

KYSELYLOMAKE: Eduskuntavaalitutkimus 2015  
FRÅGEFORMULÄR: Riksdagsvalundersökningen 2015  
QUESTIONNAIRE: Finnish National Election Study 2015

FINNISH NATIONAL ELECTION STUDY 2015  
FNES 2015  
Questionnaire for face-to-face interviews

## **ADMINISTRATIVE CSES VARIABLES (Beginning with the letter A)**

**A1.** Questionnaire ID

**A2.** Interviewer (ID for individual interviewers)

**A3.** Interviewer gender

1. Male
2. Female

**A4\_1.** Date of the interview: month (1-12)

**A4\_2.** Date of the interview: day (1-31)

**A5.** Original weight variables

**A6.** Interview language (questionnaire language)

1. Finnish
2. Swedish

## **CONTENT VARIABLES**

**K1.** How interested are you in politics?

1. Very interested
2. Somewhat interested
3. Not very interested
4. Not at all interested
96. I can't say (spontaneous)

**K2.** How much attention did you pay to media coverage of the parliamentary elections?

1. A great deal of attention
2. A fair amount of attention
3. Only a little
4. Paid no attention at all
96. I can't say (spontaneous)

K2\_1 Television debates and party leader interviews

K2\_2 Television news and current affairs programmes

K2\_3 Television entertainment programmes featuring politicians

K2\_4 Radio programmes

K2\_5 Newspaper articles, columns or letters to the editor

K2\_6 Television advertisements

K2\_7 Newspaper advertisements

K2\_8 Web news covering elections, e.g. newspaper websites

K2\_9 Websites of the candidates and political parties

K2\_10 Blogs

K2\_11 Candidate selectors on the Internet

K2\_12 Social media, e.g. Facebook, Twitter or Instagram

K2\_13 Videos of the candidates or political parties on the Internet, e.g. YouTube

K2\_14 News broadcasts on the Internet or social media

**K3.** How often do you use the Internet?

1. Daily, over 2 hours per day
2. Daily, under 2 hours per day
3. A few times a week
4. About once a week
5. Less frequently
6. Not at all
96. I can't say (spontaneous)

**K4.** Generally, that is, not only during elections, how often do you discuss political and social issues with people?

1. Daily or almost daily
2. Often
3. Sometimes
4. Seldom
5. Never
96. I can't say (spontaneous)

**K5.** How stable is your political party identification?

1. Completely stable
2. Fairly stable
3. Not very stable
4. Not at all stable
96. I can't say (spontaneous)

**K6.** Which social class would you say you belong to?

1. Working class
2. Lower middle class
3. Middle class
4. Upper middle class
5. Upper class
6. Not to any class
96. I can't say (spontaneous)

**K7.** Which of the following alternatives best describes your childhood home?

1. Worker family
2. Lower middle class family
3. Middle class family
4. Upper middle class family
5. Upper class family
6. Farmer family
7. Entrepreneur family
96. I can't say (spontaneous)

**K8.** How many different political parties have you voted for in parliamentary elections so far?

1. I have always voted for candidates of one party
2. I have voted for candidates of two or three parties
3. I have voted for candidates of four or more parties
4. I have never voted
96. I can't say (spontaneous)

**K9.** To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

1. Strongly agree
2. Somewhat agree
3. Somewhat disagree
4. Strongly disagree
96. I can't say (spontaneous)

K9\_1 It is people's own business whether they want to use their right to vote or not

K9\_2 Democracy may have its problems but it is better than any other form of government

K9\_3 Important national issues should more often be decided by a referendum

K9\_4 To support representative democracy, public debates on policy issues should be organised for ordinary people

K9\_5 I myself would like to attend public political debates organised for ordinary people

K9\_6 I avoid people whose values, attitudes or opinions differ from my own

K9\_7 I think voting is a civic duty

K9\_8 In my opinion, the current Finnish electoral system works and there is no need to change it

K9\_9 If a voter so wished, he/she should be able to vote only for a party in parliamentary elections without having to choose a candidate

**K10.** To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

1. Strongly agree
2. Somewhat agree
3. Somewhat disagree
4. Strongly disagree
96. I can't say (spontaneous)

K10\_1 Elected politicians are the best people to lead Finland

K10\_2 In important political questions, citizens must have the final say

K10\_3 Citizens must be heard before any important political decisions are made

K10\_4 Things would be better in Finland if independent experts made the decisions instead of politicians and citizens

K10\_5 It is important that citizens constantly voice their opinions, for instance, by signing petitions and participating in demonstrations

K10\_6 Citizens must influence the direction of politics primarily by voting in elections

K10\_7 Things would be better in Finland if successful corporate managers made the decisions

**K11.** Next, various forms of civic participation are presented. Which of these have you done in the past four years or, if you felt an issue was important, which of these might you do? (CARD)

1. I have done this in the past four years
2. I have not done this, but I might do
3. I would not do this under any circumstances
96. I can't say (spontaneous)

