzerland (5.9%).

Moltz, M. C., Morelock, A. L., & Simon, C. A. (2023). Perceptions of Civil Servant Corruption: A Cross-Country Analysis. *Public Integrity*, *26*(3), 346–359.
https://doi.org/10.1080/10999922.2023.2262208

International Findings (cont.)

- Analysis of data from ISSP 2011 Health module and 2014 ESS from 35 countries, with repeated observations from 17 countries.

- Individuals engaged more frequently in health promoting behaviours in countries with higher levels of economic development.

- Found a tighter connection between health lifestyles and health in countries with higher levels of economic development. Growth in economic development increases the engagement of health promoting behaviours.

VanHeuvelen, T., & VanHeuvelen, J. S. (2021). Between-country inequalities in health lifestyles. International Journal of Comparative Sociology, 62(3), 203-223. https://doi.org/10.1177/00207152211041385

How can I access ISSP data?

ISSP Data Provision

ISSP data and documentation can be downloaded free of charge from the GESIS Data Catalogue: gesis.org/en/issp/home

ISSP methodological reports, e.g., study monitoring or source questionnaire development: https://www.gesis.org/en/issp/overview

General information: www.issp.org

Accessing datasets and documentation - gesis.org/en/issp/home

Summing up

Collaboration of 45 countries

High quality surveys on representative samples

Range of topics covered providing cross-country and time series data

Datasets are available free of charge

Any questions?