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Weizenbaum Panel

**Digital Citizenship—Political Communication and  
Participation in Germany 2019**

WP1-19

*Questionnaire Documentation [Translated version]*

## About this Questionnaire Documentation

The Weizenbaum Panel on Political Participation in Germany is a longitudinal study conducted annually by the Weizenbaum Institute for the Networked Society in cooperation with the Institute for Journalism and Communication Studies at Freie Universität Berlin. The focus is on political engagement by citizens in Germany, with a particular concern for the use of digital media and changes in political participation in the context of digitalization. Phenomena such as hate speech and fake news, which people are confronted with on the internet, are as much a part of the survey as the active commitment to a democratic debate culture. In addition, the survey looked at “citizenship norms,” i.e., ideas of how a “good citizen” should behave in our democracy.

The questionnaire documented here was used in the first survey wave during the survey period from early September to late November 2019. A total of 1,298 people living in Germany were surveyed. All participants were randomly selected from the German-speaking population in Germany aged 16 and over. The survey was conducted in the telephone studio of Freie Universität Berlin.

## Publication notification

We request notification of publications that use data from the Weizenbaum Panel (bibliographic information, identifier of the dataset used).

## Citation

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## Key facts

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Name of the survey          | Weizenbaum Panel: Digital Citizenship—Political Communication and Participation in Germany 2019  |
| Short form                  | WP1-19   |
| Responsible institution     | The Weizenbaum Institute for the Networked Society   |
| Financing                   | Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), grant number 16DIII14   |
| Survey institute            | Institute for Media and Communication Studies, Freie Universität Berlin  |
| Responsible persons         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Martin Emmer, Pablo Porten-Cheé (scientific direction)</li><li>– Laura Leißner, Nadja Schaetz, Christian Strippel (implementation)</li></ul>   |
| Goals of the survey         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Representative overview of political communication and participation in Germany</li><li>– Significance of the use of the internet and social media for political participation</li><li>– Influence of citizenship norms on political participation</li><li>– Investigation of how people deal with hate speech and fake news on the internet</li></ul>   |
| Survey mode                 | Computer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI)  |
| Field time                  | Mon, 09 September 2019–Sat, 30 November 2019 (12 weeks)  |
| Contact times               | Mon–Fri: 12–8 PM; Sat: 12–6 PM   |
| Language of survey          | German   |
| Multi-topic survey          | No   |
| Number of questions (items) | 65 (107)   |
| Surveyed constructs         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Internet and social media usage: motives/activities</li><li>– News usage and political discussions</li><li>– Political interest, political efficacy, and political trust</li><li>– Understanding of and satisfaction with democracy</li><li>– Importance of a political issue</li><li>– Traditional and internet-related citizenship norms</li><li>– Political orientation and party membership</li><li>– Political participation and willingness to participate</li><li>– Responding to hateful comments and fake news on the internet (online civic intervention).</li><li>– Sociodemographics</li></ul> |
| Target population           | German-speaking resident population in the Federal Republic of Germany aged 16 and over with a telephone connection  |
| Related surveys             | ZA5227   |

## Reading notes for the questionnaire documentation

For the purposes of quick orientation, this questionnaire documentation offers a **tabular overview of the variables surveyed**. These overviews contain the question title and a brief description of the associated item in addition to the variable names.

The variable names are composed according to the following pattern:  
“Letter combination\_two-digit number” (e.g., “SD\_01”)

The letter combination indicates which variables belong to the same subject complex (e.g., all SD variables belong to the sociodemographics subject complex). The subsequent two-digit number is consecutive but does not continue without gaps, because not all items and constructs were surveyed in each wave.

If the two-digit number is followed by the letter “O”, this means that it is an open-ended variable (see notes on scale). The letter “M,” on the other hand, refers to multiple answers (M1, M2, M3, etc.). All other letters (A, B, C, etc.) indicate that a variable relates to a previous variable in terms of content.

The variable names correspond to those in the associated data set.

**A detailed documentation of all questions** follows, which includes the following information in addition to the variable names and question titles:

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| Filter        | <p>Filters indicate whether a question or individual item has been filtered based on previous responses. The filtering is described according to the following pattern:</p> <p>IF “Filter variable” OPERATOR “Response to filter variable.”</p> <p>The following operators are possible: = &lt; &gt;</p> <p>Example: “IF SD_02=01” means that the question to which the filter is assigned was only asked if question SD_02 was previously answered with the value of 01.</p> <p>In contrast, “IF NN_04&lt;09” means that the question was only asked if the respondent gave an answer with a value less than 09 to question NN_04.</p> <p>The same pattern is used to describe the filtering of individual items, but the term “Item” and the corresponding item variable that is being filtered is added before the IF condition.</p> <p>Example: “Item NN_04 IF MN_01=01”</p> <p>If no filter is noted, the question was asked to all respondents.</p> |
| Programming   | <p>Notes on special features in programming, e.g., “rotation of items” or possibility of multiple answers (incl. indication of the minimum and maximum number of answers allowed).</p>  |
| Question text | <p>Wording of the question as it was read to respondents.</p>   |

|                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| Items                  | Formulation of items as they were read to respondents (item batteries only).   |
| Scale                  | <p>Answer options</p> <p>Open-ended items are recorded in separate variables but are tied to specific responses in standardized recorded variables.</p> <p>Example: The variable “SD_05O” contains open response data on the answer “09 Other country:” in “SD_05”—which is a standardized variable.</p> <p>To make this clear, the name of the variable with the open-response option is placed in square brackets after the corresponding answer specification, following the example above: “09 Other country: [SD_05O]”.</p> |
| Interview instructions | Notes for interviewers that were not read to respondents.  |

