

Social and Political Values, East and West

1999 Questionnaire

[The first page should be appropriate for the political culture of each country]

The aim of this data collection is to enable a comparison of values in East Asia and Scandinavia. The topics covered are political and social values.

The purpose of the study is academic and the questionnaire guaranteed anonymous.

There are no right or wrong answers. Please select the answer closest to your own view. Please answer all the questions. You can indicate your answer by encircling a number as in the example below.

Example		Not at all	Somewhat	Rather	Very
a.	xxxx xxxxxxxx xxxxxxxx xxxxxx	1	2	3	4
b.	xxxxxx xxxxxxxx xxxxxxxx	1	2	3	4
c.	xxxxxxxxxx xxxxxxxx xxxxxxxx	1	2	3	4

Thank you for your cooperation.

“Name of responsible researcher/research group and institution”
(If you prefer you can mention EPCReN, and NIAS as the principal investigator)

1. How important is it, in your opinion, that the government pay special attention to each of the problems listed below?

	Not at all important	Somewhat important	Rather important	Very important
a. Providing a high level of social welfare	1	2	3	4
b. Maintaining a high level of economic growth	1	2	3	4
c. Fighting environmental pollution	1	2	3	4

2. How would you place your views on a scale from 1 to 4?

(1 means that you agree completely with the statement on the left, 4 means that you agree completely with the statement on the right, or you can choose any number in between.)

a. The less government the better	1	2	3	4	The government should be more active
b. We need a strong government to handle today's complex economic problems	1	2	3	4	The free market can handle these problems without government involvement

3. To what extent are you willing to pay taxes so that the state can provide each of the following programs?

	Not at all	Somewhat	Rather	Very
a. Equal educational opportunities for all	1	2	3	4
b. Social security for the elderly	1	2	3	4
c. Unemployment benefits	1	2	3	4
d. Aid to poor countries	1	2	3	4
e. Environmental protection	1	2	3	4
f. Fighting crime	1	2	3	4
g. Which of the above programs is most important?	a b c d e f			
h. Which of the above programs is the next most important?	a b c d e f			

4. How much time do you spend daily in reading the newspaper?

No time	Less than 15 minutes	15-30 minutes	More than 30 minutes
1	2	3	4

5. How much time do you spend daily watching the news on TV?

No time	Less than 15 minutes	15-30 minutes	More than 30 minutes
1	2	3	4

6. How often do you discuss political issues with people close to you?

	Never	Seldom	Sometimes	Often
a. Your family	1	2	3	4
b. A superior	1	2	3	4
c. A close colleague	1	2	3	4
d. A neighbor	1	2	3	4
e. A close friend	1	2	3	4

7. How do you usually react when you disagree with people close to you?

	Try to win them over	Keep silence	Pretend to agree
a. Your family	1	2	3
b. A superior	1	2	3
c. A close colleague	1	2	3
d. A neighbor	1	2	3
e. A close friend	1	2	3

8. Please indicate how much you agree with each of the following statements.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
a. I can't see any differences between the political parties [China: political candidates]	1	2	3	4
b. Bureaucrats don't care much what people like me think	1	2	3	4
c. People like me don't have any influence on what the government does	1	2	3	4
d. Politics seem so complicated that people like me can't really understand what is going on	1	2	3	4

9. How do people like you make their voices heard in society?

	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always
a. Voting	1	2	3	4
b. Contacting government officials directly	1	2	3	4
c. Contacting a member of the parliament	1	2	3	4
d. Working through a political party	1	2	3	4
e. Working in other formal groups (e.g. trade union)	1	2	3	4
f. Participating in voluntary associations	1	2	3	4
g. Using family and personal network	1	2	3	4
h. Contacting the media	1	2	3	4
i. Other, please specify:	1	2	3	4

10. In deciding your vote, which of the candidate's qualities are important to you?

	Not at all important	Somewhat important	Rather important	Very important
a. Candidate's party affiliation	1	2	3	4
b. Candidate's political ideas	1	2	3	4
c. Candidate's moral character	1	2	3	4
d. Whether the candidate appears to be a strong leader	1	2	3	4
e. Whether the candidate is independent of economic interests	1	2	3	4
f. Others, please specify:	1	2	3	4

