

NOTICE: The following is a literally translation of the questionnaire from german into english!

10100

Generally, how interested are you in politics? Are you ...

- very interested,
- fairly interested,
- rather not interested or
- not interested at all?
- don't know
- no answer

10200

Federal elections are held every four years. The latest elections were held in october of 1995. Do you remember whether you participated or not?

- yes, I did
- no, I didn't
- wasn't eligible yet
- don't remember
- n.a.

10250

What party did you vote for In the elections for the national assembly in 1995?

- X
- don't remember
- n.a.

10400

In Geneva last march elections for the municipal council were held. Can you tell me whether you participated in the elections in your community?

- yes, I did
- no, I didn't
- wasn't eligible yet
- moved
- don't remember
- n.a.

10500

Last spring elections for the National Council in your canton were held. Can you tell me whether you participated in the elections?

- yes, I did
- no, I didn't
- moved
- don't remember
- n.a.

10600

Which party did choose the most candidates from?

- X
- don't remember
- n.a.

10700

During federal elections some people are more interested in what is happening in the whole of Switzerland, others are more interested in what is happening in their own canton. Let's focus on what is happening in the whole of Switzerland: Are you ...

- very interested
- fairly interested
- rather not interested
- not interested at all?
- don't know
- n.a.

10800

And what about what happened in your canton during the federal elections? Were you ...

- very interested
- fairly interested
- rather not interested
- not interested at all?
- don't know
- n.a.

10900

How well, do you think, were you informed about the federal elections on october 24? Would you say you were ...

- very well informed
- fairly well informed
- fairly bad informed
- very bad informed
- don't know
- n.a.

11000

How significant are federal elections for you personally? Please name a number between 0 and 10, with 0 meaning „not significant at all“ and 10 standing for „very significant“.

- answer
- don't know
- n.a.

11100

Normally around half of the eligible voters go to the ballots during federal elections. How is it in your case: Have you participated in the federal elections on october 24?

- yes, I have
- no, I haven't
- n.a.

11200

When have you decided not to participate in the elections?

- It's been clear from the beginning.
- A couple of weeks before election-day.
- A couple of days before election-day.
- Just prior to election-day.
- Don't remember
- n.a.

11300

There are several reasons for not taking part in elections. Some of the reasons I'm going to read to you. Please tell me, everytime a reason is applicable to you or not.

- You haven't been able to decide.
- You are not interested in politics.
- Elections are too complicated.
- No party or candidate has convinced you.
- Your preferred candidate or your preferred party didn't have a chance in being elected.
- It's rewarding to you not to vote.
- You don't know the candidates well enough.
- You were prevented by illness, accident, absence, etc.

11400

Supposing you had voted: What party would you have voted for in the parliamentary election?

- X
- Don't know
- N.a.

11450

Supposing you had voted: Can you tell me, what party you would have voted for, i.e. what party you'd have chosen the most candidates from?

- X
- Don't know
- N.a.

11501

What candidate(s) would you have elected to the Council of States?

- X
- Don't know
- N.a.

11600

Have you voted on the weekend of the parliamentary election, did you cast your vote earlier or did you send in your ballot by mail?

- one answer only
- n.a.

11605

When did you put your ballot in the mail?

- Immediately after receiving the ballot.
- A couple of weeks before the actual election-day.
- A couple of days before the actual election-day.

- Don't remember.
- N.a.

11700

There are several reasons to participate in elections. What was the most important reason for you?

- It's tradition/a habit/civic duty.
- Interest in politics
- I can co-determine in politics.
- Support for a specific policy.
- Support for a certain party/candidate.
- I'm expected to vote (friends, family, colleagues)
- Participation means a personal advantage.
- Other reasons.
- Don't know
- N.a.

11800

Can you tell me, what party you have voted for, i.e. what party you have chosen the most candidates from?

- X
- Don't know
- N.a.

11850

What political party have you elected to National Council?

- first party mentioned
- don't know
- n.a.

11900

When did you decide whom you will elect to National Council?

- It's always been clear.
- A couple of weeks before the election.
- A couple of days before the election.
- Just prior to election-day.
- Don't remember
- N.a.

12000

Have you selected a specific list, for example a women's list, senior's list etc.?

