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Political opinion polls in Belgium in 1991

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This annual review (since 1974) of political opinion polls in Belgium is classified according to the major policy sectors: foreign policy, social policy, economic policy, financial policy, domestic policy, and cultural policy. Polls that have little or nothing to do with politics as such are placed under the heading "other polls".

In the inventory, the title of each poll is given along with the main keywords, the institute that conducted the poll, the time of the polling, the size of the sample, the sponsor, and the bibliographical data of its publication. An *X* stands for confidential or unknown.

This inventory was compiled on the basis of the information provided by the "Steunpunt Sociopolitiek Systeem" at the University of Gent, for which we express our sincere appreciation. [1]

A. FOREIGN POLICY.

2. European policy.

a) The attitude of the Brussels residents towards Europe

Keywords: Brussels / Europe / knowledge of languages / language teaching / immigrants.

ICSP. End of February 1991. Sample of 1,000 Brussels residents aged 18 and older. Sponsor: The Minister of the Brussels Region J. Chabert.

Publication: *Le Soir*, March 28, 1991, and *De Standaard*, March 30 and April 8, 1991.

b) The public opinion in the European Community in the spring of 1991

Keywords: European integration / agricultural policy / the Gulf War/ Political Union / Economic and Monetary Union / European Parliament / immigration in Europe.

SOBEMAP. March 4 - 28, 1991. Multi-stage random sample of 1,061 Belgians aged 15 and older. Sponsor: Commission of the European Communities.

Publication: *Eurobarometer No. 35.* Brussels, Commission of the European Communities, June 1991.

(1) Steunpunt Sociopolitiek Systeem, *De politieke opiniepeilingen in België 1974 - 1991.* Gent, 1992.

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c) The public opinion in the European Community in the fall of 1991

Keywords : European Community / Maastricht Treaty / European taxation / European Parliament / Commission of the European Communities / agricultural policy / foreign policy.

MARKETING UNIT. October 15 - November 6, 1991. Multi-stage random sample of 1,006 Belgians aged 15 and older. Sponsor : Commission of the European Communities.

Publication : *Eurobarometer No. 36.* Brussels, Commission of the European Communities, December 1991.

d) See also poll F.6.b.

3. Policy vis-à-vis the developing countries

a) The attitude of the Flemish people towards the Third World

Keywords : Third World / development aid.

DIMARSO. October 29 - 30, 1991. Sample of 1,004 Flemings aged 18 and older. Sponsor : De Morgen.

Publication : *De Morgen*, November 7, 1991.

b) Belgian development aid for Zaïre

Keywords : development aid / conditions / Zaïre.

DIMARSO. November 5 - 6, 1991. National telephone survey (one question) of 1,002 voters. Sponsor : De Morgen.

Publication : *De Morgen*, November 12, 1991.

c) See also poll A.8.a.

5. Defence policy

a) See poll A.2.b.

6. International relations

a) See polls A.2.b., A.2.c., and G.b.

8. Domestic policy of other countries

a) The Zaïrese question

Keywords : Zaïre.

DIMARSO. September 25, 1991. Telephone survey of 500 Belgians aged 18 and older. Sponsor : *X.*

Publication : *Het Laatste Nieuws*, September 26, 1991.

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B. SOCIAL POLICY

2. Employment policy

a) See polls F.6.b. and G.a.

4. Social security

a) See polls E.1.c. and E.6.g.

5. Family policy and demographic policy

a) See polls E.6.q. and G.a

6. Public health

a) See polls E.6.q., F.6.a., and G.a.

7. Housing

a) See poll G.a.

10. Environmental protection and urban planning

a) Environmental pollution and environmental policy

Keywords : environmental pollution / environmental policy.

DIMARSO. Spring of 1991. Sample of 1,269 residents of Flanders aged 18 and older. Sponsor : The Flemish Community Minister for the Environment Th. Kelchtermans.

Publication : *Mina-blad* (publication of the Flemish Community Minister for the Environment), June 1991 ; see also *De Standaard*, June 8-9, 1991, and *De Morgen*, June 20 and 21, 1991.

b) The Flemish people and the environment

Keywords : environment.

DIMARSO. October 1991. Telephone survey of 1,004 Flemish voters. Sponsor : De Morgen.

Publication : *De Morgen*, October 30, 1991.

c) Closing time for dancings and discos

Keywords : noise pollution / closing time / dancings / discos.

DIMARSO. December 5 - 11, 1991. Telephone survey of 562 Flemings aged 18 and older. Sponsor : The Flemish Community Minister for the Environment.