## Overview of variables collected

| <b>Question title</b>                          | <b>Variable</b> | <b>Items</b>                                 |
|--|-----------------|--|
| <a href="#">Internet usage</a>                 | MN_01           | Internet usage                               |
| <a href="#">Social media usage</a>             | SM_01           | Social media usage                           |
| <a href="#">News usage</a>                     | NN_01           | Print newspapers and magazines               |
|  | NN_02           | Television                                   |
|  | NN_03           | Radio  |
|  | NN_04           | Internet                                     |
| <a href="#">News usage on the internet</a>     | NN_05           | News media websites and apps                 |
|  | NN_06           | Media libraries                              |
|  | NN_07           | Online radio and podcasts                    |
|  | NN_08           | Political blogs and news sites               |
|  | NN_09           | News on social media                         |
|  | NN_10           | News aggregators like Google News            |
| <a href="#">Motives for social media usage</a> | SM_02           | Passing time                                 |
|  | SM_03           | Staying in contact with friends and family   |
|  | SM_04           | Sharing news with others                     |
|  | SM_05           | Staying up to date on social issues          |
| <a href="#">Forms of social media usage</a>    | SM_06           | Looking at other profiles                    |
|  | SM_07           | Browsing newsfeed                            |
|  | SM_08           | Reading long posts and articles              |
|  | SM_09           | Watching videos                              |
|  | SM_10           | Liking or commenting on friends' posts       |
|  | SM_11           | Posting content                              |
|  | SM_12           | Writing to others                            |
|  | SM_13           | Editing own profile                          |
|  | SM_14           | Listening to music                           |
|  | SM_15           | Playing games                                |
| <a href="#">Political discussions</a>          | PT_01           | Political discussions                        |
| <a href="#">Political interest</a>             | PT_02           | Political interest                           |
| <a href="#">Political efficacy</a>             | PT_03           | Understanding and assessing political issues |
|  | PT_04           | Politicians seek contact                     |
|  | PT_05           | Participating in political conversations     |
|  | PT_06           | Politicians care what people think           |
| <a href="#">Political trust</a>                | PT_07           | Trust in the government                      |
| <a href="#">Relevant topics</a>                | PT_08           | Topic: immigration to Germany                |
|  | PT_09           | Topic: climate change                        |
| <a href="#">Satisfaction with democracy</a>    | PT_10           | Satisfaction with democracy                  |
| <a href="#">Citizenship norms</a>              | BN_01           | Helping people in other countries            |
|  | BN_02           | Advocating for environmental protection      |
|  | BN_04           | Participating in political discussions       |

|                                  |        |   |
|----------------------------------|--------|---|
|                                  | BN_05  | Following political topics in the media                       |
|                                  | BN_06  | Joining a political party                                     |
|                                  | BN_07  | Participating in a demonstration                              |
|                                  | BN_09  | Abiding by laws   |
|                                  | BN_10  | Respecting the right of others to have their own opinion      |
|                                  | BN_11  | Participating in federal elections                            |
|                                  | BN_12  | Starting political discussions                                |
|                                  | BN_13  | Sharing knowledge about politics with others                  |
|                                  | BN_14  | Obtaining information from trustworthy sources                |
|                                  | BN_15  | Paying attention to the truthfulness of news                  |
|                                  | BN_16  | Calling out fake news   |
|                                  | BN_17  | Countering hate in discussions                                |
| <u>Basic political values</u>    | GW_01  | Basic political values  |
|                                  | GW_02  | Freedom versus equality                                       |
|                                  | GW_03  | Freedom versus security                                       |
|                                  | GW_04  | Equality versus security                                      |
| <u>Political orientation</u>     | PO_01  | Left-right self-assessment                                    |
|                                  | PO_02  | Left-right self-assessment (reverse scale)                    |
| <u>Party identification:</u>     | PI_01  | Leaning towards a political party                             |
|                                  | PI_02  | Leaning towards a political party (party name)                |
|                                  | PI_02O | Open response to PI_02O                                       |
|                                  | PI_03  | Party membership  |
| <u>Political participation</u>   | PP_01  | Voting in the last federal election                           |
|                                  | PP_11  | Demonstration   |
|                                  | PP_11B | Demonstration (willingness)                                   |
|                                  | PP_14  | Donation  |
|                                  | PP_14B | Donation (willingness)  |
|                                  | PP_15  | Political consumption   |
|                                  | PP_15B | Political consumption (willingness)                           |
|                                  | PP_16  | Contact with politicians                                      |
|                                  | PP_16A | Contact with politicians online                               |
|                                  | PP_16B | Contact with politicians (willingness)                        |
|                                  | PP_17  | Petition  |
|                                  | PP_17A | Petition online   |
|                                  | PP_17B | Petition (willingness)  |
|                                  | PP_18  | Volunteering  |
|                                  | PP_18A | Volunteering online   |
|                                  | PP_18B | Volunteering (willingness)                                    |
|                                  | PP_20  | Mobilizing others   |
|                                  | PP_20A | Mobilizing others online                                      |
|                                  | PP_20B | Mobilizing others (willingness)                               |
|                                  | PP_21  | Sharing political content on social media                     |
|                                  | PP_21B | Sharing political content on social media (willingness)       |
|                                  | PP_22  | Commenting on political content on social media               |
|                                  | PP_22B | Commenting on political content on social media (willingness) |
| <u>Online civic intervention</u> | PP_40  | Has seen hateful comments                                     |
|                                  | PP_50  | Has demanded respect  |