- first list mentioned
- no
- don't know
- n.a.

12010

Did you cast an unchanged list or did you change the list?

- cast an unchanged list
- changed the list
- n.a.

12010

How did you alter the list?

- yes
- no
- n.a.

Did you ...

- put certain candidates twice on the same list
- cancel certain candidates from the list
- put candidates from parties on the list, other than the one you already mentioned to me?

12030

What other party did you choose candidates from?

- second list mentioned
- don't know
- n.a.

12040

Did you select candidates yet from a third party?

- yes
- no
- n.a.

12050

From which one?

- X
- Don't know
- N.a.

12055

There are several reasons to elect a political party. Can you tell me, whether for you the following reasons are ...

- very important
- fairly important
- rather unimportant
- not important at all?
- Don't know
- N.a.

-
- the party platform
 - the candidate's profile in your canton
 - the profile of nationally known personalities in this party
 - previous achievements by this party
 - the acceptance of a close result for this party
 - the link to another party's list
 - the size of the party

12200

Let's look back at the person you voted for: There are several reasons to vote for someone. I'm going to read some reasons to you. Please let me know for every reason, if to you it was ...

- very important
- fairly important
- rather unimportant
- not important at all
- don't know
- n.a.

- personality
- gender
- you know the candidates name
- recommendation by an organisation (business groups, unions, environmental organisations, etc.)
- party membership of the candidate
- previous achievements

12250

Did you vote ...

- for women only
- mainly for women
- approx. half men, half women
- mainly for men
- for men only
- don't know
- n.a.

12310

Can you tell me what candidate you elected to the Council of States?

- first name mentioned
- don't know
- n.a.

12400

There are various deterrents of opinion in elections. I'm going to read to you some of the possible factors . Please tell me for every factor how important it was to you, 0 being absolutely unimportant and 10 being very important.

- editorial articles in newspapers and magazines
- advertisement by political parties in the press
- party leaflets in your mailbox
- advertisement by political parties on TV
- advertisement by political parties in the radio
- posters of political parties in the streets
- homepages of political parties on the internet
- don't know
- n.a.

12500

Besides elections there are also ballots on practical issues. Let's say there are 10 federal ballots in one year. In how many of those 10 would you participate?

- X
- Don't know
- N.a.

12600

Besides elections and ballots there are also other political activities. I'm going to read to you some of them. Please tell me for every activity whether you have taken part in it during the last 5 years or not.

- Sign a popular initiative or a referendum
- Take part in a political assembly
- Gather signatures for a popular initiative or a referendum
- Donate money to a political organisation
- Be active in a political party
- Be active in civic action group
- Take part in a demonstration

12700

In Switzerland there are a lot of unsolved problems. Which one is in your view the most important one at the moment?

- unemployment
- refugee policy
- Europe (EU, integration, bilateral treaties)
- The nation's debt, nation's deficit (federal, cantonal, communal)
- Immigration
- Health service (insurance, hospitals), health service costs
- „law and order“ (criminal policy)
- social security, health insurance
- war, conflicts, international situation, neutrality
- drugs, alcohol, other addictions (smoking, medicine)
- economy, recession, economic policy
- politics, politicians, the government, parliament
- taxes
- environmental issues/problems
- maternity insurance
- social insurance
- traffic
- other
- don't know
- n.a.

12720

Which party do you think is most competent to solve the problem you mentioned above?

- X
- no party

- don't know
- n.a.

12750

And what problem is in your opinion the second most important?

- unemployment
- refugee policy
- Europe (EU, integration, bilateral treaties)
- The nation's debt, nation's deficit (federal, cantonal, communal)
- Immigration
- Health service (insurance, hospitals), health service costs
- „law and order“ (criminal policy)
- social security, health insurance
- war, conflicts, international situation neutrality
- drugs, alcohol, other addictions (smoking, medicine)
- economy, recession, economic policy
- politics, politicians, the government, parliament
- taxes
- environmental issues/problems
- maternity insurance
- social insurance
- traffic
- other
- don't know
- n.a.

12770

Which party do you think is most competent to solve the second problem you mentioned?

- x
- no party
- don't know
- n.a.

