RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

SAMPLE DESIGN
The sample is statistically representative of the Slovak population aged 16-29 in terms of gender, education level, and region.

SAMPLE SIZE
- 508 respondents
- **Age:** 16-29
- Margin of error: ±4%

TIME FRAME
December 1-10, 2017

As polling was conducted prior to the protests that engulfed Slovakia in early 2018, results are likely to have changed.

TYPE OF SURVEY
Face-to-face interview (CAPI)
ATTITUDES TOWARDS POLITICS AND POLITICAL PARTICIPATION
6-in-10 are dissatisfied with the current political situation.

Are you satisfied with the current political situation in Slovakia?

![Bar chart showing satisfaction levels]

- Very satisfied: 4
- Rather satisfied: 28
- Rather dissatisfied: 41
- Not satisfied at all: 22
- DK/NA: 5

**NOTE**
- Older respondents with more education are most dissatisfied with political life.
- Only one third is satisfied.
25-29 year olds and those with university education are the most dissatisfied.

Are you satisfied with the current political situation in Slovakia?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Satisfied</th>
<th>Dissatisfied</th>
<th>Somewhat satisfied</th>
<th>Don't know</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aged 16-19</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aged 20-24</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aged 25-29</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Education Level</th>
<th>Satisfied</th>
<th>Dissatisfied</th>
<th>Somewhat satisfied</th>
<th>Don't know</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elementary</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vocational</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High school</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Most common forms of political engagement are voting and signing a petition offline.

Have you been involved in the following ways in which citizens can engage in public life? If not, are you willing to get involved?

**NOTE**

- Political party membership is least common form of engagement.

- Voting in national elections: Yes, I have been involved - 53, No, I haven't been involved but I plan to get involved - 29, No, I haven't been involved and I do not plan to get involved - 18
- Voting in local elections: Yes, I have been involved - 52, No, I haven't been involved but I plan to get involved - 28, No, I haven't been involved and I do not plan to get involved - 18
- Signing a petition in the street or in other place outside internet: Yes, I have been involved - 41, No, I haven't been involved but I plan to get involved - 27, No, I haven't been involved and I do not plan to get involved - 29
- Participating in online petition, online protest: Yes, I have been involved - 27, No, I haven't been involved but I plan to get involved - 32, No, I haven't been involved and I do not plan to get involved - 38
- Supporting an online crowd-funding campaign: Yes, I have been involved - 22, No, I haven't been involved but I plan to get involved - 29, No, I haven't been involved and I do not plan to get involved - 45
- Sharing or expressing your ideas on politics or important public issues publicly: Yes, I have been involved - 19, No, I haven't been involved but I plan to get involved - 31, No, I haven't been involved and I do not plan to get involved - 47
- Contacting your local political representative or politician with relation to particular public issue: Yes, I have been involved - 12, No, I haven't been involved but I plan to get involved - 34, No, I haven't been involved and I do not plan to get involved - 49
- Taking part in a demonstration: Yes, I have been involved - 11, No, I haven't been involved but I plan to get involved - 34, No, I haven't been involved and I do not plan to get involved - 51
- Striking: Yes, I have been involved - 10, No, I haven't been involved but I plan to get involved - 38, No, I haven't been involved and I do not plan to get involved - 48
- Membership in a political party: Yes, I have been involved - 4, No, I haven't been involved but I plan to get involved - 23, No, I haven't been involved and I do not plan to get involved - 71
SOCIAL AND POLITICAL VALUES
Nearly 9-in-10 prefer a democratic governing system. One third would be open to undemocratic forms of government.

I am going to describe two types of political systems and ask what you think about each as a way of governing Slovakia. Would you say each is...

- Having a democratic political system where decisions are made through legislative deliberations and public consultation
- Having a strong leader who does not have to bother with parliament and civil society

### Survey Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option</th>
<th>Very good</th>
<th>Fairly good</th>
<th>Fairly bad</th>
<th>Very bad</th>
<th>DK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Having a democratic political system</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Having a strong leader</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NOTE**

- Those who support L’SNS are more likely to be in favor of a strong leader (49% of L’SNS supporters, as opposed to one third of all youth surveyed).
A decisive majority believes that democracy is the best possible political system, but a lesser majority would forsake democratic principles for security.