K11\_1 Write a letter to the editor

K11\_2 Contact political decision-makers regarding an important issue

K11\_3 Sign a petition

K11\_4 Participate in the activities of a political party

K11\_5 Participate in the activities of some other voluntary/civic organisation

K11\_6 Try to influence political or social issues through my consumer choices

K11\_7 Join a consumer boycott

K11\_8 Participate in peaceful demonstrations

K11\_9 Demonstrate civil disobedience by participating in illegal, non-violent activities

K11\_10 Use violence to reach political goals

**K12.** Are you a member of any political party?

1. Yes
2. No, but have been previously
3. Have never been a member of any party
96. I can't say (spontaneous)

**K13.** In 2012, a state-level citizens' initiative was introduced in Finland, allowing a minimum of 50,000 citizens of voting age to invite the Parliament to propose legislation. What is your opinion on the following statement?

"The citizens' initiative has promoted the performance of democracy in Finland"

1. Strongly agree
2. Somewhat agree
3. Somewhat disagree
4. Strongly disagree
96. I can't say (spontaneous)

**K14.** Have you signed any state-level citizens' initiatives?

1. I have not signed and I am not going to sign
2. I have not signed, but I might sign
3. I have signed 1-2 citizens' initiatives
4. I have signed at least 3 citizens' initiatives
96. I can't say (spontaneous)

**K15.** The Internet and social media have created new opportunities to influence things and seek information. How important to yourself do you regard the Internet and social media as channels of civic engagement?

1. Very important
2. Somewhat important
3. Not very important
4. Not at all important
96. I can't say (spontaneous)

**K16.** To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

1. Strongly agree
2. Somewhat agree
3. Somewhat disagree
4. Strongly disagree
96. I can't say (spontaneous)

K16\_1 By voting, ordinary people can influence political decision-making

K16\_2 Those elected to Parliament soon lose touch with the problems of ordinary people

K16\_3 Politicians are not interested in the opinions of ordinary people

K16\_4 I have no say in what the Government and Parliament decide

K16\_5 Views of the citizens are taken into account in political decision-making through political parties

K16\_6 Political parties are only interested in people's votes, not in their opinions

K16\_7 Sometimes politics seems so complicated that I cannot quite understand what is going on

K16\_8 It doesn't really matter which parties form the coalition government, policy decisions will be the same

K16\_9 Parties should announce clearly during the election campaign which parties they are willing to form a coalition government with

K16\_10 Finnish members of parliament are competent in their work

K16\_11 Political decision-makers take citizens' views into consideration when making decisions

**K17.** In the following, some propositions relating to the future direction of Finland are listed.

What is your opinion on these propositions? When you respond, please use the scale from zero to ten (0-10), where zero means "a very bad proposition", five means "neither a good nor a bad proposition" and ten means "a very good proposition". (CARD)

17\_1 Finland that has more entrepreneurship and market economy

17\_2 Multicultural Finland where foreigners with different religions and lifestyles are tolerated

17\_3 Finland where Christian values have a greater role

17\_4 Finland where there are smaller differences in regional development

17\_5 Finland where the special status of Swedish-speaking Finns is acknowledged

17\_6 Finland where there is a better equality between men and women

17\_7 Finland that has a smaller public sector

17\_8 Finland where the status of sexual minorities is reinforced

- 17\_9 Finland that has a lower taxation level
- 17\_10 Finland that has two strong national languages: Finnish and Swedish
- 17\_11 Finland with more law and order
- 17\_12 Finland where the status of traditional nuclear families is reinforced
- 17\_13 Finland that has more immigration
- 17\_14 Finland that has smaller income disparities
- 17\_15 Finland that is less committed/attached to the European Union
- 17\_16 Finland where more energy is produced with nuclear power
- 17\_17 Finland that has fewer municipalities than it has at the moment
- 17\_18 More eco-friendly Finland, even if it meant low economic growth or no growth at all

## **CSES MODULE 4 (2011–2016)**

### **Q1 Public expenditure**

NOTE! The interviewer reads aloud: "If you say 'more' it could require a tax increase, and if you say 'less' it could require a reduction in those services."

#### **Q1a. Public expenditure: health care (CARD)**

Thinking about public expenditure on health care, should there be much more than now, somewhat more than now, the same as now, somewhat less than now, or much less than now?

1. Much more than now
2. Somewhat more than now
3. Same as now
4. Somewhat less than now
5. Much less than now
  
7. I don't want to say (spontaneous)
8. I can't say (spontaneous)
9. Missing

#### **Q1b. Public expenditure: education (CARD)**

What about education?

1. Much more than now
2. Somewhat more than now
3. Same as now
4. Somewhat less than now
5. Much less than now
  
7. I don't want to say (spontaneous)
8. I can't say (spontaneous)

9. Missing

**Q1c.** Public expenditure: unemployment benefits and services promoting employment (CARD)

What about unemployment benefits and services promoting employment?

