The Values in Crisis Project: A Three-Wave Panel Study in Germany and the United Kingdom

CHRISTIAN WELZEL (iD)

KLAUS BOEHNKE (iD)

JAN DELHEY (iD)

FRANZISKA DEUTSCH (iD)

JAN EICHHORN (iD)

ULRICH KÜHNEN (iD)

GEORGI DRAGOLOV

STEPHANIE HESS (iD)

MANDI LARSEN (iD)

*Author affiliations can be found in the back matter of this article

ABSTRACT

This article introduces the data from the Values in Crisis project conducted in Germany and the United Kingdom. The project seized the COVID-19 pandemic as a natural experiment to investigate whether, how and to what extent people's moral values change as a result of a disruptive event of massive order and global scale. An online panel survey measured individuals' experiences with COVID-19, moral values, personality traits and social orientations at three different stages throughout the pandemic: at its onset (Wave 1: April–May 2020), one year later amidst the pandemic (Wave 2: February–March 2021), and two years later towards its end (Wave 3: February–April 2022). The samples for Wave 1 were drawn using quota sampling along gender, age group, level of education, and country region for the population aged 16 and above in Germany ($N_{DE,W1}$ = 2,005), and 18 and above in the UK ($N_{UK,W1}$ = 2,033). The samples for Wave 2 consist of re-contacted participants at a retention rate of 63.99% for Germany ($N_{DE,W1–2}$ = 1,283) and 56.57% for the UK ($N_{UK,W1–2}$ = 1,150). The samples for Wave 3 comprise of re-contacted participants at a retention rate of 43.74% in Germany ($N_{DE,W1–3}$ = 877) and 37.73% in the UK ($N_{UK,W1–3}$ = 767) as well as newly recruited participants ($N_{DE,W3}$ = 381, $N_{UK,W3}$ = 461). The data can be used for various secondary analyses on the topics covered in the survey.

CORRESPONDING AUTHOR:
Klaus Boehnke

Constructor University, Bremen, Germany

kboehnke@constructor. university

(1) BACKGROUND

Moral values are of critical relevance for societal well-being as they determine how people behave in social settings. The aggregate distribution of values in a society shapes prevalent patterns of human behaviour, which guide the overall development of that society (Caprara et al., 2006; Schwartz et al., 2014; Vecchione et al., 2015).

There is consensus in the literature that people's moral values are shaped during the so-called formative phase of socialization (Arnett, 2015), which is likely to be completed by about the age of twenty-five. Moral values internalized by then are considered to be stable for the remainder of an individual's lifetime (Milfont et al., 2016). Even if momentary adjustments do occur in response to situational changes, these situation-based adjustments usually oscillate around stable personal baselines. For this reason, ground-breaking value change on a societal level only proceeds at a glacial pace, either through generational replacement or through synchronic—albeit slight—up- or downward slopes in individual value baselines. Thus, rapid value change, cannot happen under 'normal' circumstances. By contrast, it is an open question whether and to what extent the usual stability of value orientations and the gradualness of their change continue during exceptionally disruptive times, that is, when a crisis of massive proportions suddenly hits all members of society. More specifically, can an incisive crisis—such as the COVID-19 pandemic—cause a lasting tectonic shift in the intercepts and slopes of people's personal value baselines, with baseline levels simultaneously leaping up- or downward and slope angles being twisted steeper in direction? The current literature does not offer conclusive empirical answers to this question.

The Values in Crisis project seized the COVID-19 pandemic as a truly unique opportunity—a kind of natural experiment. The data described in this article were collected in order to study empirically how people's moral values behave during times of crises. The COVID-19 pandemic is, beyond any doubt, the most dramatic social crisis since World War II. It started suddenly and unexpectedly to progress rapidly on a global scale, thereby threatening the lives and existence of virtually each and every individual. The general sense of disruption was strengthened by the unprecedented response of governments that involved major incisions into people's everyday lives: essential life domains such as mobility, employment, education and access to healthcare were affected by unparalleled restrictions (Hale et al., 2021).

The major disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic makes it possible to address a number of unresolved research questions: Do people change their values under the imprint of this crisis? If so, how massive are these changes? Which direction do these changes take? Do people's moral values revert back to their old setpoint or does the crisis rather leave a lasting impact? In case of the latter, do only the intercept levels of people's value trajectories experience a tectonic shift; or are also the slope directions of these trajectories twisted steeper in angle?

Informed by various versions of existential insecurity theories (Inglehart, 1997; Inglehart & Welzel 2005; Murray & Schaller, 2012; Pyszczynski et al., 2003), an intuitive hypothesis suggests that a crisis-induced sudden rise in existential anxieties would cause a shift from emancipative to protective values. A protective value shift would drive people to emphasize security, order, authority, uniformity and conformism (see for example Daniel et al., 2022). Consequently, preferences for emancipative values such as out-group trust, tolerance for diversity and in-group transcending solidarity would weaken, making the appeal of authoritarian government stronger. Moreover, the hypothesized value shift in the protective direction may be more pronounced for individuals who have been struggling under the crisis-induced reduction in their capabilities and resources to act freely in comparison to those who have been nevertheless thriving. If enduring, the consequence of such mentality shifts for public support for democracy would be dire. Figure 1 provides a stylized depiction of this scenario.

Alternatively, the universal character of the COVID-19 pandemic in threatening everyone, irrespective of social class, ethnicity or religion, may strengthen a generalized sense of humanity in people (Beck, 1992; Buchan et al., 2011). In this case, out-group trust, tolerance for diversity and transcendent solidarity might increase and, hence, diminish the appeal of authoritarian government. In this case, public support for democracy would not suffer. In fact, the experience of daily restrictions in civil liberties might even strengthen the overall appreciation of democratic freedoms.
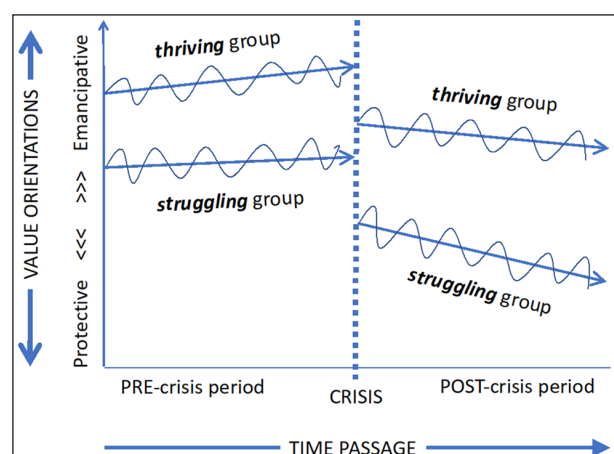
Figure 1 Crisis-induced drop in intercept levels and downturn twist in slope angles of value baselines among thriving and struggling population segments.

As a third possibility, both effects might exist but affect different groups of people defined along certain characteristics, most notably personality traits. To give an example, people who score high on neuroticism in the Big Five personality framework (Rammstedt & John, 2007) might experience a particularly powerful value shift into a protective direction and diminish their out-group trust, tolerance for diversity and transcendent solidarity. By contrast, people who score high on openness in the Big Five personality framework might experience a value shift into the exact opposite direction under the COVID-19 pandemic and increase their out-group trust, tolerance for diversity and transcendent solidarity. This type of mentality shifts of different groups in opposite directions would, in turn, result in cultural polarization and greater potential for disruptive ideological conflict. The prospects for the healthiness of democracy would again be rather bleak in this scenario.

The data collected for the Values in Crisis project can help uncover which of the mechanisms outlined above have been at play. We introduce the data in the next sections of this article.

(2) METHODS

In order to address the research questions, the Values in Crisis project made exclusive use of quantitative methodology. More specifically, the project involved the collection of primary cross-culturally comparative longitudinal survey data. Table 1 provides critical details on the study design.

2.1 STUDY DESIGN

The Values in Crisis project outlined here entailed a comparison of Germany and the United Kingdom as an ideal mixture of fundamental similarities (thereby allowing for comparability) and important differences (thereby allowing for variation). Both countries are highly developed post-industrial societies, representing the two largest populations and economies in Europe (IMF, 2018) as well as mature and stable democracies. On the other hand, there are notable differences in the healthcare systems of both countries (Reibling et al., 2019) and the initial response of the authorities to the pandemic (Ziegler, 2020).

The explicit research focus on a potential change in people's moral values required studying the same people throughout different stages of the pandemic. Three such stages were considered relevant: First, at the onset of the pandemic (Wave 1); second, amidst the pandemic (Wave 2); and third, towards its end (Wave 3). In both the United Kingdom and Germany, each wave of data collection was carried out by *bilendi GmbH*, an opinion research company specialized in online data collection.

Following a longstanding tradition in value research (Inglehart, 1977, 1997; Schwartz 1992), the project measured moral values via individual self-reports in a survey framework. Given the contact restrictions

COUNTRY	WAVE 1		WAVE 2		WAVE 3	
	GERMANY	**UK**	**GERMANY**	**UK**	**GERMANY**	**UK**
Language	German	English	German	English	German	English
Mode	standardized questionnaire, CASI		standardized questionnaire, CASI		standardized questionnaire, CASI	
Duration (minutes)						
Mean	19.10	18.98	18.60	19.71	21.79	24.17
Standard deviation	40.11	61.23	30.41	54.70	36.15	74.67
Field phase						
Start	24/04/2020	29/04/2020	15/02/2021	23/02/2021	16/02/2022	16/02/2022
End	10/05/2020	19/05/2020	01/03/2021	15/03/2021	28/04/2022	28/04/2022
Target population	adult country residents		adult country residents		adult country residents	
Recruitment	online panel, invitation by email		online panel, invitation by email		online panel, invitation by email	
Incentive	duration based, cash or tokens		duration based, cash or tokens		duration based, cash or tokens	
Sampling strategy	quota sample		recontact		recontact, quota for the new	
Sample size (total)	2,005	2,033	1,283	1,150	1,258	1,228
Panelists			1,283	1,150	877	767
Newly recruited			0	0	381	461
Retention rate			63.99%	56.57%	43.74%	37.73%

Table 1 Methodological fact sheet on the sample.

throughout the three waves of data collection, an online survey (CASI: Computer-Assisted Self-Interview) was the only viable option. In each wave, the survey employed a fully standardized questionnaire consisting of closed-ended items only. Participants took, on average, about twenty minutes to complete questionnaire (see Table 1 for further details).

As a side note, the Values in Crisis – Germany/UK project inspired extensive international collaboration. This resulted in the so-called Values in Crisis International project (Aschauer et al., 2021) which fielded the first wave in altogether 18 countries worldwide: Austria, Brazil, Chile, China, Colombia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, South Korea, Maldives, Poland, Russia, Sweden, United Kingdom.[1] The international data are beyond the scope of the present article.

2.2 TIME OF DATA COLLECTION
The first wave of the survey was fielded from April 24 to May 19, 2020; the second wave from February 15 to March 15, 2021; and the third wave from February 16 to April 28, 2022.

2.3 LOCATION OF DATA COLLECTION
Each wave of the survey was fielded in Germany and the United Kingdom. The chosen sampling strategy (see 2.4)

allows for a regionalization of the collected data in each wave. As to Germany, the respective samples can be broken down to the sixteen federal states (*Bundesländer*) of the Federal Republic. A regional comparison with respect to the borders of former West and East Germany is also possible, with an important qualification: The data collected for Berlin do not allow for a differentiation between the former West and East districts of Germany's capital city Berlin. As to the UK, the respective samples can be broken down to the four constituent countries of the UK (England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland) and the nine English regions. More details can be seen in Table 2a for Germany and Table 2b for the United Kingdom.

2.4 SAMPLING, SAMPLE AND DATA COLLECTION
Given the project aims, the ideal sample would, undoubtedly, be a representative sample drawn from a target population of all adults residing in the respective country. The online mode of data collection, however, precluded a random-sampling technique (e.g. random probability or stratified random sampling). Respondents were instead drawn from the pools of potential participants (online panels) available to the data collecting company. Participation in each wave was incentivized based on the

REGION	TARGET QUOTA	WAVE 1: CROSS-SECTION		WAVE 2: CROSS-SECTION PANEL: WAVES 1 AND 2		WAVE 3: CROSS-SECTION		PANEL: WAVES 1, 2 AND 3	
	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Schleswig-Holstein	3.37	68	3.39	45	3.51	43	3.42	34	3.88
Hamburg	2.18	43	2.14	28	2.18	28	2.23	19	2.17
Niedersachsen	9.50	191	9.53	114	8.89	123	9.78	80	9.12
Bremen	0.79	16	0.80	12	0.94	13	1.03	7	0.80
Nordrhein-Westfalen	21.58	437	21.80	268	20.89	258	20.51	177	20.18
Hessen	7.33	149	7.43	94	7.33	92	7.31	69	7.87
Rheinland-Pfalz	5.05	98	4.89	62	4.83	66	5.25	41	4.68
Baden-Württemberg	13.07	260	12.97	173	13.48	156	12.40	107	12.20
Bayern	15.25	306	15.26	200	15.59	195	15.50	147	16.76
Saarland	1.29	26	1.30	14	1.09	17	1.35	9	1.03
Berlin	4.36	86	4.29	57	4.44	51	4.05	38	4.33
Brandenburg	3.07	62	3.09	48	3.74	41	3.26	30	3.42
Mecklenburg-Vorpommern	2.08	42	2.09	34	2.65	28	2.23	21	2.39
Sachsen	5.25	106	5.29	59	4.60	71	5.64	44	5.02
Sachsen-Anhalt	3.07	59	2.94	37	2.88	38	3.02	28	3.19
Thüringen	2.77	56	2.79	38	2.96	38	3.02	26	2.96
Total	100.00	2,005	100.00	1,283	100.00	1,258	100.00	877	100.00

Table 2a Relative and absolute frequencies (unweighted) of cases in samples from Germany by region and wave in cross-section and panel.

REGION	TARGET QUOTA	WAVE 1: CROSS-SECTION		WAVE 2: CROSS-SECTION PANEL: WAVES 1 AND 2		WAVE 3: CROSS-SECTION		PANEL: WAVES 1, 2 AND 3	
	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
England									
North East	4.15	79	3.89	51	4.43	53	4.32	35	4.56
North West	11.15	234	11.51	138	12.00	133	10.83	85	11.08
Yorkshire and the Humber	8.35	169	8.31	103	8.96	102	8.31	71	9.26
East Midlands	7.20	147	7.23	90	7.83	92	7.49	62	8.08
West Midlands	8.75	176	8.66	82	7.13	92	7.49	49	6.39
East of England	9.25	184	9.05	109	9.48	107	8.71	72	9.39
London	12.80	264	12.99	136	11.83	164	13.35	90	11.73
South East	13.60	281	13.82	162	14.09	172	14.01	102	13.30
South West	8.50	174	8.56	86	7.48	112	9.12	63	8.21
Wales	4.90	99	4.87	54	4.70	60	4.89	38	4.95
Scotland	8.55	175	8.61	107	9.30	113	9.20	75	9.78
Northern Ireland	2.80	51	2.51	32	2.78	28	2.28	25	3.26
Total	100.00	2,033	100.00	1,150	100.00	1,228	100.00	767	100.00

