Foreword by Professor Michael Breen, Chair, ESS ERIC General Assembly

As you will see in this report, the ESS itself if in a very healthy state. The dataset now has more than 185,000 users and is the basis for almost 5,000 substantive English language publications. It has 30 countries involved, 25 as full members, one as an observer and six as guests. As we have come to expect, this is strong evidence of a strong, engaged and active academic community. The context in which it operates, however, is not quite as robust.

At the time of writing the world is still in the grip of the COVID-19 pandemic, with more than 55m people infected and 1.34m people dead. There is light at the end of the tunnel with reports of effective vaccines but still a long way to go. ThE ESS has not been unaffected by this and has had to make strategic decisions about data collection in the forthcoming round that will take the public health environment into account.

The meetings of the ESS General Assembly have grappled with the reality of the decision of the UK to leave the EU and have made contingency arrangements for a variety of scenarios, come January 1st, 2021.

Across the globe we have seen an increase in threats to democratic politics. The term ‘fake news’ has become a catchphrase for those who want to reject evidence-based outcomes from research, particularly by journalists, scientists. It is interesting to note that the term “fake news” occurs just 551 times in the English-language press worldwide in 2015 but over the last four years has occurred annually almost 50,000 times. Against this backdrop the ESS stands over its proud boast of documenting incontrovertible evidence of European citizens’ attitudes, opinions, beliefs and behaviours over time, delivered with professionalism and impartiality, accessible to all. The data of ESS are a repository of truth which is a critical resource for politicians, legislators, administrators, policy makers, academics, and citizens alike.

All this is possible because of the participation of Europe’s citizens. It is made operational by the dedication and hard work of the CST and the Headquarters at City, University of London under the leadership of Professor Rory Fitzgerald, and the cooperation of the national coordinators, all of which is enabled and supported by the ESS General Assembly, and the contributing national research ministries and research councils. Their work in ESS is often unseen and unheralded but I wish to acknowledge them in particular as the sine qua non of the ESS. We all gain from their experience and commitment.

Professor Michael Breen
November 2020

Message from ESS ERIC Director, Professor Rory Fitzgerald

The global pandemic is placing an unbearable strain on our health, our economy, our families and our societies. Whilst the medical sciences must move forward with vaccines and address the delays in wider medical treatment, the social sciences will need to be centre stage to inform how we go about repairing our societies and rebuilding our economies. The European Social Survey is ready to play its part in addressing those challenges measuring the longer terms trends that emerge from the pandemic using its rich and continuing time series and cutting-edge rotating modules. Plus, it’s back-catalogue of data can serve as a reference point, for example, looking at the impact of the ‘grand recession’ on the different nations and regions of Europe and extrapolating likely impacts now.

At the time of writing ESS Round 10 fieldwork had been delayed due to the need to postpone face-to-face interviews to ensure the safety of the field force and our respondents. It is hoped to resume in 2021. However, in case that is not possible, ESS is rapidly speeding up its methodological investment in self-competition approaches should they be needed sooner than anticipated. Furthermore, the need to examine the feasibility of establishing a shared web panel and platform across the social sciences has been magnified by the pandemic. This latest methods work will build on the major upgrades ESS has invested in its core infrastructure thorough its ‘fieldwork and interviewing tools suite’ and its ‘MyESS’ digital project management platform. ESS has also been developing its web panel infrastructure for the future as part of its H2020 ’ESS-SUSATIN-2 award’ and is preparing to play its role in developing the European Open Science Cloud (EOSC) through its work in the ‘SSHOC’ H2020 project working closely with its fellow social science and humanities infrastructures.

With its recent increases in membership meaning that ESS Round 10 looks set to include one of the highest number of participating countries ever in a single round the ESS infrastructure is well placed to play its role in helping to inform the healing and rebuilding as we emerge from this pandemic. It also stands ready to help face the other urgent challenges such as the climate emergency which become more pressing by the day. I would like to thank our funders, our scientists, our interviewers and most importantly our respondents for making this contribution possible.

Professor Rory Fitzgerald
November 2020
Overview

01 June 2019 to 31 May 2020

The fourth ESS ERIC Work Programme relating to the ESS Round 10 biennial period (2019-2020) commenced on 01 June 2019. This Annual Activity Report covers the first part of the biennial period, 01 June 2019 to 31 May 2020.

Key activities in this period included the finalisation of Round 9, the implementation of ESS Round 10 fieldwork requirements and the early preparations for ESS Round 11. The numbers of participating countries in the ESS ERIC for Round 10 increased with new Member and Guest countries to 30 countries at 31 May 2020. Academic usage and non-academic interest continued to increase over the course of this period.

The management of disruptions due to the COVID-19 pandemic was ongoing from March 2020, including Round 10 scheduling; progressing innovative methods and tools to mitigate the impact of the public health restrictions on the ESS.

Highlights include:

Membership and participation: Israel applied for and was admitted as a Member of the ESS ERIC. Greece, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia were granted Guest country status for Round 10 by the General Assembly.

Participation in ESS ERIC for Round 10 at 31 May 2020 reached 30, including 25 Members, 1 Observer (O) and 4 Guest (G) countries: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece (G), Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Montenegro (G), North Macedonia (G), The Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Serbia (G), Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland (O) and the UK (Host Country).

Meetings: The General Assembly met in October 2019 and April 2020. Its Committees, the Scientific Advisory Board (SAB), the Methods Advisory Board (MAB), Finance Committee (FINCOM) and the Working Group on Funding and Governance (FGWG) met throughout the year.

The ESS ERIC Director’s Committees - the Core Scientific Team (CST) and the National Coordinators’ (NC) Forum met as planned.

ESS Survey Coordination: The conclusion of fieldwork for ESS Round 9 was marked by the final preparations for the second data release (delayed due to COVID-19 from May to June 2020). Romania participated in ESS to complete Round 9.

Preparations for Round 10 were ongoing. The development of a dedicated project management platform, myESS, was ongoing. The Question Design Teams for the rotating modules for Round 10 continued their work on the two rotating modules for Round 10; Digital Social Contacts in Work and Family Life and Europeans’ understandings and evaluations of democracy, a repeat module from Round 6. The open competition for Round 11 rotating modules took place in January 2020. In response to COVID-19, a group of countries volunteered to use their country-specific question space to field a harmonized set of questions on the pandemic.

ESS ERIC Programme of Research: The ongoing programme of research seeks to ensure that ESS is conducted to the highest quality standards and is equipped to face the challenges of the future. The research programme includes research on web survey administration of cross-national surveys as well as ongoing analyses oriented to the improvement of survey quality (from sampling to interviewer effects). This programme is also supported via H2020 projects. Responses to the disruption to its standard mode of data collection due to COVID-19 restrictions gave rise to a number of novel research proposals which were presented to the General Assembly.

ESS ERIC Deliverables: Deliverables as part of the Work Programme 2019-2021 were produced as scheduled.

ESS ERIC Dissemination: The European Social Survey (ESS) seminar, Using social science data and research to help reduce global health inequalities, was attended by European Commissioner for Health and Food Safety, Věra Jourová Andriukaitis, in Brussels (13 September 2019). The event brought together researchers from key social surveys that examine health outcomes. Commissioner Andriukaitis and colleagues from the Health and Food Safety directorate (DG SANTE) were presented with analysis and policy suggestions based on academic research.

ESS participated with RI-VIS Project partners in exhibiting at the 2020 American Association for the Advancement of Science. ESS ERIC participated in the exhibition of European RIs at the rescheduled, virtual event held as part of the Croatian Presidency on ‘European Research Infrastructures for a smarter future’ (April 2020).

The number of registered of the ESS programme website continued to increase throughout the year, reaching 161,374 by 31 May 2020.

Analysis of the take up of ESS data (2003-2018) continued to report a steady growth in the number of relevant methodological or substantive English language publications with ESS data usage between 2003 and 2018, reaching 4,914 publications.

ESS ERIC and ESFRI: ESS ERIC is an ESFRI Landmark Research Infrastructure on the ESFRI Roadmap 2018. ESS ERIC responded to ESFRI call about HORIZON 2020 missions and about Research Infrastructures’ relevance in responses to COVID-19.

ESS ERIC and H2020: ESS ERIC coordinated two significant projects in this period: (i) Synergies for Europe’s Research Infrastructures in the Social Sciences’ (SERISS, GA 654221) [concluded August 2019] and (ii) Securing the Sustainability of the ESS ERIC, SUSTAIN 2, a new three year project which commenced in January 2020. It also participated as a partner in RISCAPE (GA 730974) and in the European Cohort Development Project (ECDP, GA 777449). Both of these projects concluded in the course of 2019-2020. Three other H2020 projects in which ESS ERIC is a partner continued in this period: SSOC (GA 823762), RI-VIS (GA 824083) and the ERCI Forum Implementation Project (GA 823798).

ESS ERIC Global Links: ESS ERIC continued to develop links with global partners, particularly in Australia and South Africa, in which Memoranda of Understanding with partner organisations had been agreed. Through the H2020 RISCAPE project, ESS ERIC hosted an international workshop on online surveys (Australia, Chile, South Africa, USA).
The European Social Survey (ESS) is a research infrastructure of pan-European relevance. Its objectives are:

- to chart stability and change in the social structure, conditions and attitudes in Europe and to interpret how these changes are affecting Europe's social, political and moral fabric
- to achieve and spread higher standards of rigour in cross-national social measurement
- to introduce soundly-based indicators of national progress, based on citizens’ perceptions and judgements of key aspects of their societies
- to undertake and facilitate the training of European social researchers in comparative quantitative measurement and analysis
- to improve the visibility and outreach of data on social change among academics, policy makers and the wider public.