1. Much more than now
2. Somewhat more than now
3. Same as now
4. Somewhat less than now
5. Much less than now
  
7. I don't want to say (spontaneous)
8. I can't say (spontaneous)
9. Missing

**Q1d.** Public expenditure: defence (CARD)

What about defence?

1. Much more than now
2. Somewhat more than now
3. Same as now
4. Somewhat less than now
5. Much less than now
  
7. I don't want to say (spontaneous)
8. I can't say (spontaneous)
9. Missing

**Q1e.** Public expenditure: old-age pensions (CARD)

What about old-age pensions, that is, national pension?

1. Much more than now
2. Somewhat more than now
3. Same as now
4. Somewhat less than now
5. Much less than now
  
7. I don't want to say (spontaneous)
8. I can't say (spontaneous)
9. Missing

**Q1f.** Public expenditure: support for business and industry (CARD)

What about support for business and industry?

1. Much more than now
2. Somewhat more than now
3. Same as now
4. Somewhat less than now
5. Much less than now
  
7. I don't want to say (spontaneous)
8. I can't say (spontaneous)
9. Missing

**Q1g.** Public expenditure: the police and law enforcement (CARD)

What about the police and law enforcement?

1. Much more than now
2. Somewhat more than now
3. Same as now
4. Somewhat less than now
5. Much less than now
  
7. I don't want to say (spontaneous)
8. I can't say (spontaneous)
9. Missing

**Q1h.** Public expenditure: social security benefits (CARD)

What about welfare benefits, that is, social security benefits?

1. Much more than now
2. Somewhat more than now
3. Same as now
4. Somewhat less than now
5. Much less than now
  
7. I don't want to say (spontaneous)
8. I can't say (spontaneous)
9. Missing

**Q2.** Over the next ten years or so, how likely or unlikely is it that you will improve your standard of living?

1. Very likely
2. Somewhat likely
4. Somewhat unlikely
5. Very unlikely
  
7. I don't want to say (spontaneous)
8. I can't say (spontaneous)

9. Missing

**Q3.** Would you say that over the past twelve months, the state of the economy in Finland has gotten better, stayed about the same, or gotten worse?

1. Gotten better
3. Stayed the same → Q21
5. Gotten worse → Q3b
  
7. I don't want to say (spontaneous) → Q21
8. I can't say (spontaneous) → Q21
9. Missing

**Q3a.** Would you say the state of the economy in Finland has gotten much better or somewhat better?

1. Much better → Q21
2. Somewhat better → Q21
  
7. I don't want to say (spontaneous)
8. I can't say (spontaneous)
9. Missing

**Q3a.** Would you say the state of the economy in Finland has gotten much worse or somewhat worse?

4. Somewhat worse
5. Much worse
  
7. I don't want to say (spontaneous)
8. I can't say (spontaneous)
9. Missing

**Q21.** How likely or unlikely do you think it is that your household's income could be severely reduced in the next 12 months?

1. Very likely
2. Somewhat likely
4. Somewhat unlikely
5. Very unlikely
  
7. I don't want to say (spontaneous)
8. I can't say (spontaneous)
9. Missing

**Q4.** To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement:  
The Government should take measures to reduce differences in income levels.  
Do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, neither agree nor disagree, somewhat disagree or

strongly disagree?

1. Strongly agree
2. Somewhat agree
3. Neither agree nor disagree
4. Somewhat disagree
5. Strongly disagree
  
7. I don't want to say (spontaneous)
8. I can't say (spontaneous)
9. Missing

**Q16.** Do you usually think of yourself as close to any particular party?

1. Yes → Q16b
5. No
  
7. I don't want to say (spontaneous)
8. I can't say (spontaneous)
9. Missing

**Q16a.** Do you feel a little closer to one of the political parties than the others?

1. Yes
5. No → move to Q5LH-a
  
7. I don't want to say (spontaneous) → Q5LH-a
8. I can't say (spontaneous) → Q5LH-a
9. Missing

**Q16b.** Which party? (*This question is asked only from the respondents who responded "yes" to Q16 or Q16a.*) ONLY ONE MENTION

01. National Coalition Party
02. Social Democratic Party of Finland
03. Finns Party
04. Centre Party of Finland
05. Left Alliance
06. Green League
07. Swedish People's Party in Finland
08. Christian Democrats
09. Pirate Party of Finland
10. Communist Party of Finland
11. Change 2011
12. Independence Party
13. Workers' Party of Finland
14. Communist Workers' Party
15. For the Poor
  
97. I don't want to say (spontaneous)

98. I can't say (spontaneous)

99. Missing

**Q16c.** Do you feel very close to this party, somewhat close, or not very close?

*(asked from the respondents who responded to question Q16b.)*

1. Very close
2. Somewhat close
3. Not very close
7. I don't want to say (spontaneous)
8. I can't say (spontaneous)
9. Missing

**Q5LH-a.** Nowadays many people do not vote in elections for one reason or the other. Did you vote or not in these parliamentary elections?

