CCS Steering Committee - minutes

Skype-meeting Friday, 10 January 2014, 14.00

1. Establishment of the new Steering Committee
- This is the first meeting of the newly established steering committee. The steering committee agrees to meet two times a year, once through skype conference at the beginning of each year, once at the ECPR general conference, if all members are present (if not, the second meeting will also take place by skype).
- Georg continues acting as a coordinator of the steering committee.
- We will establish a dropbox folder with access for everybody to important documents in order to facilitate communication.

2.a) Data integration CCS round I
- Georg informs about the state of the art in data integration of round I. The cumulative data file of the round I questionnaire has been downloaded 41 times by 10 January 2014.
- In order to get more files in, all members of the steering committee will be contacting a number of people directly, ideally via telephone in order to get the remaining 13 files in as soon as possible. The countries are distributed among the CCS members in the following way:
    - Hermann: Wolfgang Müller (Austria 2006), Lieven de Winter (Belgium 2010), Michael Marsh (Ireland 2011 and Malta 2013)
    - Andre: Ioannis Andreadis (Greece 2009 and 2011), Patrick Dumont (Luxemburg 2009), Wolfang Rüdig (UK 2010)
    - Asa: Rune Karlsen (Norway 2009)
    - Georg: Henry van der Kaap (Netherlands 2010, 2012), Raymond Miller (New Zealand 2008)
    - Zsolt: Lukas Linek (Czeck Republic 2006)

The steering committee discusses the procedure how data is made available after Wolfgang Rüdig has expressed dissatisfaction with the current procedure. The steering committee agreed, that:
- The general procedure has been working well so far and the steering committee does not see a need for changing the procedures in principle.
- Specifically, there should not be different procedures regarding data access for different sets of countries or different groups of people, since this would complicate the data distribution a lot and would go against the open data policy agreed on before. The steering committee is also against the suggestion to give veto rights for some or all CCS members for each specific data request because this does seem neither practical nor necessary.
- If Wolfgang (or any other person) is unsatisfied with the current procedure, he is, however, welcome to make concrete suggestions what to change and the steering committee is willing to adapt in two areas:
    - re-definition of obligations of data users outlined in the user licenses
    - special requirements for data access for people from non-academic institutions.
- Andre will contact Wolfgang and explain him the position of the steering committee and he will ask him to make concrete suggestions.

2.b) Promotion CCS round II

To promote CCS it will be important to keep a close contact to each country representatives on a regular basis. The steering committee will divide up the countries/regions to keep track individually on each potential CCS country. This means:

- For existing CCS members: Contact each country representative well in advance (one year or more) to find out if CCS II is planned and if funding has been secured and if there are any specific issues.
- For new CCS members: identify and contact potential persons willing and able to run CCS in their country and promote CCS. A potential entry point for this may be the CSES country representatives listed on the CSES homepage.

Georg will document the contacts he had already in the past, Andre, Zsolt, Asa and Ionannis will make a list of CCS countries and/or regions and a suggestion how to distributed them among the steering committee

members. Hermann already agreed to take care of the countries involved in the TEV that are not part of CCS yet.

Addition Georg: maybe it makes sense to divide up continents for potential new countries outside Europe, e.g. America (North and South), Asia, Middle-East and Africa with the latter being an especially great challenge!

2.c) Questions on the CCS II questionnaire

Zsolt welcomes a feedback from steering committee members to specific issues he has with the CCS II questionnaire.

2.d) Funding

CCS still has no funding until now: Asa thankfully agreed to explore possibilities for funding applications for at least some years from one or several nordic countries. The funding should not cover data collection for specific countries but the overall coordination of the project as well as data integration for the common core data set.

An other possibility model to keep in mind for the future is funding for central coordination through overheads by each country (e.g. 10% of the countries CCS budget). This model is currently used e.g. by the European Social Survey.

2.e) Update webpage

The webpage needs some update. Everybody with suggestions should send this to Ioannis as soon as possible.

3. Any other business
a) Book project: the book project for a joint CCS book is progressing slowly, but Hermann, Georg and Lieven will try to get this on track in the next weeks.

b) Ioannis: The websurvey (English version) for CCS II is almost finished. This survey can be used in other countries to run CCS II and allows for translation as well!

c) Asa: The Nordic Nordic Political Science Congress, which is held on 12-15 August 2014 has a workshop on "Political elites and representation: individual actors in context" directed by Asa Bengtsson and Eva Heida Onnudottir. Paper suggestions very welcome.

d) Andre mentions the Call from the European Election Study for modules and suggest to include the module on Austerity which is also included in CCS. Hermann mentions that suggestions can still be made by individuals even if the questionnaire is already very full.

Lausanne, 13.1.2013