



ROLE OF GOVERNMENT 2009

www.udel.edu/ilsp



INSTRUCTIONS

- Open the questionnaire using Word (do not print it)
- Answer all the questions (by clicking the gray checkboxes)
- Save the completed questionnaire
- Send the completed questionnaire as an attachment by e-mail to: tibi@udel.edu

PURPOSE – The results of this survey will be used to study the opinions of legislators in 6 European countries on issues related to the Role of Government.

SCOPE – You have been selected to participate in this study because you are a legislator in one of these countries: the Czech Republic, Belgium, Hungary, Ireland, the Netherlands, or the Slovak Republic.

CONFIDENTIALITY – Your responses will be kept strictly confidential. We will never disclose any personally identifiable information about you or your responses

PARTICIPATION – Your participation in this study is voluntary. However, your responses are important.

OPT OUT – If you prefer not to be contacted with a request to complete this questionnaire, please send an e-mail message with your name to tibi@udel.edu.

DIFFICULTIES – If you are having difficulties saving or e-mailing this questionnaire, please print it, complete it on paper and send it to our postal address at: University of Delaware, 292 Graham Hall, Newark, De 19716, USA

If you would like to find out more about this project, please visit our web site at:

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1. Here are some things the government might do for the economy. Please show which actions you favor and which you are against. *(Choose one box on each line)*

	Strongly in favor of	In favor of	Neither in favor of nor against	Against	Strongly against	Can't choose
a. Cuts in government spending	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Government financing of projects to create jobs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Less government regulation of business	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Support for industry to develop new products and technology	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Support for declining industries to protect jobs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Reducing the workweek to create more jobs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2. Listed below are various areas of government spending. Please show whether you would like to see more or less government spending in each area. Remember that if you say much more, it might require a tax increase to pay for it. *(Choose one box on each line)*

	Spend much more	Spend more	Spend the same as now	Spend less	Spend much less	Can't choose
a. The environment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Health	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. The police and law enforcement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. The military and defense	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Old age pensions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. Unemployment benefits	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h. Culture and the arts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

CONTINUE ON PAGE 2

3. On the whole, do you think it should or should not be the government's responsibility to.....*(Choose one box on each line)*

	Definitely should be	Probably should be	Probably should not be	Definitely should not	Can't choose
a. provide a job to everyone who wants it	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. keep prices under control	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. provide health care for the sick	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. provide decent standard of living for the old	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. provide industry the help it needs to grow	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. provide decent standard of living for the unemployed	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. reduce income differences between the rich and the poor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h. give financial help to university students from low income families	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
i. provide decent housing for those who can't afford it	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
j. impose strict laws to make industry do less damage to the environment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

4. How successful do you think the government in your country is nowadays in each of the following areas?*(Choose one box on each line)*

	Very successful	Quite successful	Neither successful nor unsuccessful	Quite unsuccessful	Very unsuccessful	Can't choose
a. The environment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Health	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. The police and law enforcement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. The military and defense	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Old age pensions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. Unemployment benefits	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h. Culture and the arts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

5. Suppose the government suspected that a terrorist act was about to happen. Do you think the authorities have the right to *(Choose one on each line)*

	Definitely should have have right	Probably should have right	Probably should not have right	Definitely should not have right	Can't choose
a. detain people for as long as they want without putting them on trial	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. tap people's telephone conversations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. stop and search people in the street at random	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

6. In general, would you say that people should obey the law without exception, or are there exceptional occasions on which people should follow their consciences even if it means breaking the law? (Choose one)

- a. ☐ Obey the law without exception
 b. ☐ Follow conscience on occasions
 c. ☐ Can't choose

7. There are many ways people or organizations can protest against a government action they strongly oppose. Please show which you think should be allowed and which should not be allowed. (Choose one box on each line)

- | | Definitely | Probably | Probably
not | Definitely
not | Can't
choose |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| a. Organizing public meetings to protest against government | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b. Organizing protest marches and demonstrations | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c. Organizing a nationwide strike of all workers against the government | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

8. There are some people whose views are considered extreme by the majority. As, for example, people who want to overthrow the government by revolution. Do you think such people should be allowed to..... (Choose one box on each line)

- | | Definitely | Probably | Probably
not | Definitely
not | Can't
choose |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| a. hold public meetings to express their views? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c. publish books expressing their views? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

9. All systems of justice make mistakes, but which do you think are worse? (Choose one)

- a. ☐ To convict an innocent person.
 b. ☐ To let a guilty person go free.
 c. ☐ Can't choose

10. Generally, how would you describe taxes (all taxes together such as wage deductions, income tax, tax on goods and services) in your country today?

