

Annual Report 2011

Lausanne, March 2012

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At a Glance

- Threefold FORS rationale: combine forces – grow competences – create synergies (*p. 4-6*)
- Swiss Household Panel second refresher sample funded by the Swss NSF (*p. 11*)
- International surveys group to be reinforced by two new collaborators (*p. 12-14*)
- SHARE wave 4 with a considerably enlarged sample successfully completed (*p. 14-15*)
- The first scientific rolling cross section survey design in Switzerland successfully implemented by the 2011 electoral study SELECTS (*p. 15-17*)
- Steady growth of the number of datasets disseminated by FORS data services DARIS (*p. 17*)
- Successful acquisition of third party funding for projects and mandates (*p. 29-31*)
- One FORS collaborator nominated professor, one habilitation and two doctoral dissertations by collaborators accomplished (*p. 34*)
- The conference of the European Survey Research Association ESRA and several other important international conferences hosted by FORS (*p. 39-40*)
- FORS actively involved in two FP 7 funded projects and two COST Actions (*p. 39-40*)
- Performance indicators show a continuous development on several dimensions (*p. 41-51*)

1 Guiding Principles

1.1 FORS Rationale

FORS is based upon three principles: combine forces – grow competences – create synergies.

1.1.1 Combine Forces

The infrastructural part of FORS combines specific scholarly know-how and experience that existed before in a rather dispersed and isolated way:

- **Data production:** High quality state of the art surveys like the Swiss Household Panel, the Swiss Election Study, the Swiss ESS, MOSAiCH/ISSP, and European Values Survey EVS are run within the same institution now. This facilitates considerably regular formal and informal exchange on scholarly, organisational, and resource related matters. Negotiations with survey agencies profit from the accumulation of know-how and from the fact of being an important client.
- **Data documentation, access, and distribution:** Standard documentation profiles can be more easily designed, implemented, and suited to the data producers' and users' needs if production happens inside the same organisation. The same applies to accessing and distributing data, whether they are at the FORS data service or physically deposited elsewhere, for example at the Federal Statistical Office or in data banks abroad.
- **Research information:** The collection and structuring of information on social science empirical research in Switzerland is essential for researchers in order to be able to check for colleagues working on the same or similar research questions. Several thousands of project descriptions are at disposal that give an encompassing overview of topics, methods, and researchers nationwide. This registry is linked to similar registries in Switzerland and abroad, and is updated at regular intervals.

FORS has created organisational units and groups that perform these tasks (see sections 2.1-2.3). They are combined under the labels of SURVEYS, DARIS (Data and Research Information Services), and COMPASS (Communication Portal for Accessing Social Statistics).

1.1.2 Grow Competences

FORS' infrastructural services rely strongly on their own research and publications. A key focus is on research methodology.

- **Methodological research:** Three topics have been identified that are of central importance to FORS surveys and that are at the same time widely discussed in the international scientific community: the mixing of interview modes (e.g., combining face-to-face and web interviewing) that might allow respondents to choose their preferred mode; issues in language, translation, and measurement equivalence, especially salient in a multilingual context where the majority language is actually not written (the Swiss-German dialects); and the analysis of non-response, which is paramount in a country that systematically shows low response rates as compared to countries of similar size and socio-economic structure.
- **Research projects:** Substantive research at FORS concentrates on questions of social dynamics, social change, and social inequalities. Other topics are linked to research mandated by federal or cantonal government agencies. All research projects are acquired competitively from national and/or international funding bodies. In preparing and realising research projects FORS actively seeks collaboration with university institutes and other academic research institutions.
- **Publications:** Scholarly publications include articles in peer-reviewed journals and edited books. Additionally, FORS informs the non-academic interested public on the results of its work. Good relations to media have been established and are actively maintained.

FORS research is directed by senior scientists in all organisational units and groups. This guarantees for a continuing transfer of knowledge between research and infrastructures and for attractive possibilities to acquire a proven research record. The "Methods and Indicators" unit coordinates research activities and pools human resources for research.

1.1.3 Create Synergies

Synergies can be found in many aspects of FORS activities. Some of the important ones are the following:

- **Social Report:** This publication assembles in regular four-year intervals 75 indicators in the fields of economy, politics, social change, culture, and environment. The indicators are drawn from FORS' own data-bases and from other sources like the Federal Statistical Office. The indicators are presented in graphics with a short commentary. Additionally there are analytic chapters on each of the thematic fields authored by distinguished scholars. This is an innovative combination of data presentation and illustration with scientific analysis unique to the Social Report. It is produced in three languages (German, French, English).
- **Research partnerships:** Such partnerships exist with the colleagues of the Social Sciences Faculty at the host University of Lausanne, especially with the unit LINES

(Life Course and Inequality Research Centre), which was created by merging with earlier research groups in 2010 (see section 3.1). The new National Centre of Competence in Research "*Overcoming Vulnerability – Life Course Perspectives LIVES*", also hosted by the University of Lausanne, will strengthen collaborative relationships especially by establishing a joint panel survey (see section 3.1). There are research partnerships with other institutes in Switzerland and abroad as well.

- **Lugano Summer School on Methods:** The scientific director of the Summer School is a member of the FORS Scientific Board. In this way discussions in the Board can directly feed into the planning of the courses and vice-versa. FORS senior researchers teach at the Summer School, and Summer School courses profit from FORS databases like the Household Panel, which is used to train participants in the analysis of longitudinal data.
- **Conferences, workshops:** FORS researchers do of course contribute to scholarly exchange internationally. But FORS is also actively creating synergies by inviting scholars to Lausanne for focused workshops such as the Nonresponse group in 2009, the Comparative Survey Design and Implementation workshop CSDI and the Swiss-German-Austrian joint workshop on election research in 2010, or for large-scale conferences like those of the World Association for Public Opinion Research WAPOR in 2009 and the 2011 European Survey Research Association ESRA conference.
- **Networking:** Participating in different multilateral networks and institutions from the rather informal (e.g., CSDI) to the highly formalised (e.g., ESFRI), and from science driven (e.g., ESS Scientific Advisory Board) to policy driven (e.g., EU FP 7 Programme Committee on socio-economic sciences and humanities), creates active involvement in international developments, relationships based on personal commitment and, last but not least, experience and know-how in how to engage in international collaboration.

All these synergies are closely related to the topic of **outreach**. The more forces are combined to allow for growing competences, the more synergies will have a positive effect on national and international, scholarly and generalised outreach – and the better FORS can approach what is described in the following section as its strategic goals.

1.2 Strategic Goals

Data production, data documentation and diffusion, data user consulting, and methodological research form a unity of strongly interdependent scientific activities: Only data of the highest achievable quality that are fully documented according to state of the art standards and that are accessible in a convenient way will properly serve cutting edge work in the social sciences; to guarantee for this, active involvement in sound methodological research is essential.

This was, is, and will be the guiding framework behind FORS and all its activities. Moreover, while FORS is **supplying data** for scholarly and public debate, it is also

extracting meaning from data: substantive research and scholarly as well as general interest publications – like for example the Social Report – are at the core of FORS. Substantive research is acquired competitively from national and/or international funding bodies. FORS collaborates actively with university social science research institutes or with other academic research institutions like for example the NCCR “*Overcoming Vulnerabilities – Life Course Perspectives*” (LIVES) by stimulating, preparing, and conducting research projects, as well as by producing joint scholarly publications.

The outreach of FORS is primarily aimed at the scientific community: enhancing methods in empirical social research, improving the quality standard and usability of empirical data, encouraging the use of existing data by researchers (secondary analysis), and participating in scholarly debates are key issues. But FORS can not and does not limit itself to academia alone. Its voice has to be heard by decision makers, media, and the interested public when it comes to reflecting, analysing, and explaining social conditions and change.

While public funding of an institution like FORS raises legitimate expectations with regard to public outreach, this must not lead to the misunderstanding that FORS takes an active political role. Its function is rather that of an objective expert for those questions for which empirical social science research evidence can be useful. Given the broad scope of the data and analyses produced and documented by FORS, this is a considerable task in itself.

The goals to be reached for FORS are multi-faceted:

- To be a recognised centre of expertise in **secondary data analysis**: by producing and making available empirical – quantitative *and* qualitative – data; by providing user-friendly data access; by actively fostering the use of existing data sets in research and teaching; by doing state of the art substantive research and publishing research results.
- To be a recognised centre of expertise in cutting edge **methodological research and innovation**: by actively taking part in scholarly debates; by doing and presenting methodological research and experiments; by implementing innovative ways of practical empirical research; by aspiring to the highest possible quality standards.
- To be a recognised centre of expertise in **national and international networks**: by initiating and maintaining collaborative partnerships with similar social scientific institutes and institutions all over Switzerland and abroad; by actively participating in research policy developments touching social science and infrastructural topics; by contributing to the development of coordinated and technically as well as organisationally advanced forms of data access in Europe and worldwide.
- To be a recognised centre of expertise in **evidence-based consultation and advice**: by supporting researchers in the use of complex data; by counseling decision makers when it comes to making productive use of social science

evidence in policy making; by partnering with media in publishing research results relevant for a wider audience.

There are some basic guidelines to be followed when working toward the goals; these are presented in the next section.

1.3 Basic Guidelines

The European Conferences on Research Infrastructures ECRI have always pointed out that stable institutional and funding bases are at the core of any infrastructure that serves its goals successfully. In the case of FORS we might add four more elements that are crucial to realising the perspective set out in the preceding chapter.

1. **Find an optimal balance of research and service functions:** Methodological research and service functions – the latter including the production of new data for use by the research community – are mutually dependent. The quality of service functions benefits from the results of methodological research. Further, research is based on and can refer to practical experience gained in running surveys, documenting and distributing data, and advising scientists.

To find the optimal balance, it is essential that research and service functions are integrated to the highest possible degree. Maintaining the day to day functions as a service provider must not inhibit research activity that requires dedicated time and energy. Work conditions and resources have to be shaped and maintained to allow for this.

2. **Keep pace with the development of European data infrastructures:** In the years to come, secondary analysis of data will certainly gain importance as a mode of maximizing the value of existing datasets and saving on funds to be spent gathering new data. Thus the production, documentation, and accessibility of high quality datasets will be confronted with a growing demand from the side of researchers.

Consequently there will be a growing need for infrastructural support for data sharing. This need will foster the development of new standards and technologies of documentation and access on the international level that will have to be implemented by FORS in order not to isolate Swiss researchers from international networks of data use and scientific cooperation. FORS must have sufficient IT and human resources to address these important international developments.

3. **Maintain and enlarge scientific networks:** FORS as such is well networked nationally and internationally. However, networks rely more on persons and on personal relations than on institutions. Networks must not be dependent on a few individuals inside FORS only. All FORS scientific collaborators are encouraged to build and maintain their networks with fellow scholars worldwide. This means being ac-

tively present at meetings and conferences, co-authoring and co-editing scientific publications, and hosting scholarly events at FORS.

On the national level, networks not only cover the scientific community but also an interested public outside academia. Regular contacts with media, public administrations, civil society organisations and – to a lesser degree – private companies are to be established and maintained. Again, the commitment of individual collaborators is a crucial factor for success.

4. **Attract highly qualified and motivated scientific staff:** Staff recruitment at FORS has always been and will continue to be centered on hiring trained social scientists with university degrees at the PhD or MA level. This results in a staff that is able and willing to conduct research projects and to publish accordingly. About one third of the FORS staff holds a PhD degree, and many are therefore eligible to submit their own research proposals to funding institutions.

Staff members are expected to communicate with researchers inside and outside of academia and therefore must understand their concerns and ways of working. This is the base needed to accomplish the service and consulting functions that are an essential part of FORS and that contribute largely to FORS staying rooted in the social science community.

The rationale, goals, and guidelines described above underpin the whole range of FORS activities presented in the following chapters. First, we will deal with the core activities like surveys, data services, methodological research, etc. (chapter 2). Then we will give an account of our scientific collaborations (chapter 3). Finally, we will present performance indicators and compare them to those of 2010 (chapter 4).

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, 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 the scientific quality. The only exception concerns written and online surveys, which 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.

Data collections led at FORS constitute important parts 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, which 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 2011 activities for these surveys.

2.1.1 Swiss Household Panel SHP

The survey: Five principal tasks have been achieved during the year 2011:

1. The fieldwork for waves 12 and 7 respectively was completed in February 2011. With regard to these waves, work related to data cleaning and preparation, variables construction, and documentation were realised from March to October 2011 in order to prepare the data diffusion. The dissemination of these waves took place mid October 2011. Also in 2011, the SHP provides a practical guide titled “Longitudinal analysis using the Swiss Household Panel: Some examples” in order to facilitate longitudinal analysis. New transitional factors are also available in order to increase the analytic potential of the SHP.
2. The field work for waves 13 and 8 was prepared between February and August – mainly questionnaires (including two revised modules: social participation and politics), qualitative and quantitative pre-tests, communication to participating households, training of interviewers, implementation of incentives – and started in late August.
3. A revised version of the SHP data waves 1 to 12 (with a codebook) was provided to the Cross-National Equivalent File (CNEF) in November 2011.
4. The SHP developed its collaboration with the Swiss National Centre of Competence in Research (NCCR) LIVES. In 2011, we have mainly developed a new biographical questionnaire (life calendar) that will constitute the individual level questioning of the SHP_III wave one in 2013 (and of the LIVES sample of immigrants from the second-generation population), and prepared the 2012 LIVES pilot study.
5. The grant proposal 2012-2013 was submitted to the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) in June 2011. Due to financial constraints at the SNSF level, a revised budget was submitted by mid October and was finally accepted in December 2011. Despite cuts, the budget will allow the implementation of a second, but reduced, SHP refreshment sample (SHP_III).

Publications / Conferences / Teaching (see respective lists in the Appendix for details): SHP staff published three SHP working papers, two FORS working papers, one paper in the series of the German Socio-economic Panel SOEP, two book chapters, and six articles (in *Fields Methods*, *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, the *Journal of Official Statistics*, the *Journal of Family Issues*, the *European Sociological Review*, and the *Journal of Applied Social Science Studies*). Editorial work was also performed for the future special issue of the *Swiss Journal of Sociology* (02/2012) devoted to “Persistent Social Inequalities”, including an introduction to the special issue. In addition, the SHP scientific report 2010 was submitted to the Swiss national science foundation in June 2011. Further, the 6th International Conference of Panel Data Users in Switzerland took place on June 8-9 at the University of Lausanne. 80 participants attended the conference. As in 2009, the conference was dedicated to longitudinal analyses and mainly attended by regular SHP data users. Finally, the SHP group presented 14 conference papers and gave 3 presentations in the framework of master courses or seminars.

2.1.2 International Surveys

2.1.2.1 European Social Survey ESS

The fieldwork of the ESS 2010 (Round 5) started October 1, 2010, and was finished by March 23, 2011, with 1506 interviews. The final response rate of 53.3% is a good result in international comparison.

The 2010 edition of this survey was characterised by three specific features we briefly want to note:

1. First, there was the new measurement tool for educational level, consisting of 23 refined codes on the basis of the European ISCED codes and elaborated with international and national experts. The results obtained with this new tool were consistent with the previous tool and official statistics, ensuring comparability over time and with other national data, while providing valuable additional information especially on the level of vocational trainings. These results were presented at the ESRA 2011 conference in Lausanne. This tool will be kept in future.
2. We carried out an experiment with an unconditional incentive. 20% of the sample was sent a cash incentive with the first contact letter. The overall effect of this incentive was to improve the response rate (58% vs 51.6% with the conditional incentive). However, this difference is not really related to a lower refusal rate (26.5% vs 27.1%), but rather to a lower non-contact rate (6.3% vs 10.0%). In fact, the unconditional incentive acts as a contact accelerator, as people tend to get in touch with the survey agency themselves. We plan to write a paper on this issue, including also previous incentive experiments on ESS and other similar surveys in Switzerland.
3. ESS 2010 was the very first survey based on the register sampling frame of the Swiss Federal Statistical Office SFSO. The quality of the contact addresses is good, as the rate of ineligible units is as low as 0.8% and only 3% moved or had an invalid address. As it is a register of individuals, the household contact phase could be dropped. This clearly accelerated the fieldwork: 90% of the interviews could be done in the first 60% of the field duration (first 109 days = less than 4 months). However, the rapid start of the fieldwork is also due to a considerably higher number of interviewers. A comparative analysis of the subsequent sample frames used for the ESS in Switzerland was presented at the ESRA 2011 conference in Lausanne, and will be published as a working paper.

