

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



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Funding/ DFG



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

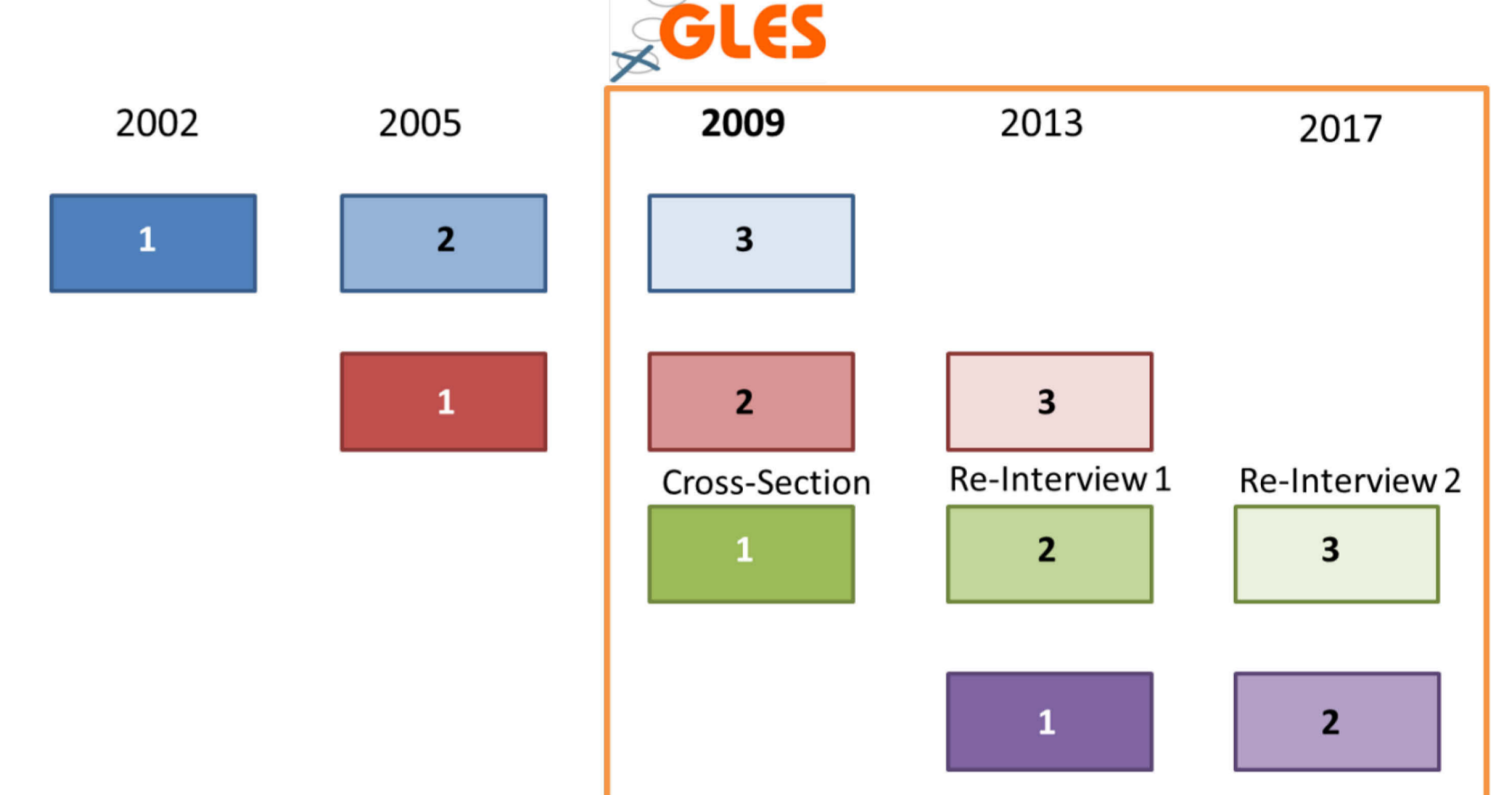
- Repeated three-wave panel design
- Survey modes
 - CAPI in election years (60 min.)
 - Sequential mixed-mode (CATI/mail/online) in off-election year waves (10 min.)
- Sample population: cross-section respondents willing to be re-interviewed
- See GESIS-Technical Report 2014/15 for further information