12800

I'm going to read to you a couple of institutions in Switzerland. Please tell me for each institution how much you trust in it, 0 meaning no confidence and 10 meaning full confidence.

- federal council
- parliament (both chambers)
- political parties on national level
- authorities in your canton
- authorities in your community
- don't know
- n.a.

12900

Do you know what party your FATHER normally votes or has voted for?

- first party mentioned
- father was never eligible to vote
- don't know

- n.a.

13000

Do you know what party your MOTHER normally votes or has voted for?

- first party mentioned
- mother was never eligible to vote
- don't know
- n.a.

13010

There are a number of organisations in Switzerland. After I read the type of organisation, please rate it on a scale from 0 to 10, 0 meaning you strongly dislike that organisation and 10 meaning that you strongly like that organisation.

- trade unions
- agricultural organisations
- trade associations
- ecological organisations
- human rights organisations
- relief work organisations
- women's organisations
- don't know
- n.a.

-
- rating
 - don't know
 - n.a.

13150

I'm going to read to you the names of candidates who ran for election to the Council of States in their canton. After I read the name, please tell me how likeable the person appears to you, 0 meaning you strongly dislike the person and 10 meaning you strongly like the person.

- rating
- don't know candidate
- don't know
- n.a.

13300

Have you discussed the election on October 24 with your family, with friends or colleagues? Can you please tell, whether you discussed it ...

- if yes:
-
- often
 - sometimes
 - seldom
 - never
 - don't know
 - n.a.

13310

Did you try to convince somebody of a political party or of a candidate during the election campaign prior to the election on october 24? Please tell me whether you tried to convince someone ...

- if yes:

- often
- sometimes
- seldom
- never
- don't know
- n.a.

13400

I'd like to know from you what daily newspaper you read?

- x
- no newspaper
- don't know
- n.a.

13500

Besides the newspaper you've just mentioned, do you read another one?

- yes
- no
- n.a.

13510

Which one?

- x
- don't know
- n.a.

13600

During the weeks before the elections, how closely did you pay attention to political party advertisement in the newspapers?

Did you pay ...

- very close attention
- close attention
- moderate attention
- hardly any attention
- no attention at all?
- Don't know
- N.a.

13610

During the weeks before the elections, how closely did you pay attention to reports in the evening news about the election campaign?

Did you pay ...

- very close attention
- close attention
- moderate attention
- hardly any attention

- no attention at all?
- don't know
- n.a.

13620

How often did you watch special reports on the TV about the elections? Did you watch ...

- very often
- often
- seldom
- never?
- Don't know
- N.a.

13650

To advertise their candidates, the parties used, next to ads in newspapers, other means of advertisement as well. During the weeks prior to the elections did you use any of the following ways „very often“, „often“, „seldom“ or „not at all“ to inform yourself?

- advertisement of political parties in your mail
- posters in the streets
- internet sites
- booths of parties in the streets
- political events of parties

13700

On the whole, “are you satisfied”, “fairly satisfied”, “not very satisfied” or “not at all satisfied” with the way democracy works in Switzerland?

- answer
- don't know
- n.a.

13800

In some countries, people believe their elections are conducted fairly. In other countries, people believe their elections are conducted unfairly. Thinking of the last election in Switzerland on October 24, where would you place it on a scale of one to five where one means that the last election was conducted fairly, and five means that the last election was conducted unfairly?

- answer
- don't know
- n.a.

14000

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

- yes
- no
- don't know
- n.a.

14010

(If yes:) Which party is it?

- first party mentioned
- maybe second and third party mentioned
- don't know
- n.a.

14040

Which party do you feel closest to?

- x
- don't know
- n.a.

14050

Do you feel yourself a little closer to one of the political parties than to the others?

- yes
- no
- don't know
- n.a.

14060

What party is that?

- x
- don't know
- n.a.

14070

Do you feel "very close" to this party, "somewhat close", or "not very close"?

- answer
- don't know
- n.a.

14100

Some people say that political parties in Switzerland care what ordinary people think. Others say that political parties in Switzerland don't care what ordinary people think. Using the scale, where one means that political parties care about what ordinary people think, and five means that they don't care what ordinary people think, where would you place yourself?

