UNEMPOL1

Basic Interview Schedule: final version

Workpackages 2 and 42:

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¹ This Basic schedule draws on the structure and experience of a schedule developed in a workpackage in another EU F5 project Europub.com, in which members of our team were involved in developing and testing, but which was principally authored by Hans Peter Kriesi.

² Workpackage 4 on the unemployed and their mobilising structures has now been integrated within the project more systematically by inclusion within the same set of basic interview questions as other actors (WP2), plus by the development of research at the local level.

I. Action forms: General action repertoire

We would like to start this interview with a few questions about the **action repertoire** of your organization. Organizations such as yours use many different techniques to try to influence public policy **in (Country name)**. We have sent you *a list containing different techniques* which are used by such organizations. Please, tell me *which techniques* on this list *you use*, and whether you use it *regularly or occasionally*. (Just use the numbers of the different techniques for answering)

Actio	Nat.	Nat. Q1		22	
ACIIO	Action form (State actors)		Occ	Reg	Occ
A. Me	A. Media-related				
1	giving interviews to the media				
2	writing newspaper articles				
3	distribution of press releases				
4	holding press conferences to announce policy positions				
5	presenting yourself on the Web				
B. Info	orming the public/getting informed about the public				
6	making public speeches				
7	hiring a public relations firm to assist in your political activities				
8	running advertisements in the media about your positions on policy issues				
9	polling the general public on policy issues of concern to you				
C. Ne	gotiating with or informing policy-makers				
10	negotiating with or informing branches of government				
11	negotiating with or informing members of Parliament				
12	negotiating with or informing interest groups				
D. Co	nsultation				
13	participating in governmental consultation procedures				
14	serving on governmental advisory commissions or boards				
15	testifying in parliamentary committees or intervening in Parl.				
Е. соц	urt-action				
16	filing suit or engaging in some sort of litigation				

Action form (Non-state actors)		Nat.	Nat. Q1		EU Q2	
Action form (Non-State actors)		Reg	Occ	Reg	Occ	
A. Con	tributing to political campaigns					
1	making financial contributions to electoral campaigns					
2	making public endorsements of candidates					
3	contributing to other political campaigns					
B. Med	ia-related					
4	giving interviews to the media					
5	writing newspaper articles					
6	distribution of press releases					
7	holding press conferences to announce policy positions					
8	presenting yourself on the Web					
C. Info	rming the public/getting informed about the public					
9	making public speeches					
10	hiring a public relations firm to assist in your political activities					
11	running advertisements in the media about your positions on policy issues					
12	polling the general public on policy issues of concern to you					
13	polling your members on policy issues					
D. Mob	ilizing the public					
14	engaging in direct mail fund-raising for your organization					
15	organizing letter campaigns in newspapers					
16	organizing petitions/signature collections					
17	launching/supporting referendum campaigns ³					
18	holding public assemblies and meetings					
19	protesting or demonstrating					
20	organizing boycotts					
21	Striking					
E. cont	acting/lobbying					
22	direct personal contact with members of Parl. or their staffs					
23	direct personal contact with members of govt or their staffs					
24	direct personal contact with public officials					
F. cons	sultation and cooperation					
25	participating in governmental consultation procedures					
26	serving on governmental advisory commissions or boards					
27	testifying in parliamentary committees or intervening in Parl.					
28	supplying information to policymakers					
G. coul	rt-action					
29	filing suit or engaging in some sort of litigation					

 $^{^{\}rm 3}$ Probably only to be used for CH and I.

2.	Do you use any of these techniques at the European level ? ☐ yes: please go through the list once again
	□ no
3.	How important are media-related strategies (A IN THE LIST OF ACTION FORMS) for (ORGNAME) compared to working with policy-makers (E/F IN THE LIST)?
	a)
	□ much more important
	□ more important
	□ less important
	□ much less important
	□ equally important
	b) Please, elaborate:
4.	How important are strategies directly informing (FOR NON-STATE ACTORS: and mobilizing) the public (C/D IN THE LIST OF ACTION FORMS) for (ORGNAME) compared to working with policy-makers?
	a)
	□ much more important
	□ more important
	□ less important
	□ much less important
	□ equally important
	b) Please, elaborate:

II. Issue-specific influence

We have tried to establish a list of the organizations which play a role in policies relating to unemployment. You have also received a copy of this list.

5. Could you first name **all organizations** on this list, which, from your point of view, have been **particularly influential in policies relating to unemployment** over the past few years? You may also mention your own organization.

1		21	
2		22	
3		23	
4		24	
5		25	
6		26	
7		27	
8		28	
9		29	
10		30	
11		31	
12		32	
13		33	
14		34	
15		35	
16		36	
17		37	
18		38	
19		39	
20		40	

6.	Are there other influential organizations in unemployment policy which you do not find on this list?
	a)
	□ no
	□ yes: b) which are they?
7.	Among the organizations you have mentioned now, which are the three most influential organizations relating to unemployment?
	1
	2
	3

8. And which one among these three would you put in **first place**?

III.	Relations with other Collective Actors
9.	Which organizations on this list has (ORGNAME) tried to influence over the last five years? Please use the numbers on the list for your answers.
10.	Are there any other targets (not on the list) which you tried to influence in recent years?
	a) □ no □ yes: b)
	1
	4
11.	To which three government agencies, committees, or officials do you devote most of your resources in influencing policies on unemployment?
	1
12.	Now look at the list once again. With which organizations on the list has (ORGNAME) closely collaborated over the last five years?
13.	Are there any other organizations with whom you have closely collaborated in recent years?
	a)
	□ no □ yes: b)
	1
	4

Please, look at the list one more time: with which of these organizations did you have **some major disagreements** over the last five years?

14.

List of organizations

	tried to in- fluence Q17	Closely collabora- ted Q20	Disagree- ments Q22
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			
13			
14			
15			
16			
17			
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21			
22			
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39			
40			

15.	Are there any other organizations with whom you have had major disagreements in recent years?
	a)
	□ no
	□ yes: b)
	1
	2
	3 4
16.	(ONLY FOR NON-STATE ACTORS) Does (ORGNAME) belong to one or more international organization or association?
	a)
	□ no
	□ yes: b) please give the name of each organization
	1
	c) Please elaborate
17.	(ONLY FOR NON-STATE ACTORS) Does (ORGNAME) maintain regular contact with similar organizations in other countries?
	a)
	□ no
	□ yes: b) please give the name of the most important ones 1
	2
	3
	c) Please elaborate
IV.	Issue-Specific Interest: Job Creation/Social Benefits
18a.	Now we would like to ask you some questions about job creation and social benefits , two unemployment issues of particular interest to us. Could you please describe the general position of (ORGNAME) on job creation in a few words?
18b.	Could you please describe the general position of (ORGNAME) on social benefits in a few words?
19a.	Was (ORGNAME) actively involved in the issue of job creation over the last five years?
	T ves

	□ no
19b.	Was (ORGNAME) actively involved in the issue of social benefits over the last five years? ☐ yes ☐ no (IF NO ALSO IN Q19 GO TO Q28)
20.	(IF YES in Q19/19b): Was (ORGNAME) involved in the development of the policy options about job creation and/or social benefits?
	a) □ yes □ no (GO TO Q22)
	b) if yes, please, elaborate:
21.	(IF NOT YET CLEAR) Which level of political decision making did (ORGNAME) try to influence? (SEVERAL CHOICES POSSIBLE) □ a) European □ b) other countries
	 □ c) national, own country □ d) regional □ e) local
22a.	Did (ORGNAME) undertake specific actions in the parliamentary or administrative arenas on the issue of job creation?
	a) □ yes □ no (GO TO Q24)
	b) if yes: Could you please mention the three most important ones?
	1. 2. 3.
23a.	(FOR EACH ACTION MENTIONED): a) How would you rate the effectiveness of this action?

24a.

25a.

22b.

a)
□ yes

	Action 1	Action 2	Action 3	
very effective				
rather effective				
rather ineffective				
very ineffective				
b) Please, elaborate: a) Did (ORGNAME) (NON-STATE ACTO public on the issue of (STATE ACTORS) must be used in the image of the public of the image of the public of the image of the public of the issue of the image of	PRS) undertak job creation nake attempts e mention the	e specific ac? to communic	tions for infected with the	forming or mobilizing the public on this issue?
(FOR EACH ACTION Maction?				
	Action 1	Action 2	Action 3	
very effective				
rather effective				
rather ineffective				
very ineffective				
rather ineffective very ineffective b) Please, elaborate:				
Did (ORGNAME) undert arenas on the issue of soo		ctions <i>in the</i>	e parliament	ary or administrative

□ no (GO TO Q24)				
b) if yes: Could you pleas	e mention the	three most	important	ones?
1				
2				
3	•••••	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •		
(FOR EACH ACTION M action?	ENTIONED)	: a) How wo	uld you rate	the effectiveness of this
	Action 1	Action 2	Action 3	7
very effective				
rather effective				
rather ineffective				
very ineffective				
a) Did (ORGNAME)	DS) undartak	a specific ag	tions for in	forming or mobilizing the
public on the issue of(STATE ACTORS) m	social benefit	ts?		G G
□ yes	_			
□ no (GO TO Q26)				
b) if yes: Could you pleas	e mention the	three most	important	ones?
1		• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •		
2				
3				
		•••••	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	

	b) Please, elaborate:
26a.	Two final questions about job creation : Do you think the public finds this issue:
	□ very important
	□ rather important
	□ rather unimportant
	□ very unimportant
27a.	a) Do you think (ORGNAME) takes a position on job creation that the majority of the public agrees with, or do you think a majority of the public disagrees with your position on this issue?
	□ a majority agrees
	□ the public is evenly divided on this policy
	□ a majority disagrees
	□ don't know
	□ public doesn't know our position
	b) if so desired, please elaborate:
26b.	Two final questions about social benefits : Do you think the public finds this issue:
	□ very important
	□ rather important
	□ rather unimportant
	□ very unimportant

a) Do you think (ORGNAME) takes a position on social benefits that **the majority of the public** agrees with, or do you think a majority of the public disagrees with your position on this issue?