|                                       |         |                                     |
|---------------------------------------|---------|-------------------------------------|
|                                       | PP_50B  | Demand respect (willingness)        |
|                                       | PP_52   | Has flagged hateful comments        |
|                                       | PP_52B  | Flag hateful comments (willingness) |
|                                       | PP_55   | Has backed up a commenter           |
|                                       | PP_55B  | Back up commenter (willingness)     |
| <u>Year of birth</u>                  | SD_01   | Year of birth                       |
| <u>Citizenship</u>                    | SD_02   | German                              |
|                                       | SD_03   | Other citizenship                   |
| <u>Country of birth</u>               | SD_04   | Germany                             |
|                                       | SD_05   | Other country of birth              |
|                                       | SD_05O  | Open response SD_05                 |
| <u>Parents' country of birth</u>      | SD_06   | Parents' country of birth           |
| <u>Household size</u>                 | SD_07   | Household size                      |
| <u>Children in household</u>          | SD_08   | Children in household               |
| <u>Number of telephone numbers</u>    | SD_09M1 | Number of landline numbers          |
|                                       | SD_09M2 | Number of cell phone numbers        |
| <u>Place of residence</u>             | SD_10   | Place of residence                  |
| <u>School diploma</u>                 | SD_11   | School diploma                      |
| <u>Post-high-school qualification</u> | SD_12M1 | Post-high-school qualification 1    |
|                                       | SD_12M2 | Post-high-school qualification 2    |
|                                       | SD_12M3 | Post-high-school qualification 3    |
|                                       | SD_12M4 | Post-high-school qualification 4    |
|                                       | SD_12M5 | Post-high-school qualification 5    |
|                                       | SD_12M6 | Post-high-school qualification 6    |
|                                       | SD_12M7 | Post-high-school qualification 7    |
| <u>Job</u>                            | SD_13M1 | Job 1                               |
|                                       | SD_13M2 | Job 2                               |
|                                       | SD_13M3 | Job 3                               |
|                                       | SD_13M4 | Job 4                               |
|                                       | SD_13M5 | Job 5                               |
| <u>Income</u>                         | SD_14   | Income                              |
| <u>Gender</u>                         | SD_15   | Gender                              |



Variable name: MN\_01

Question title: Internet usage

**Filter:** –

**Programming:** –

**Question text:** First of all, we are interested in whether you have used the internet in the last 12 months.

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

|    |           |
|----|-----------|
| 01 | Yes       |
| 02 | No        |
| 99 | No answer |

**Interview instructions:** –

**Filter:** IF MN\_01=01

**Programming:** –

**Question text:** And have you used social media like Facebook, Instagram or WhatsApp in the last 12 months?

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

|    |           |
|----|-----------|
| 01 | Yes       |
| 02 | No        |
| 99 | No answer |

**Interview instructions:** Social media also includes YouTube, Pinterest, Snapchat etc.

**Filter:** Item NN\_04 IF MN\_01=01

**Programming:** –

**Question text:** Next, we are interested in how often you follow daily political events in various media. I will now name a number of types of media, and in each case, I will ask you to tell me on how many of the seven days in a normal week you follow the news via these types of media. So, I will ask you whether you do so on one day, two days, three days, and so on, or whether you do it less frequently than once a week or not at all. What is the case for ...

**Items:**

|       |  |
|-------|--|
| NN_01 | Reading news in printed newspapers and magazines |
| NN_02 | Watching news on TV                              |
| NN_03 | Listening to news on the radio                   |
| NN_04 | Following news on the internet                   |

**Scale:**

|    |                      |
|----|----------------------|
| 01 | 1 day                |
| 02 | 2 days               |
| 03 | 3 days               |
| 04 | 4 days               |
| 05 | 5 days               |
| 06 | 6 days               |
| 07 | 7 days (daily)       |
| 08 | Less often           |
| 09 | Not at all (anymore) |
| 99 | No answer            |

**Interview instructions:** Current political affairs are what is usually reported in the media (e.g., on TV news or in the newspaper): politics, current events at home and abroad, etc. The use of Netflix, media libraries, online radio, podcasts, etc. counts as internet usage.

**Filter:** IF MN\_01=01 AND NN\_04<09

**Programming:** –

**Question text:** I'm now going to tell you several options for following daily political events on the internet. Again, please tell me how many days in a normal week you would use each of these options. Here, too, you can indicate if you do this less frequently than once a week or not at all. What is the case for ...

**Items:**

|       |  |
|-------|--|
| NN_05 | Websites or apps of well-known news media outlets such as Spiegel Online |
| NN_06 | Media libraries like the ARD media library or TVNow                      |
| NN_07 | Online radio or podcasts   |
| NN_08 | Political blogs and other news sites                                     |
| NN_09 | News on social media such as Facebook, Instagram or WhatsApp             |
| NN_10 | Aggregators that compile various news items, such as Google News         |

**Scale:**

|    |                      |
|----|----------------------|
| 01 | 1 day                |
| 02 | 2 days               |
| 03 | 3 days               |
| 04 | 4 days               |
| 05 | 5 days               |
| 06 | 6 days               |
| 07 | 7 days (daily)       |
| 08 | Less often           |
| 09 | Not at all (anymore) |
| 99 | No answer            |

**Interview instructions:** A media library refers to an internet service offered by TV stations, where you can watch programs at any time. A podcast is a series of radio or audio broadcasts offered on the internet. Political blogs and other news sites are internet sites that usually target a smaller readership with specific topics.