During the whole time span of the ESS fieldwork, as well as 2 weeks before and after, the main events that happened in Switzerland and the world were gathered through 5 newspapers of the three Swiss linguistic regions. The whole commented list will be available through the ESS web page.

As in the previous edition, we sent a short paper questionnaire to all non-respondents (and 30% of the respondents). With a response rate of 63.1%, some socio-demographic and attitudinal information is therefore available for 75% of the initial

sample. This non-respondent survey was analysed to evaluate non-response bias and perform propensity scores.

Concerning documentation and archiving of the data, the previously accumulated delay was completely overhauled. In March, updated versions of the ESS 2004 and 2006 datasets were published on the FORS Nesstar server, and in September the French and German ESS 2008 datasets were made available on the same server. Meanwhile, also the newest ESS interview and contact form data from 2010 could be deposited in a timely way for the international release, and the whole Swiss dataset has been prepared in German and French for a Nesstar release early 2012.

334 respondents of the ESS 2010 decided to donate their incentive to a non-profit organisation, so that FORS could donate in their name a total amount of 10'020 CHF to six different institutions.

In March 2011 the annual meeting of the ESS National Coordinators (NC) took place in Mannheim, where FORS senior researcher Dr. Michèle Ernst Stähli presented the Swiss solution for the "ESS2010 observable data interviewer training", and gave feedback on our experience with the international translation verification procedure. Moreover, all NCs discussed the first draft of the rotation modules for 2012 (a partial repetition of the Round 3 "personal and social well-being" module and the new "democracy" module). The Swiss team was strongly involved in the review of the subsequent versions of these modules. We gave sound feedback on the first draft in spring 2011 and on the version for the pilot in autumn 2011.

The application for Round 6 in 2012 was submitted to the Swiss National Science Foundation in June. The funding was largely granted, thus allowing for an additional 60% collaborator to complete the team.

The international organization of the European Social Survey is involved in applying for an ERIC status. Switzerland committed in an early stage, but did not sign for legal reasons and has thus an observer status in the ESS ERIC steering committee.

2.1.2.2 MOSAiCH / ISSP

2011 was the year of the fieldwork for MOSAiCH, including the ISSP 2010 and 2011. Besides the usual Swiss Eurobarometer questions and the deeply revised background variables, the questionnaire contained also some items elaborated in collaboration with the ETHZ on the one side and the University of Berne on the other, both on the topic of environment. The survey tools were finalized and implemented beginning 2011. The fieldwork started March 4 and ended October 31. The field took longer than the four to five months originally planned, probably because of coinciding with another big CAPI survey at the same survey agency. The latter invested additional incentives during the last two months in order to be able to attain the targeted sample size. Finally, 1'212 interviews were completed (response rate of 50.9%). The non-response survey was launched in December, contacting 895 non-respondents and 200 respondents with a two-sided paper questionnaire and a 10 CHF unconditional incentive.

424 respondents of MOSAiCH 2011 decided to donate their incentive to a non-profit organisation, so that FORS could donate in their name a total amount of 12'720 CHF to six different institutions.

The ISSP 2010 data was documented and deposited for international archiving at GESIS in November. The documentation contains an argument about the questionable notion and measurement of ethnicity for Switzerland. The MOSAiCH dataset has been prepared for national publication and will be archived at DARIS during first trimester 2012.

In May 2011, Prof. Dominique Joye and FORS researcher Marlène Sapin took part in the annual ISSP General Assembly in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico. The questionnaire drafts of the modules 2012 "Family and Changing Gender Roles" and 2013 "National Identity" were discussed, and it was decided to replicate the "Citizenship" module in 2014. It was also decided that in-person interviews should include the "Can't choose" category on the show cards. By this inclusion the face-to-face method and the self-completion method will be more in line with one another. In Switzerland we already did so in 2011 and observed no dramatic effect. Switzerland will continue to be a member of the Methodology Committee. This committee recommends mixed mode interviewing experiments.

The application for MOSAiCH 2013 (with ISSP 2012 and 2013) was submitted to the Swiss National Science Foundation in June. The funding was largely granted, thus allowing for an additional 70% collaborator to complete the team.

2.1.2.3 European Values Study EVS

The EVS presented the second edition of the "Atlas of European Values", a representative collection of empirical results from previous EVS waves, to the President of the European Council, Herman van Rompuy, at a well attended high level conference on "The Value(s) of Europe" at Tilburg University on November 25. The conference was held back to back with a series of scientific workshops as well as keynotes by Hans-Dieter Klingemann (Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin) and David Voas (University of Essex) the day before.

The principal investigator of the Swiss EVS, Prof. Dominique Joye, participated in both events.

FORS is a formal member of the European Values Study Foundation, represented in the Foundation Board by the FORS Director (see www.europeanvaluesstudy.eu). Prof. Dominique Joye is a member of the EVS Executive Committee.

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 people aged 50 and over and their partners. SHARE started in 2004 with eleven countries, including Switzerland, and has expanded now, for wave four, to all 18 EU member states plus asso-

ciated Switzerland and Israel. It is coordinated centrally at the Munich Research Institute for the Economics of Ageing MEA and harmonized with the U.S. Health and Retirement Study HRS and the English Longitudinal Study of Ageing ELSA.

In Switzerland, the fourth wave of SHARE is run in partnership between the Institute of Health Economics and Management of the University of Lausanne (IEMS, main applicant and country team leader: Prof. Alberto Holly) and FORS (co-applicant: Prof. Peter Farago).

In 2011, SHARE activities were principally related to data collection. The fieldwork was divided into two stages:

- The first stage was dedicated to the panel subsample. The training for panel interviewers took place at the end of January 2011. Four training meetings (two in German, one in French, and one in Italian) of two days each were organized. The panel fieldwork started mid-February 2011. From the initial 1'407 panel respondents, about 1'200 interviews were completed, allowing us to achieve a retention rate of about 85%, which is one of the best retention rates across all participating countries.
- The second stage was dedicated to the refresher subsample. New interviewers were trained before the beginning of the refresher fieldwork. Again, four training sessions were organized. Data collection for the refresher subsample started in April 2011 and ended in December 2011. About 2'550 interviews were conducted. The response rate for the refresher sample was between 50% and 55%.¹ Several technical problems related to the sample distributor application provided by the international coordination team (i.e., an application for distributing addresses on interviewers' laptops and calling completed interviews back for sending them to the international team) noticeably slowed down the pace of the refresher fieldwork.

Release 0 of the SHARE data, which was internally available in December 2011, contains all data collected until the end of August 2011. Due to the slight delay in data collection in Switzerland, only 70% of the data are included in this release. Data cleaning and the preparation of all deliverables started in October 2011 and will last until June 2012.

During fieldwork, three international operational meetings and one scientific meeting were organized. At least one of the SHARE collaborators attended all operational meetings. A poster was presented at the scientific meeting.

2.1.3 Swiss Electoral Studies SELECTS

2011 was the year of the Swiss national elections, which take place every four years. All data collection of the Swiss Electoral Studies SELECTS also took place in this year, in a short period of time. Most of 2011 was therefore filled with questionnaire develop-

¹ At the time of editing this Annual Report, the definitive figure was not known yet.

ment and translation as well as preparation and monitoring of the fieldwork. A substantial change compared to the previous years was the access to the new sampling frame of the Federal Statistical Office, which allowed the sampling of only Swiss citizens with the right to vote. The 2011 study included four main surveys:

1. The core of the SELECTS survey is a post-election telephone survey (CATI) in which 4'391 respondents participated in 2011. 3'260 of these respondents were also asked to participate in an additional paper/online survey. Of the 2'489 respondents who were willing to do so, 1'786 eventually completed the additional questionnaire.
2. In addition to the post-election survey, a rolling cross-section survey (RCS) was conducted prior to the elections to learn more about the influence of campaign dynamics on voting behaviour. During 41 days, 4'002 interviews were completed, with an average of about 100 interviews per day. SELECTS is the first scientific study in Switzerland to use this innovative instrument.
3. An online survey among the Swiss living abroad, with 1'629 interviews, was also carried out. While all Swiss citizens living abroad are listed in a central register, the database is not accessible for use in surveys. Conducting such a survey immediately after the elections became possible when the Department of Foreign Affairs agreed to inform a random sample of Swiss living abroad about the existence of the SELECTS survey, without directly inviting them to participate. As a consequence, this is also the first time a post-election survey among the Swiss living abroad has ever been conducted in Switzerland.
4. As in 2007, SELECTS conducted a survey among all the candidates for the National Council and the Council of States. Of 3'548 candidates, 1'496 completed an online or paper questionnaire.

The various SELECTS 2011 surveys included modules, which were proposed by different researchers from various universities, such as specific modules concerning attitudes towards the welfare state or migration, the issue of party competence or the role of emotions in the campaign and voting behaviour. The Module 4 of the Comparative Study of Electoral Systems, a project with the aim of collecting worldwide comparable survey data from national election surveys, was also part of the post-election study. A large part of the candidate survey likewise stems from an international project, the Comparative Candidates Survey (CCS).

In addition to the main surveys described above, SELECTS also conducted a separate online-survey using the same questionnaire as the CATI post-election survey. This was done in order to study possible response biases in the different modes.

A publication with first results of the surveys for a broader audience will be published in spring 2012. All data will equally be made available in spring 2012.

The effort to strengthen the exchange with other election studies continued in 2011. A second conference of the network of the Swiss, German, and Austrian election studies with about 20 participants took place in Berlin in November 2011. The three election

studies have all recently added new components that give rise to methodological and management challenges. A number of presentations thus focused on methodological issues and solutions for data collection in the context of election studies.

SELECTS is also a member of the COST Action "The True European Voter" (see section 3.3).

2.2 Data and Research Information Services DARIS

2.2.1 Data Service

Usage and workflow: The usage statistics reveal that the number of datasets disseminated across years has increased steadily since the beginning of FORS. In 2011, more than 1'900 datasets were downloaded from our FORS Nesstar server or from dedicated webpages (i.e., for Pisa, SELECTS cumulative file, and Vox), or ordered directly from our data service. Data on our Nesstar server continued to be quite popular, especially for teaching purposes at Swiss Universities.

Number of datasets disseminated

Group	2011	2010	2009	2008
Vox, Vox-it, Vox-cumulative	857	597	339	252
Eurobarometer/MOSAiCH/ESS	473	535	140	101
SELECTS	177	150	159	204
Other studies ordered from the data service	394	147	158	71
Total	1'901	1'429	796	628

New datasets and special projects: During 2011, DARIS archived and published the following datasets produced by research teams in Switzerland:

- Demandes parentales adressées aux éducatrices et éducateurs de la petite enfance – 2006
- Befragung der Schweizer Bevölkerung zur Umwelt – 2007
- Datenbank über die zwischen 1983 und 2007 gültigen, normativen Erlasse des schweizerischen Bundesrechts
- Befragung zur Miliztätigkeit in der Schulpflege – 2006
- Befragung zur Miliztätigkeit in der Kirchenpflege – 2006
- Befragung über das Abstimmungsverhalten der eidgenössischen Parlamentarierinnen und Parlamentarier - 2006/2007
- Meinungsbild zur Sicherheits- und Verteidigungspolitik der Schweiz – 2010

- Befragung zu Art, Umfang, Motiven und Mobilisierungspotentialen der Freiwilligentätigkeit – 2010
- World Values Survey in der Schweiz – 2007
- Transition à la vie adulte et expériences collectives en ex-Yougoslavie: enquête contextuelle – 2006
- Transition à la vie adulte et expériences collectives en ex-Yougoslavie: enquête individuelle – 2006
- European Social Survey, Switzerland – 2008

Further, the following datasets were published to our Nesstar server (each in both French and German):

- Sicherheit 1995 to 2000, 2009 and 2010
- SELECTS 1999: panel
- SELECTS 2003: panel
- SELECTS 2007: postal survey
- ESS 2006
- ESS 2008
- ISSP 2000 to 2002
- VOXIT datafiles for the 2010 federal votes

In a significant development for the data service, the Swiss Federal Statistical Office no longer conducts the Swiss part of the study PISA, and has agreed to transfer all of its Swiss PISA data to DARIS. In addition, the research consortium henceforth responsible for PISA in Switzerland has agreed that the data will be archived at DARIS. This means that all Swiss PISA data (past and future), beginning from the 2000 wave, will be available from a single provider at FORS.

2.2.2 Research Inventory

The annual survey 2010/11 for the research inventory was successful (410 new entries, 213 updates). During 2011, we further refined the questionnaire and the web interface, and have adopted a more personalized approach to getting relevant research information from the researchers. We made the print questionnaire and the web capture form for research projects available in English, which is especially useful for the growing number of foreign researchers in Switzerland.

We continue to use our Internet-based Strategic Watch System to monitor the personnel and the research activities of hundreds of research institutes in Switzerland. By this

means we are permanently updated on the evolution of the dynamic research environment in the country. Also, this allowed us to add over 1,250 persons to our researcher database in 2011.

The already existing data sharing agreements with the Swiss Federal Administration ARAMIS, the Swiss Centre for Special Education, and the Swiss Coordination Centre for Research in Education SCCRE have continued. Other data sharing agreements with university research databases are being discussed.

Also during 2011, the entire collection of research project descriptions was indexed by Google and therefore enjoys more visibility on the Internet. Further, FORS increased its presence on the Internet by regularly diffusing relevant information (new datasets, events, calls for papers, etc.) to a larger audience by means of Facebook and Twitter.

2.2.3 Other Activities

FORSbase: The first phase of the IT project FORSbase (see section 2.9) focused in 2011 primarily on replacing the existing database in use by DARIS. The work of DARIS staff during this period involved reconceptualising its workflow so that the new system will be more automatised and user friendly. In addition, new features have been envisioned that will make it easier for researchers to deposit and access data through a personalised workspace.

Promotion: As part of its ongoing promotional activities, DARIS issued its "FORS Data Bulletin" in April, May, September, and November. Each edition included information on recently released data and other DARIS/FORS activities and events of potential interest to the research community. The FORS Data Bulletin is sent by email each time to over 7,000 social science researchers in Switzerland, in German/English or French/English versions.

Daris staff members gave presentations on our services at several Swiss universities and research institutions during 2011, including:²

- Fachhochschule Nordwestschweiz, Hochschule für Soziale Arbeit, Kurs über "Wissenschaftstheorie"
- Universität Zürich, QualiZüri, "Networking Day für qualitativ Sozialforschende"
- University of Lausanne, atelier des mémorants des masters en sciences sociales et en sciences et pratiques de l'éducation
- University of Lausanne, seminar on "quantitative methods in political science"

Also in 2011, DARIS conducted a user survey of social science researchers in Switzerland in order to obtain information on their views about data sharing, their research practices, and their interest in potential services that we are envisioning. Initial find-

² See for a complete listing the Appendix.

ings were presented at the conference of the European Survey Research Association in July in Lausanne.

