HOW TO EVALUATE RESEARCH AND TEACHING IN SOCIOLOGY?

RESULTS OF THE SURVEY CONDUCTED WITH MEMBERS OF SWISS SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION (SSA)

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Swiss Academy of Humanities and Social Sciences (SAHS) and the board of the Swiss Sociological Association (SSA) initiated a reflection on the evaluation of sociology as a discipline. This report presents the main arguments in the literature and the main positions in the field of science evaluation, thereby focusing on the specific problems of the evaluation of the social sciences. Also newer contributions in Swiss sociology show that there is a plurality of scientific attitudes towards the evaluation of this discipline. SAHS and SSA also initiated the survey on the opinion of the SSA-members about criteria for the evaluation of research and teaching, and about the way, evaluations should be proceeded.

Sociology is well known as a multi-paradigmatic discipline. The results of the survey show – correspondingly – that there is a high diversity of attitudes towards the criteria and principles of evaluation. For many respondents evaluation is a problematic matter. Rankings and the single usage of quantitative criteria alone are evaluated critically. A majority of respondents support empirical research methods as criterion, the application of combined qualitative and quantitative criteria as evaluation strategy for quality, adherence to ethical principles, publication (especially of articles) in scientific journals, peer reviewing as method, presentation of research in symposia, student's training in qualitative and quantitative methods, research seminars for students, and student's teaching in different approaches of sociological theory. Evaluation of research and teaching in sociology should be proceeded by a special committee of experts.

1. Preface

The present report examines the opinions of the SSA's members on criteria that might be used for « the evaluation of research and teaching in sociology ». As a preamble, two important elements should be defined: the context in which this document has been elaborated on the one hand, and its scope on the other.

Questions relating to the issue of evaluation within various disciplines are to be viewed as being raised at a specific moment in time - a time when evaluation now seems to be an inescapable process; only the criteria used to conduct it are still being debated. Within this perspective, social science disciplines - including sociology - largely position themselves in relation to modalities and criteria common in other disciplines, particularly in some of the "hard" sciences. The latter are likely viewed by non-specialists as more homogeneous than they really are in this regard (on this point, see the literature review in this report). As is highlighted in its introductory pages, we conducted a survey of our members in order to respond to a request by the Academy of Human and Social Sciences. In fact, it seemed important to us to support the Academy's efforts aimed at more precisely identifying the wishes of the disciplines it oversees in terms of evaluation procedures and criteria. The challenge is to make our voices heard within the scientific, public and political debate on this issue. Yet we have decided to open this discussion to our members rather than entrusting the mission of designing these criteria to a small group or team of experts, as other disciplines have done. Especially on an issue as sensitive as evaluation, we must assess the diversity of existing opinions before being able to define what the discipline « thinks ». As true sociologists whose profession entails conducting surveys, we proposed to the ASSH to implement one among our members and we are very thankful for the financial support it awarded us to this end. This survey has been conducted with great professionalism by a team based in Lucerne and led by Professor Rainer Diaz Bone, whom I also wish to thank for his involvement in this endeavour.

As far as the impact of this survey and the results presented in this report, I would first emphasize that we were not fundamentally surprised by the diversity of opinions expressed, whether about problems posed by evaluation itself, the merits and failings of various types of evaluation such as peer reviews or ranking, or about what should or can be evaluated. You will discover these results and see in what category of respondents you might find yourselves. However, linking this broad range of opinions to the various positions respondents occupy within the discipline turns out to be more complicated; this is part of the task the report attempts to take on, within the constraints of the means at its disposal. In particular, it shows that differences between age groups, as well as the divide between members who are researchers and others who primarily define themselves as teachers, are marked; they may be just as important as the type of research our members conduct and the theoretical paradigms within which they operate.

Moreover, there was no unanimity within the committee as to how the diversity of opinions should be interpreted: should it be seen as a sign of the « weakness of the discipline », made visible by its inability to agree upon and establish well defined criteria, or conversely should this broad range of opinions be emphasized and valued, and lead us to advocate for a plurality of criteria? On this point also, this report represents a contribution to a discussion that will have to be continued.

I will come to a close by mentioning some limitations that I view as inherent to the exercise we conducted: even though we have given it time and attention, the formulation of the questions we asked is of course dependent upon the context of the survey, as well as upon the initial request from the Academy. For instance, is it possible to deal simultaneously with the evaluation of teaching and that of research? Might it not lead to simplifications? Are members who did not answer the most opposed to evaluation, or on the contrary do they view the process as inevitable and do they think it will take place regardless of the opinion of members of associations such as the SSS? Finally, the results do give important indications, but they can-

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not yield specific information on the ways in which evaluation is actually carried out in the

field (e.g. in hiring committees or in the different types of journals in which one publishes);

this may prove quite different from criteria that have been set ideally, or in the abstract. Re-

sponses thus depend upon the goal of evaluative activities - individual or collective evalua-

tions (of a department, of an institute, etc...), evaluations aimed at reallocating resources or at

self- assessment and improvement, etc... On this point also, we let you discover what the

members of SSS think.

We hope you will enjoy reading this report, written in English - not in order to fulfil evalua-

tions criteria newly set for our discipline but rather to avoid delays and costs due to its transla-

tion – yet the two elements may actually go together! Once again, we wish to heartily thank

all members who agreed to participate and answer the survey's questions.

Muriel Surdez (President of SSA)

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2. Introduction

Politics and economy attach more and more importance to the ability of comparing and evaluating research and teaching in universities. Policy makers are interested in implementing systematic evaluation of scientific research in order to promote excellence in scientific world and to have a fair allocation of research funds. It has become essential for governments and institutions to achieve a simple and appropriate assessment tools to evaluate research and education that can help them to make decisions. However, the methods and criteria that are used for evaluation studies are often questionable among the academic community since it might be problematic to compare completely different research topics with standard criteria and indicators. This is also the case when quality of research and teaching in social sciences and humanities are to be evaluated. The fragmented and heterogeneous characteristics of the disciplines make it more complicated to agree on valid and reliable evaluation instruments. Different from the natural sciences, the idea of evaluation and quantification of the quality of research and teaching in social sciences and humanities revealed differences in opinions resulting from the heterogeneity in disciplines. The Swiss Academy of Humanities and Social Sciences (SAHS) published a bulletin in 2011, which addressed the measurement of quality and performance in humanities, where Van den Akker (2011) pointed to the specific characteristics of the humanities disciplines and the defense mechanism against the research assessment developed by the humanities scholars. As the notion of quality and goals of the single disciplines differ very much from each other, efforts have been undertaken recently to develop discipline-specific evaluation criteria.

As part of the effort, the former *Rectors' Conference of the Swiss Universities* (CRUS) launched the program "Mesurer les performances de la recherche en sciences humaines et sociales" in 2008, which is said to be the most important initiative at both national and international level to assess the research performance in the humanities and social sciences (SAHS)

2011). The idea comes from the need to develop measuring skills and comparing international performance of the university research (Werlen 2011) and the project aims to bring the evaluation instruments used in social sciences and humanities up for discussion. The program offers the possibility of developing discipline-specific procedures by working on the core questions of "what to evaluate?" and "how to evaluate?" (Zürcher 2015). On the basis of this initiative, SAHS asked the disciplines to work on the performance dimensions to be evaluated and appropriate performance criteria to be used for this purpose. One of the first studies, carried out in this respect, is "Measuring output and profiles of units in Swiss Communication Sciences", which aimed to reveal the diversity of research units based on their activity profiles measured by three dimensions; research training, education activities and scientific production, respectively (Lepori et al. 2011).

Evaluation of sociology is addressed in this report, which was also a part of the SAHS initiative. Referred as a quasi-science, quasi-humanities discipline by Zald (1991), sociology is one of the most dispersed and fragmented disciplines in terms of specifying the subject-matter, conducting and interpreting the research. Eberle (2016) defined sociology as a multi-paradigmatic discipline, which doesn't have a uniform set of methodological standards, which in his view a strength rather than a weakness, as it widens the theoretical and methodological understanding by inventing new empirical approaches. According to Jenkins (2010), human world is already a heterogeneous concept per se, and sociologists focus on understanding and analyzing this concept from different perspectives is sociology's greatest strength. On the one hand, there are sociologists who consider sociology as a humanistic discipline and focus on interpretation and in-depth description; on the other hand, others consider sociology as a natural science and base their understanding on quantitative methods and standards (ibid). In this regard, there is a big diversity in the opinions, not only how to conduct research, but also how to design sociology programs in universities. A new bulletin published by the Swiss Sociological Association (SSA) gave a broad coverage to methods training and formation in sociology

(SGS Bulletin 150). Maybe the most prominent characteristics of social scientists is to have a thorough knowledge of social processes, as well as expertise of sociological research methods. As the methodological competence is one of the most essential elements in sociology, training of both quantitative and qualitative methods is considered as a very important part of sociology programs, whose curricula are usually diverse at different universities in terms of both the content and the teaching hours (Diaz-Bone 2016; Jann/Laubscher 2016). Although the analyses on the methods training in sociology in Swiss universities showed that majority of the sociology programs in Switzerland offer a mix of both quantitative and qualitative training, their primary focus varies from university to university, in other words, some have stronger focus on quantitative side and some on qualitative (Jann/Laubscher 2016). All in all, their focus determines the priorities on research methods and how to transfer the expertise and experience to the students.

Since sociology hosts different sub-cultures in itself it is also hard to get a consensus on the evaluation of the discipline. Whether to assess the quality of the research and teaching and how to assess are the big questions among sociologists which are highly debated. On the basis of the initiative, SSA and SAHS initiated a survey to understand the attitudes of sociologists towards the evaluation of sociology in general, as well as towards the criteria and indicators recommended for evaluating sociological research and teaching. The survey was performed between 2nd of April and 15th of May 2015 by a group of sociologists located at the University of Lucerne¹. Data was collected from the members of the SSA whose contact information were acquired from SSA. The following section of the report will introduce the need for the evaluation of scientific disciplines and currently used methods. In the third section, methodology of the survey will be introduced, which will be then followed by the main findings from the survey.

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3. Evaluation of scientific disciplines

Evaluating research and teaching in scientific disciplines has emerged as a key issue in many countries, where there is great competition for limited academic resources and desire to allocate those limited resources to high-quality research and teaching (Wu 2015; KNAW 2011). The demands for greater accountability and internationalization led to the introduction of evaluation studies – not only at the level of individual researcher or project, but also at institutions and universities and national level (Martin/Geuna 2003). According to Moed (2007), "Governments need systematic evaluations for optimizing their research allocations, re-orienting their research support, rationalizing research organizations, restructuring research in particular fields or augmenting research quality and productivity". However, it is the question of how to assess scientific performance objectively in order to gain reliable and valid outputs about the quality which is supposed to serve to deliver transparent information (Hinz 2015). Thus, establishing an evaluation procedure with well-defined evaluation criteria is on the agenda of policy-makers in many countries for a long time.

Campbell (1999) defined the evaluation of university research as "interpreting or judging-that means measuring- the quality, efficiency, relevance, viability, and effectiveness of university research". The aim of those evaluation studies is to examine and promote quality of research practice as it is a pre-condition to extend the scientific knowledge (Martensson et al. 2016; Van Raan 1996). But, what constitutes high quality research? Quality is a fuzzy concept which is not pre-given and mostly depends on the indicators which are defined by politicians and statisticians. Different definitions of quality can be found in literature. According to Wu (2015) and Bridges (2009), the quality of a research can be evaluated by assessing its contributions to the scientific knowledge and people's understanding of the world, its accuracy, originality, rigor and usability. On the other hand, in their study Lepori et.al. (2011) regarded validity and reliability, feasibility of the methodology, transparency, fairness and independ-

ence as the main criteria when developing indicators for measuring output of research in communication sciences. Literature shows that criteria used to evaluate the quality of a research vary not only among different countries, but also among different institutions and scientific disciplines.

Currently Used Methods

Peer-review methodology, where research products are evaluated by a group of selected experts within a period of time, is considered as the core of evaluation procedures and is used extensively in many countries (Abramo/D'Angelo 2011). Being recognized by the peers is said to be an indicator of how successful the researcher is (Hinz 2015). Peer review not only determines which research results are published in journals, but also one of the contemporary application of the method is for the selection of fellowship and grant applications (Bornmann 2011). Although the method is broadly accepted for assessing the quality and is advantageous from various aspects, it faces criticism from some scholars as it purely based on human cognitive judgment (Wu 2015). A number of critical remarks regarding the subjectivity, reliability and fairness of peer-review method are found in the literature. Overall, peer review methodology is a qualitative approach and used more frequently in social sciences and humanities than natural and life sciences where quantitative tools are originated.

On the other hand, the need for quantification led to an increasing range of tools, so-called *bibliometrics*. Van Raan (1998) described the peer review as the methodology on the qualitative side of the evaluation, whereas bibliometric indicators represent the quantitative side. It has been argued that quantitative information has become a more dominant and trustable way of measuring, coordinating and evaluating (Diaz-Bone/Didier eds. 2016). Espeland and Stevens (2008) also pointed to the importance of quantitative measures in order to simplify, classify, compare, and evaluate the information, which allows to expand the comprehensibility and comparability of the social phenomena. Porter (1995) argued, "quantification is the technology of communication and of distance", emphasizing the importance of quantification in

terms of increasing trust and making the information spanning in space more easily. Especially after the year 2000, new statistical tools, such as productivity indicators and benchmarking tools, have been emerged and started to use widely all around the world (Didier 2016). Governments and administrations are keen to use indicators to measure social phenomena in order to produce objective data and to make it comparable. It is usually the political authorities who decide on the choice of indicators and define them briefly which are then sent to statisticians to work out the details and make them quantifiable (Desrosières 2009, 2011, 2015). Alain Desrosières who was involved in the French movment of the so-called "économie des conventions" (EC), pointed to the essential role of conventions in quantification and classification. He emphasized that quantification of information is only possible after developing and inventing relevant conventions to measure. Conventions are the essential foundations of quantification. To quantify is to implement a convention and then to measure (Desrosières 2008). The aim of EC was to throw a light into the significance of conventions and the way there were deliberated and related to a common good (Diaz-Bone 2016). The conventions, which are intended to make the quality quantifiable, are called quality conventions in the framework of EC (Diaz-Bone 2015). According to the conventionalist approach, there is not a single and standard way of measuring, but there are several possible ways. It depends on the definitions of concepts to be measured, such as quality indicators (Desrosières 2009). These considerations become even more important when defining the indicators to measure scientific research and teaching programs as the results affects directly the decision making and distribution of resources (Lepori et al. 2011). The importance of quantification is self-evident in today's world, however, one must avoid "comparing apples and pears".

In line with this *quantification* movement, many universities implemented quantitative assessment tools, using bibliometric indicators (Ochsner et al. 2015). Based on application of statistical and mathematical methods, bibliometric indicators were originally developed in order to trace information faster with the increasing volume of publications and literature,

however, in the course of the time they have been started to use to indicate the quality and quantity of research (KNAW 2011). The two assumptions laying behind bibliometrics are that the aim of the researchers is to advance knowledge and that the scholars have to publish constantly in order to attract attention and attain prestige (Archambaut/Gagné 2004). Some examples of bibliometric indicators include journal impact factors, citation statistics and hindex. Obviously, higher citation scores help the researcher to gain broader visibility and a better scientific recognition, however, for a long time there have been concerns about citations whether they are biased or not (Aksnes/Taxt 2004). Some argue that not all the citations are directly related to the scientific quality of the research, but they are also related to accessibility of the articles. Therefore, use of citation analyses as quantitative measurements is still an ongoing debate amongst scholars, especially amongst the advocates of qualitative peer-review methodologies (Tijssen et al. 2002).