The European Social Survey seeks to ensure its results are relevant to academic researchers and teachers, policy makers and civil society. The ESS is fielded every two years and 36 countries have participated in at least one round since 2002.

All EU Member States, apart from Malta, have participated in the ESS, as have nine countries from outside the EU (Albania, Kosovo, Iceland, Israel, Norway, Russia, Switzerland, Turkey and Ukraine).

The Decision establishing the European Social Survey as European Social Survey ERIC ('ESS ERIC'), published in the Official Journal of the European Union, took effect on 2 December 2013. The European Social Survey became an independent legal entity (ESS ERIC), 'owned' by its assembly of Members, the ESS ERIC General Assembly.

In the seventh year of ESS ERIC operations (2019-2020), 30 countries participated in its activities. 25 countries were Members of ESS ERIC; 1 held the status of Observer. A further 4 countries were granted the status of ESS ERIC 'Guest country'. The 'Guest country' status was established by agreement of the General Assembly to enable countries to participate in a round of the ESS without playing a formal part in the governance of the ESS ERIC.

Each participating country assigns a named National Representative to the ESS ERIC General Assembly. (The National Representatives of Observers and Guest countries do not have voting rights). The listing of National Representatives at 31 May 2020 is presented in Annex 1.
2. Scientific Activities

Annual Activity Report 2019-2020

The aim of the ESS ERIC is to chart social change and stability in social structure, conditions and attitudes in Europe and to interpret how Europe’s social, political and moral fabric is changing. This is achieved through the fielding of a functionally equivalent face-to-face general population survey across more than 25 European countries every two years.

The primary focus of the ESS ERIC Work Programme 2019-2021 is on Round 10 of the European Social Survey, which enters the field in September 2020. The first year period of this biennial work programme, 1 June 2019 to 31 May 2020, covers preparations for ESS Round 10, which comprise finalising the survey questionnaire and fieldwork preparations, including activities related to sampling, translation and fieldwork planning. The period also covers the end of the survey lifecycle for ESS Round 9 (data deposit, processing and publication).

Figure 2.1 (page 12-13) provides an overview of the entire survey process over the biennial period for each round. Dates are given for activities as they pertain to ESS Round 10. A number of changes have been made to the Survey Specification for Round 10 of ESS compared with Round 9.

These changes, including some in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, are summarized below:

- The Round 10 fieldwork period has been revised to run from 1 September 2020 to 31 December 2021 (as against the originally planned window of 1 September 2020 to 31 January 2021). This expanded fieldwork period has been introduced due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting uncertainties as to when face-to-face fieldwork will be possible in participating countries. Fieldwork can now be completed any time between September 2020 and December 2021. It is expected that most countries will start fieldwork in Spring 2021.
- The minimum length of fieldwork has been extended from four to six weeks. This will help ensure that all countries put sufficient time and effort into fieldwork to deliver the best possible response rate.
- Based on the revised fieldwork period, Round 10 data release dates have also been revised. There will now be two releases: the first in April 2022 (for countries that deposit data by the end of September 2021), and the second in September 2022 (for countries that deposit data by the end of January 2022).
- Video interviews will be permitted in Round 10 as a back-up option to the usual face-to-face approach (where a face-to-face interview has been refused). This option has been introduced due to concerns following the COVID-19 pandemic about whether some groups will be able and willing to be interviewed face-to-face (agreed in June 2020).
• ESS ERIC has been granted funding through the EU’s H2020 programme to develop a central survey tool suite for Round 10. The tool suite will be made available to countries on a voluntary basis and will include a central CAPI script; a central translation management tool; a sample management system for fieldwork agencies; a case management application for interviewers; and a fieldwork management system (FMS) app. The translation tool and FMS app were used by some countries at Round 9 but the other tools (and the use of the full integrated tool suite) are being first introduced at Round 10.

• The Round 10 pre-test has been slightly reshaped from previous rounds to act more as a fieldwork test and with less focus on testing the questionnaire or translations. This is also due to the impact of COVID-19 and uncertainties on how this will impact on willingness of people to participate in a face-to-face survey. As such, countries are instructed to conduct the pre-test as close as possible to their planned main stage start and using the same methodology. Countries who plan on allowing video interviews for Round 10 are also required to conduct at least 20 interviews using this approach as part of their pre-test.

• All Contact Form (CF) data needs to be collected in a digital format. Paper CFs are no longer permitted. Almost all countries used a digital CF for Round 9 so this represents no notable change in most cases. Digital CFs will allow more timely and consistent monitoring of fieldwork by countries and by the central ESS Fieldwork Team.

• The Round 10 specification strongly recommends that all countries draw reserve samples in advance of Round 10 fieldwork. This reflects increased uncertainty over response rates due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

• It is now a requirement that a minimum of one interim data file is provided for quality checking during fieldwork. This will allow the quality of fieldwork/data to be assessed at an earlier stage compared with previous rounds and should help to minimize any issues in the final data files.

• A new, more detailed, back-check procedure will be used for Round 10. Back-checks are now only required to be conducted on interviews and ineligibles but the procedure has been refined to increase transparency. This includes a requirement to include case-level data on back-checks in the Contact Form data set.

• The Round 10 questionnaire will include a new optional module including questions relating to COVID-19. This module can be included by countries in place of their usual country-specific items. It is expected that most countries will include the COVID-19 module.

• A new project management portal (myESS) has been introduced for Round 10. This will be used for all documentation relating to Round 10 and all communication between national teams and the Core Scientific Team (CST). This will remove the need to use different systems and reduce reliance on email communication.

There are three broad areas of activity, led and coordinated by ESS ERIC in each survey round:

• Questionnaire design and translation (see Fig 2.2 and Fig 2.4)

• Sampling and fieldwork (see Fig 2.3)

• Data curation and preparation (see Fig 2.5)

The activities undertaken in the June 2019 to May 2020 period in relation to each of these categories of activity are described below. At all stages, the CST work closely with National Coordinators (NCs) to ensure that the way the survey is implemented in each country adheres as closely as possible to the ESS Specification. A list of the activities for Round 10 involving NCs is shown in Table 2.1.

Each country participating in Round 10 has been assigned a ‘Country Contact’ from the CST. The task of the Country Contact is to monitor fieldwork preparations in the countries assigned to them and complete a ‘country profile’ for at the end of the round to facilitate a timely quality assessment.

The ESS ERIC Intranet facility for NCs, integrated within the new myESS portal, contains all standards, specifications and guidance documents required for ESS preparations. The ESS Round 10 NC Intranet was launched in March 2020. A list of guidance documents to be prepared and released for Round 10 is included in Table 2.2.

The period 2019-20 saw three meetings of the CST and two meetings of the NC Forum (which NCs from all participating countries are invited to attend). The CST met in June 2019 (London), October 2019 (Barcelona), and January 2020 (London). The NC Forum met in November 2019 (Belgrade) and April 2020 (remote, using video-conferencing).
Figure 2.1 – Overview of the survey lifecycle of the ESS 2019-2021
The Questionnaire Design and Documentation Tool (QDQT) - developed for ESS ERIC by colleagues at NSD as part of the H2020 SERISS project - has been used for documenting the development of rotating modules for the first time at Round 10.

As part of preparations for Round 10, a review of the ESS core questionnaire was carried out. The purpose of this review was "to ensure that the ESS core questionnaire continues to accurately reflect the most pertinent social, political and demographic cleavages across Europe". Between June 2019 and March 2020, questionnaire changes being considered as part of the core review were tested as part of the pre-testing and piloting described above. A consultation on possible changes with data users was also launched in August 2019. Following analysis of pre-testing findings and user responses, a small number of changes was made to the core questionnaire for Round 10.

Following agreement of the Round 10 source questionnaire in March 2020, a central CAPI program was produced by CentEdata as part of the central tool suite being used for Round 10.

It was agreed that a module of COVID-19 questions would be included in the ESS Round 10 questionnaire on an optional basis for participating countries. This will comprise a set of questions agreed with the participating NCs and two sets of questions developed by external academic teams (following a call for proposals). Development of the COVID-19 module started in May 2020 and will be completed in August 2020.

Translations

Once the source questionnaire is issued, countries undertake translation activities following the TRAPD process (Translation, Review, Adjudication, Pre-testing and Documentation) to ensure the functional equivalance of the questionnaires fielded in each country (see Figure 4). The translation process is overseen by GESIS. Updated guidelines to support the translation process were issued. A specialist translation agency, cApStAn, was appointed to verify new questionnaire items from the rotating modules in the target languages. A translation adjudication meeting was held with national translation teams in April 2020.

The central survey tool suite being used for Round 10 as part of the SUSTAIN-2 project includes a translation management tool (TranslationCTRL - TC). This has been updated from the translation tool (TMT) used at Round 9. The TC provides an interactive online platform which the multiple actors involved in the ESS translation process can use to keep track of and contribute to the final translation process. The Round 10 TC is being used by approximately 12 countries that are using the full survey tool suite. Several other countries are using the TC but not the other tools included in the tool suite. The TC, and a training manual, was made available from May 2020.

Online training on use of the tool was also given to country translation teams in May 2020.

Questionnaire consultations

A number of questionnaire consultations, overseen by ESS HQ and NSD, were launched from April 2020 to agree with NCs country-specific showcards for questionnaire items on religion, education, income, ancestry and partnership status.

Questionnaire experiments

To ensure that ESS continues to be world-leading in standards for cross-national questionnaire design, UPF continued their programme of work on question quality. In this period, they designed a Multi-Trait Multi-Method (MTMM) experiment for inclusion in the Round 10 questionnaire.