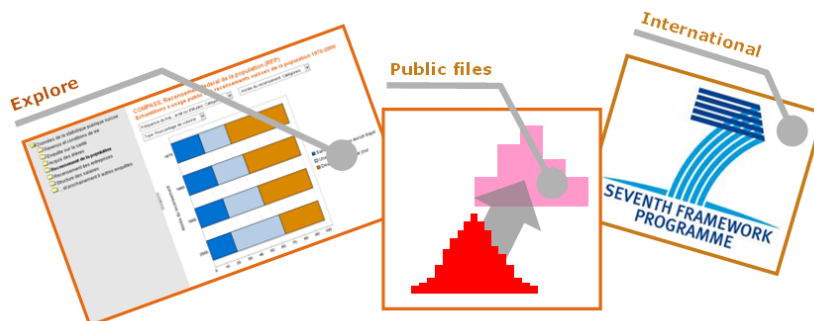
International collaboration: In 2011, DARIS began work on specific tasks related to accreditation and authentication for the EU FP 7 project Data without Boundaries (see section 3.3).

In October, DARIS organised and hosted the CESSDA expert seminar on the topic of question data banks, with 30 participants from 12 European countries. The meeting occurred over two days at the University of Lausanne and focused on issues concerning international collaboration and future technical integration of diverse systems.

DARIS was active internationally in 2011 on other fronts as well:

- In January, the head of DARIS participated in a workshop at Sciences Po in Paris on question data banks.
- In April, the head of DARIS attended the CESSDA General Assembly in Odense, Denmark.
- In October, the head of DARIS attended the Council and Official Representatives meetings of the Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research ICPSR, in Ann Arbor, Michigan, in the United States.
- In October, FORS/DARIS hosted the visit of four members from the Filipino Data Archive to discuss data services and survey research.
- In November, the head of DARIS presented a paper at a workshop at Sciences Po in Paris on integrating qualitative research data into quantitative-oriented data archives.
- In December, the head of DARIS attended the third European DDI users conference in Gothenburg, Sweden.

2.3 Communication Portal for Accessing Social Statistics COMPASS



The COMPASS catalogue presents since 2009 surveys of the Swiss Federal Statistical Office (SFSO) in a comparative way. A new functionality was launched in June 2011 under the designation of “Microdata online”, extending descriptions to the variable level.

Variables are documented using the Nesstar software, whose layout and contents complete the online offer and the codebooks developed in 2010. The “COMPASS” version of Nesstar enables users to explore each variable in depth, to display value frequencies and, for highly anonymised files, to proceed to analyses.

Access to the application is instant and free of procedures; all it requires is the Internet browser. As such, it provides a valuable tool for the interactive training courses COMPASS plans to give at Swiss universities and universities of applied sciences.

The development of the Swiss Health Survey PUS continued in 2011 and was crowned with success in November when the SFSO validated the anonymisation of the 2002 dataset. A complementary dataset based on 2007 data is being prepared; its release is expected in 2012.

As a way to optimize the making of prospective public use samples, COMPASS established a procedure that will provide, once adopted by the management of the SFSO, guidelines to the production of new PUSs at the person level.

Steps were undertaken with partners of the various surveys to anonymise further datasets. Discussions resulted in the decision to realize in 2012 an anonymised version of the Swiss Earnings Structure Survey disseminated by Eurostat.

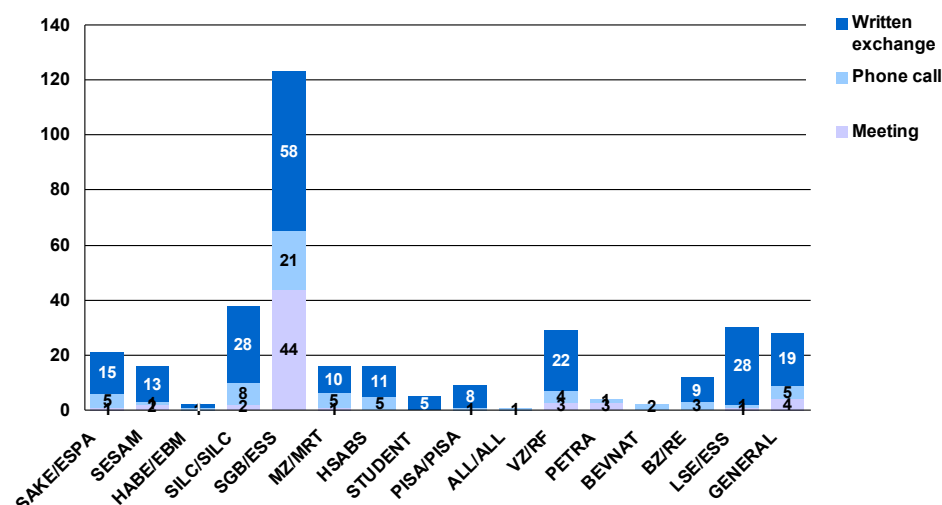
Collaboration around the Swiss Health Survey PUS showed that it was essential for COMPASS to have a good knowledge of SAS software, the main tool of the SFSO partners. One member of the team followed a training on that tool provided by SFSO specialists.

During the last quarter of the year COMPASS coordinated the permanent hosting of the PISA 2003 and 2006 data files at DARIS. These data can from now on be obtained from DARIS free of charge after a contract has been signed. The offer will soon be completed with PISA 2009 data, with COMPASS having undertaken further negotiations with the Swiss PISA consortium.

The COMPASS offer extended last September with the inclusion of the SESAM data. These data, which are a key source for research on the theme of employment and social security, result from a linkage of data from the Swiss Labour Force Survey with information collected from different social insurance registers.

The COMPASS team had numerous contacts with SFSO partners. Exchanges included standard activities related to the update of the published documentation (questionnaires, prices, international equivalents), and the passing on (and following-up) of researchers' specific enquiries useful to accessing and handling data. Activities with the unit responsible for the Swiss Health Survey were particularly intense with regard to the creation of the Public Use File.

Recorded FSO contacts in 2011, by project



The monitoring of the contacts with researchers shows that 35 researchers (39 in 2010) appealed to COMPASS 130 times (115 in 2010). Exchanges resulted in the conclusion of 12 data protection contracts (11 in 2010).

Exchanges with the research community showed that the high prices applied by the SFSO remain an important hindrance to data request. As a result of the consideration COMPASS gave in 2010 to price policy, the SFSO dissemination unit required an implementation concept based on the principle of Open Access. COMPASS suggested the application of cost-free data to researchers who commit to deposit their publications on a public repository or to publish their research in an open access journal.

COMPASS conducted an analysis of the overall number of contracts established between the SFSO and researchers in 2009 and 2010, independently of the requests that were made via COMPASS. While the overall number of established contracts was low, it appeared that the number of contracts could be raised by not only targeting experienced researchers, but also future researchers. Consequently, COMPASS prepared a strategic plan that targeted future researchers by emphasising promotion activities at the pre-graduate level (bachelor and master).

COMPASS was asked to give presentations to students at the University of Neuchâtel as part of a course given by the Centre for the Understanding of Social Processes (MAPS) in January, and at the University of Lausanne as part of a workshop for master students of the faculty of social and political sciences in October.

At the international level, COMPASS set up links with researchers and sister institutions during the ESRA conference and the CESSDA Expert Seminar, hosted in Lausanne in July and October respectively. COMPASS also took part in two conferences in Germany. The first one, in March, was organized by GESIS and focused on the international SILC and LFS data. It provided a good opportunity to extend the network of contacts and technical knowledge of these surveys. The second one, hosted by the Statistical Office of Germany in Wiesbaden, concerned microdata access.

Set up in 2010, the EU FP 7 project “Data without Boundaries” (see section 3.3) involves FORS in three work packages. COMPASS attended meetings in Paris, Mannheim and Ljubljana and authored an “institutional map” of national statistical institutes throughout Europe.

Following his retirement, Mr. Dieter Koch was not replaced by the SFSO as a member of the COMPASS Steering Committee. Mr. Marco Buscher represented the statistical office during the committee meeting, chaired by Prof. Peter Farago on October 7, 2011. The director of the SFSO, Dr. Jürg Marti, was informed of that situation in December, when the COMPASS project was reported to the members of the management.

Swiss Federal Statistical Office surveys in the COMPASS portfolio:

SAKE/ESPA	Swiss Labour Force Survey (SLFS)
SESAM	Social Protection and Labor Market
HABE/EBM	Household Budget Survey (HBS)
SILC/SILC	Survey on Income and Living Conditions (SILC)
SGB/ESS	Swiss Health Survey
MZ/MRT	Microcensus on Travel Behaviour
HSABS	Swiss Higher Education Graduates Survey
STUDENT	Social and Economic Conditions of Student Life
PISA/PISA	Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)
ALL/ALL	Adult Literacy and Life Skills Survey (ALL)
VZ/RF	Federal Population Census
PETRA	Foreign Population Statistics (PETRA)
BEVNAT	Vital Statistics (BEVNAT)
BZ/RE	Business Census
LSE/ESS	Swiss Structure of Earnings Survey

2.4 Methodological Research

A major focus in 2011 was to strengthen the collaboration with the Institute of Social Sciences of the University of Lausanne. The common work is related to the three methodological research programme modules of FORS (non-response, mixed mode interviewing, translation and equivalence issues). Various peer-reviewed papers, book chapters, and working papers in the methodological domain were published during the year (see appendix). In addition, FORS staff gave numerous scientific presentations, and reviewed papers on methodology that had been submitted to peer-reviewed scientific journals (Survey Research Methods, Journal of Official Statistics, Methoden-Daten-Analysen, Journal of the Royal Statistical Society, etc.), as well as to the FORS and SHP working paper series.

2.4.1 Analysis of Non-response

The FORS/LINES working group continued to study the question of non-response among foreign minorities, and more specifically how well foreign minorities are represented in Swiss social surveys. In addition to the representation of foreign minorities, the group also assessed the efficacy of commonly taken measures to improve representativeness of survey samples for minorities. Two working papers and two follow-up

articles resulted from this research: The first article shows the extent to which different groups of foreigners are under-represented in large Swiss social science surveys, and analyses possible causes for the underrepresentation. The second looks at the measures commonly used to mitigate bias from underrepresentation. Both papers should be published soon (one in *Quality and Quantity*, the other as a chapter of the book “*Surveying Ethnic Minorities and Immigrant Populations: Methodological Challenges and Research Strategies*”). A synthesis was presented at the ESRA conference in Lausanne. A position paper that lays out in detail the motivation to study this topic, first results, recommendations, and the research agenda of an initiative on representation of minorities in general social surveys, is available on the FORS website. To improve the information base for academic and administrative data producers, as well as for survey researchers, the working group organized in early December a round table meeting on this issue with members of the Swiss Federal Statistical Office (SFSO) and the survey agency MIS-Trend, which conducts the majority of FORS surveys.

Several papers, book sections, and presentations related to the non-response module can be mentioned. One paper based on SHP data, published in the *Journal of Official Statistics* (Voorpostel and Lipps 2011), analyses if changes in characteristics and circumstances of households and household members have an impact on attrition in panel surveys. Research on interviewer experience with respect to obtaining contact and cooperation, and producing more homogeneous contact and cooperation response components, was continued, and the results, based on ESS data from four countries, were published in *Field Methods* (Lipps and Pollien 2011). Another paper (Lipps 2011) makes use of the randomized (experimental) call-household assignment in the SHP to examine successful calls that lead to contacts, without contacting people at undesired times and ultimately causing them to refuse. This paper was presented at the Lausanne ESRA conference.

Three book chapters on challenges and options for telephone surveys in Switzerland have been elaborated, and are currently in print. The first, drafted by Oliver Lipps and Kathrin Kissau, examines possibilities to use the new national individual (address) register-based sampling frame to conduct population representative telephone surveys in terms of coverage and nonresponse bias. The second, drafted by Michèle Ernst Stähli, discusses past and current issues of telephone samples in Switzerland. A third contribution by Dominique Joye et al. investigates bias induced by telephone surveys, mainly based on fixed telephone lines, and discusses the (limited) possibilities to weight for bias that is caused by the use of a phone directory in different steps of a survey.

As in previous years, FORS implemented non-response surveys as follow-ups to the main international surveys in order to check for non-response bias and to evaluate possible ways of correction. In a presentation at the International Nonresponse Workshop in Chicago the dispersed geographical distribution of non-respondents and the relationship between social context and response behaviour was discussed³. For the 22nd International Workshop on Household Survey Nonresponse in Bilbao, it was in-

³ See also Smith, Tom W. (2011). « The Report of the International Workshop on Using Multi-level Data from Sample Frames, Auxiliary Databases, Paradata and Related Sources to Detect and Adjust for Nonresponse Bias » In *Surveys International Journal of Public Opinion Research* vol. 23 no. 3. 389-402.

investigated if different non-respondent surveys show the same pattern of results, or if these results are closer linked with differences in methodology, implying difficulties to generalize. A last presentation at the QMSS 2 Seminar “Minimizing and Handling Non-response in Sample Surveys” in Leuven showed that if using information from the sampling frame and the environment is not sufficient to correct for non-response, using substantive variables allows for creating weights that correct for differences between respondents and non-respondents. The differences between the two groups are quite stable between the considered surveys.

FORS staff organized and co-organized different sessions at the ESRA conference, such as the session “Specific sub-groups of non-respondents: Who are they and how can we enhance their participation?”, where eight papers were presented. FORS staff contributed to this session with a presentation titled “Lifestyle, accessibility and cooperation of respondents”, which continues previous work about contact sequences in surveys (Pollien and Joye 2011) by using optimal matching analysis techniques. In another session, the results related to the new register sample that was used for the sampling of ESS round 5 in 2010. These results were compared with the samples resulting from the sampling frames used for the previous ESS round 4 (letterboxes) and round 3 (phone registry). A FORS working paper is planned based on these analyses. The quality of the new tool for measuring educational level developed for the ESS 2010 was evaluated and also presented at the ESRA. In addition, FORS co-organized a session “Using Paradata to Improve Survey Data Quality I”, with four papers presented, and organized the session “National Minorities in (Inter)national Surveys: Bias, Precision and Data Quality” as well as the session “Measuring Socio-economic Variables”, with four papers in each session. Roberts, Allum, and Sturgis presented data from an Internet panel survey based on a probability sample to investigate the relation between non-response bias and measurement error. Manuscripts for both studies are in preparation and the latter has been accepted as a chapter in a forthcoming edited volume to be published as part of the Wiley Survey Methodology Series: ‘Online Panel Research: A Data Quality Perspective’.

2.4.2 Mixed Mode Interviewing

For SELECTS 2011, a combined mode – incentive effect experiment was conducted as follows: an online survey was run in parallel to the usual CATI survey, both samples drawn from the new individual register, and both using the same questionnaire. Sample members in the CATI samples for whom a fixed line telephone number is listed were contacted by phone as usual, without incentive. Those without a fixed line telephone number received a letter with an unconditional incentive of CHF 20 and a request to either send a contact phone number or a link to complete the online survey. The sample size of the online survey amounted to 1’500 addresses, of whom 500 received the same incentive with the advance letter, with 1’000 receiving only the advance letter.

After the rejection of the first mixed mode proposal, a completely revised proposal was submitted to the SNSF. For this proposal, two major collaborations were established: First, the SFSO committed with a financial support of CHF 70’000. Second, it was decided to participate in the international mixed mode experiment of the ESS. The ESS

committed with a financial contribution of € 30'000, conditional on receiving funding from the SNSF. Unfortunately, this proposal did not succeed as well. As both the SFSO and FORS are still strongly interested in this project, they agreed to look for other ways to collaborate on this topic in the future, along with the ESS.

FORS is represented in the COST action WEBDATANET (see section 3.3). At the second COST WEBDATANET meeting in Amsterdam in late 2011, FORS contributed with a presentation on “Data collection by web for high quality general social surveys in Switzerland: Why and how?” The presentation analysed the question of whether the web mode is feasible for academic-driven general surveys in Switzerland, and about central quality issues in this context.