5. I didn't vote this time → move to question K18
2. I voted in advance → move to question Q5LH-b
1. I voted on the election day → move to question Q5LH-b

7. I don't want to say (spontaneous)
8. I can't say (spontaneous)
9. Missing

**K18.** In the following, different reasons for not voting are listed. To what extent did the following reasons affect your decision not to vote in these elections? (CARD)

1. Was an important reason
2. Affected somewhat
3. Didn't affect
96. I can't say (spontaneous)

K18\_1 It was difficult for me to find a suitable party

K18\_2 It was difficult for me to find a suitable candidate

K18\_3 Job or travel prevented me from voting

K18\_4 Could not vote because of illness or disability

K18\_5 I didn't remember to vote

K18\_6 I simply couldn't be bothered to vote

K18\_7 I didn't see how voting would benefit me in any way

K18\_8 I think one vote makes no difference to the outcome of an election

K18\_9 I distrust politicians and politics in general

K18\_10 I wanted to protest against politics and politicians

K18\_11 I'm not interested in politics and don't care whether I vote or not

K18\_12 I didn't have enough information to support my voting decision

K18\_13 There were no meaningful differences between parties

K18\_14 The party I would have voted for in these elections had different views than myself on important issues

**K19.** How self-evident was it to you that you were not going to vote?

1. It was self-evident that I would not vote
2. I considered voting, but not seriously
3. I seriously considered voting
96. I can't say (spontaneous)

**K20.** If you had voted, the candidate of which party would you have voted for? (NOTE: ONLY ONE MENTION, CARD)

01. National Coalition Party
02. Social Democratic Party of Finland
03. Finns Party
04. Centre Party of Finland
05. Left Alliance
06. Green League
07. Swedish People's Party in Finland
08. Christian Democrats
09. Pirate Party of Finland
10. Communist Party of Finland
11. Change 2011
12. Independence Party
13. Workers' Party of Finland
14. Communist Workers' Party
15. For the Poor

→ move to question Q6a

90. None of them → move to Q6a
96. I can't say (spontaneous) → move to Q6a
97. I don't want to say (spontaneous) → move to Q6a

**Q5LH-b.** The candidate of which party (or political group) did you vote for in these parliamentary elections?

01. National Coalition Party
02. Social Democratic Party of Finland
03. Finns Party
04. Centre Party of Finland
05. Left Alliance
06. Green League
07. Swedish People's Party in Finland
08. Christian Democrats
09. Pirate Party of Finland
10. Communist Party of Finland
11. Change 2011
12. Independence Party
13. Workers' Party of Finland

- 14. Communist Workers' Party
- 15. For the Poor
- 16. Other

- 95. Cast a blank vote
- 96. I can't say (spontaneous)
- 97. I don't want to say (spontaneous)
- 99. Missing

**K21.** Did you consider voting for a candidate of any other party or group?

- 1. Yes
- 2. No → Move to question Q6a.

- 96 I can't say (spontaneous) → move to Q6a
- 97 I don't want to say (spontaneous) → move to Q6a

**K22.** Which party or group? ONLY ONE MENTION

- 01. National Coalition Party
- 02. Social Democratic Party of Finland
- 03. Finns Party
- 04. Centre Party of Finland
- 05. Left Alliance
- 06. Green League
- 07. Swedish People's Party in Finland
- 08. Christian Democrats
- 09. Pirate Party of Finland
- 10. Communist Party of Finland
- 11. Change 2011
- 12. Independence Party
- 13. Workers' Party of Finland
- 14. Communist Workers' Party
- 15. For the Poor
- 16. Other

- 96 I can't say (spontaneous)
- 97 I don't want to say (spontaneous)

**Q6a.** Did you vote four years ago, in the 2011 parliamentary elections?

- 1. Yes
- 5. No → move to question Q7
- 6. No right to vote → move to question Q7
- 7. I don't want to say (spontaneous) → move to Q7
- 8. I can't say (spontaneous) → move to Q7
- 9. Missing

**Q6b.** The candidate of which political party or group did you vote for?

01. National Coalition Party
02. Social Democratic Party of Finland
03. Finns Party
04. Centre Party of Finland
05. Left Alliance
06. Green League
07. Swedish People's Party in Finland
08. Christian Democrats
09. Pirate Party of Finland
10. Communist Party of Finland
11. Change 2011
12. Freedom Party
13. Independence Party
14. Workers' Party of Finland
15. Communist Workers' Party
16. For the Poor
17. Other

96. I cast a blank vote
97. I can't say (spontaneous)
98. I don't want to say (spontaneous)
99. Missing

**Q7.** Some people say that it doesn't make any difference who is in power. Others say that it makes a big difference who is in power. Using the scale presented, what would you say? (CARD)

1. It doesn't make any difference who is in power
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
5. It makes a big difference who is in power

7. I don't want to say (spontaneous)
8. I can't say (spontaneous)
9. Missing

**Q8.** Some people say that no matter who people vote for, it won't make any difference to what happens. Others say that who people vote for can make a big difference to what happens. Using the scale presented, what would you say? (CARD)

1. Who people vote for won't make any difference
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

5. Who people vote for can make a big difference

7. I don't want to say (spontaneous)

8. I can't say (spontaneous)

9. Missing

**Q9.** What do you think about the following (political) parties on a scale 0-10, where 0 means "strongly dislike" and 10 means "strongly like". (CARD)

00. Strongly dislike

01.