Publication : *De Standaard*, December 24-25, 1991.

d) See also polls E.1.c. and G.a.

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11. Welfare

a) Past sixty

Keywords : elderly.

VUB. Time of the polling : *X*. Sample of 2,000 Belgians aged 60 and older. Sponsor : The Minister of Social Affairs.

Publication : *De Morgen*, *De Standaard* and *Le Soir*, October 30, 1991 ; *Onze Tijd*.

b) The Belgian homes for the elderly

Keywords : care of the elderly.

ULB-IPSOC. Time of the polling : *X*. National survey of 1,010 homes (167 in the Brussels Region, 434 in Wallonia and 409 in Flanders); interview with the directorates. Sponsor : The Minister of Social Affairs.

Publication : *De Morgen*, *De Standaard* and *Le Soir*, October 30, 1991.

c) See also poll G.b.

C. ECONOMIC POLICY

5. Policy regarding economic cycles

a) See poll G.b.

7. Infrastructure - transport - communications

a) See poll E.15.b.

11. Agricultural policy

a) See polls A.2.b. and A.2.c.

D. FINANCIAL POLICY

1. Investments and savings

a) Stock exchange barometer

Keywords : evolution of the stock exchange.

DIMARSO. Monthly telephone survey of 18 Belgian stock-exchange specialists. Sponsor : De Standaard.

Publication : *De Standaard*, monthly.

3. Fiscal policy

a) The fiscal policy of the government

Keywords : fiscal policy / government policy.

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DIMARSO. October 29 - 30, 1991. Sample of 1,004 Flemings aged 18 and older. Sponsor : De Morgen.

Publication : *De Morgen*, November 5, 1991.

b) See also polls A.2.c. and E.6.q.

E. DOMESTIC POLICY

0. Chronicles

a) Seasonal barometer of public opinion [2]

Keywords : popularity of politicians / voting intentions.

MARKETING UNIT. Quarterly. National sample of approximately 2,000 voters each time. Sponsor : La Libre Belgique.

Publication : *La Libre Belgique*, March 25, June 24, and September 30, 1991.

b) Political popularity poll

Keywords : popularity of politicians (Martens/Tobback/Verhofstadt) / voting intentions.

ICSOP-IMSA (IAO). October 24 - 31, 1991. Face tot face interview with 500 Flemish voters. Sponsor : *X*.

Publication : *De Standaard*, November 9-10-11, 1991.

c) See also polls E.6.q. and G.a.

1. Organization of the state

a) The monarchy in Belgium

Keywords : King Baudouin / monarchy / republic.

DIMARSO. March 5 - 10, 1991. Telephone survey (three questions) of 1,002 Belgians aged 18 and older. Sponsor : La Dernière Heure.

Publication : *Het Laatste Nieuws* and *De Morgen*, April 2, 1991.

b) The future of Belgium

Keywords : government crisis / form of government / federalism / separatism / voting intentions.

DIMARSO. October 7 - 9, 1991. Survey of the Belgian population aged 18 and older. Sponsor : De Morgen.

Publication : *De Morgen*, October 11, 1991.

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(2) For the figures and accompanying graphic presentation, see : M. VOS, Statistical review of the political year 1991. *Res Publica*, 1992, no. 3-4, pp 407-437

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c) The main political problems

Keywords : social security / environment / immigrants / state reform / ethical problems.

DIMARSO. November 1991. Sample of 1,007 Flemish voters. Sponsor : De Morgen.

Publication : *De Morgen*, November 22, 1991.

d) See also poll E.2.c.

2. National institutions

a) Martens VII and Martens VIII

Keywords : Martens / government.

DIMARSO. October 21, 1991. Telephone survey of 1,009 Flemish voters. Sponsor : De Morgen.

Publication : *De Morgen*, October 23, 1991.

b) The attitude of the Flemings towards civil service

Keywords : civil service.

DIMARSO. End of October 1991. Sample of 1,004 Flemings aged 18 and older. Sponsor : De Morgen.

Publication : *De Morgen*, November 6, 1991.

c) The role of the King

Keywords : King Baudouin / monarchy.

DIMARSO. Time of the polling : *X*. Telephone survey of 1,004 Flemings aged 18 and older. Sponsor : De Morgen.

Publication : *De Morgen*, November 8, 1991.

d) Who do you wish to become Prime Minister ?

Keywords : prime minister.

