

MOSAiCH 2026 SURVEY: CALL FOR QUESTION CONTRIBUTIONS

SUMMARY. Scholars are invited to propose questions for the second part of the MOSAiCH 2026 survey with a thematic focus on the Role of Government.

Questions from successful proposals will be fielded in spring 2026.

The deadline for submissions is Monday April 21st 2025.

MOSAiCH is an annual cross-sectional survey program that examines the attitudes, values, and behaviours of the Swiss population towards a broad range of social issues (see <https://forscenter.ch/projects/mosaich/>). The first part of the survey includes the current module of the International Social Survey Programme (ISSP), along with socio-demographic questions. The content of the second part of MOSAiCH is defined through a call for question contributions. Through these calls, FORS offers researchers a unique opportunity to collect representative data in Switzerland on relevant societal issues at no cost.

The MOSAiCH survey is self-administered (web/paper) and based on a random sample of adults residing in Switzerland drawn from the register of the National Statistical Office. The second part of the survey, sent to the respondents of the first part, seeks to achieve a final sample of at least 1,000 interviews.

TOPICS AND CONCEPTS MEASURED IN MOSAiCH 2026:

- The first part of the MOSAiCH 2026 survey includes the ISSP questionnaire "Role of Government VI" (for details, please refer to the topics and concepts in Appendix II) and a comprehensive set of socio-demographic variables.
- The second part of the survey will be composed of topics, concepts, and questions defined through the accepted proposals to this call.

SUBMITTING A PROPOSAL:

FORS invites researchers from the social science community to propose questions for the second part of the MOSAiCH survey 2026. The questions shall complement the dimensions of the ISSP 2026 Role of Government module and enhance the analytic potential of the MOSAiCH 2026 survey in Switzerland. Preference will be given to topics and concepts with relevance for a larger scientific public, and to instruments that harmonize with the concepts of the planned ISSP module.

The proposal should include 1) an explanation of the relevance as well as the theoretical foundation of the proposal, 2) an outline of the proposed concepts and questions, and 3) a plan for publication and dissemination of research findings.

In principle, each contributor will be given a space of up to 10-15 questions, but proposals with single questions or entire modules will also be considered.

Proposals have to be submitted in English, while the proposed questions can be in English, German, French, or Italian. The expected proposal length is between 3 and 8 pages, without counting the proposed questions and references. Detailed requirements are available in Appendix I.

TIMELINE:

Proposals have to be submitted until **Monday 21 April 2025**. The MOSAiCH Scientific Commission will evaluate them in June 2025. The questions of the accepted proposals will be developed in collaboration with survey experts of FORS during summer and fall 2025. The data will be collected during spring and summer 2026 and will be ready for analysis in early 2027. The MOSAiCH 2026 data will be made directly publicly available through the FORS archive.

CONTACT:

Please send your proposal in electronic format to Michele.ErnstStaepli@fors.unil.ch or Marlene.Sapin@fors.unil.ch. Do not hesitate to get in touch with any of the MOSAiCH team members if you have further questions regarding this call.

EVALUATION:

All proposals will be evaluated by the members of the MOSAiCH Scientific Commission following its mandate and evaluation criteria. External reviews by experts in specific disciplines or empirical approaches may be added if deemed necessary by the Commission. The proposals will be discussed during the annual meeting in June and the results will be communicated to the authors as soon as the decisional minutes are agreed upon by all Commission members.

Proposals for concepts/questions directly related to the fielded ISSP topics on Work Orientations will be considered first, non-related topics will be considered if space allows. Accepted questions will be incorporated in the second part of the MOSAiCH survey in Switzerland.

For more information about the MOSAiCH survey design, the Scientific Commission composition and mandate, and the evaluation criteria, visit the FORS website: <https://forscenter.ch/projects/mosaich>, under the section “MOSAiCH call”. Additionally, you can also consult the survey documentation of the previous MOSAiCH editions on [SWISSUbase](#).

