



GESIS Leibniz Institute  
for the Social Sciences

# User Manual for SQP 3.0

Version|**1.1**



## **User Manual for SQP 3.0**

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Published by: GESIS – Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences  
B1 2, 68159 Mannheim, Germany

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## Preface

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The **Survey Quality Predictor (SQP)** is a software developed to predict the measurement quality of survey items for continuous latent variables based on the characteristics of the survey items (such as the topic, the properties of the answer scale, and the mode of administration). In 1980, Willem Saris and colleagues started conducting a series of multitrait-multimethod (MTMM) experiments to obtain information on the quality of thousands of survey items. They could calculate the reliability and validity of all these survey items by following a detailed coding scheme. In 2001, the first SQP version was developed. After the release of SQP 2.0 in 2011 and SQP 2.1 in 2015, further experiments and new functions were added in 2022 to improve the prediction algorithm and the user experience of SQP, resulting in the release of SQP 3.0.

## Before Getting Started

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If you want to use SQP to get a quality estimate of a survey item by coding it yourself, ensure you have all the relevant information ready. This information typically includes:

- the questionnaire (e.g., the wording of the survey item, position of the item within the questionnaire, interviewer instructions)
- possible showcards or lists (e.g., to check for features of the answer scale)
- information on the data collection mode (e.g., computer-assisted, face-to-face)

Only when you have all this information can you code an entire survey item.

Remember always to put yourself in the respondent's perspective. What matters is how the respondent receives the survey item, not how the text of the survey item is entered into SQP.

## Overview

Resources
About SQP
1 Access
2 Database

### Database

Filter by  ⓘ

Advanced filters ⌵

Applied filters

Studies:
Question owner:
Language:
Country:
Quality prediction :
Text:
Characteristics:

clear filters
apply filters

2 Legend of quality:  M My codings  A Authorized codings  O Other users' codings ↗ download

Question	Study	Language	Country	Quality	Actions
↑ <span style="font-size: 0.8em;"> A1 / TvTot / Media use , tv total</span>	ESS Round 1	German	Austria	<span style="font-size: 0.8em;"> A</span> <span style="font-size: 0.8em;"> O</span>	<span style="border: 1px solid #003366; border-radius: 5px; padding: 2px 5px; color: #003366;">6 Replicate</span>
Request for answer text: <b>Wie viel Zeit verbringen Sie an einem normalen Wochentag insgesamt mit Fernsehen?</b>					
Answer options: - gar keine Zeit - weniger als ½ Stunde - mehr als ½ Stunde, bis zu 1 Stunde - mehr als 1 Stunde, bis zu 1 ½ Stunden - mehr als 1½ Stunden, bis zu 2 Stunden - mehr als 2 Stunden, bis zu 2½ Stunden - mehr als 2½ Stunden, bis zu 3 Stunden - 3 Stunden und mehr					
		Information	Quality	Options	
		<span style="font-size: 0.7em;"> A</span> Authorized prediction	n.a.	<span style="font-size: 0.8em;"> 👁</span> <span style="font-size: 0.8em;"> 🗑</span> <span style="font-size: 0.8em;"> 📄</span>	
		<span style="font-size: 0.7em;"> O</span> User1619 prediction	0.574	<span style="border: 1px solid #003366; border-radius: 5px; padding: 2px 5px; color: #003366;">5</span> <span style="font-size: 0.8em;"> 👁</span> <span style="font-size: 0.8em;"> 🗑</span> <span style="font-size: 0.8em;"> 📄</span>	
		<span style="font-size: 0.7em;"> O</span> User3626 prediction	n.a.	<span style="font-size: 0.8em;"> 👁</span> <span style="font-size: 0.8em;"> 🗑</span> <span style="font-size: 0.8em;"> 📄</span>	
		<span style="font-size: 0.7em;"> O</span> User3730 prediction	0.553	<span style="font-size: 0.8em;"> 👁</span> <span style="font-size: 0.8em;"> 🗑</span> <span style="font-size: 0.8em;"> 📄</span>	
		<span style="font-size: 0.7em;"> M</span> My quality prediction		<span style="border: 1px solid #003366; border-radius: 5px; padding: 2px 5px; color: #003366;">4</span> <span style="font-size: 0.8em;"> 🖋</span>	

Add your own question and obtain its quality prediction

↗ add a question

# 1 Registration and Login

## 1.1 Registration

To fully use SQP 3.0, you must create an account on [sqp.gesis.org](http://sqp.gesis.org).

- (1) Click on the “Access” drop-down menu.
- (2) Click on “Register.”

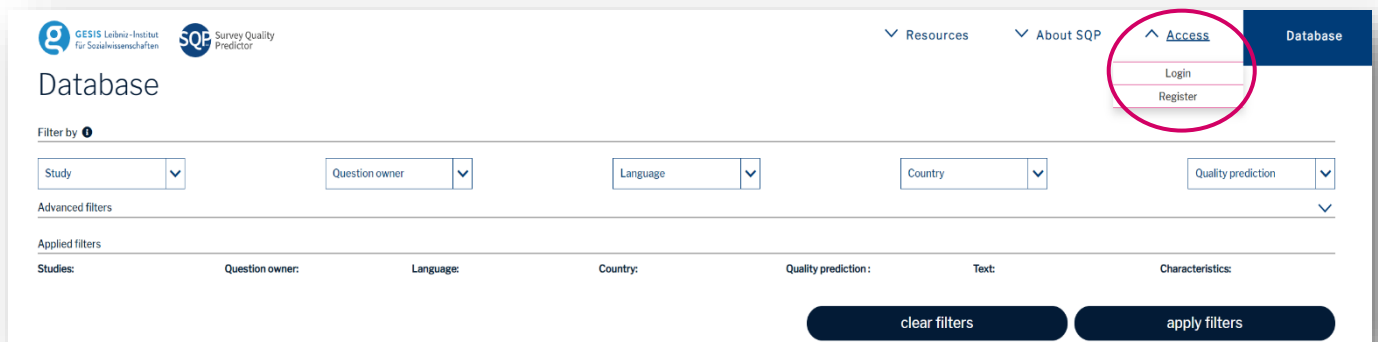


Figure 1 – SQP landing page

- (3) Fill in all necessary information and accept the Privacy Policy and the Conditions of Use.

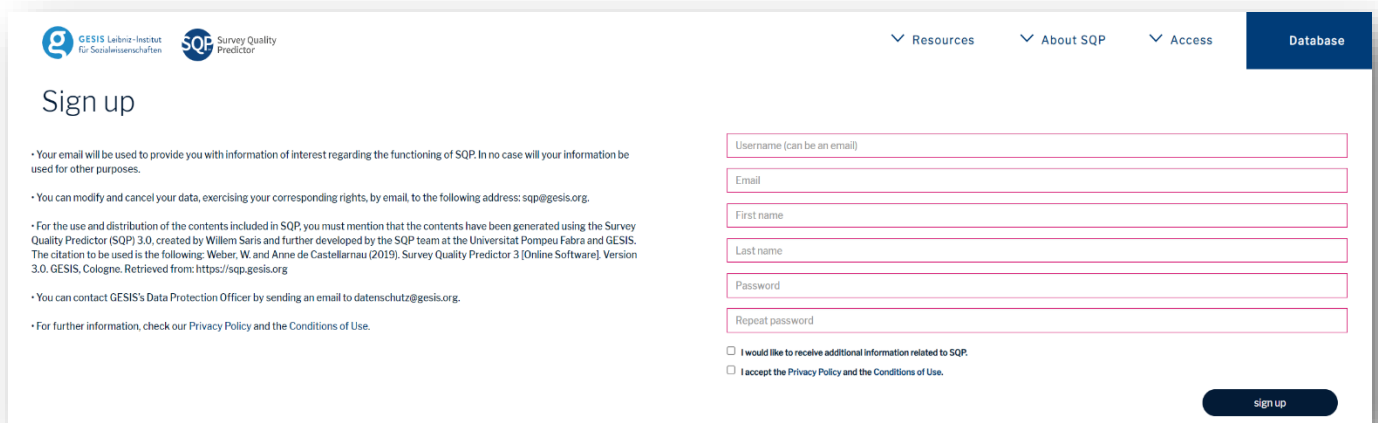


Figure 2 – Registration page

- (4) Click on “Sign up.”
- (5) Confirm the automatically sent e-mail in your e-mail account.
- (6) Log in with the chosen username and password

## 1.2 Login

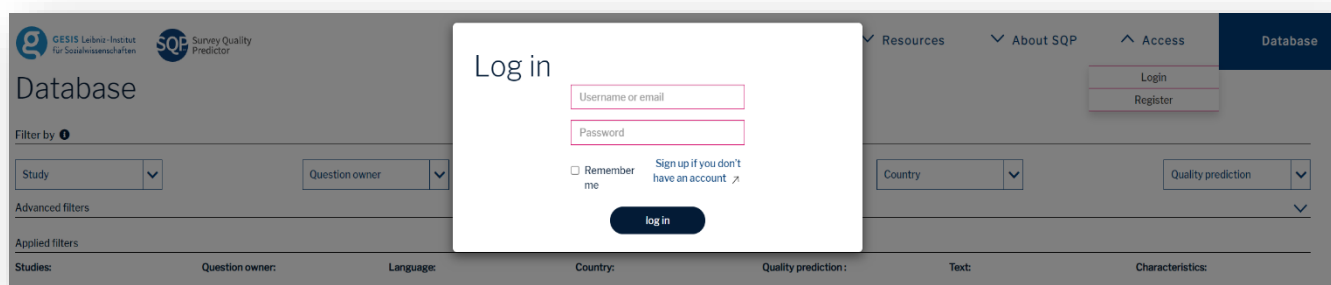


Figure 3 – Login window

To log in to an existing account:

- (1) Click the button “Access” and choose “Login”.
- (2) Enter your username and password into the designated spaces and click “log in.”

Once logged in, you can use the full functionality of SQP.

## 2 Database

We first describe the database and its features. To get to the database, click “Database” in the upper right corner of the main page. The SQP database is searchable, thanks to different filters. It contains survey items and, if available, information on their quality.

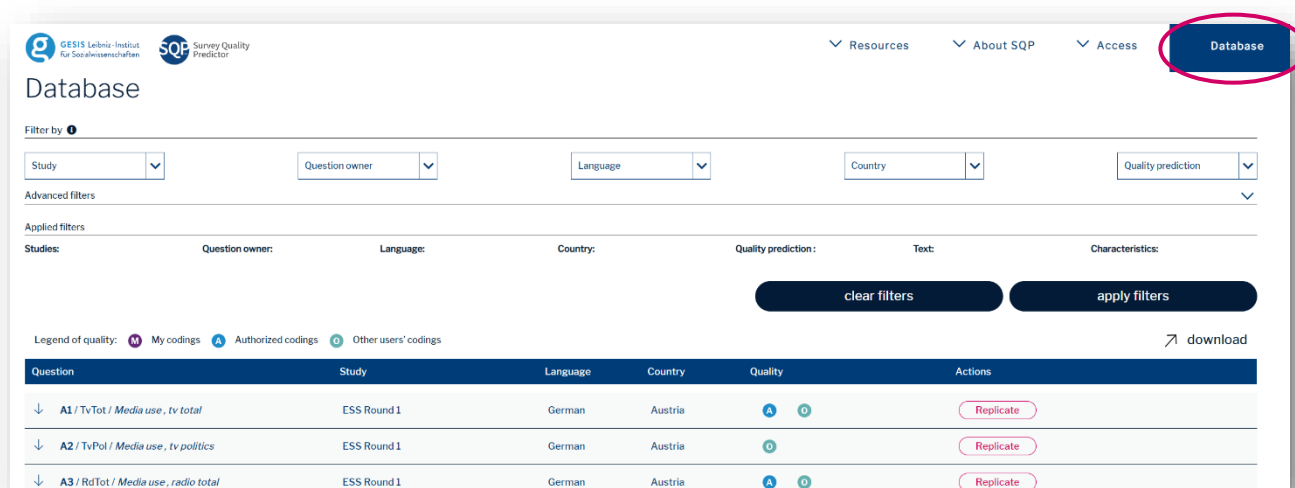


Figure 4 - Database

The database contains the columns below.

**Question:** consists of the short name of the survey item in the questionnaire (e.g., A1), the variable name in the dataset (e.g., TvTot), and a brief description of the concept measured (e.g., media use, tv total) separated each by a slash (i.e., /)

**Study:** name of the study the survey item belongs to (e.g., ESS Round 1)

**Language:** the language in which the survey item is formulated (e.g., German)

**Country:** the country in which the survey item is asked (e.g., Austria)

**Quality:** provides the quality predictions of all users, if available, where

- M** means that the prediction is based on the codings of the logged-in user,
- A** that the quality prediction is based on the coding of a trained user and authorized by the SQP team and
- O** that the prediction is based on other users' codings

**Actions:** the possibility of replicating the survey item (for a detailed description, see **Fehler! Verweisquelle konnte nicht gefunden werden.**)

## 2.1 Filtering Questions

You can search the database by applying the study, question owner, language, country, and quality prediction **filters** (see **Step 1**). For example, you may select the study ESS Round 1 (**Step 2**). After defining one or several filters, click the “apply filters” button to get the new search result (**Step 3**).

