# Comparative Study of Electoral Systems (CSES) Module 6 Design Report

Version: December 2022

Country/territory: Slovakia
Date of election: September 30, 2023
Prepared by: Olga Gyarfasova
Date of preparation: March 2025

The answers provided in this Design Report are used to create variables in the CSES dataset, enable the CSES Secretariat to evaluate the eligibility of election studies for inclusion in the cross-national dataset, and provide users with important information for their analyses.

Notes to collaborators…

- All sections of the Design Report must be filled in for an election study deposit to be considered complete. The CSES Secretariat is available to provide clarification and support.
- Where brackets [ ] appear, answer by placing an "X" within the appropriate bracket(s).
- If more space or iterations are required to answer any question, please lengthen the document and duplicate items as necessary.
- In your deposited dataset, please be sure to include any weight variables, as well a variable that indicates the mode of interview for each observation (respondent) that is included.
- If you have an existing methodology report for your study, we would appreciate receiving an electronic copy of it, to supplement the information in your completed Design Report. We will make both your Design Report and any supplemental methodological report available for download from the CSES website. We encourage you to cut-and-paste information from your existing methodology report into your answers below, as appropriate.

## Section A1. Collaborator(s)

Collaborators are the contact persons for election studies that appear in CSES. Collaborators are not necessarily who collected the data. This collaborators list will appear on the CSES website.

Collaborator name: Olga Gyarfasova
Affiliation: Comenius University, in Bratislava, Slovakia
Email: olga.gyarfasova@gmail.com

Collaborator name: Miloslav Bahna
Affiliation: Sociological Institute, Slovak Academy of Sciences
Email: miloslav.bahna@savba.sk

## Section A2. Data Collection Organization

**Organization that conducted the survey field work/data collection:**

Organization name: FOCUS Centrum pre sociálnu a marketingovú analýzu, s r.o.

Sládkovičova 4, P.O.BOX 293
810 00 Bratislava 1
Website: https://www.focus-research.sk/

**Section A3. Funding Organization(s)**

Organization(s) that funded the data collection:

Organization name: The Slovak Research and Development Agency
Within the project: APVV grant 22-0242, 'Nationalism, populism, and social networks in a comparative perspective'
Website: https://www.apvv.sk/?lang=en
Contact person: Martin Slosiarik
Email: martin.slosiarik@focus-research.sk

**Section A4. Archiving Organization**

If appropriate, please indicate the primary location where the full, original election study dataset (not just the CSES portion) will archived.

Organization name: The Slovak Archive of Social Data
Website: https://sasd.sav.sk/sk/

**Section B. Study Design**

1. Timing of the study that the CSES Module was included in:
   [X] Post-Election Study
   [ ] Pre-Election/Post-Election Panel Study
   [ ] Between Rounds
   [ ] Other, please specify: _____

2. For the post-election survey in which the CSES Module appeared, please provide the following three pieces of information:

The date that interviewing began: 31 January, 2024

The date that interviewing ended: 26 February, 2024

The number of days between the date of the election and when interviewing began: 122 days

3. Was the survey that included the CSES Module part of a panel study?
   [ ] Yes
   [X] No

If yes, please describe the design of the panel study, including the date at which interviewing for each prior wave began and ended:

4. How many respondents answered the post-election survey in which the CSES Module appeared? That is, how many records/observations are there in the CSES portion of your study?

1 025

5. Did respondents give their consent to share their responses as part of the CSES dataset, in accordance with local human rights regulations and data protection laws?

[X] Yes
[ ] No

## Section C. Sample frame, selection, and eligibility

**6. Please describe the population that your study is meant to be representative of.**

4 424 283 - Slovakia´s citizens, eligible voters, age 18+

**7. What steps were taken as part of the sampling and**/or data collection process to ensure that the sample is representative of the target population? In what ways were those steps successful, and in what ways were they not (please provide evidence wherever possible)?