Table 2b Relative and absolute frequencies (unweighted) of cases in samples from the United Kingdom by region and wave in cross-section and panel.

incentive scheme of the data collecting company. The incentive scheme considers the duration of the survey and offers a choice between cash or loyalty tokens. Because these individuals have volunteered to register as potential participants in online surveys and are incentivized, the samples drawn unavoidably entail a certain degree of bias with respect to online accessibility, computer literacy, interest for material rewards, or affinity for and experience with surveys. These aspects can potentially reflect specific socio-economic backgrounds. In order to reduce biases along such lines, quota sampling was employed in the first wave of data collection. The quotas were defined along gender, age group, level of education and region for the respective country populations (of age 16 and above in Germany, and 18 and above in the United Kingdom) based on the information provided by the national statistical offices. For more details on the target quotas and realized samples in each wave, see Tables 2a and 2b (on regions) and Table 3 (on further relevant socio-demographics). Participants were recruited by invitation via the interface of the data collecting company. The realized samples in the first wave consist of 2,005 respondents from Germany and 2,033 respondents from the United Kingdom.

The sample for Wave 2 consists exclusively of participants from Wave 1: Respondents who participated in the first wave were re-contacted and invited to participate in the second wave without quota-based screening. The achieved samples in Wave 2 consist of 1,283 respondents from Germany and 1,150 respondents from the United Kingdom. The achieved retention rates amount to 63.99% for Germany and 56.57% for the

United Kingdom (see Tables 1, 2a, 2b and 3 for further details).

The samples for Wave 3 consist of re-contacted and newly recruited participants (refresher sample). The latter were invited only after the pool of to-be-re-contacted participants had been exhausted and were subjected to quota-based screening. This was done in order to allow for more detailed segmentations in cross-sectional analyses of Wave 3 for which the size of the longitudinal sample could have proven limited. The resulting panel data for Waves 1 to 3 include 877 respondents from Germany and 767 respondents from the United Kingdom (which was higher than originally expected). This makes a retention rate of 43.74% in Germany and 37.73% in the United Kingdom, comparing Waves 1 and 3. Joint with the refresher sample, the cross-sectional data for Wave 3 consist of 1,258 respondents from Germany and 1,228 respondents from the United Kingdom.

The discrepancies between the target quotas and the achieved relative frequencies along the categories of the relevant socio-demographic characteristics (see Tables 2a, 2b and 3) can be corrected for by applying data weights. The weights were calculated by the research team using the raking procedure (iterative proportional fitting; Kolenikov, 2014). Data weights are available for cross-sectional analyses of each wave as well as for longitudinal analyses.

2.5 MATERIALS/SURVEY INSTRUMENTS
The thematic foci of the questionnaire encompass the physical and psychological experience of COVID-19,

CHARACTE-RISTIC	TARGET QUOTA		WAVE 1: CROSS-SECTION		WAVE 2: CROSS-SECTION PANEL: WAVES 1 AND 2		WAVE 3: CROSS-SECTION		PANEL: WAVES 1, 2 AND 3	
	GERMANY	UK	GERMANY	UK	GERMANY	UK	GERMANY	UK	GERMANY	UK
Sex										
Male	50.1	48.3	50.12	48.25	50.74	54.43	49.05	49.02	53.25	55.54
Female	49.9	51.7	49.88	51.75	49.26	45.57	50.95	50.98	46.75	44.46
Diverse	0.0	0.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Age group										
16–24 years	13.2	11.9	13.32	12.00	5.92	5.30	8.43	8.06	3.99	4.30
25–34 years	15.9	17.0	16.01	17.71	12.70	14.17	14.07	16.21	10.38	12.91
35–44 years	17.9	17.6	17.91	16.58	17.61	15.57	17.01	17.92	17.79	14.86
45–54 years	21.7	17.6	21.75	17.51	25.02	19.83	22.10	17.92	27.02	18.90
55–64 years	16.8	14.9	16.76	15.05	20.11	18.00	19.71	15.64	21.44	19.04
65+ years	14.5	21.0	14.26	21.15	18.63	27.13	18.68	24.27	19.38	29.99
Education										
Low	19.5	19.1	19.25	21.25	21.04	35.83	18.60	28.99	20.75	20.34
Middle	55.3	40.3	55.36	38.51	55.11	21.30	57.23	27.93	55.76	41.33
High	25.2	40.6	25.39	40.24	23.85	42.87	24.17	43.08	23.49	38.33

Table 3 Demographic characteristics (relative frequencies) by country in cross-section and panel.

moral values, personality traits, social orientations and ideological leaning as well as subjective well-being. It further includes basic socio-demographic information on gender, age, education, income, residence, religion and ethnicity.