02.

03.

04.

05.

06.

07.

08.

09.

10. Strongly like

96. I haven't heard of the party

97. I don't want to say (spontaneous)

98. I don't know enough about the party / I don't know where to rate

99. Missing

Q9a. National Coalition Party (KOK)

Q9b. Finnish Social Democratic Party (SDP)

Q9c. Finns Party (PS)

Q9d. Centre Party of Finland (KESK)

Q9e. Left Alliance (VAS)

Q9f. Green League (VIHR)

Q9g. Swedish People's Party in Finland (RKP)

Q9h. Christian Democrats in Finland (KD)

**Q10.** What do you think of the party leaders on a scale 0-10, where 0 means "strongly dislike" and 10 means "strongly like". (CARD)

00. Strongly dislike

01.

02.

03.

04.

05.

06.

07.

08.

09.

10. Strongly like

- 96. I haven't heard of the party leader
- 97. I don't want to say (spontaneous)
- 98. I don't know enough about the party leader / I don't know where to rate
- 99. Missing

- Q10a. Alexander Stubb (KOK)
- Q10b. Antti Rinne (SDP)
- Q10c. Timo Soini (PS)
- Q10d. Juha Sipilä (KESK)

- Q10e. Paavo Arhinmäki (VAS)
- Q10f. Ville Niinistö (VIHR)
- Q10g. Carl Haglund (RKP)
- Q10h. Päivi Räsänen (KD)

**Q11.** In politics people sometimes talk of left and right. We are going to use a scale where zero means the left and ten means the right. Where would you place the following parties on this scale? (CARD)

- 00. Left
- 01.
- 02.
- 03.
- 04.
- 05.
- 06.
- 07.
- 08.
- 09.
- 10. Right

- 95. I haven't heard of the left-right scale (spontaneous)
- 96. I haven't heard of the party (spontaneous)
- 97. I don't want to say (spontaneous)
- 98. I don't know where to place the party on the scale (spontaneous)
- 99. Missing

- Q11a. National Coalition Party (KOK)
- Q11b. Finnish Social Democratic Party (SDP)
- Q11c. Finns Party (PS)
- Q11d. Centre Party of Finland (KESK)
- Q11e. Left Alliance (VAS)
- Q11f. Green League (VIHR)
- Q11g. Swedish People's Party in Finland (RKP)
- Q11h. Christian Democrats in Finland (KD)

**Q12.** Using the same scale, where would you place yourself?

00. Left

01.

02.

03.

04.

05.

06.

07.

08.

09.

10. Right

95. I haven't heard of the left-right scale (spontaneous)

97. I don't want to say (spontaneous)

98. I don't know where to place myself on the scale (spontaneous)

99. Missing

**Q15.** How satisfied are you with the way democracy works in Finland?

1. Very satisfied

2. Fairly satisfied

4. Not very satisfied

5. Not at all satisfied

7. I don't want to say (spontaneous)

8. I can't say (spontaneous)

9. Missing

**Q20a. - Q20d. Questions measuring knowledge about politics**

**Q20a.** Who of the following was the Finnish Minister of Finance right before the recent parliamentary elections?

1. Krista Kiuru

2. Jan Vapaavuori

3. Paula Risikko

4. Antti Rinne

7. I don't want to say (spontaneous)

8. I can't say (spontaneous)

9. Missing

**Q20b.** What was the unemployment rate in Finland in February 2015?

1. 8.1%

2. 10.1%

3. 12.1%

4. 14.1%

7. I don't want to say (spontaneous)
8. I can't say (spontaneous)
9. Missing

**Q20c.** Which of the following parties has the second largest number of seats in the newly elected Parliament?

1. Social Democratic Party of Finland
2. Finns Party
3. Centre Party of Finland
4. National Coalition Party

7. I don't want to say (spontaneous)
8. I can't say (spontaneous)
9. Missing

**Q20d.** Who is the current Secretary-General of the United Nations?

1. Kofi Annan
2. Kurt Waldheim
3. Ban Ki-moon
4. Boutros Boutros-Ghali

7. I don't want to say (spontaneous)
8. I can't say (spontaneous)
9. Missing

**Q20e.** What do you think is meant by a parliamentary system of government?

1. Government by the people
2. That the Parliament has the confidence of the Government
3. That the Government has the confidence of the Parliament
4. That the Government has the confidence of the President

