MOSAiCH 2028 SURVEY: CALL FOR QUESTION CONTRIBUTIONS

SUMMARY. Scholars are invited to propose questions for the second part of the MOSAiCH 2028 survey with a thematic focus on Religion. Questions from successful proposals will be fielded in spring 2028. The deadline for submissions is Monday 26 April 2027.

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 www.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 2028:

- The first part of the MOSAiCH 2028 survey includes the ISSP questionnaire Religion V (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 2028. The questions shall complement the dimensions of the ISSP 2028 Religion module and enhance the analytic potential of the MOSAiCH 2028 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 must be submitted in English, while the proposed questions can be in English, German, French, or Italian. The expected proposal length is between 3 to 8 pages, without counting the proposed questions and references. Detailed requirements are available in Appendix I.

TIMELINE:

Proposals have to be submitted by **Monday 26 April 2027**. The MOSAiCH Scientific Commission will evaluate them in June 2027. The questions of the accepted proposals will be developed in collaboration with survey experts of FORS during summer and fall 2027. The data will be collected during spring and summer 2028 and will be ready for analysis in early 2029. The MOSAiCH 2028 data will be made directly publicly available through the FORS archive.

CONTACT:

Please send your proposal in electronic format to Michele.ErnstStaehli@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 Religion 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 at www.forscenter.ch/projects/mosaich, under the "MOSAiCH call" section. 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 2028 survey, part 1

FORS, Lausanne, November 2026

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 www.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 2028: CALL FOR QUESTION CONTRIBUTIONS

Topics and concepts measured in MOSAiCH-ISSP 2028

The 2028 edition of MOSAiCH will primarily consist of the ISSP 2028 Religion V questionnaire and a socio-demographic section covering standard survey dimensions.

The Religion module is one of the longest-running ISSP modules and will be conducted for the fifth time in 2028. It provides valuable comparative data on religious beliefs, practices and attitudes, allowing researchers to examine differences across countries and changes over time. Previous editions were conducted in 1991, 1998, 2008 and 2018 (for details, see: https://www.gesis.org/en/issp/data-and-documentation/religion). Swiss data are available for the last three editions.

Please note that the ISSP 2028 questionnaire is still in preparation by the ISSP drafting group, and that the final questionnaire will not be available until September 2027. However, since successive surveys are always partial replications of earlier surveys, the 2028 questionnaire will repeat at least two-thirds of the questions measured in 2018. On the following pages we therefore provide as guidance the topics and detailed items surveyed in 2018, as well as the new topics foreseen for 2028.

The Religion V module will cover a wide range of issues such as religious attitudes and beliefs, religious socialization, past and current religious practices, and spirituality. It also examines the place of religion in society and its relationship with the state, politics, and other social institutions, as well as attitudes towards sexual morality, gender norms, tolerance, pluralism, and religious extremism. New topics include digital religion, lived nonreligion and civic engagement.

The socio-demographic part will be designed to meet the ISSP requirements for the 2028 Religion 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)

For the exact wording of questions asked in previous editions, please refer to the ISSP Religion source questionnaires and the documentation of previous MOSAiCH surveys.

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ISSP Religion V (2028)

(Previous editions: 1991, 1998, 2008 and 2018; Swiss data are available for 1998, 2008 and 2018)

TOPICS AND ITEMS MEASURED IN 2018

About two thirds of the listed items will be repeated in 2028

Topic and abbreviated version of question	ISSP 2018 Variable in MOSAiCH 2018
Well-being	
Happy or unhappy with life in general	R1
Satisfaction with family relationships	R2
Self-reported health	R36 (BV)
Abortion, sexual morality and gender norms	
Wrong/not wrong: extramarital relations	R3
Wrong/not wrong: same sex relations	R4
Right to abortion: low income	R5
Husband's job to earn money, wife's to look after family	R6
Confidence in Institutions	
Confidence in: Parliament	R7a
Confidence in: Business and industry	R7b
Confidence in: Churches and religious organizations	R7c
Confidence in: Courts and the legal system	R7d
Confidence in: Schools and the educational system	R7e
Religion and Science	
Agree/disagree: We trust science too much, faith not enough	R9a
Agree/disagree: Religions bring more conflict than peace	R9b
Agree/disagree: People with strong religious beliefs are too intolerant	R9c
Religion and Governmental Connections	
Religious leaders should not try to influence people's vote	R8
Churches have too much/too little power	R10
Governments should not interfere with religions spreading their faith	R33a
People with different religions cannot get along	R33b

