Synchronize to harmonize

Ex-ante strategy in a comparative pseudo panel study on birth cohorts

The case study in designing comparability against the running time

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Ireneusz Sadowski

Institute of Political Studies of the Polish Academy of Sciences

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CSDI, Warsaw
Graph 1. Hypothesized relation between the originality (uniqueness) of a survey study and its utility in comparative context
Studies of the birth cohorts and its revalorization

The issue of “path dependence”

Original studies focused on cohorts:


Large sample studies that allow to “extract” cohort data:

“Social structure II” (1988), continued as POLPAN (Poland)

SOEP (Germany, conducted since 1984)

My research project “Third generation of the Polish transformation” seeks to revalorize existing datasets by selectively replicating parts of those studies. HOWEVER, it makes more sense if additionally the cohort data is “synchronized”.
The transformation „saga” and APC

- **Generation of Open Borders**
  - 2019, n~750

- **Generation of Transition**

- **Generation of Crisis and Disillusion**
  - 1988, n=494

- **Generation of Crisis and Disillusion**
  - POLPAN (panel subsample)

- **Generation of Transition**
  - 2019, n~250

- **Generation of Open Borders**
  - 2019, n~250

**Biographical time (life course):**
- 29–31
- 48–50
- 61–63

**Historical time:**
- 1957–1959
- 1970–1971
- 1988–1989
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study</th>
<th>Available birth cohorts</th>
<th>Possible cohort definition</th>
<th>Conducted in:</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Schedld for 2019?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LV 64 West</td>
<td>1964</td>
<td>1964</td>
<td>1998/9</td>
<td>34-35</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LV 71 West</td>
<td>1971</td>
<td>1971</td>
<td>1998/9 + 2004/5</td>
<td>27/8 +33/4</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>LV 71 Ost</td>
<td>1971</td>
<td>1971</td>
<td>1996/7 + 2004/5</td>
<td>25/26+33/4</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>1971</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1958-1960</td>
<td></td>
<td>47-49</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOEP</td>
<td>All (households)</td>
<td>Possibly any</td>
<td>1984-2014</td>
<td>Possibly any</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Thematic scope of possible replications

Meritocratic beliefs (sources of success, CAMAQ scale)

Educational career (event history)

Transfer to adulthood and entry to labour market

Job trajectory (focused on first and current job)

Family and household

Values and worldviews

Identity and civic activity

Health self-assessment and psychological functioning (Rosenberg)
More on the project’s webpage: 3gen.spoleczenstwo.pl