The screenshot shows the SQP Database interface. At the top, there are navigation links for Resources, About SQP, Access, and Database. The main heading is 'Database'. Below it, there is a 'Filter by' section with dropdown menus for Study, Question owner, Language, Country, and Quality prediction. A red box labeled '1' highlights these filter menus. Below the filters, there are buttons for 'All', 'None', and 'Mine'. A table of results is displayed with columns for Study, Language, Country, Quality, and Actions. A red box labeled '2' points to the 'ESS Round 1' entry in the Study column. At the bottom right of the table, there is a 'Replicate' button. A red box labeled '3' points to the 'apply filters' button.

Study	Language	Country	Quality	Actions
tv total	ESS Round 1	German	Austria	A, O, Replicate

Figure 5 - Filters



You can always see the active filters in the row “applied filters” (**Step 4**). If you want to reset the chosen filters, click “clear filters.” (**Step 5**)

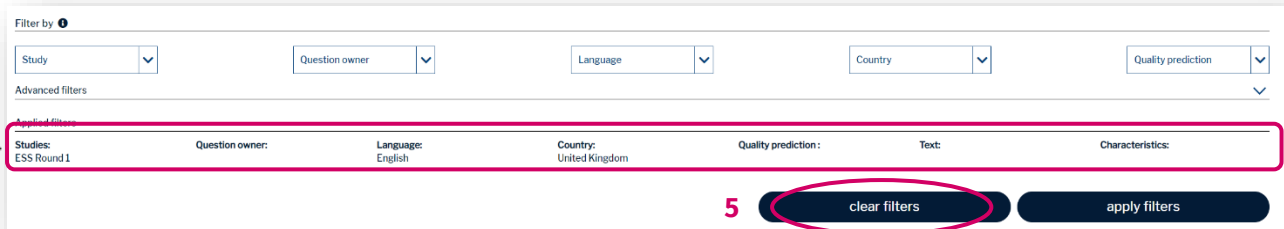


Figure 6 – Clear filters

Furthermore, there are **advanced filters** (see Figure 7). You can find these filters when clicking on the arrow on the right in the row “advanced filters” (**Step 6**), as shown in Figure 8. You can filter “by text” or “by coding characteristics” (**Step 7**).

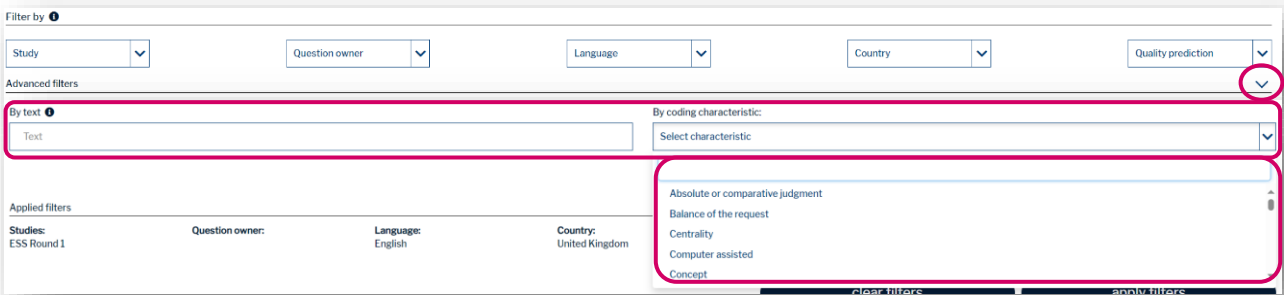


Figure 7 – Advanced filters 1

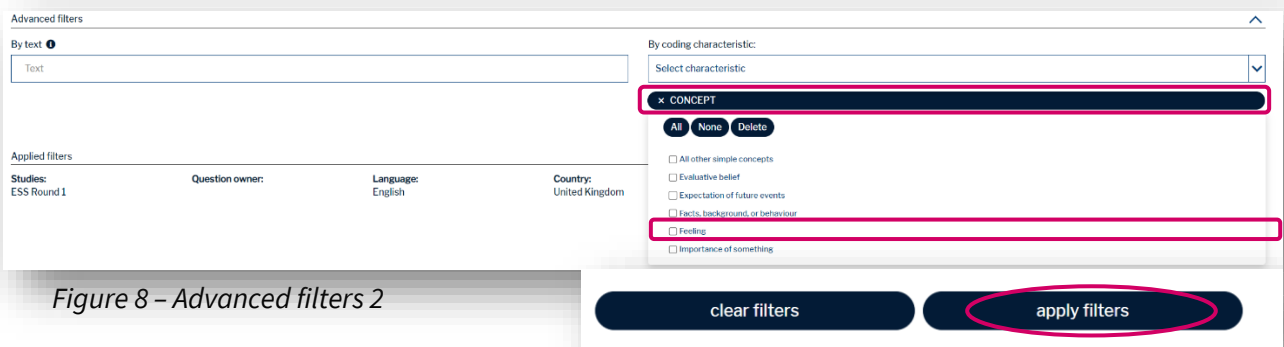


Figure 8 – Advanced filters 2

Imagine you want to filter the database for all survey items whose characteristic “Centrality” was coded as “a bit central.” To do so, you must first select “Centrality” in the “by coding characteristic” filter by clicking on the term in the drop-down menu or by typing the term in the search bar (**Step 8**). Click anywhere on the screen to see that you have selected the characteristic (**Step 9**). Then, you need to click on “Concept” and select “Feeling” (**Step 10**). Finally, click anywhere on the screen to make the “apply filters” button visible again, and click on it (**Step 11**).

## 2.2 Searching Questions

Suppose you know of a specific survey item in a study or are interested in a specific language or country. In that case, you can apply the drop-down filtering options—such as the name of the study, the language, and the country—to obtain a more precise search list.

For instance, if you are interested in a survey item fielded in the United Kingdom in the first round of the European Social Survey (ESS Round 1), you should select the following options:

Study = ESS Round 1

Country = United Kingdom

With these specifications, the results are narrowed down to 319 results. If you are now interested in a specific topic, you can use the advanced filter “by text” to look for particular wording in any part of the survey item (i.e., the name, the short name, the concept, or the text of the survey item).