As recommended in KNAW Report (2011), bibliometric indicators are better to be used in combination with other indicators within the qualitative context of peer review. Thus, peer-review methodology is still the principal method in assessments of scientific research outputs. Supported by bibliometric indicators, this methodology is called the "informed peer review", which allows the reviewer to make an evaluation by comparing the subjective judgement and quantitative indicators (Geuna/Martin 2003; Abramo/D'Angelo 2011). Application of this methodology is not only considered for evaluation of academic research, but also for evaluation of teaching since the performance of academic institutions, thus decision makings on resource allocation is based on a comprehensive and complete assessment of both research and teaching (Campbell 2005). Examples of application of informed peer-review can be found in different countries. UK has one of the most advanced evaluation systems in Europe with its Research Excellence Framework (REF), which is launched in 2014. In the scope of this framework, the evaluations are mainly based on quantitative measures, particularly in science based disciplines, whereas for social sciences and humanities, outcomes emerge from

expert review and quantitative indicators including citation information. From this perspective, evaluation of social research in UK is a typical example of informed peer review methodology (Campbell 2005). On the other hand – in Netherlands – quality, relevance, productivity and viability are taken into account in evaluation of research and teaching studies which consist of peer-reviews, site visits, interviews and use of bibliometric indicators where possible (Geuna/Martin 2003). Yet another example of informed peer review methodology is the Quinquennial Research Evaluation (VQR) in Italy, which is a substitute of previous pure peer-review method. It is a hybrid model, where a panel of experts are free to choose, either citation indicators or peer-review or both methods (Abramo/D'Angelo 2011).

Another evaluation methodology, which draw reaction, is the "rankings" method which is used to rank universities based on a common set of indicators. Although university rankings have been used for a long time, the modern form of rankings is relatively young which was first born in 2003 with Shanghai league table format (Lessenich 2015). Since there is not a universal consensus about the notion of quality in scientific research and teaching, each ranking system have different definitions of quality (Usher/Savino 2007). One can again mention the importance of conventions at that point, since different quality conventions are defined which leads to questionable comparison. This method came in for criticism from academicians as conducted either on national or international scale, selection of indicators and weights applied to each indicator makes a substantial difference in the evaluation outcomes (Lessenich 2012, 2015). On the other hand, journal rankings are mainly obtained by either citation-based studies or perception-based studies (Lillkåll 2009). The type, age, publisher of the journal and whether it is peer reviewed affect the reputation of the journal. Furthermore, Journal Citation Reports (JCR) and Journal Impact Factors (JIF) are mainly used for rankings, which are well known in the scientific world and considered as an objective measure. Nevertheless, their objectivity and appropriateness for social sciences is also controversial.

Evaluation of Social Sciences and Humanities

Different characteristics of disciplines lead to different perception of excellence in scientific works. Not only natural sciences and social sciences and humanities have different cultures, but there is also lack of consensus among the sub-disciplines in terms of approaches and methodologies which results in a need for developing discipline-specific evaluation criteria. The criticism and resistance from humanities scholars against current assessments led Hug et al. (2012) to conduct a study in order to develop quality criteria in the humanities. Using a mixed-mode approach, first they conducted Repertory Grid interviews to understand scholars' notions of quality, which they then supplemented with a three-round Delphi survey. As a result of the study, scholarly exchange, innovation/ originality, rigor, impact on research community and connection to other research were found to be the most prominent criteria for humanities which are also applicable for sociology discipline. Another important result of the study is that purely quantitative indicator based evaluations were rejected by humanities scholars and most indicators were approved for use in peer-review assessments. It is argued that use of bibliometric indicators is originated from natural and life sciences, thus do not fit well to social sciences and humanities as they have concerns about quantification and whether social science research can meet the quality criteria of natural and life sciences (Ochsner et al. 2015; Martensson et al. 2016). First of all, the coverage of the databases used for most bibliometric analysis, such as Thomson Reuter's Web of Science, Elsevier's Scopus database and Google Scholar, are considered to be insufficient in humanities. Bibliometric experts have found out that more communication channels are used for publications in social sciences (Hicks 1999). Moreover, the pilot study in Germany showed that the publication culture is very heterogeneous in sociology (Hinz 2015). For instance, it was found that young and international-oriented sociologists try to publish more in peer-reviewed journals in order to increase their recognition. On the other hand, books and monographs still play and important role in social sciences, which are usually not covered in databases (KWAN 2011; Lillkåll

2009). Secondly, scholars in SSH are more likely to publish articles in their mother-tongue, which is also a restriction to be involved in databases as they usually do not include non-English journals (Archambaut/Gagné 2004). Rössel and Pap (2015) argued that books and anthologies as well as non-English publications are underrepresented in ISI Web of Knowledge, whereas they are included in Google Scholars to a certain extent. These patterns are even more complex Switzerland because of the multi-cultural and multi-lingual nature of the country.

Since all those evaluation studies play a key role in recognition of scholars, university departments and universities as a whole, it is crucial to apply fair, valid, reliable, transparent and consistent assessment methods (Bridges 2009). Therefore, evaluation should meet highest standards in order to result in objective and reliable outputs. It should be also borne in mind that the aim of evaluating the quality of scientific research is not only important for fund allocation purposes, but also it encourages better research performance and contribution to the scientific knowledge (Wu 2015; Abramo/D'Angelo 2011). Therefore, employment of appropriate methodology and using relevant indicators for each single discipline to be evaluated are the cornerstones of a successful evaluation study (ESF 2012).

All in all – as EC has argued – such evaluation processes should be embedded in and its measurements should be based on deliberative process of the involved actors (stakeholders).

4. Surveying the opinion on ways of evaluation of Swiss sociology

The board of the SSA and the SAHS therefore initiated a survey, which should reveal the opinion of the members of the SSA about the evaluation of sociology as a discipline, about criteria of evaluation of research and teaching and about ways how to proceed the evaluation.

For sociologists it is evident that there is no other discipline, which is offering better knowledge on evaluation as sociology itself (Lessenich 2012). If evaluations of the discipline should be regarded as a useful instrument for scientific self-reflection and self-governance, then the criteria and the way the evaluation is proceeded; both need to be regarded as suiting and serving this goal. The public opinion of the collective of SSA-members on these mentioned issues is a key element of any attempt to start a deliberation in this scientific community.

The results of the survey will therefore be an important basic information. Also, the results need to be recognized as a representation of this public opinion which will generate its own effects.

5. Methodology

The survey was realized by a small team at the University of Lucerne.² As it is already mentioned that there are diverging opinions on how to measure research outputs and teaching programs in social sciences and humanities, it makes it hard to decide on a common definition of quality and the standardized indicators. Therefore, the criteria used in the survey to assess the quality of scientific output were worked on thoroughly. The questionnaire was developed after an extensive and detailed literature search and long discussions among sociologists involved in the project.

The sampling frame was provided by SSA which included the names, email addresses (when available) and post addresses of all its members. In total 492 members were invited to participate to the survey, out of which 15% did not have a registered e-mail address. Therefore, a mixed mode approach was used for contacting the members in order to increase the response rate and data quality. An announcement mail with a broad explanation of the survey was sent one month before the survey was carried out in order to briefly inform the members about the survey and its implications. By sending the announcement mail, it was aimed to increase the response rate as well as to emphasize legitimacy and improve trust in the scope of social exchange theory which is directly related to the motivation of people for responding of the surveys (Dillman 2014). Additionally, survey was announced on the homepage and in the newsletter of SSA.

After the development of the first draft of the questionnaire, pretests were executed in order to get feedback from experts on the content, the language, concepts to be measured, as well as the length of the survey. Testing the questions with some respondents from target group help reveal the problems occurred in each step of cognitive process of the respondent. It is also crucial to improve the validity of the questions, which is directly related to the measurement. Think aloud cognitive interviews were conducted at the University of Lucerne

² Including Itir Bozkurt Umur, Rainer Diaz-Bone, and Luzia Schneider.

which encourage respondents to say out loud of all thoughts that go through their mind in answering a question (Campanelli 2008). The wordings and the ordering of the questionnaires were revised accordingly after the interviews. Consequently, a web survey was prepared at the University of Lucerne. The visual design of the online questionnaire, as well as the wording and spelling were checked exhaustively before the fieldwork. Moreover, the visual appearance was checked in multiple devices in order to ensure that questions display similarly across different devices, so that respondent can use either the computer or any other device in order to complete the questionnaire without facing difficulties, such as screen size impact.

The link was sent in two ways to the members; via email to the ones who have registered email addresses and by post to the ones who have only mail addresses³. In order to increase the awareness and the response rate, two reminders were sent during the fieldwork. In total 152 members completed the whole survey (71% in German, 29% in French) with an overall response rate of 31%. 81 members completed the survey partially, whose answers were also recorded and taken into account in the analysis. Sampling error was eliminated since the whole population was included in the survey. In terms of validity, efforts were taken to reduce the measurement error by utilizing pretests and feedback from experts before the fieldwork. Although mixed modes were used in order to contact the members, a single mode was used for participating the survey, which made the respondents to experience the survey in the same way.

³ 85% of the members received the link by email and 15% by post.

6. Main findings

How problematic is Evaluation of Sociology?

Plurality of paradigms and scientific cultures in sociology makes it harder to position the discipline between science and humanities, causing distinctive views to arise about the notion of excellence and how to evaluate the performance. Participants were asked to express their opinions about whether or not they consider evaluation of research and teaching in sociology as a problematic subject-matter. The responses point out a dispersion among the opinions of sociologists as it can be seen in Figure 1. Respondents seem to regard value "5" as the middle value (which is not the case, because the mid-point would be located between "5" and "6") and almost half of the respondents are indecisive in evaluating the current situation. 28% (sum of the 3 highest categories) of the respondents mentioned that evaluation of sociology is a very problematic subject, whereas 23% (sum of the 3 lowest categories) finds it not very problematic.

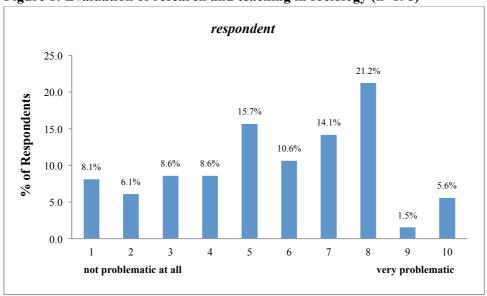


Figure 1: Evaluation of research and teaching in sociology (n=198)

What are the appropriate criteria for evaluation of research in sociology?

Although proportion of journal publications among all publication types is smaller in social sciences compared to natural sciences (Hicks 1999), publishing in sociological journals was found to be one of the most important evaluation criteria in sociological research. The results show the importance given to the scientific journal publications in terms of evaluating quality of a research and shows the strength of journals once again as a publication channel. Using empirical social research methods is another criterion, which gained high acceptance by sociologists in order to evaluate research. Societal relevance (social usability of findings), which has been recently discussed among scholars as an indicator for research evaluation, was ranked on sixth position among the sociologists. Moreover, in line with the criticism about bibliometric indicators and particularly citation databases, "number of entries in citation databases" was found to be the least appropriate evaluation criterion for research in sociology.

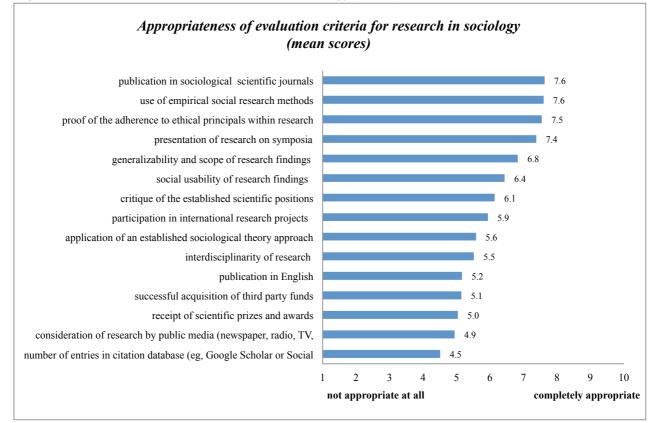


Figure 2: Evaluation criteria for research in sociology (n=173)

What are the appropriate criteria for evaluation of teaching in sociology?

The evaluation of scientific disciplines should be reflected in combination of their research and teaching performance (Campbell 2005). Because of the differences and complexity in the processes, both the criteria and indicators used to evaluate research and teaching are separate and distinct. "Transfer of different approaches of sociological theory" and "Research seminars or research projects for students" were found to be the most appropriate criteria for evaluating teaching in sociology according to the respondents, followed by "training of quantitative and qualitative methods", respectively. "Predetermined course structure" was found to be the least appropriate criterion among all criteria.

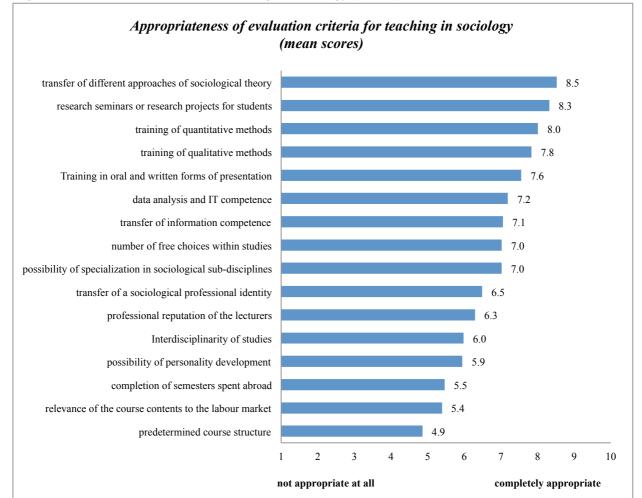


Figure 3: Evaluation criteria for teaching in sociology (n=169)

Importance of the publication channels

It is essential for scholars to publish papers and/or researches in reputable forms and through scientifically accepted channels in social sciences to gain attraction and broaden their visibility. Hicks (1999) pointed to the fragmented structure of the social science literature, namely, more publication forms are used in social sciences compared to natural sciences of which the majority of publications are found in journals. Participants were asked to evaluate different publication forms in terms of academic reputation in sociology discipline. "Article in a scientific journal" was mentioned to be the most important publication for the academic reputation of the author, followed by "publication of a scientific research monography". In social sciences, fair consideration should be given to monographs and books as they are important chan-

nels of communication. On the other hand, "working papers" and "contribution in public media" were evaluated as the least important publication forms.