	□ a majority agrees			
	□ the public is evenly divided on this policy			
	□ a majority disagrees			
	□ don't know			
	□ public doesn't know our position			
	b) if so desired, please elaborate:			
V.	Role of EU			
••	Note of Le			
То со	onclude our interview, we would like to ask you a few questions concerning European			
	gration.			
28.	a) To what extent has the role of the EU been discussed in (ORG Name)?			
	1. Lots of discussion			
	2. Some discussion			
	3. No discussion			
	b) Please elaborate:			
29.	What <i>impact</i> did the EU have on unemployment policy in general?			
30a.	And on job creation in particular?			

30b. And on **social benefits** in particular?

	And what has been the <i>impact</i> of the EU on the situation of (ORGNAME)?
	Are you aware of European strategies on unemployment?
	a) Yes No
	b) Please elaborate (also on effectiveness of strategies)
	And <i>how involved</i> has (ORGNAME) been in European policies relating to unemployment ?
	a)
	□ a lot
	□ somewhat (enough)
	□ somewhat (but not enough)
	□ not at all
	b) if somewhat, but not enough or not at all: what were the reasons for this lack of involvement?
	And thinking about the role of the European policies for unemployment for (ORGNAME) relative to policies at the national level : are their role becoming increasingly important compared to the national level, less important compared to the national level, or does it not change at all?
	a)
	□ increasingly important
	□ unchanging
	□ less important

	b) Please, elaborate:
35a.	Thinking about the future now: what impact do you expect European policies on unemployment in general, and more specifically European policies on job creation, to have over the years to come?
35b.	And what about the impact of European policies on social benefits over the years to come?
36.	Is (ORGNAME) generally in favour of an increase in European influence in unemployment politics or is it against it? (IF NOT CLEAR: PROMPT: rather or strongly
	(in favor/against))a)□ strongly in favor
	□ rather in favor □ rather against
	□ strongly against b) Please, elaborate:
37.	We are now at the end of our interview. Is there anything you would like to add to what
	we have discussed?
38.	Do you want to get a summary of the results of this project? □ no □ yes: where should we send them to?

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On behalf of the whole project team, I would like to thank you very much for your cooperation!

(Obviously if teams are conducting extra questions Q.39 will come after those)

"UNEMPOL" additional questions for unemployed organizations

(to be asked prior to basic schedule for unemployed organisations only)

i) Could you tell us briefly how history of the organization)?	your organization was f	founded, when, by whom, and why (brief		
ii) (FOR LOCAL ORG) Is your ONE answer)?	association/group activ	e (respondent can choose MORE than		
o in a part of (City Name)	→ part:	which		
o in (City Name) in general o in (City Name) and in (Regio o in (City Name), in (Region N o outside UK (non-EU) o in Europe	,	of (country)		
iii) Structure of Membership (gi	ive absolute numbers)			
a. How many members does your organization have? (N)				
b. How many paid people work	•	(N)		
c. How many work on a volunta	• •			

iv) Of your members, are any made up of the following categories, and if so, what proportion (categories not mutually exclusive)?

	None	%
Unemployed	0	
Youths (up to 18 years)	О	
Young people between 18 and 25	0	
Women	О	
Ethnic minorities	О	
Long term Unemployed	0	
Disabled	О	
People over 50 years	0	
Trade Union Members	О	

v) Please describe the activities and main concerns of your organization:
vi) How are decisions taken and tasks shared within your organization?
vii) Thinking of your main activities, which individuals or groups, apart from the unemployed, does your organization attempt to reach or help?
- None
- Some: Please specify all of these in order of their importance. 1
viii) And among the unemployed which specific types of individuals or groups (e.g. long term unemployed, minorities, disabled etc), does your organization attempt to reach or help?
- Organization does not differentiate among unemployed
- Yes - Please specify all of these in order of their importance.
1

Move onto to basic schedule – interviewer to explain that basic section is for international comparative project.

Additional open 'paths':

Professionalism of the organisations of the unemployed:

- Which is the professional background of the paid people working for your organisation?
- o How is work distributed between paid people and volunteers?
- o Which kind of importance do the paid people for (ORGNAME) have?

Strategies mobilising the unemployed:

- Which opportunities do especially unemployed people have to work within your organisation?
- o Which groups of unemployed do engage politically?
- How does your organisation attract unemployed people to volunteer?
- o How did the possibilities to mobilise unemployed people develop over the last years?

Strategies of cooperation with other organisations:

- O How is cooperation organised? Are there coordinators or umbrella organisations? How is information exchanged? Are there newspapers of the organisations, coordination by internet? Which kind of joint actions are there?
- Ocontents of cooperation: On which topics do you easily agree with the other organisations? Which are the concrete problems of cooperation? How do you agree on priorities of your joint actions? Who takes the main decisions?

Communication Strategies:

- o How is unemployment framed a) within the organisation? b) in cooperation with other organisations? by the organisation in the public?
- o How are certain topics pictured in order to attract the public?