SELECTION PROCEDURE

STEP 1)

In the first step, it was necessary to arbitrarily determine the number of so-called primary sampling units (PSUs) in which the survey would be conducted. A primary sampling unit represents a certain territory within a municipality/city and the residents living in this territory. 120 primary sampling points (PSUs) were used in the research.

Subsequently, the number of PSUs in individual regions was determined proportionally to the number of residents aged 18+ living in individual regions of Slovakia. The PPS method was used to select primary sampling units in individual regions (primary units will be selected based on a probability proportional to the size of the given settlement).

STEP 2)

In the second step, it was necessary to randomly select specific addresses (households) in each primary sampling unit where the survey would be conducted. The same number of households was selected in each PSU, namely 15. The total number of selected addresses/households was 1800 (120 PSU + 15 addresses = 1800).

Since there is no complete publicly accessible list of addresses/households that can be selected by simple random selection within a given PSU, the interviewers had to select individual addresses/households in the specified territorial units (PSU) according to the established rules, namely by the method of the so-called random walk within the given PSU. In each PSU, the interviewer was randomly assigned a starting/exit point from which he began the "random walk". In this way, even those households that would have been omitted from the household list for various reasons (e.g. due to moving, construction, living in an unapproved building, etc.) have a chance to be selected. In the case of settlements with named streets, a map was used to select the starting point, on which a street was "randomly" determined and a point on it that represented the starting point of the random walk. In the case of municipalities with unnamed streets, a "significant" building (e.g. church, railway station, municipal office, etc.) was determined as the starting point of the random walk.
From the selection point, the interviewer proceeded according to the precise rules of the random walk and searched for (addressed) every third household. He recorded his progress on a special control sheet so that it was possible to check the correctness of the household selection.

STEP 3)

At selected addresses, interviewers attempted to interview a household member randomly selected by the software from all household members aged 18+. This required the interviewer to list all adult household members at the beginning of the interview.

The sampling procedure was successful.

**8. Please list the criteria for an individual to be eligible to be interviewed in your study. For example, minimum age, citizenship, voter registration, etc.**

Minimum age 18 – eligible voters, SK citizens

**9. Please describe the sample frame, its type and source, and its coverage of the population.**

**10. Were any of the following excluded from the sample frame? Mark all that apply.**

[ ] Specific regions of the country
[ ] Institutionalized persons
[ ] Military personnel
[ ] Other, please specify: _____

For each group that was excluded, please provide additional details about the exclusion (for instance, the regions excluded), why the exclusion, and what percent of the total eligible population was excluded from the sample frame in each instance. Please also indicate the total percentage of the eligible population excluded from the sample frame.

**11. Please describe in detail how the sample for the study was selected from the sampling frame**. For multi-stage samples, please sure to list all sampling stages, and describe the sampling units and selection methods at each stage. Furthermore, please describe how individual

respondents were identified and selected in the final stage. If the survey is part of a panel study, please describe not just the current wave but also the original sample. For telephone samples, please indicate whether the sample was a random digit dial (RDD) sample, listed sample, or dual frame sample. For surveys conducted by mail, indicate whether a listed sample.

Identical with the above question No. 7

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The sampling procedure was successful.

**12. Were probability-based methods used for all stages of the selection process? That is, units were randomly selected throughout the process, including at initial recruitment (if a panel).**

X Yes
[ ] No

If no, please describe all instances where non-probability methods were used and provide a justification for each as to why random selection was not used.