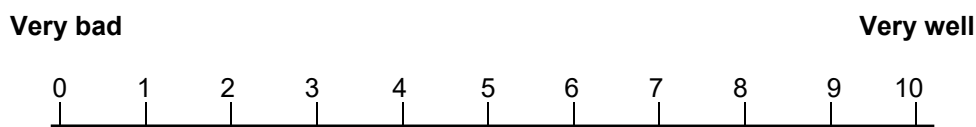
11. Please indicate how much you agree with the following statements.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
a. Every political viewpoint should be tolerated	1	2	3	4
b. Strong differences of opinion may undermine social order	1	2	3	4

12. How much do you trust each of the institutions listed below?

	Not at all	Somewhat	Quite a bit	Very much
a. The parliament	1	2	3	4
b. Political parties	1	2	3	4
c. Trade unions	1	2	3	4
d. The media	1	2	3	4
e. The legal system	1	2	3	4
f. Public offices	1	2	3	4
g. The police	1	2	3	4
h. The armed forces	1	2	3	4
i. Major companies	1	2	3	4
j. The educational system	1	2	3	4

13. How well do you think your country's political system is working today?
(Please use the scale below)



14. How important do you think the following rights are?

	Not at all important	Somewhat important	Rather important	Very important
a. The right to vote	1	2	3	4
b. The right to participate in any kind of organization	1	2	3	4
c. The right to gather and demonstrate	1	2	3	4
d. The right to be fully informed on the work and functions of the government	1	2	3	4
e. Freedom of speech	1	2	3	4
f. The right to criticize the government	1	2	3	4

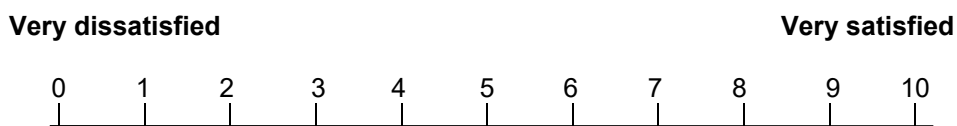
15. How satisfied are you with the scope of the following rights?

	Very dissatisfied	Somewhat dissatisfied	Somewhat satisfied	Very satisfied
a. The right to vote	1	2	3	4
b. The right to participate in any kind of organization	1	2	3	4
c. The right to gather and demonstrate	1	2	3	4
d. The right to be fully informed on the work and functions of the government	1	2	3	4
e. Freedom of speech	1	2	3	4
f. The right to criticize the government	1	2	3	4

16. Please indicate how much you agree with each of the following statements.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
a. The people we elect stop thinking about the interests of the people after taking office	1	2	3	4
b. The moral and human qualities of a political leader are more important than his ideas	1	2	3	4
c. Good political leaders should maintain harmony in the society	1	2	3	4
d. A good political leader should follow public opinion rather than his own conviction	1	2	3	4
e. I prefer a politician who understands the power game rather than a morally upright one	1	2	3	4
f. A leader should care for the people as parents care for their children	1	2	3	4

17. All things considered, how satisfied are you with your life these days?
(Please use the scale below)



18. Please indicate how much you agree with each of the following statements.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
a. A group of people without a strong leader means chaos. [East Asia: is like sand]	1	2	3	4
b. It is more important to have an outstanding political leader than political democracy	1	2	3	4
c. Most leaders would abuse their power if they were not constrained by popular control	1	2	3	4
d. Rules are always there for a good reason and must therefore be followed even if you do not understand them	1	2	3	4
e. It is acceptable to break a rule if you find that it is unjust	1	2	3	4
f. We can leave everything to a morally upright leader	1	2	3	4

19. Please indicate how much you agree with each of the following statements.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
a. Even extremist parties should be given the opportunity to run in elections	1	2	3	4
b. The objective of good government is to maintain harmonious social relations	1	2	3	4
c. The objective of good government is to ensure that nobody will have to live in poverty	1	2	3	4
d. A political decision is not fair if the minority view is totally disregarded	1	2	3	4
e. Good government is promoted by the competition for power between different parties	1	2	3	4
f. The quality of the politicians is more important than laws and institutions	1	2	3	4
g. It is not a good idea to force people to articulate their opinions	1	2	3	4
h. The objective of good government is to ensure individual freedom	1	2	3	4
i. Political discussions are a natural part of classroom instruction in the school system	1	2	3	4
j. Political discussions are an obligatory part of children's upbringing in the family	1	2	3	4