2.4.3 Language, Translation, and Measurement Equivalence

There was activity on different fronts and in different forms for FORS' research stream on language, translation, and measurement equivalence in 2011. Several research projects were conducted during the year, including one on mapping the linguistic contexts of surveys in Europe. The study carried out an international survey of researchers from 27 countries, and the results were presented at the ESRA conference in Lausanne (Kleiner, Renschler and Buerli 2011). In a second project, questions from the 2008 Swiss Labour Force Survey (SLFS) were coded according to a scheme developed at FORS in order to examine the effects of question complexity on survey respondents who are not native speakers of one of the three national languages in Switzerland. In addition to analyses of a similarly coded Swiss Household Panel survey (2004), results indicate that the data of non-native speakers are of poorer quality according to several measures, and that this may be due in part to language comprehension. Results will be presented at the 2012 International Workshop on Comparative Survey Design and Implementation (CSDI) in Washington, D.C.

FORS pursued analyses on the equivalence of different answer scales and translation issues. First results from the translation tests and retests performed in the ESS 2010 were presented in an internal workshop as well as in a workshop organised by Eldad Davidov in Zurich in July on invariance and comparison.

A two-day workshop on survey translation was held at FORS with the translation coordinator for the ESS from GESIS. In addition to the lecture given on the technique of advance translation, there were different sessions on aspects of translation work and best practice. In October, one member of FORS was a participant in a meeting of invited experts on survey translation at GESIS in Mannheim. The workshop focused on general methods, but also on specific techniques employed or being examined for use in the ESS. In November 2011, two members of FORS gave a lecture on language-related problems in surveys and translation within a course on survey opinion research at the University of Basel. At the same course, also in November, two members of FORS gave a lecture on scale evaluation in questions on attitudes.

At the ESRA conference, the group co-organised with Janet Harkness and Beth-Ellen Pennell the session titled “New perspectives on question design, translation and adaptation”, which was very well attended.

2.4.4 Other Methodological and Collaborative Studies

In March, FORS organized a workshop on “well-being and redistribution” together with the University of Lausanne (Rafael Lalive; Department of Economics), the University of Basel (Alois Stutzer; Division of Public Choice and Public Economics), and the Institute for the study of Labor (IZA) in Bonn (Nikos Askitas, Head of the International Data Service Center of IZA), at the University of Lausanne. The purpose of this workshop was to show the potential of the SHP with respect to both substantive and methodological research. Addressees of this workshop were in the first place economists, who use the SHP rarely compared to other disciplines. FORS contributed two papers to this workshop: the first (Lipps 2011a) describes the possibilities of the SHP to analyse interviewer effects with its experimental design by a randomized interviewer-respondent assignment. The second paper (Oesch and Lipps 2011) investigates the question of whether there is a habituation effect to unemployment.

In May, one member of each FORS and GESIS gave a 2-day workshop on “Data Quality Challenges in Social Survey Research” at the Kaunas University of Technology (Lithuania), in the framework of the Lithuanian Data Archive (LiDA) Data Confrontation Seminar. Topics of the workshop were survey design and data collection challenges on the first day and data analysis and translation issues on the second day. In August, a member of FORS gave a one day course on Analysis of Panel Data, organized by the Institute of Educational Science and the Institute of Sport Science at the University of Berne. During the autumn semester, one member of FORS gave a course on sequence analysis at the Institute of Sociology at the University of Basel.

At the Annual Conference of the American Association of Public Opinion Research in Phoenix, Arizona, Caroline Roberts, Emily Gilbert and Eva Nick Allum presented results of a systematic review of research into response effects in surveys that has drawn on the theory of satisficing (a publication is in preparation). A paper on interpretations of middle alternatives in response scales, has been accepted for publication in *Sociological Methods and Research*.

A habilitation on large complex social surveys (Lipps 2011) investigates specific topics of data quality in complex large social surveys. The author addresses innovative ways to keep data quality on a high level.

Finally, the skills accumulated through the repeated implementation of international surveys have been formalized in three chapters of a guide giving scholars access to and insight into major international surveys in social sciences and related methodological challenges (Joye 2011a and 2011b, Joye and Mochmann, 2011).

2.5 Luxembourg Income Study 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 data sets covering 40 countries around the world over a period going back as far as 1968. Until this year, LIS was known as the Luxembourg Income Study. 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 right 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 November 2011, FORS organised for the third time a one-day seminar on LIS at the University of Bern for all interested researchers. Thierry Kruten, Director of Operations and IT Director for LIS, as well as Paul Alkemade, micro-data expert and statistician, introduced the project, its current state, as well as new developments and possibilities. Dr. Debra Hevenstone (University of Bern) reported about her scientific work using LIS data. Working sessions emphasized scientific and practical aspects of using LIS databases. The workshop was fully booked and included 20 researchers from all over Switzerland.

2.6 Social Report 2012

The preparation of the 2012 edition of the Swiss Social Report continued in 2011.

The Pilot Group, composed of Prof. Felix Bühlmann (University of Lausanne), Prof. Peter Farago (FORS), Prof. François Höpflinger (University of Zürich), Prof. Dominique Joye (University of Lausanne), Prof. René Levy (University of Lausanne), Prof. Pasqualina Perrig-Chiello (University of Bern), and Prof. Christian Suter (University of Neuchâtel), met on four occasions in 2011:

- January 6: Four of five sketches of essays were received and discussed; indicators of chapters 1 "Distribution of social goods" and 2 "Cultural diversity" were discussed, modified and validated.
- April 7: Indicators of chapter 3 "Social integration" were discussed and validated; indicators of chapter 4 "Political Reshaping" and chapter 5 "Environment and society" were skimmed over (due to the unavailability of certain data at that moment).
- June 22: Two of five essays were discussed. The Pilot Group gave feedback to each author and asked for modifications. The essay of Prof. Schuler and Dr. Dessemontet about demography and spatial impacts was also examined and feedback was given.
- September 20: Two other essays were examined and feedback was given to the authors.

In collaboration with the illustrator Walo von Büren, Prof. François Höpflinger and Prof. Felix Bühlmann have continually been preparing the data and producing the indicators.

At the end of the year 2011 most of the indicators, metadata, and short texts for the five chapters were produced. Four of five essays are almost finished and ready for translation.

In September, Felix Bühlmann was nominated assistant Professor at the University of Lausanne and quit his position as coordinator of the Social Report. His successor is Céline Schmid Botkine. She starts her work on the Social Report in January 2012. As a consequence of this three month interruption the publication date of the volume was postponed to September 2012.

2.7 Swiss Summer School on Methods in the Social Sciences

The 15th Swiss Summer School on Methods in the Social Sciences was held from August 19 to September 2, 2011, at the Università della Svizzera Italiana in Lugano.

During the first week, the following courses were offered :

- Prof. Edgar Erdfelder: Applied Analysis of Variance (26 participants)
- Prof. Eugene Horber: Statistics with SPSS for Social Scientists (23 participants)
- Dr. Pam Campanelli: Survey Research Methods (16 participants)

and during the second week:

- Prof. Karen O'Reilly: Ethnographic Methods (13 participants)
- Prof. Michael Gibbert: Case Studies: Design, Methods, and Reporting (14 participants)
- Profs. Peter Schmidt/Eldad Davidov: Structural Equation Modeling (27 participants)

30% of the 92 participants attended two courses. The optional two day Preparatory/Refresh Workshop (Horber) preceding the Summer School had 21 participants this year.

88% of the participants were PhD Students. The largest group of this year's participants are working in the field of Business Studies (23%), followed by Education (17%), Communication Sciences (16%), and Psychology (14%).

10% of the participants are studying in foreign universities (Germany, Italy, Liechtenstein, Netherlands, UK and Sweden).

2.8 Third Party Funded Projects

FORS is a partner in a pioneering interdisciplinary study on “Open Government Data in Switzerland” led by the University of Applied Sciences Berne. Other partners include psychologists, economists, IT scientists, as well as business and IT consultants. FORS is responsible for the module on “social impacts” of Open Government Data. The study

is funded by the Gebert R f Foundation. Results will be presented and published in summer 2012.

FORS started a new mandated project called “Backstopping for Election Support” for the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA) together with the Swiss Peace Foundation (swisspeace) in 2011. The mandate will include applied research and contributions to policy definition and implementation as well as consulting on concrete electoral support activities. Through this mandate, swisspeace and FORS will accompany the various activities of election support by the Human Security Division of the FDFA. Swisspeace and FORS have complementary strengths in the field of election processes: through its programme on “Statehood and Conflict” swisspeace has developed research on governance in fragile states. FORS, through its programme Swiss Electoral Studies SELECTS, is a leading institution on Swiss and comparative electoral research and has in-depth experience in electoral processes in various contexts.

FORS has participated in the EUROCORES Collaborative Research Project “Representation and Policy Congruence in Europe” REPCONG together with researchers from the Universities of Mannheim and Vienna as well as Trinity College Dublin since 2007.⁴ This project was mainly concerned with exploring the link between citizens and elites preferences across Europe and officially ended in 2011. A number of events took place in 2011. REPCONG/FORS co-organized a workshop in the framework of the Joint Conference of the Austrian, German, and Swiss Political Science Associations (Dreil ndertagung DVPW, SVPW and  GPW) in January 2011 to bring together and connect the scattered European research on social inequalities and political representation. A special issue “Inequality and Representation in Europe” with a collection of papers from this conference – including two chapters co-authored by members of the FORS team – will be published in 2012 in the journal “Representation”. The FORS REPCONG team also organized a last session of the project in Nice in June 2011 where various research papers and final conclusions of the project were presented and discussed. A final conference of the entire HumVIB research programme took place in Berlin in September 2011 where key findings of six collaborative research projects were exchanged. The conference also gave an occasion to reflect on how to make further progress in understanding European diversity in social institutions and behaviours.

Another third party funded project that is hosted by FORS is “Political Participation of Young Adults in Switzerland” (CH@YOUPART). Financed by the education division of the State Secretariat for Education and Research SER, this project analyses the political behaviour of young adults. For this a standalone online survey with 1’000 young adults aged 18-25 in Switzerland was run. Additionally, interviews with students as well as participants of the “Jugendsession” in Bern on political interests and activities were carried out. Discussions with representatives of associations working with young adults and promoting civil engagement and political participation also gave valuable insights on issues and problems that exist regarding political participation of young adults in

⁴ The European Collaborative Research Scheme EUROCORES is funded by the European Science Foundation ESF (www.esf.org/eurocores). REPCONG is one of six projects in the research programme on „Cross-national and Multi-level Analysis of Human Values, Institutions and Behaviour“ HumVIB (www.esf.org/humvib).

Switzerland. Data analyses and reporting were finalised in 2011. The results will be presented to the State Secretariate in early 2012.

Apart from these projects there were a number of smaller mandates run by FORS senior researchers like for example a web survey of the media and communication services of Swiss universities, mandated by the communication unit of the University of Lausanne (Unicom), and the participation of FORS in two EU funded international co-operative projects: DwB and SERSIDA (see section 3.3).

FORS will continue to acquire a reasonable share of mandated projects in the future.

2.9 IT / FORSbase

During the summer of 2010 FORS approached the Zurich based IT consulting company *itopia* (www.itopia.ch) with the idea of fully remaking its IT system.

On December 14, 2010, *itopia* presented an envisioned project to the FORS Foundation Board, including a total IT integration of FORS that is better aligned with the research process and also compatible with the international documentation standard DDI. Thus was born the project FORSbase, which was unanimously accepted by the Foundation Board.

FORSbase is piloted by a Steering Committee, which includes the members of the FORS Executive Board as well as two senior *itopia* consultants. The Steering Committee is responsible for strategic decisions, and it monitors the development of the project on a regular basis. The operation of the project is directed by Corine Bolle, head of the unit Support.

A kickoff meeting was held on February 18, 2011. On May 12, the Steering Committee made decisions on the technologies to be used and the choices favouring open source programming tools. The IT team was then trained on the selected technologies.

The development work advanced as planned through the rest of 2011 (see section 2.2.3). On September 26 the IT group presented a first sketch of the programme to FORS staff.

On October 1, 2011, Ms. Bojana Tasić joined the IT team, which is now complete.

2.10 Governing Bodies and Management

2.10.1 Foundation Board

The Foundation Board is FORS' ultimate governing body. It is chaired by a representative of the host university who acts as a President to the Foundation. 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 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 and Research and the Swiss National Science Foundation). The list of the members of the Board as of December 31, 2011, is attached to this report (see Appendix).

In 2011 the Foundation Board met twice. One meeting was back to back to a joint meeting with the FORS Scientific Board.

During the first meeting on *March 18, 2011*, the Board audited the accounts and the Annual Report 2010. Apart from these recurring issues, the Board discussed the shape and circulation of the Annual Report. It was decided that the current shape – a detailed account of all activities of FORS – and the current way of distribution – electronically via the FORS website – was appropriate and should not be changed.

The second Foundation Board meeting of the year was held on *November 29, 2011*, during which the SELECTS commission was partly renewed and partly re-elected. This commission represents academic and non-academic stakeholders interested in election research and its outcomes in Switzerland, and it oversees strategically the development of the SELECTS-study; the FORS Scientific Board is asked for approval of important decisions of this commission. The main topic of this Foundation Board meeting, however, was the funding situation of the FORS infrastructure projects after the Swiss NSF had signaled that there might be changes in their commitment to fund research infrastructures in the future. It was agreed that the State Secretariate would organise a joint meeting together with the NSF, the Swiss Academy of Social Sciences and Humanities, and FORS to discuss the issue in-depth in 2012. The Board approved of the provisional budget for 2012; the final budget was to include the actual NSF contributions according to the decisions that were communicated after this meeting in mid-december; it is to be approved by the Board in its first 2012 meeting.

The *joint meeting* of the Boards, chaired by the FORS President, on March 17, 2011 dealt mainly with the new National Centre of Competence in Research “Overcoming Vulnerability – Life Course Perspectives” (NCCR LIVES) hosted by the University of Lausanne. Prof. Laura Bernardi, deputy director of the NCCR, gave an overview of the scientific objectives and the research projects as well as the organisation of the NCCR with special reference to the envisaged collaboration with FORS.

According to the Deed of Foundation of FORS, the members of the Foundation Board are elected for a period of four years. Consequently, a re-election took place in the November meeting of the Board. All eligible members were re-elected.

However, there was one important change: After his term of four years, Prof. Dominique Arlettaz, Rector of the University of Lausanne and President of the Foundation Board, decided to withdraw from this function at FORS. The University of Lausanne proposed Prof. Franciska Krings, Vice-Rector and member of the Direction Board of the University, to follow him as a member of the Board and as its President from January 1, 2012 on. The suggestion was unanimously approved by the Board.

The President welcomed Prof. Krings at the meeting of November 29 and thanked her for her availability. The Director acknowledged the commitment of Prof. Arlettaz whose role was crucial in the early phase of FORS and whose continued support was of great importance for the smooth collaboration between FORS and the host university. He

expressed his confidence that the good relations will continue under the auspices of Prof. Krings.

2.10.2 Scientific Board

Apart from the joint meeting with the Foundation Board (see section 2.10.1) the Scientific Board had a two-day meeting on *March 17 and 18, 2011*.

An important part of the meeting was dedicated to presentations and discussions of two methodological research projects on sampling and attrition issues respectively by FORS senior researchers Kathrin Kissau and Marieke Voorpostel.

The second main point of the meeting was dedicated to the Annual Report 2010 and the assessment of the current state of FORS development by the Director. Several issues were raised by members of the Board, among others the availability and the quantity of data sets provided by FORS to the research community, the publication activities of FORS staff, and the interpretation of the quantitative performance indicators included in the Annual Report 2010 for the first time.

In conclusion, the Scientific Board endorsed the Annual Report 2010 and expressed the wish that Annual Reports continue to be written in a similarly encompassing way in future.

The composition of the Scientific Board did not change in 2011, but at the end of the year the Board – and in fact the whole researcher community – had to mourn for the loss of one of its senior members: Sir Roger Jowell unexpectedly passed away on Christmas day. His support for the Swiss ESS and for FORS was enormously important for us throughout the years. We will always remember him as an eminent scholar and an immensely likeable person.