- answer
- don't know
- n.a.

14200

Some people say that political parties are necessary to make our political system work in Switzerland. Others think that political parties are not needed in Switzerland. Using the scale as before, where one means that political parties are necessary to make our political system work, and five means that political parties are not needed in Switzerland, where would you place yourself?

- answer
- don't know
- n.a.

14300

Do you happen to remember the name of any candidate who ran for election in your canton during the National Councilary election in 1999?

- yes
- no
- don't know
- n.a.

14305

Can you tell me the names?

- the first three names mentioned
- don't know
- n.a.

14400

I'd like to know what you think about each of our political parties. After I read the name of a political party, please rate it on a scale from 0 to 10, where 0 means you strongly dislike that party and 10 means that you strongly like that party. If I come to a party you haven't heard of or you feel you do not know enough about, just say so.

- answer
- don't know party
- don't know
- n.a.

-
- CVP
 - FDP
 - SP
 - SVP
 - LP
 - Parti du travail
 - Grüne
 - LdU
 - Freiheitspartei
 - Lega di Ticinesi
 - Liberal-sozialistische Partei

14500

I'm going to read to you the names of politicians now. Using the same scale, I'd like to ask you how much you like or dislike them. Again, if I come to a leader you haven't heard of or you feel you do not know enough about, just say so.

- Ruth Dreifuss
- Christoph Blocher
- Ruth Metzler
- Franz Steinegger

-
- answer
 - don't know politician
 - don't know
 - n.a.

14600

What do you think about the state of the economy these days in Switzerland? Would you say that the state of the economy is "very good", "good", "neither good nor bad", "bad", or "very bad"?

- answer
- don't know
- n.a.

14610

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

- answer
- don't know
- n.a.

14615

Would you say much better or somewhat better?

- answer
- don't know
- n.a.

14616

Would you say much worse or somewhat worse?

- answer
- don't know
- n.a.

14700

Some people say that the members of the National Council know what ordinary people think. Others say that the members of the National Council don't know much about what ordinary people think. Using a scale, where one means that the members of the National Council know what ordinary people think, and five means that the members of the National Council don't know much about what ordinary people think, where would you place yourself?

- answer
- don't know
- n.a.

14800

During the past twelve months, have you had any contact with a member of the National Council in any way?

- yes
- no, no contact at all
- don't know
- n.a.

14900

Some people say it makes a difference who is in power in Bern. Others say that it doesn't make a difference who is in power. Using the same scale, where one means that it makes a difference who is in power, and five means it doesn't make a difference who is in power, where would you place yourself?

- answer

- don't know
- n.a.

15000

Some people say that no matter who people vote for, it won't make any difference to what happens. Others say that whom people vote for can make a difference. Using the same scale as above, where one means that voting won't make a difference, and five means that voting can make a difference, where would you place your opinion?

- answer
- don't know
- n.a.

15100

If asked for their political opinion, do you believe most people in Switzerland usually say openly what they think about politics, or do you think, most people in Switzerland usually hide what they think about politics? Using the same scale above, one meaning most people in Switzerland usually say what they think about politics and five meaning most people in Switzerland usually hide what they really think about politics, where would you place your opinion on this scale?

- answer
- don't know
- n.a.

15200

In politics people sometimes talk of "left" and "right". Where would you place yourself on a scale from 0 to 10, where 0 means the left and 10 means the right?

- answer
- don't know
- n.a.

15300

Using the same scale, 0 meaning left and 10 meaning right, where would you place our political parties?

- CVP
- FDP
- SP
- SVP
- LP
- Parti du travail
- Grüne
- LdU
- Freiheitspartei
- Lega di Ticinesi
- Liberal-sozialistische Partei

Now I'd like to hear your opinion about some political goals, which could be achieved in Switzerland. Some of them are controversial. Please tell me your opinion about some of them.

15410

Do you support a strong Swiss army or do you think there's no need for an army in Switzerland?

- strong army
- none of the above
- no need for a Swiss army
- Don't know
- N.a.

15415

Do you rather support it or do you strongly support it?

- answer
- don't know
- n.a.

15420

Do you think the expenses by the state for social issues should be cut or should they be higher?