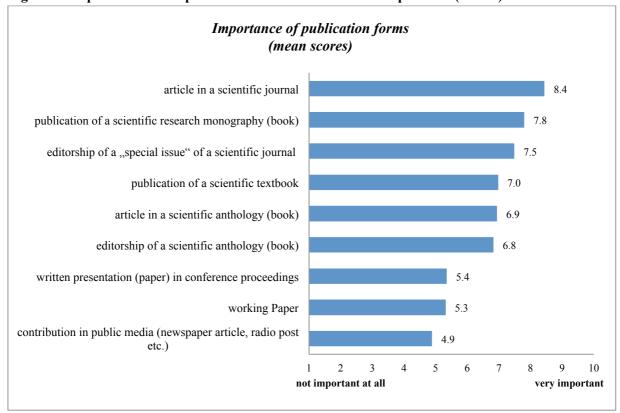


Figure 4: Importance of the publication forms for academic reputation (n=168)

Peer review and ranking as evaluation methods

The appropriateness of using the broadly accepted peer review and ranking methods was questioned in the survey in terms of evaluating different publication and programs. All in all, peer review method was found to be more acceptable among sociologists than ranking method as respondents judged peer review method highly appropriate for assessment of publications, quality of the media and submitted research projects despite the aforementioned criticism regarding the possible biases of the methodology. On the other hand, the survey revealed that ranking does not gain much acceptance from the sociologists, particularly for the evaluation of universities and institutions. As mentioned already, each ranking system might have

different definitions of quality, thus different indicators and weight might be used which makes it hard to compare the institutions in terms of *quality*.

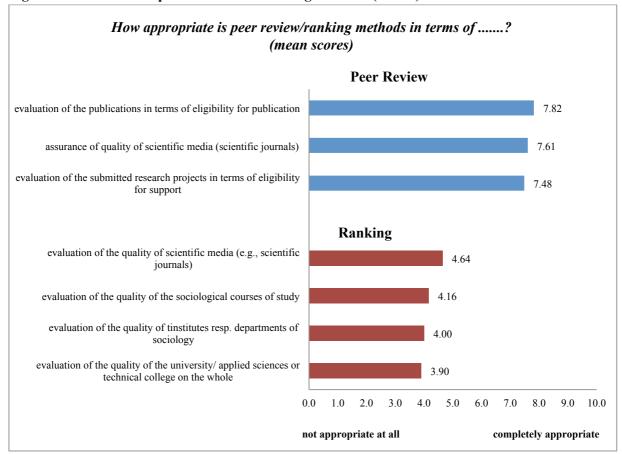


Figure 5: Evaluation of peer review and ranking methods (n=166)

Open access publications to expand the knowledge

Although open access publication is not a new concept and has been around for several years, the efficiency and importance of those publications are still an ongoing debate. Open access journals are obviously easier and faster to reach for the researchers as they are free of charge, which probably has an impact on citation patterns. On the one hand, the necessity of open access publications in order to expand knowledge is self-evident; on the other hand, the quality of those publications is still an issue. Survey showed that sociologists have an overall positive perception about those publications. "Simplifying the reception and critique of the sociological research" was mentioned to be the most applicable characteristic of open access publi-

cations. "Enlarging the number of recipients and helps to attract more attention" was ranked secondly.

"Open access publications (mean scores) ... simplifies the reception and critique of the sociological 7.6 research." ... enlarges the number of recipients and helps to attract 6.9 more attention." ... increases the legitimacy of research funding through public money." ... has a detrimental effect on the sociological 5.6 professional publishing houses and journals." ... restrains the quality of sociological research." 3.6 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 10 does not apply at all completely apply

Figure 6: Assessment of open access publications in sociological research (n=166)

Using indicators as evaluation tools

As already mentioned, there is a lack of consensus about which indicators and methodologies should be used to evaluate scientific disciplines, particularly among social science scholars where there is still controversy regarding the use of quantitative indicators. Participants were asked to state their opinions about the most appropriate form for evaluating research and teaching in sociology. 68% of the respondents mentioned that evaluation should be done on the basis of quantitative indicators in combination with qualitative assessment, which is the aforementioned *informed peer-review methodology*. 12% found qualitative assessment most appropriate, whereas only 1% supported using purely quantitative indicators. This result confirms disapproval of using merely bibliometric indicators in research assessments in social sciences, differently from natural sciences.

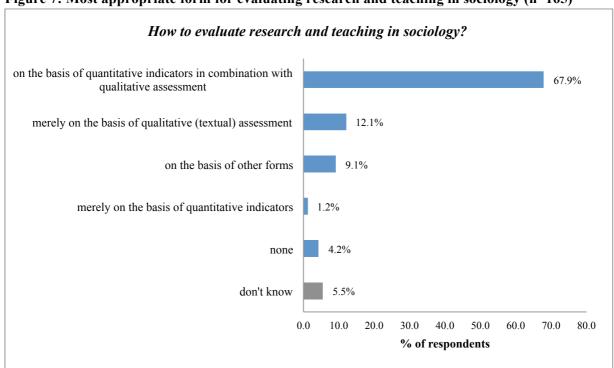
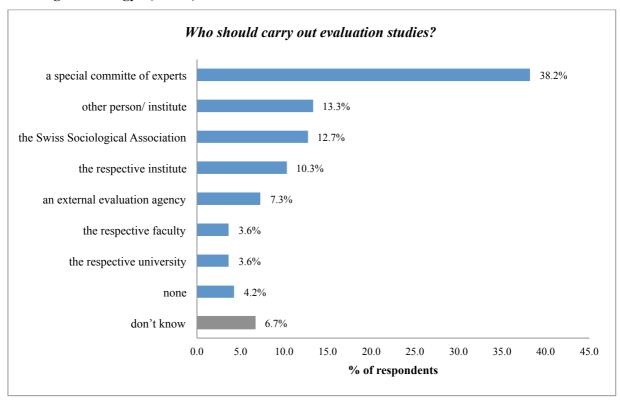


Figure 7: Most appropriate form for evaluating research and teaching in sociology (n=165)

Who should carry out the evaluation studies?

Should evaluation studies be carried on by respective institutions or by independent researchers? Literature shows most quality evaluations are carried out within universities, however, external research-oriented companies and other scientific institutions also perform evaluation studies. For 38% of the respondents, evaluation studies for research and teaching in sociology should be carried out by a special committee of experts. Around 13% selected the SSA as the organization which should carry out those studies. Although 10% selected respective institution which should be responsible for evaluation, respective faculties or universities are not found to be the relevant for carrying out evaluation studies.

Figure 8: Which person or organization should carry out evaluation studies for research and teaching in sociology? (n=165)



How to use the results from evaluation studies?

The most common contribution of evaluation studies lies in the improvement of the programs. When an evaluation study for sociology discipline is carried out, the outcome should provide useful feedbacks and should be used for various purposes by stakeholders, such as policymakers, governments, funding agencies and universities. According to the members of SSA who participated in the survey, the most relevant way of using the results of an evaluation study of sociology is "the discussion and reflection through the members in SSA". Using the results for "better assessibility of sociology through public, politics and economy" and "comparison of different institutions" were also found to be important purposes that the outcomes of the survey should serve for. Sociologists were not very likely to support using the evaluation outcomes "for the decision about allocation of research grants".

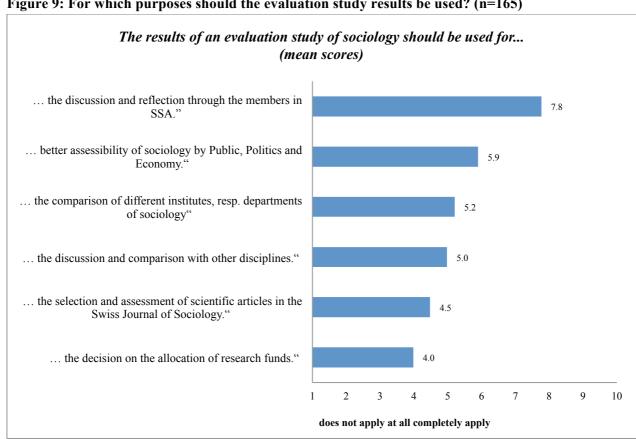


Figure 9: For which purposes should the evaluation study results be used? (n=165)

Demographics

Figure 10: Respondent's profile (n=162)

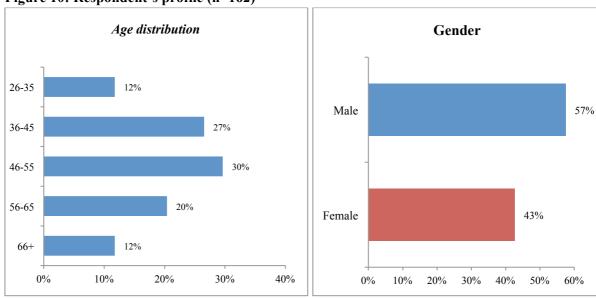
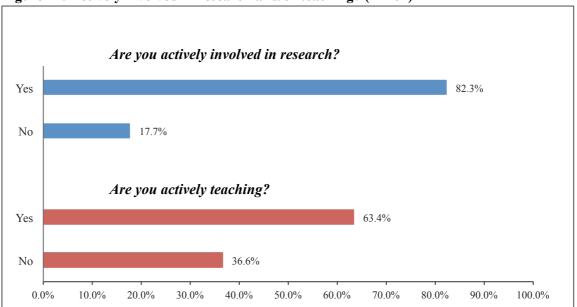


Figure 11: Actively involved in research and/or teaching? (n=164)



60% of the respondents are actively involved both in research and in teaching at the same time.

Figure 12: Highest academic achievement of the respondents (n=162)

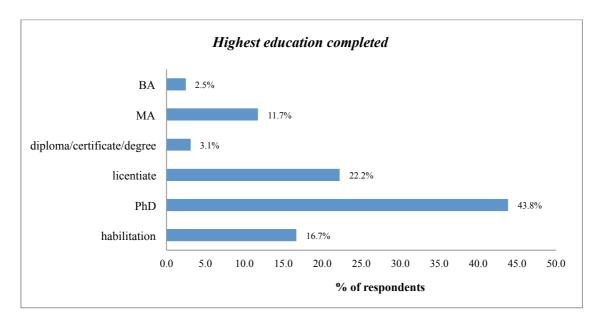
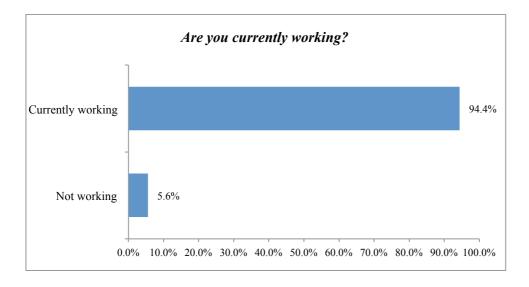


Figure 13: Working status



Institutional affiliation university 46.1% university of applied sciences (FH) 16.4% public administration 7.2% teacher trainining college 6.6% more than one institution 5.3% other private-sector company 3.9% non-university institution of research 3.9% 3.9% independent research/ Freelance association, non-governmental organization (NGO) 2.0% market and opinion research company 1.3% other 3.3% 5.0 10.0 15.0 20.0 25.0 30.0 35.0 40.0 45.0 50.0 % of the respondents

Figure 13: Institutional affiliation of the respondents (n=152)

7. Conclusion

The survey data revealed a considerably dispersed structure in the discipline of sociology, which pointed out a lack of consensus among sociologists on the evaluation of the discipline or – positively formulated the coexistence of different scientific cultures (Snow 1959). Opinions of the sociologists (SSA members) seem to be influenced by the way they approach and deal with the subject-matter of sociology. There is a certain amount of heterogeneity of opinions on how sociology should be evaluated, stemming from the aforementioned plurality of paradigms, which is said to be the richness of the discipline. Differences in opinion can be seen through almost all the questions, starting from how problematic the evaluation of sociology itself is. In general, the results show a large amount of dispersion in the opinions, so it can be considered that sociologists are split into different clusters. On the other hand, results revealed a general tendency towards searching for a middle value in the response options although there is no middle value in the 1-10 scale used in the questionnaire. Participants seem to regard value 5 as the middle value as the indecisive responses were gathered around value 5 although it stands on the negative side of the scale (see Appendix).

28% of the respondents consider evaluation of the sociology discipline as a highly problematic subject-matter and this rate seems to be higher among the oldest group (see Appendix). In terms of evaluation criteria in research, *publication in sociological scientific journals, using empirical social research methods*, as well as *proof of the adherence to ethical principles within research* are approved mostly by the participants, whereas the answers of the respondents are rather spread out for the other criteria. Results also showed that *use of empirical research methods and successful acquisition of third party funds* are found to be more important for respondents who are currently involved in research than the ones who are not. On the other hand, researchers and the respondents who are current-

ly teaching seem to be more hesitant to use *number of entries in citation databases*, *participation in international projects*, *social usability of the research findings* and *interdisciplinarity of the research* as evaluation criteria for sociological research. In terms of evaluating teaching in sociology, *transfer of different approaches of sociological theory*, *research seminars or projects for students* and *training of quantitative and qualitative methods* are found to be most appropriate criteria, especially by the respondents who are currently involved in research.

As a core evaluation method in most scientific disciplines, peer review is found to be applicable also in sociology in terms of evaluating research projects, publications and quality of publication channels. On the other hand, using ranking as an evaluation method in sociology is disapproved. As mentioned in the second part of the report, using ranking systems is still debated, particularly in social sciences and humanities where using quantitative indicators is said to be insufficient and inappropriate. The findings of the survey are in line with this criticism as only 1% of the participants chose to use solely quantitative indicators as evaluation form. There is on the other hand, a wide acceptance of the support of the combined quantitative and qualitative criteria. Majority seems to support using qualitative assessment (so-called "peer review") in combination with quantitative indicators. So it seems that sociologists still consider peer-review as an essential evaluation tool and they still believe the importance of the qualitative assessment. Especially among the researchers and lecturers, using merely qualitative assessment gains more acceptance (see Appendix). However, living in a world of numbers where quantitative indicators are likely to gain wider acceptance in the near future, sociology also has to take the stand and be involved in the game. Now the question is which quantitative indicators fit the evaluation of the discipline?

Another important result of the survey is the higher acceptance of *special committee of experts* as the most favorable group to carry out the evaluation studies. A special commit-

tee consisting of experts in evaluation studies might be considered to be more objective as it is still controversial whether the judgements are based solely on scientific merit and are not influenced by personal attributes, relations and so on. It is also seen that the older the respondents, the more they are in favor of using a special committee of experts for evaluation studies. Swiss Sociological Association is ranked secondly, followed by the respective institution and an external evaluation agency, respectively.

Last but not the least, it is critical to decide on how to use the results of evaluation studies in an appropriate way, since the main purpose of the project "Mesurer les performances de la Recherche en sciences humaines et sociales" is to develop an applicable and fair methodology in order to evaluate research in scientific disciplines. Survey findings again revealed a lack of shared opinions on the usage of research findings. Respondents seem to agree on using the evaluation results for *the discussion and reflection through the members in SSA* and to reject for *the decisions about the allocation of research grants*. Besides, it has shown that the oldest group is more open to use the results of the evaluation studies than the younger groups and respondents who are currently involved in research or currently teaching are more hesitant.

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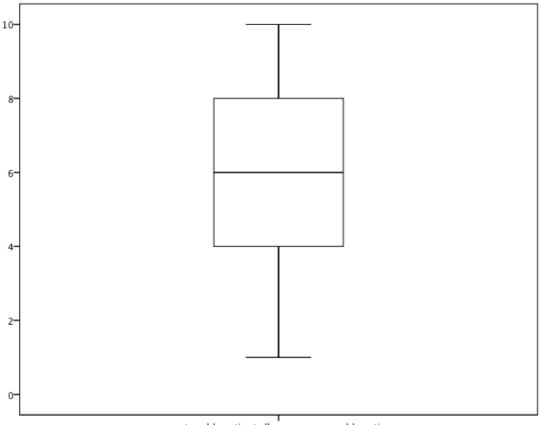
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9. Appendix

Charts and tables

How problematic is the evaluation of sociology?