**13. Did your sampling design make use of one or more of the following techniques? Please mark all that apply.**

[ X] Stratification
[ ] Cluster sampling
[ ] Quota sampling
[ ] Interviewing more than one respondent from a single household
[ ] Respondent or household substitution
[ ] Non-sample replacement methods

Definitions:

- Stratification involves the division of the population into groups according to certain characteristics (for instance by demographic characteristics). Random selection then occurs within each of the groups that result to ensure their adequate inclusion.
- Cluster sampling divides the population into groups and then uses random selection to include some of the groups but not others. For example, a cluster sample might divide a large country into geographic areas and then select only some of the areas while excluding others, to avoid the need (and cost) of interviewer travel to all areas.
- In quota sampling, a respondent is sometimes selected based on demographic characteristics, rather than randomly, to ensure certain target distributions are met.
- Substitution is replacing one sampling unit with another when the first sampled unit is difficult to reach and/or interview.

## Section D1. Interviewing Mode(s)

**14. Please indicate the mode(s) of interviewing for the post-election survey in which the CSES Module appeared. Mark all that apply.**

X Interviewer-administered: In person (sometimes called face-to-face) CAPI
[ ] Interviewer-administered: Video
[ ] Interviewer-administered: Telephone
[ ] Self-completion: Paper (by mail, supplement, etc.)

[ ] Self-completion: Internet
[ ] Other, please specify: _____

**Section D2. Interviewing Mode(s): Mixed-Mode**

**15. If the survey in which the CSES Module appeared was mixed-mode (that is, made use of more than one mode type)…**

CSES post-election survey was fielded together with the ISSP, module National identity

Was the mixed-mode design intended to address a particular problem or problems?
[ ] Yes
X No

If yes, please elaborate:

Were all modes available to respondents from the beginning, or was there a mode progression (that is, if the respondent did not respond by one mode, another mode was subsequently offered to them)? If the latter, please describe the mode progression.

Were individuals assigned a mode after recruitment or was this part of the recruitment?
[ ] Assigned a mode after recruitment
[ X] Assigned a mode as part of the recruitment

Did respondents self-select the mode by which they would respond?
[ ] Yes
X No

Did the design include a mode change *within* interviews (e.g., selected self-completion elements within the same questionnaire)?
[ ] Yes
X] No

If yes, please provide details:

If there were substantial differences in the distribution of key demographics across modes, please note them here.

**Section D3. Interviewing Mode(s): Telephone**

16. If the post-election survey in which the CSES Module appeared was entirely or partly conducted by telephone…

What is the estimated percentage of households without a phone? _____ %

Were unlisted telephone numbers included in the population sampled?

[ ] Yes
[ ] No

If no, what percent of the total eligible population did this exclude from the sample frame? _____ %

**Section D4. Interviewing Mode(s): Internet**

17. If the post-election survey in which the CSES Module appeared was entirely or partly conducted via the Internet…

What is the estimated percentage of households without access to the Internet (that is, the percent of the eligible population excluded due to lack of Internet access)? _____ %

Were provisions taken to include members of the population without access to the Internet?
[ ] Yes
[ ] No

If "Yes", please explain:

If "No", what percent of the total eligible population did this exclude from the sample frame? _____ %

Did the survey make use of an access panel (i.e. respondents were selected from a group of pre-screened panelists)?
[ ] Yes
[ ] No

If yes, please describe the access panel (company, population [does it include persons without initial access to the Internet and how are they interviewed], method of recruiting members, total size of access panel, method of selecting survey respondents from the panel):

Did respondents self-select into the survey, at any stage?
[ ] Yes
[ ] No

If yes, please explain:

**Section E. Respondent Persuasion**

18. What was the average number of contact attempts made per household, for the entire sample (not just for survey completions)?

1,6

19. What was the maximum number of contact attempts made per household, for the entire sample (not just for survey completions)?

4

20. Did respondents receive incentive payments? Please mark all that apply.

[ ] Yes, during the screening process
[ ] Yes, in advance of their interview
[ ] Yes, after their interview
X No

21. Were special efforts made to persuade respondents who were reluctant to be interviewed?

[X] Yes
[ ] No

Not so special, but each Focus collaborator - interviewer has a manual from the agency, which contains elaborate techniques that are intended to make it easier for the interviewer to obtain a potential respondent for research and minimize rejections from potential respondents. The interviewers are also regularly trained.