2.10.3 Management

The FORS Executive Board is chaired by the Director and comprises the heads of the units Surveys (Dr. Boris Wernli), Data and Research Information Services (Dr. Brian Kleiner), and Support (Ms. Corine Bolle). The Executive Board meets at least once per month. Decisions are minuted, and the minutes are sent to the Presidents of the Foundation and the Scientific Boards to keep them posted on current affairs.

To discuss general topics on the current state and perspectives of FORS, the Executive Board met for a two-day retreat in La-Tour-de-Peilz near Vevey on July 5-6. The main issues were as follows:

- The progress made in the establishment of an interuniversity master programme on Opinion and Survey Research. It seems likely that the programme will start in autumn 2012 with the Universities of Lausanne, Lucerne, and Neuchâtel participating (see section 3.2).

- The development of the cooperation with the host university and specifically with the Social Sciences faculty (see section 3.1). The drafting of a written agreement between the faculty and FORS is to be envisaged.
- The strategic perspectives of the COMPASS group for the period 2013-16. The activities of the group might have to be redefined for several reasons. This has to be done together with the current head of the group and subsequently with the SER when negotiating the new agreement (*contrat de prestations*).
- FORS IT development: Current state and next steps in the development of a new and integrated IT base for all of FORS (project FORSbase, see section 2.9).

One of the key strategic activities in the first half of the year was the coordination of the five infrastructure proposals FORS had to submit to the Swiss NSF end of June.⁶ By mid-December all proposals were accepted, though partly with severe cuts in funding. The same applies to the proposal for SHARE where FORS is co-applicant.⁷

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 35 permanent staff employed at FORS by the end of 2011. Apart from three mathematicians, two office clerks, and three IT specialists, all staff members have accomplished studies in different social science disciplines; one third has doctoral/Ph.D. degrees (see table attached in the Appendix). Two dissertations and one habilitation were accomplished, and several other dissertations are under way. One additional staff member worked within FORS but was employed by the Social and Political Sciences Faculty of the University of Lausanne; her task was to coordinate the preparation of the new inter-university master's programme on "Public Opinion and Survey Research" (see section 3.2).

As compared to 2010, there were no major changes in the number or the composition of staff in 2011. However, it is worth noting that for the first time FORS has a majority of female staff – a remarkable contrast to its early days in 2008 when two-thirds of staff were men. Two senior researchers left FORS, one to become assistant professor at the SSP faculty of the University of Lausanne, the other to join a private company active in the development of web survey tools. 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

⁶ Swiss Household Panel, Swiss ESS, MOSAiCH, Swiss LIS, Social Report.

⁷ The main applicant for SHARE 2012/13 is Prof. Jürgen Maurer, Director of the Institute of Health Economics and Management IEMS at the University of Lausanne.

presentation and discussion of current research projects continued in 2011. The seminar was well attended, mostly by collaborators of FORS, but also by interested researchers of university institutes. The seminars were organised by FORS senior researcher Dr. Marieke Voorpostel (see Appendix for the complete list of seminars held in 2011).

A half-day staff excursion, followed by a dinner, took place on September 9. A Christmas party was held on December 12.

2.11 Communication

In 2011 communication activities for FORS were continued and enhanced. The newsletter was published again twice, in May and December. For each edition, close to 4'000 researchers and several hundred institutions received information about quantitative, and also qualitative data developments in Switzerland. The newsletter was dedicated in May to the benefits of online surveys and the need to further enhance this method for the social sciences, and in December to the changes within the national and international research infrastructures landscape related to the development of a new European legal framework for research infrastructures (ERIC). Various groups within FORS produced new flyers, or updated leaflets destined to the scientific community as well as to survey respondents and households. For the first time, an electronic season's greetings card was crafted, and widely distributed.

Oral presentations at the institutions of social sciences continued also in 2011 with the aim of providing information about FORS data sets, and sharing knowledge and know how on survey research and methods. As before, these presentations were mainly integrated in research meetings and in methods courses. They therefore reached junior and senior researchers as well as students alike. We can observe that as time goes by, and the institution is well acknowledged, the need for general presentations of FORS services is decreasing. FORS staff members are more and more contacted for presentations on specific issues, sometimes at the suggestion of the local contact point. And the staff is by now very much used to integrating some introductory information to their talks about the aims of the institution. Thus, FORS services are largely communicated on various occasions and in different contexts – methods courses, summer schools, conferences, etc. –, and to national as well as international audiences. The presentations are listed in the appendix under presentations (see especially “other presentations”). However, FORS services have also been presented more generally, for example within the ESRA conference, and at the *Journée de la recherche SSP* at the University of Lausanne, along with a poster presentation on methodological research findings.

The FORS Working Paper Series publishes papers related to survey research, from both methodological and substantive viewpoints. The FORS Working Paper Series accepts manuscripts for consideration from scholars within and from outside of FORS. This series is intended to provide an early and relatively quick means of publication prior to further development of the work.

In 2011 the FORS Working Paper Series received five submissions. Four of these submissions were reviewed, revised and published. The fifth submission was not in line with the guidelines and hence not reviewed. Three papers came from FORS or LIVES and one paper was an external contribution. In total ten papers have been published in the FORS Working Paper Series so far.

The news bulletin “Inside FORS”, which was set up to improve the internal flow of communication, was continued. The bulletin informs staff every two months with news concerning all fields of activity of FORS. It is distributed electronically to all collaborators, the Chair and members of the Foundation Board, and the Chair of the Scientific Board. It is very much appreciated by the staff, as it contains detailed information about the activities and projects of different groups, and useful links.

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.

With the establishment of the NCCR LIVES there have been organisational rearrangements in the neighbouring institutes of the social sciences faculty. The research unit “Methodology, Inequalities and Social Change MISC” has been merged with the one for life course studies (“PAVIE”) to form the new unit “Life Course and Inequalities LINES”, which is directed by Prof. Laura Bernardi and Prof. Daniel Oesch. LINES will be the main partner for scientific collaboration on the faculty side in future. Several collaborative projects of FORS and former MISC will be continued under the new organisational scheme in 2012 (see section 2.4).

An important continuing collaboration is the Methods and Research Meetings, a joint seminar series of FORS, IMA, and LINES, organized by Marieke Voorpostel (FORS), Oliver Lipps (FORS), Jean-Philippe Antonietti (IMA), André Berchtold (IMA), Jacques-Antoine Gauthier (LINES), and 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 2011.

The invitational programme sponsored by the University of Lausanne continued to fund two postdoctoral fellows, who have been involved in joint research activities with FORS and LINES. Additionally a number of colleagues from Europe and overseas have been visiting FORS for scholarly exchanges, among them Robert Erikson (SOFI, University of Stockholm), Mark Chaves (Duke University, Durham), and Tanja van der Lippe (University of Utrecht). Furthermore, substantial contributions have been made to the CESSDA Expert Seminar held in Lausanne (see section 2.2.3) and to the Joint Workshop on Redistribution and Well-being organised together with the University of Lausanne, the University of Basel, and IZA Mannheim (see section 2.4.4).

3.2 National Partners

3.2.1 Initiative for a Masters on “Public Opinion and Survey Research”

FORS continued to facilitate and monitor the establishment of a new interuniversity MA programme in survey research. This programme presents a milestone in methodological training since as yet no similar course of study existed in Switzerland. The new joint degree will be hosted by the universities of Lausanne, Lucerne, and Neuchâtel, and will provide students with an interdisciplinary curriculum that aims at developing a thorough methodological, analytical, and theoretical understanding of survey research and opinion formation. The degree course is expected to start in autumn 2012, enrolment consequently begins in spring 2012. FORS as well as the Federal Statistical Office and the vsms-asms (Verband Schweizer Markt- und Sozialforschung/Association suisse des recherches de marché et sociales) will contribute to the development of the programme and provide internships for future students.

3.2.2 Contact Points

The network of contact points that was already significantly expanded in 2009 and 2010 was further enlarged in 2011. Several new experts joined the network. Kurt Schmidheiny from the University of Basel and Rainer Winkelmann from the University of Zurich, both professors of economics, and Rolf Becker, professor of educational science at the University of Berne accepted to serve as contact points. Maria Caiata-Zufferey from the Università della Svizzera italiana, who changed to another university, was replaced by a colleague of her institute, Rudi Palmieri, and Jörg Matthes from the University of Zurich who accepted a new position abroad was replaced by Werner Wirth. The network includes now nearly thirty representatives of institutes, faculties, universities, and universities of applied sciences from various social science disciplines (see complete list of contact points in the Appendix).

The most important function of the contact points remains to provide information about modifications that researchers or students would like to introduce to FORS services, and to provide information to students and researchers about FORS datasets. In many cases, the contact persons work with our datasets regularly, both within their research projects as well as for teaching. They are quite naturally ambassadors for secondary analysis. Exchanges with our national contact points revealed that our know-how on methodological aspects of survey data is more and more demanded and appreciated. This can be seen also if we look at the number of requests for advice on methodological issues addressed to staff members by e-mail or telephone (see chapter 4, indicator 3.1).

3.2.3 Swiss Methods Festival

FORS was a co-organiser for the first Swiss Methods Festival, along with the Swiss Academy of Humanities and Social Sciences and the Universities of Basel and Gene-

va. The conference was held in September at the University of Basel on the topic of qualitative research methods and mixed methods designs, and the event was fully booked. FORS has accepted to host and co-organise again the second Swiss Methods Festival, to be held in 2013.

3.3 International Commitments

In 2011, FORS continued its involvement in the development of European research infrastructures:

- FORS is 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 having been awarded this status was SHARE in 2011.
- FORS is a consortium member of the FP 7 project “Data without Boundaries” (www.dwbproject.org), which aims at enhancing the collaboration between social science data archives and national statistical institutes in a number of respects. The project entered its operational phase in 2011. As a first deliverable FORS authored an “institutional map” of national statistical institutes throughout Europe (see section 2.3).
- FORS is a consortium member of the FP 7 project on “Support for the Establishment of National/Regional Social Science Data Archives SERSCIDA”, which aims to establish social science data archives in the Western Balkans (Bosnia, Croatia, Serbia; see section 2.2.3).
- The FORS director was appointed member of the nomination committee for the new President of the German sister organisation GESIS – Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences.

International scholarly collaboration was also promoted by attendance of FORS researchers at a number of conferences (e.g., the ECPR General Conference, the European Sociological Association Conference, the annual conference of the American Political Science Association APSA, the annual conference of the American Association for Public Opinion Research AAPOR), or hosting international conferences and workshops at FORS (such as the International Conference of Panel Data Users, the Joint Workshop on Redistribution and Well-being or the RelationsCrossNations Network Workshop, see the complete list in chapter 4, indicator 6.2).

In a more strategic perspective, FORS organized an international symposium on “Social Science Research Infrastructures: Why–how–for whom?” on September 13. Renowned scholars from Europe and overseas active in and for research

infrastructures, including the current Chair of the European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures ESFRI, gave presentations, and a round table brought together representatives of the central institutional actors in the field in Switzerland, like the Swiss National Science Foundation, the State Secretariate for Education and Research, and the Academy of Humanities and Social Sciences, to exchange views on the perspectives of social science research infrastructures in Switzerland. The Symposium led to the initiative to edit a volume on the topic with contributions by numerous existing infrastructure institutions. The volume is to be published in 2012.

The main scientific event of this year, however, was the fourth conference of the European Survey Research Association ESRA hosted by FORS and the University of Lausanne on July 18-22. Being the most important scientific event in survey research on the continent, the conference brought some 700 scholars from Europe and overseas to Lausanne, thus giving FORS and the University a high degree of visibility in this community. The scientific as well as the social programmes were highly appreciated by participants. FORS senior researchers Kathrin Kissau and Marieke Voorpostel headed the local organizing committee. Numerous FORS collaborators convened workshops and/or made scientific contributions (see section 2.4).

For a complete list of this and other international conference attendance by FORS collaborators, see the respective section in the publications list in the Appendix.

Finally, FORS participated in two COST Actions in 2011:

- SELECTS is a member of the COST Action "The True European Voter". The Action aims at strengthening the network of national election studies in Europe and to build a common comparative survey dataset of national election studies. A meeting took place in October 2010 in Lisbon with representatives from about 30 national election studies throughout Europe. SELECTS will contribute to the data collection effort.
- FORS is a member of the COST Action "WEBDATANET – web-based data collection: methodological challenges, solutions, and implementations". WEBDATANET will promote web-based data usage by supplying web-based teaching and discussion platforms, disseminating findings, and organizing conferences, working groups, and research exchanges. It will contribute to the theoretical foundation of web-based data collection, stimulate its integration into the entire research process, and enhance its credibility in the name of public interest. FORS senior researcher Michèle Ernst Stähli is representing FORS in the Management Committee of the Action.

4 Performance Indicators

In 2010, FORS initiated an internal performance monitoring system with measures that can be used over time to assess progress toward institutional objectives. This system is based on a conceptual framework that links overall FORS objectives to key activities, and then to specific indicators. 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 the measures for 2011, in many cases comparing them to those from 2010.

Activity and Indicator Summary Table

N°	Indicator
	Activity 1: Produce and make available data
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
	Activity 2: Prepare, document, and provide data
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>)
2.3	Number of visits to Daris and Compass webpages
	Activity 3: Advise researchers
3.1	Number of cases of help and advice provided to users or to others requesting information or expertise
	Activity 4: Acquire and conduct funded research projects
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 **778** such datasets were distributed by FORS to researchers in Switzerland in 2011. We anticipate that the figure for SELECTS will increase significantly in 2012 after the 2011 survey has been made available to researchers (after April 2012). The figures for the ESS and MOSAiCH show fluctuations that we might expect across years, given that the number of NESSTAR downloads of these data varies widely depending on how data are used for teaching purposes in courses. In addition, the year of data release could have an impact on the interest in using the data.

As for the Swiss Household Panel, due to the accelerated release of the SHP data in 2010, wave 11 was already accessible in November 2010. Therefore, two waves were accessible within one year, which gives the impression that the researchers were more active in 2010 than in 2011 (see table). However, the downloads per wave are perfectly comparable: up until now (30.01.2012) wave 11 has been downloaded 235 times, whereas wave 10 was downloaded 260 times.

	2011	2010
MOSAiCH-ISSP	295	119
Swiss Household Panel (SHP)	243	284
Swiss Electoral Studies (SELECTS)	177	150
European Social Survey (ESS)	63	306
Total	778	859

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

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 **271** publications in 2011 that made use of data from studies conducted by FORS, including the ESS, MOSAiCH/ISSP, SHP, SELECTS, SHARE, and EVS. About two-thirds (67%) of these were articles in peer-reviewed journals, while 22 percent were working papers. The remainder were books (7%) or book chapters (4%). While most of the publications were substantive, about 10 percent of all publications concentrated on methodological issues. Swiss ESS data were used in 40 percent of these publications, and 28 percent used SHARE data. A smaller share of the publications used data from MOSAiCH/ISSP (12%), SHP (10%), with the remainder including data from SELECTS and the EVS.

While the figure of 271 publications for 2011 is more than twice that of 2010 (115), we hesitate to draw any conclusions from this, for several reasons. First, the 2010 figure did not include publications from SHARE, since FORS had only recently joined this project, and any publications in 2010 would be based on data collected before FORS became involved. Second, the number of publications based on specific surveys will probably fluctuate considerably from year to year. Finally, for any given year not all relevant publications can be identified.

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 2011, 22 teachers/professors used FORS data for teaching purposes in seminars and courses. Fifteen teachers/professors used Nesstar datasets (directly downloadable), and 7 teachers/professors signed an agreement in order to distribute Swiss Household Panel data to registered students. These results are nearly identical to those from 2010.

The classes/seminars took place at the universities of Fribourg, Lausanne, Berne, St. Gall, Neuchâtel, Lucerne, and Mainz (Germany) as well as the IDHEAP Lausanne and the University of Applied Sciences and Arts Northwestern Switzerland FHNW.