Topic and abbreviated version of Ruestion	ISSP 2018 Variable in MOSAiCH 2018
Religious Tolerance and Extremism	
Accept that person from different religion: marries a relative	R11
Religious extremists: be allowed to hold public meetings	R12a
Religious extremists: be allowed to publish views on Internet/social media	R12b
Religious Beliefs	
Belief in God: extent	R13
Belief in God: past and now	R14
Belief in: life after death	R15a
Belief in: heaven	R15b
Belief in: hell	R15c
Belief in: religious miracles	R15d
Belief in: the supernatural powers of deceased ancestors	R15e
Agree/disagree: God concerns himself with everybody personally	R16a
Agree/disagree: People can do little to change their lives	R16b
Agree/disagree: God gives the meaning to life	R16c
Agree/disagree: Life does not serve any purpose	R16d
Agree/disagree: People give the meaning to life	R16e
Agree/disagree: I connect with God without churches or religious services	R16f
Religion and Gender	
Own religion treats men and women equally	R17
Agree/disagree: Religions are barriers to equality	R32
Religious Socialization / Past Religious Practices	
Mother's religion when child	R18
Father's religion when child	R19
Religion you were raised in	R20
Frequency attendance of religious services when child: mother	R21
Frequency attendance of religious services when child: father	R22
Frequency attendance of religious services when 11-12 years old	R23

Topic and abbreviated version of question	ISSP 2018 Variable in MOSAiCH 2018
Current Religious Practices	
Frequency of prayer	R24
Participation in activities/organizations of a church	R25
Past 12 month: Read/listened to reading of any holy scripture	R26
Culture-Specific Behaviours	
Shrine/altar/religious objects at home	R27
Frequency visiting a holy place	R28
Religiosity and Spirituality	
R's religiosity (self-assessed)	R29
Religion versus spirituality	R30
Religion helps: to make friends	R31a
Religion helps: to find consolation	R31b
Secularization Theory	
Religion represents past and not future	R34a
Religion as relevant today as in past	R34b
Attitude towards Members of Religious Groups	
Attitude towards: Christians	R35a
Attitude towards: Muslims	R35b
Attitude towards: Hindus	R35c
Attitude towards: Buddhists	R35d
Attitude towards: Jews	R35e
Attitude towards: Atheists/non-believers	R35f
Optionals	
R's experience on being born again	RO1
Beliefs about the Bible	RO2
Turning point in life after religious commitment	RO3
Good luck charms bring luck	RO4a
Fortune tellers can foresee future	RO4b
Faith-healers do have healing powers	RO4c
People's star sign can affect course of their future	RO4d

Topic and abbreviated version of question	ISSP 2018 Variable in MOSAiCH 2018
Optionals	
Conflict between law and religious principles	RO5
Threatening/not threatening: Christians	RO6a
Threatening/not threatening: Muslims	RO6b
Threatening/not threatening: Hindus	RO6c
Threatening/not threatening: Buddhists	RO6d
Threatening/not threatening: Jews	RO6e
Threatening/not threatening: Non-believers	RO6f
Agree/disagree: People can be trusted	RO7
Belief in: reincarnation	RO8a
Belief in: nirvana	RO8b
Agree/disagree: Country's laws shouldn't be based on religion	RO9

POTENTIAL NEW TOPICS FOR 2028

A set of new items aimed at expanding existing topics and introducing the potential new topics listed below is currently being pretested.

Between 15 and 20 new items in total will be included in the final questionnaire.

Potential new topic	Description
Digital religion	Online participation in religious services and activities; digital media and social media in religious practice and community life.
Civic engagement	Volunteering and charitable giving, including comparisons between religious and secular populations.
Lived nonreligion	Nonreligious identities (such as atheist, agnostic and secular humanist) and practices, including participation in organized nonreligious groups.