Welcome letter

The European Social Survey (ESS) was launched in 2001 on the recommendation of leading European social scientists and was financed by the European Commission.

The main aim of the biennial survey is to measure the contemporary social, demographic, political conditions and moral attitudes in European countries and by this to provide basis for the analyses of long-term processes in European societies. 26 countries participate in the current Round of the survey, including Hungary. The topics we study include for instance social security, personal and social well-being, helping others, feelings in the last week, life satisfaction, satisfaction with work, human values, principles of child education, etc.

The ESS survey (European level) is important for Hungarian researchers as it has given them the opportunity – apart from comparative analyses - to study and reveal the consequences of socio-economic change in the decade following the political change of structure too.

The survey in Hungary is conducted by two institutions of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, namely the Institute of Political Sciences and the Institute of Sociological Research. Fieldwork is done by Gallup Hungary.

Your address was randomly selected from a national databank of addresses, which contains all the registered addresses of the voting age population. The survey is confidential: your name, address and personal details will never be available even for researchers as these data will be stored separately from the questionnaires. Your responses will be used by researchers for research purposes and for research reports exclusively. The entire questionnaire will take over an hour, but it may take longer or shorter with some individuals.

Your responses are very important for us as they will help us compare responses from Hungary to responses given by people from other countries. We ask you to support our work by participating in the survey. Thank you in advance for spending time on this.

First attempt to visit: ..........(day) / .................(month) 2009.
Next attempt to visit: ..........(day) / .................(month) 2009.

If you have any questions in connection with the survey, please contact Ildikó Fábián, research coordinator at Gallup, at a 06-1-437 9438.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Ágnes Illyés, Ph.D.

Head of Research
Gallup Hungary
Dear Madam/Sir,

At ....... o’clock on ........ 2009 I will come back again to ask you to participate in the European Social Survey. If the time is not suitable for you, we can fix another appointment at the following number: .................

Thank you for your cooperation in advance.

Best regards,

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Interviewer of Gallup Hungary