Most of the key instruments were directly adopted from established large-scale comparative surveys with a proven track record such as the European Social Survey (ESS, 2020), the World Values Survey (Inglehart et. al., 2018) and the European Quality of Life Survey.[2] This approach not only guarantees the validity of the measures, but also makes it possible to use the data from these surveys as benchmarks. Some further items were adapted from these surveys with only slightly modified wording. The questionnaire also included novel items developed specifically for the research purposes of the Values in Crisis project, e.g. those addressing the unprecedented COVID-19 situation. Due to the sudden onset of the COVID-19 pandemic and the speed at which related events were unfolding (e.g. government response), we were compelled to prefer an expedient start of the data collection phase to a full-fledged pilot test phase aimed at establishing the psychometric properties of the modified and novel items. The latter could have turned out time intensive and, thereby, rendered our research 'obsolete'. Studies employing our data should, therefore, consider the potential methodological problems arising from this compromise (see Flake and Fried, 2020).

Table 4 provides an overview of the wide array of topics covered in each wave of the survey and cross-references the questionnaire items. The careful reader may notice that some topics were added or discontinued in subsequent waves. The decision as to measure additional aspects addressed in an earlier wave or to measure aspects not previously addressed was guided by their research relevance in light of the course of events around the COVID-19 pandemic, or by considerations of space and cost. For example, personality traits were measured only in Wave 1 as they are generally considered to be stable characteristics of individuals. Items on attitudes towards vaccines or respondents' vaccination status were included in Waves 2 and 3, i.e. only when they became relevant.

For further details, please refer to the data documentation.

2.6 QUALITY CONTROL

Several steps were undertaken in order to ensure the quality of the data collected. These involved the identification of 'speeders' (respondents who complete the questionnaire way too quickly in comparison to the rest) and 'straightliners' (respondents who select one and the same answering option in a matrix of multiple items). Quality control involved also various plausibility checks with the aim to identify respondents who provide contradicting or highly implausible answers. To name a few examples: a respondent selects totally

TOPIC	WAVE 1	WAVE 2	WAVE 3
Experience of COVID-19			
Personal health consequences	Q10	Q10	Q10
Socio-economic consequences	Q11	Q11	Q11
Worries about self and society	Q12–13, Q17	Q12–13, Q17	Q12–13
Evaluation of government measures	Q14	Q14	Q14, Q65
Evaluation of own and others' behavior	Q15	Q15, Q45, Q47	Q15, Q45, Q47
Solidarity	Q16	Q16	Q16
Conspiracy theory receptivity	Q19	Q19, Q48	Q19, Q48, Q61
Importance of freedom vs. health protection		Q46	Q46, Q56
Attitudes towards vaccines, vaccination status		Q49–51	Q50–51, Q57–59
Moral values			
Schwartz values	Q21	Q21	Q21
Sacred-secular, patriarchal-emancipative values	Q22–29	Q22–29	Q22–29
Personality traits			
BIG-Five	Q30		
Davis' empathy scale	Q31		
Social orientations and ideological leaning			
Institutional trust	Q20, Q33	Q20, Q33	Q20, Q33
Interpersonal trust	Q35–36	Q35	Q35
Attitudes towards migration and diversity	Q37–38	Q37–38	Q37–38
Country aims and political priorities	Q32, Q39	Q32, Q39	Q32, Q39
Political orientation	Q40	Q40	Q40
Populism		Q52	Q52
Perception of social cohesion and tensions			Q62, Q64
Subjective well-being			
Depression and anxiety (PHQ-4), loneliness	Q18	Q18	Q18
Overall life and domain-level satisfaction	Q34	Q34	Q34
Social exclusion			Q60
Socio-demographic section			
Gender	Q1	Q1	Q1
Age	Q2	Q2	Q2
Family situation (marital status, children)	Q3–4	Q3–4	Q3–4
Level of education	Q5	Q5	Q5
Income	Q6	Q6	Q6
Household composition	Q7	Q41–43	Q41–43
Size of place of residence	Q8		Q8
Region of residence	Q9	Q9	Q9
Employment situation		Q44	Q44

Table 4 Survey contents by wave with cross-references to questionnaire items.

opposing answering options for statements with similar content; a respondent selects unlikely combinations of categories in the socio-demographic section such as young age and retired status. In addition, the data were inspected for the presence of doublets (multiple occurrences of cases with identical identifiers in a cross-section) and implausible changes in the socio-demographics in the longitudinal scenario. The latter may occur when different members of the household happen to participate in the different waves of the study.

Further details on the steps for quality control can be obtained from the opinion research company, a corporate member of the European Society for Opinion and Marketing Research (ESOMAR).

2.7 DATA ANONYMISATION AND ETHICAL ISSUES

Participants were informed about the general research aims of the project and asked to provide their informed consent prior to responding to the items. Data were anonymised by the opinion research company and delivered to the research team in anonymous form only.

Ethical issues were carefully discussed among the Principal Investigators and with the opinion research company. As per the guidelines of the German Research Foundation (DFG) on research projects in the Humanities and Social Sciences, a statement by an ethics committee was not required.

2.8 EXISTING USE OF DATA

The following peer-reviewed journal articles have been published so far:

Delhey, J., Hess, S., Boehnke, K., Deutsch, F., Eichhorn, J., Kühnen, U., & Welzel, C. (2023). Life Satisfaction During the COVID-19 Pandemic: The Role of Human, Economic, Social, and Psychological Capital. *Journal of Happiness Studies*. https://doi.org/10.1007/s10902-023-00676-w

Delhey, J., Steckermeier, L., Boehnke, K., Deutsch, F., Eichhorn, J., Kühnen, U., & Welzel, C. (2023). Existential insecurity and trust during the COVID-19 pandemic: The case of Germany. *Journal of Trust Research*. https://doi.org/10.1080/21515581.2023.2223184

Eichhorn, J., Spöri, T., Delhey, J., Deutsch, F. & Dragolov, G. (2022). Reality bites: An Analysis of corona deniers in Germany over time. *Frontiers in Sociology, 7*: 974–972. https://doi:10.3389/fsoc.2022.974972

(3) DATASET DESCRIPTION AND ACCESS

3.1 REPOSITORY LOCATION

The data and the accompanying documentation (questionnaires, codebook and methodological report) have been stored under the permanent identifier ZA7989 at the repository of GESIS – Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences (Germany). Potential users can access the data and the documentation at: https://doi.org/10.4232/1.14148.

3.2 OBJECT/FILE NAME

All published datasets are stored in a zip-archive for the respective data format (see Section 3.4). Each archive contains the following files:

- ZA7989_w1_v1-0-0: Cross-sectional data from Wave 1
- ZA7989_w1–2_v1-0-0: Longitudinal data from Waves 1 and 2
- ZA7989_w1–3_v1-0-0: Longitudinal data from Waves 1, 2 and 3
- ZA7989_w3_v1-0-0: Cross-sectional data from Wave 3

The survey questionnaires are available in British English and German. The language version is indicated in the file name by the suffix "de" for German or "gb" for British English. All questionnaires are stored in a zip-archive containing the following files:

- ZA7989_q_[de/gb]_w1: Questionnaire for Wave 1
- ZA7989_q_[de/gb]_w2: Questionnaire for Wave 2
- ZA7989_q_[de/gb]_w3: Questionnaire for Wave 3

The codebooks accompanying the data are available in English only. These are stored in a zip-archive containing the following files:

- ZA7989_cod_w1: Codebook for cross-sectional data from Wave 1
- ZA7989_cod_w1–2: Codebook for longitudinal data from Waves 1 and 2
- ZA7989_cod_w1–3: Codebook for longitudinal data from Waves 1, 2 and 3
- ZA7989_cod_w3: Codebook for cross-sectional data from Wave 3

The category "Other documents" in the "Downloads" section offers access to the methodological report:

- ZA7989_mr.pdf

3.3 DATA TYPE

The datasets contain the raw primary data following data cleaning procedures and the respective weights calculated by the project team.

3.4 FORMAT NAMES AND VERSIONS

The datasets are available in SPSS, Stata (14 and above) and comma-separated format. The deposited archives containing the datasets have been indexed with the file extension for a dataset in the respective format: .sav (SPSS), .dta (Stata), .csv (comma-separated file).

The documentation (questionnaires, codebooks and methodological report) is available in pdf format.

3.5 LANGUAGE

Questionnaires are available in British English and German. Codebooks and datasets are available in British English only.

3.6 LICENSE AND LIMITS TO SHARING

The data have been released for academic research and teaching purposes only (category A). Access is granted free of charge to registered GESIS users. Registration with GESIS is also free of charge (https://login.gesis.org/). More information about GESIS' terms of use can be found on the following website: https://www.gesis.org/fileadmin/upload/Datenservices/Nutzungsbedingungen/2023-06-30_Usage_regulations.pdf.

3.7 PUBLICATION DATE

The data and the accompanying documentation were published in the repository on 21/09/2023.

3.8 FAIR DATA/CODEBOOK

Our data and their documentation as well as the data service provided by GESIS conform to the FAIR principles (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable).

(4) REUSE POTENTIAL

The data can be reused for many analytical purposes. In all the main topic areas targeted by the Values in Crisis survey — value orientations, socio-political attitudes and subjective well-being —, the potential of the data for both cross-sectional and longitudinal analyses is far from exhausted. Very likely, the main interest of re-users is how these constructs have evolved with changes in people's perception of the coronavirus pandemic. A major strength of the Values in Crisis survey in this context is that the main topics were surveyed using several proven constructs, such as value orientations not only according to the Schwartz value circle, but also according to Welzel and Inglehart's value concept. Second, there is considerable re-use potential in the inequality perspective: Which sub-populations have fared better and which have fared worse during the pandemic? In the academic and public debate, there are various portrayals of the pandemic in this regard, sometimes as reinforcing inequality, sometimes as "equalizing" and "inequality-blind". A third potential perspective for re-using the data is that of social cohesion (cf. Larsen et al., 2023): Have people's attitudes and value orientations moved in a direction of solidarity or lack thereof? What is the state of consensus on attitudes and value orientations that are central to cohesion across the various stages of the pandemic?