ATTACHMENTS:

- Appendix I: Proposal content and format requirements
- Appendix II: Topics and concepts measured in the MOSAiCH 2026 survey, part 1

FORS, Lausanne, December 2024

The MOSAiCH team (see <https://forscenter.ch/about-fors/staff/>):

- Michèle Ernst Stähli, Head of Group International Surveys
- Marlène Sapin: ISSP Switzerland
- Alexandre Pollien: MOSAiCH Field and Data
- Karin Nisple: Translation and Communication
- Michael Ochsner: Methods and Research

APPENDIX I: Proposal content and format requirements

The expected length of the proposal is 3-8 pages (without proposed questions and references). It should not exceed 10 pages (character size not smaller than 10).

Content:

- Title,
- Author(s) affiliation and contact information
- Brief biographical note
- Summary (max. 300 words)
- Rationale on the theoretical foundation of the proposed questions and their relevance in the targeted MOSAICH edition, for the author(s) and the larger scientific community
- Outline of the proposed dimensions and concepts and their interrelations with other concepts of the survey (ISSP module and own proposal).
- Publication and dissemination plan of research findings
- List of proposed questions, including:
 - Dimensions and concepts
 - Question wording in the reference language, either English, German, French or Italian
 - Translation(s) if available
 - Source of the question
 - Specific implementation requirements if relevant
- References

If you plan an experimental design:

- explain in detail the experimental design and include a discussion of sample size requirements.

If the proposal is part of a larger funded project (FNS funding or other):

- specify in which way the proposal is articulated within the larger funded project, also financially.

If the author is a PhD student:

- please join a support letter from the supervisor.

You might also want to refer to the evaluation criteria, published at <https://forscenter.ch/projects/mosaich>, under the section "MOSAICH call".

Important note

If you propose questions developed and used in other projects, or if you adapted them, please cite the source. If there exist validated translations in any of the survey languages (German, French and Italian), please include them in an annex.

All items will be subject to further detailed assessment and possible amendment before being adopted.

APPENDIX II

MOSAiCH 2026: CALL FOR QUESTION CONTRIBUTIONS

Topics and concepts measured in MOSAiCH-ISSP 2026

The first part of the 2026 edition of MOSAiCH will primarily consist of the *ISSP 2026 Role of Government VI* questionnaire and a socio-demographic section that focuses on usual survey dimensions.

The *Role of Government* module was the first module developed by the ISSP and is likely the most widely used, featuring several long-running series that explore highly relevant topics. These core batteries will also be kept intact in the 2026 questionnaire to ensure continuity and comparability over time. The module was first administered in 1985, followed by four additional cross-national surveys in 1990, 1996, 2006 and 2016 (for details see: <https://www.gesis.org/en/issp/data-and-documentation/role-of-government>). Swiss data are available for the last three editions.

Please note that the questionnaire for 2026 is still in preparation by the ISSP drafting group, and that the final questionnaire will not be available until September 2025. However, since successive surveys are always partial replications of earlier surveys, the 2026 questionnaire will repeat two-thirds of the questions measured in 2016. On the following pages we therefore provide as guidance the topics and items that are currently foreseen for repetition, as well as the potential new items for 2026.

The Role of Government VI module will cover a wide range of issues such as government responsibilities and performance, trust in the state, market and other societal institutions, government spending, political interest, trust and efficacy, state intervention in the economy, national security versus citizens' rights and integrity, climate change mitigation, social care, and security and preparedness.

The **socio-demographic part** will be designed to meet the ISSP requirements for the 2026 Role of Government module. Standard variables on education and occupational situation, income, origin, religion, political participation and orientation, as well as household composition will be measured (see the ISSP background variables on: www.gesis.org or the data documentation of the previous editions of MOSAiCH available in SWISSUbase: www.swissubase.ch)

ISSP Role of Government VI
 (1985, 1990, 1996*, 2006*, 2016*, *with Swiss data available)

TOPICS AND ITEMS FORESEEN FOR REPETITION IN 2026

(Please note that the listed items are still provisional and subject to change until September 2025)