Sampling and Fieldwork

Sampling

Sampling activities for ESS are overseen by a Sampling and Weighting Expert Panel (SWEP), led by the University of Essex. Key activities for the SWEP in the period June 2019 to May 2020 included the production of design and post-stratification weights for all countries included in the Round 9 data releases. The Panel also produced Sampling Guidelines for ESS Round 10 and revised the Sample Design Summary form used during the process of agreeing sampling designs with countries. Each country participating in Round 10 is assigned a dedicated sampling expert to assist them in ensuring their sample design, which must be approved by the SWEP before the start of fieldwork, is in line with the ESS Specification (see Figure 3). A meeting of the SWEP took place in early 2020 to discuss preparations for Round 10 as well as possible future developments in ESS sampling and weighting. The SWEP and ESS Fieldwork Team also met in January 2020 to discuss joint activities and ways of working between the two teams.

Round 9 fieldwork

Due to delays in confirming participation and fieldwork issues, some countries conducted their Round 9 fieldwork beyond the initial deadline of the end of December 2018. Croatia, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Montenegro, Portugal and Slovakia carried out at least part of their Round 9 fieldwork in the June 2019 to May 2020 period. All countries had completed fieldwork by the end of January 2020.

Round 10 fieldwork planning

The CST works closely with NCs in the planning and conduct of fieldwork. This work is led by an ESS Fieldwork Team (FWT) which comprises members from across the CST institutions. Each participating country is assigned a member of the FWT to act as a 'country contact' who can assist them with fieldwork preparations and monitoring.

In May 2020, an online Fieldwork Questionnaire was released on the myESS portal to assist countries in planning their fieldwork. This is discussed with and signed off by members of the FWT before the start of fieldwork to ensure compliance with the ESS Specification.

A key source of information available to assist countries in their preparations for ESS Round 10 is the country-specific Quality Reports produced by ESS HQ and GESIS with input from other CST partners. These reports evaluate each country's performance in Round 9 across the survey lifecycle using a set of key quality indicators compiled by the CST.
Europe-wide competition for question module design teams
January-May 2018

Question module design teams selected
June 2018

Question module development
June 2018 - June 2019

Pre-testing of module questions
June 2019

Piloting
November 2019

Source questionnaires & show cards released
March 2020

Background variable consultations
April-August 2020

NCs (from current round) selected to translate items for quantitative pre-test surveys, and/or to conduct cognitive interviewing (no national budget required)

NCs (from current round) selected to translate items in advance translation, and/or assists with pilot fieldwork (no national budget required)

Translation activities (see Figure 4)

Figure 2.2 – Source Questionnaire Development and Pre-testing

Performance is evaluated relative to the ESS Specification and other ESS countries and recommendations for improvements in future rounds are given. The Round 9 Quality Reports included a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) analysis which was used to prioritise potential actions for each country in Round 10. The Quality Reports were made available for all countries included in the Round 9 1st data release in February 2020 and discussed by Country Contacts with NCs.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the CST made a decision to extend the Round 10 fieldwork period to December 2021. This means that countries can conduct fieldwork at any time between September 2020 and December 2021. It is expected that most countries will start fieldwork in Spring 2021.

Following consultation with NCs, the CST confirmed that Round 10 should be conducted face-to-face, reflecting the usual ESS approach. However, some modifications to the specification will be made to reflect the increased challenges in conducting fieldwork, including allowing video interviews as a back-up method to face-to-face interviewing.

Initial exploratory discussions on alternative self-completion approaches to the face-to-face survey were also held with NCs and the CST, reflecting uncertainties linked to the pandemic.

Due to the pandemic, a Field Directors’ meeting planned for May 2020, was postponed to January 2021. This will provide an opportunity for the CST to meet directly with Field Directors in participating countries to discuss their preparations (and in some cases progress) for ESS Round 10. This meeting will be held remotely via video-conference.

The June 2019 to May 2020 period saw further development with the Fieldwork Management System (FMS) developed for ESS as part of the SERISS project and first used at Round 9. Countries that completed their Round 9 fieldwork in this period continued to use the FMS for fieldwork monitoring and reporting. A number of changes were made to the FMS in preparation for Round 10. This includes refinements to the FMS mobile app (CASE CTRL), which will be used at Round 10 by around 12 countries as part of the integrated survey tool suite.
Figure 2.3 – Sampling and Fieldwork

- Guidance documents released from January 2020 (see section 6.2)
- Feedback about ESS9 sent to NCs February-July 2020
- Link to online fieldwork questionnaire (FWQ) for ESS10 provided to NCs May 2020
- Fieldwork Team & SWEP to double check corresponding figures From May 2020
- FWQ completed by NCs & discussed with FWT From May 2020
- Weekly fieldwork progress updates made available to Fieldwork Team (FWT) September 2020 - December 2021
- NC & FWT discuss problems arising & agree solutions September 2020 - December 2021
- FWQ signed off by Fieldwork Team At least two weeks before fieldwork starts
- Fieldwork projections template sent to NCs July 2020
- NC to send completed projections template to FWT At least two weeks before fieldwork starts
- NC consults assigned sampling expert from SWEP to sign off sample design for ESS10 From February 2020
- ESS10 FIELDWORK
  Minimum 6 weeks, maximum 5 months in September 2020 - December 2021
- SDDF Preparation and deposit September 2021 - September 2022
Figure 2.4 – Producing Country Questionnaires: Translation, External Assessment, Harmonisation of formal characteristics of the questions and Pre-testing
Data Preparation, Processing and Archiving

Curation and archiving constitute distinct areas of activity which are ongoing over the survey biennial period. Key tasks in this period included reception of data and metadata from participating countries for the Round 9 data release. The first release of the Round 9 data took place in October 2019. The second data release for Round 9 will take place in June 2020. These releases constitute major updates of the Data and Documentation sections of the ESS website. Data files are available in three different formats (SPSS, SAS and STATA).

In addition, the long-term curation activities relating to the cumulative datasets were ongoing and announcements of releases communicated to the ESS data user community.

Figure 2.5 presents an overview of data preparation, processing and archiving activities for Round 9.

**Figure 2.5 – Data Preparation, Processing and Archiving**
Looking ahead to Round 11

The majority of preparations for ESS Round 11 will be undertaken in the 2021-2023 Work Programme. The main task included in the 2019-21 Work Programme has been the launch of a competition to select the rotatign modules for Round 11. A shortlist of potential Question Design Teams was selected by the ESS ERIC Scientific Advisory Board in March 2020 following submission of initial proposals. The second stage of the competition will close in June 2020, with a final selection of the two rotating modules to be fielded in Round 11 in September 2020.

SUSTAIN-2 (see also Section 6 H2020 Projects)

ESS was awarded almost €5 million in funding from the European Commission to lead a new Horizon 2020 project - SUSTAIN-2 - from January 2020. The majority of the funding will be used to collect survey data online from respondents in 12 countries, making a significant investment in cross-national web interviewing for the future. This harmonised, probability-based web panel (CRONOS-2) will be fielded in Austria, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Finland, France, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Portugal, Slovenia, Sweden and the UK. Participants to the web surveys will be recruited on the back of face-to-face interviews for Round 10 of ESS. This web panel builds on the successful implementation of online data collection in three countries following Round 8 of ESS, as part of the SERISS project.

The SUSTAIN-2 project also builds on membership development activities implemented by the ESS in the European Union (EU) funded project, SUSTAIN, to boost the number of participating countries. These efforts saw participation rise from 21 countries in Round 7 (2014/15) to 30 countries in Round 9 (2018/19), and membership in the European Research Infrastructure Consortium (ERIC) grow from 14 to 25 countries. As part of this new project, the benefits of joining the infrastructure will continue to be promoted to funding agencies in countries who did not participate in Round 9, or are yet to commit to fielding the survey in Round 10. This includes the development of a central survey tool suite, provided by CentERdata, which can be used by ESS national teams at Round 9 and aims to remove a possible barrier to participation.

SUSTAIN 2 will also explore a potential partnership with the European Values Survey (EVS), to consider whether EVS questions could be included in ESS data collection.

An Impact Case Study - a report that investigated the academic, non-academic, and teaching impact of the ESS - was published by Technopolis Group (UK) in 2017. As part of SUSTAIN 2, this exercise will be repeated, with short country reports being produced for new or returning countries.

Activities linked to SUSTAIN-2 in the June 2019 to May 2020 period mainly focused on development work for the CRONOS-2 online panel and preparation of the central survey tool suite to be used at Round 10.