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 VoxIt).

In 2011, **1'901** datasets held within the FORS data service were either downloaded or distributed by FTP. This was a significant increase compared to 2010 (1'429) and continues an upward trend that began in 2008 at the beginning of FORS. Besides an increasing number of downloads of the Vox data on our NESSTAR server, in 2011 there were twice as many datasets ordered from our data service as in 2010.

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, Belgium, the Netherlands, Italy, Sweden, and Austria.

Group	2011	2010	2009	2008
Vox, Vox-it, Vox-cumulative	857	597	339	252
Eurobarometer/MOSAiCH/ESS	473	535	140	101
SELECTS	177	150	159	204
Other studies ordered from the data service	394	147	158	71
Total	1'901	1'429	796	628

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 2010/2011, **410** new project descriptions were added to the research inventory, compared to 513 during 2009/10. Additionally, **213** project descriptions were updated in 2010/2011, compared to 196 in 2009/2010. Of the new projects, 74% were being carried out by research groups affiliated with universities and universities of applied science. Most of these research projects are situated in five core disciplines (sociology, education science, political science, economics, and psychology).

2.3 Number of visits to Daris and Compass webpages

This indicator is an indirect measure of researcher interest in and use of Daris and Compass services.

In 2011, there were **10'403** visits to the Daris and Compass websites, compared to 10,698 in 2010. The share of visitors from within Switzerland dropped slightly from 85% to 78%. This may be explained by the 2011 participation of FORS in several international projects and activities, such as the European FP7 project Data without Boundaries, the CESSDA expert seminar, and the conference of the European Survey Research Association (see section 3.3). The latter two events were organised and hosted by FORS. As in 2010, about half of the foreign web traffic was from the neighbouring countries of Germany (571), France (332), Italy (65), and Austria (59). Most visits from other countries originated in the United States (183), the United Kingdom (114), and Finland (88).

As was the case in 2010, the most visited pages for Daris in 2011 were the annual survey and data access pages, whereas for Compass the vast majority of visitors accessed the statistical services catalogue.

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 2011, FORS staff members documented **348** cases of providing help or advice to individuals contacting us from outside. As shown below, those contacting us fell into different categories, such as research faculty (17 percent), PhD student (18 percent), and student (16 percent). Most of the people contacting us for advice were from universities (72 percent), and most contacted us from within Switzerland (81 percent).

The time devoted by FORS staff varied, with most cases requiring less than a half hour (59 percent), although over 20 percent of the cases took an hour or more to address. There were different purposes for the contacts, including interest in accessing data (31 percent), conducting data analysis (17 percent), getting advice on survey design and implementation (12 percent), and finding or understanding documentation (10 percent). No results existed for 2010, since a tool first had to be developed to allow capture of such contacts.

Cases of consultation by caller characteristics

Type of caller	N	%
PhD student	61	18
Faculty (research)	60	17
Student	54	16
Faculty (teaching)	52	15
Other researcher	52	15
Other types (e.g., administrator, journalist, post doc)	69	19
Institutional type		
University	252	72
Public administration	24	7
Private	20	6
Haute école	20	6
Research institute	19	5
Other	13	4
Region		
French-speaking Switzerland	160	46
German-speaking Switzerland	114	33
Italian speaking Switzerland	7	2
Other Country	67	19
Time devoted		
<15 minutes	78	22
15-30 minutes	128	37
30 min - 1 hour	62	18
More than 1 hour	80	23

Purpose		
Data access	108	31
Data analysis	60	17
Survey design and implementation	43	12
Documentation	36	10
Subject expertise	28	8
Methodology	27	8
Other purposes	46	13

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, SHARE, SHP, and the Social Report and LIS). The sums reported might fluctuate over time depending on duration and funding schemes of individual projects.

In 2011, there was a total of **270'572 CHF** in funding for third-party financed projects (compared with 175'000 CHF in 2010). This is in line with the average 250'000 CHF per year predicted in the mid-term planning estimate. In addition to FORS participation in the European Commission FP7 project Data without Boundaries in 2011 (89'529 CHF), there were 24 ongoing smaller-scale third-party financed projects and activities that ranged in funding between 173 CHF and 37'800 CHF.

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 2011, FORS staff members had a total of **37** publications, including 14 articles in peer-reviewed journals, such as the International Journal of Comparative Sociology, the British Journal of Sociology, the International Journal of Social Psychiatry, and Quality & Quantity (International Journal of Methodology), among others.

Type of publication	2011	2010
Peer-reviewed articles	14	22
Working papers	13	11
Book sections	10	8
Edited books	0	4
Total	37	42

Out of these publications, 13 (35%) treated methodological issues in survey research (38% in 2010), with 4 of these in peer-reviewed journals such as *Quality & Quantity* (International Journal of Methodology), *Field Methods*, and the *Journal of Official Statistics*, among others.

Taking the number of eligible scientific collaborators into account (29 with Masters degree or above), it appears that on the average three out of four scientific collaborators published a scholarly text this year, as was the case in 2010. However, there is still potential for an even better performance across collaborators, and FORS will continue to aspire to motivate all scientific collaborators to publish regularly in scholarly media.

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 **41** presentations at national and international scientific conferences and workshops, e.g., at the European Sociological Association Conference, Conference of the European Survey Research Association (ESRA), the ECPR General Conference, the International conference of panel data users in Switzerland, and the Annual Conference of the American Political Science Association, APSA, Seattle, among others.

Type of presentation	2011	2010
Scientific conferences	41	46
Other presentations	17	13
Total	58	59

22 (39%) of these presentations were focused on methodological issues, with 17 of these at scientific conferences, such as the 4th Conference of the European Survey Research Association (ESRA), Lausanne, the 22nd International Workshop on Household Survey Nonresponse, Bilbao, and the Annual Conference of the American Association for Public Opinion Research, May 12-15, Phoenix, AZ.

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 2011, FORS staff members were involved in **64** collaborative projects with outside organizations (compared to 60 in 2010). About two-thirds of these were with individuals from the French-speaking part of Switzerland. This is due in particular to the close ties of some collaborators with other institutions in Lausanne and Geneva (in particular LINES/LIVES). Close to 40% of the collaborations with foreign institutions involved Germany. In the future, such collaborations should be more regionally diversified, in Switzerland as well as abroad.

Region / Country	2011	2010
French-speaking part of Switzerland	43	29
German-speaking part of Switzerland	5	4
Italian-speaking part of Switzerland	0	2
Germany	6	12
Italy	3	0
Australia	2	0
The Netherlands	2	2
United Kingdom	2	3
North America	1	6
Spain	0	1
Finland	0	1
Total	64	60

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 **13** different workshops and seminars in 2011. 12 of these were international in character with regard to the speakers and/or the participants. These figures were very similar in 2010 (13 and 7, respectively).

Event	Month
Workshop with Brita Dorer, GESIS, on survey translation	January
International workshop “Well-being and redistribution” (<i>co-organiser</i>)	March
Seminar Eldad Davidov, University of Zurich	April
Conference of the European Survey Research Association	July
Symposium on Social Science Research Infrastructures	September
Seminar Dean Lillard, Cornell University	September
Workshop of the RelationsCrossNations network	September
Workshop with SWS research team from the Philippines	September
Swiss Methods Festival – Qualitative Research Methods and Mixed Methods Designs (<i>co-organiser</i>)	September
CESSDA expert seminar	October
Workshop on Luxembourg Income Study	November
Workshop with Robert Erikson, SOFI Stockholm	November
Workshop with Mark Chaves, Duke University	December
<i>FORS/IMA/LINES Research and Methods Meeting series</i>	<i>Continuous</i>
<i>FORS lunch seminars</i>	<i>Continuous</i>

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, 10 FORS staff members taught in 2011. They gave **317** teaching hours in 16 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. Around three quarters (73%) of the teaching hours were provided in the French-speaking part of Switzerland, about one fifth (21%) in the German-speaking part, and 6% abroad. Around one third of eligible FORS staff were involved in teaching activities. These results are quite similar to those from 2010. 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 enrollments

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 2011 FORS summer school in Lugano had **145** course enrollments, compared to 142 in 2010. Among the 92 participants, 90 percent were from Switzerland, while the rest were from Germany, Italy, Austria, Liechtenstein, the Netherlands, the UK, and Sweden. Of the participants from Switzerland, 53% were from the German-speaking region, 22% were from the Italian-speaking re-

gion, and 15% were from the French-speaking region. All of the 6 courses were fully booked.

88% of the participants were PhD students, and most participants were from universities or universities of applied science. Similar to the summer school of 2010, the largest share were from the fields of Business Studies (23%), Education (17%), Communication Sciences (16%), and Psychology (14%).

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.

As the Social Report appears every four years only, and since most of the copies are sold shortly after publication, the total number of copies sold and distributed since the publication of the current Social Report in early 2009 is provided in the table below. Of the **610** copies that were distributed, 509 (83%) were sold. There were 18 copies sold in 2011.

Language	Sold	Distributed	Total delivered
German	332	52	384
French	177	49	226
Total	509	101	610

200 copies of the English version were distributed by the publisher in return for the FORS contribution to printing costs; 16 copies of the English version were sold.

Appendix: Facts and Figures

Publications

Peer Reviewed Articles

- Kleiner**, Brian, Claudia Heinzmann, Thomas S. Eberle, and Manfred Max Bergman. 2011. "Qualitative Data Archiving in Switzerland." *IASSIST Quarterly* 35: 77-79.
- Komter, Aafke, Marieke **Voorpostel**, and Trees Pels. 2011. "Not accepted by the family: 'Being difficult' or 'being different'?" *Journal of Family Issues* 32 (2): 237-263.
- Kuhn**, Ursina. 2011. "Persuasion effects in electoral campaigns – A comparative analysis of Household Panel data." *Schmollers Jahrbuch* 131: 401-418.
- Laganà**, Francesco, Guy Elchereth, Sandra Penic, Brian **Kleiner**, and Nicole Fasel. 2011. "National minorities and their representation in social surveys: which practices make a difference?" *Quality & Quantity. International Journal of Methodology* (September): 1-28.
- Laganà**, Francesco and Alberto Violante, 2011. "Rocco e I suoi eredi: permanenza e mutamento nelle migrazioni Sud-Nord" [eng. Translation: Persistence and changes in internal migration in Italy], *Sociologia del Lavoro*, 121, 26-47.
- Laganà**, Francesco. 2011. "Blocked Mobility or Unemployment Risk? Labour market transition of immigrants and natives in Switzerland", *International Journal of Comparative Sociology*, 52 (4): 327-349.
- Lipps**, Oliver, and Alexandre **Pollien**. 2011. "Effects of Interviewer Experience on Components of Nonresponse in the European Social Survey." *Field Methods* 23 (2): 156-172.
- Lipps**, Oliver. 2011. "A Note on improving Contact Times in Panel Surveys." *Field Methods*, <http://fm.sagepub.com>.
- Miles, Andrew, Mike Savage, and Felix **Bühlmann**. 2011. "Telling a modest story: accounts of men's upward mobility from the National Child Development Study." *The British Journal of Sociology* 62 (3): 418-441.
- Miller, Kristen, Rory Fitzgerald, José-Luis Padilla, Stephanie Willson, Sally Widdop, Rachel Caspar, Nicole **Schöbi**, et al. 2011. "Design and Analysis of Cognitive Interviews for Comparative Multinational Testing." *Field Methods* 23 (4) (November 1): 379 -396.
- Müller, Nicolas S., Marlène **Sapin**, Jacques-Antoine Gauthier, Alina Orita, and Eric D. Widmer. 2011. "Pluralized life courses? An exploration of the life trajectories of individuals with psychiatric disorders." *International Journal of Social Psychiatry*: published online before print, March 29, 2011.
- Pollien**, Alexandre. 2011. "Faire une pause ou bifurquer? Essai de typologie des trajectoires de formation." *Education et sociétés* 26.

- Voorpostel**, Marieke, and Oliver **Lipps**. 2011. "Attrition in the Swiss Household Panel: Is change associated with drop-out?" *Journal of Official Statistics* 27 (2): 301-318.
- Voorpostel**, Marieke, and Djamila Schans. 2011. "Sibling relationships in Dutch and immigrant families." *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 34 (12): 2027-2047.

Book Sections

- Elcheroth, Guy, Felix **Bühlmann**, and Manuel Tettamanti. 2011. Valeurs égalitaires et pratiques sexuées: une approche biographique et comparative. In *Parcours de vie et insertions sociales*, ed. Dominique Joye, Christine Pirinoli, Dario Spini, and Eric D. Widmer, 81-104. Zürich: Seismo Verlag.
- Farago**, Peter. 2011. De la "boîte noire" à la science mature. Jalons de l'engagement dans la politique de la science de René Levy. In *Parcours de vie et insertions sociales*, ed. Dominique Joye, Christine Pirinoli, Dario Spini, and Eric D. Widmer, 238-242. Zürich: Seismo Verlag.
- Le Goff, Jean-Marie, Marlène **Sapin**, and Martin Camenisch. 2011. Intentions professionnelles des couples de Suisse romande après la naissance de leur premier enfant: Une première exploration de l'enquête "Devenir parent". In *Parcours de vie et insertions sociales*, ed. Dominique Joye, Christine Pirinoli, Dario Spini, and Eric D. Widmer, 105-125. Zürich: Seismo Verlag.
- Joye**, Dominique. 2011a. Les grandes enquêtes internationales des sciences sociales (chap.1). In *La France dans les comparaisons internationales, Guide d'accès aux grandes enquêtes statistiques en sciences sociales*, 21-30. Alain Chenu et Laurent Lesnard (dir.). Paris: Presses de Sciences Po.
- Joye**, Dominique. 2011b. Echantillonnage et pondération (chap.8). In *La France dans les comparaisons internationales, Guide d'accès aux grandes enquêtes statistiques en sciences sociales*, Alain Chenu et Laurent Lesnard (dir.), 143-152.. Paris: Presses de Sciences Po.
- Joye**, Dominique, and Ekkehard Mochmann. 2011. Comparaisons interculturelles et recherches comparatives internationales (chap.9). In *La France dans les comparaisons internationales, Guide d'accès aux grandes enquêtes statistiques en sciences sociales*, 153-160. Alain Chenu et Laurent Lesnard (dir.). Paris: Presses de Sciences Po.
- Lutz**, Georg. 2011. Open Ballot. In *Personal Representation*, ed. Josep M. Colomer, 153-174. Essex: ECPR Press.
- Pollien**, Alexandre, and Dominique **Joye**. 2011. A la poursuite du répondant? Essai de typologie des séquences de contact dans les enquêtes. In *Parcours de vie et insertions sociales*, ed. Dominique Joye, Christine Pirinoli, Dario Spini, Eric Widmer, 189-212. Zürich: Seismo Verlag.
- Ryser**, Valérie-Anne, and Girardin, Myriam. 2011. Bien-être subjectif dans la vieillesse et la grande vieillesse. In *Genre et bien-être. Questionner les inégalités*, ed. Anne-

François Praz, and Sylvie Burgnard. Collection Questions de genre. Zürich: Seismo Verlag.

Ryser, Valérie-Anne, and Le Goff, Jean-Marie. 2011. Le mariage en Suisse: contrainte institutionnelle ou choix de vie. In *Les enjeux démographiques en France et en Allemagne: réalités et conséquences*, ed. Serge Gouazé, Anne Salles, and Cécile Prat-Erkert, 109-123. Lille: Presses Universitaires du Septentrion.

Schwarz, Daniel, André Bächtiger, and **Lutz**, Georg. 2011. Switzerland: Agenda-Setting Power of Government in a Separation-of-Powers Framework. In *The Role of Governments in Legislative Agenda Setting*, ed. Bjorn Erki Rasch and George Tsebelis, 127-143. Oxon/New York: Routledge.