Topic and abbreviated version of question	ISSP 2016 Variable in MOSAiCH 2017
Civil liberties	
Obey laws without exception	ROG1
Public protest meetings	ROG2a
Protest demonstrations	ROG2b
Revolutionaries: hold public meetings	ROG3a
Revolutionaries: publish books	ROG3b
Worse type of justice error	ROG4
State intervention in the economy	
Gov. and economy: Cuts in gov. spending	ROG5a
Gov. and economy: Financing projects for new jobs	ROG5b
Gov. and economy: Less gov. reg. of business	ROG5c
Gov. and economy: Support industry to develop new products	ROG5d
Gov. and economy: Support declining industries to protect jobs	ROG5e
Gov. and economy: Red. working week for more jobs	ROG5f
Government spending	
Government should spend money: Environment	ROG6a
Government should spend money: Health	ROG6b
Government should spend money: Law enforcement	ROG6c
Government should spend money: Education	ROG6d
Government should spend money: Defence	ROG6e
Government should spend money: Retirement	ROG6f
Government should spend money: Unemployment benefits	ROG6g
Government should spend money: Culture and arts	ROG6h

Topic and abbreviated version of question	ISSP 2016 Variable in MOSAiCH 2017
Government responsibilities	
Provide job for everyone	ROG7a
Control prices	ROG7b
Provide health care for sick	ROG7c
Provide living standard for the old	ROG7d
Help industry grow	ROG7e
Provide living standard for unemployed	ROG7f
Reduce income differences between rich/ poor	ROG7g
Financial help to students	ROG7h
Provide decent housing	ROG7i
Laws to protect environment	ROG7j
Gender equality	ROG7k
Trust in state, market, and other societal actors	
Who should provide: health care	ROG8a
Who should provide: care for older people	ROG8b
Who should provide: school education	ROG8c
Tax authorities: make people pay taxes	ROG18a
Tax authorities: treat everyone in accordance with law	ROG18b
National security vs. citizens' rights and integrity	
Government right: video surveillance	ROG11a
Government right: e-mails/ Internet monitoring	ROG11b
Gov. detain people	ROG14a
Gov. tap telephone	ROG14b
Gov. stop/search people randomly	ROG14c
Political interest and efficacy	
How much interested in politics	ROG15
People like me have no say about what gov. does	ROG16a
Good understanding political issues	ROG16b

Topic and abbreviated version of question	ISSP 2016 Variable in MOSAiCH 2017
Taxation	
Taxes for high-incomes	ROG17a
Taxes for middle incomes	ROG17b
Taxes for low incomes	ROG17c
Corruption	
Politicians involved in corruption	ROG20
Public officials involved in corruption	ROG21
Public officials wanted bribe	ROG22
Government performance/capability/trust (optional items)	
Gov. successful: provide health care for sick	ROGO23a
Gov. successful: provide living standards for old	ROGO23b
Gov. successful: dealing with threats to security	ROGO23c

** Reminder: topics and items of ISSP 2026 are provisional and subject to change until September 2025. The final questionnaire will include 60 items (without optional items).*

PROPOSED NEW TOPICS AND ITEMS FOR 2026

These items are still being pretested and only approximately 10 of the new items listed below will be included in the final questionnaire.

TOPICS AND ABBREVIATED VERSION OF QUESTION	
Government responsibilities / Protection of minorities	
Protect rights: ethnic and racial minorities in [COUNTRY]	NQ1
Protect rights: lesbian and gay people in [COUNTRY]	NQ2
Protect rights: people who do not speak dominant language in [COUNTRY]	NQ3
Protect rights: people who are not citizens of country, but live in [COUNTRY] legally	NQ4
Protect rights: people who live in [COUNTRY] without legal status	NQ5
Social care	
Who should provide: childcare for children under school age	NQ6
Who should fund: childcare for children under school age	NQ7
Who should fund: care for older people	NQ8
Climate change mitigation	
Gov. responsibility: try to reduce climate change	NQ9
More or less: laws and policies to reduce climate change	NQ10
In favour/against: increase fossil fuel tax	NQ11
In favour/against: increase public funding for renewable energy	NQ12
In favour/against: increase public funding for climate resilience infrastructure	NQ13
In favour/against: increase public financial help for climate displacement in [COUNTRY]	NQ14
Government interventions online	
How often: authorities in [COUNTRY] use social media to disseminate false information	NQ15
How often: authorities in [COUNTRY] censor or ban information on social media	NQ16
Security and preparedness	
[COUNTRY] has military resources to defend itself against military invasion	NQ17
[COUNTRY] prepared to safeguard population in case of military invasion	NQ18