

Inaugural Conference of the
Comparative Candidates Survey
convened in Bad Dürkheim, Germany
October 6-8, 2007

Results

Participants: See attached list.

Agenda: Participants approved the draft agenda (attached).

26 scholars from 22 countries met last fall in Bad Duerkheim to put the Comparative Candidate Survey on track. The conference started on Friday, October 6, 2007, at 14:30 hrs with a welcome address of the director of the MZES, Prof. Dr. Wolfgang C. Müller. It came to an end with the conference dinner on Saturday, October 7, 2007. Participants departed from the conference hotel in the morning of the following day.

During one and a half conference day, participants discussed and revised the draft core questionnaire of the Comparative Candidate Survey as well as a set of rules regarding data quality and data exchange. In the course of its deliberations, the meeting installed task forces in order to close remaining gaps in the questionnaire and to identify the most important macro variables that need to be added to the micro data. More in particular, additional questions were commissioned on the nomination process (Pedersen), intra-party democracy (Cross), and on the adaptation of the questionnaire to the specifics of multi-member districts (Mendéz Lago). Two sub-committees were built in order to elaborate proposals for the collection of context information: Gschwend and Selb volunteered to draft an inventory of constituency level properties that should be added to the micro-level data; and Freire, Cross, Narud, Beltran and Markowski agreed to draft a macro-questionnaire – similar to the one used by CSES – that should be filled in by local study directors. At the end of the meeting, some first ideas about common publications were discussed.

Overall, this short but very intense international meeting was extremely successful. A questionnaire and a set of rules on data collection was agreed, and operational decisions were taken how to fill remaining gaps.

These additional pieces of work were prepared in the weeks following the conference, and could finally be sent out to project participants in the second half of February 2007.

Budapest, February 21, 2007
Hermann Schmitt

Inaugural Conference of the Comparative Candidates Study (CCS),
MZES, University of Mannheim, October 6 – 8, 2006

List of Participants

country	national study director	comes to the conference	pilot survey done in	email address
Australia	Ian McAllister	yes		ian.mcallister@anu.edu.au
Austria	Wolfgang C. Müller	yes		Wolfgang.C.Mueller@Uni-Mannheim.de
Belgium	Lieven de Winter	yes		dewinter@spri.ucl.ac.be
Brasil				
Bulgaria	Dobringa Kostova	no		kostov11@abv.bg
Canada	William Cross	yes		bcross@connect.carleton.ca
Chile	Marta Lagos	no		latibaro@rdc.cl
Czechia	Lukas Linek	no	2006	linek@soc.cas.cz
Denmark	Mogens Pedersen	yes		mnp@sam.sdu.dk
	Ulrik Kjaer	no		ulk@sam.sdu.dk
Estonia				
Finnland				
France				
Germany	Thomas Gschwend	yes	2005	Thomas.Gschwend@mzes.uni-mannheim.de
	Hermann Schmitt	yes		Hermann.Schmitt@mzes.uni-mannheim.de
	Andreas Wüst	yes		Andreas.Wuest@mzes.uni-mannheim.de
	Thomas Zittel	yes		Thomas.Zittel@mzes.uni-mannheim.de
Great Britain	Wolfgang Rüdig	yes		wolfgang.ruedig@totalise.co.uk
Greece				
Hungary	Zsolt Enyedi	yes		Zsolt.Enyedi@IUE.it
India	Sandeep Shastri	yes		sshastri@eth.net
Ireland	Michael Marsh	yes		mmarsh@tcd.ie
Israel				
Italy	Paolo Belucci	yes	2006	belluccip@virgilio.it
Japan	Susumo Shikano	yes		shikanos@rumms.uni-mannheim.de
Lithuania				
Luxembourg	Patrick Dumont	no		patrick.dumont@uni.lu
Mexico	Ulises Beltran	yes		ulises.beltran@cide.edu
Netherlands	Jacques Thomassen	?		j.j.a.thomassen@bsk.utwente.nl
New Zealand	Raymond Miller	yes		rk.miller@auckland.ac.nz
Norway	Hanne Marthe Narud	yes		h.m.narud@stv.uio.no
Poland	Radek Markowski	yes		radoslaw.markowski@swps.edu.pl
Portugal	Andre Freire	yes		andre.freire@netcabo.pt
Romania	Marina Popescu	no		mpope@essex.ac.uk
Russia				
Slovakia				
Slovenia				
Spain	Monica Méndez Lago	yes		mmendez@cis.es
Sweden	Sören Holmberg	no		soren.holmberg@pol.gu.se
	Henrik Oscarsson	yes		henrik.oscarsson@pol.gu.se
Switzerland	Peter Selb	yes		peselb@pwi.unizh.ch
Taiwan				
Turkey	Yilmas Esmer	yes		esmer@boun.edu.tr
Ukraine	Christian Haerpfer	yes		pol218@abdn.ac.uk
USA	Richard Katz	no		Richard.Katz@jhu.edu

Agenda Proposal
Inaugural Conference of the
Comparative Candidates Study (CCS)
MZES, University of Mannheim, October 6 – 8, 2006

- October 6** Arrival of participants during the morning
- 14:30 hrs** - Welcome (W. C. Müller)
 - Introduction: The aim of the project and the conference (H. Schmitt)
- 15:00 hrs** - Presentation of research questions motivating the draft core questionnaire
 (Th. Gschwend)
 - Discussion of the draft core questionnaire, question by question (H. Schmitt)
- 18:30 hrs** walk to the winery *Mesel*, followed by wine tasting and dinner
- October 7**
- 9:00 hrs** - Discussion draft core questionnaire, ctd.
- 10:30 hrs** - The Australian Candidate Survey: experiences over 20 years (I. McAllister)
- 11:00 hrs** - CCS Pilot reports
 # Germany (A. Wüst)
 # Italy (P. Bellucci)
 # Czech Republic (L. Linek)
- lunch break***
- 14:30 hrs** - Data collection and data exchange: rules and recommendations (H. Schmitt)
 # funding: template of a research proposal for adaptation and submission to
 local funding agencies
 # survey administration (mail, face-to-face, telephone, on-line)
 # data quality or what constitutes a representative candidate survey?
 # data structure: common codebook & integrated data file
 # data usage and embargos
- 16:30 hrs** - Publication plans (Th. Zittel)
 # Flagship book
 # Special issue on campaigning
 # other
- evening*** Conference dinner
- October 8** Departure