

# Annual Report 2016

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## At a Glance

- Major changes in the FORS governing bodies and management in 2016. Prof. François Bussy, vice-rector of the University of Lausanne took over from Prof. Franziska Krings as President of the Foundation Board (*p. 37*). Prof. Mick Couper was elected chair of the Scientific Board after Prof. Max Kaase, who had chaired the board from the beginning of FORS resigned from this position in spring 2016 (*p. 37*). And finally Prof. Georg Lutz took over from Prof. Peter Farago as Director of FORS in September 2016 (*p. 37*). SELECTS also changed project director. Prof. Anke Tresch was nominated as new SELECTS project director replacing Prof. Georg Lutz who became FORS Director. (*p. 15*)
- Funding secured from all partners, SNSF, SERI and UNIL. (*p. 37*)
- In collaboration with the Zentrum für Demokratie Aarau (ZDA) and the survey company LINK, kick-off of the VOTO project in September 2016. (*p. 31*).
- FORSbase 2.0, released in February 2016, including a new array of functionalities linked to data documentation, deposit, and access. Users are now able to directly document and share their data through an online interface, as well as download data from other research projects immediately after signing a user agreement licence. (*p. 15*)
- SELECTS, release of a study with first results from the 2015 election. Press conference co-organised with the SNSF in spring 2016. Publication written for a non-scientific audience and widely covered in all major news outlets in Switzerland. (*p. 15*)
- Publication of the 2016 Social Report in three languages. Following a press conference in October, the media made over 120 references to the publication and its results. (*p. 29*)
- Completion of the first wave of the survey on attitudes towards handicapped persons (Monitor Gesellschaft und Behinderung). The survey, a mandate of the Swiss NGO Pro Infirmis, with the financial support of the Federal Bureau for the Equality of People with Disabilities. (*p. 31*)
- Household panel wave 17 completed and 18 started. (*p. 8*), ESS round 8 (*p. 9*)
- Success of the 3rd international ESS conference organised by FORS as host and held July 13-15, 2016 at the University of Lausanne with 175 participants from many different countries. (*p. 38*)

## 1 A note from the FORS Director: Linked data for innovative research

FORS has been active in promoting data access and research transparency since its beginning. All FORS surveys distribute the data without any embargo, and the FORS data archive makes many other datasets available to researchers. In addition, FORS has encouraged the use of secondary data through a range of promotional activities. With this experience, FORS is now also contributing to the debate on how to make big data and linked data available for research.

In recent years, the production and storage of data in the social sciences has increased in quantity as well as in its variety. Especially personal data, meaning data involving individuals, are more and more produced and stored as individuals interact with the internet and with internet platforms such as Twitter, Facebook or Google, with every purchase made at Amazon or Alibaba, in many workflows of companies, and within public administration on every interaction between citizens and the state. The business model of some of the largest companies that exist worldwide is based on personal data from users, and many companies collect and store as much data as possible, often even without a specific purpose.

While data have become an important part of the assets of many companies, an increasing amount of research is based on such new forms of data as well, data that have not been collected mainly for research purposes. Making meaningful use of such data often implies that data from different sources can be linked at the individual level.

The potential of big data and of data linkages for research is enormous and allows insights into economic, social, and political processes, as well as into interconnections between these never before possible. It has the potential to gain such new insights with higher precision and even at lower costs. However, there are also various risks involved, especially regarding the protection of the integrity and privacy of individuals. The potential is enormous that sensitive information, misleading information, or incomplete information may be used in a harmful manner.

### Equal and transparent access to data and data linkage

Managing both the potential and risks involved big data and data linkage requires a responsible and transparent access to such data and data linkages.

Access to such data is currently very unbalanced and largely not transparent. The largest amount of personal data is collected, stored and linked by private companies, and this will further increase over the coming years with the "internet of things". Everyday tools – such as fridges, fitness trackers, apps on mobile phones etc. - increasingly collect and transmit data to companies. Those companies often operate with few restrictions and with little transparency on the data they collect and what they do with them. Typically when agreeing to terms and conditions – usually long documents few people read or understand – individual data rights are given away. Companies then link the data with other sources, or they even sell such personal data to others.

Increased data production is not limited to the private sector. Administrative data is produced, linked and made available and used for research and other purposes either by the administration itself, such as research done by statistical offices, but also for researchers outside of public administration in academia.

Linked data can address important issues related to migration, health, and the labor market, as it provides more information on individuals that allows drawing better conclusions on policies. For those linkages, however, the restrictions are severe. Strict data protection regulations and high standards regarding informed consent apply to such data and attempts to link data.

There is currently a substantive imbalance between private and public storage and potential use of big data. While very few restrictions and little transparency exist for private companies, accessing data for research purposes is often complicated, even though research generally has no financial goals and respects ethical standards such as privacy rights for individuals. The current policy debate testifies to this massive imbalance, worldwide. Many consider accessing data in private companies as a major future asset for economy and society. In contrast, attempts to link and share data of the public administration, which is very useful for research on public policy, often meet with strong reservations regarding privacy and data protection.

This discourse needs to change. Collecting, storing, and accessing data should be discussed independent of who produces the data, whether the private or public sector. In sum, transparency and data protection must be crucial for all data producers. High level standards for both, transparency in the way we produce knowledge in society as well as on ethical standards, exist already, but they are applied differently for private companies and researchers and public administrations.

### Accessing and linking data in Switzerland

The discourse on transparency of data production, storage and linkage and how to make data available, especially with respect to big data and administrative data, has to be intensified in the coming years with a new narrative.

Many areas of research in the social sciences use data linked from several sources in Switzerland. Switzerland is a unique setting for studying demographic challenges, health, and labor market issues, because cantons and municipalities have an important say in implementing policies, creating tremendous heterogeneity in their implementation.

The potential of linking data from public institutions, including research institutions, but also from private data collections is important to advance our knowledge on society. To use and link new types of data should not be left exclusively to private companies that are often not transparent and/or willing to share knowledge or data.

A dialogue on research policy and data protection needs to be intensified, involving many stakeholders such as researchers and research institutions, funding agencies, the public administration, as well as policy makers. Those stakeholders need to discuss and propose conditions and guidelines for data linkage and data access for public and *private* data in order to facilitate data access and data linkages under clear conditions, and to provide the necessary resources to put this in practice.

Prof. Georg Lutz

## 2 FORS Core Activities

### 2.1 Surveys

One of the missions of FORS is to provide empirical data at the micro-level suiting the needs of social researchers. The three groups of the FORS Surveys unit carry out several surveys.

The collaborators of the Surveys unit lead the different steps of each project, from the beginning to the end. Survey design, sample definition, questionnaire construction (when not imposed by an international project), translation, questionnaire control (cognitive tests, pilot study, etc.), fieldwork follow-up, and data checking and cleaning are all conducted in-house at FORS. However, face-to-face (CAPI) and telephone (CATI) data collection is outsourced to independent private institutes, which reduces costs without compromising scientific quality. Written and online surveys, on the other hand, are carried out at FORS, given the fact that no costly infrastructure is needed, and that cheap and efficient software is available on the market. The share of surveys done – partly or totally – online is expected to grow in the near future.

Eligible FORS surveys can benefit from the possibility of using the register-based sampling frame of the Swiss Federal Statistical Office. This adds considerably to the quality of the samples and helps save on costs for contact procedures.

Data collections led by FORS constitute a significant part of the Swiss survey landscape. Most of them are integrated into international programmes. Different survey designs, with diversified topical focus, allow researchers to answer questions that would not be possible to address with other data sources:

- The Swiss Household Panel SHP is designed as a panel that interviews annually a sample of the general resident population drawn in 1999 (including 2004 for a first refresher sample, and 2013 for a second refresher sample). The questionnaire covers a wide range of topics from various disciplines of the social sciences, allowing pluridisciplinary longitudinal research.
- The European Social Survey ESS, the European Values Study EVS, and MOSAiCH, designed as cross-sectional repeated surveys, are mainly dedicated to the study of values and attitudes. They allow international comparisons with other countries or regions, but are also dedicated to studying aggregated change across years.
- The SHARE data collection, mainly devoted to health and ageing, is designed as a cohort study that follows persons 50 and over, allowing the study of important transitions (active life to retirement, 2nd to 3rd age, 3rd to 4th age, institutionalization, etc.) at the individual level.
- The SELECTS post-electoral survey has a repeated cross-sectional design, which enables the study of political behaviour at each federal election, but it completes a political time series initiated in 1971 as well.

The following sections present 2016 activities for these surveys.

### 2.1.1 Swiss Household Panel SHP

**The survey:** 5 principal tasks were carried out during 2016:

1. The fieldwork for waves 17 (SHP\_I), 12 (SHP\_II), and 3 (SHP\_III) respectively was completed in February 2016. With regard to these waves, work related to data cleaning and preparation, variables construction, and documentation were realised from March to December 2016 in order to prepare the data diffusion. The dissemination of these waves took place end December 2016.
2. The fieldwork for waves 18 (SHP\_I), 13 (SHP\_II), and 4 (SHP\_III) was prepared between February and August – mainly questionnaires (including new questions on aspirations and perceived stress), qualitative and quantitative pre-tests, communication to participating households, training of interviewers, implementation of incentives – and started at the end of August.
3. A revised version of the SHP data waves 1 to 17 (with a codebook) was provided to the Cross-National Equivalent File (CNEF) in December 2016.
4. The collaboration with LIVES was mainly dedicated to the preparation of the diffusion of the SHP Vaud survey wave 2. The dissemination took also place end December 2016.
5. Finally, work was conducted to prepare for the SHP\_IV pilot study.

**Publications / Conferences / Teaching** (see respective lists in the Appendix for details):

SHP staff published 1 working paper, 1 encyclopedia article, 6 book chapters, and 12 articles. The manuscript of the book “Change and inertia in contemporary Switzerland” was delivered to Springer Publishers at the end of November.

Further, the fourth SHP Methodological Workshop, mainly dedicated to survival analysis, took place on July 4-7 at the University of Lausanne (22 participants attended the workshop), and two members of the SHP contributed to the 2016 Swiss Summer School.

Finally, the SHP staff presented 13 conference papers and gave 10 presentations in the framework of master courses, meetings, and seminars.

### 2.1.2 International Surveys

The fieldwork of wave 7 of SHARE, of the 8th round of ESS (2016) and the preparation of MOSAiCH 2017 and EVS 2017 were fully funded through the FNS 2014-2016 grant period.

#### 2.1.2.1 European Social Survey ESS

The European Social Survey (ESS) is an academically driven cross-national survey that has been conducted every two years across Europe since 2002 with very high quality standards. Switzerland has participated in each round since the very beginning.

This general population survey measures the attitudes, beliefs and behaviour patterns of diverse populations in more than thirty nations.

2016 was the year of the 8th Round of the ESS. After finalisation of the source questionnaire, in which the international surveys team has been strongly involved, the questionnaire was translated following the TRAPD procedure. Some questions were tested by the team through cognitive interviews during the pretest phase, like the contribution to the WP2 of the PAWCER project (see chapter 2.7 “third party funded projects”, first task mentioned for this project), and an experimental retest question was implemented at the end of the Swiss questionnaire concerning the same topic. The rotating parts concern the repeated module *Welfare Attitudes*, already fielded in Round 4 (2008), and the new module *Attitudes to Climate Change and Energy*.

The completely revised briefing material, which shares more research results with the interviewers and shows the media impact, was positively received by the interviewers, namely those having experience with this survey. The innovations of the last edition (separate additional training for new interviewers, separate training for the Italian speaking team) have been kept, as the impact was positive. The fieldwork of the ESS 2016 started September 1 2016 and should be finished by February 2017, with over 1'500 interviews. The start of the fieldwork was slightly slower compared to the previous edition, with exceptionally good results for the Italian speaking part (Ticino). Towards the end of 2016, the general delay was caught up, but the results for Ticino stagnated, falling back to those of the previous edition. Such big differences between editions are due to the small number of interviews and interviewers in this region. Overall, we aim at a response rate of at least 52%, obtained in Round 7. The sample is again based on the register sampling frame of the SFSO.

Following the results of the previous rounds, we kept the unconditional cash incentive of CHF 10.- for all sample units. This is the kind of incentive attaining the highest response rate while minimizing the detected response bias (namely on nationality and possession of listed landline phone number) and fostering the contacts. It also presents an interesting cost-benefit ratio. However, we have noticed that negative feedback directly addressed to FORS have risen compared to previous years. But this has still to be confirmed. In addition to the unconditional cash incentive, every respondent received a small gift (an umbrella with the FORS logo), giving the interviewer the opportunity to close the interaction with an exchange, or use this gift as an additional argument to convince.

Given the unstable results between years and between modes of the previous follow-up surveys of nonrespondents (NRS), we decided not to implement any NRS for the ESS 2016. Indeed, while the results are rich for better understanding nonresponse, they are not reliable enough to be used as a basis for nonresponse bias correction.

As usual, during 10 weeks starting one week before the start of fieldwork, media reports have been recorded by our team, based on three newspapers of different Swiss linguistic regions. It has been decided to reduce the number of newspapers from 5 to 3, as results presented huge overlaps. These context data will be made available in the ESS data archive.



The ESS data archive published the following data during 2016, all containing Swiss data (the first release of the ESS7 survey data having been published late 2015): The ESS7 media reports, the ESS7 test data, the ESS7 sample design data, the ESS7 interview time data, the ESS1-7 cumulative file, as well as several updates of previously available data.

The call for the modules for Round 9 (ESS 2018) has been organized for the first time in two stages. Deadline for stage 1 was January 11, 2016. The winning teams were the new module on “Justice and Fairness in Europe: Coping with Growing Inequalities and Heterogeneities” led by Stefan Liebig, (Bielefeld, Germany) and the partly repeated round 3 module on “The Timing of Life: The Organisation of the Life Course in Europe”, led by Francesco Billari (Oxford, UK).

Since the establishment of ESS as an ERIC in late 2013, the number of participating countries has decreased. By the end of 2016, the participation of 24 countries in Round 8 has been confirmed, gaining two countries compared to 2014. A dedicated Committee supports the membership development. Prof. Peter Farago has been nominated Ambassador to help obtain the participation of two new countries.

In May 2016 the project PAWCER started – Public Attitudes to Welfare, Climate Change and Energy in the EU and Russia, a cooperation with international partners based on ESS 2008 and 2016 data (see chapter 2.7 “Third party funded projects”).

In April and November 2016 the biannual ERIC NC Forum Meetings took place in Vienna and Mannheim. The first was mainly dedicated to Round 8 field preparation and included an additional whole day on translation issues, with the participation of translators and translation adjudicators of each country and language. The Swiss team was represented by Alexandre Pollien, Karin Nisple and Dr. Michèle Ernst Stähli. The second meeting was centred around the discussion of the Round 9 modules (justice and fairness, timing of life).

Prof. Dominique Joye, member of the Methods Advisory Board of the ESS ERIC, attended the MAB meeting, where discussion focused on how to improve central monitoring of fieldwork, which needs to be closer to real time, and further invest in the field of survey translation, where ESS is already a leader. The MAB also urged ESS to be more present and visible at conferences.

Dr. Michèle Ernst Stähli participated in two meetings of the ESS ERIC Membership Development Advisory Committee (February in London, October in Paris) where differentiated strategies by country and country groups were discussed.

Prof. Peter Farago, who represented Switzerland in the General Assembly until August 2016, participated in the 7th ESS ERIC General Assembly Meeting (07.04.2014) in London, and Prof. Georg Lutz took over his representation with effect from the 8th meeting (25.10.2016) in Paris.

Finally FORS organized with success the 3rd international ESS conference held July 13-15, 2016 at the University of Lausanne (see chapter 2.10 “Communication”).

### 2.1.2.2 MOSAiCH / ISSP

MOSAiCH is a biennial cross-sectional survey that focuses on the Swiss population's values and attitudes toward a wide range of social issues. Conducted under this name since 2005, it includes two ISSP modules and Swiss-specific questions.

2016 was the year of publication of the MOSAiCH 2015 data and preparation of the next edition, to be fielded starting February 2017. During this year, also the Swiss pilot data of ISSP 2015 ('Work orientation') was archived at FORS. In addition, other methodological data such as translation, wording and format experiments, incentive experiments, and nonrespondents surveys based on the FORS International Surveys were prepared, documented and archived for easy access for secondary analyses. Moreover, the Swiss team was particularly involved in international ISSP tasks, and will continue to do so in the future.

The full dataset of MOSAiCH 2015, including ISSP 2014 and 2015 labelled in French and in German was made available on the FORS NESSTAR Server in January, as well as on FORSbase. On the international side, the ISSP 2014 'Citizenship II' dataset including Swiss data was made available during 2016 (a first release in March and the final in August).

In February, the team published the open call for question contributions to complement the MOSAiCH 2017 survey on the FORS website, and widely distributed it through, for example, the newsletter of the Swiss Sociological Association and the Swiss Political Science Association, various discussion lists, as well as through FORS partners and scholars interested in MOSAiCH. The application deadline was May 6 2016. The proposals had to be related to the topics of the fielded survey (namely "Role of Government" (ISSP 2016), "Social Networks and Social Resources" (ISSP 2017) and attitudes toward Swiss and European political and social institutions). The team received five valid proposals from all over Switzerland and abroad (Universities of Berne, Zurich, Graz, Centre for Democracy Studies Aarau and Max Planck Institute Bonn), concerning ISSP topics and attitudes toward Swiss and European political and social institutions. Except for one proposal rejected because of low feasibility, all proposals could be at least partly considered. In some cases, the proposed items had to be redesigned in collaboration with the researchers. The new questions were tested and improved by our team through 34 cognitive interviews in two rounds. Finally, the paper drop-off was organized in a questionnaire deepening the topics of equal opportunities, political consumerism, democracy, and the relationship between Switzerland and the EU.

The ISSP modules and the new questions coming out of the call were translated during late 2016, so that the questionnaire was ready to be programmed by the mandated survey organization in December. The fieldwork of MOSAiCH 2017 will start in February 2017.

The ISSP 2017 pilot on "Social Networks", which started in October 2015, was finished early 2016. The data were entered, coded, cleaned and documented for a delivery to the ISSP questionnaire drafting group, for which Switzerland (Dr. Marlène Sapin and Prof. Dominique Joye) was the convenor. FORS played therefore a central role in the development of this module. The ISSP 2017 questionnaire was finalized during the

General Assembly of the ISSP in late spring with definitive amendments during summer 2016.

End of April, Dr. Marlène Sapin and Prof. Dominique Joye took part in the annual ISSP General Assembly in Kaunas (Lithuania), where 38 countries were present. The items of the 2017 module “Social Networks and Social resources”, presented by Joye et al. (2016, March), were discussed and voted on, and the priority of the topics for the 2018 module “Religion IV” defined. The topic for 2019 was voted to be ‘Social inequality V’ as in 2009. Switzerland was nominated to be part of the drafting group of this module. Sapin and Joye also chaired the methodological committee. Their report on methodological issues of the 2014 edition (Joye and Sapin, 2016) was discussed, namely concerning duplicates in the international data files, weighting, and deviations on socio-demographic variables. Switzerland continues the task of gathering the Study Monitoring Questionnaires and writing the reports.

Istanbul, Turkey was chosen as venue for the 2017 ISSP General Assembly and Mexico for the 2018 GA. However, because of political instability and terror attacks, it was decided not to hold the meeting in Istanbul. FORS offered to host the Assembly in 2017 at the University of Lausanne.

### **2.1.2.3 European Values Study EVS**

FORS is represented in the EVS Foundation Board by Prof. Peter Farago. Prof. Dominique Joye is a member of the EVS Council of Program Directors, the Executive Committee, and the Methodology Group.

For the preparations of the 5th wave of the European Values Study, to be fielded in 2017, the Executive Committee and the Methodology Group held several meetings during 2016: namely in January (Cologne) and in April (Warsaw).

An EVS Workshop was organized in April 15 in Warsaw, along the General Assembly, where 13 papers on the topic of solidarity were presented. During the GA, the representatives of partner institutions of EVS discussed the Questionnaire and the Methodological Guidelines for the data collection in 2017, so that draft versions could be uploaded on the intranet portal for the national Program Directors.

Moreover, a cooperation agreement between the European Values Study and the World Values Survey could be elaborated for the 2017 edition, in order to carry out a single, shared EVS/WVS survey in Europe with a questionnaire having a common core.

Based on the preliminary methodological guidelines and the knowledge about reduced budget for the Swiss field, FORS discussed several alternative scenarios of survey design, including partial web fielding, and organized during autumn 2016 a public call for tender for the realization of the EVS 2017 in Switzerland. The decision has to be taken in January 2017.

#### **2.1.2.4 Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe SHARE**

SHARE is a multi-disciplinary, cross-sectional, and longitudinal biannual survey measuring the combined health, economic and social living conditions of persons aged 50 and over and their partners. SHARE started in 2004 with eleven countries, including Switzerland, and expanded now, for wave seven, to 29 countries. It is coordinated centrally at the Munich Research Institute for the Economics of Ageing (MEA).

In Switzerland, wave 7 of SHARE is run in partnership between the Faculty of Business and Economics (HEC, main applicant: Prof. Jürgen Maurer, collaborators: Sarah Vilpert) and FORS (co-applicant: Prof. Georg Lutz, collaborators: Dr. Carmen Borrat-Besson and Nora Dasoki). Funds for the data collection of wave 7 (2016-2017) were granted by the Swiss National Science Foundation.

2016 was principally dedicated to the cleaning of the data of wave 6 and the preparation of wave 7 of SHARE. SHARE data were also promoted via a SHARE user workshop.

In spring and summer 2016, data of wave 6, including those collected with the Swiss-specific drop-off, were cleaned following the instructions of the central coordination team. Wave 6 data were internally released in autumn 2016 and will be publicly released in spring 2017.

Wave 7 of SHARE started with a pretest study which was conducted in February and March 2016. It was run by LINK. About 180 interviews were completed. The pretest was followed by a second round of tests, the so-called field-rehearsal, which took place in October and November 2016. It was run again by LINK and about 130 interviews were completed. The SHARE main fieldwork will start at the beginning of 2017. About 3'000 panel participants will be contacted again for a face-to-face interview.

One of the major changes for wave 7 is the collection of biographic information on our participants using a life calendar. This has already been done in the third wave of SHARE (2008-2009). The SHARE Consortium decided to run it again, because a lot of old countries had a substantial refreshment sample in wave 4 and because there are a lot of new countries that joined SHARE after wave 3, so that many of our panel participants did not take part in the third wave. Thus, the so-called SHARELIFE questionnaire will be administered again to those participants who did not participate in the third wave of SHARE and for whom we do not have any biographic information. The participants who already completed a SHARELIFE interview in wave 3 will answer the standard SHARE questionnaire. One of the major tasks was the preparation of the questionnaires and the testing of the new CAPI instruments that exceptionally had to deal with three different questionnaire versions (i.e., standard, SHARELIFE for new participants and SHARELIFE for panel participants) and two very different layouts (i.e. standard and with life calendar). As usual, the material used for fieldwork was updated accordingly (i.e. different manuals, letters). Also a leaflet presenting some results, a Christmas card and a flyer were prepared. The leaflet and the Christmas card were sent to our respondent for panel care and the flyer will be sent to our respondents with the advance letter announcing the start of the coming data collection.

Moreover, we prepared a Swiss-specific drop-off. The drop-off is a self-administered paper and pencil questionnaire that is handed out to our participants at the end of the interview. The aim of the wave 7 drop-off is to investigate participants' life regrets, well-being, and their relationships to pets. The drop-off was first tested during the field-rehearsal and will be administered to all participants during the main data collection.

Several meetings were organized by the international coordination team: Three training sessions for trainers, the so-called Train The Trainers (TTT), two operator meetings to discuss the next operational steps, one post-pretest and one post-rehearsal meeting to discuss the results of the pretest, and the field-rehearsal.

The following table details the dates and locations of each of these meetings. One or more FORS and/or HEC collaborators attended each of these meetings.

Meeting Name	Dates	Location	Attendance
Pretest TTT	14-15 December 2015	Munich	Sarah Vilpert (IUMSP)
Operator Meeting	16 March 2016	Vilnius, Lithuania	Carmen Borrat-Besson (FORS) Nora Dasoki (FORS)
Post-Pilot Meeting	17-18 March 2016	Vilnius, Lithuania	Carmen Borrat-Besson (FORS) Nora Dasoki (FORS) Alberto Holly (HEC)
Field-Rehearsal TTT	26-27 September 2016	Frankfurt, Germany	Nora Dasoki (FORS)
Post-Rehearsal Meeting	17-18 November 2016	Starnberg, Germany	Jürgen Maurer (HEC)
Main	16-17 February 2017	Munich Germany	Carmen Borrat-Besson (FORS)

The SHARE country team also helped to prepare and supervise the different national training sessions (NTS) that were organized by LINK to train interviewers before the pretest and the field-rehearsal.

Meeting Name	Dates	Location	Attendance
NTS Pretest	19 January	Zurich	Carmen Borrat-Besson (FORS)
NTS Pretest	19 January	Lausanne	Nora Dasoki (FORS)
NTS Pretest	25 January	Lugano	Nora Dasoki (FORS)
NTS Field-Rehearsal	10 October	Zurich	Carmen Borrat-Besson (FORS)
NTS Field-Rehearsal	11 October	Lausanne	Carmen Borrat-Besson (FORS) Nora Dasoki (FORS)
NTS Field-Rehearsal	12 October	Lugano	-

In collaboration with LIVES, the Swiss SHARE team organized a workshop on SHARE to train new and more experienced SHARE users. The workshop took place on September 5-6, 2016. Six speakers were invited and 32 participants attended. This workshop was very successful and aroused a lot of interest also from abroad. It is worthwhile

noting that only half of the participants came from Swiss universities. All others came from universities abroad (Germany, Spain, Luxembourg, Slovenia, Italy, Israel, Hungary, France, Czech Republic, Poland and England).

### 2.1.3 Swiss Electoral Studies SELECTS

In 2016, SELECTS prepared the data for the different studies that have been conducted around the 2015 Swiss national elections. SELECTS made the following datasets available in 2016:

- *The post election survey.* A CATI survey of about 35 minutes was conducted after the 2015 national election with 5'337 respondents.
- *Rolling Cross-Section/Panel Survey.* This survey instrument was used already for the second time but was expanded significantly, compared to 2011. The study included a four-wave panel with one wave in June/July, a second wave between August and October, a third wave after the election, and the last wave in December during the government elections in Switzerland. The second wave was designed as a Rolling Cross-section (RCS) study, which means that the interviews conducted were spread over a period of 63 days and each daily sample is a small random sample. The different waves consist of the following number of interviews:
  - 11'073 interviews in the first wave
  - 7'399 interviews in the second wave, the RCS wave
  - 7'627 interviews in the third wave, the post-election wave
  - 5'607 interviews in the final fourth wave
- *A candidate survey* among 1'778 candidates (out of more than 3'800) candidates for the national council election and the election to the council of States in the framework of the comparative candidate survey (CCS project).

In addition to those datasets a media analysis was conducted, and various collections of administrative and paradata (such as key stroke files, contact data, non-response data) that can be used for methodological research were also gathered in the framework of SELECTS 2015. Given the limited staff of the SELECTS project, the data preparation was burdensome and took several months.

Part of SELECTS 2015 is an additional SNSF-project "Networks or good campaigns? Electoral success of Swiss candidates in the 2015 elections" (main applicant Prof. Georg Lutz, co-applicant Prof. André Mach, University of Lausanne). This project studies the impact of networks and campaigning of candidates on their electoral success. It will contribute to a better understanding of how candidates compete in elections and of what matters for them to get preference votes and to get elected. A special focus is on the candidates' links to interest groups. For this project, the links to all the interest groups mentioned in a special section of the candidate survey and in the leaflets parties distribute to the voters were collected and coded in order to study systematically the linkages between interest groups and candidates in the electoral arena.

SELECTS participated in various international networks in 2016, such as the Comparative Study of Electoral Systems (CSES). CSES develops questionnaire modules that become part of the national election studies since 1995. SELECTS has participated in

CSES since its beginning and has implemented all questionnaire modules proposed by CSES as part of the post-election surveys. The CSES plenary session that took place in autumn 2016 decided on a new module “Democracy Divided? People, Politicians and the Politics of Populism”. The module will be included in national election studies between 2016-2021. Selects will include this module in the 2019 national election study.

The joint effort by different national election studies in the framework of the Comparative Candidate Survey (CCS) increased research on a so far neglected dimension of electoral research – the party candidates. CCS is a joint effort to collect data on candidates: their biographies, their campaign activities, and their policy positions. A common core questionnaire is put in the field after national elections in most cases to all candidates running for elections. FORS is in charge of data integration and data access. The data will be made available to researchers worldwide by FORS for the coming modules as well. The latest dataset prepared by FORS and made available through the FORS data archive includes 32 elections from 23 countries.

A major event for SELECTS was the release of a study with first results from the 2015 election at a press conference co-organised with the Swiss National Science Foundation in spring 2016. This publication is written for a non-scientific audience and was widely covered by all major news outlets in Switzerland.

SELECTS also changed project director. Prof. Anke Tresch was nominated as new SELECTS project director, replacing Prof. Georg Lutz who became FORS Director. She will start in the new position in February 2017. The FORS foundation board also elected the new SELECTS commission. Prof. Pascal Sciarini handed over the presidency of the commission to Prof. Romain Lachat. Three new members were elected: Prof. Nathalie Giger (University of Geneva), Prof. Silja Häusermann (University of Zurich), Prof. Alexander H. Trechsel from the University of Lucerne. From FORS, Prof. Georg Lutz replaces Prof. Peter Farago in the Selects commission. Prof. Peter Selb, Prof. Marco Steenbergen and Barbara Perriard resigned from the commission.

## 2.2 Data and Research Information Services DARIS

A key highlight for DARIS in 2016 was the publication of FORSbase 2.0. FORSbase 2.0, released in February 2016, includes a new array of functionalities linked to data documentation, deposit, and access. Users are now able to directly document and share their data through an online interface, as well as download data from other research projects immediately after signing a user agreement licence.

Other important developments and achievements included the publication of the “Swiss Social Report 2016” (see section 2.5 “Social Report”), and submission of an application for the Data Seal of Approval (DSA). The DSA involves formal certification for data repositories that ensures that good practices and international standards are employed with respect to digital preservation.

Also, DARIS continued its involvement in three important international projects. SEEDS (South-Eastern European Data Services), SERISS (Synergies for European Infrastruc-

tures in the Social Sciences), and CESSDA-SaW (Strengthening and Widening). These are described in chapter 2.7 “Third party funded projects”.

### 2.2.1 Data Service

**Usage and workflow:** The number of datasets downloaded or ordered from DARIS in 2016 was 2'027 (see table 2.1), continuing a regular fluctuation from year to year that started in 2010.

**Table 2.1: Downloads and ordered datasets: 2010 to 2016**

Dataset count	Year						
Studies	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Vox, Vox-it, Vox-cumulative, VOTO	602	696	1068	600	812	857	597
Eurobarometer/MOSAiCH/ESS	325	209	244	352	479	473	535
SELECTS	518	394	431	278	374	177	174
Other studies ordered from the data service	582	632	632	763	531	394	147
<b>Total</b>	<b>2'027</b>	<b>1'955</b>	<b>2'375</b>	<b>1'993</b>	<b>2'196</b>	<b>1'901</b>	<b>1'453</b>

**New datasets:** During 2016, DARIS archived and published the following datasets:

- MOSAiCH 2015. Measurement and Observation of Social Attitudes in Switzerland
- PISA 2012 en Suisse. Mesure des compétences et enquête auprès des élèves de 9ème année en Suisse – 2012
- PISA 2012 en Suisse. Enquête auprès des écoles avec des élèves de 9ème année en Suisse – 2012
- European Social Survey 2014 (Round 7)
- Sozialisationsprozesse beim Übergang in den Lehrbetrieb (SoLe)
- PILOT ISSP 2015 Work Orientation
- The Comparative Candidates Survey (CCS) (version 3.1 and 4.0)
- VoxIt: Enquêtes post-votations standardisées. Enquêtes standardisées VoxIt
- VoxIt: Enquêtes post-votations standardisées. Standardisierte Umfragen VoxIt
- Dual Citizens: Hazard or Vanguard of Citizenship at Home and Abroad
- Dual Citizens: Hazard or Vanguard of Citizenship in the (Post-) Westphalian Order?
- Ich und meine Schweiz. Befragung von 17-jährigen Jugendlichen in der Schweiz
- Vox-Analysen eidgenössischer Urnengänge: Befragung von Stimmberechtigten nach eidgenössischen Abstimmungen. Vox 15 - Votation du 14.06.1981 à Vox 121 - Votation du 05.06.2016
- Swiss Electoral Studies (SELECTS) 2015. SELECTS 2015 Post-electoral study
- Schweizer Freiwilligen-Monitor 2016
- Schweizer Human-Relations Barometer 2014
- Swiss longitudinal retrospective cohort study of nurses' career paths and retention



- MOSAiCH 2013. Measurement and Observation of Social Attitudes in Switzerland. Enquête supplémentaire papier sur les relations familiales – 2013
- Sicherheit 2015. Aussen-, Sicherheits- und Verteidigungspolitische Meinungsbildung im Trend
- Monitor Gesellschaft und Behinderung 2016
- Participation politique des immigrés dans le canton de Genève
- TREE - TRansitions from Education to Employment (New release including wave 9)
- Democratic Deficits in Europe: The Overlooked Exclusiveness of Nation-States and the Positive Role of the European Union
- Résultats des votations fédérales et prises de position des partis politiques et des groupes d'intérêt (Mise à jour 2011 à 2015)
- VOTO Studien. VOTO 1: Swiss Popular Vote 25.09.2016
- Swiss Electoral Studies (SELECTS) 2015. SELECTS 2015 Post election survey
- Swiss Electoral Studies (SELECTS) 2015. SELECTS 2015 Panel / Rolling cross-section study
- Swiss Electoral Studies (SELECTS) 2015. SELECTS 2015 Candidate survey

All of these datasets can be downloaded for free from the online platform FORSbase.

### 2.2.2 Research Inventory

The annual survey 2015/16 for the research inventory was successful (454 new entries). During 2016, we continued to apply a more personalized and proactive approach to getting relevant research information from the researchers. For example, we used our Internet-based Strategic Watch System to monitor the personnel and research activities of hundreds of research institutes in Switzerland. By this means we are permanently updating on the evolution of the dynamic research environment in the country. Also, this allowed us to add 1'161 persons to our researcher database in 2016.

A data sharing agreement was concluded with some institutes of the University of Applied Sciences and Arts Northwestern Switzerland FHNW. The already existing data sharing agreements with the research database of the University of Zurich, the Swiss Federal Administration ARAMIS, the Swiss Centre for Special Education, and the Swiss Coordination Centre for Research in Education SCCRE and the Service de la recherche en éducation (SRED) of the canton of Geneva have continued. Other agreements with university research databases are being discussed.

### 2.2.3 Data Promotion

The data promotion group maintained and reinforced its regular activities of direct promotion (FORS bulletin, social networking, presentations, online users survey) and indirect promotion (publications, trainings, methodological research and data management reflections). Furthermore, with the launch of FORSbase special actions were taken to promote the new online platform. These include developing attractive online guides to illustrate the different functions of FORSbase as well as promoting the new tool to the research community by contacting them directly, as well as presenting FORSbase during public events (University research day, conferences). Furthermore, DARIS staff started a working group to develop a long-term promotional strategy. As part of the

group, interviews were conducted with methodology teachers to assess future developments and promotional measures.

Important milestones were achieved in 2016, namely with the publication of the 2016 Social Report. Furthermore, DARIS intensified its work within the ÜGK collaboration and strengthened its expertise in data management. DARIS also started a new reflection on qualitative data re-use and sharing.

**Social reporting:** The 2016 Social Report was published in 2016 in three languages and had significant success. Following a press conference in October, the media made over 120 references to the publication and its results. A new webpage was created to make the indicators available online on the FORS website. Furthermore, to increase the visibility of the Social Report and initiate scientific collaborations, DARIS staff members presented the Social Report during workshops and conferences at the national and international level (see section 2.5 "Social Report" for more details).

**Ch-x survey:** 2016 marked the start of data collection of the 2016-17 Swiss Federal Surveys of Adolescents (ch-x) on geographical mobility. While data are being collected over a two-year period, DARIS staff members have started developing a strategy for data preparation and drafted an outline for the forthcoming final report. Since data can only be released to the research community after the final report is published, it is important for DARIS to start preparing and analysing the data during the collection period. To this end, DARIS staff, with the help of a student hired on the occasion, began drafting rules and syntaxes for data cleaning based on a small sample of real data. A first batch of data is expected to arrive in April 2017.

**ÜGK:** DARIS was actively involved in the Assessment of Basic Educational Competencies (see chapter 2.7 "Third party funded projects") carried out by the Swiss Conference of Cantonal Ministers of Education (EDK). Within this educational large scale assessment, DARIS was responsible for the establishment and coordination of data management processes and high-quality data cleaning. DARIS' involvement includes attending regular meetings and workshops as well as a set of diverse day-to-day coordination and communication tasks. While providing project-customized recommendations to a third party, DARIS staff also use these activities to reinforce their own experience in multiple domains of data management and data cleaning. This can be used for data promotion and for developing different materials on these topics later. Moreover, the project represents a good opportunity for DARIS to promote the education datasets that are available in FORSbase.

**Data management:** Daris continued to reinforce its expertise in data management during 2016, with a special focus on data management planning. In June DARIS staff provided a one-day workshop on "data management planning and processing for quantitative research" in the frame of the transversal programme of the CUSO. As part of the preparation for the workshop, DARIS started to create a practical handbook to help researchers apply good practices, referred to as the 'data management companion'. This is an innovative yet demanding project which will be continued in 2017. DARIS also engaged in discussions with key stakeholders in Switzerland to encourage formal and informal data management planning, as well as develop a pilot study with a group of newly funded researchers. Details and feasibility of such a pilot are still to be decided.

At the international level, DARIS worked together with the United Kingdom Data Archive (UKDA) to develop a workshop session “Teaching research data management skills using resources and scenarios based on real data”, which was offered as part of the IASSIST conference in May. DARIS staff also started a collaboration with CESSDA partners to develop online training modules for junior researchers. The module is meant to be finalized by the end of 2017.

**Qualitative research:** In 2016 a postdoc was hired for a two-year period to help promote qualitative data re-use and sharing. The postdoc devotes half of his time to secondary qualitative research (i.e. conducting research on other people’s data) and the other half to working closely with the DARIS team on qualitative data issues. While data sharing is becoming increasingly part of the culture among quantitative researchers, those producing qualitative data are still very reluctant to do so. DARIS has developed a long-term strategy with actions at different levels, including publishing methodological reflections, consulting with qualitative researchers, providing guidelines and recommendations, and organising public events.