<p>| Table 2.1 – ESS Round 10 Project Timetable |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>ACTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June ’19</td>
<td>ESS ERIC Round 10 Specification issued to General Assembly (Members, Observers and Guests), NCs and Survey Agencies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June-Sep’19</td>
<td>ESS Round 10 pre-testing of questions for items from rotating modules in the main questionnaire – including quantitative testing (organised by ESS ERIC HQ) and cognitive interviewing (in a small number of selected countries)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From Nov’19</td>
<td>Appointment of NCs and Survey Agencies. Signing Data Processing Agreements including Data Management Plans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep-Dec’19</td>
<td>Advance Translation (a small number of selected countries) (rotating modules), Pilot Fieldwork (2 countries) (rotating modules)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb ’20</td>
<td>Penultimate draft main questionnaire sent to NCs for comments; NCs asked to highlight possible translation problems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb-June ’20</td>
<td>Sample design plans discussed between NCs and assigned sample panel member &amp; signed off by the Sampling and Weighting Expert Panel (SWEP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March ’20</td>
<td>Link to Fieldwork Questionnaire (FWQ) sent to NCs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From May ’20</td>
<td>FWQ completed by NCs and signed off by ESS Fieldwork Team</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31 Mar ’20</td>
<td>ESS Round 10 NC Intranet area opens for NCs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31 March ’20</td>
<td>ESS Round 10 Source Questionnaires distributed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April-Aug’20</td>
<td>Question adaptation and consultations with CST</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April-Aug’20</td>
<td>Translation, Team review and adjudication, External assessment (Verification), Harmonisation of formal characteristics of the questions using SQP coding, and national pre-tests¹</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July ’20</td>
<td>ESS Round 10 2020 Data Protocol and dictionaries distributed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From July ’20</td>
<td>Fieldwork projections to be sent to the Fieldwork Team</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From Aug ’20</td>
<td>Interviewer Briefings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep ’20</td>
<td>National Technical Summary (NTS) made available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep ‘20</td>
<td>ESS Round 10 Fieldwork starts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep ‘20 - Dec ‘21</td>
<td>Monitor fieldwork: Make weekly fieldwork progress information available to the Fieldwork Team</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31 Dec ‘21</td>
<td>ESS Round 10 Fieldwork ends</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 Sept ‘21</td>
<td>Data delivery to the ESS Archive (1st release countries)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31 Jan ‘22</td>
<td>Data delivery to the ESS Archive (2nd release countries)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct ‘21 - April ‘22</td>
<td>Data processing and Archiving²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preparation of Sample design data file (SDDF)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April ‘22</td>
<td>1st data release expected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept ‘22</td>
<td>2nd data release expected</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Note that the timing for translation, translation verification, SQP coding, country pre-testing of translations, interviewer briefing, fieldwork, etc. will vary depending on individual country timetables.
2. The ESS Archive at NSD will check and merge the national data files into a combined multi-nation data file that will be released publicly as soon as it is signed off by the CST. This initial release may, however, have to exclude any national data file that arrives after the deadlines of 30 September 2021 (first release) or 31 January 2022 (second release), or for which the data and/or technical documentation is late or incomplete. A final release will be made after all countries that have met the requirements have submitted data and documentation.
### Table 2.2 – Key guidance documents released for Round 10

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Document name</th>
<th>Round 10 Publication date (2020)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Data Processing Agreement</td>
<td>31 Oct 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sampling Guidelines</td>
<td>January 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Translation Guidelines</td>
<td>January 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Translation Quality Checklist</td>
<td>March (end) 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Source Questionnaire and showcards</td>
<td>April 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information Brochure to respondents</td>
<td>April 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOP Coding Guidelines and SQP User Manual</td>
<td>April 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Translation and) Verification Follow-up Form (T) VFF</td>
<td>April 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Verification Instructions</td>
<td>April 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Example Contact Form</td>
<td>April 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fieldwork Questionnaire (FWQ)</td>
<td>May 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interviewer Briefing Checklist</td>
<td>May 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guidelines on fieldwork monitoring using FMS and syntax for interview quality monitoring</td>
<td>July 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NC Manual (including Interviewer Briefings)</td>
<td>July 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fieldwork Projections Template</td>
<td>July 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESS Data Protocol and dictionaries</td>
<td>July 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Technical Summary &amp; appendices</td>
<td>September 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anonymisation Guide</td>
<td>December 2020</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Text in italics indicates actions for the year 2020-2021.

### Round 10 rotating module

**Digital Social Contacts in Work and Family Life**

Digitalization has led to major changes in communication both in work and family life. On the one hand, great optimism exists regarding the implications of digital social contacts, e.g. via smartphone, for increased efficiency of communication and improved relationship quality due to new possibilities of contact. On the other hand, major concerns include a decline in family or workplace solidarity as well as greater distractions from family or work interactions and tasks. Rejecting any technological determinism which forecasts the same consequences from digitalization for all individuals in all countries, we suggest a rotating module for Round 10 of the ESS which 1) identifies different dimensions of digital social contact (frequency, content, costs and benefits involved) to allow for a broader understanding of digital phenomena, and 2) creates new possibilities from a European country-comparative perspective for multivariate analyses of the determinants of digital social contacts (e.g., social inequalities) and their consequences, especially for relationship quality, work-life balance, and well-being. We propose items on opportunities for access to digital communication (e.g., Internet access at home), the need for them (e.g., lower co-residence) and trust in digital social contact (e.g., privacy concerns), as complements to questions on workplace culture and available country information (e.g. on work related state policies) which are likely to shape individual agency to establish digital social contact in a way that it facilitates work-life balance and encourages relationship quality or well-being. We consider digital social contacts both in the family and at work.

**Team**

Anja-Kristin Abendroth, Bielefeld University (Germany); Francesco C. Billari, Bocconi University (Italy); Eszter Hargittai, University of Zurich (Switzerland); Judith Treas, University of California (United States); Tanja Van der Lippe, Utrecht University (Netherlands)

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**Round 10 rotating module**

**Understanding and Evaluations of Democracy**

There are four major changes in European democracies that call for a repeat module on democracy: 1) New political forces have come to ‘storm the democratic stage’; 2) Referendums - the essential instrument of direct democracy - have troubled both the European democracies and the European Union; 3) For many Europeans, the European Union has become the ‘enemy’; and 4) A generation of ‘outraged’ youth has appeared in Europe, as a consequence of the several crises that have affected European democracies. The European Social Survey is best placed to measure these changes and their implications for European democracy. The first rotating module was fielded in the midst of one of the worst global economic crises, with severe consequences for European democracies (amongst which those we mention above). The repeat module is scheduled in 2020/1, a perfect time span to assess the direction in which democracies are moving following the economic crisis of the early 2010s. By measuring changes in Europeans’ attitudes to democracy within and across countries, the ESS will address one of the most crucial themes of today.

**Team**

Mónica Ferrín, Collegio Carlo Alberto (Italy); Hanspeter Kriesi, European University Institute (Italy); Claudia Landwehr, Johannes-Gutenberg-University Mainz (Germany); Levente Littvay, Central European University (Hungary); Enrique Hernández, Autonomous University of Barcelona (Spain).
3. Dissemination

Annual Activity Report 2019-2020

The ESS ERIC is committed to wide dissemination of its results and there is a dedicated strand of activity on science communication and monitoring in the Work Programme 2019-2021.

The ESS continues to focus on communicating a wide range of content for end users. Content created for this purpose mainly focuses on two main strands: the availability of open access data and the promotion of high-quality survey methodology techniques.

Over the past few years, there has been an increase in efforts to produce more content (i.e. analysis of our own data and more news items on the ESS website) whilst continuing to disseminate content produced since the ESS became an ERIC in 2013 (i.e. Topline and Findings booklets).

Once the content is produced, this is communicated through internal, external events led by the ESS HQ; CST partners (survey methodology seminar series); and national coordinating teams. One-off lectures of note are also included in this section.

The survey methodology seminar series – organised by ESS HQ alongside the host institution (City, University of London) and UK national coordinator (NatCen Social Research) moved to an online format in March 2020 as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic. This format is more accessible for an international audience.

