B1.2 (GLES) Long- and Short-term Panel Studies

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### Goals

The GLES panel studies analyse stability and change in political attitudes, electoral behaviour and individual decision-making. Main research goals are:

- Analysing electoral change at the individual level between elections and during electoral campaigns.
- Studying longitudinal stability in public opinion and citizen competence.
- Assessing the influence of long-term predispositions and short-term evaluations on voting behaviour and decision-making.
- Studying campaign-effects on information processing and political preferences.
- Detecting and quantifying causal effects.

All data are available via GESIS: [www.gesis.org/gles](http://www.gesis.org/gles)

### Methods & Design

**Pre- and Post-Election Long-term Panel**

- Repeated three-wave panel design
- Survey modes:
  - CAPI in election years (60 min.)
  - sequential mixed-mode (CATI/mail) in off-election years (10 min.)
- Sample population: cross-section respondents willing to be re-interviewed
- See GESIS-Technical Report 2012/11 for further information

**Short-term Campaign Panel**

- 12-week online panel study over the course of the federal election campaign
- Subsample of Online-Access-Panel
- Six pre-election waves, one post-election
- Innovative repertoire of questions, rotating modules for different subjects considering recent events and developments in German politics
- 2009: initially 3771 respondents; 3301 respondents completed 4 waves; 1462 respondents completed all waves

### Research Design

**Long-term Panel Design**

2002 | 2006 | 2009 | 2013 | 2017
---|---|---|---|---

**Short-term Panel Design**

### Selected Research Findings

#### Electoral Change 2002-2009

**Pattern of change**

- Consistent non-voter: 0.7%
- Consistent voter (always same party): 43.4%
- No party change, temporal non-voter: 12.4%
- One party change (within camps): 20.6%
- One party change (across camps): 10.2%
- Party change and temporal non-voter: 8.5%
- Two party changes: 4.2%

#### Attitude Stability 2002-2009

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Party Identification</th>
<th>Immigration</th>
<th>Ideology</th>
<th>Nuclear Energy</th>
<th>European Integration</th>
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<td>49</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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#### Decision-Making Types in 2009

- **Left Party**
  - 39.7%
- **Green Party**
  - 50.9%
- **FDP**
  - 46.3%
- **SPD**
  - 46.7%
- **CDU/CSU**
  - 56.4%
- **All**
  - 48.1%

### Selected Publications

- **Books**:

- **Journal Articles**:

- **Book Chapters**:

