Attitudes towards European Reforms: Conjoint Experiments on a European Fiscal Capacity and Pharmaceutical Procurement

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(2) **survey information**

2.1. survey design

This is a conjoint experiment, carried out by IPSOS on behalf of a team based at the University of Amsterdam and at the University of Gent. The survey aims at testing attitudes towards alternative European Fiscal Capacity schemes. We model the different fiscal capacity schemes as varying across six dimensions:

- Budgetary conditions
- Field of expenditure conditions
- Role of the European Commission
- Long-term redistribution
- Long-term impact on taxation
- Termination and fines

Each of these dimensions has multiple levels; these are detailed in the excel file attached to this application. There is a total of 648 possible combinations. Each respondent is, first, randomly attributed to groups. These two groups are faced with different introductions to the experiment: one depicting a long-lasting economic decline, and the other depicting a temporary downturn. After having seen their assigned description, each respondent is confronted with a randomly selected pair of policy packages and he/she is asked (1) to pick the preferred (or least disliked) option, and (2) report how much each combination is liked or disliked (independently from each other). The experiment is repeated three times.

In the second part of the survey, a second conjoint experiment is introduced. This second conjoint experiment pertains to the pooling of resources at EU level to allow for the joint procurement of pharmaceutical products in face of pandemics. The second experiment features three dimensions:

- Object of the collective purchase
- Access to the stockpile
- Decision-making

Similarly to the first conjoint experiment, each of these dimensions features different levels, resulting in a total of 8 different combinations. Again, each respondent is confronted with a randomly selected pair and he/she is

asked (1) to pick the preferred (or least disliked) option, and (2) report how much each combination is liked or disliked (independently from each other). The experiment is repeated three times.

The third part of the survey includes several demographic, attitudinal and socioeconomic questions. An attention check concludes the survey so to ensure that robustness checks can be carried out on the subsambles of respondents passing/failing the test. Further consistency checks will also be carried out by dropping inconsistent responses.

2.2. *data collection*

The survey is carried out in 5 countries: IT, DE, NL, ES, FR. The countries have been selected to ensure variation in (1) welfare state models, (2) economic performance in the past 10 years, (3) long-term position vis-à-vis EU budget, (4) geographical location. Since the main conjoint experiment pertains to the construction of a Euro-Area specific programme, all selected countries belong to the Euro Area.

A pre-test of the experiment has been carried out in November 2019 on a sample of 400 individuals. The full survey will include 2000 respondents in each country. The survey is administered through IPSOS' online platform. While IPSOS panels are already quite representative of the population of each country, we further strengthen the representativeness of the sample by imposing quotas for Education (3 categories based on a 9 categories international standardization built upon ISCED-11 levels), regional distribution (NUTS 1), age, gender, profession (ISCO, 9 categories) and equivalized income (3 categories). The individual's equivalized income is derived real-time from the individual's family income, as adjusted for family composition, so to ensure correspondence with OECD data on equivalized income distribution.

Respondents will be able to take the survey in their own language. In the case of Spain, both Catalan and Spanish versions are available.

At the moment of this registration, **fieldwork is yet to begin.**

The enclosed excel file details all hypotheses raised by the team, for each dimension and each level of the conjoint experiment.