Table 3.1 – Dissemination activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>EVENT, LOCATION</th>
<th>FURTHER INFORMATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15-19 July 2019</td>
<td>ESRA Conference, Zagreb, Croatia</td>
<td>The ESS was a silver sponsor of the biennial European Survey Research Association Conference in Zagreb, Croatia. The sponsorship package included the use of the ESS logo on conference materials, an exhibition stand and an event for the SERISS project. Research based on methodological or substantive analysis of ESS data was presented by CST members, NCs and external academics.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Sept 2019</td>
<td>Survey methodology seminar, City, University of London, UK</td>
<td>Organised alongside the ESS host institution (City, University of London) and the UK fieldwork agency (NatCen Social Research), Dana R. Thomson, Flowminder Foundation, presented Sampling vulnerable and mobile populations in household surveys to 21 attendees.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Sept 2019</td>
<td>Using social science data and research to help reduce global health inequalities, DG SANTE, European Commission, Brussels, Belgium</td>
<td>The ESS organised a meeting with the European Commissioner for Health and Food Safety, Vytenis Andriukaitis, and colleagues from his directorate-general (DG SANTE). It brought together other survey infrastructures and health researchers to offer tangible policy evidence based on social science data. The four-hour event was chaired by the Head of Unit, Research and Industrial Infrastructures, DG Research and Innovation. Around 20 people attended the event.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 &amp; 16 Oct 2019</td>
<td>Methodological seminars, Vytautas Magnus University, Lithuania</td>
<td>Two events organised by the Lithuanian national team were held to discuss the methodological aspects of the ESS. Around 33 attendees attended the first event, with a further 10 people attending the second seminar.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 Oct 2019</td>
<td>Survey methodology seminar, City, University of London, UK</td>
<td>Organised alongside the ESS host institution (City, University of London) and the UK fieldwork agency (NatCen Social Research), Bernard Steen, NatCen, James Thom, Ipsos MORI and Tim Hanson, Kantar Public UK presented How should we present ‘Don’t Know’, options in web-surveys? to around 80 attendees.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 Oct 2019</td>
<td>The ESS in Portugal, Lisbon, Portugal</td>
<td>An event was held by the Portuguese national team at the Higher Institute of Social and Political Sciences to showcase the latest research using ESS data. Lectures were delivered on a range of topics.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 Oct 2019</td>
<td>18 years of monitoring attitudes in Spain and Europe, Pompeu Fabra University (UPF), Spain</td>
<td>To coincide with the autumn Core Scientific Team (CST) meeting, UPF held an event to showcase the implementation of the ESS in Spain. It also included presentations on methodological and substantive research using ESS data collected since 2002. It was attended by around 50 people.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06 Nov 2019</td>
<td>Social science and social surveys, City, University of London, UK</td>
<td>As part of an event organised by the ESS HQ for the ESRC Festival of Social Science, the Media and Communications Officer held an interactive session on social surveys with 20 A-level students (aged 16-18). The ESRC is the UK funder of the ESS ERIC.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Some dissemination activities in the first year of the ESS ERIC Work Programme (2019-21) were supported by funding from the H2020 projects, Synergies for Europe’s Research Infrastructures in the Social Sciences (SERISS) project (ESRA) and the Research Infrastructure Visibility (RI-VIS) grant (AAAS).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>EVENT, LOCATION</th>
<th>FURTHER INFORMATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11 Nov 2019</td>
<td>Press conference to announce Round 9 data release, European University of Cyprus</td>
<td>A press conference was held by the Cypriot national team to announce the first Round 9 data release. The conference was attended by the rector of the European University of Cyprus, Gouliemlos Kostas, and University of Cyprus, Tassos Christoforidis. Over 25 people attended the event, including journalists from national media outlets.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 Nov 2019</td>
<td>Survey methodology seminar, City, University of London, UK</td>
<td>Organised alongside the ESS host institution (City, University of London) and the UK fieldwork agency (NatCen Social Research), Annette Jäckle, Institute for Social and Economic Research, University of Essex, presented Using mobile apps for data collection to 37 attendees.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Presentation of data to Kaunas District Municipality Council members, Lithuania</td>
<td>The Lithuanian national team presented ESS data to approximately 15 council members from the Kaunas District Municipality.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 Dec 2019</td>
<td>Webinar: What is ESS? Online</td>
<td>A webinar was held to discuss Lithuanian membership of the ESS ERIC in December 2019. 92 people viewed the event, broadcast on YouTube.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Feb 2020</td>
<td>Poland and its European context: Continuity and Change, Polish Academy of Sciences, Poland</td>
<td>A dissemination conference was held by the Polish national team to showcase the latest research using ESS data. Lectures were delivered during three sessions: social justice, the timing of key life events and immigration. 154 participants attended the event.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13-16 Feb 2020</td>
<td>The American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Conference, Seattle, USA</td>
<td>The ESS was part of the team that staffed an exhibition stand at AAAS 2020. The exhibition stand was for the Horizon 2020 project, Research Infrastructure Visibility (RI-VIS) and engaged with delegates throughout the four-day conference.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 Feb 2020</td>
<td>Working 9 to 5. What will pay gap reporting mean? Standard Life Foundation, London, UK</td>
<td>Organised by the UK national coordinator alongside some high-profile UK-based businesses, this event explored the newly released Round 9 (2018/19) dataset measuring attitudes towards income. It drew on analysis of the rotating module: Justice and Fairness and was attended by 70-80 people.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 Feb 2020</td>
<td>Press conference on religion, Poland</td>
<td>The Polish national team held a press conference: The changes in religiosity of the Europeans based on the results of European Social Survey. The event was attended by approximately 20 people, including some high-profile journalists.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 Mar 2020</td>
<td>Survey methodology webinar, Online</td>
<td>Organised alongside the ESS host institution (City, University of London) and the UK fieldwork agency (NatCen Social Research), Gary Pollock, Manchester Metropolitan University, presented Growing Up in Digital Europe: developing the first Europe wide birth cohort survey to 78 people online.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 Apr 2020</td>
<td>Survey methodology webinar, Online</td>
<td>Organised alongside the ESS host institution (City, University of London) and the UK fieldwork agency (NatCen Social Research), Olga Maslovskaya, University of Southampton, presented Data quality in mixed-device online surveys in the UK to 144 people online.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 May 2020</td>
<td>Presentation on ESS ERIC, National Research, Development and Innovation Office, Hungary</td>
<td>An online presentation was delivered by the Hungarian national team to 10 staff from the National Research, Development and Innovation Office.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 &amp; 27 May 2020</td>
<td>Webinars: Let’s learn SPSS with ESS, Online</td>
<td>Two online tutorials were delivered by the Lithuanian national team to assist data users in analysing ESS data using SPSS. Both webinars were delivered using Adobe Connect. The first - correlation and mean differences of two groups - was delivered to 57 participants. 50 people attended the second: linear regression and multivariate analysis of variance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 May 2020</td>
<td>From landing to arrival, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) webinar, Online</td>
<td>The Hungarian national team presented their research based on ESS data that measured the attitudes of migrants. The webinar was organised by Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES), a non-profit foundation funded by the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 May 2020</td>
<td>Interactive quiz, Online</td>
<td>Organised by the Lithuanian national team, this online quiz was delivered using Adobe Connect to 10 participants.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The ESS was due to participate in the Africa-Europe Symposium on Research Infrastructures (RI-VIS) - due to take place in Cape Town, South Africa in March - but this was postponed due to COVID-19. Additionally, the ESS planned to host an exhibition stand at the British Sociological Association conference due to take place in April 2020 but this was also postponed.
Publications

Findings Booklet 3
The third findings booklet in the series - Exploring public attitudes, informing public policy - was published in October 2019. The report showcases a range of data analysis based on ESS data collected from Round 1 (2002/03) to Round 7 (2014/15). The previous publications in the series showcased data collected over the first three rounds; and data collected over the first five rounds.

German Report
The ESS also produced a report drafted by the German national team that analysed data from the first eight rounds. This report was designed using the Topline template and was published on the German national webpages.

Translations
Under ESS-SUSTAIN, the ESS has embarked on translating at least one publication into the language(s) of the 36 countries who had participated in at least one round of the survey. Whilst the SUSTAIN project ended in March 2019, three translations have still taken place:

5. Europeans’ Personal and Social Wellbeing (Russian)
8. The Past, Present and Future of European Welfare Attitudes (Lithuanian)

Exploring public attitudes, informing public policy: Selected findings from the first seven rounds (Bulgarian)

ESS Website
Visitor numbers to the ESS website continued to grow steadily over the reporting period. From 1 June 2019 - 31 May 2020, there were 187,497 users who accessed at least one page on the ESS website (+6.27% on the previous year). These users logged onto the website 359,416 times (+2.97%) viewing a total of 1,654,822 webpages (+2.2%). The average session duration also increased slightly - from four minutes 21 seconds to four minutes 25 seconds. Metrics that decreased slightly from the previous year included: number of sessions per user (1.92) and number of pages per session (4.6). The bounce rate also increased slightly, to 36.2%.

In total over the period, 1 June 2019 - 31 May 2020, five data alerts were published on the ESS website, listed below. The most important of these were in relation to the first and second releases of Round 9 (2018/19) data.

- 31/10/19 ESS9 First release (edition 1.0)
- 11/11/19 ESS9 New edition (1.1) of main data
- 02/12/19 ESS9 Contact form data release
- 31/01/20 ESS9 New edition (1.2) of main data
- 15/06/20 ESS9 Second release (edition 2.0)

18 news articles and four blog posts were published on the ESS website from 1 June 2019 – 31 May 2020, listed below.

- 24/06/19 Pre-announcement: Call for rotating modules
- 09/07/19 Measuring education in the ESS and EVS
- 19/07/19 Social diversity is initially threatening but people adapt
- 25/07/19 Round 8 quality matrix now available
- 28/08/19 Online consultation launched
- 02/09/19 General Assembly meeting next month
- 04/09/19 Global partnerships revealed
- 19/09/19 Social science event at the European Commission
- 25/09/19 Your chance to field questions in our survey
- 14/10/19 Exploring public attitudes, informing public policy
- 29/10/19 Asylum seekers and migrant threat
- 31/10/19 Round 9 data now available
- 26/11/19 New experts appointed to advisory boards
- 12/12/19 Eurobarometer and Euroscepticism
- 06/01/20 ESS awarded major Horizon 2020 grant
- 30/01/20 Developing a global online panel
- 19/02/20 Analyse Round 9 Russian data
- 26/03/20 Upcoming General Assembly meeting
- 08/04/20 COVID-19 implications for the ESS
- 04/05/20 ESS ERIC now has 25 members
- 20/05/20 Extraordinary General Assembly meeting
- 22/05/20 Special fast call for COVID-19 questions

Media Coverage and Social Media
ESS HQ monitored 1,188 mentions of ‘European Social Survey’ in the media from 1 June 2019 - 31 May 2020. This includes printed articles published in traditional media outlets (newspapers and magazines), online news articles, broadcast media and blog posts (academic and non-academic). These published articles included the term “European Social Survey” (in English or another language) and were found using several media monitoring sources.3

The majority of this news coverage is generated organically, usually through the external publication of analysis of ESS data, but some were generated by ESS HQ, Core Scientific Team (CST) partners or National Coordinating Teams (NCTs). The total number of articles published over the year is an increase on the 888 articles monitored in the previous year (1 June 2018 - 31 May 2019). However, this figure is lower than the number of articles generated in 2017-18 (1,397).

Social media content can be split into five main categories: corporate (news, events and ESS publications); ESS in the news (examples of ESS analysis referenced in the media); external reports and websites (that make use of ESS data); academic papers (that analyse ESS data); and simple data analysis (produced by ESS HQ).

3. The sources used for media monitoring are: Factiva (City, University of London Library Services); Google Alerts (for ‘European Social Survey’ in English and other languages); Meltwater or Signal Media Monitoring (City, University of London press office); Mention Alerts; Nexis (City, University of London Library Services); Press Reader (City, University of London Library Services) and Talkwalker Alerts. Additionally, some NC teams share articles that they have monitored in their country.
The ESS has continued to capitalise on its growing reach across social media channels. Each week at least ten updates are posted to three channels: Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter. In most weeks, a further five posts will be added to Twitter. Additionally, the ESS launched a YouTube channel in March 2020. This was primarily to act as a depository for recorded webinars, that took the place of in-person seminars during the Coronavirus pandemic.