## Section F: Interview/Survey Verification

**22. Was interview/survey verification used?**

X Yes
[ ] No

If yes, please indicate the percent of completed surveys that were verified: 10 %

If yes, please describe the method(s) used for verification:

Telephone follow-up – contacting respondents back by phone with each interviewer.

Definition: Interview/survey verification is the process of verifying that an interview was conducted and that the survey was administered to the correct respondent, for quality control purposes.

23. What steps, if any, were taken to ensure that respondents were providing truthful answers to the questions? Were any respondents remove from the final dataset (e.g. due to speeding, satisficing, completing multiple surveys, etc.)? Please provide details.

no

## Section G1. Response Rate

Notes to collaborators:

- If multiple modes of interviewing were used for the post-election survey in which the CSES Module appeared, please repeat the following questions as appropriate for each mode used.

- Standard definitions for the below items, as well as a helpful response rate calculator, can be accessed on the website of the American Association for Public Opinion Research at: https://www.aapor.org/Communications/AAPOR-Journals/Standard-Definitions.aspx

24. For each of the following categories, please indicate the number of cases/records from the sample that fall into each. (If the CSES Module appeared in a panel study, please report the numbers for the first wave of the study, even if the CSES Module did not appear in that wave.)

| | |
|---|---|
| Interviews | |
| I. Completed interviews | I = 1025 |
| P. Partial interviews | P = 0 |
| | |
| Non-interviews | |
| R. Refusals and break-offs | R = 630 |
| NC. Non-Contact | NC = 48 |
| O. Other | O = 26 |
| | |
| Unknown Eligibility | |
| UH. Unknown if household/occupied household unit | UH = 71 |
| UO. Unknown, other | UO = 0 |

25. Please calculate the response rate (RR2) by inserting the answers from Question 24 into the following formula.

$$RR2 = \frac{(I + P)}{(I + P) + (R + NC + O) + (UH + UO)}$$

= 0,5694

26. If the number of cases with unknown eligibility (UH and/or UO in Question 24) is greater than zero, please estimate what proportion of cases of unknown eligibility is actually eligible. Please indicate the basis, evidence, and any scientific justification for this estimate.

In 71 cases the selected addresses were “empty” , not existing, demolished houses, or did not include any private household – so the eligibility was zero.

## Section G2. Response Rate: Panel Studies

27. If the CSES Module appeared in a panel study…

How many waves were conducted prior to the wave that included the CSES Module?

What was the response rate at the initial recruitment stage? Please show your calculations.

What percent of recruited respondents participated in the first wave of the study? Please show your calculations.

What was the total panel attrition between the first wave of the study and the wave that included the CSES Module? Please show your calculations.

If there were substantial differences in the distribution of key demographics (for example, age, gender, education, etc.) between the first wave of the study and the wave that included CSES, please note them here.

Please provide the number of completed interviews for the wave that included the CSES Module.

## Section H. Post-Survey Adjustment Weights

28. Are weights included in the data file?

[X] Yes
[ ] No

If No, please explain why no weights are provided:

If Yes, please describe in detail: their construction, what they correct for, and how their use makes the survey dataset more representative of the population.

The weighting procedure was as follows:

1. In the first step, the so-called “design weights” were calculated, which take into account the different probability of selecting respondents in terms of the total number of adult household members. If we had not done this, we would have over-represented people from households with a lower number of adult household members in the data set. This weighting is done by assigning a weight of “1” to a respondent from a single-member household, a weight of “2” to a respondent from a two-member household, etc. Finally, the individual weights calculated for individual respondents are standardized so that the average value of the design weights is “1”, which ensures that the total number of respondents in the set with the weight turned on was equal to the number of respondents in the unweighted set.