**Filter:** IF MN\_01=01 AND SM\_01=01

**Programming:** Rotation of the items

**Question text:** Now you will hear some statements about social media. Please tell me if you “strongly agree,” “tend to agree,” “tend to disagree,” or “strongly disagree” with these statements. How about the following statement:

**Items:**

- SM\_02 I use social media to pass the time.
- SM\_03 I use social media to keep in touch with friends and family.
- SM\_04 I use social media to share news about my life with others.
- SM\_05 I use social media to stay up to date on important social issues.

**Scale:**

- 01 Strongly agree
- 02 Tend to agree
- 03 Tend to disagree
- 04 Strongly disagree
- 99 No answer

**Interview instructions:** –

**Filter:** IF MN\_01=01 AND SM\_01=01

**Programming:** –

**Question text:** Next, I'm going to tell you several things you can do with social media. And I'm going to ask you to tell me in each case whether you do it "often," "sometimes," "rarely," or "not at all."

**Items:**

|       |   |
|-------|---|
| SM_06 | Look at other profiles  |
| SM_07 | Browse your own news feed   |
| SM_08 | Read long posts or linked articles  |
| SM_09 | Watch videos  |
| SM_10 | Like or comment on friends' posts   |
| SM_11 | Post or share articles, videos or photos yourself                         |
| SM_12 | Write to others   |
| SM_13 | Edit your own profile—for example, change the profile picture or add info |
| SM_14 | Listen to music   |
| SM_15 | Play games  |

**Scale:**

|    |            |
|----|------------|
| 01 | Often      |
| 02 | Sometimes  |
| 03 | Rarely     |
| 04 | Not at all |
| 99 | No answer  |

**Interview instructions:** By "news feed" we mean the home page on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc., where the latest posts by friends and accounts that a person follows are shown. Liking also includes all other emojis that can be used to react to posts on Facebook, for example.

**Filter:** –

**Programming:** –

**Question text:** The next questions will be about political issues. First of all, in general terms: How often do you talk about issues you consider politically important at work or with friends and family? Do you do it “often,” “sometimes,” “rarely,” or “not at all”?

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

|    |            |
|----|------------|
| 01 | Often      |
| 02 | Sometimes  |
| 03 | Rarely     |
| 04 | Not at all |
| 99 | No answer  |

**Interview instructions:** –

**Filter:** –

**Programming:** –

**Question text:** How interested are you in politics? Are you “very interested,” “somewhat interested,” “somewhat disinterested” or “not interested at all”?

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

|    |                        |
|----|------------------------|
| 01 | Very interested        |
| 02 | Somewhat interested    |
| 03 | Somewhat disinterested |
| 04 | Not interested at all  |
| 99 | No answer              |

**Interview instructions:** –



**Filter:** –

**Programming:** Rotation of the items PT\_03 – PT\_07

**Question text:** Now, once again, you are going to hear some statements. Please tell me if you “strongly agree,” “tend to agree,” “tend to disagree,” or “strongly disagree.” How about the following statement:

**Items:**

- |       |  |
|-------|--|
| PT_03 | I can understand and assess important political issues well.                                       |
| PT_04 | Politicians strive to maintain close contact with the people.                                      |
| PT_05 | I have confidence in my capacity to actively participate in a conversation about political issues. |
| PT_06 | Politicians care about what ordinary people think.   |
| PT_07 | For the most part, you can trust the politicians who are in power to do the right thing.           |
| PT_08 | I find the topic of immigration to Germany particularly relevant.                                  |
| PT_09 | I find the topic of climate change particularly relevant.  |

**Scale:**

- |    |                   |
|----|-------------------|
| 01 | Strongly agree    |
| 02 | Tend to agree     |
| 03 | Tend to disagree  |
| 04 | Strongly disagree |
| 99 | No answer         |

**Interview instructions:** –

**Filter:** –

**Programming:** –

**Question text:** And how well do you think democracy works in Germany? “Very well,” “fairly well,” “not so well,” or “not well at all”?

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

|    |                 |
|----|-----------------|
| 01 | Very well       |
| 02 | Fairly well     |
| 03 | Not so well     |
| 04 | Not well at all |
| 99 | No answer       |

**Interview instructions:** –

**Filter:** –

**Programming:** Rotation of the items

**Question text:** There are different views on what a person should do as a “good citizen.” I am now going to read to you a series of activities and I’m going to ask you to tell me whether you find them “very important,” “fairly important,” “fairly unimportant,” or “not important at all” for a good citizen. A good citizen should ...