Working Papers / Reports

Lipps, Oliver. 2011. Refusal Conversion in telephone panels: Is it worth it? Swiss Household Panel Working Paper 3_11. Lausanne: FORS, September.

Lipps, Oliver, and Ursina **Kuhn**. 2011. Codebook for CNEF variables in the SHP (1999 - 2010). Lausanne: FORS, Swiss Household Panel.

Lipps, Oliver, 2011. Using the experimental Design of centralized Telephone Panel Studies to study Interviewer and Respondent Data Quality Effects - the SHP as an example. Swiss Household Panel Working Paper 1_11. Lausanne: FORS, February.

Lutz, Georg. 2011. Geringer Reformbedarf trotz Funktionswandel der Volksinitiative. *LeGes* 2011 22 (3): 371-380.

Lutz, Georg. 2011. "Electoral design to reduce tensions in post-conflict countries." *Bal-lots or Bullets: Potentials and Limitations of Elections in Conflict Contexts*, Swisspeace working papers 1/2011: 21-26.

Oesch, Daniel, and Oliver **Lipps**. 2011. Does unemployment hurt less if there is more of it around? A panel analysis of life satisfaction in Germany and Switzerland. SOEP papers 393 on Multidisciplinary Panel Data Research.

Perret, Andreas. 2011. Institutional Map. Paris: Data without Boundaries, October 30.

Voorpostel, Marieke, and Valérie-Anne **Ryser**. 2011. Mixed mode data collection as a strategy to decrease panel attrition in the Swiss Household Panel. Swiss Household Panel Working Paper 2_11. Lausanne: FORS.

Voorpostel, Marieke, Valérie-Anne **Ryser**, and Boris **Wernli**. 2011. Longitudinal analysis using the Swiss Household Panel: Some examples. Lausanne: FORS.

Voorpostel, Marieke, Robin **Tillmann**, Florence **Lebert**, Bryce **Weaver**, Ursina **Kuhn**, Oliver **Lipps**, Valérie-Anne **Ryser**, Flurina **Schmid**, and Boris **Wernli**. 2011. Swiss Household Panel User Guide (1999-2010), Wave 12, October 2011. Lausanne: FORS.

Doctoral and Habilitation Dissertations

Borrat-Besson, Carmen. 2011. Public Opinion on the Smoking Ban. The Impact of Mass Media, Interpersonal Communication and Intrapersonal Variables. Università della Svizzera italiana, Switzerland.

Lipps, Oliver. 2011. Studies on Data Quality in Complex Household Surveys (Habilitationsschrift). University of Basel, Switzerland.

Stam, Alexandra. 2011. Marriage Migration and the Geographies of Love. A Swiss Case Study. University of Dundee, Scotland.

COMPASS User Guides

Gysen, Katelijne. 2011. International comparisons - Census. FORS, January 12. Lausanne: FORS.

Gysen, Katelijne. 2011. International comparisons - Income and Living Conditions (SILC). Lausanne: FORS.

Presentations

Scientific conferences

- Borrat-Besson**, Carmen, and Boris **Wernli**. 2011. Determinants of subjective well-being among elderly. Poster presented at the SHARE user conference, February 9, Tallinn, Estonia.
- Budowski, Monica, Maurizia Masia, and Robin **Tillmann**. 2011. Does health matter? Household mobility in deprivations and income due to change in health of household members. Paper presented at the 6th International conference of panel data users in Switzerland, June 8, Lausanne, Switzerland.
- Engeli, Isabelle, and Georg **Lutz**. 2011. When women run, do women win? Paper presented at the “Dreiländertagung”, conference of the Austrian, German and Swiss Association of Political Science, January 13/14, Basel, Switzerland.
- Ernst Stähli**, Michèle, Dominique **Joye**, Alexandre **Pollien**, and Marlène **Sapin**. 2011. First evidences on the quality of the new register sampling frame in Switzerland. Paper presented at the 4th Conference of the European Survey Research Association (ESRA), July 18, Lausanne, Switzerland.
- Ernst Stähli**, Michèle, Dominique **Joye**, Marlène **Sapin**, and Alexandre **Pollien**. 2011. The educational measure in international face to face surveys carried out in Switzerland: toward a precise and internationally comparable tool. Paper presented at the 4th Conference of the European Survey Research Association (ESRA), July 18, Lausanne, Switzerland.
- Joye**, Dominique. 2011. Nonrespondent surveys: Swiss experiments. Paper presented at the 22nd International Workshop on Household Survey Nonresponse, September 5, Bilbao, Spain.
- Joye**, Dominique. 2011. A geography of non-response? Paper presented at the International Nonresponse Workshop, June 2, Chicago, United States.
- Joye**, Dominique. 2011. Reduction of the effect of non-response? Paper presented at the QMSS 2 Seminar: Minimizing and Handling Non-response in Sample Surveys, December 8, Leuven, Belgium.
- Joye**, Dominique, Alexandre **Pollien**, Marlène **Sapin**, and Michèle **Ernst Stähli**. 2011. Three non respondent surveys in Switzerland: How far are they stable? Paper presented at the 22nd International Workshop on Household Survey Nonresponse, September 5, Bilbao, Spain.
- Kissau**, Kathrin, Georg **Lutz**, and Jan **Rosset**. 2011. Unequal Representation of Age Groups in Switzerland. Paper presented at the “Dreiländertagung”, conference of the Austrian, German and Swiss Association of Political Science, January 13/14, Basel, Switzerland.

- Kissau**, Kathrin, Georg **Lutz**, and Jan **Rosset**. 2011. The political preferences of political elites, voters and non-voters in Europe. Paper presented at the ECPR General Conference, August 25, Reykjavik, Iceland.
- Kleiner**, Brian. 2011. Toward greater data equality – a case for integrating quantitative and qualitative archiving systems in small archives. Paper presented at the Sciences Po workshop on Qualitative data archiving, November 4, Paris, France.
- Kleiner**, Brian, Eliane **Ferrez**, Martina **Bichsel**, François **Lorétan**, and Stefan **Buerli**. 2011. Getting to know our users: a survey and needs analysis of social science researchers in Switzerland. Paper presented at the 4th Conference of the European Survey Research Association (ESRA), July 19, Lausanne, Switzerland.
- Kleiner**, Brian, Isabelle **Renschler**, and Stefan **Buerli**. 2011. Mapping the languages and dialects of national surveys in Europe: Toward an understanding of challenges in surveying linguistic minorities. Paper presented at the 4th Conference of the European Survey Research Association (ESRA), July 20, Lausanne, Switzerland.
- Kuhn**, Ursina. 2011. Income inequality in Switzerland and Germany in the 21st century. Paper presented at the 6th International conference of panel data users in Switzerland, Lausanne, Switzerland.
- Kuhn**, Ursina. 2011. Discussant of Paper by Jennifer Fitzgerald presented at the Cornell Conference on Cross-National Comparative Research, September 8, Ithaca, United States.
- Kuhn**, Ursina. 2011. Swiss Household Panel. Paper presented at the GSOEP/CNEF Data Users Workshop, September 10, Ithaca, United States.
- Laganà**, Francesco. 2011. School-to-Work transitions of second generation immigrants in Switzerland. Paper presented at the 6th International conference of panel data users in Switzerland, Lausanne, Switzerland.
- Laganà**, Francesco. 2011. National minorities and their representation in Swiss surveys. Analysis of causes and remedies. Paper presented at 4th Conference of the European Survey Research Association (ESRA), July, Lausanne, Switzerland.
- Laganà**, Francesco. 2011. Models of tertiarisation and territorial differences in Italy. Paper presented at the 10th European Sociological Association Conference, September, Genève, Switzerland.
- Lipps**, Oliver. 2011. The Swiss Household Panel and (some of) its underused potentials. Paper presented at the Workshop on Redistribution and Well-Being, University of Lausanne, FORS, and IZA (Bonn), March 18, Lausanne, Switzerland.
- Lutz**, Georg. 2011. Candidate voting in PR election: evidence from Switzerland. Paper presented at the Annual Conference of the American Political Science Association, APSA, September 14, Seattle, United States.
- Pollien**, Alexandre, Marlène **Sapin**, Dominique **Joye**, and Michèle **Ernst Stähli**. 2011. Lifestyle, accessibility and cooperation of respondents. Paper presented at the 4th Conference of the European Survey Research Association (ESRA), July 18, Lausanne, Switzerland.

- Roberts**, Caroline. 2011. Mixing modes in cross-national surveys findings from the European Social Survey (ESS) methodological research programme. Invited Talk at Workshop on Data Collection Modes in Cross-National Surveys, Eurofound, April 6-7, Dublin, Ireland.
- Roberts**, Caroline, Emily Gilbert, and Nick Allum. 2011. Research based on Satisficing Theory: a systematic review of methods and results. Paper presented at the American Association for Public Opinion Research, May 12-15, Phoenix, AZ, United States.
- Roberts**, Caroline, Emily Gilbert, and Nick Allum. 2011. Research based on Satisficing Theory: a systematic review of methods and results. Paper presented at the 4th Conference of the European Survey Research Association (ESRA), July 18-22, Lausanne, Switzerland.
- Roberts**, Caroline, Nick Allum, and Patrick Sturgis. 2011. Are reluctant panelists worth the effort? Analysis of measurement error in a probability-based Internet panel. Paper presented at the European Survey Research Association Annual Conference, July 18-22, Lausanne, Switzerland.
- Rosset**, Jan, Nathalie Giger, and Julian Bernauer. 2011. Political representation of the poor and economic inequality: A comparative analysis presented at the “Dreiländertagung”, conference of the Austrian, German and Swiss Association of Political Science, January 13/14, Basel.
- Rothenbühler**, Martina. 2011. Exploring the different worlds of political participation among young adults in Switzerland – Political youth culture in a direct democracy. Paper presented at the “Politics and the Arts in a Time of Crisis and Anxiety” General Conference of the European Consortium for Political Research ECPR, August 25, Reykjavik, Iceland.
- Rothenbühler**, Martina. 2011. Exploring the different worlds of political participation among young adults in Switzerland – Political youth culture in a direct democracy. Paper presented at the “Social Relations in Turbulant Times”; 10th Conference of the European Sociological Association ESA, September 9, Geneva, Switzerland.
- Ryser**, Valérie-Anne. 2011. Why do Swiss people need marriage? Changes in family attitudes, gender opinions and division of tasks during the transition to marriage. Paper presented at the 6th International Conference of Panel Data Users in Switzerland, June 8, Lausanne, Switzerland.
- Ryser**, Valérie-Anne. 2011. Do we still need marriage? Does this life course transition shape change on family's attitudes, gender opinions and tasks' attribution? Paper presented at the 10th European Sociological Association Conference (ESA), September 3, Genève, Switzerland.
- Ryser**, Valérie-Anne. 2011. Getting married or living in a consensual union: Evidence from Switzerland. Paper presented at the RelationsCrossNations Network Workshop organized by Marieke Voorpostel, September 7, Lausanne, Switzerland.
- Ryser**, Valérie-Anne. 2011. Unmarried parents in Switzerland: Process of innovation or pattern of poverty. Paper presented at the Nonmarital Childbearing Workshop or-

ganized by Brienna Perelli-Harris, September 15, Université de Southampton, England.

Ryser, Valérie-Anne Chair. 2011. Session: "Health and quality of life". Paper presented at the 6th International Conference of Panel Data Users in Switzerland, June 8, Lausanne, Switzerland.

Sapin, Marlène. 2011. Family configurations of individuals undergoing psychotherapy: Relational dynamics and psychiatric symptoms. Paper presented at the 10th Conference of the European Sociological Association (ESA), September 7-10, Genève, Switzerland.

Voorpostel, Marieke. 2011. "Disagreements within married and cohabiting couples in 23 countries." Invited presentation at the Pairfam Interdisciplinary International Conference, 21-23 September 2011, Munich, Germany.

Voorpostel, Marieke, and Hilde Coffé. 2011. Intergenerational transmission of political participation. Paper presented at the 10th Conference of the European Sociological Association (ESA), September 7-10, Geneva, Switzerland.

Wernli, Boris. 2011. Housework in Switzerland: an unbalanced but satisfying share". Paper presented at the 6th International Conference of Panel Data Users. Workshop Politics and Attitudes, June 9, Lausanne, Switzerland.

Wernli, Boris, and Florence Passy. 2011. Protest Politics a Youth phenomena? Paper presented at the 6th International Conference of Panel Data Users. Workshop Politics and Attitudes, June 8, Lausanne, Switzerland.

Wernli, Boris, and Schmid, **Flurina**. 2011. Adhesion to EU – a longitudinal perspective. Paper presented at the 6th International Conference of Panel Data Users. Workshop Politics and Attitudes, June 8, Lausanne, Switzerland.

Other Presentations

Bichsel, Martina, and Andreas **Perret**. 2011. Presentation of FORS datasets at the seminar on "Wissenschaftstheorie", Fachhochschule Nordwestschweiz, Hochschule für Soziale Arbeit, March 14, Olten, Switzerland.

Bichsel, Martina. 2011. Presentation of DARIS at QualiZüri, "Networking Day für qualitativ Sozialforschende", Universität Zürich, May 9, Zurich, Switzerland.

Farago, Peter. 2011. Presentation of COMPASS at the round table "Statistique publique" of the francophone doctoral school in sociology, University of Neuchâtel, November 4, Neuchâtel, Switzerland.

Ferrez, Eliane, and Alexandra **Stam**. 2011. Presentation of DARIS at the Atelier des mémorants des masters en sciences sociales et en sciences et pratiques de l'éducation, University of Lausanne, October 17, Lausanne, Switzerland.

Gysen, Katelijne and Andreas **Perret**. 2011. Public Use Sample, Swiss Health Survey. Presentation at the Swiss Federal Statistical Office, November 11, Neuchâtel, Switzerland.

- Kissau**, Kathrin. 2011. Empirische Forschung. Presentation at the Institut für Publizistik und Medienwissenschaft IPMZ, University of Zurich, March 24, Zurich, Switzerland.
- Kleiner**, Brian, and Isabelle **Renschler**. 2011. Language and translation in multi-cultural and multi-linguistic surveys. Presentation at the Seminar on Research Methods, November 28, Basel, Switzerland.
- Lipps**, Oliver. 2011. The Swiss Household Panel - Uses for social scientists and survey researchers. Presentation at the Kolloquium at the Institute for Sociology, ETH Zürich/University of Zurich, February 3, Zurich, Switzerland.
- Lipps**, Oliver. 2011. Presentation at the Institute for Sociology, University of Zurich, March 7, Zurich, Switzerland.
- Lipps**, Oliver. 2011. Internationale Surveys bei FORS: ESS, MOSAiCH/ISSP, EVS, SHARE, (CNEF). Presentation at the Soziologisches Seminar, University of Lucerne, March 24, Lucerne, Switzerland.
- Lipps**, Oliver . 2011. Das Schweizer Haushalt Panel. Presentation at the Seminar "Möglichkeiten und Grenzen der Bildungsstatistik", University of Berne, April 13, Berne, Switzerland.
- Lipps**, Oliver. 2011. Unterrepräsentanz von nationalen Minoritäten in schweizerischen sozialwissenschaftlichen Befragungen. Probevortrag zur Erlangung der *venia docendi* an der Historisch-Philosophischen Universität Basel, September 22, Basel, Switzerland.
- Lipps**, Oliver. 2011. Evaluation von Skalen bei Einstellungsfragen. Presentation at the Seminar "Meinungen und Einstellungen in Umfragen", November 14, Basel, Switzerland.
- Perret**, Andreas and Peter **Farago**. 2011. COMPASS BFS Management Report. Presentation at the Swiss Federal Statistical Office, December 12, Neuchâtel, Switzerland.
- Perret**, Andreas. 2011. Strategy of conflict management while setting up an institutional map. Presentation at the Data without Boundaries, Work Package 6, Kick-Off meeting, July 12, Paris, France.
- Perret**, Andreas. 2011. The Swiss portal for accessing official statistics. Presentation at the Data without Boundaries, Work Package 5 meeting, September 21, Ljubljana, Slovenia.
- Renschler**, Isabelle, and Sibyl **Krügel**. 2011. Einleitung zur Veranstaltungsreihe "Konzepte und Technologien in der qualitativen (Sozial-)Forschung", University of Zurich, Zurich, Switzerland.
- Wernli**, Boris, Isabelle **Renschler**, and Alexandra **Stam**. 2011. FORS et ses apports en matière de données d'enquêtes. Presentation at the FORS guichets meeting, University of Neuchâtel, January 18, Neuchâtel, Switzerland.

