GESIS Panel Review Criteria

Please make sure to use the most recent version of this document, which can be found here.

Please note:

All proposals undergo a peer-review process that includes at least two external reviews and one internal review carried out by the GESIS Project Consulting. However, irrespective of external recommendations, the GESIS Panel Team reserves the exclusive right to approve or reject proposals.

External Review Criteria

(1) Originality and incremental value:
Does the proposal contain new and significant research questions adequate to justify a primary data collection? Does the proposal clearly convey the incremental value of the study? In case of a replication: Is the replication well justified in light of the empirical evidence already available?

(2) Relationship to literature:
Does the proposal demonstrate an adequate understanding and synthesis of the relevant literature in the field? Does the proposal cite an appropriate range of literature sources and is any significant work ignored? Are the research aims clearly stated and well supported by relevant literature?

(3) Methodology:
Is the research methodology appropriate and robust for meeting the research aims? Are the methods of data analysis robust as well as explained clearly and adequately? Is the planned analysis strategy adequate?

(4) Quality of the questionnaire:
Are the research constructs well defined and operationalized? Would you propose any changes to the questionnaire, e.g. concerning the wording of the questions?

(5) Implications for research, practice and/or society:
Does the proposal identify clearly any implications for research, practice and/or society? Are these implications consistent with the other parts of the proposal?

(6) Feasibility of dissemination strategy:
Is the sketched dissemination strategy realistic? What are the chances that the target outlets specified will publish the study? In order to guarantee the services of the GESIS Panel we urge our primary researchers to publish their results of their submitted studies.

(7) Your overall recommendation
For their overall recommendation, the reviewers may choose one of the following possibilities:
- Accept as submitted
- Accept if the following minor revisions and changes have been employed (please specify):
- Revise and resubmit with the following major revisions and changes (please specify):
- Reject
Internal Review Criteria

(1) Non-commercial project with a diagnostic focus
Are there any indications that the study might pursue any commercial interests? Is the study designed to manipulate respondents?

(2) Compliance with the GESIS Panel Survey Style Guide
Do the proposed questions comply with all criteria specified in the GESIS Panel Style Guide?

(3) Relevance for the general population
Will all panel members representing the general public be able to understand and answer all the questions? Are the topics addressed relevant for the general population?

(4) Established measurement quality criteria in the area of survey methodology:
Do the questions meet all established measurement standards? Is there a connection between the research question(s) and the survey questions? Do the items have face validity?