Figure 14: Boxplot of the opinions on evaluation of sociology as a problematic subject-matter



not problematic at all ----> very problematic

*Mean: 5.60. Std.dev:2.48

Evaluation criteria for research in sociology

Figure 15: Boxplot of evaluation criteria for research in sociology

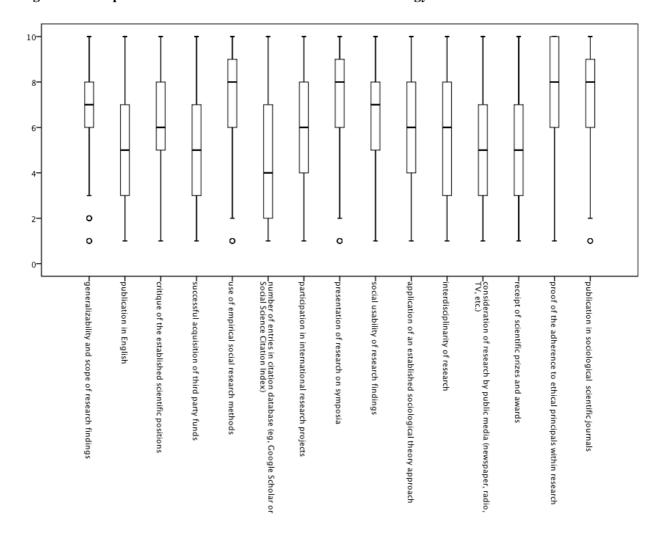
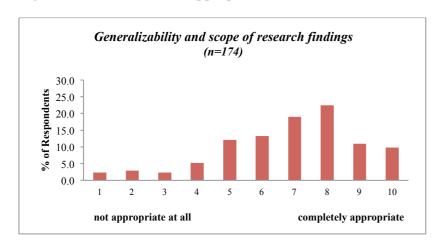
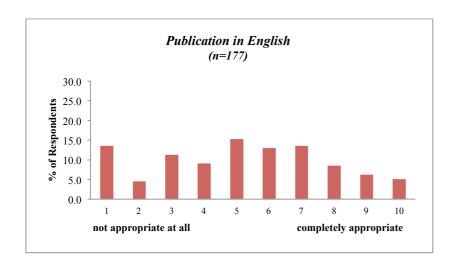


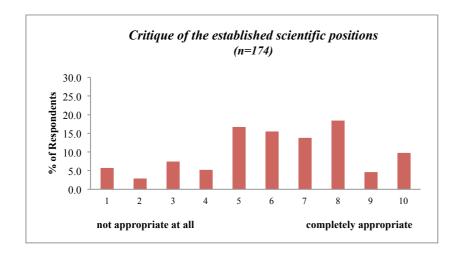
Figure 16: Descriptive statistics of evaluation criteria for research in sociology

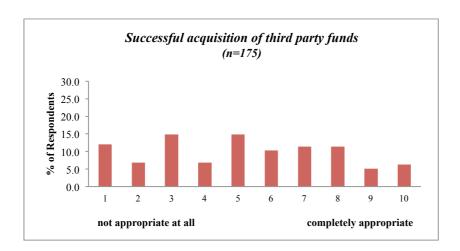
	Mean	Sd.	Range
Generalizability and scope of research findings	6.83	2.13	1-10
Publication in English	5.16	2.61	1-10
Critique of the established scientific positions	6.14	2.41	1-10
Successful acquisition of third party funds	5.14	2.68	1-10
Use of empirical social research methods	7.60	2.23	1-10
Number of entries in citation databases	4.51	2.66	1-10
Participation in international research projects	5.94	2.55	1-10
Presentation of research on symposia	7.38	2.16	1-10
Social usability of research findings	6.44	2.56	1-10
Application of an established sociological theory approach	5.58	2.52	1-10
Interdisciplinarity of the research	5.52	2.74	1-10
Consideration of the research by public media	4.94	2.33	1-10
Receipt of scientific prizes and awards	5.04	2.68	1-10
Proof of the adherence to ethical principles within research	7.55	2.57	1-10
Publication in sociological scientific journals	7.63	2.16	1-10

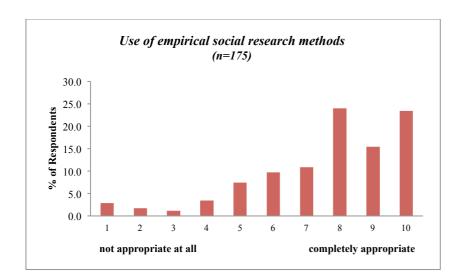
Figure 17: Distributions of appropriateness of evaluation criteria for research in sociology

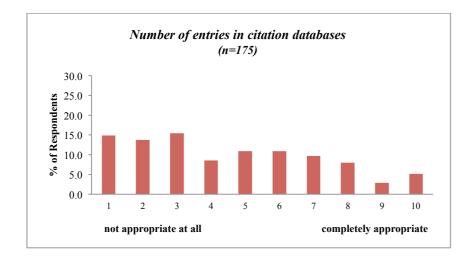


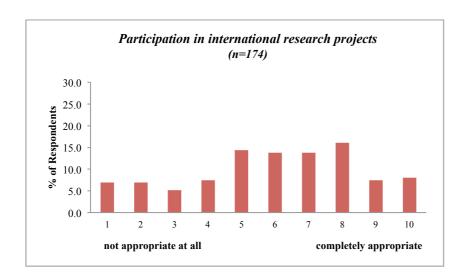


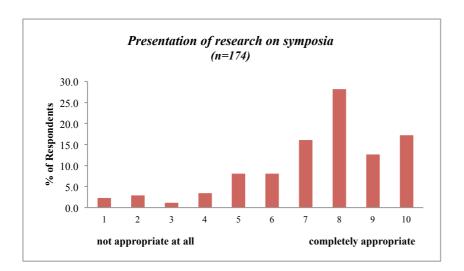


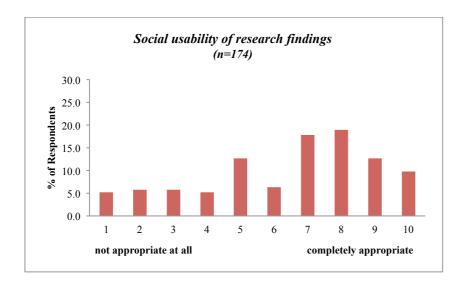


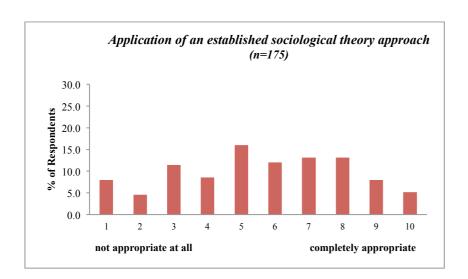


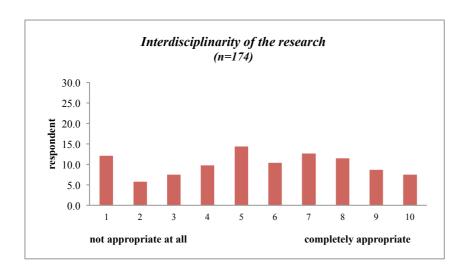


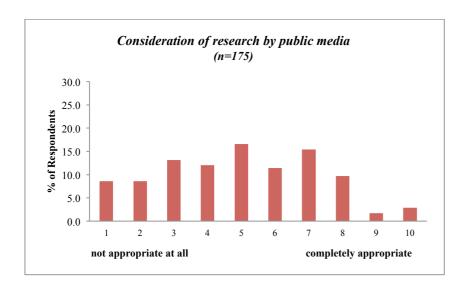


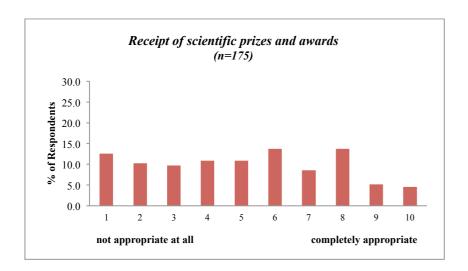


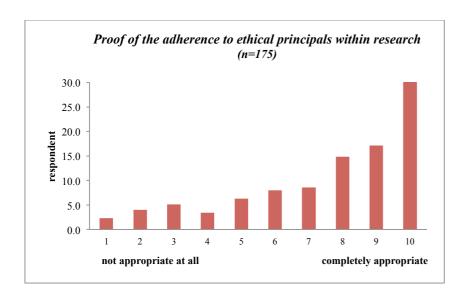


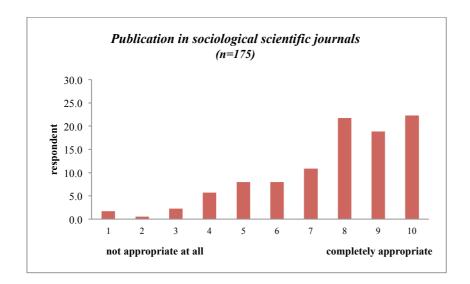












Evaluation criteria for teaching in sociology

Figure 18: Boxplot of evaluation criteria for teaching in sociology

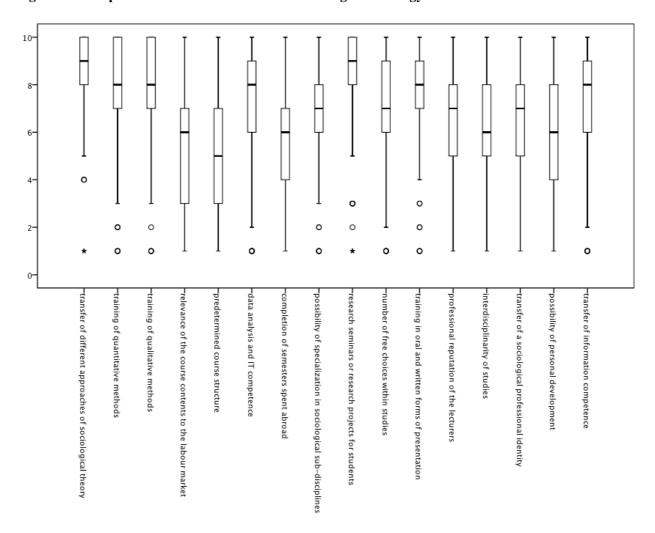
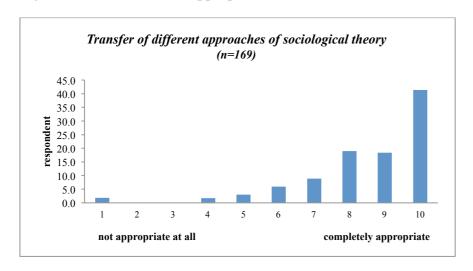
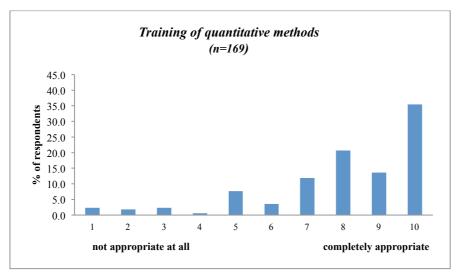


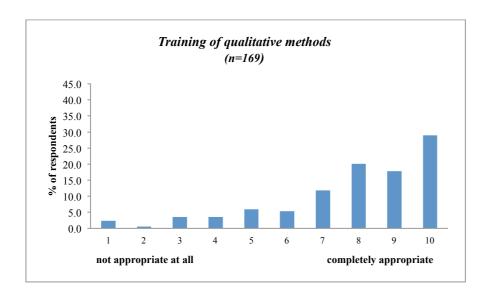
Figure 19: Descriptive statistics of evaluation criteria for teaching in sociology

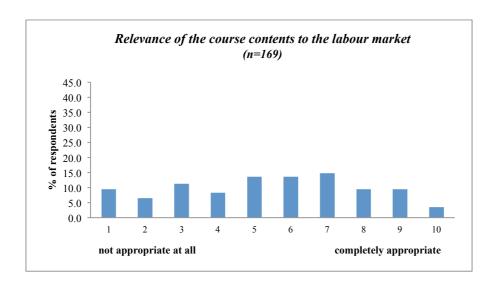
	Mean	Sd.	Range
Transfer of different approaches of sociological theory	8.52	1.83	1-10
Training of quantitative methods	8.01	2.41	1-10
Training of qualitative methods	7.83	2.24	1-10
Relevance of the course contents to the labor market	5.39	2.55	1-10
Predetermined course structure	4.86	2.28	1-10
Data analysis and IT competence	7.19	2.38	1-10
Completion of semesters spent abroad	5.46	2.48	1-10
Possibility of specialization in sociological sub-disciplines	7.02	2.12	1-10
Research seminars or research projects for students	8.32	1.91	1-10
Number of free choices within studies	7.02	2.21	1-10
Training in oral and written forms of presentation	7.56	2.06	1-10
Professional reputation of the lecturers	6.29	2.53	1-10
Interdisciplinarity of the study	5.98	2.42	1-10
Transfer of a sociological professional identity	6.49	2.56	1-10
Possibility of personality development	5.95	2.62	1-10
Transfer of information competence	7.05	2.22	1-10

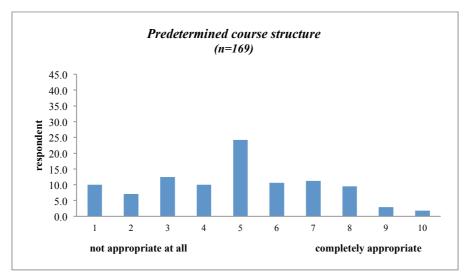
Figure 20: Distributions of appropriateness of evaluation criteria for teaching in sociology