**Workshops:** DARIS developed and coordinated, together with LIVES, the first Swiss Longitudinal Data Fair (SLDF) to be held in Bern in January 2017. The SLDF is a one-day event that primarily targets junior researchers interested in longitudinal research. It includes presentations and posters on various major Swiss longitudinal surveys, as well as hands-on workshops. It is an opportunity to identify and access data, but also to meet and exchange with other data producers. The SLDF represents the first step towards the establishment of a network of Swiss longitudinal data producers.

**DARIS survey:** As part of a wider strategy to regularly evaluate FORS services, DARIS conducted in November 2016 a survey on researcher practices and needs with respect to data sharing and re-use in Switzerland. DARIS staff members developed a core survey that will be reproduced every second year and supplemented with additional questions reflecting current needs and developments. Results will contribute to informing the activities that should be reinforced in 2017.

**Social networking sites:** Also during 2016, FORS further increased its presence on the Internet by regularly diffusing relevant research information (new datasets, events, calls for papers, etc.) to a larger audience by means of Facebook (+27% followers) and Twitter (+15% followers).

#### 2.2.4 Other activities of DARIS

**FORSbase:** In addition to publishing version 2.0 of the IT project FORSbase (see section 2.8), work in 2016 focused on bug fixing and enhancements to the tool. Also, user help guides were produced and integrated into the tool. In 2016 the number of active users grew from 2’000 to nearly 3’300.

**Luxembourg Income Study (LIS):** In summer of 2016, through LIS project funds (SNSF), FORS sponsored two students to participate in the week-long LIS summer workshop in Luxembourg. The purpose of the workshop was to introduce researchers to the LIS database, to provide hands-on training in using the data, and to encourage international collaboration. The stipend included tuition, room and board, and travel ex-

penses. The participants gave very positive feedback on their experiences at the workshop.

**ORD@CH:** FORS was the leading institution in the project Open Research Data Platform Switzerland (ORD@CH), which ended in December 2015 and was part of the programme “Scientific information: access, processing and safeguarding”, initiated by swissuniversities (Programme SUC 2013-2016 P-2). FORS continued the collaboration with the Digital Humanities Lab of the University of Basel, the ETH Scientific IT Services / SIB Swiss Institute of Bioinformatics, as well as with the IT consultants and developers itopia AG and Liip AG during the first six months of 2016, in a joint effort to make the metadata infrastructure for open research data in Switzerland a permanent online resource.

**Presentations in the national context:** DARIS staff members made various presentations at several Swiss universities and institutions during 2016, including:

- Alexandra Stam. “Les enjeux de la gestion des données des sciences sociales, leur dépôt, leur mise à disposition et réutilisation – L’ exemple de FORS et FORSbase”.
- Presentation in the frame of the “journée d’étude gestion des données de recherche”, University of Lausanne, 1016, March 22.
- Marieke Heers. “Educating beyond the curriculum: Extracurricular activities, learning outcomes and socio-demographic student characteristics”, Swiss society for research on education, Lausanne, 2016, June 29.
- Franziska Ehler. “Wie steht es um das Wohlbefinden in der Schweiz?” Presentation at the press release of the Social Report, 2016, October 4.
- Alexandra Stam. Intervention as discussant within the Research colloquium ‘On the move’, University of Neuchâtel, 2016, October 7.
- Alexandra Stam. “Introduction to data management & Daris activities. Presentation in the frame of the Master course “Public Opinion and Survey methodology”, University of Lausanne, 2016, December 12.
- Marieke Heers. “Sekundärdaten: Zugang und Nutzung”. Presentation at the seminar “Methoden der Empirischen Sozialforschung”, University of Fribourg, 2016, December 14.

**Attendance at national conferences:** Staff members also attended various national scientific events, including:

- Two workshops on quality of life organized by the Swiss Academy of Humanities and Social Sciences, Bern.
- 3rd International European Social Survey (ESS) Conference, Lausanne
- 2016 Opendata.ch conference, Lausanne.
- Swiss Household Panel Workshop in UNIL, Lausanne (organised by FORS).
- 13th International Conference on Digital Preservation (iPRES), Bern.
- Swiss research data management day 2016 in EPFL, Lausanne.

- “Open Access dans les carrières académiques”, Geneva.

**International collaboration:** DARIS was active internationally on many fronts, including participation in a wide range of workshops, conferences, and project meetings:

- In January, the head DARIS and a DARIS staff member participated in a Work Package meeting of the CESSDA-SaW project in Ljubljana.
- In January, a DARIS staff member attended the meeting of the research team of the Indo-Swiss Joint Research Programme on multidimensional Wellbeing in Bangalore.
- A DARIS staff member presented “Persistent Identification at FORS” in February at the Workshop on Persistent Identification within CESSDA, in Cologne.
- In February, a DARIS staff member participated in the CESSDA-SaW second coordination meeting in Bergen.
- In February, the head of DARIS and a DARIS staff member and participated in the second workshop of the SEEDS project, in Ljubljana.
- In March, the head of DARIS attended the Work Package Review Board meeting of the project SERISS in London.
- In April, a DARIS staff member participated in the Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America and presented a poster in the session on Migration, Urbanization, Population, Development, and Environment, in Washington, D.C.
- In May, DARIS staff members presented papers at the IASSIST conference in Bergen.
- In May, the head of DARIS attended the CESSDA Service Providers Forum meeting in Bergen.
- In June, the head of DARIS participated in a tools workshop for WP4 of the SERISS project, in Cologne.
- In September, the head of DARIS attended the Work Package Review Board meeting of SERISS, in Munich.
- In September, the head of DARIS represented FORS at the CESSDA Service Providers Forum meeting in Prague.
- In October, a DARIS staff member attended the CESSDA-SaW third coordination meeting in Budapest.
- In October, a DARIS staff member presented the Swiss Social Report at the 11th Conference on Social Monitoring and Reporting in Europe in Menaggio.
- In October, a DARIS staff member presented the Swiss Social Report at the Conference on the third Report concerning the socio-economic development in Germany in Berlin.
- In November, the head of DARIS and a DARIS staff member participated in a 3-day SEEDS training workshop in Zagreb, Croatia.

- In November, the head of the Data Promotion group attended the CESSDA training group meeting in Cologne, Germany.
- In December, a DARIS staff member attended the European DDI User Conference in Cologne and presented FORS as the host of the 2017 EDDI Conference.

## 2.3 Methodological Research

Collaborative work related to the three methodological research programme modules of FORS (non-response, mixed mode interviewing, translation and equivalence issues) was continued in 2016. There are initiatives planned to add an additional research module - data linkage - on which FORS will organize two workshops in April 2017, together with the SFSO. Aims will be to discuss options and limitations of linking different administrative data, but also survey data with administrative data. As the primary owner of the administrative data, the SFSO will be a close collaborator from the onset. As in previous years, a number of peer-reviewed papers, book chapters, and working papers in the methodological domain were published during the year (see publication list in the appendix). In addition, FORS staff gave scientific presentations at various conferences and workshops, notably at the 26th International Workshop on Household Survey Non-response in Oslo, the 9th International Conference on Social Science Methodology (RC33) in Leicester, the 3MC International Conference 2016 in Chicago, the Panel Survey Methods Workshop in Berlin, and the the 71st Annual Conference of the American Association of Public Opinion Research in Austin. Submissions on methodology were reviewed by FORS staff for scientific journals such as Sociological Methods and Research, Survey Research Methods, Swiss Journal of Psychology, Field Methods, Public Opinion Quarterly, European Sociological Review, European Journal on Criminal Policy and Research, European Societies, Methods, data, analyses, Survey Methods: Insights from the Field, Journal of Official Statistics, as well as for the FORS working paper series.

As in the years before, in the following, overlapping research activities across the modules are mentioned in the non-response section only.

### 2.3.1 Analysis of Non-Response

2016 saw the completion of a close collaboration between FORS and the NCCR LIVES – a volume published in the Springer ‘Life Course Research and Social Policies’ series titled ‘Surveying Human Vulnerabilities across the Life Course’, co-edited by Prof. Michel Oris, Prof. Dominique Joye, and Dr. Michèle Ernst Stähli. The book consists of a series of chapters by researchers involved in conducting survey research for the NCCR LIVES, who participated in a workshop held in 2012 that aimed to address the various methodological challenges involved in carrying out surveys of ‘vulnerable’ – typically hard-to-reach and hard-to-survey – populations. In the introductory chapter, the editors discuss the concept of survey quality and its applicability across non-standard research contexts, highlighting the importance of collaboration between methodologists and substantive experts in the design of survey research. The volume also includes a chapter by Marieke Voorpostel and Martina Rothenbühler entitled ‘Attrition in the Swiss House-

hold Panel: Are Vulnerable Groups More Affected than Others?', which – along with the other chapters in the volume – highlights some of the difficulties of using surveys to research vulnerable populations.

Another significant edited volume that appeared in 2016 was the Sage Handbook of Survey Methodology (of which Joye was co-editor). Prof. Caroline Roberts published a chapter in that volume on response styles in surveys, which reviews what we currently know about the causes of different types of response errors in surveys and ways to mitigate their impact on data quality. In this same handbook, Ernst Stähli and Joye published a chapter on incentives as a possible measure to increase response rates.

Together with Ernst Stähli, Alexandre Pollien presented a paper at the 9th International Conference on Social Science Methodology (RC33) called "Promises and failures of nonresponse surveys". The authors propose an analysis of non-response follow-up surveys, which shows that non-response follow-up surveys present several challenges: 1. the data obtained in such surveys does not provide information for the whole sample; 2. Initial respondents, respondents of the non-response follow-up and remaining non-respondents may have different characteristics; and 3. Questions asked in the non-response follow-up should not be sensitive to survey design effects.

Pollien, Joye, and Sapin gave a paper for the 3MC Conference on "Quality of Leave-Behind paper questionnaire", which dealt with attrition of drop-off questionnaires. Using three Swiss representative face-to-face surveys of the MOSAiCH programme, in which interviewers left behind a paper&pencil questionnaire related to the main survey topic, the authors focused on errors in sampling and attitudinal variance using discriminant analysis. They found that unit response depends far more on the sampling frame than on the topic of the survey.

In addition, Alexandre Pollien gave a talk on "Interviewer strategies: influences on contact and cooperation" at the International Workshop on Household Survey Non-response. In his presentation, he analyzed interviewers' strategy development over the interviewer's career. He investigated interviewers working for the Swiss part of the face-to-face ESS and MOSAiCH from 2002 to the present. The analysis links data from a paper&pencil survey about the interviewer strategy which was yearly administrated to interviewers, and contact data reported by the interviewers. The results show that interviewer performance improves over time, first in terms of obtaining cooperation, secondly in terms of minimizing non-contact, and last, in terms of coding categories of respondents.

Joye and Sapin focused on non-response in a paper presented at the International Workshop on Household Survey Nonresponse called "Survey climate or the integration of a multilevel perspective in non-response studies". Through several empirical insights from MOSAiCH 2009, the authors advocate the importance of considering survey climate as well as other social contexts to understand the non-response.

Dr. Oliver Lipps and Dr. Florence Lebert published a research note about "Attrition When Dropping CAPI from a CATI/CAPI Panel Survey" in *Survey Practice*. They investigated the Swiss Household Panel 2013 refreshment sample, where in the first wave those with a matched landline number were surveyed by telephone, while those without received a face-to-face visit, and in the second wave the face-to-face mode was



dropped. They found among the first wave face-to-face households a high likelihood to attrite due to "no contact" rather than due to "cannot be tracked" or "refusal". Based on these findings, they gave recommendations to tailor fieldwork to decrease attrition.

Using data from the Swiss Household Panel 2013 refreshment sample, Lipps published an article on "Non-Observation Bias in an Address-Register-Based CATI/CAPI Mixed Mode Survey" in *methods, data, analyses*. He analyzed representation bias by distinguishing between the different components of nonobservation, including landline undercoverage, non-contact, and non-cooperation, by either incorporating face-to-face sample members or not, and by the fieldwork phases to recruit households and individuals. The strongest representation bias in the telephone sample is caused by telephone undercoverage. The combined sample suffers mostly from noncooperation. In terms of income and deprivation differences, the results show that the face-to-face sample is poorer than the telephone sample and needs to be considered for unbiased estimates.

Still based on the Swiss Household Panel 2013 refreshment sample, Lipps published a paper "Modeling Cooperation in an Address-register-based Telephone/Face-to-face Survey" in *Field Methods*. In the paper, he analyzed the effects of household socio-demography, interviewer performance, and fieldwork characteristics on cooperation. Findings were that some sociodemographic groups are less cooperative in the first contact only, others in both the first and later contacts, and still others in later contacts only. Based on these results, he gave recommendations about how to optimize treatment of different household types during fieldwork.

Further, Lipps was invited to give a talk about "New developments in collecting and analyzing social science survey data" at the "Colloquium Social Research" at the Seminar of Sociology at the University of Lucerne.

### 2.3.2 Mixed-Mode Interviewing

The SHP team is planning for a third refresher sample to start in 2020 (the SHP\_IV). Regular refresher samples are needed to guarantee the continuation of the SHP's high-quality longitudinal database. Given the declining landline coverage in Switzerland, the SHP team is exploring alternative modes of data collection for the SHP\_IV, in particular Computer Assisted Web Interviewing (CAWI). A pilot study of two waves will take place in 2017-18 to test to what extent online data collection is a viable option for a household panel study like the SHP. The main aims of the pilot are to test whether the SHP can obtain high-quality longitudinal data in terms of sample composition, response and retention rates by using CAWI as a mode of data collection, and to assess any cost savings potential. After careful consideration of the literature, other experiences with online data collection within FORS, and the experience with online data collection in another household panel, the UKHLS Understanding Society, the SHP\_IV pilot will test two alternative designs against the current design. In addition to a control group that uses CATI and CAPI (with CAWI offered in the nonresponse follow-up phase), there will be one mixed-mode design and one full CAWI design.

At the Annual Conference of the American Association of Public Opinion Research, Prof. Caroline Roberts and Dr. Caroline Vandenplas presented a paper entitled 'Esti-



minating components of mean-squared error to evaluate the benefits of mixing data collection modes'. This was an updated version of a paper previously presented at the International Total Survey Error Conference in Baltimore, Maryland in September 2015, based on the finalized manuscript (currently under revision) submitted for consideration for a special issue on Total Survey Error in the Journal of Official Statistics. The article describes an attempt to decompose and quantify different components of total survey error in a range of socio-demographic and target estimates from the mixed mode experiment (questions mostly taken from the European Social Survey core questionnaire), to address the question of whether a reduction in selection error resulting from mixing modes is offset by an increase in measurement error. In another study based on the same data (article currently under review), Prof. Caroline Roberts, Dr. Caroline Vandenplas, Dr. Michèle Ernst Stähli and Prof. Dominique Joye focus specifically on nonresponse bias, using R-indicators to assess the representativeness of the responding sample under different single and mixed mode survey designs, and following different phases of data collection (before and after a switch in modes).

Also at AAPOR, Rosa Sanchez Tome presented the results of another study from her doctoral thesis (co-supervised by Roberts and Joye), entitled 'The impact of mode effects on subjective wellbeing research: Do they affect regression coefficients?', which addresses the question of whether mode effects detected at the item level actually matter for the kinds of multivariable analyses typically undertaken by social scientists. Sanchez Tome's doctoral research – which also exploits data from the NCCR LIVES-FORS mixed mode study – forms part of the survey methodological research being undertaken by the NCCR LIVES Individual Project IP214, which is looking at the extent to which the results of longitudinal studies of vulnerability depend on the survey methodology adopted.

Roberts, Ernst Stähli, Joye, Dr. Caroline Vandenplas, and Sanchez Tome continued their research into the relative advantages and disadvantages of different mixed mode survey designs using data from the NCCR LIVES-FORS mixed mode experiment conducted in 2012. The methodological report of the experiment was published in the NCCR LIVES Working Paper series, providing future data users with a full account of the design of the study, the fieldwork procedures used, and detailed documentation of the design and adaptation of the questionnaires used in each mode.

Nicolas Pekari (co-supervised by Prof. Caroline Roberts and Prof. Georg Lutz), successfully completed (and had approved) his *Projet de Thèse* (submitted to the UNIL Faculty of Social and Political Sciences), in which he describes the four pieces of research he plans to undertake based on data from methodological experiments he designed and carried out in 2015 as part of the 2015 SELECTS survey. The four proposed studies address different issues relating to the future of scientific web surveys in the rapidly changing context of online research.

Lipps, together with Pekari, published a paper on "Sample Representation and Substantive Outcomes Using Web With and Without Incentives Compared to Telephone in an Election Survey" in the Journal of Official Statistics. The authors used data from the regular telephone SELECTS along with data from the SELECTS web experiment where effects from a prepaid cash-like incentive was tested. Results

showed that differences in completion rates mostly reflect different levels of coverage in the two modes. Second, incentives in the web survey increase completion rates of all person groups, with the exception of people without Internet access or limited computer literacy. Third, voting behavior resembled closer to official figures in the web with the incentive version compared to the two other designs, which was partly due to the different sociodemographic compositions of the samples. Fourth, substantive results suggest that the incentive version includes harder-to-reach respondents. Finally, unit costs are much lower in the two web designs compared to the telephone, including when a relatively high incentive is used.

At the FORS Lunch-Seminar, Dr. Michael Ochsner presented his work for Stadtentwicklung Zürich. He described the design of the mixed-mode experiment and presented methods to compare representation bias and measurement/mode effects as well as the results of the experiment that showed that the mixed mode comes with a number of advantages while the measurement effects are moderate.

Ochsner was invited to the Colloquium of NCCR LIVES to present how bibliometrics, scientometrics and altmetrics can impact careers of young scholars. Drawing on bibliometric methods, he provided recommendations on how to use professional social media, and which services are more trustable than others.

### 2.3.3 Language, Translation, and Measurement Equivalence

Ernst Stähli presented results on research on the relative impact of translation and wording on comparability (as compared to the impact of other survey design features such as recruitment procedures, interview mode and question context) at two conferences (3MC and RC33). By comparing the results of the same concepts measured in different FORS surveys (ESS, MOSAiCH-ISSP, SHP and SELECTS of 2010/11), and implementing the different wordings and formats in the same survey (ESS 2014), she showed the importance of unmeasured and often underestimated dimensions such as the way the survey is presented or the style and content of previous questions. Indeed, the results of the same concept differed more between surveys than between wording and formats, even after controlling for selection effects.

Dr. Ursina Kuhn compared equivalence of household income and earnings measures from eight surveys and tax records together with Prof. Christian Suter, Prof. Eric Cretaz, Pascale Gazareth and Laura Ravazzini. The results were published by Seismo as a book chapter in the volume *Essays on Inequality and Integration*.

At the second 3MC Conference, Ernst Stähli and Ochsner organised a session entitled "Methods to Support the Development of Cross-cultural Source Questionnaires", which Ernst Stähli chaired. In this session, Ochsner presented a joint work of the international survey team entitled "More than language: Strategies for detecting, resolving and coping with issues of cross-cultural transferability of concepts". Ernst Stähli, Nisple, Pollien and Sapin analysed data from two studies to reflect on the difficulties of transferring concepts of one culture to another that go beyond translation. Ochsner also presented research on the effect of the number of survey languages on representation using two different surveys, one in which languages were added and one in which the number of languages was reduced. He showed that a more inclusive mixed-mode design can

compensate for the reduction of survey languages and that strategic considerations have to be made since ethical and political issues (inclusion of minorities), methodological effects (change of mode to compensate), representation bias (are minorities large enough to make a difference), language competence in the surveyed population, and financial constraints have to be balanced out.

