

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

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 year waves (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

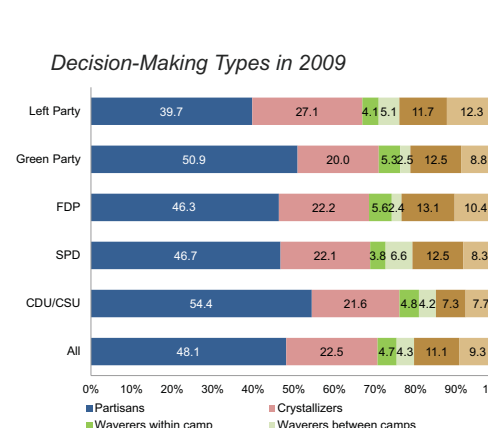
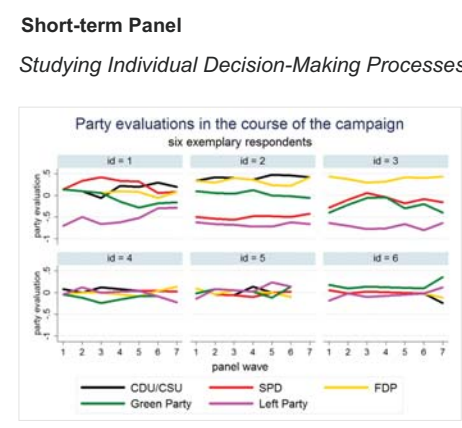
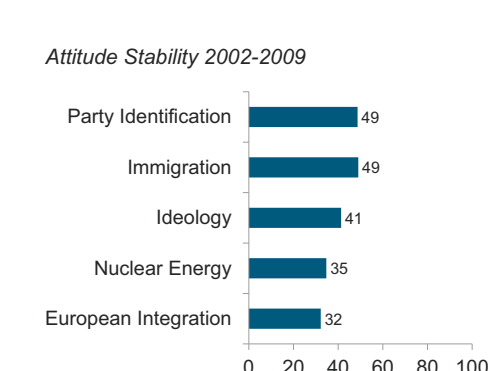
Short-term Panel Design

Selected Research Findings

Long-term Panel

Electoral Change 2002-2009

Pattern of change	Percent
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



Selected Publications

Books:

- Rattinger, Hans, Sigrid Roßteutscher, Rüdiger Schmitt-Beck and Bernhard Weißels (2011): Zwischen Langeweile und Extremen: Die Bundestagswahl 2009. Baden-Baden: Nomos. [Wahlen in Deutschland; 1]

Journal Articles:

- Blumenstiel, Jan Eric, and Ossip Fürnberg (2012): Wissen und Einstellungen zu Überhangmandaten. Zeitschrift für Parlamentsfragen (ZParl), issue 1, p. 132-141.

Book Chapters:

- Blumenstiel, Jan Eric, and Hans Rattinger (2012): Warum haben Sie das getan? Subjektive Gründe der Wahlentscheidung bei der Bundestagswahl 2009 in: Rüdiger Schmitt-Beck (Eds.): Wahlen in Deutschland. Baden-Baden: Nomos, p. 251-283.
- Blumenstiel, Jan Eric (forthcoming): Voter Fragmentation and the Differentiation of Vote Functions in Bernhard Weißels, Hans Rattinger, Sigrid Roßteutscher, Rüdiger Schmitt-Beck (Ed.): Voters on the Move or on the Run? Information-processing and Vote Choice in a Complex World. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Plischke, Thomas, and Michael Bergmann (2012): Entscheidungsprozesse von Spätscheidern bei der Bundestagswahl 2009 in: Rüdiger Schmitt-Beck (Ed.): Wahlen in Deutschland. Baden-Baden: Nomos, p. 489-513.
- Rattinger, Hans and Elena Wiegand (forthcoming): Volatility Around the Clock? Attitudinal Stability, Attitudinal Change, and Voters' Volatility in Bernhard Weißels, Hans Rattinger, Sigrid Roßteutscher, Rüdiger Schmitt-Beck (Eds.): Voters on the Move or on the Run? Information-processing and Vote Choice in a Complex World. Oxford: Oxford University Press.