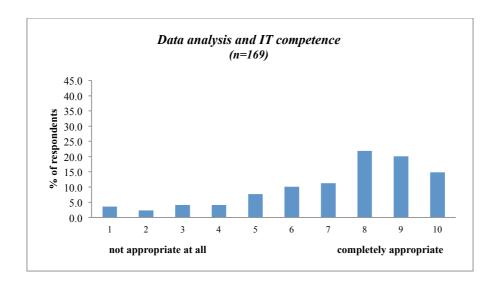


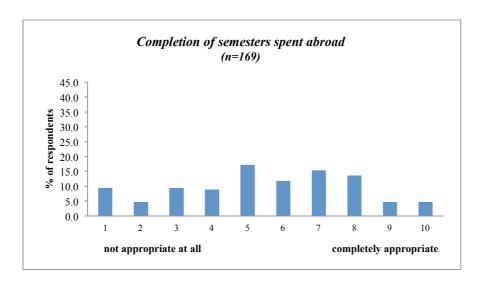


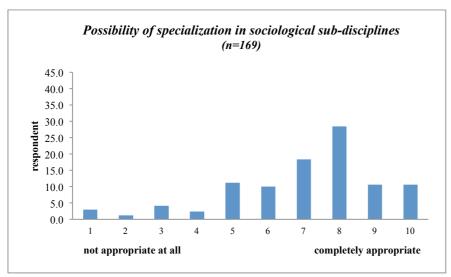


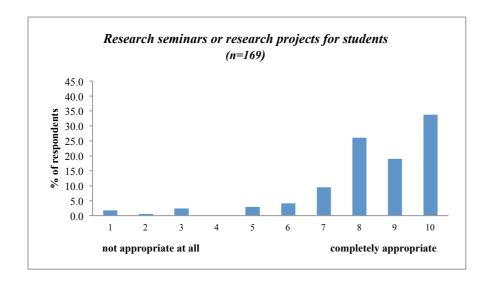


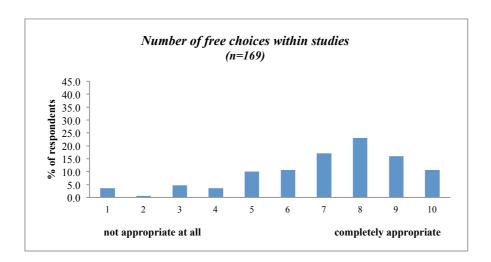


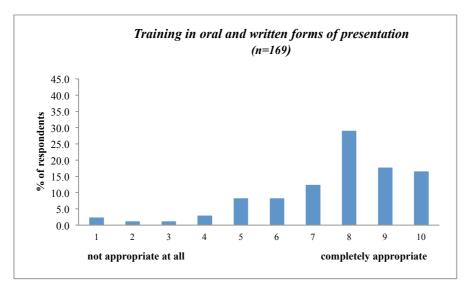


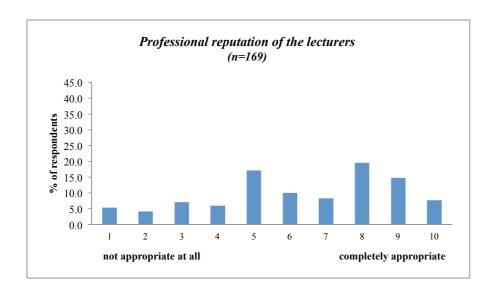


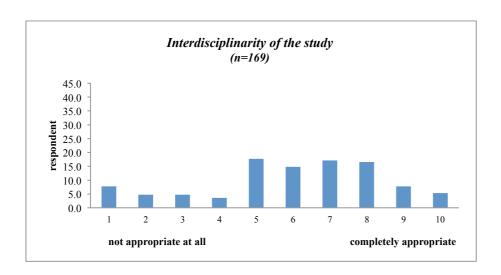


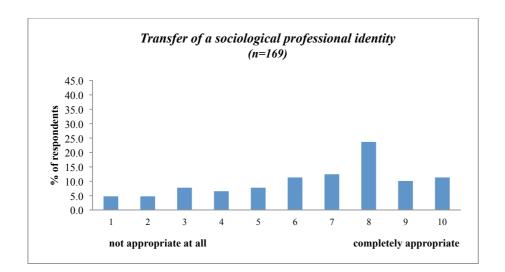


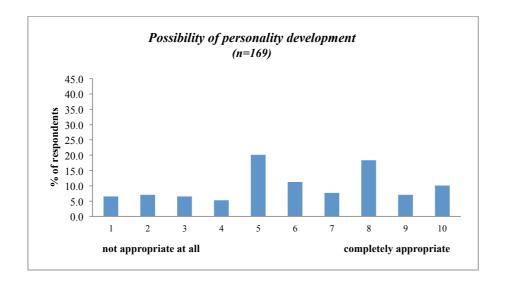


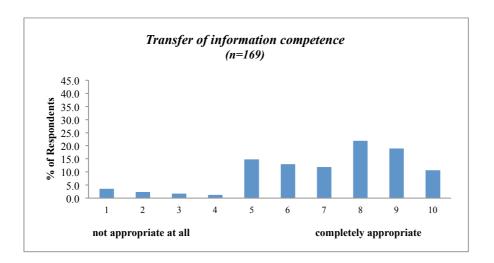












Importance of publication forms in sociology in terms of academic reputation

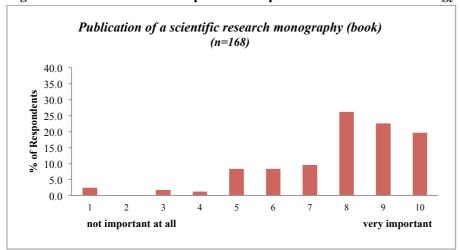
10 8. 6. 0 4 0 0 0 0 0 2 0 0 0 0 publication of a scientific textbook —article in a scientific journal —article in a scientific anthology (book) -working paper editorship of a scientific anthology (book) _editorship of a "special issue" of a scientific journal _publication of a scientific research monography (book) Contribution in public media (newspaper article, radio report, etc.) _written presentation (paper) in conference proceedings

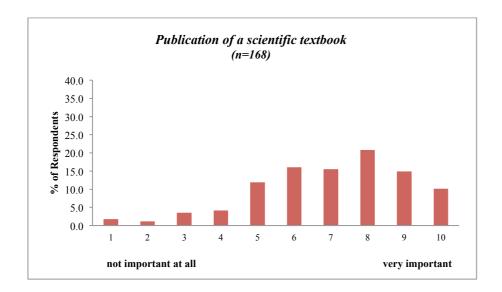
Figure 21: Boxplot of importance attached to the publication forms in sociology

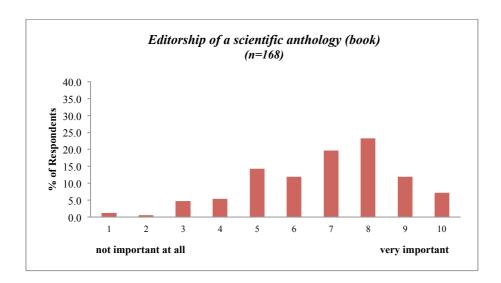
Figure 22: Descriptive statistics of importance of publication forms in sociology

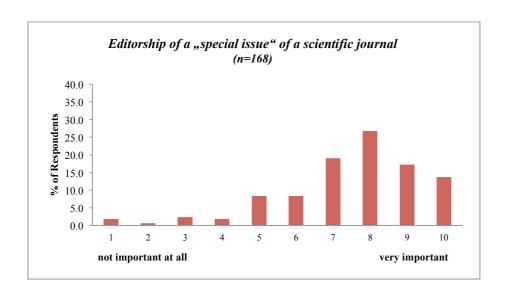
	Mean	Sd.	Range
Publication of a scientific research monography (book)	7.80	1.99	1-10
Publication of a scientific textbook	6.98	2.07	1-10
Editorship of a scientific anthology (book)	6.83	1.96	1-10
Editorship of a "special issue" of a scientific journal	7.49	1.93	1-10
Article in a scientific journal	8.44	1.74	1-10
Article in a scientific anthology (book)	6.94	1.94	1-10
Working Paper	5.32	2.18	1-10
Contribution in public media (newspaper article, radio post	4.89	2.32	1-10
etc.)			
Written presentation (paper) in conference proceedings	5.35	2.34	1-10

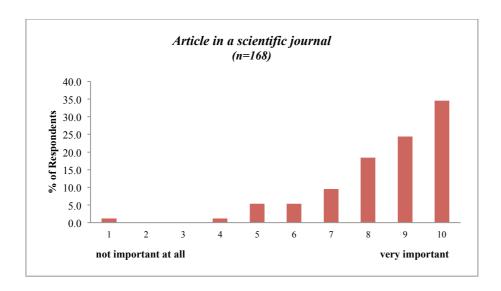
Figure 23: Distributions of importance of publication forms in sociology

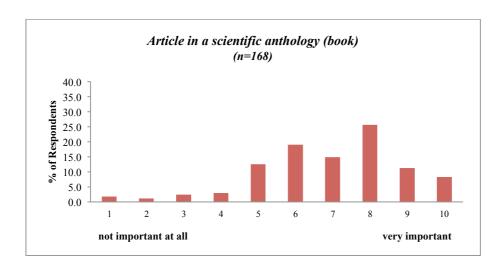


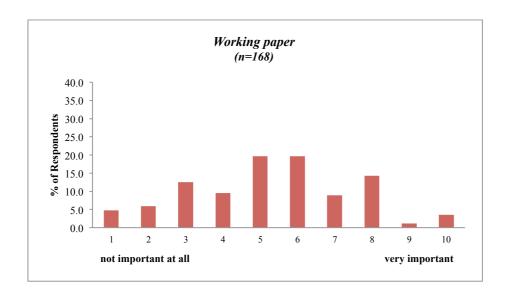


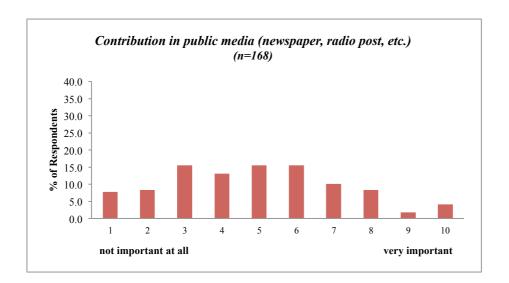


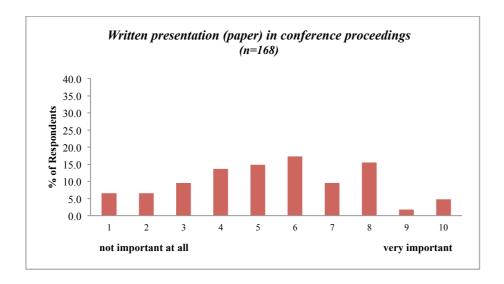












Evaluation of peer review method for different processes

Figure 24: Boxplot of evaluation of peer review method in sociology

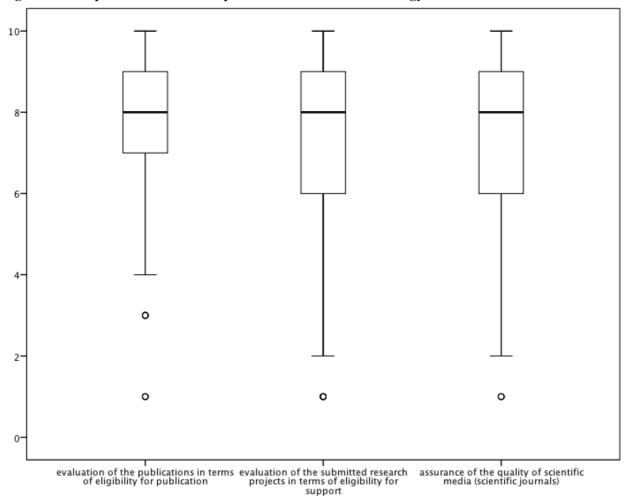
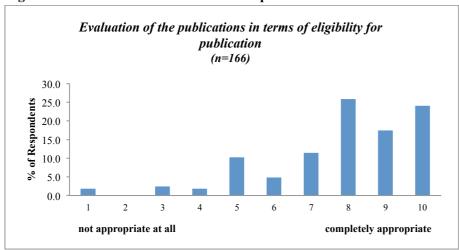
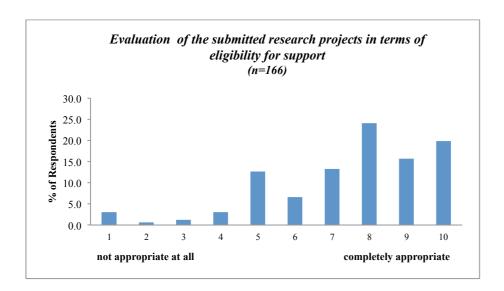


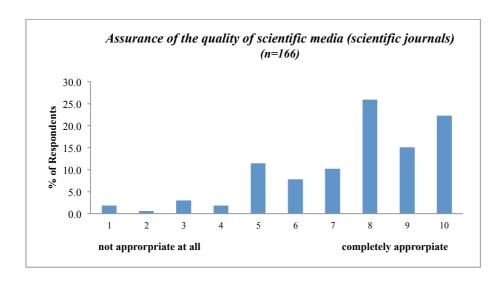
Figure 25: Descriptive statistics of evaluation of peer review in sociology

	Mean	Sd.	Range
Evaluation of the publications in terms of eligibility for publication	7.82	2.03	1-10
Evaluation of the submitted research projects in terms of eli- gibility for support	7.48	2.17	1-10
Assurance of the quality of scientific media (scientific journals)	7.61	2.12	1-10

Figure 26: Distributions of evaluation of peer review method in different processes







Evaluation of ranking for different processes

Figure 27: Boxplot of evaluation of ranking method in sociology

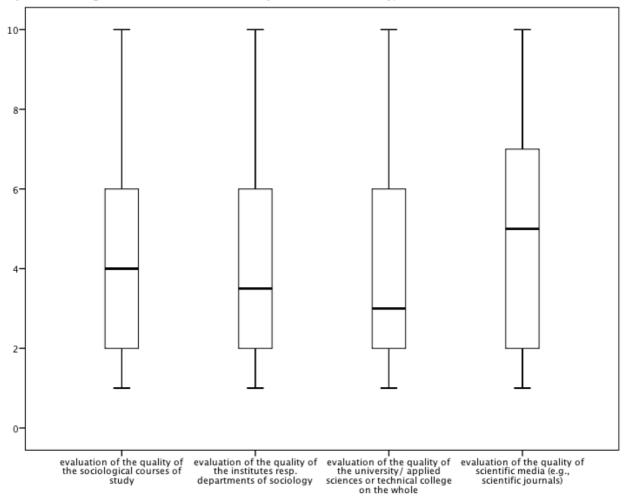
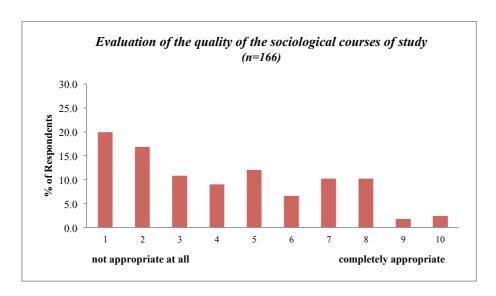
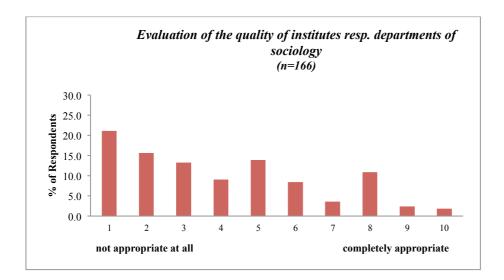


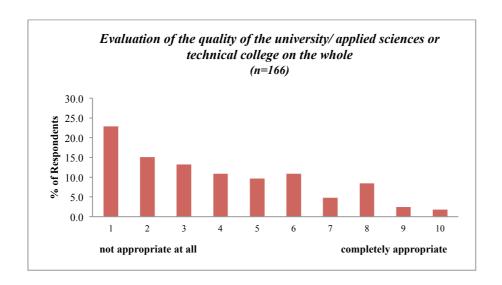
Figure 28: Descriptive statistics of evaluation of ranking method in sociology

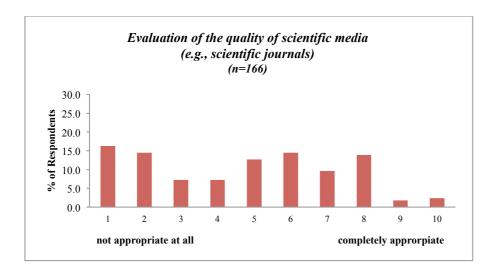
	Mean	Sd.	Range
Evaluation of the quality of the sociological courses of study	4.16	2.62	1-10
Evaluation of the quality of institutes resp. departments of sociology	4.00	2.55	1-10
Evaluation of the quality of the university/ applied sciences or technical college on the whole	3.90	2.53	1-10
Evaluation of the quality of scientific media (e.g., scientific journals)	4.64	2.62	1-10

Figure 29: Distributions of evaluation of ranking method in different processes









"Open access publications in sociology...

