

PROFESSOR RORY FITZGERALD

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OVERVIEW

I am a leading social scientist, cross-national survey methodologist and Director of one the largest pan-European social research infrastructures. I combine academic rigour with a passion for social research which complements my entrepreneurial skills.

I currently direct the European Social Survey (ESS) European Research Infrastructure Consortium (ESS ERIC), a world leading cross-national survey research infrastructure. As Director I am the chief executive officer, chief scientific officer and legal representative of ESS ERIC (www.europeansocialsurvey.org). The infrastructure has serviced over 200,000 data users from around the world, has had significant academic and teaching impact and its findings have directly influenced both policy and society. There are almost 5000 publications to date using ESS data, I established the ERIC in late 2013 with 14 Member governments in Europe and have seen that increase to 28 members by 2022. The ESS ERIC has a core annual budget of €2.6 Million and an associated spend on national costs of around €4 million per annum. I manage the ESS ERIC through a team of staff in London, through 6 other research institutes across Europe and via the National Coordinators and survey institutes in each of the 28 or more participating countries in each biennial survey round.

I have published in leading publications in the field, attracted millions of Euro in research funding and have demonstrated successful leadership at both the national and international level.

I coordinated the €8.4 Synergies for Europe's Research Infrastructure in the Social Sciences (SERISS) project undertaking cutting edge methodological research in cross-national survey methodology and drawing together research infrastructures from across the social sciences (www.seriss.eu). SERISS included a 'proof of concept' for the first ever *cross-national* probability-based web panel. I am currently coordinating the ESS SUSTAIN-2 h2020 grant a €5 Million award to prepare ESS methods for the future.

In 2016 I was awarded my PhD 'Striving for quality, comparability and transparency in cross-national social survey measurement: illustrations from the European Social Survey' supervised by Dr Tom Smith from NORC, Chicago. My PhD showed how I had applied the Total Survey Error paradigm from an academic and practical perspective to identify and reduce survey error.

DEGREES

2016	DPhil Sociology, City University London
1997	MSc (Econ) European Politics, University of Wales, Swansea
1995	BSc (Econ) Politics, 1 st Class University of Wales, Cardiff

POSTS HELD SINCE GRADUATION

2017-	Professor of Practice in Survey Research, City, University of London, UK
2013-	Director, European Social Survey ERIC, City, University of London, UK
2007–2013	Deputy Director & Acting Director, Centre for Comparative Social Surveys, City University London, UK
2004 –2016	Senior Research Fellow, Centre for Comparative Social Surveys, City, University of London, UK
2002-2004	Research Director, National Centre for Social Research, UK
2000-2002	Senior Researcher, National Centre for Social Research, UK
1999-2000	Researcher, National Centre for Social Research, UK
1996-1999	Research Executive, The Gallup Organization, UK

GRANTS HELD AND APPLICATIONS PENDING

- Ensuring the sustainability of the European Social Survey 2 (ESS-SUSTAIN 2). €4.9 Million (Coordinator). H2020 award (EC). Awarded January 2020.
- The European Open Science Cloud for the social sciences. €12 Million (Participant). H2020 award (EC). Awarded January 2019.
- Ensuring the sustainability of the European Social Survey (ESS-SUSTAIN). 2.1 Million (Coordinator). H2020 award (EC). Awarded 2015.
- Synergies for Europe’s Research Infrastructures in the Social Sciences (SERISS). €8.4 Million (Coordinator). H2020 award (EC). Awarded 2015.
- ESS European Research Infrastructure Consortium (ESS ERIC). €2.2 Million per annum (continuing). Awarded 2013.
- DASISH – Data Structure Infrastructure for the Social Sciences and Humanities. EC grant for €5 Million, ESS budget €439,000 (FP7) Awarded 2012.
- ESS ‘Data for A Changing Europe’ – EC grant for €5 Million, City budget €1.2 Million (FP7) – Awarded 2010. Budget distributed with partners.
- ‘European Social Survey Central Coordination Funds’ – ESRC grant for £1,229,068 (FTE) – Awarded 2009. Budget for City University London.
- ‘Aiming for construct equivalence in cross-national social surveys: developing best practice protocols for cross-national cognitive interviewing’ – ESRC grant for £39,445 – Awarded 2008. Budget for City University London.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Aizpurua, E., Fitzgerald, R., de Barros, J.F., Giacomini, G., Lomazzi, V., Luijkx, R. ...
Negoita, D. (2022). Exploring the feasibility of ex-post harmonisation of religiosity items from the European Social Survey and the European Values Study. *Measurement Instruments for the Social Sciences*, 4. doi:10.1186/s42409-022-00038-x.

Aizpurua, E., Bottoni, G. and Fitzgerald, R. (2022). The Devil Is in the Details: A Randomized Experiment Assessing the Effect of Providing Examples in a Survey Question across Countries. *Field Methods* pp. 1525822–1525822. doi:10.1177/1525822x221115506.

Bottoni, G. and Fitzgerald, R. (2021). Establishing a baseline: Bringing innovation to the evaluation of cross-national probability-based online panels. *Survey Research Methods*, 15(2), pp. 115–133. doi:10.18148/srm/2021.v15i2.7457.

Fitzgerald, R. and Zavala-Rojas, D. (2020). A Model for Cross-National Questionnaire Design and Pretesting. In Beatty, P.C., Collins, D., Kaye, L., Padilla, J.-L., Willis, G.B. and Wilmot, A. (Eds.), *Advances in Questionnaire Design, Development, Evaluation and Testing* (pp. 493–514). <https://www.wiley.com/engb/Advances+in+Questionnaire+Design%2C+Development%2C+Evaluation+and+Testing-p-9781119263623>: John Wiley & Sons. ISBN 978-1-119-26362-3.

Eikemo, T.A., Bambra, C., Huijts, T. and Fitzgerald, R. (2017). The first pan-European sociological health inequalities survey of the general population: The European Social Survey rotating module on the social determinants of health. *European Sociological Review*, 33(1), pp. 137–153. doi:10.1093/esr/jcw019.

Fitzgerald R (2016) ‘Striving for quality, comparability and transparency in cross-national social survey measurement: illustrations from the European Social Survey’. Doctorate City University London. Awarded February 2016. <http://openaccess.city.ac.uk/14487/>

Winstone L, Widdop S, Fitzgerald R (2016) ‘Constructing the Questionnaire: the Challenges of Measuring Views and Evaluations of Democracy Across Europe’ in Ferrín M, Kriesi H ‘How Europeans View and Evaluate Democracy’. Oxford University Press, Oxford.

Fitzgerald R, Winstone L, Prestage Y (2014) ‘Searching for Evidence of Acculturation: Attitudes Towards Homosexuality among migrants moving from Eastern to Western Europe’. *International Journal of Public Opinion Research* doi: 10.1093/ijpor/edu021

Butt S, Fitzgerald R, (2014) Critical consensus? Britain’s expectations and evaluations democracy. *British Social Attitudes 31st Report*. <http://www.bsa-31.natcen.ac.uk/read-the-report/democracy/introduction.aspx>

Fitzgerald R, Widdop S, Gray M & Collins D (2011), ‘Identifying sources of error in crossnational questionnaires: application of an error source typology to cognitive interview data’. *Journal of Official Statistics*, December, Vol 27, No.4, pp.1-32.

Miller K, Fitzgerald R, Padilla J, Willson S, Widdop S, Caspar R, Dimov M, Gray M, Nunes C, Prüfer P, Schöbi N, Glusberg A (2011), ‘Design and Analysis of Cognitive Interviews for Comparative Multinational Testing’. *Field Methods* November, Vol 23, pp 379-396.

Fitzgerald R, Harrison E & Steinmaier F (2011), ‘Age identity and conflict: Myths and realities’ in Park A et al, (eds), *British Social Attitudes: the 27th Report*, London: Sage.

Billiet J, Philippens M, Fitzgerald R & Stoop, I (2007) ‘Estimation of Response bias in the European Social Survey: using information from reluctant respondents in Round One’. *Journal of Official Statistics*, Volume 23, Number 2, pages 135-162.

MAJOR PRESENTATIONS

Fitzgerald R (2022) ‘The impact of COVID-19 on data collection for the European Social Survey: From face-to-face to (web first) self-completion’. Key note at RN21 conference. 6 October. Salamanca, Spain,

Fitzgerald, R (2019) ‘Overcoming the challenges of making high quality cross-national comparisons. The example of the European Social Survey’ Invited. The Values Impact Forum, University of Western Australia. February 23, Perth, Australia. UWA Institute of Advanced Studies Visiting Fellow.

Fitzgerald R (2016) ‘Facing the Future: Opportunities and Challenges for Cross-national Surveys: A European Perspective’. Invited Keynote. Second International Conference on Survey Methods in Multinational, Multiregional and Multicultural Contexts (3MC 2016). July 25 - 29, 2016 Chicago USA.

Fitzgerald R (2016) ‘The European Social Survey Infrastructure. Past, Present and Future. 3rd International ESS conference. Lausanne, Switzerland’. Invited keynote Address. 15th July 2016.