Lipps and Ochsner attended the International SMRE workshop at the University of Lucerne to talk about the effect of adding survey languages on representativeness in general population surveys, and on how to compare concepts transculturally on the example of religion. The second paper (joint work together with Ernst Stähli, Nisple, Pollien and Sapin) was related to the workshop's practical questions regarding the comparability of concepts on religion.

Lipps and Lutz published a paper on "Gender of Interviewer Effects in a multi-topic centralized CATI Panel Survey" in *methods, data, analyses*. They used the random interviewer-respondent assignment in the Swiss Household Panel and fixed effects models to show that while there are strong gender of interviewer effects on gender issues, such as female discrimination, or other topics such as political and (factual) household task, related questions are not concerned by this measurement error. A preliminary version of this paper was presented at the Panel Survey Methods Workshop in Berlin.

Joye and Sapin, as convenors of the ISSP 2017 modules on Social Networks and Social Resources, analyzed the data of the pilot survey, conducted in fall 2015 in Switzerland by FORS and in Germany, France, Great Britain, Turkey, United States, Venezuela, China and Taiwan. Based on these analyses and together with the ISSP colleagues from Germany, Turkey, United States, China and Taiwan, they prepared a draft source questionnaire of the module and the reasoning report for the ISSP ("ISSP 2017 on Social Network and Social Resources: Reasoning report on the source questionnaire"). This report was presented and discussed at the ISSP General Assembly in Kaunas. Following the discussion and based on the vote, the questionnaire was finalized during the summer. The fieldwork period of the ISSP 2017 module started officially in September and around 40 countries worldwide will field it during 2017 and 2018.

Based on the analyses of the pretest data of the ISSP 2017, which encompasses several thousands of respondents and a survey experiment funded by the NCCR LIVES on social networks and social resources collected in 2015 (Living with Others, LWO), Joye, Sapin and Prof. Christof Wolf presented a paper entitled "Surveying networks in comparative perspective: a social capital approach" at the XXXVI SUNBELT Conference of the International Network for Social Network Analysis (INSNA). The paper focused on the comparison of different long and short versions of several position generator instruments in adopting a comparative perspective. The methodological and substantial issue of drafting appropriate instruments for general cross-country comparative research on personal networks in relation with social inequalities and potential vulnerability issues was also presented by Joye and Sapin in the CCI-4 Day of the NCCR LIVES.

### 2.3.4 Institutional Issues

For the first time, data from the LIVES-FORS mixed-mode, incentive, and translation experiments as well as from the nonrespondent surveys have been archived at DARIS, including data from the pretests and pilots. These data are already available for all researchers, with the exception of the LIVES-FORS mixed-mode data, which will follow soon. The data and the documentation allow for an analysis across the different research topics.

As in the preceding year, the University of Lausanne invitation programme specifically designed for FORS and the university research centre “Life Course and Inequalities (LINES)” allowed a continued employment of two postdoctoral fellows. Roberts, Joye, and Oesch continued to commit a noticeable share of their working time to collaborative projects with FORS researchers. Generally, methodological research at FORS benefitted a lot from both human and financial resources provided by the host university and its faculty for social and political sciences.

Lipps was invited to give the keynote talk on "Pros and Cons of Panel studies" at the kick-off meeting of the "Youth and Sports" panel at the Swiss Federal Institute of Sport (Magglingen). In addition, he was invited to join the scientific board of this panel survey. This survey will be designed to evaluate the Youth and Sports program, a publically financed nationwide program focusing on promoting sports activities among children and adolescents.

Lipps and Roberts are currently serving as Associate Editors for the journal *Survey Research Methods*, and Roberts as Vice Conference Chair of the European Survey Research Association, currently involved in the organisation of the 2017 conference. She also acted as a consultant to the World Economic Forum, as a member of the Survey Methodology Advisory Board for the 2016 Global Risks Perception Survey, which forms the basis of the 2017 Global Risks Report.

## 2.4 Cross-National Data Center in Luxembourg LIS

LIS, the Cross National Data Center in Luxembourg, is a comparative micro-database on income, wealth, and employment. Its income database includes nearly 200 datasets covering 40 countries around the world over a period going back as far as 1968. The fully documented databases are accessible via a specially developed remote access system called LISSY which allows users to receive results of statistical analyses within minutes after submission, directly to their computer wherever they are located. Password protected access is free of charge for users from contributing countries.

FORS is the Swiss partner to LIS. The FORS Director is member of the Board of the “LIS asbl”, an NPO according to Luxembourg law. The annual membership fees paid by FORS open for Swiss researchers free access to the complete LIS databases. The FORS website includes a short description of LIS and a link to the LIS homepage. LIS is systematically included in the promotional activities of FORS, especially at the level of university departments and institutes that might be interested (mainly sociology, political science, and economics). In 2016, FORS provided two full scholarships for Swiss

researchers to attend the LIS Introduction Summer School in Luxembourg (3-9 July 2016).

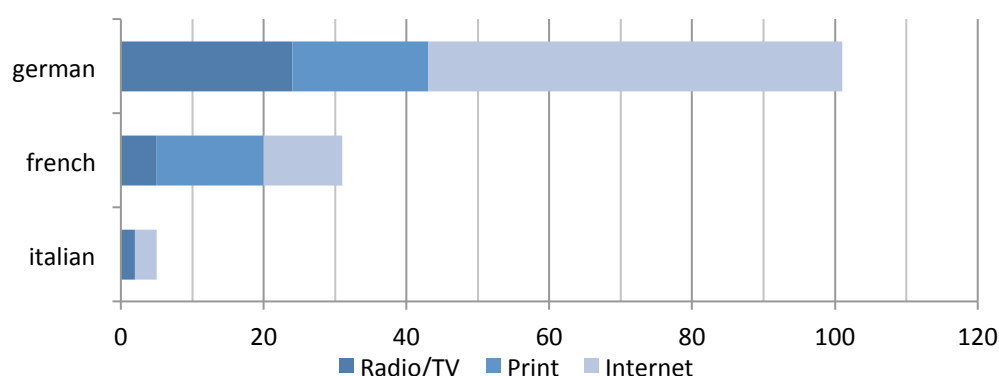
## 2.5 Social Report

The Social Report was published as planned at the beginning of October 2016. To make that happen, the editor-in-chief, Franziska Ehrler, the editorial board, as well as the publisher SEISMO, the translators and graphic designers worked hand in hand.

The editorial board consisting of Prof. Felix Bühlmann (University of Lausanne), Prof. Peter Farago (FORS), Prof. François Höpflinger (University of Zurich), Prof. Dominique Joye (University of Lausanne), Prof. Pasqualina Perrig-Chiello (University of Berne), and Prof. Christian Suter (University of Neuchâtel) met on four occasions in 2016. Until spring the writing of the Social Report was in full progress and the editorial board had to discuss and comment on the contents before the graphic designers and translators could do their work. From the beginning of June until end of August, the editor took over for the layout and last corrections. To finish the 300-page volume 2016 in time, a lot of work had to be done in parallel which was possible due to a good collaboration between the different persons involved.

For the publication of the Social Report 2016 a press conference was organized in Berne on October 4 in collaboration with the communication department of the SNSF. The conference had an excellent response with a total of 140 contributions in TV, radio, newspapers and online-media in all parts of the country. The Social Report was published in German, French and English, and the corresponding website [www.socialreport.ch](http://www.socialreport.ch) was updated at the same time. The website provides additional information like all the charts of the indicators and the related data.

*Contributions in the press following the press release by language (Source: Pressreview SNSF)*



To promote the Social Report 2016, the Swiss Sociological Association and the University of Neuchâtel co-organised the event "Le bien-être, une richesse de la Suisse?" within the events series of the Swiss Academy of Humanities and Social Sciences on Prosperity and Wellbeing. Three authors of the Social Report 2016 presented their results and discussed them with the audience. The event was a

success with more than 50 people attending it. Additionally, the Swiss Social Report was presented at the 11th Conference "Social Monitoring and Reporting in Europe" in Menaggio (Italy) October 24-26, 2016 and at the Symposium "Exklusive Teilhabe – ungenutzte Chancen, dritter Bericht zur sozioökonomischen Entwicklung in Deutschland" in Berlin (Germany) on October 17, 2016. Furthermore, the knowledge on (subjective) wellbeing gathered for the Social Report was also used within the Indo-Swiss Joint Research Project on Multidimensional Wellbeing (see section 3.3.2 "Other International Commitments").

## 2.6 Swiss Summer School on Methods in the Social Sciences

The 20th Swiss Summer School on Methods in the Social Sciences was held from August 19 to September 2, 2016 at the Università della Svizzera Italiana in Lugano.

The following workshops were offered (number of participants in parenthesis):<sup>1</sup>

### First week: August 22 - 26:

- Kelvyn Jones: Multilevel Models: Practical Applications (14)\*
- Michael Gibbert: Case Studies: Design, Methods, and Reporting (13)\*
- Karen O'Reilly: Introduction to Grounded Theory: Methodology and techniques (12)\*
- Patrick Mello: Qualitative Comparative Analysis (QCA) (12)\*
- Véronique Mottier: Qualitative Data Analysis: Interpretive Research Strategies (18)
- Duncan Guest: Analysis of Variance (Anova) (15)

### Second week: August 29 - September 2:

- Peter Schmidt/Eldad Davidov: Structural Equation Modeling (SEM)I (19)
- Max Bergman: Qualitative Interviewing (15)
- Oliver Lipps/Ursina Kuhn: Introduction to Panel Data Analysis (17)
- Zachary Estes/ Michael Gibbert: Winning the Publication Game (12)\*
- Thomas Hills: Behavioural Science and Big Data (8)\*

The optional two-day workshops preceding the Summer School had 29 (E. Horber: SPSS/Statistics refresher workshop) and 9 (S. Kernbach: Visual Thinking for Researchers\*) participants.

8% of the 155 participants attended two full-week courses. 78% of the participants were PhD Students. The largest groups of this year's participants are working in the fields of Psychology (16%), Education (15%), Sociology (14%), Business Studies (13%), Communication Sciences (12%), followed by Political Science (11%) and Geography (6%).

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<sup>1</sup> The workshops marked with a \* were limited to 10-12 participants (choice of the instructor according to course content and teaching style).

27% of the participants were from foreign universities or institutions: Italy (10), UK (7), Belgium (4), Austria (3), France (2), Croatia (2), Germany (2), Czech Republic (2), Denmark, Liechtenstein, Kuwait, Lithuania, Luxemburg, the Netherlands, Poland, Sweden and the USA.

## 2.7 Third Party Funded Projects

In the survey group, the following third party funded projects were conducted:

FORS started in collaboration with the Zentrum für Demokratie Aarau (ZDA) and the survey company LINK the VOTO project in September 2016. Financed by the Swiss federal chancellery, VOTO analyses voting behavior after each popular vote in Switzerland. LINK interviews around 1'500 respondents through a CATI survey after each vote. The goal of these studies is to explore what motivates a yes or a no vote and the social and political variation in political behavior after each vote. VOTO follows the former VOX series after FORS, the ZDA, and LINK won the competition for this study series in 2015. The mandate covers all votes between summer 2016 and summer 2019. The first two studies in Switzerland took place after the votes of September 25 and November 27, 2016. Reports are published in all three main national languages. The challenge of VOTO is not the complexity or magnitude of the survey, but rather the narrow timeframe. The report and the data have to be published only few weeks after each vote. In order to prepare, an extensive test of all procedures and the programming of the questionnaire took place around the vote of June 2016.

In 2016 FORS completed the first wave of the survey on attitudes towards handicapped persons (Monitor Gesellschaft und Behinderung). The survey was a mandate of the Swiss NGO Pro Infirmis, the country's biggest and most important organisation in its field, with the financial support of the Federal Office for the Equality of Handicapped People. FORS used a combination of web and paper questionnaires, and due to a higher participation rate than expected the questionnaire was finally answered by 3'232 participants, far more than the initially planned 2'000 respondents. The results were summarized in a final report which was delivered to Pro Infirmis end of June 2016. Pro Infirmis presented the report to the media in August 2016.

FORS was mandated, as in 2013, by the Commission de la Restauration of the University of Lausanne (CRUNIL), with the support of the UNIL management, to organize a survey among all members of the university community who may use the restaurants and cafeterias on the campus. The goal was to evaluate the offerings and the needs of food services on the UNIL campus, with an online questionnaire, programmed on Qualtrics, which was sent in March 2016. The results, published in May, will allow for a better understanding of student and staff expectations.

Further to the survey of 2012, FORS was again given the task by the Canton Vaud to organize a consultation about the urbanization master plan developed by its urbanization service for the Lausanne-Morges area (PALM 2016, or Plan d'Agglomération Lausanne Morges). FORS set up an online survey aiming at collecting remarks and

opinions contained in the master plan, and presented an analysis of the consultation process results to Cantonal authorities.

The UNIL management commissioned FORS to check, standardize, and archive data from the UNIL Mobility Surveys, collected annually from 2005 to date. This unique set of time series data was jointly gathered with the EPFL Mobility Surveys and allows study of several dimensions (length, mode, arrival and departure times, etc.) of vocational pathways of the UNIL community members (students and staff) and their evolution across time. FORS was also mandated to lead the 2017 Mobility Survey and to analyze its results, in collaboration with Prof. Patrick Rérat, UNIL mobility expert.

Together with GESIS, Germany, and partners in Russia, Belgium, United Kingdom, Austria, France, and Finland, FORS won a European Project funded within the FP7 framework in 2015. The project entitled “PAWCER – Public Attitudes to Welfare, Climate Change and Energy in the EU and Russia” started in May 2016. The Swiss part of the project is led by Dr. Michael Ochsner. Dr. Michèle Ernst Stähli and Laura Ravazzini are contributing to the project within FORS. Ravazzini was employed with the funds of the project. FORS takes an important part in research on comparability issues (pre- and post-fieldwork, WP2), as well as on the welfare state (WP3). For the first task, translation challenges were raised and discussed. To investigate transferability issues for two concepts that raised questions of comparability in the discussions during the meeting of the welfare work-group, Ochsner developed additional questions implemented at the end of the Swiss ESS and Russian questionnaire. He also developed a grid of probes for cognitive interviews. The Swiss and the Russian ESS team have translated the questions and probes into German, French, Italian and Russian, and carried out the cognitive interviews during the fieldwork preparation of the ESS. Germany will carry out a large-scale cognitive interviews study in 2017 on the basis of these probes. International partners for this work-group are mainly Russia and Germany. For the second task, Ravazzini and Ochsner have designed the methodological framework and prepared the data using multiple imputation for all international partners from the welfare work-group. International partners for the welfare work-group are Belgium and Austria (and in the first meeting a partner from Russia who serves as consultant for Russian matters).

Dr. Michael Ochsner was involved in the successful application for a COST Action with international partners from France, the Netherlands, Belgium, Norway, Italy, Poland, among others. The Action CA15137 “European Network for Research Evaluation in the SSH (ENRESSH)” started in April 2016 and currently brings together about 125 researchers from 38 countries. Within his function as member of the Steering Committee and Leader of Work Group 1 “Conceptual Frameworks for Research Evaluation in the SSH”, Ochsner will welcome Prof. Miso Dokmanovic from Macedonia as a visiting scholar at FORS in 2017. During two weeks, Dokmanovic will improve his skills in survey design and methodology at FORS and prepare a joint work on quality criteria for research in the social sciences with Ochsner and Sven Hug (ETH Zürich). They will design a survey on this topic and administer it in Macedonia.

In the DARIS group, a large number of projects were conducted too:



FORS was mandated by the Swiss Conference of Cantonal Ministers of Education (EDK) to lead data management for the Assessment of Basic Educational Competencies (ÜGK). The assessment consists of competency tests in mathematics, the school language, and the first foreign language, and aims at measuring the extent to which the cantons are successful in implementing the harmonization of obligatory education in Switzerland. In 2016, around 25'000 students attending the 11th grade (HarmoS) participated in the mathematics test, and the same amount of 8th-grade students will be tested in their school language as well as in their first foreign language in spring 2017. The results of these tests will be published in June 2018. The data management and data cleaning process is led by FORS, where the data will also be archived. FORS senior researcher Dr. Marieke Heers is responsible for the project at FORS.

FORS was the leading institution in the project Open Research Data Platform Switzerland (ORD@CH), which ended in December 2015 and was part of the programme “Scientific information: access, processing and safeguarding”, initiated by swissuniversities (Programme SUC 2013-2016 P-2). FORS continued the collaboration with the Digital Humanities Lab of the University of Basel, the ETH Scientific IT Services / SIB Swiss Institute of Bioinformatics, as well as with the IT consultants and developers itopia AG and Liip AG during the first six months of 2016, in a joint effort to make the metadata infrastructure for open research data in Switzerland a permanent online resource.

The Swiss Federal Survey of Adolescents ch-x ([www.chx.ch](http://www.chx.ch)) focuses on the topic of mobility of young adults, and is running over a two-year period in 2016 and 2017. It includes some 50'000 young adults, mostly male Swiss citizens drafted for the army. In 2016 the ch-x survey began its data collection, which will last for much of 2017. In addition, in 2016 FORS and the Faculty of geography of the University of Lausanne were awarded a new research project by the Swiss National Science Foundation, based on the same data collected in ch-x. The project, to begin in April 2017, will involve in-depth quantitative analyses, as well as a complement of qualitative data collection and analyses. In 2016 a doctoral student was selected for the project after a competitive process.

Apart from these projects there was the participation of DARIS in several Swiss and EU-funded international cooperative endeavours (see section 3.3).

Funded by the European Commission, the 4-year Horizon 2020 project SERISS brings together three research infrastructures in the social sciences: the European Social Survey (ESS), the Survey for Health, Ageing, and Retirement in Europe (SHARE) and the Consortium of European Social Science Data Archives (CESSDA). The scientific objective of the project is to exploit the synergies among these three infrastructures to the fullest extent and to leverage these to improve methodologies, tools, and project administration for these and other cross-national surveys. Within SERISS, FORS serves as leader of work package 4 on tools development, as well as technical coordinator for the whole project. The work progressed in 2016, including working meetings in London, Cologne, and Munich.

The Horizon 2020 project CESSDA SaW aims to establish the conditions for, and initiate the movement towards a seamless social science data archive service for the whole of the European Research Area. Comprised of over 20 partner institutions from across Europe, the two-year project conducts activities towards strengthening existing data services and bringing new data services into the fold. FORS is participating in two of the five work packages, and leading a task on developing national establishment plans for data services. The project began in October 2015 and will end in September 2017.

The SEEDS project, funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, aims to widen the circle of European countries with national social science data archives. Helping to establish new data services in the countries of Albania, Croatia, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro, and Serbia, the two-year project will extend the capacities of partner institutions and develop knowledge and tools related to data service infrastructures. Led by FORS, and supported by the Slovenian national data service ADP, the project continued in 2016, including workshops in Ljubljana and Zagreb. A related third-party project called “RRPP Data Rescue”, funded by the Regional Research Priority Programme (RRPP), aims to archive research data produced by this Swiss-funded programme in the western Balkans. Led by FORS, SEEDS partners from the same countries participate to ensure that the RRPP research data are properly curated for long-term preservation and stored at FORS.