Please consider the following statements about democracy and political regimes in general. For each, do you...

- **Democracy is the best possible political system.**
  - Fully agree: 38
  - Rather agree: 43
  - Rather disagree: 9
  - Fully disagree: 3
  - DK: 7

- **Sometimes human rights and civic liberties should be restricted in order to better protect people from terrorism and other threats.**
  - Fully agree: 12
  - Rather agree: 35
  - Rather disagree: 32
  - Fully disagree: 12
  - DK: 9

- **I would be ready to sacrifice some of democratic principles for higher standards of living.**
  - Fully agree: 11
  - Rather agree: 39
  - Rather disagree: 28
  - Fully disagree: 11
  - DK: 11

- **It does not matter if the government is democratic or not democratic.**
  - Fully agree: 4
  - Rather agree: 19
  - Rather disagree: 34
  - Fully disagree: 37
  - DK: 6

**NOTE**

- 50% would sacrifice some democratic principles for a higher standard of living
- 47% would for increased security
Increasing ethnic and religious diversity perceived as the most negative changes in European societies. Issues related to gender equality are the most positive changes.

**Below are some ways that many Europeans societies have changed over recent decades. In each case, please say whether you think this has changed society for the better, or for the worse?**

- More women in leadership positions in business and politics
- Women can decide if and when they have children
- A larger proportion of women and men combine employment with household duties
- A greater acceptance of same-sex relationships
- Our society becoming more ethnically and religiously diverse

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Change</th>
<th>Favorable</th>
<th>Neither</th>
<th>Opposite</th>
<th>DK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Women in leadership</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women choosing children</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women combining work and household</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acceptance of same-sex relationships</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethnic and religious diversity</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Young men are more ambivalent about societal changes related to gender equality as compared to young women.

Below are some ways that many Europeans societies have changed over recent decades. In each case, please say whether you think this has changed society for the better, or for the worse?

1. Women can decide if and when they have children
2. A larger proportion of women and men combine employment with household duties
3. A greater acceptance of same-sex relationships
4. More women in leadership positions in business and politics
5. Our society becoming more ethnically and religiously diverse
A plurality believes religious values should play a limited role in politics.

In your opinion, how much of a role should religious values, as expressed by churches, play in politics and public affairs?

More than one third said religious values should play no role in politics and public affairs.
Those with university education are most pronounced in their opinions about the role of religion in public life. Urban-rural divides are not wide.

In your opinion, how much of a role should religious values, as expressed by churches, play in politics and public affairs?
IDENTITY
Nearly 9-in-10 young Slovaks identify with their nation. Around 8-in-10 identify with their local community, and slightly fewer identify with Europe.

To what extent do you identify yourself with the following entities?
Young people are proud of Slovak history. They do not see a connection between nationality and being Catholic.

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Slovaks may feel proud of their history because they have acted more nobly than other nations.

- Fully agree: 30
- Rather agree: 44
- Rather disagree: 14
- Fully disagree: 4
- DK: 8

A true Slovak should be a Catholic.

- Fully agree: 9
- Rather agree: 21
- Rather disagree: 27
- Fully disagree: 33
- DK: 9
MEDIA CONSUMPTION AND TOP CONCERNS
How interested would you say you are interested in politics and public affairs?

A majority are not interested in politics.
Interest in politics increases with age and education, but the gender divide is minimal.

How interested would you say you are interested in politics and public affairs?
Facebook is the dominant information source, followed by private television and radio broadcasting.

Which of the following sources of information about society and politics do you use (and how often)?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source of Information</th>
<th>Very regularly</th>
<th>Rather regularly</th>
<th>Rarely</th>
<th>Not at all</th>
<th>DK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Facebook</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>private TV channels</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>private radio broadcasting</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Twitter</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>45</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>public TV channel</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>videoblogs on YouTube</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>31</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>publicly available web portals, which do not have print version</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>27</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>private blogs</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>46</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>public radio broadcasting</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>29</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mainstream print media or their online version</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>34</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“alternative” media</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>59</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NOTE**

- Private television and radio coverage is limited
- Other than Facebook, online sources are not very commonly used.
Corruption is the top concern: a prelude to protests in spring 2018.