- expenses should be cut
- expenses should be higher
- not of the above
- don't know
- n.a.

15425

Do you rather support or strongly support a cut in social expenses?

- answer
- don't know
- n.a.

15430

Do you support or oppose an EU-membership of Switzerland?

- support it
- oppose it
- none of the above
- don't know
- n.a.

15435

Do you rather support or strongly support a Swiss membership in the EU?

- answer
- don't know
- n.a.

15440

Do you think, foreigners should have the same opportunities as the Swiss do? Or do you think, Swiss should have better opportunities?

- same opportunities for all
- better opportunities for Swiss
- none of the above
- don't know
- n.a.

15445

Do you rather support or strongly support this view?

- answer
- don't know
- n.a.

15450

Do you want Switzerland to defend her traditions or do you want Switzerland to question her traditions?

- defend her traditions
- question her traditions
- none of the above
- don't know
- n.a.

15455

Do you rather support or strongly support this view?

- answer
- don't know
- n.a.

15460

Do you prefer Switzerland to be a place where "law and order" are less important? Or do you prefer Switzerland to be a place where "law and order" are very important?

- "law and order" less important
- "law and order" very important
- none of the above
- don't know
- n.a.

15465

Do you rather support or strongly support this view?

- answer
- don't know
- n.a.

15470

Do you prefer Switzerland to be a place where pollution control is more important than economic growth? Or do you prefer Switzerland to be a place where economic growth is more important than pollution control?

- pro pollution control
- pro economic growth
- none of the above
- don't know
- n.a.

15475

Do you rather support or strongly support this view?

- answer
- don't know

- n.a.

15480

Are you for a tax increase on high income or are you for a tax relief on high income?

- for tax increase
- for tax relief
- none of the above
- don't know
- n.a.

15485

Do you rather support or strongly support this view?

- answer
- don't know
- n.a.

15490

Do you want atomic energy to be used in Switzerland or don't you want it to be used in Switzerland?

- to be used
- not to be used
- none of the above
- don't know
- n.a.

15491

Do you rather support or strongly support this view?

- answer
- don't know
- n.a.

15495

Do you want the government to strongly intervene in the economy or do you want to fully rely on the market-economy in Switzerland?

- strong state intervention
- rely on market-economy
- none of the above
- don't know
- n.a.

15496

Do you rather support or strongly support this view?

- answer
- don't know
- n.a.

15500

How proud of Switzerland are you? Are you ...

- very proud
- fairly proud
- little proud

- not proud at all?
- don't know
- n.a.

15600

During the last couple of years Switzerland has been strongly criticized, especially for her role during world war II. Do you think that this criticism was "clearly justified", "rather justified", "little justified", or "not justified at all"?

- answer
- don't know
- n.a.

15700

In politics it's not always easy to achieve all one wants. I'm going to read four goals to you now. Please tell me, which one is the most important to you.

- keep "law and order"
- more rights of co-determination for the citizens in government decisions
- avoid the rise of prices
- preserve freedom of thought
- don't know
- n.a.

15750

And which one is the second most important?

- answer
- don't know
- n.a.

15800

On a scale from 0 to 10, where 0 means, that Switzerland should open herself to the outside and where 10 means, that Switzerland should defend her traditions, where would you place the following political parties:

- CVP
- FDP
- SP
- SVP
- LP
- Parti du travail
- Grüne
- LdU
- Freiheitspartei
- Lega di Ticinesi
- Liberal-sozialistische Partei

15827

Can you tell me how many political parties are represented in the federal council?

- right answer
- wrong answer
- don't know
- n.a.

16000

Do you know the name of this years president of the federal council?

- right answer
- wrong answer
- don't know
- n.a.

16100

How many signatures have to be collected for a popular initiative?

- right answer
- wrong answer
- don't know
- n.a.

16201

How many representatives of your canton are there in the National Council? (asked for every canton.)

- right answer
- wrong answer
- don't know
- n.a.

Statistical Part

20110

In what canton have you spent most of your childhood?

20200

Were you born in Switzerland?

- yes
- no
- n.a.

20300

Since what year have you uninterruptedly been living in the canton you presently live in?

- answer
- n.a.

20600

What is your present civil status? Are you ...