FORS joined partners from five other European countries in 2016 to begin a new CESSDA-funded infrastructure project “EQB”, which aims to develop a European Question Bank where researchers can discover survey questions, data, and related information. The work will last for two years. FORS is responsible for conceptual development and testing of the new tool, which will draw from the existing question banks of CESSDA-member service provider databases.

## 2.8 IT

### **FORSbase** (<https://forsbase.unil.ch/>)

The development of the FORSbase application made excellent progress in 2016. The development and testing phase of FORSbase version 2.0, which covers the functionalities of the data archive and the research project inventory, was completed.

On the 29th of February FORSbase application version 2.0 was successfully launched. After going live, we released 8 patches that include bug fixes and additional features and improvements (in March versions 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3; in April version 2.4; in June version 2.5; in August versions 2.5.1 and 2.5.2; in October version 2.6). By the end of 2016 FORSbase had around 3'300 active users.

### **SMT 2.0** (<https://fors-smt.unil.ch>)

In April 2016, the development of the SMT version 2.0 started. Main functionalities of version 2.0 are: group handling, questionnaire lock/unlock, variable instance changes

propagation, multiple waves handling, full drag & drop for questionnaire, including sections, complete technical update, and refactoring. Version 2.0 was released on November 4.

The development of version 2.1 started in November, and the release is scheduled for February 2017. Some of the main functionalities are questionnaire snapshot, navigation improvements, proper state handling, access through https. The SMT version 2.1 will be used for creating questionnaires in relation with the VOTO studies (see chapter 2.7 “Third party funded projects”). Further development of the SMT platform is planned for 2017.

**VOTO** (<http://www.voto.swiss/>)

The VOTO research project is investigating the motives behind the Swiss Federal People's Vote for the participation and decisions of Swiss voters. All analytical reports are published on the website and the anonymised data are made available for secondary analyzes and can be downloaded from FORSbase. The IT group contributed to this project with the WordPress-based web infrastructure and with the implementation of the website.

**International commitments**

The head of the IT group was actively involved in two international projects as a technical expert, namely SEEDS and SERISS (see section 3.3.2), and as an active member of the CESSDA Technical Working Group.

## 2.9 Governing Bodies and Management

Major changes took place in the FORS governing bodies and management in 2016. Prof. François Bussy, vice-rector of the University of Lausanne, took over from Prof. Franziska Krings as President of the Foundation Board. Prof. Mick Couper was elected chair of the Scientific Board after Prof. Max Kaase, who had chaired the board from the beginning of FORS, resigned from this position in spring 2016. And finally, Prof. Georg Lutz took over from Prof. Peter Farago as Director of FORS in September 2016.

### 2.9.1 Foundation Board

The Foundation Board is FORS' ultimate governing body. It is chaired by a representative of the host university who acts as President to the Foundation. In August 2016 the President of the Foundation Board changed – Prof. François Bussy, vice-rector of research, took over as President from Prof. Franziska Krings.

The Deed of Foundation conveys to the Foundation Board the highest authority and the widest powers; the Deed can be downloaded from the FORS website. Currently, the Board consists of eight full members representing the key stakeholders (universities, the Swiss Federal Statistical Office, and the Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences), as well as two observers from the most important funding bodies (the State Secretariate for Education, Research and Innovation, and the Swiss National Science Foundation). The list of the members of the Board as of December 31, 2016 is attached to this report (see Appendix). Besides the Foundation Board President, there was one additional change in 2016 – Prof. Jean-Luc Gilles was elected as representative of swissuniversities.

In 2016 the Foundation Board met twice. One meeting was back to back to a joint meeting with the FORS Scientific Board. During the first meeting in *March 2016*, the Board audited the accounts and the Annual Report 2015. During that meeting the Foundation Board also elected a new member of the scientific council and elected the SELECTS-commission for a new term 2016-2019. In the Scientific Board Dr. Jean-Pierre Renfer replaced Philipp Eichenberger, both working at the Swiss Federal Statistical Office. The second Foundation Board meeting of the year was held in *November 2016*, during which the Board approved of the FORS budget for 2017. During this meeting, the Foundation Board elected Prof. Mick Couper as the new President of the Scientific Board.

### 2.9.2 Scientific Board

The Scientific Board had a two-day meeting on *March 17 and 18, 2016*. The Director presented the Annual Report for the preceding year and the Scientific Board endorsed the Annual Report 2015. Dr. Sara Zella presented a report on the usage of FORS surveys in scholarly publications, which led to a lively discussion on the usage of FORS surveys for scholarly publications. Prof. Georg Lutz then presented the design and the main features of the fieldwork of the combined rolling cross-section and panel survey conducted in the framework of the SELECTS 2015 study. This survey was new for FORS in many ways, mainly because it was done entirely as an online survey and

FORS organized a substantial amount of the fieldwork in-house. Finally, Dr. Brian Kleiner and Stefan Buerli presented FORSbase to the Board.

A joint meeting of the Scientific Board and the Foundation Board took place in March 2016. During this meeting, Prof. Max Kaase declared that he will step down as president of the Scientific Board by the end of the year. Prof. Kaase chaired the Scientific Board from the beginning of FORS, and he contributed substantially to establishing FORS as a national research infrastructure with an international reputation.

Following Prof. Max Kaase, Prof. Mick Couper was elected as the new President of the Scientific Board in November 2016. Prof. Couper is a professor with an outstanding scientific record at the University of Michigan, and FORS is happy that he accepted to serve as President.

### 2.9.3 Management and Human Resources

The main change in 2016 was the transition from Prof. Peter Farago to Prof. Georg Lutz as Director of FORS. The FORS Executive Board is chaired by the Director and comprises the heads of the units Surveys (Prof. Boris Wernli), Data and Research Information Services (Dr. Brian Kleiner), and Support (Ms. Corine Bolle). The Executive Board meets 1-2 times a month. Decisions are minuted, and the minutes are sent to the Presidents of the Foundation and Scientific Boards to keep them posted on current affairs.

Apart from the tasks of the day-to-day operations, a major task was the submission of the SNSF application to secure the funding of the FORS surveys for 2017-2020. The proposal for all surveys was submitted in June 2016, and in August 2016 FORS learned about the positive decision of the SNSF. This allows FORS to conduct all surveys for the coming 4 years (see section 2.1 above).

In December 2016 FORS also learned that the SERI responded positively to the funding application submitted in 2015. The funds allocated to FORS for its infrastructure services were increased by 10%.

The collaboration with the university's central services, especially human resources and IT, continued to run smoothly and facilitated FORS' daily operations considerably.

There were 42 staff employed by FORS at the end of 2016, of which 5 held non-permanent project-funded positions.

Apart from two office clerks and four IT specialists, all staff members have completed academic studies, mainly in different social science disciplines; 50% of these hold doctoral/Ph.D. degrees (see table in the Appendix). One collaborator finished her doctoral dissertation in 2016, and several others are currently working on theirs.

As compared to 2015 there were no major changes in the number or the structure of staff in 2016. However, it is worth noting that FORS has a majority of female staff – a remarkable contrast to its early days in 2008 when two-thirds of staff were men. Women are present in the scientific, IT, and administrative staff, on all hierarchical levels, and with different levels of education.

Staff members originate from eight different nationalities and are native speakers of nine languages, plus several Swiss-German dialects. A multinational and multilingual working environment is an essential part of the stimulating intellectual atmosphere FORS aspires to offer to its collaborators. Consequently, FORS communicates internally and externally in three languages: English, French, and German. All scientific collaborators are expected to understand these languages and to be able to communicate actively in at least two of them.

To foster scholarly exchange between FORS researchers and to profit from their diverse scientific and cultural backgrounds, the series of monthly lunch seminars for presentation and discussion of current research projects continued in 2016. The seminar was well attended, mostly by collaborators of FORS, but also by interested researchers from university institutes. The seminars were organised by FORS senior researcher Dr. Carmen Borrat-Besson (see Appendix for the complete list of seminars held in 2016).

To mark the end of term of the FORS Founding Director Prof. Peter Farago, FORS organized a 2-day team event in June 2016. Also, a Christmas reception was held in December.

## 2.10 Communication

In 2016 various promotional activities were conducted. Special attention was given to the social networking sites Facebook and Twitter which resulted in an increase in followers (see chapter 2.2.3 Data Promotion). In its second year of existence, 3 issues of the e-newsletter FORS Bulletin were sent to 9'500 social science researchers in Switzerland, in German/English and French/English versions. The readers were informed about FORS news, publications, important events and activities. The 2016 issues included the section "new data" with a link to our new datasets. All issues can be consulted on website [www.forscenter.ch](http://www.forscenter.ch)

In October 2016 FORS Communications officer Monika Vettovaglia set up a publication catalogue, a paper that assembles, for the first time, the major key characteristics of the following FORS journals and platforms: Social Change in Switzerland, Survey Methods: Insights from the Field, DeFacto, Swiss Social Report, VOTO Swiss and the FORS and SHP working papers. It also includes a selection of website statistics that enable a comparison of the journals and platforms according to certain criteria. The paper was discussed by the FORS management and it was agreed that it could be used as a basis for a future FORS publication strategy.

Apart from the organisation of various workshops (see chapter 4, "Performance Indicator 6.2"), 2016 was marked by the promotion of three major events: first, the "3rd International ESS Conference: Understanding key challenges for European societies in the 21st century" (July 13-15); second, the publication of the Social Report; and third the publication of the VOTO studies.

The hosting of the 3rd International ESS Conference was commissioned to FORS by the ESS. The following researchers participated in the committee: Prof. Piet Bracke,

University of Gent, Dr. Sarah Butt, ESS ERIC Headquarters, London, Dr. Michèle Ernst Stähli, FORS, Prof. Peter Farago, FORS, Dr. Peter Grand, Institute for Advanced Studies, Vienna, Prof. Nicolas Sauger, Sciences Po, Paris, Dr. Angelika Scheuer, GESIS, Mannheim. There was a local organizing committee consisting of the following FORS collaborators: Denise Bloch, Corine Bolle, Florence Lebert, Monika Vettovaglia. Dr. Michèle Ernst Stähli was the *liaison officer* who coordinated the work of both committees. The conference was centred around the topics of the rotating modules since round 1 of the ESS. There was a call for session proposals issued in spring 2015. More than 20 session proposals were submitted via an online platform hosted by FORS and the University of Lausanne, for the submission of the proposals to be accepted. The final selection out of the 164 submitted papers was made by the session chairs and approved by the scientific committee. 107 papers were included in the conference programme and the abstracts book set up by FORS. 175 researchers participated in the conference, including 44 (25%) from Switzerland. 27 (21%) of the 131 foreign participants came from outside Europe. Three keynotes were given: by Prof. Bart Meuleman (Leuven), Prof. Claudia Senik (Paris), and Dr. Rory Fitzgerald (London). For the first time, the Jowell-Kaase Early Career Researcher Prize (€ 1'000) was awarded to acknowledge the immense contribution of these two eminent scholars to empirical social research. The conference was very well appreciated by the participants, from both a practical and scientific point of view.

As described in chapter 2.5, the Social Report was published in 2016 and was well received by the media. The press conference had an excellent response with a total of 140 contributions in TV, radio, newspapers and online media in all parts of the country. After the conference, special mailings were organised to promote the publication of the Social Report. The publication was also advertised on the FORS website, and a special e-mail signature was created with mention of the publication for all FORS collaborators to use in their e-mail correspondence.

On November 11, the first VOTO report was published on the newly created webpage <http://www.voto.swiss/> (see chapter 2.7 “Third party funded projects”). For this purpose a press release was set up in three languages (German, French and Italian) and sent by FORS to numerous media contacts and news agencies in Switzerland. The report had very good media coverage.

In 2016 further endeavors were made in gathering user feedback. The DARIS promotion team set up an online user survey with the purpose of better understanding data users' practices and attitudes, specifically regarding data sharing and re-use. The survey was available in German, French and English, and was sent in November by email to 10'692 researchers in Switzerland. A report of findings will be published in early 2017.



## 3 Scientific Collaborations

### 3.1 Host University

The collaboration with the host university is based on a scientific and an administrative contractual agreement, both signed for four years, tacitly prolonged for another four-year period. From the administrative side, several central services are involved, mainly the Human Resources and IT departments as well as the facility management.

In addition, an agreement with the neighbouring Faculty for Social and Political Sciences has been concluded, which covers scientific, institutional, organisational, and financial topics. This agreement defines an explicit framework for the collaboration with important units like “Life Course and Inequalities” (LINES) and the Institute for Social Sciences, as well as with the NCCR LIVES, which is hosted by this faculty. Among others, it states that there will be regular biannual meetings of the Dean and the FORS Director, and that several collaborators of the faculty, including two professors and four senior assistants as well as four doctoral students, will contribute to the scientific collaboration with FORS researchers and projects.

Collaborative scientific projects between FORS and faculty members were continued in 2016 (see also section 2.3) on a range of different activities.

An important continuing collaboration is the Methods and Research Meetings, a joint seminar series of FORS and LINES, organized by Dr. Oliver Lipps (FORS), Prof. Caroline Roberts (ISS), Dr. Jacques-Antoine Gauthier (LINES), and Dr. Eva Green (LINES). The meetings constitute a monthly platform where members of these and other units of the Faculty of Social and Political Sciences as well as guest speakers present their research. The talks cover substantive research raising interesting methodological questions (quantitative or qualitative), research focusing on methodological issues, or discussions on new methodological approaches. The meetings provide a possibility to discuss methodological problems related to one’s own research. The events are open to all interested in research methods (sociology, psychology, economics, political science, etc.). See the Appendix for a list of themes and presenters in 2016.

The invitational programme sponsored by the University of Lausanne funded two postdoctoral fellows, one family sociologist and one qualitative researcher, who were involved in joint research activities with FORS and LINES.

During the autumn of 2016 the responsible parties at different levels discussed in a series of meetings the development of this collaboration between FORS and the SSP faculty. There was an agreement that the collaboration should be more structured and focused on concrete projects and outcomes in the future in order to benefit mutually from the resources FORS and SSP faculty can provide to advance research projects. Collaborators from SSP faculty and FORS researchers will develop small-scale research programs on specific topics. The work on re-focusing this collaboration will continue in 2017.



### 3.2 National Partners

Former FORS Director Prof. Peter Farago is a member of the executive board of vsms-asms, the association of survey and social research companies in Switzerland ([www.vsms-asms.ch](http://www.vsms-asms.ch)). Together with FORS Foundation Board member Marco Buscher of the SFSO, he represents the contracting parties. The board discusses matters arising in this sector of the economy. His participation in this board allows for more accurate and timely information on the practical concerns of survey business and survey companies in Switzerland.

In 2016 the fourth cohort of students started in the master programme “Public Opinion and Survey Methodology” (MEOP) of the Universities of Lausanne, Lucerne, and Neuchâtel in partnership with FORS, the Swiss Federal Statistical Office, and the vsms-asms. Two senior members of the FORS staff (Prof. Georg Lutz and Prof. Boris Wernli) teach in this programme. FORS offered internship positions for master students in 2016 as well.

FORS continued to work on the SNF-Agora project together with the University of Zurich (main applicant Prof. Fabrizio Gilardi, Prof. Georg Lutz co-applicant) on the online platform “DeFacto” ([www.defacto.expert](http://www.defacto.expert)). DeFacto publishes articles presenting results of Swiss political science and social science research for the politically interested public. The platform is a response to the growing gap between the theoretical and methodological requirements of international scientific publications in the social sciences and the interest of a wider public. It publishes articles related to important and relevant political issues in Switzerland in order to make political science research more visible. It also bundles existing attempts by individual institutes or researchers to inform a non-scientific audience. Thanks to the participation of all Swiss university political science departments and other researchers, on average 2.3 articles are published per week on DeFacto.

The bilingual online publication series “Social Change in Switzerland”, launched in 2015 ([www.socialchangeswitzerland.ch](http://www.socialchangeswitzerland.ch)) and co-edited by FORS, the Life Course and Inequalities research unit of the University of Lausanne LINES and the NCCR LIVES, continued to establish itself. In 2016 four new articles were published. The authors were mostly academics from the Universities of Lausanne and Geneva. For each contribution press releases were issued and sent to selected Swiss media. Like the first three contributions in 2015, the 2016 issues received very good media coverage. All media articles, including the press releases can be consulted on the journal's dedicated webpage. Further, the number of subscribers to the journal continues to increase, and each new contribution is announced via the journal's twitter account.

### 3.3 International Commitments

#### 3.3.1 Survey Methods – Insights from the Field

The peer-reviewed online journal “Survey methods – Insights from the Field” (SMIF), edited jointly by FORS and GESIS, continued to establish itself.

In 2016, 11 new papers were submitted to the journal. One paper was rejected before the reviewing process, as it was off-topic. Ten papers went through the reviewing process, of which seven were published; one paper was refused by the editorial board after having received unsatisfactory reviews.

By the end of December, seven papers were in production, thus either in the process of revision by the authors or at the review stage by the members of the editorial board.

SMIF	Number of submitted contributions	Number of rejected articles	Number of published articles
2016	11	2	7
2015	12	4	14 <sup>2</sup>
2014	20	8	9
2013	23	4	11

SMIF offers the possibility to subscribe to e-mail notifications whenever a new paper is published on the platform. The number of users and subscribers was 410 in December 2016, so approximately the same number as on December 2015 (422).

From January 1 to December 31, the website of the journal was visited 12'041 times (compared to 12'088 times in 2015 and 9'210 in 2014). Most visits came again from the United States, 5'628 (compared to 5'502 in 2015), followed by Germany, 1'251 (1'191 in 2015), and the United Kingdom, 725 (871 in 2015). The article downloaded the most was "Measuring Interviewer Characteristics Pertinent to Social Surveys: A Conceptual Framework" by Annelise Blom et al. (2013). The top three keywords that were searched for on the journal website were “online survey”, “impact factor”, and “AAPOR”.

#### 3.3.2 Other international commitments

In 2016, FORS continued its involvement in the development of European research infrastructures:

- FORS has been actively involved in the development of the three ESFRI Roadmap social science initiatives (CESSDA, ESS, SHARE) to acquire the legal status of European Research Infrastructure Consortia ERIC. The very first infrastructure

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<sup>2</sup> The relatively high number of published contributions in 2015 can be explained by the fact that in February of that year a special issue was published on “Weighting: Practical Issues and ‘How To’ Approach”. The special issue included 8 articles that were submitted in 2014 already.

having been awarded this status was SHARE in 2011, and ESS followed suit in 2013. With regard to CESSDA, an interim solution was adopted (CESSDA AS, a Norwegian NPO), since Norway could not host an ERIC for the time being because of legal restrictions. CESSDA will be established as an ERIC in 2017. Switzerland has the status of an observer in the ERICs. The SERI renewed the mandate to FORS to represent Switzerland in the General Assemblies of ESS and CESSDA (through Prof. Georg Lutz) as well as SHARE (through Prof. Boris Wernli) in 2016.