As at 31 May 2020, the ESS Facebook page had 1,644 followers (+405 since 1 June 2019) and 1,528 page likes (+372). These figures represent a steady increase on the previous year. There was a notable spike in the number of followers and page likes following the initial Round 9 data release on 31 October 2019. Each Facebook update is seen on average by 291 people and nine people per post react to it positively, comment on the post or share it to their networks. It is also worth noting that the Facebook page messaging function is becoming an increasingly popular way for data users to submit enquiries.

As at 31 May 2020, the ESS LinkedIn page had 733 followers (+328 since 1 June 2019). LinkedIn updates appear in the feeds of 3,593 people per month and these are directly engaged with by 4.67%. This means that an average of 167 people engage with LinkedIn updates each month. These figures are all slightly higher than in the previous year.

As at 31 May 2020, the ESS Twitter account had 11,394 followers (+2,955 since 1 June 2019). In total, 895 updates were posted which appeared in 2.62m feeds. Updates to the Twitter feed have an engagement rate of around 1%, meaning that approximately 26,200 people expand the post in their feed, like, retweet, click on the weblink provided, click on the ESS Twitter profile page or reply to the update each year. This, however, refers to all engagement, and not individual interactions, meaning it is impossible to calculate how many individuals engage with the ESS Twitter feed each year.

**Data users**

**Data user statistics**

As at 31 May 2020, there were 161,374 registered ESS data users (+20,820) and 113,397 unique data downloaders (+9,837). The users include academics, students, government and non-governmental organisations, think tanks, journalists and private individuals.

Two groups of users are identified:

“Registered users” - registered at the ESS website and thereby eligible for using ESS data

“ESS data downloaders” – registered users who have actually downloaded ESS data at least once

The ESS User Statistics reports, available publicly on the ESS website and updated monthly, include tables showing numbers of registered users and ESS data downloaders by country, user type (faculty members, students etc.) and data type (ESS round, cumulative data and multilevel data) - see [www.europeansocialsurvey.org/about/user_statistics.html](http://www.europeansocialsurvey.org/about/user_statistics.html).

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4. Facebook and LinkedIn analytics refer to the number of times that the ESS post is actually seen on the timelines of followers or other users; Twitter analytics refer to the number of times that the ESS post appears on the timelines of followers or other users (these users have not necessarily seen the post).
Google citation research
CST Institution, University of Ljubljana, undertakes analyses of citations using Google analytics. This exercise considers all relevant (English language) and unique ‘ESS based’ publication by a) methodological or b) substantive focus, which include data with at least one ESS item. Excluded are non-English publications, publications with no data usage (e.g. item borrowing), secondary data usage (citations from primary ESS based publications), non-academic publications, expired links and duplicates of journal articles.

The final result of the citation analysis 2003-2019 reports 4,913 relevant publications. Abstracts are subsequently coded allowing details of the precise item use (substantive or method to be ascertained.

The analysis also indicated that
- the majority of publications are in journals (n=2,307)
- the majority of publications are in the journal field ‘sociology’
- the focus of the articles is mainly on substantive, not methodological topics.

The following Figures 3.3 and 3.4 indicate the publication growth and the topic focus of publications. The largest number of ESS-based journal articles are published in sociological, political science and economic journals. Three additional strongest fields are health and medicine, psychology and social science methods.

Figure 3.3 – The spread of ESS based journal articles across academic fields 2003-2019 (N=4913)

Figure 3.4 – ESS-based publications in the 2003-2019 period

Figure 3.5: The share of publications addressing individual topics (N = 4913) (up to two topics coded for each publication)

Source: B. Malnar, University of Ljubljana, May 2020
4. Governance and Operations

Annual Activity Report 2019-2020

In this period, all Committees of the General Assembly and the Director were in place and operational.

At ESS ERIC Headquarters, based at City, University of London, the necessary arrangements relating to the management of the research infrastructure were implemented.

Meetings of the ESS ERIC General Assembly, its Committees and the Director’s Committees

The ESS ERIC General Assembly met twice in the year 01 June 2019 -31 May 2020; in October 2019, in Rome, Italy and virtually (due to COVID-19 restrictions) in April 2020.

Key decisions, in addition to the usual business of approving applications for membership and Guest country statutes, including adoption the audit and other reports, related to contingency planning for the effects on ESS ERIC of the UK’s exit from the EU. The GA approved additional expenditure in response to proposals prepared by the Director in order to mitigate the effects of the COVID-10 crisis.

The GA established a Working Group, the Funding and Governance Working Group at the 15th meeting of the ESS ERIC GA (October 2019). This working group was convened twice, in January and April 2020 and reported back to the GA at its 16th meeting in April 2020. It was chaired by the Chair of the GA and involved UK, France and Norway national representatives, and the Director and staff from ESS ERIC HQ, and Bjørn Henrichsen, ESS ERIC advisor, attended its meetings.

All of the committees of the General Assembly and of the Director met at least once in 2019-2020 period. The secretariat to all committees of the General Assembly is provided by the ESS ERIC HQ, with GESIS sharing the organisation of the National Coordinators’ Forum.

An extra-Statute grouping, the Troika, comprising the Host Country, represented by the Economic and Social Research Council (UK National Representative), the Host Institution, City, University of London (represented by its Vice-President for Research & Enterprise), and the Chair of the General Assembly, representing the GA, has met periodically over the course of the operation of the ESS ERIC. It did not meet in the 2019-2020 period.

Members of the GA committees are listed in Annex 2.

The Director’s committees were also active in this period. These committees are:

(i) the Core Scientific Team (CST) - the institutions are GESIS, Germany; The Netherlands Institute for Social Research/SCP, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Spain; Norwegian Centre for Research Data, NSD/ Norway, University of Ljubljana and the University of Essex.

(ii) the National Coordinators’ Forum - the representative of National Coordinators elected to attend General Assembly meetings is Dr Peter Grand, Austria. The representative of NCs elected to attend meetings of the Director’s Core Scientific Team is Professor Mikael Hjerm, Sweden.

ESS ERIC HQ provided the secretariat for the various meetings, preparing minutes of the meetings and background papers, as appropriate.

Figure 4.1 – Governance of the ESS ERIC
### Table 4.1 – ESS ERIC Meetings: June 2019 - May 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ESS ERIC Deliverables produced in the period 01 June 2019 - 31 May 2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The ESS ERIC Work Programme has a set of scheduled deliverables which are produced through the Work Programme period. All Deliverables have ‘public access’ status, bar FINCOM documents and other clearly identified outputs. Deliverables produced in the 2019-2020 period are listed in the table below.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TABLE OF DELIVERABLE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Terms of Reference for ESS ERIC Strategic Review Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Report on sampling deviations at Round 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Design weights for Round 9 first release</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specification for Fieldwork Management System (FMS) in R10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edition 1 of MS data and meta data from ESS 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Report to GA and EC on 2018-2019 activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Round 10 pilot questionnaire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESS annual bibliographic report 2019, with appendices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual activity and status report for the ESS Website including user support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minutes and meeting papers National Coordinators’ Forum 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R10 question development: Report on quality evaluation conducted using SQP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Round 10 results from Advance Translation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESS10 Translation Guidelines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESS10 Translation Quality Checklist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESS10 Fieldwork Questionnaire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESS 10 (Translation and) Verification Follow-up Form - (T)VFF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revised Contact Forms for Round 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review and report to GA from FINCOM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minutes and meeting papers National Coordinators’ Forum 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Round 10 source questionnaire and showcards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specifications for a new ESS website and its underlying systems</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*ESS ERIC REB was not convened in 2019-2020 but carried out its work virtually over this period.
Data Protection

ESS ERIC appointed its Data Protection Officer (DPO) in May 2018. Together with HQ staff, activities relating to ensuring ESS ERIC compliance with GDPR were ongoing in the period.

Raising the profile of data protection compliance across the ESS ERIC

The most important task of the data protection officer (DPO) is providing leadership in raising the profile of data protection compliance across the ESS ERIC and promoting a culture of data protection.

To this end the DPO

- provides reports on activity to each General Assembly
- presents on relevant topics on data protection at meetings of the National Coordinators’ Forum.
- is an ex officio member of the ESS ERIC Research Ethics Board
- liaises on the data protection function with ESS HQ (including review of Data Protection Agreements)
- attends country briefings to new countries coming into or back to ESS
- with ESS ERIC HQ and NSD, prepares an information brochure with all relevant information to participants of ESS Round 10.

Identify and document processing of personal data

As a means to identify and document the legal basis on which data are processed, the ESS DPO, together with ESS ERIC HQ gathers information on the processing activities taking place in the ESS ERIC. Using the template from the United Kingdom Information Commissioner’s Office (ICO), this entails keeping an overview of the types of the different processing taking place within the scope of the project, from describing the purposes of the processing and descriptions of the categories of the data subjects and categories of personal data, to time limits for erasure of the different categories of data.

Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)

A large scale project like the ESS will require the controllers (as well as, according to Article 38, the DPO), to assess whether the processing of personal data related to the survey is “likely to result in a high risk to the rights and freedoms of natural persons”; and, if the result of the risk assessment is affirmative, require the controller/DPO to carry out a DPIA. A DPIA was in place for Round 9 and preparations for the DPIA for Round 10 commenced in this period.

The aim of the DPIA is to give a thorough analysis of any risk relating to the processing at hand, and shall include

a) A systematic description of the processing,

b) An assessment of the necessity and proportionality of the processing

c) An assessment of the risk the processing may entail for the rights and freedoms of the data subject

d) Leadership validating/quality assuring the DPIA.

