



CONSIRT

Cross-National Studies: Interdisciplinary Research and Training Program

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Comparative Analyses Using Multi-Source Databases: Insights from the Survey Data Recycling (SDR) Project

May 9-12, 2023

The OSU Department of Sociology and the Mershon Center for International Security Studies

Columbus, Ohio, USA

Call for Applications

We invite graduate students and recent PhDs at OSU and other universities in the US to apply to participate in the international, interdisciplinary event *Comparative Analyses Using Multi-Source Databases: Insights from the Survey Data Recycling (SDR) Project*, May 9-12, 2023, Columbus, Ohio. This event comprises a 1-day conference (May 9) on comparative survey research and ex-post survey data harmonization, followed by a 3-day workshop (May 10-12) on statistical methods for analyzing multi-level harmonized datasets, the SDR dataset 2.0 in particular.

Participation in the SDR event is free of charge for all selected researchers. The organizers will also award up to **nine travel awards** for out-of-town PhD students and postdocs. The awards cover transportation (up to 450 USD/person) and accommodation costs (up to 130 USD/night for a max. of 5 nights). The deadline for electronic submission of applications is **March 24, 2023**.

Both the conference and the workshop will be held at the OSU Department of Sociology, Columbus, Ohio, USA, as part of the Survey Data Recycling (SDR) Project (NSF 1738502, asc.ohio-state.edu/dataharmonization). The event benefits from the organizational support of CONSIRT (consirt.osu.edu) at OSU and the Polish Academy of Sciences.

About the Conference

The Conference (May 9) focuses on comparative survey research and the opportunities and challenges of ex-post survey data harmonization. Presenters include Christof Wolf (University of Mannheim, and President of GESIS, Germany) who will deliver the keynote lecture, Francesco Sarracino (STATEC, Luxemburg), Ranjit Singh (GESIS), Joonghyun Kwak (Oxford University, UK), and members of the SDR Team. The conference schedule will be distributed closer to the event.

About the Workshop

The Workshop (May 10-12) will feature the SDR database 2.0 (SDR2.0) as a key empirical resource to discuss methodological considerations in analyzing multi-source databases constructed via ex-post harmonization. SDR 2.0 covers 4,402,489 respondents surveyed from 1966-2017 in 156 countries. It contains individual-level measures of socio-demographics, political attitudes and behaviors, social capital, and well-being, constructed via ex-post harmonization of social survey data pooled from 3,329 national surveys stemming from 23 major cross-national survey projects, including the World Values Survey, the European Social Survey, and the International Social Survey Programme, among others. SDR 2.0 also contains source survey quality and harmonization process metadata that we stored as control variables in the database and that are available for analyses.

Each of the workshop's three days features a combination of lectures and practice sessions. Lectures, delivered by Dr. Malgorzata Mikucka, Mannheim University, Germany, cover an introduction to multi-level modeling for continuous and dichotomous dependent variables, DVs, and separate lectures on 2-level and 3-level models with continuous and dummy DVs.

Practical application sessions are led by Dr. Michal Kotnarowski, Institute of Philosophy and Sociology, Polish Academy of Sciences. Using R and the SDR 2.0 data, participants will examine 2- and 3-level multi-level models for different types of dependent variables. A brief introduction to R will be available to interested participants.

Application and Registration Procedure for PhD Students and recent PhD holders

We invite graduate students and recent PhD holders at OSU and other universities in the USA who are interested in cross-national survey research methodology to apply. Attendance to the conference and the workshop of the May event is **free of charge for any accepted participant**.

Eligibility requirements

Applicants must have the following documented prerequisite knowledge:

1. Understanding the logic of inferential statistics. Participants should be familiar with hypothesis testing and concepts such as confidence intervals and significance level.
2. Familiarity with the basics of the linear regression model estimated using the Ordinary Least Squares method, and the logistic regression model for a dichotomous dependent variable.
3. Familiarity with quantitative methods for comparative research.

Familiarity with R is an advantage, but not required.

The number of attendees to the Conference is open. For the Workshop we can accept 15 graduate students or recent PhD holders as participants. Up to **nine travel awards** are available for PhD students and postdocs at universities in the US. The awards cover transportation (up to 450 USD/person) and accommodation costs (up to 130 USD/night for a max. of 5 nights).

Application process

To apply, graduate students and recent PhD holders need to submit the following materials electronically, and as a single Word or PDF file:

1. Academic CV
2. A statement of purpose (300 words) that describes:
 - The applicant's experience with regression analysis
 - Experience with analyzing comparative survey data
 - If applicable, experience with R
 - How this international event fits to your research interests
3. Whether the application pertains to attending the conference, the workshop, or both
4. Whether you seek funding for travel and accommodation from the event's organizers.

Please send all application materials to Dr. Irina Tomescu-Dubrow, dubrow.4@osu.edu, by **March 24, 2023**.

A committee composed of PIs and advisory board members of the SDR project will review the applications. Decisions about acceptance to the event, and decisions about funding, will be communicated via email by April 5, 2023.

About the SDR Project:

Survey Data Recycling: New Analytic Framework, Integrated Database, and Tools for Cross-national Social, Behavioral and Economic Research (SDR) is funded by the U.S. National Science Foundation (2017–2023; NSF 1738502). Social scientists and computer scientists from The Ohio State University and the Polish Academy of Sciences collaborate to create an integrated database of harmonized measures of social capital, wellbeing, and political participation, and their main socio-demographic correlates derived from 23 international survey projects. J. Craig Jenkins, Irina Tomescu-Dubrow and Kazimierz M. Slomczynski lead this study. More information is available at asc.ohio-state.edu/dataharmonization.

About CONSIRT

The CONSIRT Program was established by The Ohio State University and the Polish Academy of Sciences. Its main objective is to stimulate and facilitate research, graduate training, and undergraduate education. CONSIRT provides an opportunity for preparing and administering complex research projects with a cross-national perspective. For more information, please visit our website, consirt.osu.edu.