By varying the units to be compared, one can also get a lot more out of the Values in Crisis data. Even though the study was originally intended as a two-country comparison only, the surveys can also be analysed on a sub-national level: the sixteen federal states of Germany, the four constituent countries of the UK or the nine regions of England. It would be especially profitable to combine the German data with pandemic-related characteristics of the federal states. A rich source of information in this context is the ZPID Lockdown Measures Dataset for Germany (Steinmetz et al., 2022). This dataset has tracked the implementation of anti-corona measures in the various federal states on a daily basis. Additional policy information of this kind can be used, for example, to examine whether the severity of measures is associated with the attitudes, values and well-being of the population. Moreover, the questionnaire of the first wave of the Values in Crisis project was fielded in further 16 countries worldwide (as mentioned above), which enables large-scale cross-culturally comparative studies — an opportunity that only few "Covid surveys" can provide.

Other information required for submission, not for review.

NOTES

1   https://data.aussda.at/dataset.html?persistentId=doi:10.11587/LIHK1L.
2   https://www.eurofound.europa.eu/surveys/european-quality-of-life-surveys.

COMPETING INTERESTS

The authors have no competing interests to declare.

AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

All authors contributed towards the writing of this manuscript and approved its final version.

AUTHOR AFFILIATIONS

Christian Welzel orcid.org/0000-0002-1562-3580
Leuphana University, Lüneburg, Germany

Klaus Boehnke orcid.org/0000-0002-5435-4037
Constructor University, Bremen, Germany

Jan Delhey orcid.org/0000-0002-0475-8578
Otto von Guericke University Magdeburg, Germany

Franziska Deutsch orcid.org/0000-0001-9868-0988
Constructor University, Bremen, Germany

Jan Eichhorn orcid.org/0000-0003-4988-8891
University of Edinburgh, United Kingdom

Ulrich Kühnen orcid.org/0000-0001-9059-4719
Constructor University, Bremen, Germany

Georgi Dragolov
Constructor University, Bremen, Germany; Otto von Guericke University Magdeburg, Germany

Stephanie Hess orcid.org/0000-0003-1762-4461
Otto von Guericke University Magdeburg, Germany

Mandi Larsen orcid.org/0000-0001-5057-0085
Constructor University, Bremen, Germany

REFERENCES

Arnett, J. J. (2015). *Emerging adulthood: The winding road from the late teens through the twenties* (2nd ed.). Oxford University Press. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780199795574.013.9

Aschauer, W., Seymer, A., Bodi-Fernandez, O., Herzog, M., Hadler, M., Höllinger, F., Bacher, J., Welzel, C., Boehnke, K., Delhey, J., Deutsch, F., Eichhorn, J., Kühnen, U., Moraes, D., Kemer, T., Gonzalez, R., Salvatierra, V., Fuentes, A., Chang, Y.-T., Chu, Y.-H., Huang, O., Casas, A., Mendez, N., Pachulia, M., Gulashvili, N., Demertzis, N., Papadoudis, G., Linardis, A., Koniordos, S., Aranitou, V., Huang, Y.-H. C., Mungiu-Pippidi, A., Abels, C. M., Taniguchi, N., Akaliyski, P., Park, J., Dentsu Institute, Rakisheva, B., Mazhitova, A., Ashkenova, G., Cho, Y., Lee, N. Y., Kim, Y.-S., Kim, J., Heo, J., Shin, I., Shim, J.-M., Kim, O., Kim, S., Riyaz, A., Moosa, S., Rahman, R. A., Musthafa, H. S., Siemienska, R., Domaradzka, A., Matysiak, I., Ponarin, E., Sokolov, B., Klimova, A., Puranen, B., Axelsson, T., & **Stier, J.** (2021). *Values in crisis international (SUF edition)*. Austrian Social Data Archive. DOI: https://doi.org/10.11587/LIHK1L

Beck, U. (1992). *Risk society: Towards a new modernity*. Sage.

Buchan, N. R., Brewer, M. B., Grimalda, G., Wilson, R. K., Fatas, E., & **Foddy, M.** (2011). Global social identity and global cooperation. *Psychological Science, 22*, 821–828. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1177/0956797611409590

Caprara, G. V., Schwartz, S., Capanna, C., Vecchione, M., & **Barbaranelli, C.** (2006). Personality and politics: Values, traits, and political choice. *Political Psychology, 27*, 1–28. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1467-9221.2006.00447.x

Daniel, E., Bardi, A., Fischer, R., Benish-Weisman, M., & **Lee, J.** (2022). Changes in personal values in pandemic times. *Social Psychological and Personality Science, 13*(2), 572–582. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1177/19485506211024026

ESS Round 8: European Social Survey. (2020): *ESS-8 2016 documentation report. Edition 2.2*. European Social Survey Data Archive, Sikt – Norwegian Agency for Shared Services in Education and Research, Norway for ESS ERIC. DOI: https://doi.org/10.21338/NSD-ESS8-2016

Flake, J. K., & **Fried, E. I.** (2020). Measurement Schmeasurement: Questionable Measurement Practices and How to Avoid Them. *Advances in Methods and Practices in Psychological Science, 3*(4): 456–465. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1177/2515245920952393

Hale, T., Angrist, N., Goldszmidt, R., Kira, B., Petherick, A., Phillips, T., Webster, S., Cameron-Blake, E., Hallas, L., Majumdar, S., & **Tatlow, H.** (2021). A global panel database of pandemic policies (Oxford COVID-19 Government Response Tracker). *Nature Human Behaviour, 5*(4), 529–538. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1038/s41562-021-01079-8

Inglehart, R. (1997). *Modernization and postmodernization. Cultural, economic, and political change in 43 societies*. Princeton University Press.