5. Finances

Annual Activity Report 2019-2020

The arrangements for financing the ESS ERIC central costs are detailed in the ESS ERIC Statutes. ESS ERIC finances are organised in the following way - the individual countries (its Members, Observers and Guests) contribute to the central coordinating costs of the ESS ERIC. A condition of membership (and Observer and Guest status) is that countries also commit to carrying out the survey ‘at their own expense’ in accordance with the specifications for participating countries (ESS ERIC Statutes Article 4.1(d)).

Country contributions

Country contributions for the period 2017-2021 were approved by the General Assembly at its meeting of 26 April 2017. Annex III to the ESS ERIC Statutes presents an overview of country contributions 2017-2021 and includes details of the formula applied in the calculation of individual country contributions in the Explanatory Note to Annex.

Country Status Contributions (€)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COUNTRY</th>
<th>STATUS</th>
<th>CONTRIBUTION (€)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>Host Member</td>
<td>764,909</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>62,968</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>71,675</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulgaria</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>21,855</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Croatia</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>21,855</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cyprus</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>21,855</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Czech Republic</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>41,777</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estonia</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>21,855</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>47,457</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>288,541</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>Guest</td>
<td>21,855</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>385,368</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greece</td>
<td>Guest</td>
<td>43,508</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hungary</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>21,855</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iceland</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>21,855</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ireland</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>47,617</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The table presents details of the country contribution for each Member, Observer and Guest country for the 2019-20 period.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COUNTRY</th>
<th>STATUS</th>
<th>CONTRIBUTION (€)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>Member</td>
<td>50,517</td>
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<td>Italy</td>
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<td>223,586</td>
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<td>Latvia</td>
<td>Member</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lithuania</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>21,855</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montenegro</td>
<td>Guest</td>
<td>21,855</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>104,395</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Macedonia</td>
<td>Guest</td>
<td>21,855</td>
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<tr>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>68,393</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>72,981</td>
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<tr>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>43,513</td>
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<tr>
<td>Serbia</td>
<td>Guest</td>
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<tr>
<td>Slovakia</td>
<td>Member</td>
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<td>Slovenia</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>21,855</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>76,345</td>
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<tr>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>Observer</td>
<td>89,905</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In our opinion, the financial statements:
- give a true and fair view of the state of the ERIC’s affairs as at 31 May 2020 and of its activities for the year then ended; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing UK (ISAs (UK)). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor’s Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the ERIC in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in United Kingdom, including the FRC’s Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

The audited accounts are presented in Annex 4.
6. HORIZON 2020 Projects

Annual Activity Report 2019-2020

In the period 01 June 2019 - 31 May 2020, there were seven HORIZON 2020 (H2020) projects in operation. Details of the two projects coordinated by ESS ERIC are outlined below.

Synergies for Europe's Research Infrastructure for the Social Sciences - SERISS - (GA was a four-year project that strengthened and harmonized social science research across Europe. Funded under Horizon 2020, it brought together six key social science research infrastructures in the EU: ESS ERIC, SHARE ERIC, CESSDA AS (now CESSDA ERIC), Gender and Generations Project, European Values Survey and WageIndicator Survey. It ran from 01 July 2015 to 31 August 2019.

Focused around three key themes - key challenges facing cross-national data collection, breaking down barriers between research infrastructures, and embracing the future of social sciences - SERISS addressed issues relating to survey design and data collection, data management and curation from a collaborative, cross-national perspective. The project has equipped social science data infrastructures to play a major role in addressing the key societal challenges facing Europe today, and ensuring that national and European policymaking is built on a solid base of the highest-quality socio-economic evidence.

This project concluded in August 2019. See: www.seriss.eu.

Next Steps in Securing the Sustainability of the European Social Survey, European Research Infrastructure Consortium - ESS-SUSTAIN-2 - (GA 871063) is €5 million project, funded under HORIZON 2020. It aims to create sustainability through a structural strengthening of the ESS and by future proofing the infrastructure. ESS is not seeking another few years Commission funding to keep it afloat, an approach unlikely to yield long-term sustainability (and in any event these costs are now met by ERIC members). Rather it seeks a vital helping hand to help complete the transition of the ESS into a research infrastructure that is financially sound and scientifically equipped for the future.

By developing links with the European Values Survey, establishing global partners, engaging with policy makers, harnessing technology to improve efficiency and cost effectiveness and launching the world’s first probability-based online panel, this proposal aims to give the European Social Survey the strongest possible foundation to succeed in the years ahead.

The project commenced in January 2020 to 31 December 2022.

Other Horizon 2020 projects in which ESS ERIC participates as a partner, with Linked Third Parties, including City, University of London, UPF, UL, NSD, are:

**ERIC Forum Implementation Project, GA 823798**
www.eric-forum.eu

This project aims to provide collective support from existing ERICs to research infrastructures (RI) interested in becoming an ERIC. This includes the development of best practice guidance related to the ERIC legal framework and the creation of a repository for relevant documents - such as internal regulations and rules of procedures - to be made publicly available online. The project will run until December 2022.

In June 2020, the ERIC Forum published a position paper on how ERICs contribute to the five mission areas of Horizon Europe: The ERIC community and Horizon Europe mission areas.

**Increasing the Visibility of Research Infrastructures: RI-VIS, GA 824063**
www.ri-vis.eu

RI-VIS is designed to increase the visibility of European research infrastructures (RI) to new communities in Europe and beyond. The ESS ERIC is one of 13 partners working in the fields of biomedical sciences, environmental sciences and the social sciences. The project will run until July 2021.

**Social Sciences and Humanities Open Cloud: SSHOC, GA 823782, www.sshopencloud.eu**

The €14.5m project, which runs to April 2022, aims to create an open platform where data, tools and training are available and accessible for users of social sciences and humanities (SSH) data. The ESS will lead on work package 4 of the project - Innovations in Data Production - which will realise a number of initiatives associated with the creation of data. It aims to develop a sample management system which meets the needs of high-quality cross-national probability-based online panels. The work package will also explore innovations in Computer Assisted Translation and Computer Assisted Recorded Interviewing.

In this annual activity report period (01 June 2019-31 May 2020), the following projects concluded:

- European Research Infrastructures in the International Landscape, RISCAPE GA, 730974 (www.riscape.eu).

6. HORIZON 2020 Projects

**Annual Activity Report 2019-2020**

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The project commenced in January 2020 to 31 December 2022.
Annex 1

ESS ERIC General Assembly: National Representatives

Members of the ESS ERIC General Assembly are represented by a National Representative.

The Chair of the General Assembly is Professor Michael Breen, Mary Immaculate College, University of Limerick, Ireland. He was re-elected for a second four-year term in October 2016.

The Deputy Chair is Professor Algis Krupavičius, Kaunas University of Technology, Lithuania, He was re-elected for a second four-year term at the 10th meeting of the General Assembly in October 2017.

ESS ERIC General Assembly, National Representatives

- **Austria:** Matthias Reiter-Pázmándy, Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research
- **Belgium:** Bart Dumolyn, delegated representative from the Flemish Department of Economy, Science and Innovation (representing the Flemish Community); Aziz Naji, delegate for the FPS Science policy (representing the federal government); and Marc Vanholsbeeck, delegated representative from the Federation Wallonia-Brussels (representing the French-speaking Community)
- **Bulgaria:** Yumer Kodzhayumer, Science Directorate, Ministry of Education and Science
- **Croatia:** Staša Skenžić, Ministry of Science and Education
- **Cyprus:** Christos Aspris, Directorate General for European Programmes, Coordination and Development
- **Czechia:** Kamila Gabrielová, Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports
- **Estonia:** Erle Rikmann, Analysis and Statistics Department, Ministry of Social Affairs
- **Finland:** Päivi Messo, Academy of Finland
- **France:** Basudeb Chaudhuri, French Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation
- **Germany:** Monika van Ooyen, Federal Ministry of Education and Research, Dr Monica Waechter, DLR
- **Hungary:** Tamás Takács, National Research, Development and Innovation Office
- **Iceland:** Guðbjörg Andrea Jónsdóttir, University of Iceland
- **Ireland:** Eavan O’Brien, Irish Research Council
- **Israel:** Dr Alex Altshuler, Ministry of Science and Technology
- **Italy:** Sebastiano Fadda, National Institute for Public Policy Analysis (INAPP)
- **Latvia:** Diāna Laipniece, Ministry of Education and Science
- **Lithuania:** Professor Algis Krupavičius, delegated representative of the Ministry of Education and Science
- **Netherlands:** Joris Voskuilen, Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research
- **Norway:** Ministry of Education and Research, represented by Siri Hollekim Haaland, Research Council of Norway
- **Poland:** Dariusz Drewniak, Ministry of Science and Higher Education
- **Portugal:** Professor Analia Torres, University of Lisbon
- **Slovakia:** Robert Szabó, Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic
- **Slovenia:** Dr. Albin Kralj, Ministry of Education, Science and Sport
- **Sweden:** Susanna Bylin, delegated representative from the Swedish Research Council
- **UK:** Joe Ellery, Economic and Social Research Council, UK Research and Innovation (Host Country)

**Switzerland** is an Observer and is represented by Professor Georg Lutz, FORS (Swiss Foundation for Research in Social Sciences)

Countries with Guest status in Round 10 include **Greece**, represented by Dr. Nicolas Demertzis, National Centre for Social Research (EKKE), **Montenegro**, represented by Professor Ilija Vujadić, Montenegrin Academy of Sciences and Arts, **North Macedonia**, represented by Dr Mirjana Najchevska, Saints Cyril and Methodius University, and **Serbia**, represented by Dr. Goran Bašić, Institute of Social Sciences.
Annex 2
Membership of the Committees of the General Assembly

Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) at 31 May 2020
The Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) comprises ten members, appointed by the General Assembly following nominations from its Members.