Imagine you are interested in survey items related to “political efficacy.” You only have to search for words related to the topic to get a shorter list of survey items. *Figure 9* illustrates the search for the buzzword “political efficacy” among all the questions from ESS Round 1 in the United Kingdom. The list reduces to 11 results.

↓ B6 / PittnVt / External political efficacy, people's opinions	ESS Round 1	English	United Kingdom	Replicate
↓ B7 / TrstPri / Political trust, institutions, parliament	ESS Round 1	English	United Kingdom	Replicate
↓ B8 / TrstLg / Political trust, institutions, legal system	ESS Round 1	English	United Kingdom	Replicate
↓ B9 / TrstPlc / Political trust, institutions, police	ESS Round 1	English	United Kingdom	Replicate
↓ B10 / TrstPtl / Political trust, authorities, politicians	ESS Round 1	English	United Kingdom	Replicate
Total: 321 filtered from 71959 questions				
↓ H6 / TEST6 / Internal political efficacy, make up mind	ESS Round 1	English	United Kingdom	A
↓ H22 / TEST22 / Internal political efficacy, complicated	ESS Round 1	English	United Kingdom	A
↓ H23 / TEST23 / Internal political efficacy, active role	ESS Round 1	English	United Kingdom	A
↓ H24 / TEST24 / Internal political efficacy, make up mind	ESS Round 1	English	United Kingdom	A
Total: 11 filtered from 71959 questions				

Figure 9 – Applied filters

### 3 Adding Studies and Questions

You can add new survey items to the database by clicking “add a question,” which is located at the bottom of the landing *and* database pages. Follow the instructions below to add a new survey item correctly.

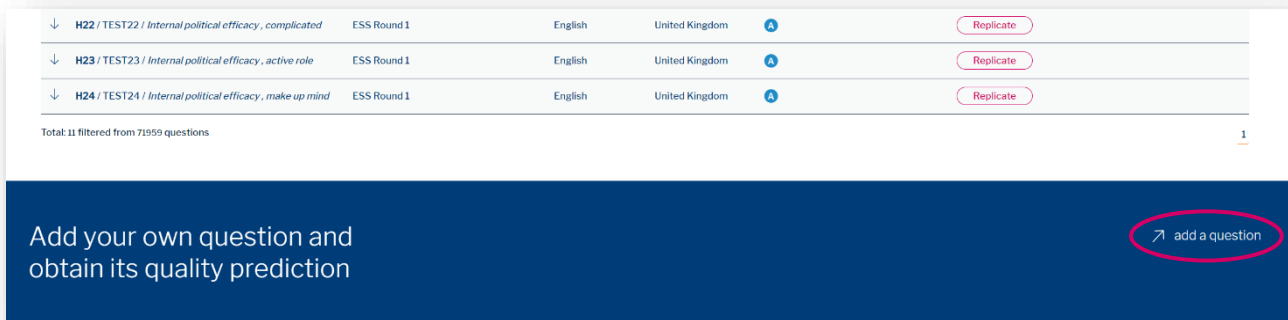


Figure 10 – Button for adding a new survey item

#### 3.1 Selecting and Creating New Studies

First, you need to (a) select an existing study from the list or (b) create a new study. Then, you can create a new survey item (either within an existing study or a new one).

**(a) Selecting an existing study:** open the drop-down menu and choose the desired study with the search feature (**Step 1**).

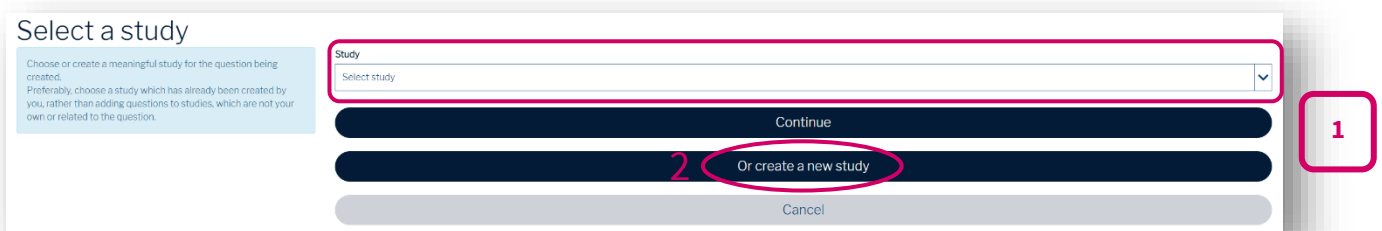


Figure 11 – Selecting an already existing study or creating a new study

**(b) Creating a new study:** click on the button “Or create a new study” (**Step 2**) and fill in the boxes; click on “Create” (**Step 3**).

Create a study

Name  
Enter study name

Institution or company  
Enter institution or company

Year  
Enter year

Country  
Enter country

3 Create Cancel

Figure 12 – Creating a new study, filling out all the required aspects

### 3.2 Creating Questions

Once you have selected an existing study or created a new one (see 3.1), you can add a new survey item to the database. The following screen appears:

Country  
Select country

Language  
Select language

Short Name in the questionnaire (e.g. "A1", "B1" or "A-1.C"; no space characters)

Variable Name in the dataset (e.g., "RdTot" or "PollIntr" or "209.1.1"; no space characters) - optional -

Concept (e.g., "Media use, radio total" or "Political interest" or "Trust in institutions, political parties (method 1)"; use short, concise terms or word groups, no sentences)

Introduction text - optional -

Request for answer text

Answer options - optional -

Save only temporarily. ⓘ

create cancel

Figure 13 – Survey item interface after choosing an existing study or having created a new study

To create a new survey item, please follow the instructions given below. Users should leave the “Answer options” box empty for open-ended survey items. Additional information, such as respondent or interviewer instructions, should not be included here.

- (1) Select the *country* from the list where the survey item is fielded (e.g., “United Kingdom”).
- (2) Select the *language* in which the survey item is presented to the respondents (e.g., “English”).
- (3) Write the *short name* of the survey item as it appears in the questionnaire. This is typically a number but may also be a letter or a combination of the two (e.g., “Q1”).
- (4) Write the *variable name* of the survey item as it appears (or is supposed to appear) in the dataset. Usually, this is some abbreviated form of what the survey item is supposed to measure (e.g., “Q1MC”).
- (5) Write the concept of what the survey item is supposed to measure (e.g., “media consumption”).
- (6) If the survey item has an introductory text, enter it in the *Introduction text* field. The introduction is often used to inform the respondent about the topic of the survey question or a set of related survey questions (e.g., “Many people like to watch TV in their leisure time.”).
- (7) Enter the sentence (or sentences) prompting the respondent to answer the *Request for Answer text* field (e.g., “How much TV do you watch on average per day?”).
- (8) The *Answer options* need to be introduced line by line in the designated field (e.g., “<1 hour,” “1-2 hours,” “2-3 hours,” “3-4 hours,” and “>4 hours”).
- (9) Finally, click “create” to save and upload the survey item. If you only want to test the function of creating a new survey item and do not want to keep the item permanently, check the “Save only temporarily” box. The survey item will automatically be deleted from the database after 30 days.

## 4 Coding the Characteristics of Questions

So far, you have learned how to register, log in, explore the database, and add new survey items. Now, we explain the key feature of SQP—the coding of survey items and their quality predictions.

Please follow these preliminary instructions:

- (1) Choose a survey item that you want to code by clicking on it.
- (2) Click the pencil symbol.



Question	Study	Language	Country	Quality	Actions
↑ B9 / TrstPlc / Political trust, institutions, police	ESS Round 1	German	Austria	A	Replicate
Request for answer text: der Polizei		Information		Quality	Options
Answer options: • 0 überhaupt kein Vertrauen • 1 • 2 • 3 • 4 • 5 • 6 • 7 • 8 • 9 • 10 vollständiges Vertrauen		A Authorized prediction		0,764	
		M My quality prediction			

Figure 14 – Coding the characteristics of survey items

After these steps, you are about to begin coding the survey item. Before going into more detail, we prepared a list of all characteristics that can be coded below. Note that the number of characteristics varies depending on the survey item.

Code the characteristics of the survey item one by one, carefully following the coding instructions. When unsure which option to select, read the help screens presented for each characteristic and choose the most fitting option (see *Figure 15*).

### Code question

ESS Round 1 / B9 / TrstPlc / Political trust, institutions, police / Austria / German

Quality prediction: previous next

Domain

Please select one

- National politics
- European Union politics
- International politics
- Family
- Personal relations
- Work
- Consumer behaviour
- Leisure activities
- Health
- Living conditions and background variables
- Other domains

Domain

The characteristic domain refers to the general subject of the question, the topic of what is being asked. After selecting a general category for the domain, a more specific domain should be specified. The following classification was proposed by Saris and Gallhofer (2014). Even if an option seems reasonable for the domain of the question, there may be a better one under another heading. The domains proposed are:

- **National politics:** e.g., political interest, willingness to join in political actions, left-right placement, support of democracy, etc.
- **European Union politics:** e.g., European institutions, European laws, European norms, prominent European persons, etc.
- **International politics:** e.g., international institutions, international laws, international norms, international conflicts/wars, etc.
- **Family:** e.g., marriage, children, unconditional love, role of women, transmission of values, etc.
- **Personal relations:** e.g., social networks, confidence in others, solidarity, tolerance, permissiveness, etc.
- **Work:** e.g., importance, work qualities, job satisfaction, work ethics, obedience to one's superiors, etc.
- **Consumer behaviour:** e.g., consumer habits, household expenses, brand satisfaction, etc.
- **Leisure activities:** e.g., hobbies, relaxation time, cultural activities, holidays, etc.
- **Health:** e.g., doctor's treatment, health condition, use of medicines/drugs, etc.
- **Living conditions and background variables:** e.g., age, marital status, nationality, income, gender, education, etc.
- **Other domains:** e.g., happiness, religion, philosophy, norms, etc.

Coding of question characteristics

Progress %

Question

Request for answer text:  
der Polizei

Answer options:  
• 0 überhaupt kein Vertrauen  
• 1  
• 2  
• 3  
• 4  
• 5  
• 6  
• 7  
• 8  
• 9  
• 10 vollständiges Vertrauen

Characteristic: Choice

Figure 15 – Help screen

To complete the coding of a survey item and obtain a quality prediction, you must code between 30 and 60 characteristics from approximately 70. At first, this may seem rather tedious. However, as soon as you become familiar with the characteristics and their meanings, the coding procedure becomes simpler and goes faster. Once all characteristics are coded, SQP 3.0 automatically estimates the quality.

## 4.1 List of Characteristics

The following table provides an overview of the characteristics users are asked to code in SQP (for further details, see the document “Coding Instructions”).

Summary of Coding Characteristics	
<b>Domain</b>	The topic of the assertion that one wants to measure using this survey item. It is determined by the research goal.
<b>Concept</b>	The concept one wants to measure should be classified as one of the basic concepts distinguished on the list in SQP.
<b>Social desirability</b>	Social desirability relates to the choice of the domain. Identifies sensitive/delicate/irritable survey items, which can bias responses.
<b>Centrality</b>	Centrality is also directly connected to the choice of the domain. It measures the familiarity of the respondents with the topic.
<b>Reference period</b>	Reference period refers to the time period mentioned in the request, which can be present, past, or future.
<b>Formulation of the request for an answer: basic choice</b>	A request can be formulated directly or indirectly or not be present (e.g., when the item belongs to a survey item battery and is not the first item).

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<b>WH word used in the request</b>	Requests may start with words like: who, which, what, when, where, how, to what extent, to what/which degree, or whether (or their corresponding translations in other languages).
<b>Request for an answer type</b>	Requests may be formulated in an interrogative, imperative, or declarative form.
<b>Use of gradation</b>	Identifies requests indicating responses that can be ordered from low to high or high to low.
<b>Balance of the request</b>	Identifies leading survey items. A request is balanced when it contains both possible answer poles and unbalanced when just one pole is mentioned.
<b>Presence of encouragement to answer</b>	Requests may encourage for the respondent to answer, such as: “Please, tell me...,” “We would like to ask you...,” etc.
<b>Emphasis on subjective opinion</b>	Requests may emphasize the opinion of the respondent, such as: “Please give us your opinion about...,” “According to you...,” “What do you think about...,” etc.
<b>Information regarding the opinion of other people</b>	Requests may include information on other people’s opinions, such as: “Some people are against nuclear energy while others are in favor of it.”
<b>Use of stimulus or statement in the request</b>	Survey items may be part of item batteries. A stimulus in a survey item can be a noun or a combination of words. A statement in



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	a survey item consists of complete sentences.
<b>Absolute or comparative judgment</b>	Identifies whether respondents have to make an absolute or comparative judgment.
<b>Response scale: basic choice</b>	Identifies what types of answer options are provided: two-category scales, more than two-category scales, more-step procedures, numerical open-ended scales, magnitude estimation, or line production.
<b>Response scale characteristics</b>	Number of categories Maximum possible value Labels of the categories Labels with short text or complete sentences Order of the labels Correspondence between the labels and the numbers of the scale Theoretical range of the scale: unipolar/bipolar Range of the used scale: unipolar/bipolar Symmetry of the response scale Neutral category Number of fixed reference points
<b>Don't know option</b>	Identifies whether there is a "Don't know" option.