- married
- single
- divorced/separated
- widow/widower?
- n.a.

20700

Dou you live with a partner?

- yes
- no

- n.a.

20800

What confession do you have?

- protestant
- catholic
- jewish
- other
- no confession
- n.a.

20900

How often do you attend church service or other events organized by your church?

- several times a week
- once a week
- once or twice a month
- several times a year
- only on special occasions (baptism, weddings, funerals)
- never
- n.a.

21000

Are you a member of any trade union/employees' organization?

- yes
- no
- n.a.

21100

Is anybody else in your household a member of any trade union/employees' organization?

- yes
- no
- don't know
- n.a.

21200

Do you rent the apartment/house you live in or is it your property?

- rent
- own property
- other
- don't know
- n.a.

21300

What is the highest degree of education or certificate you obtained?

- no school education
- elementary school
- secondary education
- traineeship
- vocational training

- Diplommittelschule
- Business college
- Berufsmatura
- Gymnasium
- Technical school
- vocational training with foreman's diploma
- Technical college/university
- University
- n.a.

21400

What is your current occupational situation?

- fulltime working (40 hours and more per week)
- part-time working (5-39 hours per week)
- student (apprenticeship, school, university)
- working in family business
- housewife/-man
- retired
- unemployed
- other
- n.a.

21410

Since your compulsory school-days, have you received further education or did you continue to receive education after you did something else (housework, working) for a certain time (minimum 3 years)?

- always received education
- continued to receive education
- n.a.

21500

What is your occupational position? Are you...

- employee without supervising function
- employee with supervising function
- independent
- n.a.

21600

What is your current occupation?

- answer
- other
- don't know
- n.a.

21700

Do you work in private enterprise or for public authorities?

- private enterprise
- public authorities (federal, cantonal, communal level)
- other
- n.a.

21800

Who is the main source of income in your household?

- interviewee
- spouse
- both contribute about the same
- others
- don't know
- n.a.

21900

What is your partner's highest degree of education or certificate you obtained?

- no school education
- elementary school
- secondary education
- traineeship
- vocational training
- Diplommittelschule
- Business college
- Berufsmatura
- Gymnasium
- Technical school
- vocational training with foreman's diploma
- Technical college/university
- vocational training with foreman's diploma
- University
- N.a.

22000

What is your partner's current occupational situation?

- fulltime working (40 hours and more per week)
- part-time working (5-39 hours per week)
- student (apprenticeship, school, university)
- working in family business
- housewife/-man
- retired
- unemployed
- other
- n.a.

22100

What is your your partner's occupational position? Is she/he...

- employee without supervising function
- employee with supervising function
- independent
- n.a.

22200

What is his/her current occupation?

- answer

- other
- don't know
- n.a.

22300

Does she/he work in private enterprise or for public authorities?

- private enterprise
- public authorities (federal, cantonal, communal level)
- other
- n.a.

22400

What was your partner's current occupational situation before?

- fulltime working (40 hours and more per week)
- part-time working (5-39 hours per week)
- student (apprenticeship, school, university)
- working in family business
- housewife/-man
- retired
- unemployed
- other
- n.a.

22600

What was his/her occupation?

- answer
- other
- don't remember
- n.a.

22700

Did she/he work in private enterprise or for public authorities?

- private enterprise
- public authorities (federal, cantonal, communal level)
- other
- n.a.

28900

Before we come to an end I'd like to ask you some questions about your financial situation: Can you tell me, how high the monthly income in your household is? Please add up all incomes of the persons, who contribute to the maintenance costs. Not only consider salaries and wages, but also eventual other types of income.

- less than 2000
- 2000-3000
- 3001-4000
- 4001-5000
- 5001-6000
- 6001-7000
- 7001-8000
- 8001-9000
- 9001-10'000

- 10'001-12'000
- more than 12'000 CHF

29000

How do you estimate the income in your household compared to the average Swiss income? Do you believe it's "clearly below average", "a little below average", "a little above average", "clearly above average", or "just about average"?

- answer
- can't tell
- refusal

29100

Part of the income is used right away for the rent and assurance fees. With what's left, do you think you get along well?

- yes
- it's OK
- no
- don't know
- refusal