- In 2016 Prof. Georg Lutz was nominated to represent Switzerland in the ESFRI Strategic Working Group on Social and Cultural Innovation, where he replaces Prof. Mike Martin. This working group is responsible for drafting the ESFRI Landscape analysis and to evaluate existing as well as potential new projects to get on the ESFRI roadmap in the coming years.
- Funded by the European Commission, the Horizon 2020 project SERISS brings together three research infrastructures in the social sciences: the European Social Survey (ESS), the Survey for Health, Ageing, and Retirement in Europe (SHARE) and the Consortium of European Social Science Data Archives (CESSDA). The scientific objective of the project is to exploit the synergies among these three infrastructures to the fullest extent and to leverage these to improve methodologies, tools, and project administration for these and other cross-national surveys. Within SERISS, FORS serves as leader of work package 4 on tools development, as well as technical coordinator for the whole project. The project is funded for four years.
- The Horizon 2020 project CESSDA SaW aims to establish the conditions for, and initiate the movement towards, a seamless social science data archive service for the whole of the European Research Area. Comprised of over 20 partner institutions from across Europe, the two-year project conducts activities towards strengthening existing data services, and bringing new data services into the fold. FORS is participating in two of the five work packages, and leading a task on developing national establishment plans for data services.
- The SEEDS project, funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, aims to widen the circle of European countries with national social science data archives. Helping to establish new data services in the countries of Albania, Croatia, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro, and Serbia, the two-year project aims to extend the capacities of partner institutions and develop knowledge and tools related to data service infrastructures (see chapter 2.7 “Third party funded projects”).
- Together with GESIS and partners in Russia, Belgium, United Kingdom, Austria, France, and Finland, FORS started the European Project funded through an ERA Net RUS call. It is entitled “PAWCER – Public Attitudes to Welfare, Climate Change and Energy in the EU and Russia” (see chapter 2.7 “Third party funded projects”).
- FORS was chosen as an academic mentor for the “Balkan Electoral Comparative Study” funded by the Regional Research Promotion Program (RRPP) for the period 2014-2016. The project conducted a candidate survey in four Balkan countries (Bosnia-Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, Serbia), and it ran a citizens survey. An

international conference was organized in June 2016 in Podgorica with Swiss and international contributions.

- In 2015 FORS won a seed money grant in the Indo-Swiss Joint Research Programme in the Social Sciences in collaboration with Prof. Christian Suter (University of Neuchâtel). The project on Multidimensional Well-being continued in 2016. In January Prof. Peter Farago and the editor-in-chief of the Social Report, Franziska Ehrler travelled together with colleagues from Neuchâtel to Bangalore for a meeting with the Indian research team. Several common papers were discussed. In June the Indian team came to Neuchâtel for another meeting. During this meeting the progress of the different common papers was discussed and further steps planned. Prof. Farago and Franziska Ehrler participated in the meeting as part of the Swiss research team. Ehrler led a joint conceptual paper on multidimensional wellbeing. Furthermore, two other researchers from FORS were invited for a presentation. Dr. Ursina Kuhn presented her contribution to the Social Report 2016, and Dr. Carmen Borrat-Besson presented SHARE. The project will continue in 2017.
- International scholarly collaboration was also promoted by the attendance of FORS researchers at a number of conferences (see the complete list in the respective section in the publications list in the Appendix), or hosting international conferences and workshops at FORS (see the complete list in chapter 4, indicator 6.2).
- Former FORS Director Prof. Peter Farago serves as a member of the Scientific Advisory Board of GESIS. In this function he was a member of the nomination committee for the new GESIS president to be appointed in 2017.

## 4 Performance Indicators

The FORS internal performance monitoring system is based on a conceptual framework that links overall FORS **objectives** to key **activities**, and then to specific **indicators**. It can be used to assess progress toward institutional objectives over time. The two primary objectives are directly related to the FORS mandate:

- **Objective 1:** Support, enhance, and contribute to social science research in Switzerland
- **Objective 2:** Strengthen the social sciences in Switzerland by creating linkages and facilitating synergies between researchers and institutions within the country and internationally

The activities within the monitoring system represent the full range of FORS projects and services. The first five correspond to objective 1, while the sixth corresponds to the second objective. *Indicators* were selected based on their capacity to measure the extent to which FORS is carrying out its activities toward achieving its objectives over time. The summary table below shows all activities and indicators.

This chapter presents figures for the system's 14 indicators for 2016, as well as comparisons with those of previous years. Each indicator is provided with a brief description, results, and explanation where needed. The order and numbering refer to the summary table below.

**Activity and Indicator Summary Table**

N°	Indicator
	<a href="#">Activity 1: Produce and make available data</a>
1.1	Number of datasets produced by FORS surveys that are distributed to researchers
1.2	Number of publications using datasets produced by FORS surveys
1.3	Number of teachers using FORS data for teaching purposes
	<a href="#">Activity 2: Prepare, document, and provide data</a>
2.1	Number of datasets distributed to or downloaded by researchers ( <i>Daris</i> )
2.2	Number of new research project descriptions in the research inventory ( <i>Daris</i> )
	<a href="#">Activity 3: Advise researchers</a>
3.1	Number of cases of help and advice provided to users or to others requesting information or expertise
	<a href="#">Activity 4: Acquire and conduct funded research projects</a>
4.1	Total funding for third-party financed projects in progress

	Activity 5: Contribute actively to substantive and methodological scientific debate
5.1	Number of publications by FORS staff
5.2	Number of presentations by FORS staff
	Activity 6: Establish collaborative links and stimulate scientific exchange
6.1	Number of collaborative research projects and scientific activities with outside organisations and individuals
6.2	Workshops, seminars, and conferences organised and conducted by FORS
6.3	Number of hours devoted to teaching by FORS staff
6.4	Number of Lugano summer school course enrollments
6.5	Number of copies of the Social Report sold or distributed

## Objective 1: Support, enhance, and contribute to social science research in Switzerland

Activity 1: Produce and make available data that can advance and deepen understanding of Swiss society

### Indicators:

#### 1.1 Number of datasets produced by FORS surveys that are distributed to researchers

*This indicator assesses the extent to which the data from studies conducted by FORS are being used by researchers for secondary analysis.*

A total of 1'254 FORS-produced datasets were distributed by FORS to researchers in Switzerland in 2016. The figures for the SHP, MOSAiCH-ISSP, and ESS datasets increased slightly, while the SELECTS figures increased more significantly, back up to the level of 2014.

Study Datasets	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
MOSAiCH-ISSP	200	179	162	280	396	295	119
Swiss Household Panel (SHP)	581	567	531	392	307	243	348
Swiss Electoral Studies (SELECTS)	431	355	431	318	374	177	174
European Social Survey (ESS)	42	30	52	52	63	63	306
<b>Total</b>	<b>1'254</b>	1'131	1'176	1'042	1'140	778	947

In addition to the distribution by FORS, the Swiss parts of the studies ESS and ISSP data can also be downloaded from the international websites of these projects. The data for the European Values Study (EVS) and the Survey of Health, Aging, and Retirement in Europe (SHARE), both conducted by FORS, are only available in this way. As information provided by the institutions responsible for these studies did not allow us to get a consistent picture of the use of Swiss da-

ta in the context of these studies, *international distribution is not included in the indicator*. It is however important to keep in mind that for this reason the indicator underestimates the use of the Swiss survey data produced at FORS.

## **1.2 Number of publications using datasets produced by FORS surveys**

*The impact of data from studies conducted by FORS on the scientific process is measured here by the number of publications making use of them. To qualify for this indicator, a publication using international survey data needed to include Switzerland in its analysis.*

We were able to identify 442 publications in 2016 that made use of data from studies conducted by FORS, including the ESS, MOSAiCH/ISSP, SHP, SELECTS, and SHARE. As for 2016, 58 percent of these were articles in peer-reviewed journals. The remainder were books or book chapters (22%), working papers or reports (13%), and dissertations (7%). While most of the publications were substantive, 9 percent of all publications concentrated on methodological issues. The number of publications in 2016 varied according to the FORS data used: ISSP/MOSAiCH: 155; SHARE: 51; ESS: 99; SHP: 41; and SELECTS: 28.

The total number of publications in 2016 was significantly higher than in all previous years where these were counted. We hesitate to draw any conclusions from this, primarily because we expect the number of publications based on our survey data to fluctuate considerably from year to year, especially since data are only released at certain intervals.

## **1.3 Number of teachers using FORS data for teaching purposes**

*This indicator allows evaluation of the use of data from FORS surveys for education in the social sciences. It is limited to university instruction in Switzerland.*

During 2016, at least 23 teachers/professors used FORS data for teaching purposes in seminars and courses. Eleven teachers/professors used Nesstar datasets (directly downloadable), and twelve teachers/professors signed an agreement in order to distribute Swiss Household Panel data to registered students. These results are a slight increase compared to those from 2015, where 21 teachers/professors used FORS data for teaching. The classes/seminars took place at the universities of Berne, Geneva, Lausanne, Zurich, Neuchâtel, and Lucerne.

## Activity 2: Prepare, document, and provide data, such as are needed to conduct studies and secondary analysis in the social sciences

### Indicators:

#### 2.1 Number of datasets distributed to or downloaded by researchers (*Daris*)

*This indicator assesses the intensity of use of secondary data acquired by way of the FORS data service. The measure is a composite of datasets distributed either by FTP, by the Nesstar server, or by way of dedicated webpages (e.g., for the studies PISA, SELECTS, and Vox-it).*

In 2016, **2'027** datasets held within the FORS data service were either downloaded or distributed by FTP, the FORS Nesstar server or FORSbase. Unfortunately, Nesstar user statistics for the months of May, June, and July were lost due to a technical malfunction. However we decided to fill that void with the average monthly download counts for those three months from previous years. The number of downloaded and distributed datasets marks a sort of stabilization, with continuing overall fluctuations from year to year, beginning in 2011. The Vox, Vox-it, and Vox-cumulative datasets were somewhat less popular in 2016 than in 2015, whereas the SELECTS and the ESS data downloads significantly increased. The data users were almost exclusively researchers and students affiliated with a university or university of applied science, and the vast majority were from within Switzerland. At the international level, the datasets were acquired principally from Germany and the United States, but also from Great Britain, the Netherlands, Sweden, Spain, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Latvia, Denmark, Montenegro, Belgium, the Slovak Republic, Canada, France, Portugal, Brazil, Austria, and Italy.

#### Downloads and ordered datasets: 2010 to 2016

Dataset count	Year						
	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Studies							
Vox, Vox-it, Vox-cumulative, VOTO	602	696	1068	600	812	857	597
Eurobarometer/MOSAiCH/ESS	325	209	244	352	479	473	535
SELECTS	518	394	431	278	374	177	174
Other studies ordered from the data service	582	632	632	763	531	394	147
<b>Total</b>	<b>2'027</b>	<b>1'955</b>	<b>2'375</b>	<b>1'993</b>	<b>2'196</b>	<b>1'901</b>	<b>1'453</b>



## 2.2 Number of new research project descriptions in the research inventory (*Daris*)

*This indicator assesses our success in tracking social science research projects in Switzerland and capturing their descriptions. This measure may fluctuate over time, due to occasional influxes of project descriptions from the databases of partner institutions with which FORS is developing new data exchange agreements.*

During the annual survey 2015/16, 454 new project descriptions were added to the research inventory, compared to 376 during 2014/15. Most of these new research projects are situated in five core disciplines (sociology, education science, political science, economics, and psychology). All in all, the research inventory comprises 10'545 published project descriptions.

## Activity 3: Advise researchers and other interested parties on the collection and use of data and other methodological issues

### Indicator:

### 3.1 Number of cases of help and advice provided to users or to others requesting information or expertise

*FORS regularly provides consultation, information, and advice in response to calls and contacts from researchers and other external parties seeking help or expertise. This indicator measures the overall level of this activity (which has been documented throughout the year using an online software), and provides details according to caller characteristics.*

During 2016, FORS staff members documented 262 cases of providing help or advice to individuals contacting us from the outside, compared to 291 cases in 2015, 376 in 2014, and 574 in 2013. In 2016, there were 17 FORS collaborators who provided at least one documented case of help or advice (compared to 16 in 2015, 19 in 2014, and 22 in 2013), with an average of 15 calls per person. The calls were fairly evenly distributed across the staff, although one person documented over 120 cases.

As shown in the following table, those contacting us fell into different categories, such as research faculty (21 percent), students (20 percent), teaching faculty (18 percent), and doctoral students (16 percent). As in previous years, most of the people contacting us for advice were from universities (77 percent), and most contacted us from within Switzerland (90 percent).

The time devoted to calls by FORS staff varied, with most cases requiring less than a half hour (46 percent), with 24 percent of the cases taking more than an hour to address. There were different purposes for the contacts, including data analysis (36 percent), survey design and implementation (18 percent), and data access (12 percent).

<b>FORS consultations, by caller and call features</b>								
	<b>2016</b>		<b>2015</b>		<b>2014</b>		<b>2013</b>	
	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>262</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>291</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>376</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>574</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Type of caller</b>								
PhD student	41	16%	59	20	47	13	61	16
Faculty (research)	54	21%	45	15	62	17	68	18
Student	53	20%	61	21	90	24	68	18
Faculty (teaching)	48	18%	45	15	102	27	80	21
Other researcher	17	6%	20	7	21	6	24	6
Other types (e.g., administrator, journalist, post doc)	49	19%	61	22	51	14	75	20
<b>Institutional type</b>								
University	202	77%	211	73	283	76	263	70
Public administration	11	4%	12	4	11	3	20	5
Private	2	1%	7	2	7	2	23	6
Haute école	17	6%	15	5	21	6	27	7
Research institute	17	6%	21	7	23	6	9	2
Other	13	5%	25	9	28	8	34	9
<b>Region</b>								
French-speaking Switzerland	168	64%	179	62	219	59	164	44
German-speaking Switzerland	65	25%	72	25	106	28	133	35
Italian speaking Switzerland	2	1%	10	3	4	1	5	1
Other Country	27	10%	30	10	44	12	74	20
<b>Time devoted</b>								
<15 minutes	46	18%	72	25	115	31	91	24
15-30 minutes	73	28%	80	27	93	25	138	37
30 min - 1 hour	79	30%	69	24	91	24	77	20
More than 1 hour	64	24%	70	24	74	20	70	19
<b>Purpose</b>								
Data access	35	13%	81	28	136	36	106	28
Data analysis	95	36%	70	24	67	18	66	18
Survey design and implementation	47	18%	32	11	55	15	41	11
Documentation	28	11%	37	13	39	10	50	13
Subject expertise	17	6%	32	11	22	6	53	14
Methodology	6	2%	12	4	10	3	14	4
Other purposes	34	13%	27	9	44	12	46	12

Note: percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

## Activity 4: Acquire and conduct funded research projects

### Indicator:

#### 4.1 Total funding for third-party financed projects in progress

*All externally mandated and funded projects are counted in this indicator. However, FORS ongoing infrastructure projects are excluded (i.e., ESS, EVS MOSAiCH, SELECTS, SHP, the Social Report, and LIS). The sums reported might fluctuate over time depending on duration and funding schemes of individual projects.*

In 2016, there was a total of 823'997 CHF in funding for third-party financed projects (compared with 527'476 CHF in 2015 and 200'511 CHF in 2014). This considerable difference compared to the previous year is mainly due to the VOTO project, financed by the Swiss Federal chancellery and the remaining amount from the mandate Pro Infirmis and the project SERISS. Again, we hesitate to derive a trend from these figures since there will always be some fluctuation in third-party funded projects, and so the figures might again look very different next year.

## Activity 5: Contribute actively to substantive and methodological scientific debate

### Indicators:

#### 5.1 Number of publications by FORS staff

*Publications are a reflection of active and successful participation in international scientific debate.*

In 2016, FORS staff members had a total of 54 publications, including 21 articles in peer-reviewed journals, such as the Canadian Journal on Aging, Journal of Research in Gender Studies, Review of Educational Research, and European Journal of Population, among others. Out of these publications, 14 treated methodological issues in survey research, with seven of these in peer-reviewed journals.

Type of publication	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Peer-reviewed articles	19	11	17	11	14	14	22
Working papers	6	8	3	10	8	13	11
Book sections	16	5	7	9	12	10	5
Edited books/journals	9	0	4	3	6	0	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>54</b>	24	31	33	40	37	42

## 5.2 Number of presentations by FORS staff

*This serves as an indication of active commitments to diffuse findings and engage colleagues in scholarly discussion.*

The results of research projects conducted at FORS were the subject of 77 presentations at national and international scientific conferences and workshops in 2016, such as the International Conference on Survey Methods in Multinational, Multiregional and Multicultural Contexts in Chicago, the International Conference on Science and Technology Indicators in València, the Gerontological Society of America's Annual Scientific Meeting in New Orleans, and the IASSIST conference in Bergen. 20 (41%) of the presentations at scientific conferences and workshops were focused on methodological issues. See the Appendix for a complete list of presentations by FORS staff.

Type of publication	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Scientific conferences	49	58	43	55	41	41	46
Other presentations	30	26	32	28	27	17	13
<b>Total</b>	<b>77</b>	84	75	33	40	37	42

**Objective 2: Strengthen the social sciences in Switzerland by creating linkages and facilitating synergies between researchers and institutions within the country and internationally**

**Activity 6: Establish collaborative links and stimulate debate and scientific exchange with and between researchers and institutions that pursue similar objectives, both within Switzerland and abroad.**

### Indicators:

#### 6.1 Number of collaborative research projects and scientific activities with outside organisations and individuals

*Developing and maintaining linkages and synergies between FORS staff and the outside research community is a key activity for FORS. This indicator addresses collaborative links with researchers in Switzerland and abroad.*

In 2016, **24** FORS staff members were involved in **79** collaborative projects with outside organizations. Thus, around 70% of eligible FORS staff were involved in research activities. We can note a very positive increase compared to last year (67 collaborative projects), notably due to the scientific network of our newly recruited staff.

About 7 out of 10 (71%) of these collaborative projects were with individuals from the French-speaking part of Switzerland, 11% with colleagues from the German-speaking part of Switzerland and 34% with foreign institutions (some projects involved several institutions from different regions).

This concentration in the French-speaking part of the country is due in particular to the close ties of some collaborators with other institutions in Lausanne and Geneva (in particular LINES/LIVES). Compared to the previous years, our international collaborations are also more diversified, including a broader range of foreign countries (20, compared to 13 for instance in 2015).

**Region / Country Collaborations (some projects involve several countries)**

	n
French-speaking part of Switzerland	56
German-speaking part of Switzerland	9
Belgium	6
Germany	6
North America	6
Italy	3
France	2
Russia	2
The Netherlands	2
United Kingdom	2
Australia	1
Austria	1
China	1
Denmark	1
Hungary	1
India	1
Macedonia	1
Mexico	1
New Zealand	1
Taiwan	1
Turkey	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>105</b>

## 6.2 Workshops, seminars, and conferences organised and conducted by FORS

*The indicator gives a sense of FORS efforts in establishing, maintaining, and developing scientific networks nationally and internationally.*

FORS organised and conducted 4 different conferences, workshops, and seminars in 2016. In addition, the FORS/LINES research and methods series and the FORS lunch seminars hosted a wide range of speakers, both domestic and international (see Appendix for details).

Events 2016	Month
3rd International ESS Conference "Understanding key challenges for European societies in the 21st century"	July
Fourth SHP Methodological Workshop	July
Workshop "Managing and Analysing Data from the Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe" (SHARE)	September
Workshop on wellbeing: "Le bien-être, une richesse de la Suisse?" (Neuchâtel)	November
FORS/LINES research and methods seminar series	Continuous
FORS lunch seminars	Continuous

### 6.3 Number of hours devoted to teaching by FORS staff

*Sharing knowledge and shaping future researchers through teaching is an important task of FORS.*

In total, 12 FORS staff members taught in 2016. They gave 374 teaching hours in 15 different courses at all academic levels (bachelor, master, and PhD), as well as in the context of continuing education (see list in Appendix). The topics covered concerned predominantly data analysis and data management, but also survey methodology. About three quarters (73%) of the teaching hours were provided in the French-speaking part of Switzerland, about one sixth (16%) in the German-speaking part, and about one tenth (9%) at the Lugano Social science methods Swiss summer school. Moreover, some courses (2%) were given abroad, during seminars held at the Corvinus University of Budapest (Hungary)

Thus, about one-third of eligible FORS staff were involved in teaching activities. FORS will continue to make a contribution to the training of young scientists according to its possibilities and resources.