DIMARSO. November 1991. Sample of 1,007 Flemish voters. Sponsor : De Morgen.

Publication : *De Morgen*, November 19 and 21, 1991.

e) Do you wish your favourite party to participate in government ?

Keywords : voting intentions / government participation.

DIMARSO. November 1991. Telephone survey of Flemish voters. Sponsor : De Morgen.

Publication : *De Morgen*, November 20, 1991.

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f) The Belgian government

Keywords : ministers / women in government / Minister of Social Emancipation.

DIMARSO. November 1991. Telephone survey of 1,002 Flemish voters. Sponsor : De Morgen.

Publication : *De Morgen*, November 13 and 15, 1991.

g) See also polls E.1.a., E.1.b., and G.a.

4. Provincial and local institutions

a) Local policy in Antwerp

Keywords : local policy / Antwerp.

CVP. June 1991. More than 7,000 residents of the city of Antwerp have filled out the questionnaire. Sponsor : the CVP.

Publication : *De Standaard*, August 20, 1991.

5. Political parties

a) The Parti Socialiste

Keywords : PS.

MARKETING UNIT. Spring of 1991. Sample of 1,400 members of the *Parti Socialiste*. Sponsor : the PS.

Publication : *Le Soir*, May 25 and 27, 1991.

b) Who will succeed G. Deprez as president of the PSC ?

Keywords : PSC / Deprez / Wathelet / Maystadt / Dalem.

MARKETING UNIT. End of September 1991. Sample of Francophone Belgians. Sponsor : La Libre Belgique.

Publication : *De Morgen*, September 28-29, 1991.

c) See also poll E.6.s.

6. Elections

a) Voting intentions [3]

Keywords : voting intentions.

DIMARSO. Monthly. National sample of 2,500 voters (1,000 Flemings, 1,000 Walloons and 500 Brussels residents). Sponsor : De Morgen.

Publication : *De Morgen*, monthly.

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(3) For the figures and accompanying graphic presentation, see : M. VOS, Statistical review of the political year 1991. *Res Publica*, 1992, no. 3-4, pp 407-437

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b) Voting intentions

Keywords : voting intentions.

MARKETING UNIT. March 1991. National sample of 2,000 voters. Sponsor : La Libre Belgique.

Publication : *La Libre Belgique*, March 25, 1991.

c) Martens as a candidate in Brussels for the general elections

Keywords : Martens / Brussels / voting intentions.

MARKETING UNIT. May 16 - 17, 1991. Interview with 600 Brussels voters. Sponsor : Le Soir and Télé-Bruxelles.

Publication : *Le Soir*, May 22, 1991.

d) Voting intentions in the Province of Limburg

Keywords : voting intentions / Province of Limburg / popularity of politicians.

DIMARSO. June 1991. Sample of 1,001 voters from the Province of Limburg. Sponsor : *X*.

Publication : *Het Belang van Limburg*, June 14, 1991.

e) Female voting behaviour

Keywords : voting intentions / voting behaviour / government / compulsory voting / women.

MARKET ANALYSIS & SYNTHESIS (MAS). June 17 - 25, 1991. Telephone survey of 825 female voters (628 from Flanders and 224 from Wallonia). Sponsor : *X*.

Publication : *De Morgen*, June 28, 1991.

f) Voting intentions in Flanders

Keywords : voting intentions.

MARKETING UNIT. September 27 and 30, 1991. Samples of respectively 1,000 and 500 Flemish voters. Sponsor : Telefacts.

Publication : *De Standaard* and *De Morgen*, October 2, 1991.

g) Voting intentions in Flanders

Keywords : voting intentions / social security.

DIMARSO. October 22 - 24, 1991. Sample of 1,004 Flemish voters. Sponsor : De Morgen.

Publication : *De Morgen*, October 26, 1991.

h) Voting intentions

Keywords : voting intentions.

MARKETING UNIT. Mid-October 1991. National sample of voters. Sponsor : La Libre Belgique.

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Publication : *La Libre Belgique*, October 18, 1991.

i) Voting intentions

Keywords : voting intentions.

ICSOP-IMSA (IAO). October 26 - November 5, 1991. Sample of 500 Flemish voters. Sponsor : *X*.

Publication : *De Standaard*, November 13, 1991.

j) Voting intentions

Keywords : voting intentions.

MARKETING UNIT. Beginning of November 1991. National sample of 1,666 voters (611 Flemish, 605 Walloon, and 450 Brussels voters). Sponsor : *X*.