• Chair: Professor Christian Staerklé, University of Lausanne, Switzerland
• Deputy Chair: Professor Hajo Boomgaarden, University of Vienna, Austria
• Professor Patrizia Catellani, Catholic University of Milan, Italy
• Professor Dana Hamplová, Institute of Sociology of the Czech Academy of Sciences, Czech Republic
• Professor Karsten Hank, WISO, University of Cologne, Germany
• Dr. Pedro Magalhães, University of Lisbon, Portugal
• Professor Caroline Rapp, Department of Political Science, University of Copenhagen, Denmark
• Dr. Tom Smith, National Opinion Research Center (NORC) at the University of Chicago, USA

The ESS ERIC Director, Rory Fitzgerald (ESS ERIC HQ at City, University of London) and the ESS ERIC Deputy Director - Scientific, Dr. Angelika Scheuer (Core Scientific Team - GESIS) attend SAB meetings as observers.

Methods Advisory Board (MAB) at 31 May 2020
The Methods Advisory Board (MAB) advises the General Assembly, the Director and the Core Scientific Team on technical and methodological aspects of the survey. It comprises six members, appointed by the General Assembly following nominations from its Members.

• Chair: Professor Caroline Roberts, University of Lausanne and FORS - Swiss Centre of Expertise in the Social Sciences, Switzerland
• Deputy Chair: Professor Johan Martinsson, Department of Political Science, University of Gothenburg, Sweden
• Professor Michael Bosnjak, Leibniz Institute for Psychology, Germany
• Professor Giancarlo Gasperoni, University of Bologna, Italy
• Professor Sylvia Kritzinger, University of Vienna, Austria
• Professor Edith de Leeuw, Utrecht University, Netherlands

The ESS ERIC Director, Rory Fitzgerald (ESS ERIC HQ at City, University of London) attends MAB meetings as an observer.

Finance Committee (FINCOM) at 31 May 2020
The Finance Committee (FINCOM) advises the General Assembly about all matters financial. It comprises national representative and external experts.

• Chair: Professor Michael Breen (Chair of the GA)
• Basudeb Chaudhuri (National Representative, France)
• Gudbjorg Andrea Jonsdottir (National Representative, Iceland)
• Nina Therese Maubach (National Representative, Norway)
• Joseph Ellery (National Representative, UK)

ESS ERIC Research Ethics Board at 31 May 2020
• Chair: Julie de Jong (External Expert)
• Professor Nicolas Sauger (SAB Representative)
• Dr Matt Creighton (NCF Representative)
• Professor Edith de Leeuw (MAB Representative)
• Professor Gert Wagner (External Expert)
• Dr Emily Gilbert (External Expert)

ESS ERIC Funding and Governance Working Group (established October 2019)
• Professor Michael Breen (Chair of the GA)
• Basudeb Chaudhuri (National Representative, France)
• Gudbjorg Andrea Jonsdottir (National Representative, Iceland)
• Nina Therese Maubach (National Representative, Norway)
• Joseph Ellery (National Representative, UK)
Annex 3

Membership of the ESS ERIC Director’s Committees – Core Scientific Team and National Coordinators’ Forum

The Director, Professor Rory Fitzgerald, is located at ESS ERIC Headquarters at its Host Institution, City, University of London. He is supported in the design and implementation of the ESS ERIC Work Programme by six other institutions that collectively comprise the ESS ERIC Core Scientific Team.

Core Scientific Team (CST)

Members of the CST are:

• Norwegian Centre for Research Data (NSD), Norway
• GESIS – Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences, Germany
• The Netherlands Institute for Social Research/SCP, The Netherlands
• Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Spain
• University of Ljubljana, Slovenia
• University of Essex, UK

Senior representatives of the CST attend the meetings of the ESS ERIC General Assembly.

National Coordinators’ Forum

The ESS ERIC Director also convenes a National Coordinators’ Forum, attended by National Coordinators appointed by ESS ERIC Members and Observers. The NCF sends a representative to the Core Scientific Team meetings (Professor Mikael Hjerm) and to the General Assembly (Dr Peter Grand).

National Coordinators (ESS ERIC Member and Observer countries and Guests) at 31 May 2020

ESS ERIC Members & Observers

• Austria: Peter Grand
• Belgium (Flemish): Bart Meuleman*; Sam Delespaul
• Belgium (Walloon): Pierre Baudewyns
• Bulgaria: Venelin Boshnakov
• Croatia: Dragan Bagić
• Cyprus: Charis Psaltis; Evangelos Georgiou; Andrea Nicolaou
• Czech Republic: Klára Plecťá
• Estonia: Mare Ainsaar
• Finland: Heikki Ervasti
• France: Simon Le Corgne

• Germany: Oshrat Hochman*; Caroline Hahn
• Hungary: Bence Ságvár*; Vera Messing; Gergely Hammer
• Iceland: Guðbjörg Andrea Jónsdóttir
• Ireland: Philip O’Connell*; Mathew Creighton
• Israel: Alex Altshuler
• Italy: Sveva Balduini*; Manuela Bonacci
• Latvia: Juris Nykišins
• Lithuania: Aurelija Stelmokienė*; Apolonijus Žilys
• Netherlands: Aart C. Liefbroer*; Maria Eisman
• Norway: Dag Arne Christensen; Erla Katrine Løvseth
• Poland: Paweł Sztabiński*; Franciszek Sztabiński; Dariusz Przybysz
• Portugal: Alice Ramos
• Slovakia: Denisa Fedáková*; Michal Kentoš*; Ivana Piterova
• Slovenia: Slavko Kurdija*; Tina Vovk
• Sweden: Mikael Hjerm*; Filip Fors Connolly
• Switzerland: Michèle Ernst Stähli
• United Kingdom: Alun Humphrey

Guests and in attendance:

• Bosnia and Herzegovina: Nermin Oruč
• Greece: Theoni Stathopoulou
• Montenegro: Olivera Komar*; Nemanja Batricevic
• North Macedonia: Aneta Cekikj
• Romania: Adrian Dușa
• Serbia: Dragan Stanojević
• Spain: Mónica Méndez

*Lead NC
Annex 4
Audited Accounts 2019-2020

STATEMENT OF TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1 June 2019 to 31 May 2020</th>
<th>1 June 2018 to 31 May 2019 (Restated)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Note</td>
<td>€</td>
<td>€</td>
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<tr>
<td>INCOME</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direct costs</td>
<td>(7,364,985)</td>
<td>(5,811,107)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GROSS SUPLUS</td>
<td>346,614</td>
<td>32,812</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative expenses</td>
<td>(58,905)</td>
<td>(123,449)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SURPLUS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR</td>
<td>287,709</td>
<td>(90,637)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

INCOME

Direct costs

GROSS SUPLUS

Administrative expenses

SURPLUS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Section 1A Small Entities of FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard. For note 1-5, see http://www.europeansocialsurvey.org/docs/about/annualreports/ESS_ERIC_Accounts_2020.pdf.
ESS ERIC MEMBERS, OBSERVERS & GUESTS (2019-2020)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>MEMBERS</th>
<th>OBSERVERS</th>
<th>GUESTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Austria</td>
<td>1. Switzerland</td>
<td>1. Greece</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Belgium</td>
<td></td>
<td>2. Montenegro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Croatia</td>
<td></td>
<td>4. Serbia</td>
</tr>
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<td>5. Cyprus</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Czechia</td>
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<td>17. Lithuania</td>
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<td>18. The Netherlands</td>
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<tr>
<td>19. Norway</td>
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<td>20. Poland</td>
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<td>21. Portugal</td>
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<td>22. Slovakia</td>
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<td>23. Slovenia</td>
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<td>24. Sweden</td>
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<tr>
<td>25. UK (Host country)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
ESS is an academically-driven survey that has been conducted across Europe since 2002. The survey measures the attitudes, beliefs and behaviour of diverse populations in more than thirty nations.

Undertaken every two years with newly selected, cross-sectional samples, the full dataset contains the results of over 425,000 completed interviews.

The European Social Survey has been a European Research Infrastructure Consortium (ESS ERIC) since 2013.

ESS topics:
- Trust in institutions
- Political engagement
- Socio-political values
- Moral and social values
- Social capital
- Social exclusion
- National, ethnic and religious identity
- Health and wellbeing
- Demographic composition
- Education and occupation
- Financial circumstances
- Household circumstances
- Attitudes to welfare
- Trust in criminal justice
- Expressions and experiences of ageism
- Citizenship, involvement and democracy
- Immigration
- Family, work and wellbeing
- Economic morality, justice and fairness
- The organisation of the life-course
- Climate change and energy
- Human values scale

27 countries participated in Round 9 of the ESS, fielded in 2018/19.

Members: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden and the UK. Observer: Switzerland. Other Participants: Montenegro, Serbia and Spain.

Multi-national advisory groups to the ESS ERIC General Assembly are the Methods Advisory Board (MAB), Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) and Finance Committee (FINCOM). The ESS ERIC Headquarters are located at City, University of London.

The ESS ERIC Core Scientific Team includes: GESIS - Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences (Germany); NSD - Norwegian Centre for Research Data (Norway); SCP - The Netherlands Institute for Social Research (Netherlands); Universitat Pompeu Fabra (Spain); University of Essex (UK); and University of Ljubljana (Slovenia).

The National Coordinators’ (NC) Forum involves national teams from all participating countries.