Short-term Campaign Panel

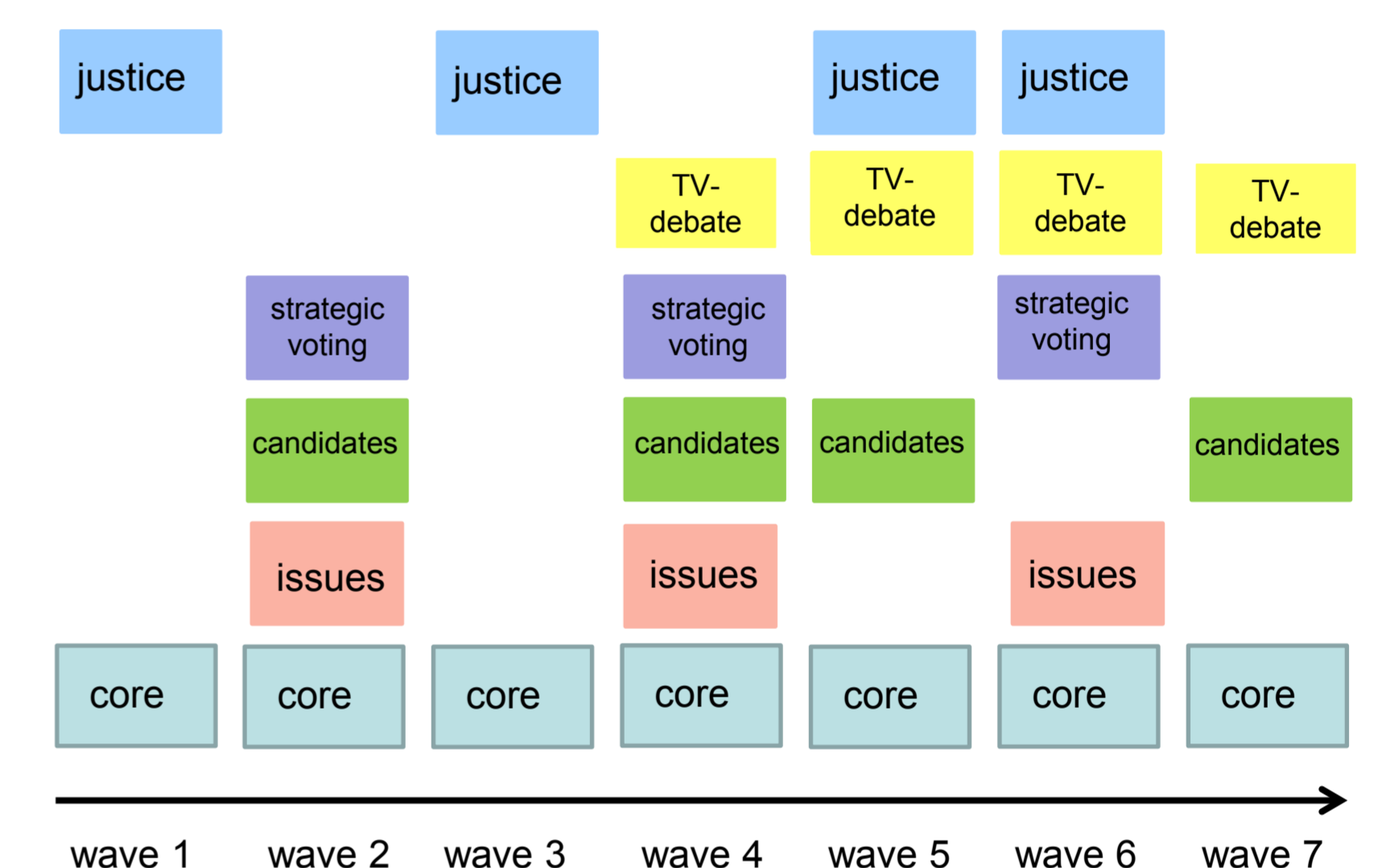
- 12-week online panel study over the course of the federal election campaign
- Subsample of Online-Access-Panel
- Six pre-election waves, one post-election
- Innovative repertoire of questions, rotating modules for different subjects considering recent events and developments in German politics
- 2013: initially 5256 respondents; 4423 respondents completed ≥ 4 waves; 3487 respondents completed all waves