**Items:**

|       |   |
|-------|---|
| BN_01 | participate in activities to help people in other countries.                      |
| BN_02 | participate in activities to protect the environment.                             |
| BN_04 | participate in political discussions.   |
| BN_05 | follow political topics in the media.   |
| BN_06 | join a political party.   |
| BN_07 | participate in a demonstration.   |
| BN_09 | abide by the law.   |
| BN_10 | respect the right of others to have their own opinion.                            |
| BN_11 | participate in federal elections.   |
| BN_12 | initiate discussions on important political issues by sharing their own thoughts. |
| BN_13 | share knowledge about politics with others.                                       |
| BN_14 | obtain information from trustworthy sources.                                      |
| BN_15 | watch out for whether news is truthful or not.                                    |
| BN_16 | call out fake news.   |
| BN_17 | speak out against hate in discussions.  |

**Scale:**

|    |                      |
|----|----------------------|
| 01 | Very important       |
| 02 | Fairly important     |
| 03 | Fairly unimportant   |
| 04 | Not important at all |
| 99 | No answer            |

**Interview instructions:** –

**Filter:** –

**Programming:** –

**Question text:** There are different values in society. I will now list some of these values. Please tell me which of these you find more important in each case.

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

01          More

**Interview instructions:** Click “more” now

**Filter:** –

**Programming:** Rotation of the variables GW\_02, GW\_03 and GW\_04, Rotation of [SEL1] and [SEL2]

**Question text:** What about the choice between the greatest possible [SEL1 OR SEL2] and the greatest possible [SEL1 OR SEL2]?

SEL1      personal freedom, i.e., that everyone can develop freely  
SEL2      equality, that is, that social differences are not so great

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

01      Freedom  
02      Equality  
04      Undecided  
99      No answer

**Interview instructions:** –

**Filter:** –

**Programming:** Rotation of the variables GW\_02, GW\_03 and GW\_04, Rotation of [SEL1] and [SEL3]

**Question text:** What about the choice between the greatest possible [SEL1 OR SEL3] and the greatest possible [SEL1 OR SEL3]?

|      |   |
|------|---|
| SEL1 | personal freedom, i.e., that everyone can develop freely                    |
| SEL3 | security, meaning that you can therefore look to the future with confidence |

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

|    |           |
|----|-----------|
| 01 | Freedom   |
| 03 | Security  |
| 04 | Undecided |
| 99 | No answer |

**Interview instructions:** –

**Filter:** –

**Programming:** Rotation of the variables GW\_02, GW\_03 and GW\_04, rotation of [SEL2] and [SEL3]

**Question text:** What about the choice between the greatest possible [SEL2 OR SEL3] and the greatest possible [SEL2 OR SEL3]?

SEL2 equality, that is, that social differences are not so great

SEL3 security, meaning that you can therefore look to the future with confidence

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

02 Equality

03 Security

04 Undecided

99 No answer

**Interview instructions:** –

**Filter:** –

**Programming:** Randomized query alternating with PO\_02

**Question text:** Many people use the terms “left” and “right” when referring to different political attitudes. Where would you rank yourself on a scale of 1 to 10, with a value of 1 meaning “far left” and a value of 10 meaning “far right”?

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

|    |           |
|----|-----------|
| 01 | Far left  |
| 02 |           |
| 03 |           |
| 04 |           |
| 05 |           |
| 06 |           |
| 07 |           |
| 08 |           |
| 09 |           |
| 10 | Far right |
| 99 | No answer |

**Interview instructions:** If asked what is meant by “left” or “right,” please answer: “Whatever you understand by that.”



PO\_02

Political orientation: Left-right self-assessment  
(reverse scale)

**Filter:** –

**Programming:** Randomized query alternating with PO\_01

**Question text:** Many people use the terms “left” and “right” when referring to different political attitudes. Where would you rank yourself on a scale of 1 to 10, with a value of 1 meaning “far right” and a value of 10 meaning “far left”?

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

|    |           |
|----|-----------|
| 01 | Far right |
| 02 |           |
| 03 |           |
| 04 |           |
| 05 |           |
| 06 |           |
| 07 |           |
| 08 |           |
| 09 |           |
| 10 | Far left  |
| 99 | No answer |

**Interview instructions:** If asked what is meant by “left” or “right,” please answer: “Whatever you understand by that.”

PI\_01

Party identification: Leaning towards a political party

**Filter:** –

**Programming:** –

**Question text:** Many people lean toward a particular political party that they are particularly fond of. How about you: Do you lean toward a political party?

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

|    |           |
|----|-----------|
| 01 | Yes       |
| 02 | No        |
| 99 | No answer |

**Interview instructions:** –

PI\_02 – PI\_02O

Party identification: Leaning towards a political party (party name)

**Filter:** IF PI\_01=01

**Programming:** –

**Question text:** And what party is it?

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

|     |                         |
|-----|-------------------------|
| 01  | CDU/CSU                 |
| 02  | SPD                     |
| 03  | Bündnis 90/Grüne        |
| 04  | FDP                     |
| 05  | Die Linke               |
| 06  | AfD                     |
| 88O | Other, namely: [PI_02O] |
| 99  | No answer               |

**Interview instructions:** Just read out the question first. Read out party names only if respondents are unsure. But then read out all the party names.

PI\_03

Party identification: Party membership

**Filter:** IF PI\_01=01 AND PI\_02<99

**Programming:** –

**Question text:** Are you also a member of this party?

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

|    |           |
|----|-----------|
| 01 | Yes       |
| 02 | No        |
| 99 | No answer |

**Interview instructions:** –

PP\_01

Political participation: Voting in the last federal election

**Filter:** –

**Programming:** –

**Question text:** Did you vote in the last federal election in September 2017?

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

|    |                      |
|----|----------------------|
| 01 | Yes                  |
| 02 | No                   |
| 03 | Not eligible to vote |
| 99 | No answer            |

**Interview instructions:** –

**Filter:** –

**Programming:** –

**Question text:** Besides elections, there are other ways to get involved politically or socially. I'm going to name a few such options and you can tell me in each case if you've done this in the last 12 months. Did you participate in a demonstration during this time?