7. I don't want to say (spontaneous)
8. I can't say (spontaneous)
9. Missing

**K23.** For your voting choice, which was ultimately the more important, the party or the candidate?

1. The party
2. The candidate
96. I can't say (spontaneous)

**K24.** To what extent did the following influence your choice of party in these parliamentary elections?

1. Decisive factor in my choice
2. Quite a lot
3. Somewhat

- 4. Not at all
- 96. I can't say (spontaneous)

- K24\_1 Performance of the party's representatives in election programmes on television
- K24\_2 The party looks after the interests of the occupational group I belong to
- K24\_3 The party has a good leader
- K24\_4 Values of the party
- K24\_5 The party has good policy on many current issues
- K24\_6 The party has competent people to conduct Finnish politics
- K24\_7 Performance of the party during the past parliamentary term
- K24\_8 The party's successful election campaign
- K24\_9 In my opinion, the leader of the party was the best candidate to become prime minister
- K24\_10 Desire to influence which parties will be in the coalition government
- K24\_11 My family member(s) voted for the party
- K24\_11 My friend(s) voted for the party
- K24\_13 Recommendations provided by candidate selector(s)

**K25.** To what extent did the following influence your choice of candidate?

- 1. Decisive factor in my choice
- 2. A lot
- 3. Somewhat
- 4. Not at all
- 96. I can't say (spontaneous)

- K25\_1 The candidate's age
- K25\_2 The candidate's gender
- K25\_3 The candidate's education
- K25\_4 The candidate's place of residence
- K25\_5 The candidate's prior experience in politics
- K25\_6 The candidate's reliability
- K25\_7 The candidate's ability to manage things
- K25\_8 The candidate's appearance and style
- K25\_9 The candidate's public speaking and presentation skills
- K25\_10 The candidate is a public figure
- K25\_11 The candidate's views on different issues
- K25\_12 The candidate's party affiliation
- K25\_13 The candidate's election campaign and election advertising
- K25\_14 The candidate's chances of winning a seat to parliament
- K25\_15 Openness/transparency of the candidate's campaign funding
- K25\_16 The candidate's answers in candidate selectors on the Internet
- K25\_17 Internet or social media presence of the candidate or his/her political party
- K25\_18 My family member(s) voted for the candidate
- K25\_19 My friend(s) voted for the candidate
- K25\_20 Recommendations provided by candidate selector(s)

**K26.** If your candidate had been running for any of the other parties, would you still have voted for him/her?

1. I would have voted
2. I would have voted for him/her if he/she had been a candidate of another suitable party
3. I wouldn't have voted for him/her as a candidate of any other party
96. I can't say (spontaneous)

**K27.** Did you vote for a candidate who is of the same gender as you?

1. Yes
2. No
96. I can't say (spontaneous)

**K28.** What was the age of the candidate you voted for?

1. I voted for a candidate who is roughly of the same age as me
2. I voted for a candidate who is much younger than me
3. I voted for a candidate who is much older than me
96. I can't say (spontaneous)

**K29.** Did you vote for the same candidate as in the previous parliamentary elections?

1. Yes
2. No
96. I can't say (spontaneous)

**K30.** In what way was the candidate you voted for known to you?

1. I knew the candidate personally
2. My friend, acquaintance or relative knew the candidate personally
3. I knew of the candidate's activities from prior media coverage
4. I voted for the candidate on the basis of his/her election campaign
5. I chose the candidate without knowing much about him/her
96. I can't say (spontaneous)

**K31.** When did you decide the party whose candidate you voted for? (CARD)

1. On the day of voting
2. A few days before voting
3. About a week or two before voting
4. About a month or two before voting
5. The decision was already clear last year
6. I always vote for the same party in all parliamentary elections
96. I can't say (spontaneous)

**K31.** When did you decide the candidate you voted for? (CARD)

1. On the day of voting
2. A few days before voting

3. About a week or two before voting
4. About a month or two before voting
5. The decision was already clear last year
96. I can't say (spontaneous)

**K33.** How significant have the following been in shaping your political opinions?

1. Very significant
2. Somewhat significant
3. Not very significant
4. Not at all significant
5. No childhood home/school or educational institution/friends/workplace/spouse/children (spontaneous)
96. I can't say (spontaneous)

K33\_1 Childhood home

K33\_2 School or educational institution

K33\_3 Friends

K33\_4 Workplaces

K33\_5 Spouse/partner

K33\_6 Own children

**K34.** Do you know which party your mother supported when you were young?

1. Yes
2. No
3. My mother didn't support any party
4. No mother when I was young (spontaneous)

(NOTE! Interviewer: the possibility that respondent has two mothers is taken into account and both of them can be coded)

**IF KNOWS, follow-up question:**

**K34a.** Which party? (CARD)

1. Finnish Social Democratic Party (SDP)
2. Agrarian League, Centre Party, Centre Party of Finland (ML, KESK)
3. National Coalition Party (KOK)
4. Democratic League of the People of Finland (SKDL)
5. Left Alliance (VAS)
6. Swedish People's Party in Finland (RKP)
7. National Progressive Party, People's Party of Finland, Liberal People's Party (EP, KP, LKP)
8. Finnish Rural Party (SMP)
9. True Finns / Finns Party (PS)
10. Green League (VIHR)
11. Christian League of Finland / Christian Democrats (SKL, KD)
12. Other, which?
13. I don't want to say