Figure 30: Boxplot of evaluation of open access publications in sociology

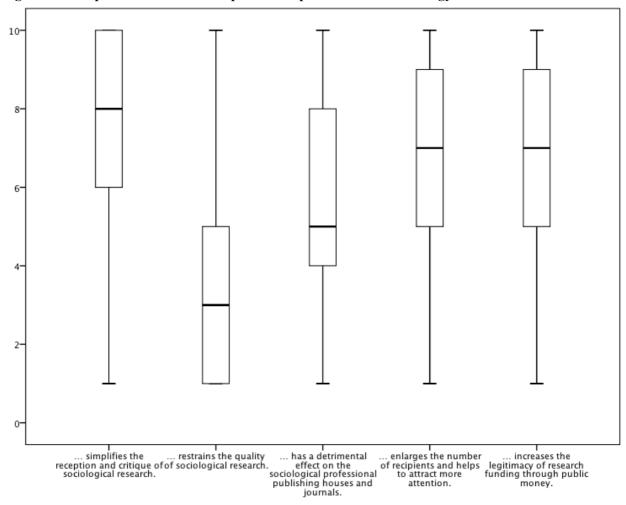
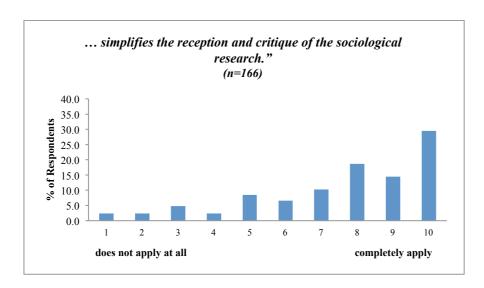
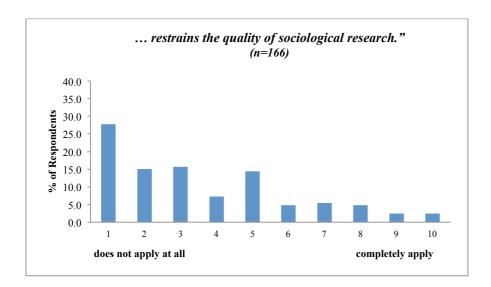


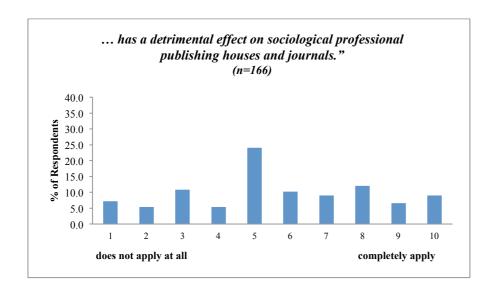
Figure 31: Descriptive statistics of evaluation of open access publications in sociology

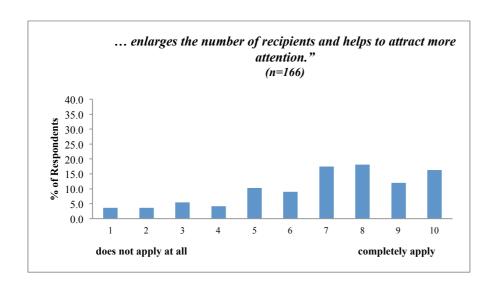
	Mean	Sd.	Range
simplifies the reception and critique of the sociological research."	7.60	2.44	1-10
retrains the quality of sociological research."	3.57	2.48	1-10
has a detrimental effect on the sociological professional publishing houses and journals."	5.64	2.58	1-10
enlarges the number of recipients and helps to attract more attention."	6.87	2.47	1-10
increases the legitimacy of research funding through public money."	6.62	2.79	1-10

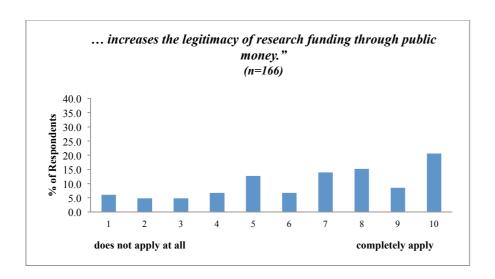
Figure 32: Distributions of evaluation of open access publications in sociology











The results of the evaluation study of sociology should be used for...

Figure 33: Boxplot of the appropriate way to use evaluation study of sociology

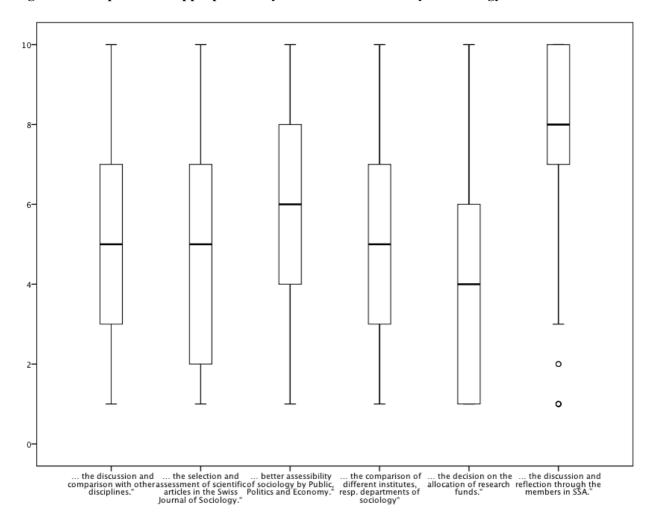
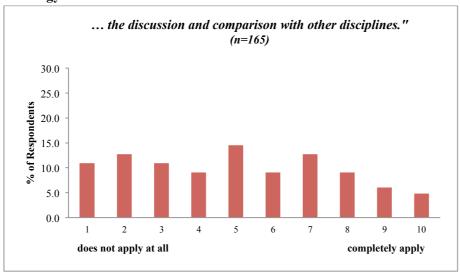
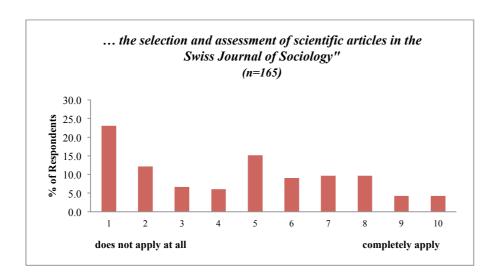


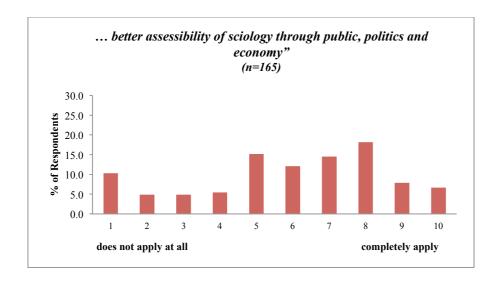
Figure 34: Descriptive statistics of different ways to use results of evaluation study of sociology

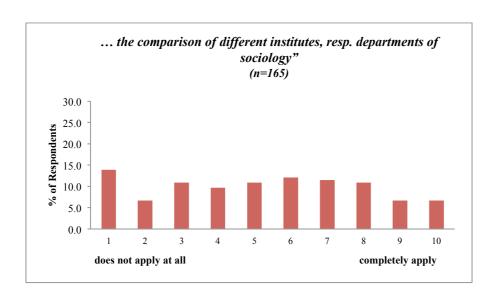
	Mean	Sd.	Range
the discussion and comparison with other disciplines."	4.98	2.66	1-10
the selection and assessment of scientific articles in the	4.48	2.82	1-10
Swiss Journal of Sociology."			
better assessibility of sociology by Public, Politics and	5.90	2.62	1-10
Economy."			
the comparison of different institutes, resp. departments of	5.21	2.77	1-10
sociology."			
the decision on the allocation of research funds."	3.98	2.53	1-10
the discussion and reflection through the members in	7.77	2.25	1-10
SSA."			

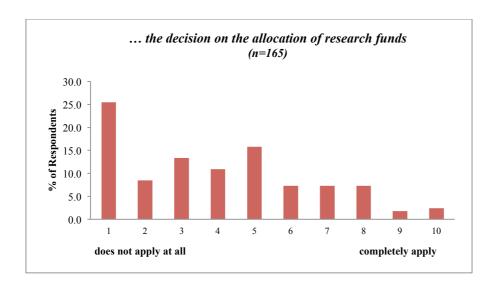
Figure 35: Distributions of appropriateness of different way to use results of evaluation study of sociology

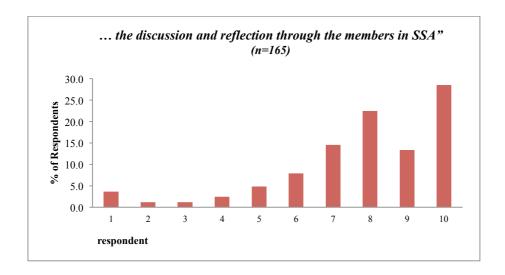






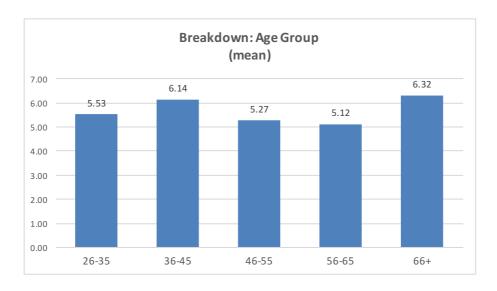




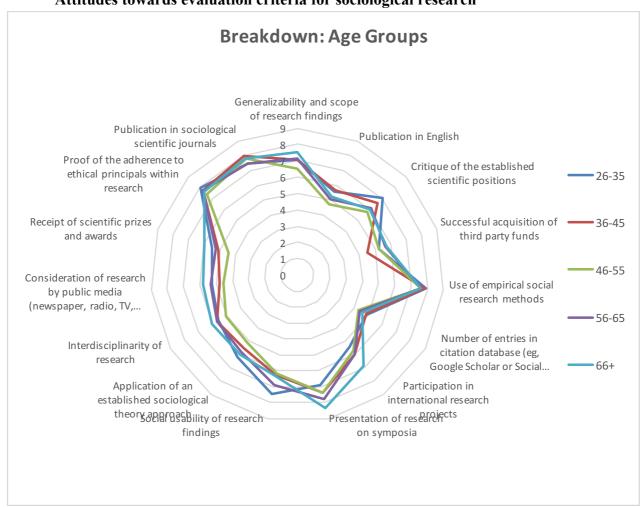


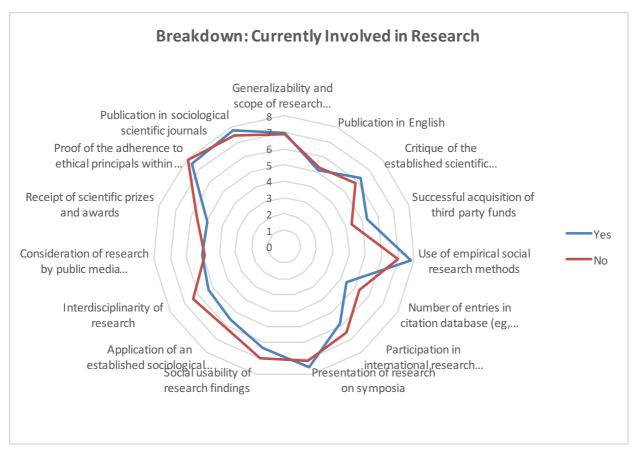
Bivariate Analysis

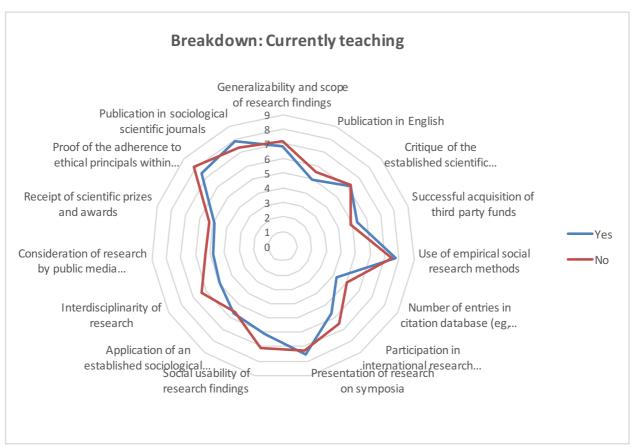
How problematic is the evaluation of sociology?