Research Design

Long-term Panel Design



Short-term Panel Design



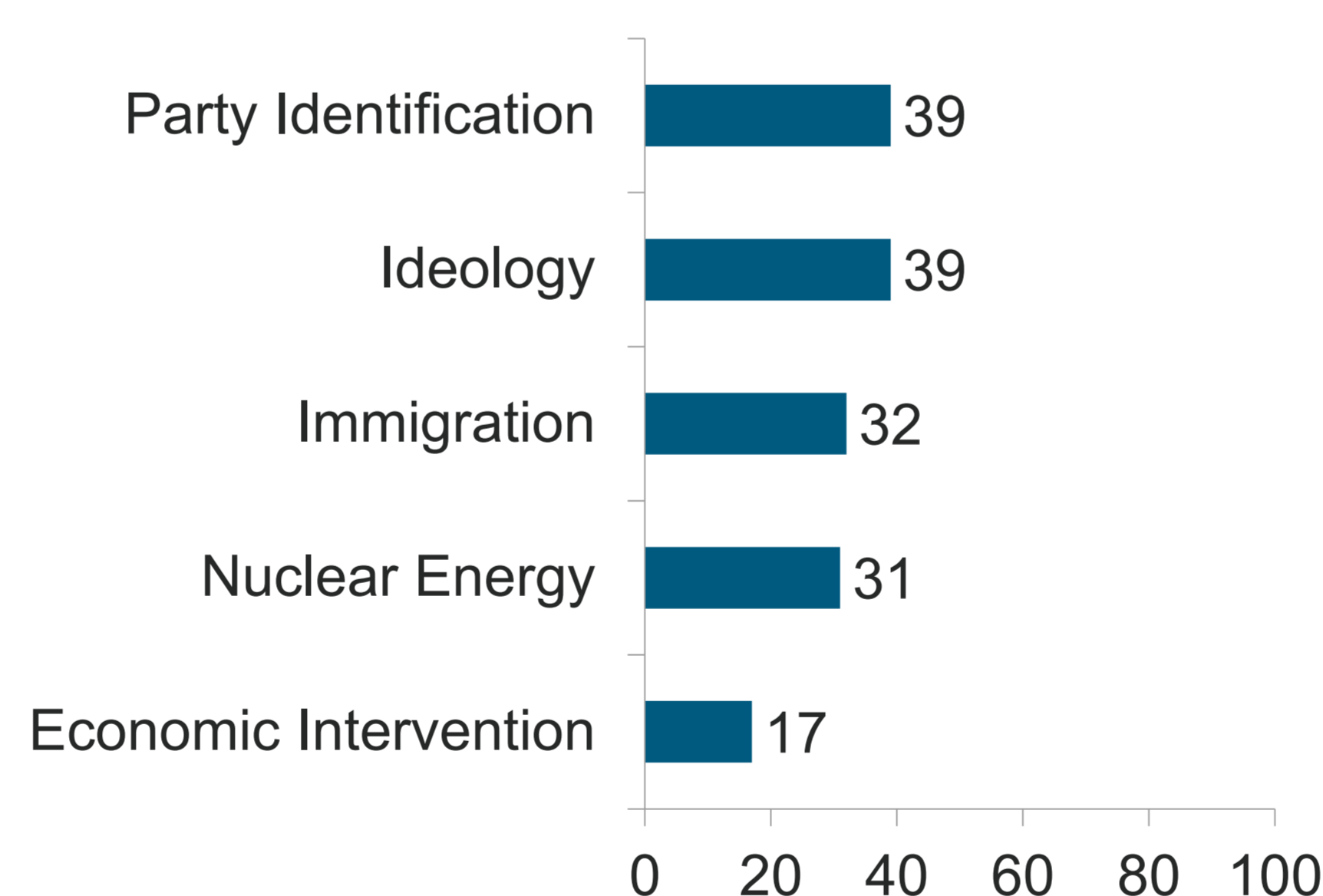
Selected Research Findings

Long-term Panel

Electoral Change 2005-2013

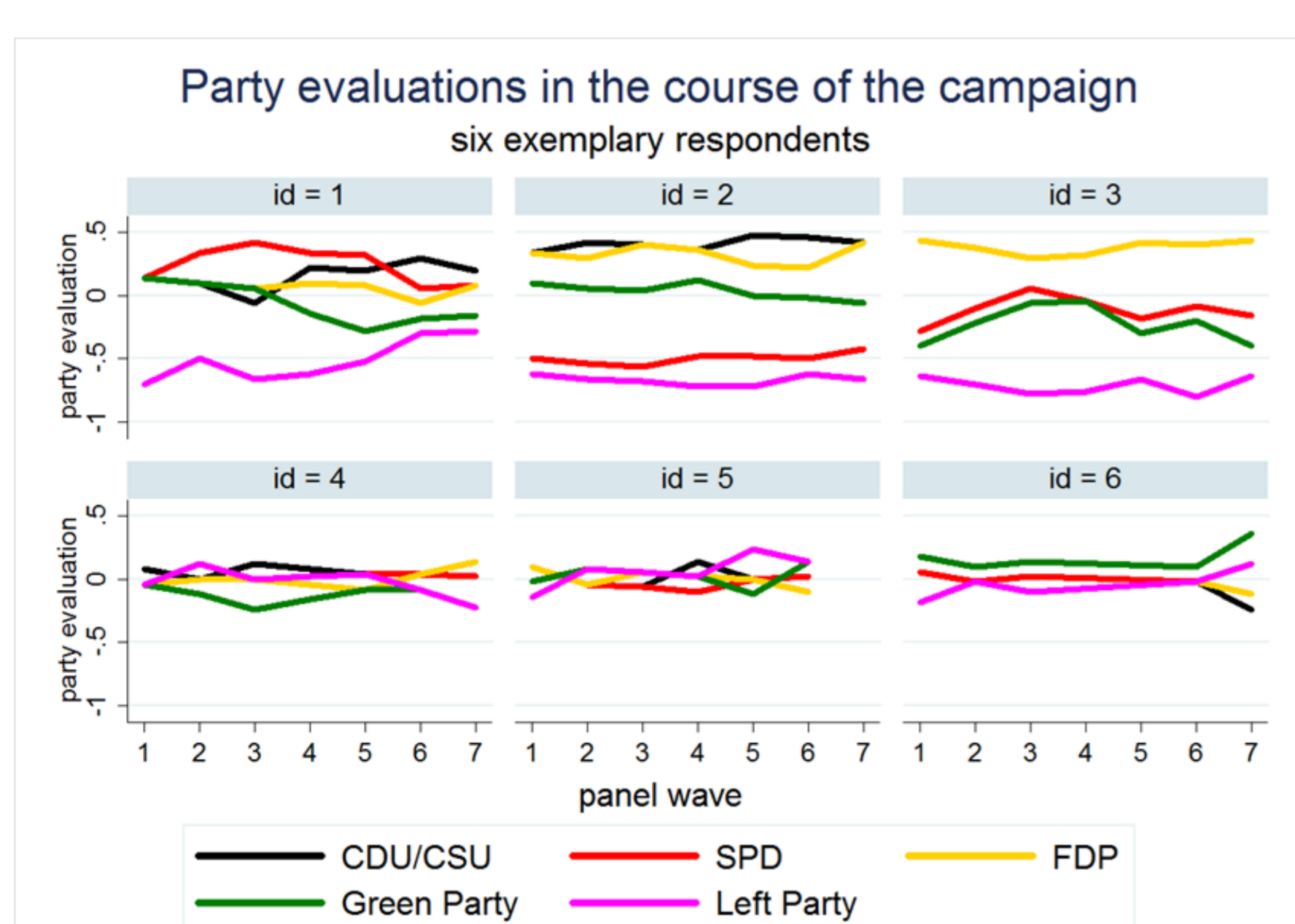
Pattern of change	Percent
Consistent non-voter	1
Consistent voter (always same party)	37
No party change, temporal non-voter	10
One party change (within camps)	30
One party change (across camps)	6
Party change and temporal non-voter	5
Two party changes	10