**K35.** Do you know which party your father supported when you were young?

1 Yes

2 No

3 My father didn't support any party

4 No father when I was young (spontaneous)

(NOTE! Interviewer: the possibility that respondent has two fathers is taken into account and both of them can be coded)

**IF KNOWS, follow-up question:**

**K35a.** Which party? (CARD)

1. Finnish Social Democratic Party (SDP)

2. Agrarian League, Centre Party, Centre Party of Finland (ML, KESK)

3. National Coalition Party (KOK)

4. Democratic League of the People of Finland (SKDL)

5. Left Alliance (VAS)

6. Swedish People's Party in Finland (RKP)

7. National Progressive Party, People's Party of Finland, Liberal People's Party (EP, KP, LKP)

8. Finnish Rural Party (SMP)

9. True Finns / Finns Party (PS)

10. Green League (VIHR)

11. Christian League of Finland / Christian Democrats (SKL, KD)

12. Other, which?

13. I don't want to say

**K36.** Do you think people can be trusted or is it so that you can never be too careful about people? Indicate your opinion on a scale of zero to ten, where zero means you can't be too careful about people and 10 means that most people can be trusted.

0 Can't be too careful

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10 Most people can be trusted

96 I can't say (spontaneous)

**K37.** To what extent do you trust or mistrust the following? Evaluate each actor and institution on a scale of zero to ten, where 0="I don't trust at all" and 10="completely trust"

(CARD)

K37\_1 The President

- K37\_2 Political parties
- K37\_3 The Parliament
- K37\_4 The Government
- K37\_5 Politicians
- K37\_6 The European Union
- K37\_7 The judicial system
- K37\_8 Public officials
- K37\_9 The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland
- K37\_10 The police
- K37\_11 Trade unions and professional associations
- K37\_12 The media
- K37\_13 Banks
- K37\_14 Major corporations
- K37\_15 Universities and research institutes

**K38.** In your opinion, how well did the Government lead by Prime Minister Alexander Stubb at the end of last electoral term perform?

1. Very well
2. Well
3. Neither well nor poorly
4. Poorly
5. Very poorly
7. I don't want to say (spontaneous)
8. I can't say (spontaneous)

**K39.** What about the Government lead by Prime Minister Jyrki Katainen before that?

1. Very well
2. Well
3. Neither well nor poorly
4. Poorly
5. Very poorly
7. I don't want to say (spontaneous)
8. I can't say (spontaneous)

## **BACKGROUND VARIABLES**

**D1.** Your year of birth (open-ended question)

**D2.** Your gender

1. Male
2. Female
3. Other (spontaneous)
7. I don't want to say (spontaneous)
9. Missing

**D3.** What is the highest level of education or degree you have completed?

1. Primary education
2. Lower secondary education
3. Short vocational training (vocational school or course)
4. College level vocational education (post-secondary)
5. Upper secondary education (general)
6. Polytechnic degree or equivalent
7. University degree
8. Doctoral degree or equivalent
96. No education
97. I don't want to say (spontaneous)
98. I can't say (spontaneous)
99. Missing

**D4.** Your marital status

1. Married or in a registered partnership
2. Widowed
3. Divorced or separated
4. Single, never married
5. Cohabiting
6. Other
7. I don't want to say (spontaneous)
8. I can't say (spontaneous)
9. Missing

**D33.** How would you describe your health in general?

1. Very good
2. Good
3. Average
4. Poor
5. Very poor
96. I can't say (spontaneous)

**D5.** Do you belong to any trade union or professional association and if yes, how actively do you participate in its activities?

1. I don't belong to any → D35
2. I belong, but I don't participate in the activities → D34
3. I belong and participate in the activities to some extent → D34
4. I belong and actively participate in the activities → D34
96. I can't say (spontaneous) → D35

**D34.** Which of the following central organisations does your trade union or professional association belong to?

1. SAK (Central Organisation of Finnish Trade Unions)
2. STTK (Finnish Confederation of Professionals)
3. AKAVA (Confederation of Unions for Academic Professionals)
4. MTK (Central Union of Agricultural Producers and Forest Owners)
5. Other, which? \_\_\_\_\_
96. I can't say (spontaneous)

**D35.** How many other than work- or profession-related associations do you belong to as a paying member?

1. None
2. 1-2 associations
3. Three or more associations
96. I can't say (spontaneous)

**D10.** Which of the following best describes your situation?

1. Working full-time (at least 32 hours a week)
  2. Working half-time (15-31 hours a week)
  3. Working part-time (under 15 hours a week)
  4. Unemployed
  5. Student
  6. Pensioner/retired on account of age or working years
  7. Homemaker
  8. Pensioner/retired on account of illness or disability
  9. Conscripted for military service or in civilian service
  10. On parental leave or child care leave
  11. Informal carer
  12. Other, please specify
97. I don't want to say (spontaneous)
98. I can't say (spontaneous)
99. Missing