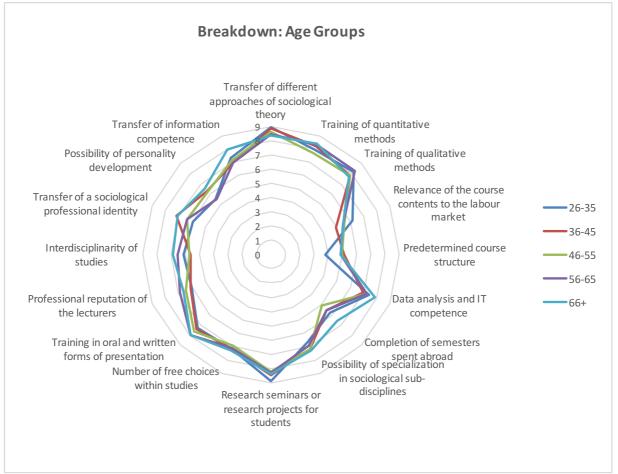
Attitudes towards evaluation criteria for sociological research

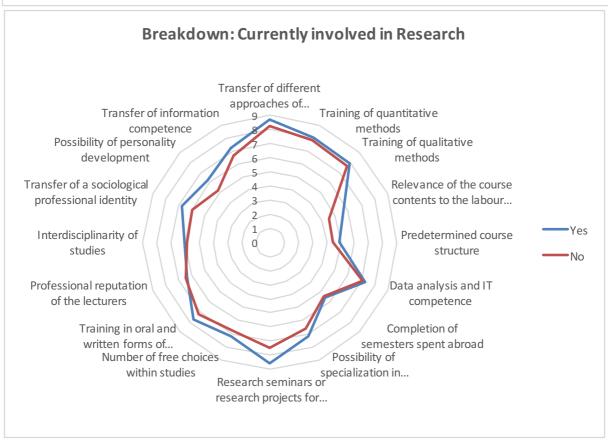


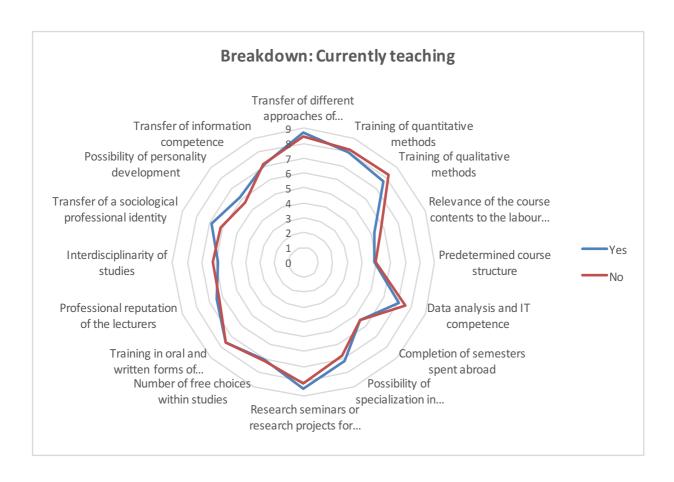




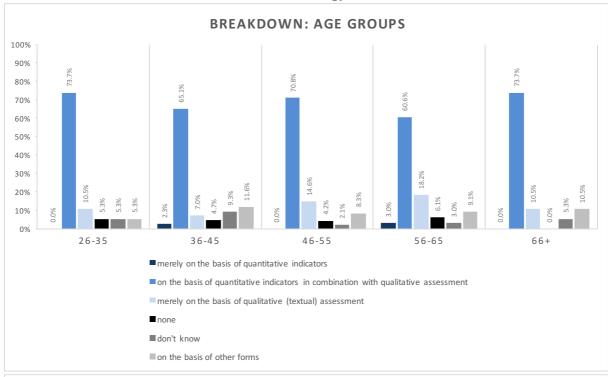
Attitudes towards evaluation criteria for teaching in sociology

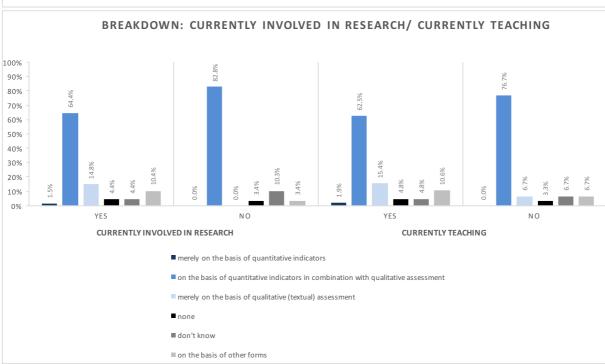




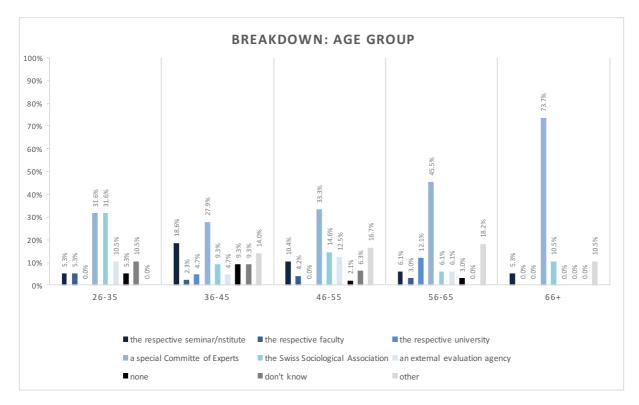


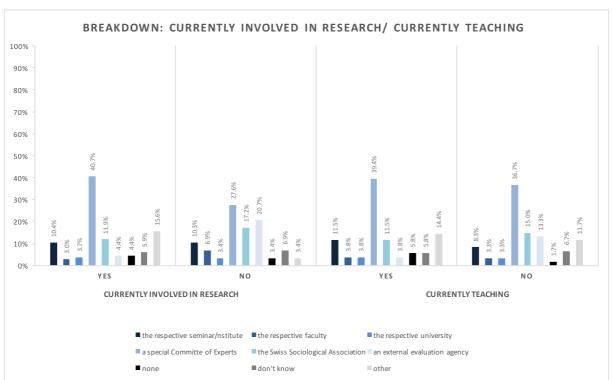
Based on which indicators should sociology be evaluated?



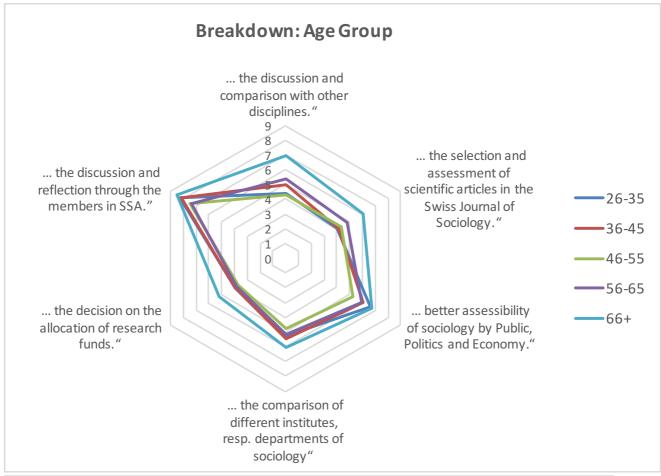


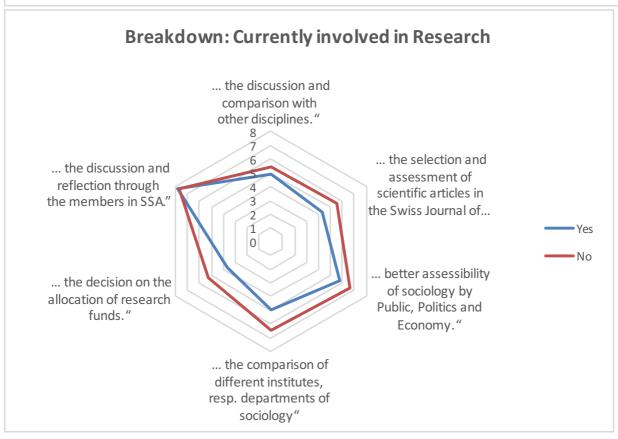
Who should carry out evaluation studies for sociology discipline?

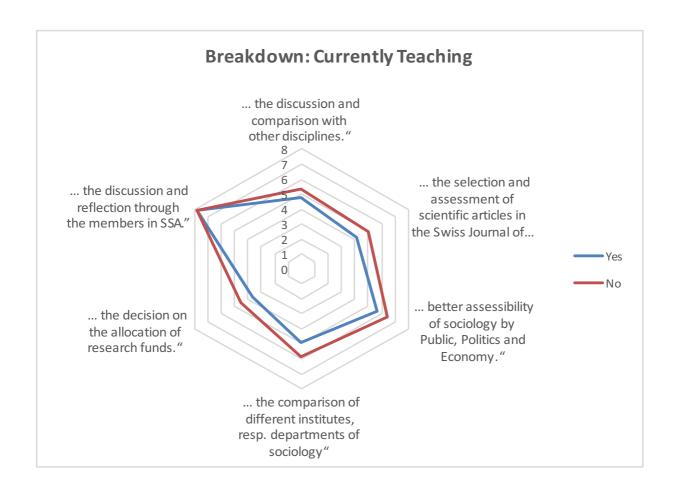




How to use the results of evaluation studies?

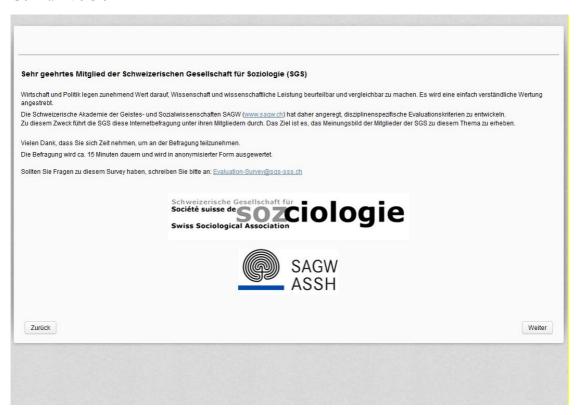


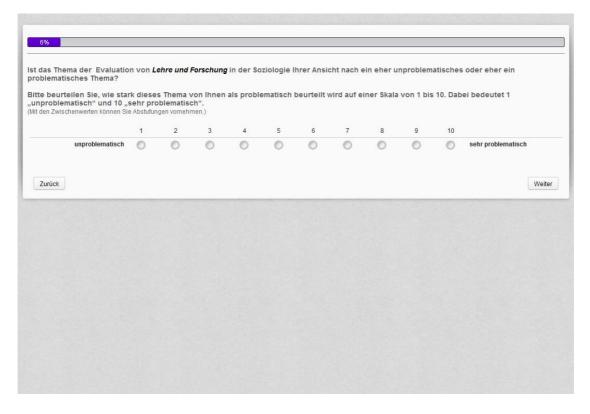




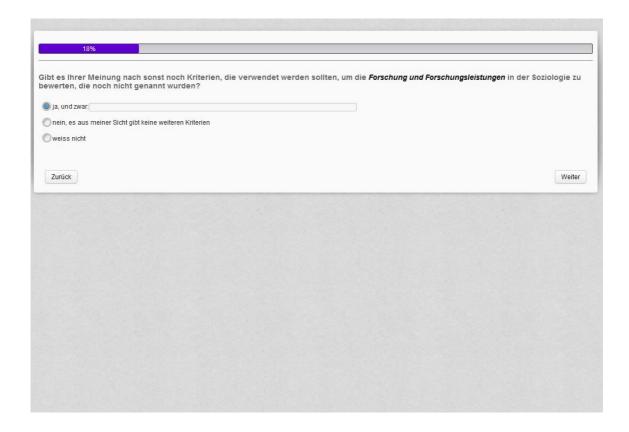
Questionnaires

German Version





	überhaupt nicht angemessen 1	2	3	4	-5	6	7	8	9	voll und ganz angemessen 10
tik etablierter Wissenschaftspositionen	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
wendung eines etablierten soziologischen Theorieansatzes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
olgreiche Einwerbung von Drittmitteln	0	0	0	0	0	Ö	0	0	0	0
blikation in englischer Sprache	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
eiligung an internationalen Forschungsprojekten	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
sweis der Einhaltung forschungsethischer Prinzipien	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
erdisziplinarität der Forschung	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
isentation der Forschung auf Fachkonferenzen	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
wendung von Methoden der empirischen Sozialforschung	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
zahl Einträge in Zitationsdatenbanken (z. B. Google Scholar er Social Science Citation Index)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
blikation in soziologischen Fachzeitschriften	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
alt wissenschaftlicher Preise und Auszeichnungen	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
sellschaftliche Verwertbarkeit der Forschungsresultate	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
allgemeinerbarkeit und Reichweite der Forschungsbefunde	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
achtung der Forschung durch Publikumsmedien (Zeitung, dio, Fernsehen etc.)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	überhaupt nicht									voll und ganz angemesse



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überhaupt nicht angemessen 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	voll und ganz angemesser 10
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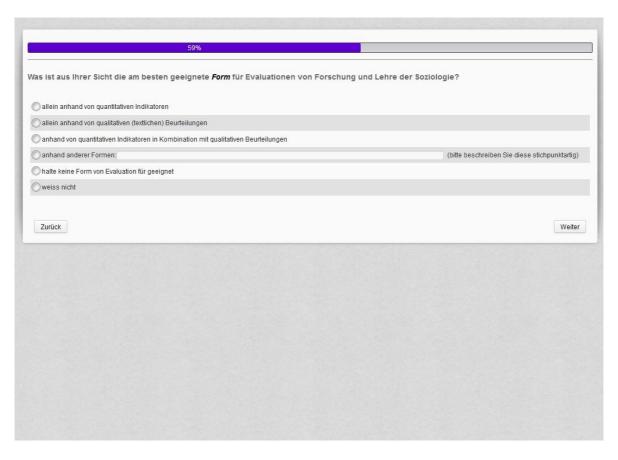
ht gibt keine weiteren Kriterien		
		Weiter

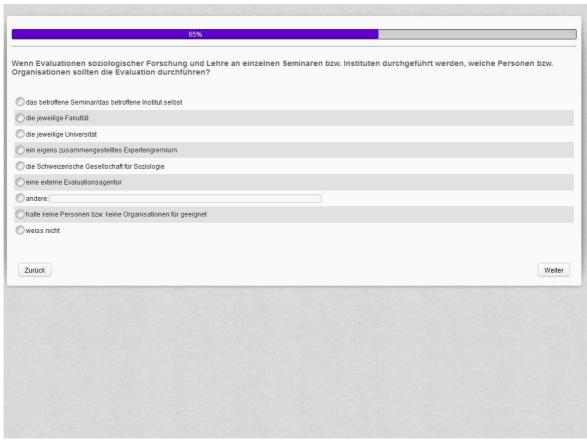
eurteilen Sie die folgenden Publikationsformen auf	ainer Cke	da wan 1	hie 10 De	bai badas	stat 1 aal		und 10	obr book		
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	sehr gering 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	sehr hoch 10
Publikation einer wissenschaftlichen Forschungsmonografie Buch)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Publikation eines wissenschaftlichen Lehrbuchs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Herausgeberschaft eines wissenschaftlichen Sammelbandes Buch)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
derausgeberschaft eines Sonderheftes ("special issue") einer achzeitschrift	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
sufsatz in Fachzeitschrift	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
aufsatz in wissenschaftlichem Sammelband (Buch)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vorking Paper		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
leitrag in einem Publikumsmedium (Zeitungsartikel, Radiobeitrag etc.)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
erschriftlichter Vortrag (Referat) in Tagungsband	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

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mittlung der Publikationswürdigkeit von Fachpublikationen	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0
mittlung der Förderungswürdigkeit von beantragten rschungsprojekten	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
cherung der Qualität von Fachmedien (Fachzeitschriften)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Zurück										Weiter

	sehr gering									sehr hoch
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rmittlung der Qualität von soziologischen Studiengängen rmittlung der Qualität von soziologischen Seminaren bzw. ıstituten bzw. Departments	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
rmittlung der Qualität einer Universität bzw. Fachhochschule isgesamt	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
rmittlung der Qualität von Fachmedien (z.B. Fachzeitschriften)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Zurück										Weiter

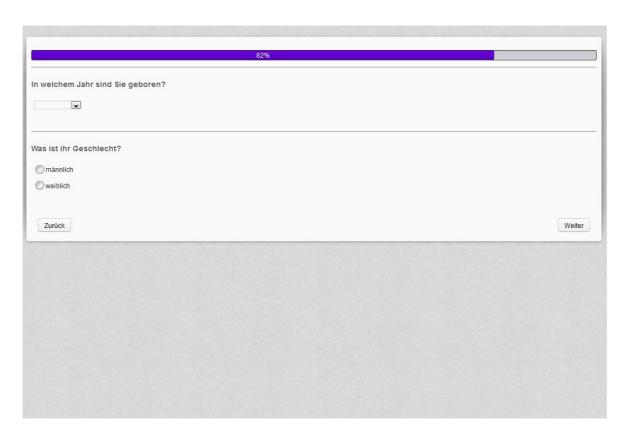
	trifft überhaupt nicht zu									trifft vollkommer zu
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Open Access										
vereinfacht die Rezeption und Kritik der soziologischen Forschung."	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
beeinträchtigt die Qualität der soziologischen Forschung."	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
schadet den soziologischen Fachverlagen und den Fachzeitschriften."	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
vergrössert die Zahl der rezipierenden Personen und verhilft hr so zu mehr Beachtung."	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
erhöht die Legitimität der Forschungsförderung durch öffentliche Gelder."	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Zurück										Weiter
		1000				150				