<b>Interviewer instruction</b>	When the survey is interviewer-administered, interviewer instructions may be present (e.g., to indicate what showcard to give to the respondent).
<b>Respondent instruction</b>	Sometimes, respondents receive instructions (usually in an imperative or polite form).
<b>Extra information or definition available</b>	Sometimes, extra information or definitions are provided. It is considered extra because the question could also be asked without it.
<b>Knowledge provided</b>	Determines what type of information is provided: definitions, other explanations, or both.
<b>Introduction available</b>	Sometimes, introductions are available. They serve to introduce the topic.
<b>Linguistic characteristics of</b>	Number of sentences in the introduction
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>the introduction,</b></li> <li>• <b>the request for an answer, and</b></li> <li>• <b>the answer scale</b></li> </ul>	Number of words in the introduction
	Number of subordinate clauses in the introduction
	Request present in the introduction
	Number of sentences in the request
	Number of words in the request
	Number of nouns in the request for an answer
	Number of abstract nouns in the request for an answer

---

	Number of syllables in the request
	Number of subordinate clauses in the request
	Number of syllables in the answer scale
	Number of nouns in the answer scale
	Number of abstract nouns in the answer scale
<b>Showcard used</b>	Sometimes, interviewers use showcards that show the response options or assist in explaining the survey item.
<b>Showcard characteristics</b>	Horizontal or vertical scale
	Overlap of scale labels and categories
	Numbers or letters before answer categories
	Scale with only numbers or numbers in boxes
	Start of the response sentence on the visual aid
	Request on the visual aid
	Picture provided
<b>Computer-assisted</b>	Identifies the mode of data collection: computer-assisted or not.
<b>Interviewer</b>	Identifies the mode of data collection: personal interview or self-administered questionnaire.
<b>Visual or oral presentation</b>	The questionnaire may be presented visually (i.e., respondents complete it

**Position**

themselves) or orally (i.e., the questions are read out to the respondent).

Indicates the position of the survey item in the questionnaire.

Table 1 – List of characteristics for coding survey items

## 5 Viewing, Copying and Comparing Codings

### 5.1 Viewing and Interpreting Questions

- (1) Click on a survey item in the database to open its drop-down menu.
- (2) Click on the eye symbol to view the detailed quality prediction.

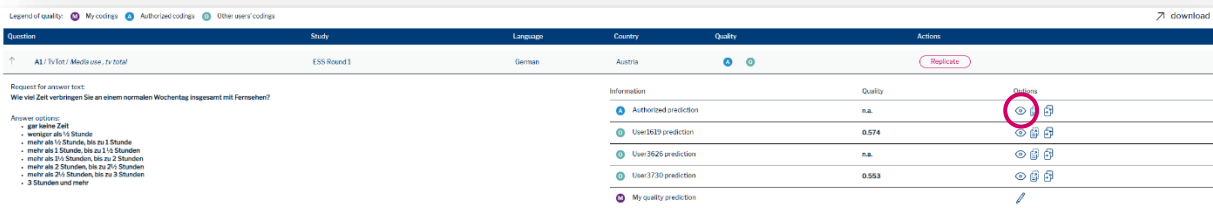


Figure 16 – Viewing the details of a quality prediction

SQP 3.0 assesses the quality of a survey item based on its predicted reliability and validity and presents an overview of the most important values within two tables. Table 1 (1) displays the *quality prediction*, *reliability*, and *validity*. Table 2 (2) contains more detailed information on the reliability, validity, and quality coefficients, the interquartile ranges, and the method effect coefficient.

1

### View question

ESS Round 1 / A1 / TvTot / Media use , tv total / Austria / German

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Quality prediction

	Prediction
Reliability ( $r^2$ ) = 1 - random error	0.710
Validity ( $v^2$ ) = 1 - method effect	0.780
Quality ( $q^2$ ) = reliability ( $r^2$ ) x validity ( $v^2$ )	0.553

	Prediction	Interquartile range
Reliability Coefficient (r)	0.842	(0.810, 0.920)
Validity Coefficient (v)	0.883	(0.830, 0.970)
Quality Coefficient (q)	0.744	
Method Effect Coefficient ( $\mu$ )	0.469	

go to dashboard
go to database

2

Figure 17 – Quality prediction

## 5.2 Copying Codings

As a new feature in SQP 3.0, you can copy the coding of a survey item and paste the coding into another survey item. This method is handy for survey item batteries, which can be coded much faster.

- (1) Click on a survey item in the database to open its drop-down menu.
- (2) Click on the “copy” symbol (see below).

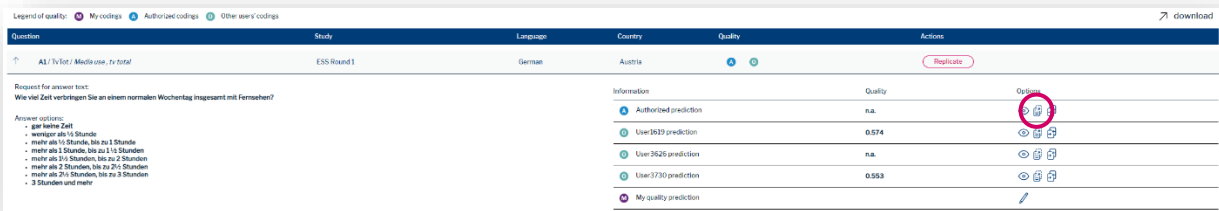


Figure 18 – Copying a coding

- (3) After the database reloads, choose the survey item the coding should be transferred into.
- (4) Click on the “paste” symbol.

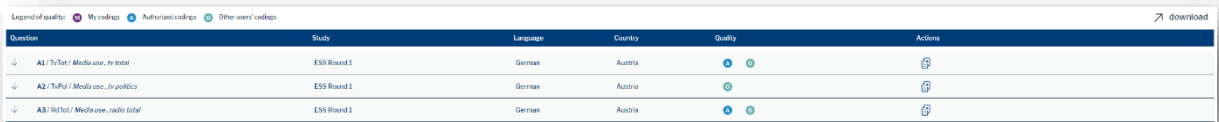


Figure 19 – Pasting a coding

- (5) Check the summary of the copying process and either click on “create a new coding” to create a new coding for the chosen survey item or “overwrite current coding” to substitute your already existing coding (see Figures 20 and 21).