Attitude Stability 2009-2013

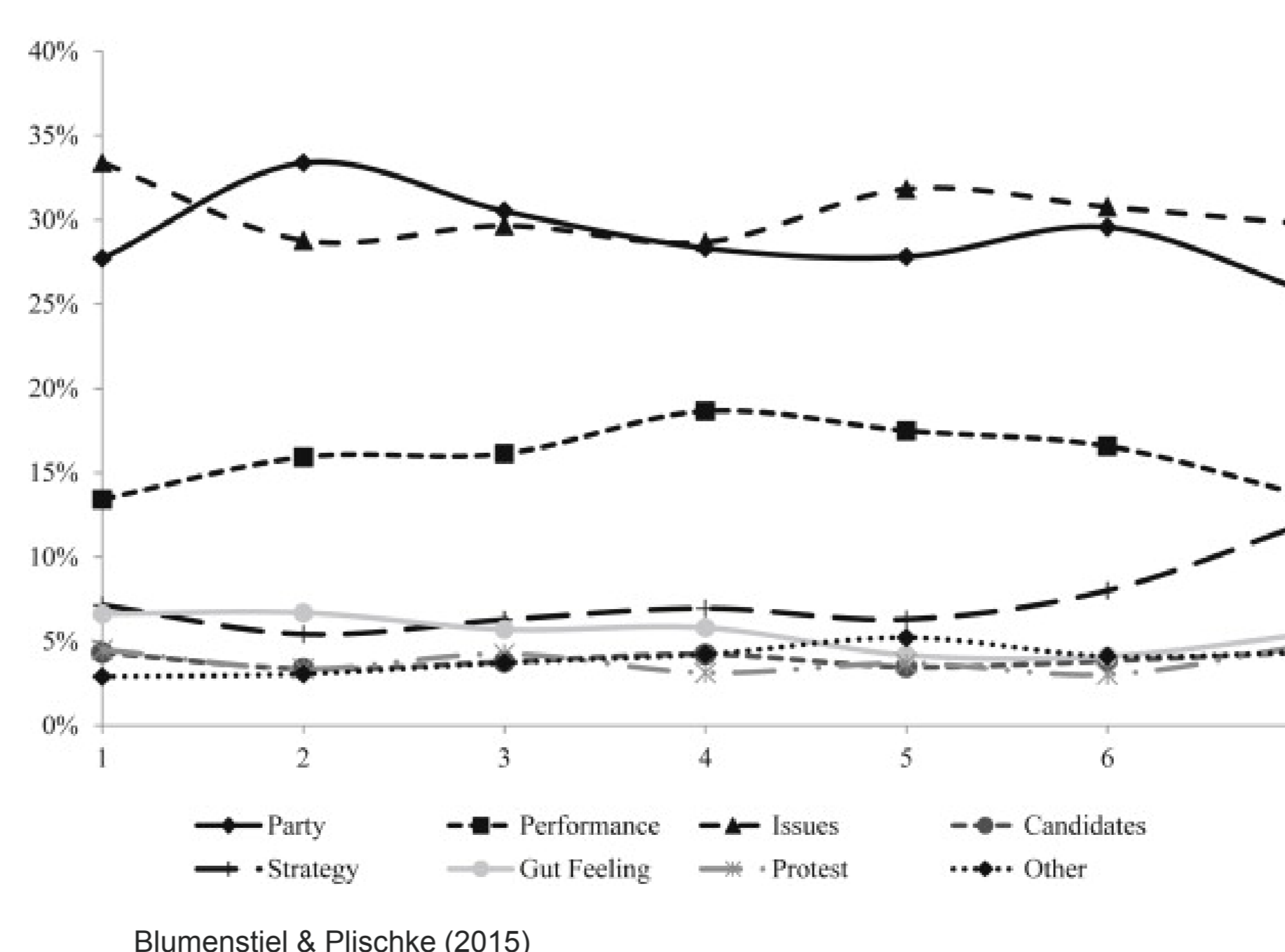


Short-term Panel

Studying Individual Decision-Making Processes



Self-Reported Reasons for Vote Intention 2009



Selected Publications

Books:

- Schoen, Harald, Sigrid Roßteutscher, Rüdiger Schmitt-Beck, Bernhard Weißels, and Christof Wolf (forthcoming): Voters and Voting in Context: Multiple Contexts and Heterogeneous Electorates. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Weißels, Bernhard, Hans Rattinger, Sigrid Roßteutscher, and Rüdiger Schmitt-Beck (2014): Voters on the Move or on the Run? Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Journal Articles:

- Blumenstiel, Jan Eric, and Thomas Plischke (2015): Changing Motivations, Time of the Voting Decision, and Short-term Volatility – The Dynamics of Voter Heterogeneity. *Electoral Studies*, issue 1, 28-40.
- Steinbrecher, Markus, and Harald Schoen (2013): Not all campaign panels are created equal: Exploring the number and timing of panel waves affecting findings concerning the time of vote decision, *Electoral Studies*, issue 4, 892-899.

Book Chapters:

- Rudnik, Agatha, and Harald Schoen (2015): Mehr als ökonomisches Kalkül? Zu den Bestimmungsfaktoren von auf die Eurokrise bezogenen Performanzbewertungen und Policy-Präferenzen, in Heiko Giebler and Aiko Wagner (Ed.): *Wirtschaft, Krise und Wahlverhalten, Studien zur Wahl- und Einstellungsforschung*, vol. 29, Baden-Baden: Nomos, 139-164.
- Rattinger, Hans and Elena Wiegand (2014): Volatility on the Rise? Attitudinal Stability, Attitudinal Change, and Voter Volatility, in Bernhard Weißels, Hans Rattinger, Sigrid Roßteutscher and Rüdiger Schmitt-Beck (Ed.): *Voters on the Move or on the Run?* Oxford: Oxford University Press, 287-310.