### 6.4 Number of Lugano summer school course enrolments

*The Swiss Summer School on Methods in the Social Sciences held in Lugano every year brings together young researchers to focus on current issues in empirical research methodology. This indicator measures the level of participation in this event.*

The 2016 FORS summer school in Lugano had 167 course enrolments, compared to 128 in 2015, 144 in 2014, 118 in 2013, 138 in 2012 and 145 in 2011. Eight percent of the 155 participants attended two courses. 73% came from Switzerland, with the remaining 27% from Italy, UK, Belgium, Austria, France, Croatia, Germany, Czech Republic, Denmark, Liechtenstein, Kuwait, Lithuania, Luxemburg, the Netherlands, Poland, Sweden and the USA. Seventy-eight percent of the participants were PhD students from universities or universities of applied sciences. Participants were working or studying primarily in the fields of Psychology (16%), Education (15%), Sociology (14%), Business Studies (13%), Communication Sciences (12%), and Political Science (11%).

## 6.5 Number of copies of the Social Report sold or distributed

*This indicator reports the number of copies of the Social Report sold or distributed as a measure of our effectiveness in disseminating important results on Swiss society. The number is separated into copies sold and distributed, and by language.*

This indicator reports the number of copies of the Social Report sold or distributed as a measure of our effectiveness in disseminating important results on Swiss society. The number is separated into copies sold and distributed, and by language.

The Social Report is published every four years. The latest report, the Social Report 2016, was released in October 2016. The table shows the total number of copies sold and distributed of the edition 2012 and the edition 2016 since their publication until December 31, 2016.

From the edition 2012 902 books have been delivered so far, 572 were sold (63%) and 330 distributed (37%). From the 2016 edition 631 books have been delivered in the first three months after the release, 421 (67,7%) have been sold, 210 (33%) were distributed.

	Edition 2016			Edition 2012		
Language	Sold	Distributed	Total delivered	Sold	Distributed	Total delivered
German	284	86	370	358	155	513
French	119	72	191	166	149	315
English	18	52	70	48	26	74
<b>Total</b>	<b>421</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>631</b>	<b>572</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>902</b>

## Appendix: Facts and Figures

### Publications

#### Peer Reviewed Articles

- Ben Salah, Hakim, and Boris **Wernli**. 2016. "Uncovering Perspectives on Masculinity in Swiss Men's Organizations Using a Mixed Methods Approach." *NORMA International Journal for Masculinity Studies* 11 (2): 110–28, doi: 10.1080/18902138.2016.1181864.
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Rothenbühler, Martina, and **Voorpostel**, Marieke. 2016. “Attrition in the Swiss Household Panel: Are Vulnerable Groups More Affected than Others?” In: *Surveying Human Vulnerabilities across the Life Course*, edited by Oris, M., C. Roberts, D. Joye, and M. Ernst Stähli, 221–42. New York: Springer.

### Working Papers / Reports

Gendall, Philip, Dominique **Joye**, and Marlène **Sapin** (eds.). 2016. “International Social Survey Programme: ISSP 2012 – Family and Changing Gender Roles IV: Study Monitoring Report.” Lausanne.

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**Lipps**, Oliver, and Sara **Zella**. 2016. “Inequality of BMI Dynamics: A Socioeconomic and Gender Perspective.” *LIVES Working Paper, University of Lausanne*, no. 56.

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**Voorpostel**, Marieke, Robin **Tillmann**, Florence **Lebert**, Ursina **Kuhn**, Oliver **Lipps**, Valerie-Anne **Ryser**, Flurina **Schmid**, Erika **Antal**, Gian-Andrea **Monsch**, and Boris **Wernli**. 2016. “Swiss Household Panel Userguide (1999-2015), Wave 17.” Lausanne, Switzerland: FORS.

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**Kuhn**, Ursina. 2016. “Dynamics of Party Preferences: A Study on the Volatility and Stability of Individuals Using Household Panel Data from Germany, Great Britain and Switzerland.” Zurich: Dissertation, Universität Zürich. <http://opac.nebis.ch/ediss/20162715.pdf>.

## Presentations

### Scientific conferences

- Ehrler**, Franziska. 2016. "Social Change in Switzerland: Developing a New Monitoring System." Paper presented at the 11th Conference "Social Monitoring and Reporting in Europe", Villa Vigoni, Menaggio, Italy, October 26.
- Ernst Stähli**, Michèle. 2016. "Translation, Wording, Question Design, Survey Design: An Empirical Exploration of Different Challenges to the Comparability of International Survey Data." Paper presented at the 3MC 2016 (Second International Conference on Survey Methods in Multinational, Multiregional and Multicultural Contexts), Chicago, USA, July 27.
- Ernst Stähli**, Michèle. 2016. "Recherches méthodologiques dans le cadre de l'ESS: regard sur les expérimentations nationales et internationales réalisées par l'équipe Suisse." presented at the Journée d'étude ESS: recherche, analyse, méthodologies, Lyon, France, November 29.
- Ernst Stähli**, Michèle. 2016. "Threats to Comparability: Beyond Translation and Word-ing." Paper presented at the RC33 conference 2016, 9th International Conference on Social Science Methodology, Leicester, UK, December 9.
- Farago**, Peter. 2016. "Vergleichende Umfrageforschung in Europa - Beispiele und Herausforderungen." Presentation at the Conference „Umfrageforschung in Österreich", University of Vienna, Vienna, Austria, November 11.
- Joye**, Dominique, and Marlène **Sapin**. 2016. "Survey climate or the integration of the multilevel perspective in non-response studies." Paper presented at the International Workshop on Household Survey Nonresponse, Oslo (Norway), August 31-September 1.
- Joye**, Dominique, Marlène **Sapin**, and Christof Wolf. 2016. Surveying networks in comparative perspective: a social capital approach. Paper presented at the XXXVI SUNBELT Conference of the International Network for Social Network Analysis (INSNA), Newport Beach (CA), USA, April, 5-10.
- Kaltenbrunner, Wolfgang, and **Ochsner**, Michael. 2016. "Think Pair in the Session „Multiplying Methods in the Field of Research Evaluation", presented at the 21st International Conference on Science and Technology Indicators, València, Spain, September 16.
- Kuhn**, Ursina, and Laura **Ravazzini**. 2016. "Labour Supply of Couples in Switzerland: Evidence of Economic and Moral Incentives to Work." Paper presented at the Annual Congress of the Swiss Society of Economics and Statistics, Lugano, June 9.
- Lipps**, Oliver, and Michael **Ochsner**. 2016. Does Providing Additional Languages Improve Representativeness? Paper presented at the Second International Conference on Survey Methods in Multinational, Multiregional and Multicultural Contexts (3MC 2016), Chicago, USA, July 27.

- Lipps**, Oliver. 2016. "Analyzing Gender of Interviewer Effects in a Multi-Topic Centralized CATI Panel." Paper presented at the 5th Panel Survey Methods Workshop, DIW Berlin, June, 21.
- Lipps**, Oliver. 2016. "Does Providing Additional Languages Improve Representativeness in Swiss General Population Surveys?" Paper presented at the Swiss Metadatabase of Religious Affiliation in Europe (SMRE) Workshop, University of Lucerne, March, 9.
- Lipps**, Oliver. 2016. "Entwicklungen bei Datenerhebungs- und Auswertungsmethoden in den Sozialwissenschaften." Paper presented at the Kolloquium Sozialforschung, University of Lucerne, November, 17.
- Monsch**, Gian-Andrea. 2016. "Does Commitment Change People's Mind? Biographical Consequences, Democratic Cultures and Political Socialization." Paper presented at the ECPR General Conference, Prague, Czech Republic, September 8.
- Ochsner**, Michael, Erika **Antal**, and Ivett **Szalma**. 2016. "Generational Differences between Attitudes towards Welfare Provision. Convergence between Eastern and Western Europe?" Paper presented at the 3rd International ESS Conference, Lausanne, Switzerland, July 14.
- Ochsner**, Michael, and Michèle **Ernst Stähli**. 2016. "Session: Methods to Support the Development of Cross-Cultural Source Questionnaires: Identifying Potential Problems on the Concept Level." Session organized at the Second International Conference on Survey Methods in Multinational, Multiregional and Multicultural Contexts (3MC 2016), Chicago, USA, July 28.
- Ochsner**, Michael, Michèle **Ernst Stähli**, Karin **Nisple**, Alexandre **Pollien**, and Marlène **Sapin**. 2016. "More than Language: Strategies for Detecting, Resolving and Coping with Issues of Cross-Cultural Transferability of Concepts." Paper presented at the Second International Conference on Survey Methods in Multinational, Multiregional and Multicultural Contexts (3MC 2016), Chicago, USA, July 28.
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- Ochsner**, Michael. 2016. “Same-Same but Different: Strategies to Detect and Resolve Issues of Cross-Cultural Transferability of Concepts in the Context of Religion.” Paper presented at the International SMRE Workshop, Luzern, Switzerland, March 10.
- Ochsner**, Michael. 2016. “Scientific Careers and Bibliometrics, Altmetrics and Scientometrics: Opportunities and Pitfalls for Young Scholars.” Paper presented at the DOPE Colloquium, Lausanne, Switzerland, October 6.
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- Pin, Stéphanie, and Valérie-Anne **Ryser**. 2016. “Impact of Health Events on Frailty and Buffering Effect of Social and Personal Resources.” presented at the Gerontological Society of America’s 69th Annual Scientific Meeting, New-Orleans, USA, November 16.
- Ravazzini**, Laura, and Ursina **Kuhn**. 2016. “The True Richness: Wealth, Savings and Children among Swiss, German and Australian Families.” Paper presented at the 12th International German Socio-Economic Panel User Conference, Berlin, Germany, June 22.
- Ravazzini**, Laura. 2016. “Do Opposites Detract Inequality? The Impact of Assortative Mating on Inequality in Switzerland.” Paper presented at the ISA RC28 Summer Meeting, Economic inequalities, deprivation, and poverty., Bern, Switzerland, August 29.
- Ravazzini**, Laura. 2016. “Donne Con Donne E Uomini Con Uomini. Con Chi Confrontiamo Il Nostro Reddito? Un’analisi Di Confronti Di Reddito in Germania.” Paper presented at the Conferenza AIQUAV Qualità della vita e sostenibilità., Florence, Italy, December 10.
- Ryser**, Valérie-Anne, and Jean-Marie Le Goff. 2016. “Marriage and Cohabitation Trends in Switzerland: The Rise of Childbearing within Cohabitation.” Paper presented at the European Society on Family Relations 8th Congress, Dortmund, Germany, September 2.
- Ryser**, Valérie-Anne, and Jean-Marie Le Goff. 2016. “The Similarity of Marriage and Cohabitation in Question: New Family Forms in Switzerland.” Paper presented at the European Population Conference, Mainz, Germany, September 2.
- Ryser**, Valérie-Anne, and Stéphanie Pin. 2016. “Multidimensionality of Identity Shift in the Elderly During Life Transitions.” Paper presented at the Gerontological Society of America’s 69th Annual Scientific Meeting, New Orleans, USA, November 16.
- Ryser**, Valérie-Anne, and Boris **Wernli**. 2016. “Transition to Retirement: A Challenge for Seniors’ Subjective Well-Being and Identity.” Paper presented at the Geronto-

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- Sapin**, Marlène, and Eric D. Widmer. 2016. "Personal networks and the development of individual vulnerability or strength in the life course." Session organized at the Second European Social Networks Conference, Paris, France, June, 14-16.
- Sapin**, Marlène. 2016. "Resources or strains? Patterns of supportive and upsetting interdependencies in family networks of individuals with mental illness." Paper presented at the Second European Social Networks Conference, Paris, France, June, 14-16.
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- Stam**, Alexandra. 2016. "Formal Data Management Planning: Useful Guidance or Administrative Burden?" Paper presented at the IASSIST conference, Bergen, Norway, March 6.
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- Szalma**, Ivett, and Michael **Ochsner**. 2016. "Session: The Quality of Work and Reconciling Work and Family Life in Europe." Paper presented at the 3rd International ESS Conference, Lausanne, Switzerland, July 13.
- Takacs, Judit, and Ivett **Szalma**. 2016. "Is There a Homophobic Divide across Europe?" Paper presented at the 3rd International ESS Conference, Lausanne, Switzerland, July 13.



- Voorpostel**, Marieke. 2016. "Does Partnership Dissolution Affect Political Party Preference?" Paper presented at the Alpine Population Conference, Villars-sur-Ollon, Switzerland, January 26.
- Voorpostel**, Marieke. 2016. "Does Partnership Dissolution Affect Political Party Preference?" Poster presented at the Congress of the European Society on Family Relations, Dortmund, Germany, September 1.
- Voorpostel**, Marieke. 2016. "What Is a Family? Family Definitions in France and the Netherlands." Paper presented at the Congress of the European Society on Family Relations, Dortmund, Germany, September 2.
- Wernli**, Boris, Caroline Henchoz, and Hakim Ben Salah. 2016. "L'impact de l'idéologie genrée sur l'implication des hommes dans le travail familial et domestique en Suisse." Paper presented at the conference AISLF, Université du Québec à Montréal UQAM, May 7.
- Wernli**, Boris, Caroline Henchoz, and Tristan Coste. 2016. "L'influence des représentations de l'argent sur les pratiques économiques des jeunes." Paper presented at the conference AISLF, Université du Québec à Montréal UQAM, July 7.
- Widmer, Eric D., Marlène **Sapin**, and Ivan de Carlo. 2016. "Définitions profanes de la famille, effets de genre et de cycle de vie." Papier présenté au XXe congrès de l'Association Internationale des Sociologues de Langue Française (AISLF), Montréal, Canada, 4-8 juillet.

### Other Presentations

- Borrat-Besson**, Carmen. 2016. "Using SHARE data for analyzing subjective well-being". Presentation at the UniNe-FORS-ISEC Meeting, Neuchâtel, Switzerland, March 3.
- Borrat-Besson**, Carmen. 2016. "General presentation of the SHARE Survey". Presentation at the SHARE Methodological workshop, Lausanne, Switzerland, September 5.
- Ehrler**, Franziska. 2016. "Wie steht es um das Wohlbefinden in der Schweiz?" Presentation at the Press release Swiss Social Report, Bern, Switzerland, October 4.
- Ernst Stähli**, Michèle. 2016. "Multi-Lingual Surveys and Questionnaire Translation." Presentation at the Master level course of Prof. Caroline Roberts "Questionnaire development & questionnaire design", MA in Public opinion and surveys methodology, University of Lausanne, Switzerland, May 9.
- Ernst Stähli**, Michèle. 2016. "The ESS Survey Life Cycle." Presentation at the Master level seminar of Emilio Paolo Visintin "Cultural diversity: research and debates", SSP, University of Lausanne, Switzerland, October 13.
- Ernst Stähli**, Michèle. 2016. "The ESS Survey Life Cycle and Management." Presentation at the Master level course of Prof. Georg Lutz "The field of survey research

- methodology”, MA in Public opinion and surveys methodology, University of Lausanne, Switzerland, December 5.
- Hug, Sven E., Michael **Ochsner**, and Hans-Dieter Daniel. 2016. “Criteria and Indicators for Evaluating Research in the Humanities.” Poster presented at the Swiss Way to Research Quality, Berne, Switzerland, November 3.
- Joye**, Dominique, Marlène **Sapin**, Christof Wolf, Yanjie Bian, Johannes Andersen, Ali Carkoglu, Ersin Kalaycioglu, Tom W. Smith, and Yang-chih Fu. 2016. “ISSP 2017 on Social Network and Social Resources: Reasoning report on the source questionnaire.” Paper presented and discussed at the 2016 ISSP Meeting, Kaunas, Lithuania, April 30 – Mai 4.
- Joye**, Dominique, Marlène **Sapin**, and Christof Wolf. 2016. “Surveying networks in a comparative perspective.” Paper presented at the LIVES workshop on Cross-Cutting Issue 4, Rolle, Switzerland, April 26.
- Kuhn**, Ursina. 2016. “L’évolution des inégalités de revenu en Suisse.” Presentation at the Cours BA, University of Neuchâtel, Neuchâtel, Switzerland, January 6.
- Kuhn**, Ursina. 2016. “Qu’est-ce qui nous rend plus heureux de vivre? Biens marchands ou biens sociaux?” Presentation at the conference Le bien-être, une richesse de la Suisse?, Neuchâtel, Switzerland, March 11.
- Kuhn**, Ursina. 2016. “Income Inequality and Wage Inequality in Different Data Sources. Insights from the SNF Project at the University of Neuchâtel.” Presentation at the FORS Lunch Seminar, Lausanne, Switzerland, May 18.
- Kuhn**, Ursina, and Christian Suter. 2016. “La Distribution de la fortune en Suisse et en Allemagne: Evidence de données d’enquête.” Presentation at the Expertengruppe Sozialstatistik des BFS, Neuchâtel, Switzerland, August 11.
- Lebert**, Florence, and Gian-Andrea **Monsch**. 2016. “Umgang mit komplexen Datensätzen anhand des Schweizer Haushalt-Panels SHP.” Presentation at the Doktoratsworkshop, Bern, Switzerland, November 17.
- Lipps**, Oliver. 2016. “Nutzen und Herausforderungen von Panelstudien.” Presentation at the Kick-off Event, Projekt «Evaluation Jugend+Sport», Magglingen, November, 4.
- Ochsner**, Michael. 2016. “Mixing Modes: Representation Bias, Measurement Effects, and Politics.” Presentation at the FORS Lunch Seminar, Lausanne, Switzerland, February 1.
- Ochsner**, Michael, Erika **Antal**, and Ivett **Szalma**. 2016. “Generational Differences between Attitudes towards Welfare Provision. Convergence between Eastern and Western Europe?” *3rd ESS Conference Papers*.
- Ochsner**, Michael, and Ivett **Szalma**. 2016. “Gendered Crisis? Effects of the Financial Crisis on Work-Life Conflict of Working Couples.” *3rd ESS Conference Papers*.
- Ryser**, Valérie-Anne. 2016. “Travailler: Comment s’arrêter? Se construire une nouvelle identité?” Presentation at the module “La retraite - Travailler comment on s’arrête?”, Hôpitaux Universitaire de Genève, Geneva, Switzerland, May 24.

