Description of sampling methodology

In a first step cities were identified with a high percentage of foreign population. All of them were located in the Western part of Germany. In order to be more representative, Berlin was also chosen even if it has a lower percentage of foreigners.

It was decided to use addresses from the population registers to get a representative sample. So, in a second step, the possibility of getting data from the population register and the possible selection criteria were checked by phone with the registration offices of seven cities (Frankfurt/Main, Stuttgart, Munich, Mannheim, Dortmund, Hamburg and Berlin). Parallel to this eight polling institutes were asked for offers and cities, where they could do the polling. After all only Stuttgart, Munich and Berlin were left as cities in which the costs of addresses was affordable for the project and three polling institutes could realize the polling. Finally it was decided to do the polling only in Stuttgart and Berlin as a third location would have increased the costs of the polling without a mayor benefit since Stuttgart and Munich are similar cities in the south of Germany.

The usage of the registry data had only one mayor disadvantage in the frame of this study: It is only the place of birth recorded but not the county of birth. The decision was taken to go for Non-EU/EER nationals who had moved to the city from abroad and accept that no naturalized persons will be in the sample. The possibility to select also persons with two citizenships (the German and a Non-EU/EER one) was rejected, firstly because the registry offices had not the technical infrastructure to select such a sample with complex inclusion criteria and secondly because the sample would have been biased by persons who succeeded to keep their former citizenship. This is not allowed by the German citizenship law but there are exceptions.

In the end the selection from the Stuttgart and Berlin population registers were made for persons who are 15 years or older, holding a non-EU/EER citizenship, living longer than one year in the city and registered as coming from abroad. The selected polling institute advised to take a high number of refusals into account and to ask for a 20 times increased basis of addresses to realize the required sample size. That means that 12.000 addresses were received in each city. These addresses were geo-coded externally before the polling institute selected randomly a 15 percent subsample of 1.800 addresses in each city to start with their work.

In Berlin an additional challenge occurred with the size of the registry data set which had to be analyzed for the extraction of data. The extraction procedure took more than 24 hours and

¹ Polling institutes are used to samples where a Germany-wide sampling frame is applied. So their interviewer-field is widely dispersed all over the country. The task to realize a certain number of interviews in a short time in two cities implied for them that they had to concentrate their interviewers for a short time to the both cities which caused additional costs for them. One institute could not do so and did not answer the request for an offer. ² German population registers are locally organized but under the responsibility of the respective federal county. They can charge the supply of addresses for research purposes. Some cities outsourced the extraction of addresses. The most extreme example is Frankfurt which charges every request from the population registers with 20.000 Euros. Other cities require an allowance for the extraction and additionally a unit price per address, but there are still cities which do not charge the extraction for research purposes at all.

³ The country of birth is only entered if the clerk thinks it is necessary, because the place of birth is unknown. A selection by this criteria would have biased the sample and persons from smaller places would have been overrepresented in comparison to capitals for example.

was therefore stopped. The suggestion of taking a copy of the dataset and to delete non-selected addresses was either possible according to the registry office. So 30 month⁴ were randomly choosen in which the all addresses were extracted which met the inclusion criteria. The final sample implies that this procedure could generate a sample that reflects the population characteristics of non-EU foreigners in Berlin found in other surveys.

Description of sampling frame

The addresses used in the study were randomly choosen from the population registers in Berlin and Stuttgart.

Description of fieldwork

In Germany the fieldwork was carried out by the polling institute Ifak. Before the start of the study the German version of the questionnaire was pretested and some adaptions were made to keep the duration of the interview in the limit of approximately 40 minutes. The fieldwork was carried out from October, 4th 2011until November, 28th 2011 as a computer-assisted interview (CAPI). The interviewers were introduced to the study through a written description of the study and by phone. The monitoring took place through the data they sent to the polling institute. Additionally phone calls at the respondents were planned. This could not be realized since there were not many telephone numbers provided. The institute therefore checked in 51 percent of the sample by postcard if the interviews were done. 35 percent of these post cards were sent back with a confirmation that the person was interviewed. The good feedback led polling institute to the conclusion that all interviews were carried out correctly.

Description of sampling methodology weightings

Since the sample was randomly selected from the registers it was not adjusted by weights.

Calculations of non-response rates and reasons for non-response

Used addresses:	3235
Person moved:	284
Person did not met inclusion criteria:	22
Nobody met at household after one visit:	233
Nobody met at household after more visits:	430
Household refused any information:	448
Person on vacation:	53
Person ill:	37
Person refused interview:	305
Language problems:	146
Other reasons for no interview:	57
Realized interviews:	1220

⁴ The population register was started in 1975.

List with problems of comparability

As described above the sample was generated from the population registers in Berlin and Stuttgart using the present nationality as selection criteria. It was not possible to use the country of birth for sampling. That means that naturalized foreigners are only accidentally part of the sample and neither their share in the sample nor their experiences with naturalization are representative.