To what extent is each of the following issues a serious problem in Slovakia?

![Bar chart showing the extent of concern for various issues in Slovakia.]

- Corruption is the top concern, with 61% of respondents rating it as a very serious problem.
- Rising prices, costs of living: 55% very serious, 33% serious, 14% not a serious problem.
- Terrorism: 51% very serious, 33% serious, 9% not a serious problem.
- Healthcare: 49% very serious, 41% serious, 9% not a serious problem.
- Immigration: 44% very serious, 37% serious, 14% not a serious problem.
- Unemployment: 42% very serious, 41% serious, 16% not a serious problem.
- Crime: 41% very serious, 49% serious, 9% not a serious problem.
- Pensions: 36% very serious, 44% serious, 13% not a serious problem.
- Environment: 34% very serious, 48% serious, 14% not a serious problem.
- Climate change: 34% very serious, 45% serious, 17% not a serious problem.
- Education: 28% very serious, 47% serious, 20% not a serious problem.
- Democratic decline and rising authoritarianism: 22% very serious, 43% serious, 24% not a serious problem.
- Russian military buildup and Russian aggression against its neighbors: 18% very serious, 37% serious, 28% not a serious problem.
- Threats for national culture: 16% very serious, 35% serious, 36% not a serious problem.
- Gender equality: 9% very serious, 23% serious, 28% not a serious problem.

NOTE

- Those with vocational training were most concerned about rising prices and cost of living as compared.
- Perception of immigration does not differ based on education, age, or gender.
Do you agree or disagree with following statements?

- Membership in the European Union is a threat to Slovakia sovereignty.
- Russia is spreading disinformation to weaken public commitment to democracy and to western institutions.
- The economic sanctions imposed on Russia after Crimea’s annexation are justified and should be maintained.
- Immigrants make a positive contribution to Slovak society.

NOTE

- A majority does not see EU membership as a threat to national sovereignty.
- A quarter do not have opinions on Russian disinformation or sanctions against Russia.
- Narrow majorities believe Russia is spreading disinformation and that sanctions against Russia are justified.
HUNGARY, POLAND, AND SLOVAKIA: COMPARISON
Young Poles are by far the most interested in politics.

How interested would you say you are in politics and public affairs?

- **PL**
  - Very interested: 25
  - Somewhat interested: 55
  - Not very interested: 14
  - Not at all interested: 6

- **HU**
  - Very interested: 8
  - Somewhat interested: 37
  - Not very interested: 28
  - Not at all interested: 27

- **SK**
  - Very interested: 7
  - Somewhat interested: 36
  - Not very interested: 39
  - Not at all interested: 18

**NOTE**

The relative majority of Slovak and Hungarian respondents are not very or not at all interested in politics.
All believe democracy is the best possible political system. This belief is weakest in Hungary.

Please consider the following statements about democracy and political regimes in general: Democracy is the best possible political system.

![Bar chart showing responses to the statement about democracy.]

- **SK**: 38% Fully agree, 43% Rather agree, 9% Rather disagree, 3% Fully disagree, 7% DK
- **PL**: 31% Fully agree, 49% Rather agree, 13% Rather disagree, 6% Fully disagree, 1% DK
- **HU**: 29% Fully agree, 40% Rather agree, 18% Rather disagree, 6% Fully disagree, 7% DK
A significant group would sacrifice some democratic principles for a higher standard of living.

Please consider the following statements about democracy and political regimes in general: Sometimes human rights and civic liberties should be restricted for a higher standard of living.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Fully agree</th>
<th>Rather agree</th>
<th>Rather disagree</th>
<th>Fully disagree</th>
<th>DK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HU</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SK</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PL</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NOTE**
- The proportion is highest in Hungary and lowest in Poland.
Young Hungarians have the most negative perception of immigrants.

Do you agree or disagree with following statement? **Immigrants make a positive contribution to our society**

In all three countries at least 70 percent do not believe that immigrants make a positive contribution to their society.
Poles and Slovaks most strongly identify with Europe.

To what extent do you identify yourself with Europe?

NOTE

Though the relative majority thinks similarly in Hungary, the opinions are more balanced.
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