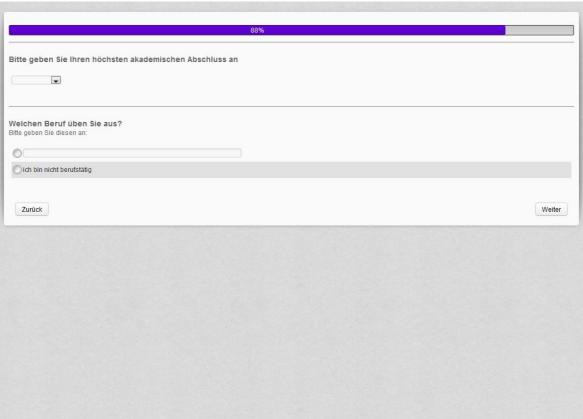




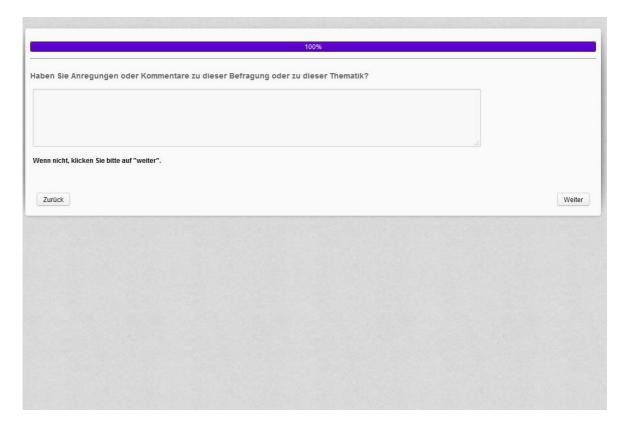
eurteilen Sie bitte die folgenden Aussagen zum N. is 10. Dabei bedeutet 1 "trifft überhaupt nicht zu" i					isse eine	r Evaluati	on durch	die SGS a	ut einer	Skala von
	trifft überhaupt nicht zu 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	trifft vollkommer zu 10
Wenn die SGS eine Evaluation der Soziologie durchführt, lann sollten die Resultate verwendet werden für										
die Diskussion und den Vergleich mit anderen Fachdisziplinen."	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
die Auswahl und Beurteilung von Fachartikeln in der Schweizerischen Zeitschrift für Soziologie."	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
die bessere Beurteilbarkeit der Soziologie durch die Öffentlichkeit, die Politik und die Wirtschaft."	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
den Vergleich der verschiedenen soziologischen Seminare, nstitute bzw. Departments."	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
die Entscheidung über die Vergabe von Forschungsgeldern."	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
die Diskussion und Reflexion durch die Mitglieder in der SGS.*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Zurück										Weiter

		76%		
etreiben Sie selbst sozio	ologische Forschung	oder sind aktiv an Forschun	gsprojekten beteiligt?	
O ja				
nein				
ind Sie selbst als Lehrpe	erson in der soziologi	ischen Lehre und Ausbildung	tätig?	
) ja				
nein				
Zurück				Weiter
				.,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,





94%		
n was für einer Art Organisation arbeiten Sie?		
Offentliche Verwaltung		
Verband, Nichtregierungsorganisation, Verein		
Unternehmen in der Markt- und Meinungsforschung		
anderes Unternehmen in der Privatwirtschaft		
Ouniversität		
Fachhochschule		
0		
J Padagogische Hochschule		
Pädagogische Hochschule (nicht-universitäre) Forschungseinrichtung sonstige Organisationsform, und zwar:		
(nicht-universitäre) Forschungseinrichtung		Weiter
(nicht-universitäre) Forschungseinrichtung sonstige Organisationsform, und zwar:		Weiter
(nicht-universitäre) Forschungseinrichtung) sonstige Organisationsform, und zwar:		Weiter
(nicht-universitäre) Forschungseinrichtung) sonstige Organisationsform, und zwar:		Weiter
(nicht-universitäre) Forschungseinrichtung) sonstige Organisationsform, und zwar:		Weiter
(nicht-universitäre) Forschungseinrichtung) sonstige Organisationsform, und zwar:		Weiter



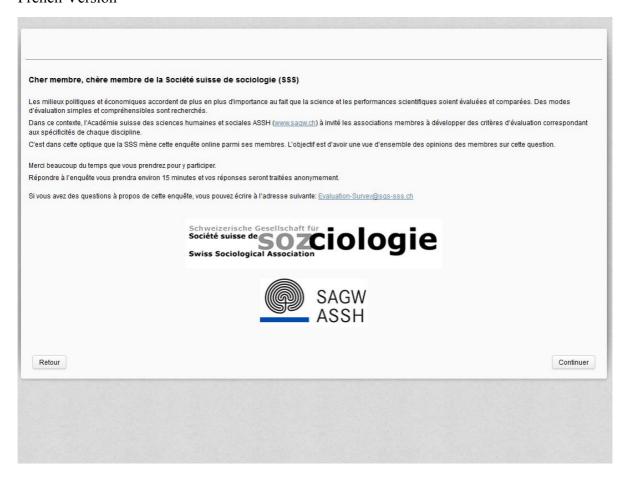
Vielen Dank für Ihre Teilnahme!

Sie können das Fenster nun schliessen!

Schweizerische Gesellschaft für Société suisse de Sozciologie Swiss Sociological Association



French Version



pas problèmatique	1	2	4	E	e	7	0	9	10	
	0	0			6				0	très problèmatique
tour										Contin

	pas du tout adapté				(todica)					très bien adapté
Publier en langue anglaise	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Obtention de fonds tiers	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Itilité sociale des résultats	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Obtention de prix et de distinction scientifiques	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Perspective critique sur les positions scientifiques établies	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
nterdisciplinarité de la recherche	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
oiffusion de la recherche dans les médias (journaux, adio, télévision, etc.)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Itilisation d'une théorie sociologique établie	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
lespect des principes éthiques de recherche	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Présentation de la recherche à des colloques et conférences	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Participation à des projets de recherche internationaux	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sénéralisation et portée des résultats	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Publier dans des revues sociologiques	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
lombre de citations référées par les bases de données (par exemple Google Scholar ou Social Science Citation Index)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Itilisation de méthodes de recherche empiriques	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	pas du tout adapté	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	très bier adapté 10

s'il vous plaît, notez-les ci-dessous: non, selon moi il n'y a pas d'autres crit	ères		
e ne sais pas			
Retour			Continue

	pas du tout adapté									très bier adapté
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Capacité à transmettre des informations	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ormation en méthodes qualitatives	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ransmission de différentes perspectives théoriques	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ormation en méthodes quantitatives	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Réputation des enseignants	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
éminaires et projets de recherche pour les étudiants	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Compétences en analyse des données et techniques informatiques	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ransmission d'une identité disciplinaire	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Possibilité de se former dans des domaines spécialisés de la sociologie	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Contenus à caractère professionnalisant et orientés vers le marché du travail	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Structure de programme d'études préétablie et fixe	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
nterdisciplinarité du cursus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Semestres d'études à l'étranger	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
formation aux formes de l'exposé oral et de l'éαiture	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ossibilités de choix et d'options dans les programmes d'études	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
éveloppement et épanouissement de la personnalité	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	pas du tout adapté	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	très bier adapté 10

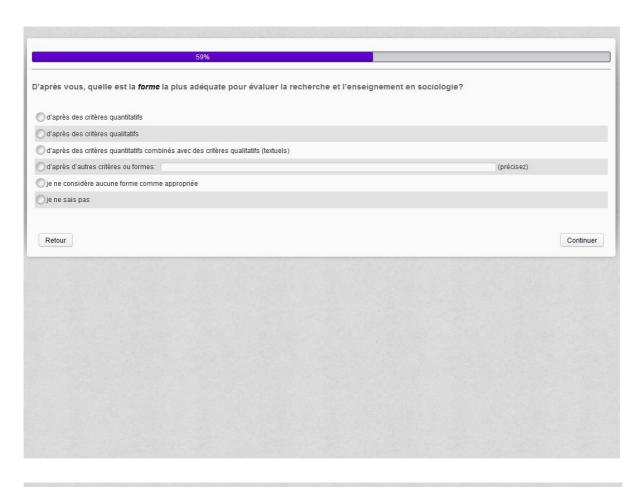
s'il vous plaît, notez-les ici: non, selon moi il n'y a pas d' je ne sais pas	autres critères		
			Continuer

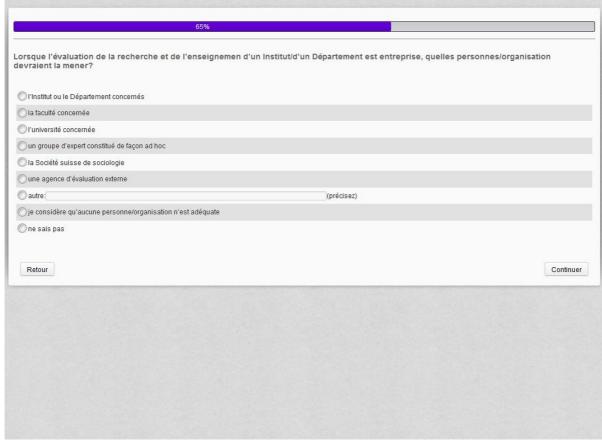
	importance moindre									très grande importance
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
lonographie scientifique (livre)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ublication d'un ouvrage collectif (livre)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ublication d'un ouvrage collectif (livre)	0		0		0	0	0	0	0	0
ublication d'un numéro spécial d'une revue ("special issue")	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ticle dans une revue	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ontribution dans un ouvrage collectif (livre)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
orking Paper	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ontribution dans les médias (journaux, radio, etc.)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ontribution écrite aux actes d'un colloque	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Retour										Continuer

	très peu pertinent									très pertiner
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
valuation de la valeur d'une publication dans une revue disciplinaire	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
valuation de la valeur d'un projet de recherche lors des demandes de financement	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0
surance de la qualité d'une revue disciplinaire	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

	très peu pertinent	0	3		5	6	7		0	très pertinent
étermination de la qualité de voies et programmes d'études	1	2	3	4	0	6	0	8	9	10
étermination de la qualité des Instituts et Départements	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
étermination de la qualité d'une Université u d'une Haute Ecole spécialisée dans sa globalité	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
étermination de la qualité de revues discipinaires	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

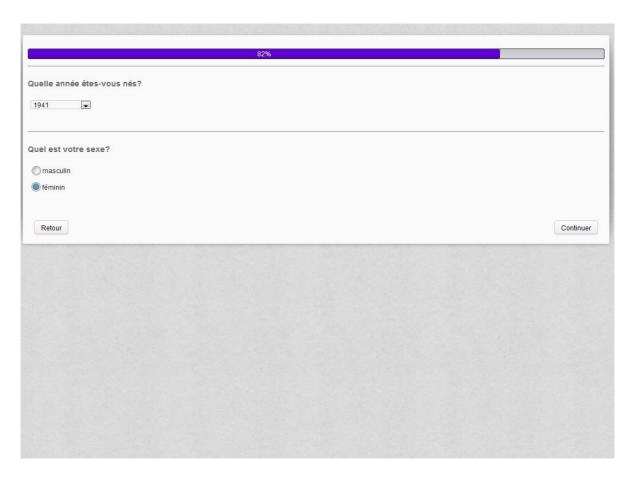
	absolument									tout à fai
	faux 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	juste 10
pen Access										
facilite la réception et la critique de la recherche sociologique."	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
détériore la qualité de la recherche en sociologie."	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
péjore la situation des maisons d'éditions et des revues "	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
augmente le nombre du public potentiel la considération pour la discipline."	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
augmente la légitimité du financement la recherche par les subventions publiques.*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Retour										Continuer
		Sortine Co.			e cultural to					De Barrie

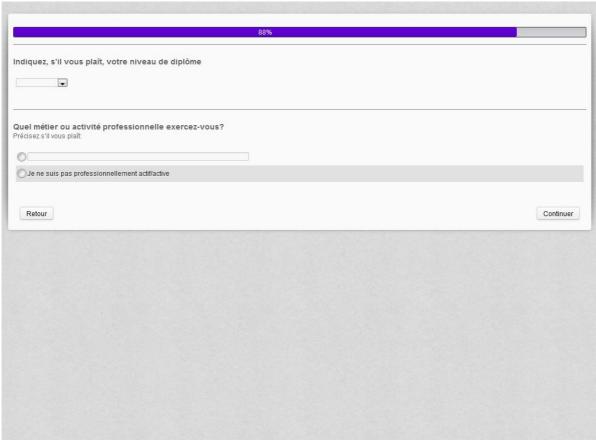


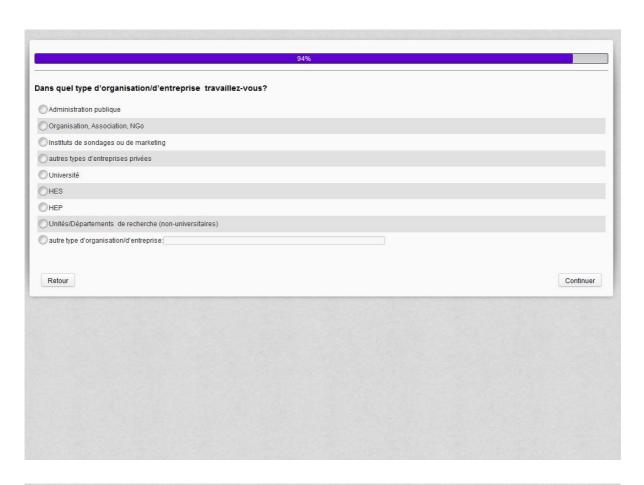


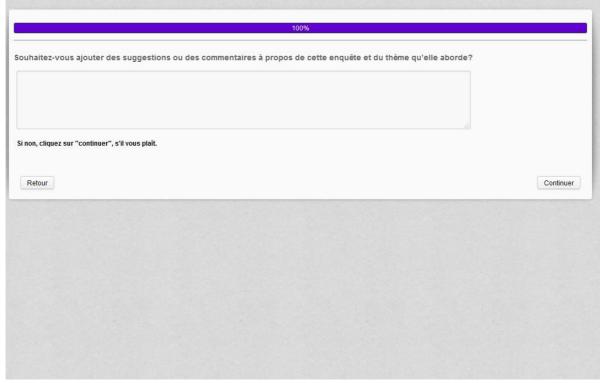
	absolument faux									tout à fai juste
Si la SSS conduit une évaluation de la sociologie,	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
s résultats devraient servir à . la discussion et la comparaison avec d'autres disciplines."	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
. le choix et l'évaluation des articles ans la <i>Revue suisse de sociologie.</i> "	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
. une meilleure prise en considération de la sociologie ans l'opinion publique, par la politique, l'économie."	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
. la comparaison des différents instituts et départements."	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
. des décisions concernant l'octroi de subsides de recherches	. 0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
. la discussion et la réflexion parmi les membres de la SSS.*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Retour										Continuer











Merci beaucoup pour votre participation!

Vous pouvez maintenant fermer la fenêtre!