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

|    |           |
|----|-----------|
| 01 | Yes       |
| 02 | No        |
| 99 | No answer |

**Interview instructions:** –

PP\_11B

Political participation: Demonstration  
(willingness)

**Filter:** IF PP\_11=02

**Programming:** –

**Question text:** Would you do that in the future?

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

|    |           |
|----|-----------|
| 01 | Yes       |
| 02 | No        |
| 99 | No answer |

**Interview instructions:** –

**Filter:** –

**Programming:** –

**Question text:** Have you donated money to a political, social, or non-profit organization?

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

|    |           |
|----|-----------|
| 01 | Yes       |
| 02 | No        |
| 99 | No answer |

**Interview instructions:** –



**Filter:** IF PP\_14=02

**Programming:** –

**Question text:** Would you do that in the future?

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

|    |           |
|----|-----------|
| 01 | Yes       |
| 02 | No        |
| 99 | No answer |

**Interview instructions:** –

**Filter:** –

**Programming:** –

**Question text:** Have you intentionally bought or not bought certain products for political or ethical reasons?

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

|    |           |
|----|-----------|
| 01 | Yes       |
| 02 | No        |
| 99 | No answer |

**Interview instructions:** –

PP\_15B

Political participation: Political consumption  
(willingness)

**Filter:** IF PP\_15=02

**Programming:** –

**Question text:** Would you do that in the future?

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

|    |           |
|----|-----------|
| 01 | Yes       |
| 02 | No        |
| 99 | No answer |

**Interview instructions:** –

**Filter:** –

**Programming:** –

**Question text:** Have you made contact with politicians or other politically important people, for example, in your city?

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

|    |           |
|----|-----------|
| 01 | Yes       |
| 02 | No        |
| 99 | No answer |

**Interview instructions:** Question is not tied to political office. Respondents should decide for themselves who is politically important.

PP\_16A

Political participation: Contact with politicians  
online

**Filter:** MN\_01=01 AND IF PP\_16=01

**Programming:** –

**Question text:** Have you done so online as well?

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

|    |                     |
|----|---------------------|
| 01 | Yes, online as well |
| 02 | No, offline only    |
| 99 | No answer           |

**Interview instructions:** –

PP\_16B

Political participation: Contact with politicians  
(willingness)

**Filter:** IF PP\_16=02

**Programming:** –

**Question text:** Would you do that in the future?

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

|    |           |
|----|-----------|
| 01 | Yes       |
| 02 | No        |
| 99 | No answer |

**Interview instructions:** –

**Filter:** –

**Programming:** –

**Question text:** Have you participated in collecting signatures or in a petition?

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

|    |           |
|----|-----------|
| 01 | Yes       |
| 02 | No        |
| 99 | No answer |

**Interview instructions:** –

**Filter:** IF MN\_01=01 AND PP\_17=01

**Programming:** –

**Question text:** Have you done so online as well?

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

|    |                     |
|----|---------------------|
| 01 | Yes, online as well |
| 02 | No, offline only    |
| 99 | No answer           |

**Interview instructions:** –



**Filter:** IF PP\_17=02

**Programming:** –

**Question text:** Would you do that in the future?

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

|    |           |
|----|-----------|
| 01 | Yes       |
| 02 | No        |
| 99 | No answer |

**Interview instructions:** –

**Filter:** –

**Programming:** –

**Question text:** Have you volunteered with a social, humanitarian, or non-profit organization?

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

|    |           |
|----|-----------|
| 01 | Yes       |
| 02 | No        |
| 99 | No answer |

**Interview instructions:** –

**Filter:** IF MN\_01=01 AND PP\_18=01

**Programming:** –

**Question text:** Have you done so online as well?

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

|    |                     |
|----|---------------------|
| 01 | Yes, online as well |
| 02 | No, offline only    |
| 99 | No answer           |

**Interview instructions:** What is meant is whether the person has been active online for this organization, e.g., whether they have promoted it, posted/written something, networked via the internet.

PP\_18B

Political participation: Volunteering  
(willingness)

**Filter:** IF PP\_18=02

**Programming:** –

**Question text:** Would you do that in the future?

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

|    |           |
|----|-----------|
| 01 | Yes       |
| 02 | No        |
| 99 | No answer |

**Interview instructions:** –

**Filter:** –

**Programming:** –

**Question text:** Have you encouraged other people to get involved politically or socially?

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

|    |           |
|----|-----------|
| 01 | Yes       |
| 02 | No        |
| 99 | No answer |

**Interview instructions:** –

**Filter:** IF MN\_01=01 AND PP\_20=01

**Programming:** –

**Question text:** Have you done so online as well?

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

|    |                     |
|----|---------------------|
| 01 | Yes, online as well |
| 02 | No, offline only    |
| 99 | No answer           |

**Interview instructions:** –

PP\_20B

Political participation: Mobilizing others  
(willingness)

**Filter:** IF PP\_20=02

**Programming:** –

**Question text:** Would you do that in the future?

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

|    |           |
|----|-----------|
| 01 | Yes       |
| 02 | No        |
| 99 | No answer |

**Interview instructions:** –

PP\_21

Political participation: Sharing political content  
on social media

**Filter:** IF MN\_01=01 AND SM\_01=01

**Programming:** –

**Question text:** Have you shared links or content on political issues via social media?

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

|    |           |
|----|-----------|
| 01 | Yes       |
| 02 | No        |
| 99 | No answer |