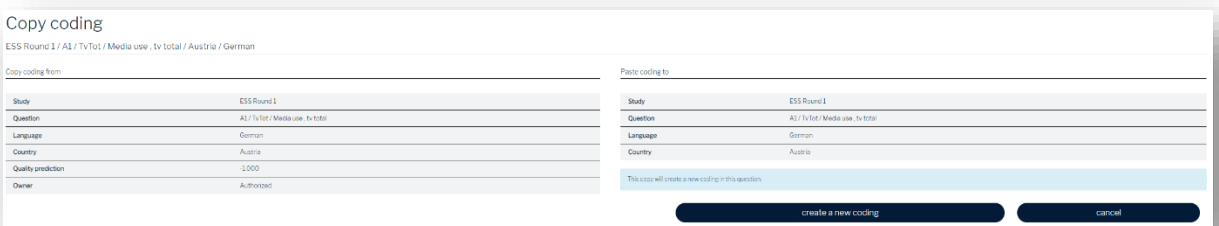


Figure 20 – Creating a new coding

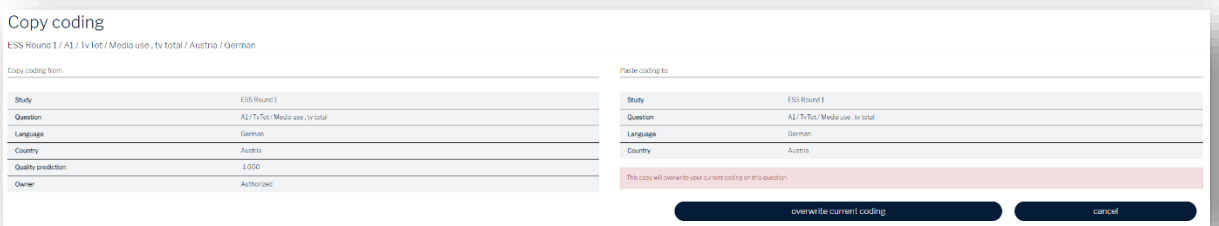


Figure 21 – Overwriting a current coding

- (6) To terminate the copying process, click “Cancel copy” (see Figures 20 and 21).
- (7) Once the copying process is finished, you can edit specific characteristics of the coding. To do this, click on the relevant characteristic (see Figure 22), and follow the coding instructions (see Chapter “4 Coding the Characteristics of Questions”). Be aware that some questions are connected to filters, meaning that changing a characteristic may result in you having to code Additional characteristics.

Characteristic	Choice
> Domain	National politics
> Domain: national politics	National government
> Concept	Evaluative belief
> Social Desirability	Not present
> Centrality	Not at all central/salient
> Reference period	Future

Figure 22 – Editing copied codings

### 5.3 Comparing Codings

Another (new) feature of SQP 3.0 is the comparison of two codings—either different codings of the same survey item or different survey items. In this way, you can look at the difference that coding certain characteristics differently in the same survey item makes on the quality prediction or the variations between survey items.

- (1) Click on a survey item in the database to open its drop-down menu.
- (2) Click on the “compare” symbol (see Figure 23).

Information	Quality	Options
Authorized prediction	n.a.	
User3639 prediction	0.574	
User3626 prediction	n.a.	
User3730 prediction	0.553	
My quality prediction		

Figure 23 – Comparing codings

- (3) After the database reloads, choose the survey item you want to compare the coding with and click to open its drop-down menu (see Figure 24).

Information	Quality	Options
User50 prediction	0.553	
User2 prediction	n.a.	
User3354 prediction	0.544	
User3470 prediction	0.494	
User3626 prediction	0.539	
My quality prediction		

Figure 24 – Choosing the coding which should be compared

After that, a table containing all the codes is shown. Differences in the coding are highlighted in blue, while path-dependent differences are highlighted in orange. At the bottom of the page, all coefficients of the quality predictions are compared, enabling you to fully understand the impact of the differences between codings. The table can be downloaded as a CSV file via the blue button in the top and bottom right corner, ready to be used in Microsoft Excel or similar programs. If available, comparing a survey item with the authorized coding is recommended.

Compare code

ESS Round 1 / A1 / TvTot / Media use, tv total / Austria / German VS ESS Round 1 / A2 / TVPol / Media use, tv politics / Austria / German

Legend:   Difference due to the coding   Difference due to the coding of the previous characteristic

Questions	Question #1	Question #2
Status	ESS Round 1	ESS Round 1
Question name	A1 / tv tot / Media use, tv total	A2 / tv pol / Media use, tv politics
Country/Country prediction	Austria	Austria
Language	German	German
Request for an answer text	Wie viel Zeit verbringen Sie an einem normalen Wochentag insgesamt mit Fernsehen?	Wenn Sie wieder an einen normalen Wochentag denken, wie viel von Ihrer Fernsehzeit verbringen Sie damit, sich Nachrichten oder Sendungen über Politik und über das aktuelle Geschehen anzusehen? Verwenden Sie weiterhin diese Skala.
Answer options	gar keine Zeit weniger als 1 Stunde mehr als 1 Stunde bis zu 1 1/2 Stunden mehr als 1 1/2 Stunden bis zu 2 Stunden mehr als 2 Stunden bis zu 2 1/2 Stunden mehr als 2 1/2 Stunden bis zu 3 Stunden 3 Stunden oder mehr	gar keine Zeit weniger als 1 Stunde mehr als 1 Stunde bis zu 1 1/2 Stunden mehr als 1 1/2 Stunden bis zu 2 Stunden mehr als 2 Stunden bis zu 2 1/2 Stunden mehr als 2 1/2 Stunden bis zu 3 Stunden 3 Stunden oder mehr
User	authorized coding	user76 coding
Codings	Coding of Question #1	Coding of Question #2
Domain	leisure activities	leisure activities
Domain leisure activities	Television	Television politics
Domain national politics		National government
Concept	Facts, background, or behaviour	Evaluative belief
Social Desirability	A bit	Not present
Centrality	Rather central	Not at all central/important
Reference period	Present	Future
Formulation of the request for an answer, basic choice	Direct request	Indirect request
Will word used in the request	Will word used	Will word used
Will word	How (quantity)	Who
Request for an answer type	Interpretative	Interpretative
Quality prediction	Prediction of Question #1	Prediction of Question #2
Reliability + 1 - random error (r <sup>2</sup> )	Not applicable	0.720
Validity + 1 - method effect (v <sup>2</sup> )	Not applicable	0.780
Quality + reliability (r <sup>2</sup> ) + validity (v <sup>2</sup> )	Not applicable	0.780
Reliability Coefficient (r)	Not applicable	0.842
Validity Coefficient (v)	Not applicable	0.883
Quality Coefficient (q)	Not applicable	0.744
Method Effect Coefficient (m)	Not applicable	0.469
Reliability Coefficient Interquartile Range	Not applicable	0.830 - 0.920
Validity Coefficient Interquartile Range	Not applicable	0.830 - 0.970