FORS Working Paper Series

Dorer, Brita. 2011. Advance translation in the 5th round of the European Social Survey (ESS). FORS Working Paper, 2011-4. Lausanne: FORS.

Laganà, Francesco, Guy Elchereth, Sandra Penic, Brian **Kleiner**, and Nicole Fasel. 2011. National minorities and their representation in Swiss surveys (II): What practices make a difference? FORS Working Paper 2011-03. Lausanne: FORS.

Lipps, Oliver. 2011. Predictability of reasons for refusal in telephone surveys. FORS Working Paper 2011-1. Lausanne: FORS.

Lipps, Oliver, Francesco **Laganà**, Alexandre **Pollien**, and Lavinia Gianettoni. 2011. National minorities and their representation in Swiss surveys (I): Providing evidence and analysing causes for their under-representation. FORS Working Paper, 2011-2. Lausanne: FORS.

Teaching

- Bühlmann, Felix.** Winter semester 2011. "Sekundärdatenanalyse in den Sozialwissenschaften: Generationen, Kohorten, Lebensläufe." University of Lucerne, Institute for Sociology, master level course
- Kuhn, Ursina.** 9-10 September 2011. "Swiss Household Panel" GSOEP/CNEF Data Users Workshop, Ithaca, USA, data user workshop.
- Lipps, Oliver** Winter semester 2011. "Sequenzanalyse". University of Basel, Institute for Sociology, master level course.
- Lipps, Oliver.** 31 August 2011. "Paneldatenanalyse". University of Berne, Institute of Educational Science and the Institute of Sport Science, doctorate and advanced researcher level workshop.
- Lipps, Oliver.** 23-24 May 2011. "Data Quality Challenges in Social Survey Research". Kaunas University of Technology (Lithuania), Lithuanian Data Archive (LiDA), doctorate and advanced researcher level workshop.
- Lutz, Georg.** Summer semester 2011, "Elections et votations en Suisse : Analyse de données d'enquête". University of Lausanne, IEPI, bachelor level course (with Lionel Marquis).
- Lutz, Georg.** Summer semester 2011, "Partis politiques et campagnes électorales". University of Geneva, master level course.
- Lutz, Georg.** 31 August 2011. "Elections and Conflict." Swisspeace, continuing, education lecture.
- Lutz, Georg,** 21.11.2011, "Who participates, How participatory democracy reduces equality in representation", University of Mannheim, invited guest lecture.
- Renschler, Isabelle, and Brian Kleiner.** 28 November 2011. "Language and translation in multi-cultural and multi-linguistic surveys." University of Basel, Institute for Sociology, seminar on opinions and attitudes in surveys.
- Rosset, Jan.** Spring semester 2011. "Méthodes quantitatives." University of Lausanne, Institute for Political Science, master level seminar.
- Sapin, Marlène.** Spring Semester 2011. « Approches pluridisciplinaires des parcours de vie: Introduction ». University of Lausanne, Faculty of social and political sciences, Bachelor level course.
- Wernli, Boris.** Spring semester 2011. "Grandes enquêtes – analyses empiriques." University of Lausanne, faculty SSP, bachelor level course.
- Wernli, Boris.** 7 April 2011. "Résumés chiffrés et infographie." IDHEAP Lausanne, doctoral level lecture.
- Wernli, Boris.** 8 September 2011. "Advanced methods in survey data analysis." IDHEAP Lausanne, doctoral level lecture

Methods and Research Meetings

January 25: Grégoire Zimmermann (*Faculté des sciences sociales et politiques, Université de Lausanne*)

Évaluation de l'efficacité des psychothérapies: Apports et limites de la méta-analyse

February 2: Yves Tillé (*Institut de statistique, Université de Neuchâtel*)

Recent developments in the sample survey methodology

March 29: Véronique Mottier (*Faculté des sciences sociales et politiques, Université de Lausanne*)

Analyse de discours: Théorie et pratique

April 19: Eldad Davidov (*Institute of Sociology, University of Zurich*) and Hermann Dülmer (*University of Cologne*)

Using a Multilevel Structural Equation Modeling Approach to Explain Cross-Cultural Measurement Noninvariance

May 31: Victorin Luisier (*Faculté de Psychologie et des Sciences de l'Éducation, Université de Genève*)

Introduction aux modèles Exponential Random Graph (ERGM)

September 27: Reto Schumacher (*SES, Université de Genève*)

Le modèle de Poisson avec sur-représentation de zéros. Une application démographique

October 26: Francesco Laganà (*LINES, Université de Lausanne*)

Underrepresentation of Minorities in Swiss Surveys – Evidence to motivate a new Research Initiative

November 29: Michele Poretti (*Institut Kurt Bösch, Sion*)

Les défis de la complexité: Interdisciplinarité et méthodes mixtes

Lunch Seminars

January 26: Ursina Kuhn (*FORS*)

Income inequality in Switzerland

February 23: Oriane Sarrasin (*LINES*)

Measurement equivalence of immigration attitudes across linguistic groups in Switzerland

March 23: Xiaohua Yu (*University of Göttingen*)

The Impact of Model Specification on Vulnerability Measurement with Application in Rural Kenya

May 18: Valérie-Anne Ryser (*FORS*)

Family Organization within Cohabiting or Married Mothers in Switzerland

June 22: Francesco Laganà (*LINES*)

National minorities in Swiss surveys: Analyzing the patterns of under-representation and the effect of survey strategies

September 14: Dean Lillard (*Cornell University*)

Are emigrants risk takers? New evidence of differences in health behaviors of migrants and non migrants using smoking outcomes in six source countries

October 12: Carmen Borrat-Besson (*FORS*)

The long-lasting effect of education on well-being across European countries

November 16: Lecture by Robert Erikson (*University of Stockholm*)

New developments in socio-economic classification schemes

December 21: Alexandre Pollien (*FORS*)

Que deviennent la représentativité, la probabilité et la significativité dans l'analyse qualitative?

Contact Points

Universities:

Prof. Max Bergman Robin Samuel, *Universität Basel, Institut für Soziologie*
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 Maurizia Masia *Université de Fribourg, Département Travail social et politiques sociales*
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 Dr. Eric Crettaz *Université de Neuchâtel, Chaire études sociales et transnationales*
 Dr. Stephan Egger *Universität St. Gallen, Soziologisches Seminar*
 Dr. Rudi Palmieri *Università della Svizzera Italiana, Institute of Communication and Health*
 Prof. Eldad Davidov, Georg Datler *Universität Zürich, Soziologisches Institut*
 Prof. Daniel Kübler *Universität Zürich, Institut für Politikwissenschaft*
 Prof. Rainer Winkelmann *Universität Zürich, Wirtschaftswissenschaftliche Fakultät*
 Prof. Werner Wirth *Universität Zürich, Institute of Mass Communication and Media Research*
 Dr. Andrée Helmingier *Universität Zürich, Psychologisches Institut, Sozialpsychologie*

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

Silvana Kappeler *Pädagogische Hochschule Aarau, Institut Forschung und Entwicklung, FHNW*
 Prof. Christian Marazzi *Scuola Universitaria Professionale della Svizzera Italiana (SUPSI)*
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 Prof. Pascal Eric Gaberel *Haute école de travail social et de la santé EESP*
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 Prof. Dorothea Christ *Pädagogische Hochschule Thurgau, Abteilung Forschung*
 Dr. Peter Rüesch *Zürcher Hochschule für Angewandte Wissenschaften, Gesundheitswissenschaften*
 Dr. Jean-François Bickel *Haute Ecole fribourgeoise de travail social*

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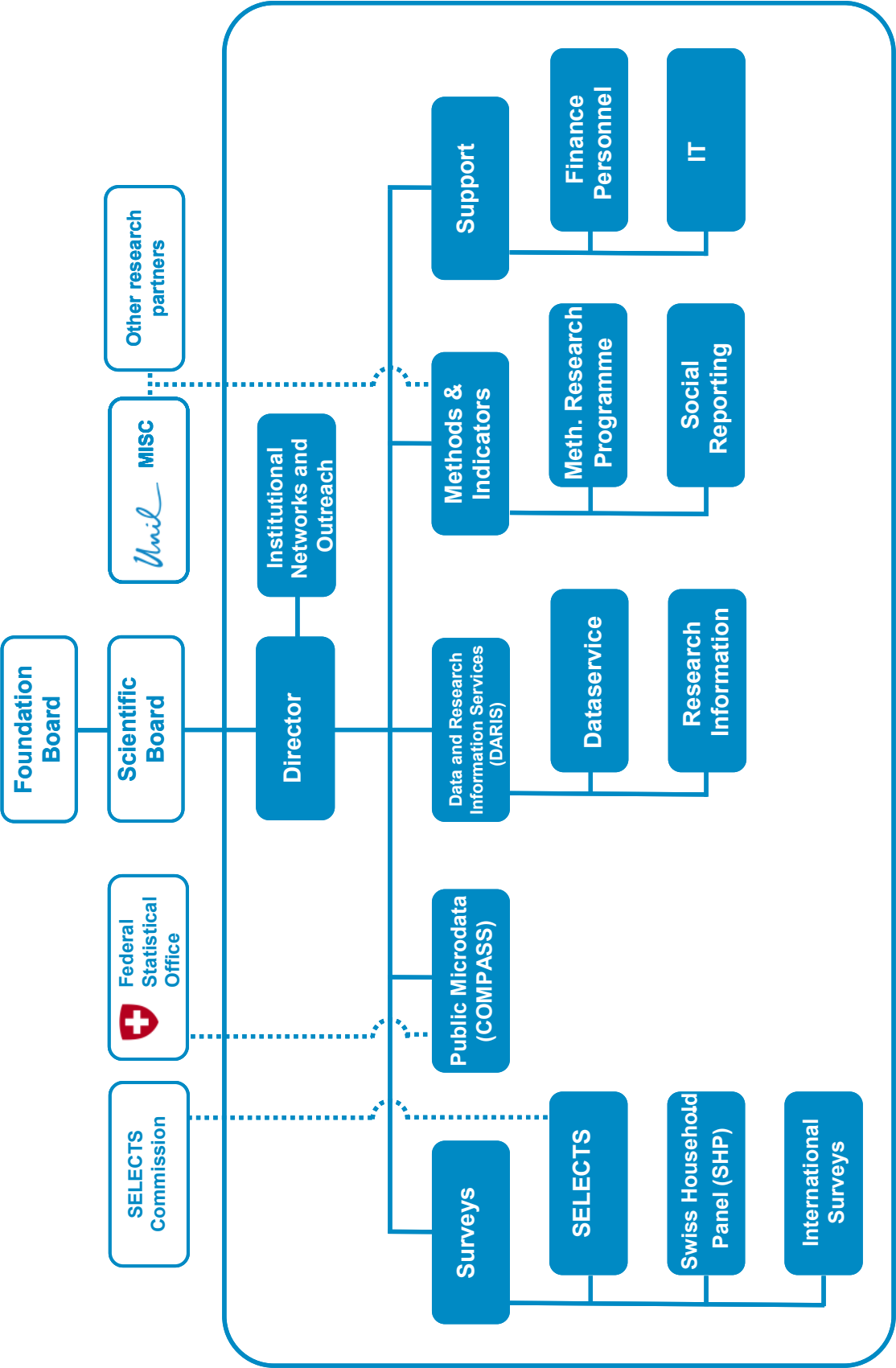
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University of Lisbon

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

Staff Statistics

	31.12.11		01.01.11		01.01.08	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
<i>Permanent Employees</i>	35	100	35	100	19	100
<u>1. Sex</u>						
Male	17	49	18	51	13	68
Female	18	51	17	49	6	32
<u>2. Nationality</u>						
CH	28	80	27	77	16	84
other (B,D,F,I,NL,USA,SB)	7	20	8	23	3	16
<u>3. Mother language</u>						
Swiss-German	10	29	12	34	5	26
French	12	34	12	34	9	48
Bilingual (incl. HU,I,PL,FIN)	7	20	5	15	4	21
other (E,G,NL,SB)	6	17	6	17	1	5
<u>4. Degrees received</u>						
Professional formation	2	6	2	6	2	11
BA/MA/Lic./Diploma	21	60	21	60	13	68
Dr. / Ph.D.	12	34	12	34	4	21
<u>5. Disciplines</u>						
Sociology	10	28	11	31	5	26
Political Science	7	20	6	17	4	21
(Social) Psychology	5	15	5	14	4	21
other social sciences	5	15	7	20	0	0
Mathematics	3	8	2	6	1	5
IT	3	8	2	6	3	16
Clerk	2	6	2	6	2	11
<u>6. Degree of Employment</u>						
Full time	10	29	10	29	7	37
Part time (50%-90%)	25	71	25	71	12	63

Organizational Chart
as of Dec. 31, 2011



Poster (English version)

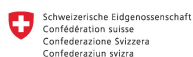


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FORS is a national centre of expertise in the social sciences. Its primary activities consist of:

- production** of survey data, including national and international surveys
- dissemination** of data for use in secondary analysis
- research** in empirical social sciences, with focus on survey methodology
- consulting** services for researchers in Switzerland and abroad

FORS is supported by



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List of Abbreviations

CESSDA	Council of European Social Science Data Archives
CNEF	Cross-National Equivalent File
COMPASS	Communication Portal for Accessing Social Statistics
COST	European Cooperation in Science and Technology
CSDI	Comparative Survey Design and Implementation
DARIS	Data and Research Information Services
DwB	Data without Boundaries
ECPR	European Consortium for Political Research
ELSST	European Language Social Science Thesaurus
ERIC	European Research Infrastructure Consortium
ESFRI	European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures
ESRA	European Survey Research Association
ESF	European Science Foundation
ESS	European Social Survey
ETHZ	Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich
EVS	European Values Study
EUROCORES	European Collaborative Research Scheme
ICPSR	Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research
IEMS	Institute of Health Economics and Management, U Lausanne
ISCED	International Standard Classification of Education
ISCO	International Standard Classification of Occupations
ISSP	International Social Survey Programme
LFS	Labour Force Survey
LINES	Life Course and Inequality Research Centre (University of Lausanne)
LIS	Cross-national Data Center in Luxembourg
LIVES	NCCR Overcoming Vulnerability – Life Course Perspectives
MEA	Munich Center for the Economics of Aging
MOSAiCH	Measurement and Observation of Social Attitudes in Switzerland
NCCR	National Centre of Competence in Research
PISA	Programme for International Student Assessment, OECD
PUS	Public Use Sample
QMSS	Quantitative Methods in the Social Sciences
REPCONG	Representation and Policy Congruence in Europe
RCS	Rolling cross-section survey
SELECTS	Swiss Electoral Studies
SER	State Secretariate for Education and Research
SERSCIDA	Support for the Establishment of National/Regional Social Science Data Archives
SFSO	Swiss Federal Statistical Office
SHARE	Survey on Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe
SHP	Swiss Household Panel
SILC	Statistics on Income and Living Conditions, SFSO
SNSF	Swiss National Science Foundation
SOEP	Socio-economic Panel
SSH	Social Sciences and Humanities
SSTC	Swiss Science and Technology Council
TREE	Transitions from Education to Employment
WAPOR	World Association for Public Opinion Research