2. In the second step, the so-called "post-stratification weights" were calculated, which take into account the willingness of different population groups to participate in the survey and balance the differences that arise between the population parameters and the sample selection characteristics, most often in terms of basic demographic characteristics of respondents, such as gender, age, education, size of the place of residence, or region of residence. The sample was post-stratification weighted in terms of the combination of gender (male, female) and age of respondents (18-29 years, 30-39 years, 40-49 years, 50-59 years, 60-69 years, 70 years and over); education (lower - elementary, secondary school without high school diploma; secondary school with high school diploma; university); size categorization of settlements (up to 1,000, 1,000–1,999, 2,000-4,999, 5,000-9,999, 10,000-19,999, 20,000-49,999, 50,000-99,999, 100,000+) and regional division (Bratislava, Trnava, Trenčín, Nitra, Žilina, Banská Bystrica, Prešov and Košice regions). The aim of the weighting was to bring the sample characteristics as close as possible to known population characteristics. The findings of the Statistical Office from the SODB 2021 were used to determine the population characteristics.

https://www.scitanie.sk/obyvatelia/zakladne-vysledky/pocet-obyvatelov/SR/SK0/SR

https://www.scitanie.sk/en/population/basic-results/number-of-population/SR/SK0/SR

When weighting, the characteristics of the sample set were compared to the population characteristics in terms of:

• gender x age
• education
• size of the settlement
• region

The basic formula for this weighting is:
w= pp/ ps, where pp is the population parameter (distribution in the basic set) and ps is the distribution in the sample set. This formula can be used for both univariate (based on one variable) and multivariate (based on a combination of several variables) weighting, which was our case. We carried out the weighting using SPSS syntax and testing the achieved marginal frequencies against the expected distribution of the mentioned population parameters. We carried out the testing using the Chi-square test. It is an iterative process in which the achieved and expected frequencies are repeatedly compared based on changes in the weighting coefficients until the differences in frequencies are statistically significant. Post-ratification weighing was carried out with the design weight turned on, so the result of this weighing is post-ratification weights, which also take into account the design weights.

3. In the third step, the so-called "trimmed weights" were calculated from the "post-stratification weights x design weights", setting the minimum weight to 0.3 and the maximum weight to 3. Since this step can, due to "trimming the weights", cause a shift in the total sample size (number of respondents) calculated with the "trimmed weights" turned on compared to the unweighted set, it is necessary to correct this situation in the final weight.

4. The "Final weights" are thus calculated as trimmed weight / average of trimmed weight.

**29. Were any other steps taken to mitigate the impact of non-response in the dataset? If so, how do the adjustments affect the survey results?**

no

## Section I. Translation

Notes to collaborators…

- As part of your deposit, please provide the original questionnaire(s) in each language used.
- For questionnaires in a language other than English, if a back-translation to English happens to be available, we would appreciate receiving the back-translation, also.
- The below questions on translation are adapted from those developed for the ISSP.

30. Was the questionnaire translated?

X Yes, translated by member(s) of research team
[ ] Yes, by translation bureau
[ ] Yes, by specially trained translator(s)
[ ] No, not translated

31. Please list all languages used for the fielded module.

Slovak

32. If the questionnaire was translated, was the translated questionnaire assessed/checked or evaluated? Please mark all that apply.

X Yes, a group worked together on it and reconciled their differences through discussion
[ ] Yes, an expert checked it
[ ] Yes, by back translation
[ ] Other; please specify: _____
[ ] No
[ ] Not applicable

33. If the questionnaire was translated, was the questionnaire pre-tested?

[ X] Yes
[ ] No
[ ] Not applicable

34. If the questionnaire was translated, were there any questions which caused problems when translating?

[ ] Yes
[X] No
[ ] Not applicable

35. If the questionnaire was translated, please provide a list of all questions which caused problems when translating. For each question listed, describe what problems were encountered and how they were solved:

## Section J. Other

36. Please list any additional advice you have for analysts about how the survey should be used, and any remaining special considerations in that regard.