Publication : *De Standaard*, November 12, 1991.

k) Voting intentions and government coalition

Keywords : voting intentions / government coalition.

DIMARSO. November 9 - 11, 1991. Telephone survey of 2,002 Flemish voters. Sponsor : De Morgen.

Publication : *De Morgen*, November 16 and 18, 1991.

l) Why vote for another party ?

Keywords : voting intentions.

DIMARSO. Mid-November 1991. Sample of 1,000 voters from the Province of Antwerp. Sponsor : Gazet van Antwerpen.

Publication : *Gazet van Antwerpen*, November 16-17, 1991.

m) Voting intentions

Keywords : voting intentions.

MARKETING UNIT. Mid-November 1991. Sample of Flemish voters. Sponsor : VTM.

Publication : *Het Laatste Nieuws*, November 21, 1991.

n) Compulsory voting

Keywords : compulsory voting / voting intentions / voting motivation / government.

SOBEMAP. November 12 - 14, 1991. National telephone survey of 1,000 voters. Sponsor : Knack.

Publication : *Knack*, November 20, 1991.

o) Political clientelism and voting behaviour

Keywords : political clientelism / voting behaviour.

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DIMARSO. November 1991. Sample of 300 Flemish 'clients' of politicians. Sponsor : Slangen en Partners (advertising agency from Hasselt).

Publication : *De Standaard*, November 20, 1991.

p) When does the 'floating voter' make up his mind ?

Keywords : floating voter / voting behaviour.

DIMARSO. November 1991. Sample of 624 Flemish voters. Sponsor : Slangen en Partners (advertising agency from Hasselt).

Publication : *De Standaard*, November 20, 1991.

q) Political issues and voting intentions

Keywords : sexuality / drugs / abortion / black money / collaboration.

MARKETING UNIT. Time of the polling : *X*. Sample of 500 Flemish voters. Sponsor : Humo.

Publication : *Humo*, November 1991.

r) The effect of political advertising

Keywords : electoral campaign / political posters / electoral slogans.

K.U.LEUVEN. November 21, 1991. Sample of Flemish voters (a three-part survey). Sponsor : Department of Communication Studies of the Catholic University of Leuven.

Publication : *De Standaard*, November 23-24, 1991.

s) Loyal and floating voters

Keywords : party loyalty / floating voter / political parties / electoral growth.

DIMARSO. October 1990 - September 1991. Sample of 28,416 Flemish voters. Sponsor : De Morgen.

Publication : *De Morgen*, November 23-24, 1991.

t) Party preference

Keywords : party preference / floating voter.

DIMARSO. November 22, 1991. Telephone survey of 1,004 Flemish voters. Sponsor : De Morgen.

Publication : *De Morgen*, November 23-24, 1991.

u) Electoral survey

Keywords : voting intentions / right-left scale / voters / voting behaviour / political market.

DIMARSO. October 21 - November 3, 1991. Interview with 845 residents of Flanders of 18 years of age and older. Sponsor : ISPO.

Publication : *De Financieel-Ekonomische Tijd*, November 20, 21 and 22, 1991.

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v) Voting behaviour in the Province of Limburg

Keywords : voting motivation / voting behaviour / voters / compulsory voting / immigrants.

STUDIECENTRUM WILLY CLAES. November 24, 1991. Interview with 1,400 voters from the Province of Limburg. Sponsor : *X*.

Publication : *De Standaard*, December 11, 1991.

w) See also polls E.0.a., E.0.b., E.1.b., and E.2.e.

10. Maintenance of public order

a) Death penalty

Keywords : death penalty.

DIMARSO. Beginning of August 1991. Telephone survey of 1,000 Belgians aged 18 and older. Sponsor : La Dernière Heure.

Publication : *La Dernière Heure*, August 23, 1991.

b) Do the Flemings feel secure ?

Keywords : security / insecurity.

DIMARSO. End of October 1991. Sample of 1,004 Flemings aged 18 and older. Sponsor : De Morgen.

Publication : *De Morgen*, October 29, 1991.

c) See also polls E.12.a. and G.a.

11. War recovery

a) See poll E.6.q.

12. Problems concerning foreigners

a) The attitude of the Brussels residents towards the immigrant-riots

Keywords : immigrants / Brussels / police / gendarmerie.

DIMARSO. May 1991. Sample of 500 Brussels residents. Sponsor : Het Laatste Nieuws.

Publication : *Het Laatste Nieuws*, May 17, 1991.

b) The integration of immigrant youth

Keywords : immigrants / integration.