Inglehart, R. (1977). *The silent revolution*. Princeton University Press. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1515/9780691214429

Inglehart, R., Haerpfer, C., Moreno, A., Welzel, C., Kizilova, K., Diez-Medrano, J., Lagos, M., Norris, P., Ponarin E., & **Puranen, B, et al.** (Eds.) (2018). *World Values Survey: Round six – country-pooled datafile*. JD Systems Institute & WVSA Secretariat. DOI: https://doi.org/10.14281/18241.8

Inglehart, R., & **Welzel, C.** (2005). *Modernization, cultural change and democracy. The human development sequence*. Cambridge University Press.

International Monetary Fund (IMF). (2018). *Challenges to steady growth: October 2018*. World economic outlook. https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/WEO/Issues/2018/09/24/world-economic-outlook-october-2018

Kolenikov, S. (2014). Calibrating survey data using iterative proportional fitting (raking). *The Stata Journal, 14*(1), 22–59. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1177/1536867X1401400104

Larsen, M. M., Dragolov, G., & **Delhey, J.** (2023): Editorial: The Covid-19 pandemic and social cohesion across the globe. *Frontiers in Sociology, 8–2023*. DOI: https://doi.org/10.3389/fsoc.2023.1182452

Milfont, T. L., Milojev, P., & **Sibley, C. G.** (2016). Values stability and change in adulthood: A 3-year longitudinal study of rank-order stability and mean-level differences. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin, 42*, 572–588. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1177/0146167216639245

Murray, D. R., & **Schaller, M.** (2012). Threat(s) and conformity deconstructed: Perceived threat of infectious disease and its implications for conformist attitudes and behavior. *European Journal of Social Psychology, 42*, 180–188. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1002/ejsp.863

Pyszczynski, T., Solomon, S., & **Greenberg, J.** (2003). *In the wake of 9/11: The psychology of terror*. American Psychological Association. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1037/10478-000

Rammstedt, B., & **John, O. P.** (2007): Measuring personality in one minute or less: A 10-item short version of the Big Five Inventory in English and German. *Journal of Research in Personality, 41*(1), 203–212. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jrp.2006.02.001

Reibling, N., Ariaans, M., & **Wendt, C.** (2019). Worlds of healthcare: A healthcare system typology of OECD countries. *Health Policy, 123*(7), 611–620. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1016/j.healthpol.2019.05.001

Schwartz, S. H. (1992). Universals in the content and structure of values: Theoretical advances and empirical tests in 20 countries. In M. Zanna (Ed.), *Advances in experimental social psychology* (Vol. 25, pp. 1–65). Academic Press. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1016/S0065-2601(08)60281-6

Schwartz, S. H., Caprara, G. V., Vecchione, M., Bain, P., Bianchi, G., Caprara, M. G., Cieciuch, J., Krmanoglu, H., Baslevent, C., Lönnqvist, J.-E., Mamali, C., Manzi, J., Pavlopoulos, V., Posnova, T., Schoen, H., Silvester, J., Tabernero, C., Torres C., Verkasalo, M., ... & Zaleski, Z. (2014). Basic personal values underlie and give coherence to political values: A cross national study in 15 countries. *Political Behavior, 36*(4), 899–930. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1007/s11109-013-9255-z

Steinmetz, H., Batzdorfer, V., Scherhag, J., & **Bosnjak, M.** (May, 2022). The ZPID lockdown measures dataset. *ZPID Science Information Online, 20*(1). DOI: https://doi.org/10.23668/psycharchives.6679

Vecchione, M., Schwartz, S. H., Caprara, G. V., Schoen, H., Cieciuch, J., Silvester, J., Bain, P., Bianchi, G., Kirmanoglu, H., Baslevent, C., Mamali, C., Manzi, J., Pavlopoulos, V., Posnova, T., Torres, C., Verkasalo, M., Lönnqvist, J. E., Vondráková, E., Welzel, C., & **Alessandri, G.** (2015). Personal values and political activism: A cross-national study. *British Journal of Psychology, 106*(1), 84–106. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1111/bjop.12067

Ziegler, J. N. (2020). Science, politics, and the pandemic. *Current History, 119*(820), 303–309. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1525/curh.2020.119.820.303

PEER REVIEW COMMENTS

Journal of Open Psychology Data has blind peer review, which is unblinded upon article acceptance. The editorial history of this article can be downloaded here:

- PR File 1. Peer Review History. DOI: https://doi.org/10.5334/jopd.89.pr1