

Interview Guide Politicians of Immigrant Origin

1. Information about the purpose and procedure of the interview

1. Brief presentation of the project

In our study, we explore how young adults with a migration background engage in politics and which issues they advocate for in their political activity as MPs.

2. Interview procedure

The interview will take about 1 to 1.5 hours.

The recordings will be used exclusively to facilitate the transcription of the interviews. Transcriptions are anonymized and will not be passed on to third parties. The author of quotes will be referred to with their pseudonyms and their canton of residence.

The consent of the interviewees is required and obtained for the proposed publication procedure.

2. Introductory questions

Q1. Can you briefly introduce yourself?

REMINDER: age, professional background and family situation.

3. Parental influence in political *socialization*

Q2. Can you describe the family environment in which you grew up?

REMINDER: What occupation do your parents have and what training did they complete (and where)?

REMINDER: When and why did they come to Switzerland?

REMINDER: Living situation: Can you tell me where and how you grew up in your childhood? Did you and your family always live in [city] ?

Q3. Can you now describe the family environment in which you grew up, with a particular focus on political issues?

REMINDER: Was politics or specific political events (in your country of origin or in Switzerland) a topic of conversation in your family environment, e.g. during discussions at mealtimes?

REMINDER: Are/were your parents involved in a club or association? What kind of clubs/associations? Were you also involved in these clubs/associations?

REMINDER: Are / were your parents politically active? Do your parents vote regularly, where they have voting rights? Did they encourage you to vote or get involved in politics?

Q4. Can you tell me about the reactions and any discussions in your family about your political commitment?

REMINDER: How important was your family in the various phases of your political involvement? How and in what way are your parents involved in your political engagement?

REMINDER: How did your parents' interest and commitment change during the various stages of your political work? Do you ever feel that your relationship with your parents has changed as a result of your political career?

REMINDER: Are your political views or your political activities topics that you discuss with your family?

Q5. Are you a naturalized citizen? If yes, can you describe the circumstances of your naturalization?

REMINDER: Was it a personal or a family naturalization? When and how was this decision made? How old were you? What is your experience with the naturalization procedure?

REMINDER: Was this decision made in connection with your political commitment?

4. Role of club/association activities and networks in political socialization

Q6. Can you tell me about the different clubs/movements/associations/organizations (whether cultural, sports, religious activities, activism, etc.) that you have been involved in at different points in your life?

REMINDER: In what context, at what age and through which people did you participate in these activities?

REMINDER: What role did you play in this?

Q7. To what extent do you think that these association activities have played a role in your political commitment?

REMINDER: Which activities played a decisive role in your political involvement and to what extent were those experiences important for your political work?

Q8. Can you tell me how your membership and the nature of your involvement in these associations has developed?

REMINDER: After the beginning of your political involvement? After your election?

REMINDER: Are you still a member of these associations or movements? An active or a passive member?

Q9. Think back to the people, inside or outside these associations; did any of these people significantly influence your political involvement?

REMINDER: In what context did these encounters take place (school, training, professional, friendly relationships)?

Q10. Did any famous political leaders inspire you in your political commitment (e.g. Mandela)?

5. Institutional framework, party membership, and main issues promoted as MP

Q11. Can you explain to me in what context, with which actors and under what circumstances you familiarized yourself with the Swiss political system at the various levels (federal/cantonal/municipal)?

Q12. Can you tell me about the circumstances of your involvement and joining your party?

REMINDER: What were your reasons for joining this party? Have you thought about other options? Did you have other options?

REMINDER: Who were important contacts when you joined the party?

REMINDER: Was your joining the party linked to a particular context (elections, political debate on a specific issue, etc.)?

REMINDER: Was there any training within your party?

Q13. Can you tell me about the circumstances of your registration on the electoral roll?

REMINDER: As a young adult? As a person with a migration background?

REMINDER: Was it an easy/ difficult decision?

Q14. How did you design your campaign?

REMINDER: In your opinion, who are your voters?

REMINDER: How do you communicate with your voters? Political meetings? Mailings? What language do you use?

Q15. Can you tell me about the key issues you aim to promote as a member of the local parliament?

REMINDER: Can you tell me which political issues are particularly important to you in your political work?

REMINDER: What were the last three political issues you dealt with? Were these topics representative of your political commitment?

REMINDER: Are there any issues on which the party has asked you to become more involved and raise your profile?

REMINDER: Are there any issues on which you feel at odds with your party?

6. Taking stock

Q16. If you now look back on the history of your political involvement, can you tell me what was the most important support you received?

Q17. And what were the biggest obstacles with which you were confronted?

REMINDER: How do you think these obstacles come about and what strategy did you pursue to overcome them?

Q18. Are there any other points you would like to add that you consider important in the context of your political commitment that have not yet been addressed?

7. Thank you and demographic information

I would like to thank you very much for the informative and interesting conversation. I would also like to thank you for your great commitment and for taking the time to provide us with open information on this topic.

If you are interested in the results of our study, I can of course send you a summary of the findings. I would like to ask you for a few additional details... [collect demographic information here].

CODE	
Surname:	

First name:	
Choose your Pseudonym:	
Contact details: (<i>addr., phone, mail</i>)	
Age:	
Nationality(ies):	
Marital status:	
Children:	
Educational pathways and achievements:	
Present profession:	
Workplace:	
Date:	
Interviewer:	
Location of the interview:	
Duration of the interview:	