CLEO-ULG. Time of the polling : *X*. Sample of 1,000 immigrant youth from Wallonia and Brussels aged 16 to 26. Sponsor : The State Secretary for Research Policy.

Publication : *Le Soir* and *De Morgen*, June 19, 1991.

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c) **See also polls A.2.a., A.2.b., E.1.c., E.6.v., and G.a.**

13. Moral values

a) **See polls E.1.c., E.6.q., E.10.a., and G.a.**

14. Church-State relations

a) **See poll G.a.**

15. Traffic problems

a) **Traffic survey**

Keywords : traffic / traffic safety.

DIMARSO. 1991. Sample of 6,000 Flemings (of whom 4,500 are readers of *Uit-Magazine*, edited by the VTB-VAB). Sponsor : VTB-VAB.

Publication : *De Standaard*, October 29, 1991.

b) **The attitude of the Flemings towards the traffic problem**

Keywords : traffic / public transport.

DIMARSO. End of October 1991. Sample of 1,004 Flemings aged 18 and older. Sponsor : De Morgen.

Publication : *De Morgen*, november 4, 1991.

c) **See also poll G.a.**

F. CULTURAL POLICY

1. Education

a) **Knowledge of languages**

Keywords : education / language / youth.

UIA and UFSIA. Time of the polling : *X*. Survey of students of the last year of secondary education throughout Flanders. Sponsor : The Flemish Community Minister for Education.

Publication : *De Standaard*, November 29, 1991.

b) **See also polls A.2.a., F.6.b., and G.a.**

4. Leisure

a) **See poll G.a.**

5. Emancipation of women

a) **See polls E.2.f. and E.6.e.**

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6. Youth

a) The use of alcohol, drugs, tabacco and medicines

Keywords : alcohol / drugs / tabacco / medicines / youth.

RUG. October 1, 1990 - September 30, 1991. Survey in 44 secondary schools in the Province of West Flanders (sample of 1,951 students aged 14 to 19). Sponsor : The Provincial Commission to Prevent Crimes of the Province of West Flanders.

Publication : *Knack*, October 16, 1991 ; the Flemish daily press, October 22, 1991.

b) Satisfaction of the Belgian youth

Keywords : satisfaction / youth / knowledge of languages / informatics / unemployment.

DIMARSO. Time of the polling : *X*. Interviews with Belgian young people aged 15 to 24. Sponsor : Commission of the European Communities.

Publication : *De Standaard*, November 13, 1991.

c) See also polls E.12.b. and F.1.a.

8. Mass communication

a) National listening rating survey

Keywords : radio / listening figures.

MARKETING UNIT. Starting in November 1991. Survey of 75,000 Belgian people (20,000 interviews have been completed). Sponsor : IP (advertising company from Brussels).

Publication : *De Morgen*, December 28, 1991.

11. Sports

a) See poll G.a.

G. OTHER POLLS

a) Public opinion in Flanders

Keywords : environment / traffic safety / security / unemployment / immigrants / education / religion / church / health / sports / politics / King Baudouin / identity / culture / family / housing / happiness.

ITC. End of July. Telephone survey of 624 Flemings aged 18 to 44. Sponsor : Gazet van Antwerpen.

Publication : *Gazet van Antwerpen*, from October 15 till November 16, 1991.

b) End-of-year poll

Keywords : expectations for 1992 / international conflicts / social conditions / economic climate / personal situation.

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DIMARSO. November 15 - 23, 1991. Sample of 989 Belgians aged 15 and older (research conducted simultaneously in 44 other countries). Sponsor : Gallup International.

Publication : The general daily press, beginning of 1992.

List of addresses of the opinion-polling institutes
CENTRE LIEGEOIS D'ETUDE DE L'OPINION - UNIVERSITE DE LIEGE (CLEO - ULG), Boulevard du Rectorat 7, Sart Tilman, 4000 Liège.
DIMARSO, Lambermontlaan 78, 1030 Brussel.
ICSOP-IMSA (IAO), Reigerboslaan 100, 1170 Brussel.
INTERUNIVERSITAIR CENTRUM POLITIEK OPINIEONDERZOEK (ISPO), E. Van Evenstraat 2C, 3000 Leuven.
ITC, Sneeuwbeslaan 20, 2610 Antwerpen - Wilrijk.
MARKETING UNIT, Louisalaan 430, 1050 Brussel.
SOBEMAP, Marsveldplein 5, 1050 Brussel.