10.1 First, for those with high incomes, taxes are..... (Choose one)

- a. ☐ Much too high
 b. ☐ Too high
 c. ☐ About right
 d. ☐ Too low
 e. ☐ Much too low
 f. ☐ Can't choose

10.2 Next, for those with middle incomes, taxes are.... (Choose one)

- a. ☐ Much too high
 b. ☐ Too high
 c. ☐ About right
 d. ☐ Too low
 e. ☐ Much too low
 f. ☐ Can't choose

10.3 Next, for those with low incomes, taxes are.... (Choose one)

- a. ☐ Much too high
 b. ☐ Too high
 c. ☐ About right
 d. ☐ Too low
 e. ☐ Much too low
 f. ☐ Can't choose

11. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?**11.1 “There are only a few people I can trust completely”** *(Choose one)*

- a. ☐ Strongly agree
- b. ☐ Agree
- c. ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- d. ☐ Disagree
- e. ☐ Strongly disagree
- f. ☐ Can't choose

11.2 “If you are not careful, other people will take advantage of you” *(Choose one)*

- a. ☐ Strongly agree
- b. ☐ Agree
- c. ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- d. ☐ Disagree
- e. ☐ Strongly disagree
- f. ☐ Can't choose

12. Do you think that the treatment people get from public officials in your country depends on who they know?
(Choose one)

- a. ☐ Definitely yes
- b. ☐ Probably yes
- c. ☐ Probably does not
- d. ☐ Definitely does not
- e. ☐ Can't choose

13. In your opinion, about how many politicians in your country are involved in corruption?
(Choose one)

- a. ☐ Almost none
- b. ☐ A few
- c. ☐ Some
- d. ☐ Quite a lot
- e. ☐ Almost all
- f. ☐ Can't choose

14. In light of the global financial and economic crisis, what do you think should be your country's government's response? Please indicate which one of these options are YOU in favor of and which one YOU oppose?
(Choose one box on each line)

	Strongly in favor of	In favor of	Against	Strongly against	Can't choose
a. <u>decrease corporate</u> taxes (even if it means lower budget revenues)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. <u>decrease personal</u> taxes (even if it means lower budget revenues)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. <u>increase corporate</u> taxes (even if it means slower economic growth)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. <u>increase personal</u> taxes (even if it means slower economic growth)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. cut social benefits (retirement, unemployment benefits, disability)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. engage in large scale investment/building projects	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. cut government expenditures	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h. curtail the employment of foreign workers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
i. provide a guarantee for mortgages	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
j. create a bank that would buy up toxic assets	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

15. In light of the global financial and economic crisis what do you think should your government's priority be in the next 12 months? *(Please rank the options below 1 highest priority, 5 lowest priority- type in the number)*

- | | | |
|--|-------|---|
| a. maintain employment | _____ | (rank from 1 highest priority to 5 lowest priority) |
| b. minimize budget deficits | _____ | (rank from 1 highest priority to 5 lowest priority) |
| c. enhance business environment | _____ | (rank from 1 highest priority to 5 lowest priority) |
| d. stabilize banking sector | _____ | (rank from 1 highest priority to 5 lowest priority) |
| e. stimulate economy through government spending | _____ | (rank from 1 highest priority to 5 lowest priority) |

16. What is your estimate, how many more months will the current economic downturn last in your country? *(Type in months)*

I estimate that the current economic downturn will last _____ more months in my country.

17. In the horizon of 2 years, do you expect that the current global economic downturn will inspire more cooperation among countries or cause protectionism? *(Choose one)*

- a. ☐ The current economic crisis will inspire more cooperation among countries
- b. ☐ The current economic crisis will cause more protectionism
- c. ☐ There will be no change in the level of cooperation between countries due to the global economic crisis
- d. ☐ Can't choose

18. In light of the financial crisis are you in favor of or do you oppose additional government oversight for the financial industry in your country? *(Choose one)*

- a. ☐ I am strongly in favor of additional government oversight for the financial industry in my country
- b. ☐ I am in favor of additional government oversight for the financial industry in my country
- c. ☐ I oppose additional government oversight for the financial industry in my country
- d. ☐ I strongly oppose additional government oversight for the financial industry in my country
- d. ☐ Can't choose.

19. In what year were you born? *(Type your answer)*

_____ year

20. What is your marital status? *(Choose one)*

- a. ☐ single
- b. ☐ married
- c. ☐ widowed
- d. ☐ other

21. Approximately, how many people resided in the city/town/village where you lived at the time of your high school graduation? *(Type your answer)*

22. Please indicate your gender. *(Choose one)*

- a. ☐ female
- b. ☐ male

23. Which political party do you represent in this legislature? *(Type your answer)*

**THANK YOU FOR COMPLETING THE INTERNATIONAL LEGISLATOR
SURVEY PROJECT'S QUESTIONNAIRE ON THE ROLE OF GOVERNMENT.**

**PLEASE SAVE THIS COMPLETED QUESTIONNAIRE
TO YOUR COMPUTER
AND
SEND IT AS AN ATTACHMENT BY EMAIL TO:
tibi@udel.edu**

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AND SEND IT TO OUR MAILING ADDRESS AT:**

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NEWARK, DE 19716
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