**D11.** What is your current occupation? (NOTE: open-ended question)

**D12.** The occupational group you feel you mainly belong to?

1. Farmer, agricultural entrepreneur
2. Employer, self-employed, own account worker
3. Higher managerial employee
4. Lower managerial/professional employee
5. Intermediate level employee
6. Worker
7. Pensioner → Move to D20
8. Student → Move to D20
9. Housewife or house husband → Move to D20
10. Unemployed → Move to D20
11. Other → Move to D20

**D13.** IF EMPLOYED, in which sector do you work?

1. State, municipality or church
2. Private company
3. Company which is largely owned by a municipality or the government
4. So called third sector (e.g. non-profit organisation)
96. I can't say (spontaneous)

**D20.** What is the average total annual income of your household before tax (= gross income), including taxable social security benefits?

**D21a.** How many people live in your household? In total: \_\_\_\_\_ people

**D21b.** Out of them, \_\_\_\_\_ are children/young people aged 7-17

**D21c.** Out of them, \_\_\_\_\_ are children aged 6 or younger

**D22.** Apart from weddings, funerals etc., how often do you go to church?

1. Never
2. Once a year
3. 2-11 times a year
4. Once a month
5. Twice a month or more often
6. Once a week or more often
  
7. I don't want to say (spontaneous)
8. I can't say (spontaneous)
9. Missing

**D23.** How religious would you say you are?

1. Not at all religious

2. Not very religious
3. Somewhat religious
4. Very religious

7. I don't want to say (spontaneous)
8. I can't say (spontaneous)
9. Missing

**D24.** Do you belong to a church or other religious community?

1. To the Evangelical Lutheran Church → move to question D17
2. To the Orthodox Church → move to question D17
3. To the Roman Catholic Church → move to question D17
4. To some other church or religious community, which? → move to question D17
5. None

97. I don't want to say (spontaneous)
98. I can't say (spontaneous)
99. Missing

**D36.** Have you left the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the past five years?

*(Asked from the respondents who do not belong to a church or religious community)*

1. Yes
2. No
3. I have never belonged to the Evangelical Lutheran Church
96. I can't say (spontaneous)

**D37.** Mother tongue

1. Finnish
2. Swedish
3. Some other language, which? \_\_\_\_\_

**D25.** Which language or languages are usually spoken at your home?

1. Only Finnish
2. Only Swedish
3. Finnish and Swedish
4. Finnish and some other language
5. Swedish and some other language
6. Only languages other than Finnish or Swedish

997. I don't want to say (spontaneous)
998. I can't say (spontaneous)
999. Missing

**D38.** Do you consider yourself a member of an ethnic minority in Finland?

1. Yes
2. No
96. I can't say (spontaneous)

**D39.** Your municipality of residence (open-ended question)

**D29.** Do you live...

1. In the centre of a large town (over 100,000 inhabitants)
2. In the centre of a smaller town (under 100,000 inhabitants)
3. In a city/town suburb
4. In a municipal centre or other population centre in a rural area
5. In a sparsely populated rural area
  
7. I don't want to say (spontaneous)
8. I can't say (spontaneous)
9. Missing

**D40.** Did you live in your present constituency at the time of the previous parliamentary elections of 2011?

1. Yes
2. No
96. I can't say (spontaneous)

**D30.** Constituency (derived from the municipality variable)

**D41.** Have you been unemployed in the past 12 months?

1. No
2. Yes, for a total of approximately \_\_\_\_ months
96. I can't say (spontaneous)

**D42.** Do you live...

1. In a rental apartment/house
2. In an apartment/house owned by you or your family
3. In a part-ownership or right-of-occupancy apartment/house
4. Other

**REKRY1** Willingness to respond to the self-administered questionnaire?

1. Willing
2. Not willing

NOTE! The interviewer reads out loud: "The National Election Study is an important academic project conducted to gain understanding of the status of democracy and voter opinion in Finland. The Ministry of Justice funds the research. It is great that you are able to participate! Unfortunately, we had so many questions that not all of them could be asked during the interview, but for the purposes of the study it would be important if you could respond to one short questionnaire that has additional questions. You can take your time responding to this questionnaire and post the completed questionnaire to TNS Gallup in the envelope provided. The postage has been paid for your convenience. The responses are confidential and all respondents are guaranteed full anonymity."

#### Board of the Election Study Consortium

Kimmo Grönlund  
Chairperson  
Professor of Political Science, Åbo Akademi

Sami Borg  
Director of the Finnish Social Science Data Archive, Adjunct Professor of Political Science,  
University of Tampere

Åsa von Schoultz  
Academy Research Fellow, Åbo Akademi

Hanna Wass  
Academy Research Fellow, Adjunct Professor of Political Science