**Interview instructions:** –



PP\_21B

Political participation: Sharing political content  
on social media (willingness)

**Filter:** IF MN\_01=01 AND SM\_01=01 AND PP\_21=02

**Programming:** –

**Question text:** Would you do that in the future?

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

|    |           |
|----|-----------|
| 01 | Yes       |
| 02 | No        |
| 99 | No answer |

**Interview instructions:** –

PP\_22

Political participation: Commenting on political content on social media

**Filter:** IF MN\_01=01 AND SM\_01=01

**Programming:** –

**Question text:** And have you commented on political content on social media?

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

|    |           |
|----|-----------|
| 01 | Yes       |
| 02 | No        |
| 99 | No answer |

**Interview instructions:** –

PP\_22B

Political participation: Commenting on political content on social media (willingness)

**Filter:** IF MN\_01=01 AND SM\_01=01 AND PP\_22=02

**Programming:** –

**Question text:** Would you do that in the future?

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

|    |           |
|----|-----------|
| 01 | Yes       |
| 02 | No        |
| 99 | No answer |

**Interview instructions:** –

PP\_40

Online civic intervention: Has seen hateful comments

**Filter:** IF MN\_01=01

**Programming:** –

**Question text:** Recently, there has been a lot of discussion about people writing hateful comments or insulting each other on the internet. Have you ever seen such comments?

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

|    |           |
|----|-----------|
| 01 | Yes       |
| 02 | No        |
| 99 | No answer |

**Interview instructions:** –

**Filter:** IF MN\_01=01 AND PP\_40=01

**Programming:** –

**Question text:** There are several things you can do when you see comments like this. I'm going to name a few such options and I'm going to ask you to tell me in each case if you've done this in the last 12 months. At that time, did you tell the author of the comment to be respectful?

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

|    |           |
|----|-----------|
| 01 | Yes       |
| 02 | No        |
| 99 | No answer |

**Interview instructions:** –

PP\_50B

Online civic intervention: Demand respect  
(willingness)

**Filter:** IF MN\_01=01 AND PP\_40=01 AND PP\_50=02

**Programming:** –

**Question text:** Would you do that in the future?

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

|    |           |
|----|-----------|
| 01 | Yes       |
| 02 | No        |
| 99 | No answer |

**Interview instructions:** –

PP\_52

Online civic intervention: Has flagged hateful comments

**Filter:** IF MN\_01=01 AND PP\_40=01

**Programming:** –

**Question text:** Have you reported an offensive or hateful comment to the platform operator?

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

|    |           |
|----|-----------|
| 01 | Yes       |
| 02 | No        |
| 99 | No answer |

**Interview instructions:** –

PP\_52B

Online civic intervention: Flag hateful  
comments (willingness)

**Filter:** IF MN\_01=01 AND PP\_40=01 AND PP\_52=02

**Programming:** –

**Question text:** Would you do that in the future?

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

|    |           |
|----|-----------|
| 01 | Yes       |
| 02 | No        |
| 99 | No answer |

**Interview instructions:** –



PP\_55

Online civic intervention: Has backed up a commenter

**Filter:** IF MN\_01=01 AND PP\_40=01

**Programming:** –

**Question text:** Did you encourage such a comment writer in their behavior?

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

|    |           |
|----|-----------|
| 01 | Yes       |
| 02 | No        |
| 99 | No answer |

**Interview instructions:** –

PP\_55B

Online civic intervention: Back up commenter  
(willingness)

**Filter:** IF MN\_01=01 AND PP\_40=01 AND PP\_55=02

**Programming:** –

**Question text:** Would you do that in the future?

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

|    |           |
|----|-----------|
| 01 | Yes       |
| 02 | No        |
| 99 | No answer |

**Interview instructions:** –

SD\_01

Year of birth

**Filter:** –

**Programming:** –

**Question text:** Now we have almost reached the end. All that is missing is some general information about you. First of all, please tell me your year of birth.

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

[ ] Open response field (Format: YYYY)  
99 No answer

**Interview instructions:** Please enter it as a four-digit number (e.g., 1982).

**Filter:** –

**Programming:** –

**Question text:** Do you have German citizenship?

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

|    |           |
|----|-----------|
| 01 | Yes       |
| 02 | No        |
| 99 | No answer |

**Interview instructions:** –

SD\_03

Citizenship: Other citizenship

**Filter:** SD\_02=01

**Programming:** –

**Question text:** Do you also have another citizenship?

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

|    |           |
|----|-----------|
| 01 | Yes       |
| 02 | No        |
| 99 | No answer |

**Interview instructions:** –

SD\_04

Country of birth: Germany

**Filter:** –

**Programming:** –

**Question text:** Were you born in Germany?

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

|    |           |
|----|-----------|
| 01 | Yes       |
| 02 | No        |
| 99 | No answer |

**Interview instructions:** –

**Filter:** SD\_04=02

**Programming:** –

**Question text:** What country were you born in?

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

|    |                         |
|----|-------------------------|
| 01 | Turkey                  |
| 02 | Poland                  |
| 03 | Russia                  |
| 04 | Italy                   |
| 05 | Romania                 |
| 06 | Greece                  |
| 07 | Kazakhstan              |
| 08 | Syria                   |
| 09 | Other country: [SD_05O] |
| 99 | No answer               |

**Interview instructions:** –

**Filter:** –

**Programming:** –

**Question text:** Were your parents born in Germany?

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

- |    |  |
|----|--|
| 01 | Yes, both of them were born in Germany |
| 02 | No, not my mother.                     |
| 03 | No, not my father.                     |
| 04 | No, neither                            |
| 99 | No answer                              |

**Interview instructions:** If no, ask if necessary which of the two parents was not born in Germany.



**Filter:** –

**Programming:** –

**Question text:** How many people currently live in your household?

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

[ ]      Open response

99      No answer

**Interview instructions:** Please enter only one digit (e.g. “3”). The person themselves is also counted. A shared apartment also counts as a household.