20. Consider the following alternatives. How would you place your views? (On a scale from 1 to 4)

a.	You have to watch out for other people	1	2	3	4	Most people can be trusted
b.	Good and evil depend entirely on the circumstances	1	2	3	4	Good and evil apply at all times
c.	Most people try to be fair to me even though they are not close friends	1	2	3	4	Most people who are not close friends would try to take advantage of me if they got the chance
d.	Parents are entitled to respect	1	2	3	4	Parents have to earn one's respect
e.	Family and business should be kept apart	1	2	3	4	Family and business belong together

21. Please indicate how much you agree with each of the following statements.

		Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
a.	Human nature is fundamentally cooperative	1	2	3	4
b.	The ideal society is like a family	1	2	3	4
c.	The modern life-style contributes to the breakdown of society	1	2	3	4
d.	Human nature is fundamentally selfish	1	2	3	4

22. Please indicate how much you agree with each of the following statements.

		Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
a.	I would rather depend on myself than on others	1	2	3	4
b.	I enjoy competing with others	1	2	3	4
c.	Spending time with others is pleasure to me	1	2	3	4
d.	It is my duty to maintain harmony among the people with whom I associate	1	2	3	4

23. Below is a list of qualities which children can be encouraged to learn at home. Please indicate how important each of these are to you.

	Not at all important	Somewhat important	Rather important	Very important
a. Good manners	1	2	3	4
b. Independence	1	2	3	4
c. Hard work	1	2	3	4
d. Responsibility	1	2	3	4
e. Creativity	1	2	3	4
f. Tolerance	1	2	3	4
g. Respect	1	2	3	4
h. Thrift	1	2	3	4
i. Determination	1	2	3	4
j. Religious faith	1	2	3	4
k. Unselfishness	1	2	3	4
l. Obedience	1	2	3	4
m. Ability to think for oneself	1	2	3	4
n. Self-restraint	1	2	3	4
o. Ambition	1	2	3	4
p. Other, please specify	1	2	3	4

Please rank your choice of the three most important qualities to instill in a child through family education from the list above

Indicate by letter a to p in the fields 1) to 3) (1 is most important)

1)
2)
3)

24. Please indicate how much you trust each of the groups below

	Do not trust them	Trust them somewhat	Basically trust them	Trust them completely
a. Your family	1	2	3	4
b. Your friends	1	2	3	4
c. Your neighbors	1	2	3	4
d. Your colleagues	1	2	3	4
e. A person you went to school or university with	1	2	3	4
f. Your superiors	1	2	3	4
g. Strangers of your own nationality	1	2	3	4
h. Foreign strangers	1	2	3	4

Background Data

25. Sex

1. Male 2. Female

26. Age _____

27. Marital status?

1. Married 2. Single or unmarried 3. Divorced, separated 4. Living with partner 5. Widowed

28. Religious affiliation

NATION SPECIFIC!

29. Education

1. No formal education 2. Primary school 3. High school
 4. Vocational education and training 5. University 6. Other: _____

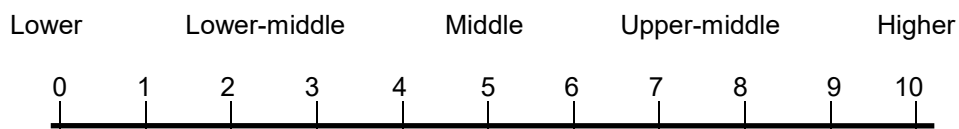
30. Employment status

- 1. Work for a private employer 2. Work for the government 3. Self-employed
- 4. Work for the family business 5. Student 6. Retired 7. Unemployed 8. Housewife
- 9. Other: _____

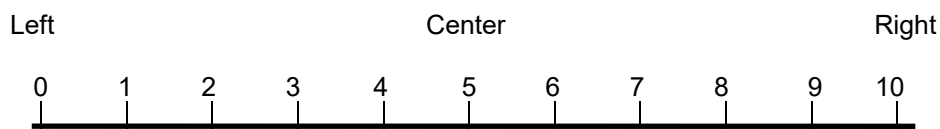
31. Job status (if employed)

- 1. Unskilled worker 2. Skilled worker 3. White collar worker 4. Manager
- 5. Academic professional 6. Helping in the family business
- 7. Other _____

32. In terms of what is seen as “social status”, how would you place yourself on the scale below?



33. In terms of political "left" and "right", how would you place yourself on the scale below?



34. Where would you place your family income?

- 1. Inadequate income 2. Low income 3. Middle income 4. Above middle 5. High income

35. How well do you think that this questionnaire covers your political and social attitudes?



**36. Did we miss any of your concerns? Please list the most important ones:
(please print or write clearly for easy reading)**

Thank you for your kind cooperation