- Ryser**, Valérie-Anne, and Jean-Marie Le Goff. 2016. "The Rise of Childbearing within Cohabitation: Family's Form New Trends in Switzerland?" Presentation at the NCCR LIVES seminar, University of Geneva, Geneva, June 30.
- Ryser**, Valérie-Anne. 2016. "Le Panel Suisse de Ménages (PSM): L'observation du changement social depuis plus de 15 ans." Presentation at the Master Level Seminar "Dynamiques sociales", University of Lausanne, Lausanne, Switzerland, March 1.
- Sapin**, Marlène. 2016. "From support to Overload: Patterns of positive and negative family relationships of adults with mental illness." Paper presented and discussed at the Site Visit of the review panel of the NCCR LIVES (year 6), University of Lausanne, Lausanne, Switzerland, November 10.
- Stam**, Alexandra. 2016. "Les enjeux de la gestion des données des sciences sociales, Leur dépôt, leur mise à disposition et réutilisation – L'exemple de FORS et FORSbase." Presentation at the Journée d'étude gestion des données de recherche, University of Lausanne, March 22.
- Stam**, Alexandra. 2016. "Introduction to Data Management & Data Activities." Presentation at the University of Lausanne, December 12.
- Tillmann**, Robin. 2016. "The Swiss Household Panel Study." Presentation at The field of survey research methodology, Lausanne, Switzerland, December 5.
- Tillmann**, Robin. 2016. "Pauvreté, Précarité, Prospérité et Bien-Être En Suisse." Presentation at the Le bien-être, une richesse de la Suisse?, Neuchâtel, Switzerland, November 3.
- Wernli**, Boris. 2016. "Offre et besoins en matière de restauration sur le campus de l'UNIL." Presentation at the Commission de restauration de l'UNIL, University of Lausanne, January 6.
- Wernli**, Boris. 2016. "An Introduction to Data Visualization - Empirical Part - First Steps in Data Visualization with R." Presentation at the Vorlesung Methoden der empirischen Sozialforschung, Université de Fribourg, April 5.
- Wernli**, Boris. 2016. "An Introduction to Data Visualization." Presentation at the Vorlesung Methoden der empirischen Sozialforschung, Université de Fribourg, April 27.
- Wernli**, Boris. 2016. "Projet d'agglomération Lausanne-Morges de troisième génération révisé PALM 2016." Presentation at the Commission du PALM 2016, Service du développement territorial, October 11.

### Other Media (*selection*)

- Ehrler**, Franziska. 2016. "Wohlbefinden in der Schweiz: Ausgrenzung macht unzufrieden." *Defacto*, October.
- Ehrler**, Franziska. 2016. "Bien-être en Suisse : L'exclusion rend malheureux." *Defacto*, November.
- Ehrler**, Franziska, and Felix Bühlmann. 2016. "Wohlbefinden in der Schweiz." *SAGW Bulletin*, no. 3/16 (September): 36–38.
- Lutz**, Georg. 2016. "7 Erkenntnisse zu den nationalen Wahlen." *Berner Zeitung*, March 3.
- Lutz**, Georg. 2016. "Die SVP hat gesamtschweizerisch ein Problem zu wachsen." *Tagesanzeiger*, June 19.
- Lutz**, Georg. 2016. "Falsche Prognosen können Wahlen indirekt beeinflussen." *Basler Zeitung*, November 9.
- Lutz**, Georg. 2016. "Im Majorzsystem könnte RGM alle fünf Gemeinderatssitze gewinnen." *Der Bund*, December 1.
- Sapin**, Marlène. 2016. "Points forts et conclusion de l'Atelier « Institution publiques de soutien dans la prise en charge extra-scolaire et extra-familiales." *Avenir Familles, Actes des Assises de la famille 2016: La prise en charge extrascolaire et extrafamiliale des enfants de 4 à 18 ans*, p.56-60. Université de Genève, 31 mai.
- Tillmann**, Robin, Maurizia Masia, and Monica Budowski. 2016. "Führt Wohlstand zu Wohlbefinden?" *Zeitschrift Für Sozialhilfe*, no. 4: 24–25.

## FORS Working Paper Series

The FORS Working Paper Series publishes papers based on or related to survey data, from both methodological and substantive viewpoints. The series accepts manuscripts for consideration from scholars within and from outside of FORS. The series is intended to provide an early and relatively quick means of publication prior to further development of the work. In 2016 four submissions were received, three of which have been published. The fourth one is scheduled to be published in 2017 pending revisions. In total 31 papers have been published so far. The majority of the papers have in the meantime been published or are under review in a scientific journal. Also, some are not designed to become a scientific publication, most often because they describe a method (e.g., 2-2016) or are descriptive (e.g., 2-2012).

Mikucka, Malgorzata & Rizzi, Ester. (2016). "Does it take a village to raise a child? The buffering effect of relationships with relatives for parental life satisfaction." FORS Working Paper 2016-1. Lausanne: FORS.

Aeby, Gaëlle (2016). "Who are my people? Strengths and limitations of ego-centered network analysis: A case illustration from the Family tiMes survey." FORS Working Paper 2016-2. Lausanne: FORS.

Chevillard, Julien, Gianettoni, Lavinia, & Jaquier, Véronique (2016). "A methodological journey towards integrating a gender perspective into the measurement of violence against women and intimate partner violence." FORS Working Paper 2016-3. Lausanne: FORS.

## Teaching Activities

- Diaz**, Pablo. Winter semester 2016. “Séminaire d'encadrement du projet de recherche en science politique”, University of Geneva, Global Studies Institute, bachelor level seminar.
- Diaz**, Pablo. Spring Semester 2016. “Introduction aux relations internationales”. University of Geneva, Geneva School of Economics and Management, master level course (with Stefan Davidshofer)
- Kleiner**, Brian and Alexandra Stam. Spring semester 2016. Workshop “Data management planning and data processing for quantitative research”. CUSO doctoral programme at the University of University of Lausanne, doctoral level.
- Lebert**, Florence, et Gian-Andrea **Monsch**. 17.11.2016. Umgang mit komplexen Datensätzen anhand des Schweizer Haushalt-Panels SHP. Universität Bern.
- Lipps**, Oliver. Spring semester 2016. Seminar “Sozialwissenschaftliche Surveys”. Institute for Sociology at the University of Basel, master level.
- Lipps**, Oliver. Autumn semester 2016. Seminar “Kausalanalyse mit Surveydaten”. Institute for Sociology at the University of Luzern, master level.
- Lipps**, Oliver and Ursina **Kuhn**. August 2016. “Introduction to panel data analysis”. Swiss Summer School 2016, Lugano (1 week) (master level).
- Lutz**, Georg. Spring semester 2016. “Elections et votations en Suisse: Analyse de données d'enquête”. University of Lausanne, IEPI, bachelor level course (with Lionel Marquis).
- Lutz**, Georg. Autumn Semester 2016. “The field of survey research methodology” (SRM), University of Lausanne, Master of Arts in Public Opinion and Survey Methodology, master level course.
- Ravazzini**, Laura. Fall semester 2016. Seminar “Colloque sur les indicateurs sociaux”. Institute of Sociology of the University of Neuchâtel, bachelor level (with Christian Suter).
- Ravazzini**, Laura. Spring and fall semester 2016. Seminar “Colloque des mémorant-es en sociologie”. Institute of Sociology of the University of Neuchâtel, master level (with Christian Suter).
- Ryser**, Valérie-Anne, et Florence **Lebert**. 04.07.2016. Swiss Household Panel (SHP): an introduction to the survey and data management using SPSS or Stata. Université de Lausanne.
- Szalma**, Ivett. Autumn semester 2016 “Introduction to freely available quantitative databases and new trends in survey research”. Corvinus University of Budapest, Doctoral Scholl of Sociology, PhD level course (with Livia Murinkó).
- Wernli**, Boris. Spring semester 2016. “Grandes enquêtes – analyses empiriques.” University of Lausanne, faculty SSP, bachelor level course.

**Wernli**, Boris. Spring semester 2016. "Exploratory techniques, data visualization and data presentation". University of Lausanne, Master of Arts in Public Opinion and Survey Methodology, master level course.

## Methods and Research Meetings

**February 23: Ana Villar (City University London)**

Advantages and disadvantages of mixing modes of data collection in cross-national surveys.

**March 22: Marie Santiago and Christine Bruchez (University of Lausanne)**

Quels critères de qualité pour la recherche qualitative en sciences de la santé.

**May 24: Jacques Babel and Francesco Laganà (Swiss Federal Statistical Office)**

Utilisation des registres pour les analyses longitudinales dans le domaine de la formation; présentation du programme de l'OFS.

**October 4: Daniela Jopp (University of Lausanne)**

Methodological challenges in international research with centenarians.

**November 1: Melanie Revilla (University Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona)**

Prediction of the quality of survey questions using the program SQP: Background and applications.

**December 6: Ilka Steiner (University of Geneva)**

A New Data Set for the Analysis of Migration and Integration in Switzerland.



## Lunch Seminars

**February 1: Michael Ochsner (FORS)**

Mixing Modes: Representation Bias, Measurement Effects, and Politics. Results from the Mixed Mode Experiment for the City of Zurich

**March 8: Giacomo Pasini (Ca'Foscari University of Venice)**

Leave policies and stress at maternity

**April 4: Sara Zella (FORS), Nevena Kulic and Alessandra Minello (European University Institute)**

Accumulation of dis (advantage) within households: The role of money management practices in financial well-being of Swiss couples

**Mai 18: Ursina Kuhn (FORS)**

Socio-demographic change and income inequality: contrasting different data sources in Switzerland

**June 21: Marieke Heers (FORS)**

Heterogeneity of non-residential fatherhood in France: Socio-economic living conditions and father involvement in early childhood

**September 5: Drystan Philipps (University of Southern California)**

Gateway to Global Ageing Data

**October 31: Mathilde Van Ditmars (European University Institute)**

Political Socialization and Family Dynamics – emphasis on: Social Mobility & Intergenerational Preference Transmission

**December 7: Pablo Diaz (FORS)**

L'enquêteur face à la protection sociale ou la protection sociale face à l'enquêteur: le travail sociologique dans un milieu contrôlé. Le cas des réformes en matière de protection sociale aux Philippines

## Contact Points

### Universities

#### Basel

Prof. Max Bergman, *Institut für Soziologie*

Prof. Kurt Schmidheiny, *WWZ*

#### Bern

Prof. Rolf Becker, *Institut für Erziehungswissenschaft*

Prof. Ben Jann, *Institut für Soziologie*

Prof. Isabelle Stadelmann-Steffen, *Institut für Politikwissenschaft*

#### Fribourg

Maurizia Masia, *Département Travail social et politiques sociales*

#### Geneva

Blaise Dupuis, *Département de Sociologie*

Grégoire Métral, *Centre interfacultaire de gérontologie*

#### Lausanne

Prof. Florence Passy, *IEPHI*

#### Lucerne

Dr. Katharina Manderscheid, *Soziologisches Seminar*

#### Lugano

Fabia Rothenfluh, *Università della Svizzera Italiana, Institute of communication and health (COM)*

#### Neuchâtel

Dr. Katia Iglesias, *Laboratoire d'études transnationales et des processus sociaux*

#### St. Gallen

Dr. Stephan Egger, *Soziologisches Seminar*

#### Zurich

Prof. Eldad Davidov und Georg Datler, *Soziologisches Institut*

Dr. Maike Debus, *Psychologisches Institut, Sozialpsychologie*

Prof. Daniel Kübler, *Institut für Politikwissenschaft*

Prof. Rainer Winkelmann, *Wirtschaftswissenschaftliche Fakultät*

Prof. Werner Wirth, *Institut für Publizistikwissenschaft und Medienforschung IPMZ*

Prof. Dirk Helbing, *ETH, Departement of Humanities, Social and Political Sciences, Computational Science (D-GESS)*

**Universities of Applied Sciences  
(Fachhochschulen, Hautes écoles spécialisées)**

**Aarau**

Silvana Kappeler, *Pädagogische Hochschule Aarau, Institut Forschung und Entwicklung, FHNW*

**Bern**

Prof. Jachen Curdin Nett, *Berner Fachhochschule, Soziale Arbeit*

**Fribourg**

Dr. Jean-François Bickel, *Haute école fribourgeoise de travail social*

**Geneva**

Prof. Eric Crettaz, *Haute école de travail social (HETS)*

**Kreuzlingen**

Prof. Dr. Dieter Isler, *Pädagogische Hochschule Thurgau, Abteilung Forschung*

**Lausanne**

Prof. Pascal Eric Gaberel, *Haute école de travail social et de la santé EESP*

**Lucerne**

Dr. Susanna Niehaus, *Hochschule Luzern, Soziale Arbeit*

**Lugano**

Prof. Christian Marazzi, *Scuola Universitaria Professionale della Svizzera Italiana (SUPSI)*

**Zurich**

Dr. Peter Rüesch, *Zürcher Hochschule für Angewandte Wissenschaften, Gesundheitswissenschaften*

## Governing Bodies

*As of December 31, 2016*

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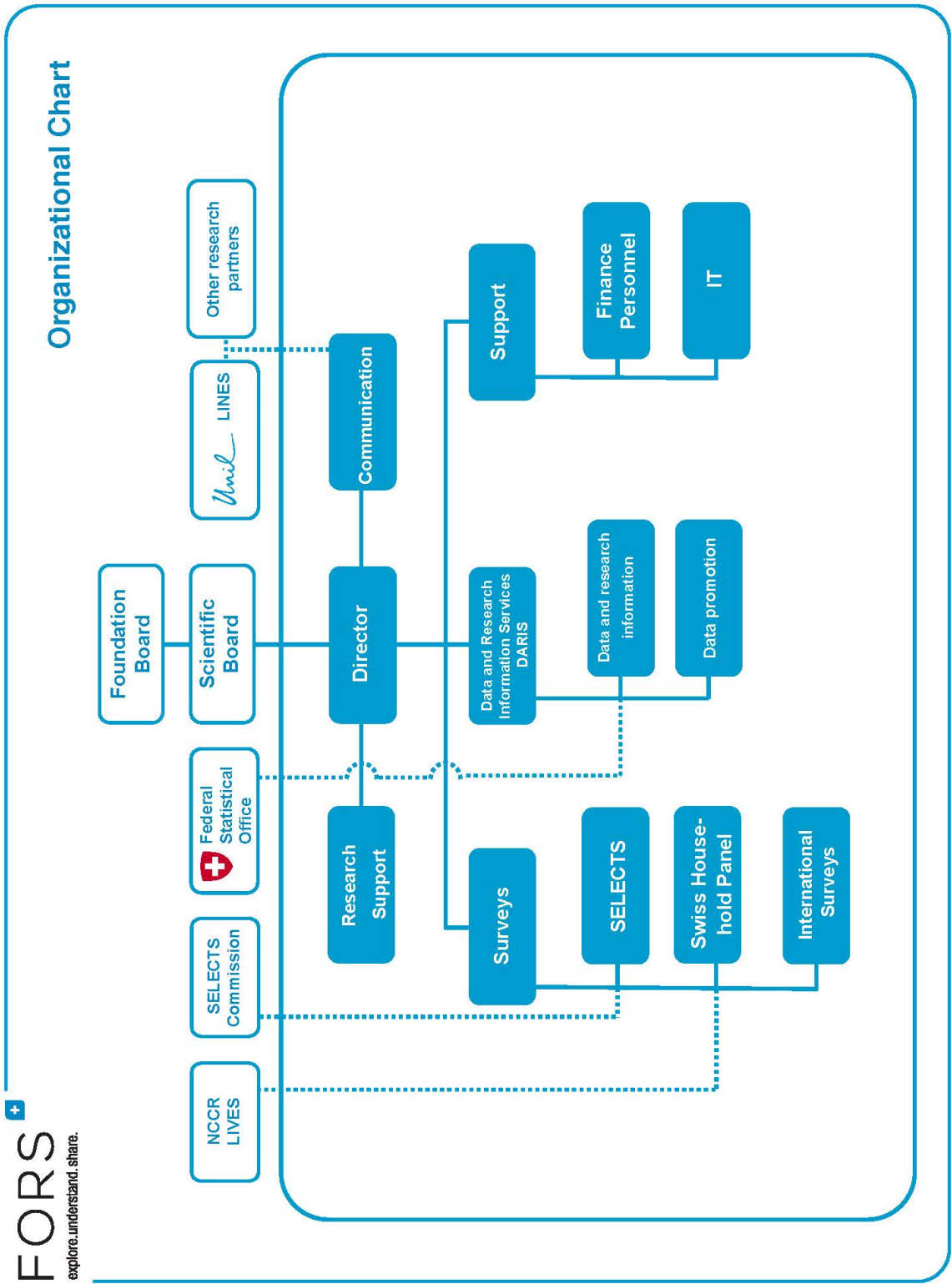
Prof. Milad **Zarin-Nejadan**  
University of Neuchâtel

## Staff Statistics

	31.12.16		31.12.15		01.01.08	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
<b>Permanent Employees</b>	42	100	39	100	19	100
<b><u>1. Sex</u></b>						
Male	18	43	16	41	13	68
Female	24	57	23	59	6	32
<b><u>2. Nationality</u></b>						
CH	31	74	30	77	16	84
other (D,F,HU,I,NL,SB,USA)	11	26	9	23	3	16
<b><u>3. Mother language</u></b>						
Swiss-German	12	29	13	33	5	26
French	14	33	14	36	9	48
Bilingual (incl.FIN,HU,I,PL)	9	21	6	15	4	21
other (E,G,HU,NL,SB)	7	17	6	15	1	5
<b><u>4. Degrees received</u></b>						
Professional formation	3	7	2	5	2	11
BA/MA/Lic./Diploma	21	50	20	51	13	68
Dr. / Ph.D.	18	43	17	44	4	21
<b><u>5. Disciplines</u></b>						
Sociology	9	21	9	23	5	26
Political Science	7	17	7	18	4	21
(Social) Psychology	4	10	3	8	4	21
other social sciences *	10	24	10	26	0	0
other disciplines **	5	12	5	13	1	5
IT	5	12	3	8	3	16
Clerk	2	5	2	5	2	11
<b><u>6. Degree of Employment</u></b>						
Full time	13	31	12	31	7	37
Part time (50%-90%)	29	69	27	69	12	63
Permanent	33	79	34	87	19	100
Not permanent	9	21	5	13	0	0
* <i>Economics, communications, education, anthropology, human geography</i>						
** <i>Statistics, mathematics, linguistics, archival and library science</i>						

Organizational Chart

As of December 31, 2016



## List of Abbreviations

CAPI	Computer Assisted Personal Interviewing
CATI	Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing
CAWI	Computer Assisted Web Interviewing
CCS	Comparative Candidate Survey
CESSDA	Consortium of European Social Science Data Archives
CNEF	Cross-National Equivalent File
CSES	Study of Electoral Systems
CUSO	Conférence universitaire de suisse occidentale
DARIS	Data and Research Information Services
EQB	European Question Bank
ERIC	European Research Infrastructure Consortium
ESFRI	European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures
ESS	European Social Survey
EVS	European Values Study
ISSP	International Social Survey Programme
LINES	Life Course and Inequality Research Centre (U Lausanne)
LIS	Cross-national Data Center in Luxembourg
LIVES	NCCR Overcoming Vulnerability – Life Course Perspectives
MOSAiCH	Measurement and Observation of Social Attitudes in Switzerland
NCCR	National Centre of Competence in Research
ORD@CH	Open Research Data Pilot Platform Switzerland
PAWCER	Public Attitudes to Welfare, Climate Change and Energy in the EU and Russia
SEEDS	South-Eastern European Data Services
SELECTS	Swiss Electoral Studies
SERISS	Synergies for Europe's Research Infrastructures in the Social Sciences
SFSO	Swiss Federal Statistical Office
SHARE	Survey on Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe
SHP	Swiss Household Panel
SMIF	Survey Methods: Insights from the Field
SNSF	Swiss National Science Foundation
swissuniversities	Organisation of the Swiss universities, universities of applied sciences, and universities of teacher education
ÜGK	Überprüfung des Erreichens der Grundkompetenzen