

Q-Step Summer Project 2017: The Global Public Opinions Project

Ref: #33 UoMQStep 2017 The Global Public Opinions Project

Team/Department: N/A

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Provisional Title for Project: "Public Opinion in the United Kingdom,
France and Belgium"

100 word abstract of what the project would probably undertake, and any data to be used:

The Global Public Opinions Project is a new project founded with the aim of creating the world's largest database of public opinion from countries across the globe. As part of this project, empirical research is being undertaken to investigate whether publics across the world have become more or less conservative over time. We also use statistical analysis to try and explain the drifts and trends. The student's project will be to collecting and code survey data from the UK, France and Belgium and produce an initial report on changes in the public opinion in these three countries since the 1980s.

Key Words (up to 12): Public Opinion, Mood Measure, Surveys, Comparative Analysis, Conservatism, Liberalism

Essential and desirable skills that the student would need to have:

Essential: A good level of competency in Microsoft Excel
An interest in quantitative methods and comparative politics
An eagerness and ability to quickly learn new skills

Desirable: Experience collecting and storing data
A general understanding of survey data, how it is collected and reported,
and what it can tell us

Where the work would be carried out:

The University of Manchester

Preferred selection method: Interview and small coding test

Support and training offered by the organisation:

The student will work directly with Patrick English, who will train them in the use of bespoke public opinion estimating software and some basic competencies Stata. Patrick has three years' experience and four forthcoming publications to date using these methods. In the wider project, the student will also be supported and trained in data collection methods by colleagues based internationally (led by Dr. Steven Van Hauwaert), and become part of a newly established public opinion research network with leading academics from across the world.

Any issues of data confidentiality and/or IPR that would need to be resolved:

Students will need to individually sign data confidentiality/usage agreements with the project.

Supporting Information: N/A

Financial assistance offered by the organisation: N/A