SD\_08

Children in household

**Filter:** IF SD\_07>01

**Programming:** –

**Question text:** How many of them are at least 16 years old?

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

|     |               |
|-----|---------------|
| [ ] | Open response |
| 99  | No answer     |

**Interview instructions:** Please enter only one digit (e.g. “1”).

**Filter:** –

**Programming:** Multiple answers possible (max: 2; min: 1), except 99

**Question text:** For statistical reasons, we need to ask you how many phone numbers you can currently be reached at. So, how many different landline numbers and how many different cell phone numbers are you currently available at?

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

- |     |  |
|-----|--|
| [ ] | [SD_09M1] Open response (Number of landline numbers)   |
| [ ] | [SD_09M2] Open response (Number of cell phone numbers) |
| 99  | No answer  |

**Interview instructions:** Please enter only one digit (e.g. “2”). Please enter “0” if no landline or cell phone number is available.

**Filter:** –

**Programming:** –

**Question text:** Which of the following categories best describes where you live? “Large city,” “outskirts or suburbs of a large city,” “medium-sized or small town,” or “rural village”?

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

- |    |                                     |
|----|-------------------------------------|
| 01 | Large city                          |
| 02 | Outskirts or suburb of a large city |
| 03 | Medium-sized or small town          |
| 04 | Rural village                       |
| 99 | No answer                           |

**Interview instructions:** A large city has more than 100,000 inhabitants, a small town has more than 5,000, and a village has up to 5,000.

**Filter:** –

**Programming:** –

**Question text:** Next, we have questions about your education and profession. Let's start with your school education: What general school diploma do you have?

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

- |    |                               |
|----|-------------------------------|
| 01 | Still at school               |
| 02 | Left school without a diploma |
| 03 | Basic school diploma          |
| 04 | Intermediate school diploma   |
| 05 | Advanced school diploma       |
| 06 | Higher school diploma         |
| 99 | No answer                     |

**Interview instructions:** Only list the highest school diploma indicated. Read out answer choices only if uncertain.

**Filter:** –

**Programming:** Multiple answers possible (max: 7; min: 1), except 08 and 99

**Question text:** What post-high-school qualification do you have?

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

- |    |   |
|----|---|
| 01 | Still in training or studying   |
| 02 | Company-based apprenticeship training                                     |
| 03 | Technical college apprenticeship training                                 |
| 04 | Qualification from a technical school, master school or technical academy |
| 05 | Degree from a university of applied sciences                              |
| 06 | Degree from a general university  |
| 07 | Other vocational training qualification                                   |
| 08 | No vocational training qualification                                      |
| 99 | No answer   |

**Interview instructions:** Only read out answer choices if the respondent is unsure. Multiple qualifications can also be specified. Vocational college diplomas and university degrees also count as vocational training.

**Filter:** –

**Programming:** Multiple answers possible (max: 5; min: 1), except 99

**Question text:** Now, we will continue with employment and your profession. I'm going to read you several categories and I will ask you to tell me which one applies to you. You can also choose several categories

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

|    |   |
|----|---|
| 01 | White-collar worker                         |
| 02 | Blue-collar worker                          |
| 03 | Self-employed                               |
| 04 | Civil servant                               |
| 05 | Not in employment and looking for work      |
| 06 | College student or school pupil             |
| 07 | Permanently on sick leave or unable to work |
| 08 | Retiree                                     |
| 09 | Housewife/househusband                      |
| 10 | Other                                       |
| 99 | No answer                                   |

**Interview instructions:** Multiple answers possible. Upon request: If you are currently temporarily not working due to illness/parental leave/vacation/strike or similar but are normally in employment, please indicate list this form of employment as a response.

**Filter:** –

**Programming:** –

**Question text:** The next question is about being able to evaluate groups of people with different incomes. To do this, we would need to know what your household's average monthly net income is, that is, the money you have available each month. I will now read to you various income groups. Please say STOP as soon as I name your group.

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

- |    |                           |
|----|---------------------------|
| 01 | Up to 500 euros           |
| 02 | 500 to 1,000 euros        |
| 03 | Over 1,000 to 2,000 euros |
| 04 | 2,000 to 3,000 euros      |
| 05 | 3,000 to 4,000 euros      |
| 06 | 4,000 to 5,000 euros      |
| 07 | 5,000 to 6,000 euros      |
| 08 | More than 6,000 euros     |
| 99 | No answer                 |

**Interview instructions:** This refers to the money of all members of the household.



SD\_15

Gender

**Filter:** –

**Programming:** –

**Question text:** –

**Items:** –

**Scale:**

|    |                        |
|----|------------------------|
| 01 | Female                 |
| 02 | Male                   |
| 99 | No answer / don't know |

**Interview instructions:** Please enter the gender of the respondent.