download as CSV file

Figure 25 – Table with the comparison of codes

## 6 Editing, Deleting, and Replicating of Items

### 6.1 Editing

If you want to change something about a survey item you added yourself, you can edit it later.

- (1) Click the “Edit” button in the database next to the survey item.

Legend of quality: ● My codings ● Authorized codings ● Other users' codings

Question	Study	Language	Country	Quality	Actions
HL_carry_5 / TEST1A / Media use, tv total	Replicate and correct visual aid	Swedish	Finland	0	Replicate Edit
HL_carry_4 / TEST10 / Social trust, corvitz	Replicate and correct visual aid	Swedish	Finland	0	Replicate Edit

Request for answer text:  
Skulle Ni säga att man i allmänhet kan lita på de flesta människor eller att man inte kan vara nog försiktig när man har att göra med andra människor? Vill ett alternativ som är närmast ditt bäst på en skala från 0 till 5, där 0 betyder att man inte kan vara nog försiktig och 5 betyder att man kan lita på de flesta människor.

Answer codings:  
0 Man kan inte vara tillräckligt försiktig  
1  
2  
3  
4  
5 Man kan lita på de flesta människor

My quality prediction: 0.689

Figure 26 – Editing a survey item

- (1) Look over the pre-filled boxes and make the desired changes.
- (2) Save the changes by clicking “Save” at the bottom of the page (see Chapter “3.2 Creating Questions”).

## 6.2 Deleting

You can delete a survey item that you have created yourself by clicking on the trash can symbol. When you delete the item, its coding and quality prediction are also deleted. You cannot delete other users’ survey items.

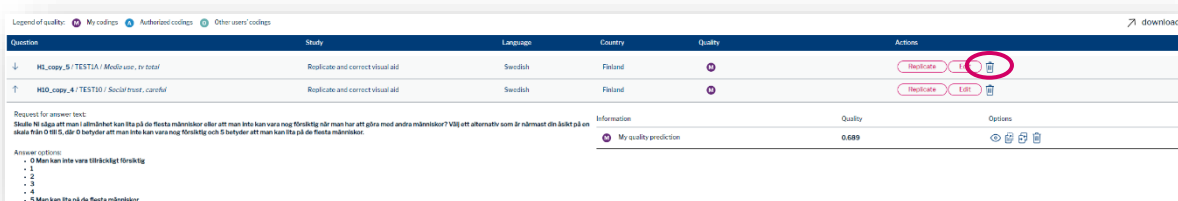


Figure 27 – Deleting a survey item

## 6.3 Replicating

You can replicate survey items, including one of the codings. This function works equally for survey items created by you and other users. That way, survey items can easily be replicated between studies. For example, in pre-and post-election surveys, questions may remain somewhat stable, and only a few words and characteristics may change. The replicating function makes introducing repeated survey items to the database easy.

- (1) In the database, click the “Replicate” button.

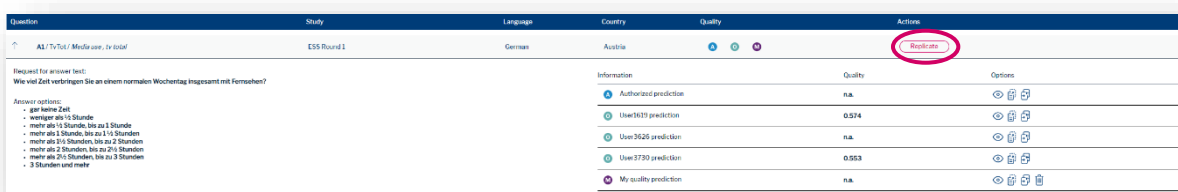


Figure 28 – Replicating a survey item

- (2) Select the study the survey item should be replicated into and the desired coding/prediction (if available).



**Replicate**

ESS Round 1 / A1 / TvTot / Media use , tv total / Austria / German

To replicate a question in order to change it, please select below a study to include the replicated question.

If you only want to change the coding, please do so by adding "My Quality Prediction" in the database among the option of the question.

ESS Round 1

Select the coding with the quality prediction you want to copy

- Authorized prediction : -1.000
- Other user prediction (User1619) : 0.574
- Other user prediction (User3626) : -1.000
- Other user prediction (User3730) : 0.553
- My prediction : -1.000

continue cancel

Figure 29 – Choosing a study where replicated survey item should be included

- (3) Check the pre-filled boxes and make necessary changes (see Figure 30).
- (4) Save the changes by clicking “Save” at the bottom of the page and complete the replication.

**Edit question**

ESS Round 1 / A1\_copy / TvTot / Media use , tv total / Austria / German

Country  
Austria

Language  
German

Short Name in the questionnaire (e.g. "A1", "B1" or "A-1C"; no space characters)  
A1\_copy

Variable Name in the dataset (e.g. "RdTot" or "Pollint" or "20911"; no space characters) - optional -  
TvTot

Concept (e.g. "Media use, radio total" or "Political interest" or "Trust in institutions, political parties (method 1)"; use short, concise terms or word groups, no sentences)  
Media use , tv total

Introduction text - optional -

Request for answer text  
Wie viel Zeit verbringen Sie an einem normalen Wochentag insgesamt mit Fernsehen?

Answer options - optional -  
gar keine Zeit  
weniger als ½ Stunde  
mehr als ½ Stunde, bis zu 1 Stunde  
mehr als 1 Stunde, bis zu 1 ½ Stunden  
mehr als 1 ½ Stunden, bis zu 2 Stunden

Save only temporarily

save cancel

Figure 30 – Saving a replicated survey item

Now, you are ready to use SQP 3.0. If you encounter any problems, contact us at [sqp@gesis.org](mailto:sqp@gesis.org).