

*Institute of Sociology, Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences*

*STEM - Centre for Empirical Research*

*Jilská 1, 110 00 Praha 1*

## **Economic expectations and attitudes III.**

**May 1991**

Interviewer

--	--	--	--

Coder

--	--

Data entry

--	--

Respondent

--	--	--	--

**Our interview will deal with the topical issues of national economy and financial situation of your household. The survey is anonymous, it serves only to scientific purposes and will not be used as a basis for decision making of governmental institutions. You were randomly chosen.**

*Instruction: Show CARD A!*

definitely yes	1
rather yes	2
rather not	3
definitely not	4

**1. Can you say, that you are generally satisfied with the preparation and recent progress of economic reform?**

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

**2. Do you think that the reform is implemented in an appropriate pace?**

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

**3. Would you characterize the present period as the beginning of a substantial improvement of our economic situation?**

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

**4. Are you satisfied with privatization, i.e. the transfer of property into private hands in business and services?**

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

**5. Do you believe the agricultural land should be returned back to former owners without any other limitations?**

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

**6. Do you think that during the last year the changes in our society brought about more justice ?**

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

**7. Looking into the near future, are you afraid of economic development, do you have a feeling of insecurity?**

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

**8. Do you think that the near future in our society will seriously expose the problem of poverty?**

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

**9. What is your conception of general economic situation in five years: will it be better, worse or about the same as today?**

Better	1
Worse	2
About the same	3

**10. How long will it take, till our society reaches the standard of living you could consider as satisfactory?**

*Instruction: Read out following answers!*

1 - 2 years	1
3 - 5 years	2
6 - 10 years	3
More than 10 years	4
Never	5

<b>Tell me now, to what extent you agree with following statements.</b>
---

11. Favourable and satisfactory conditions have been already set for private entrepreneurship.

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

12. Capitalism represents the only possible course of our future development.

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

13. To solve our economic problems, we inevitably need the help of advanced industrial countries.

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

14. Foreign help should be considered cautiously, only people living in this country can find a feasible solution.

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

15. One should not wait for the help of the state, everyone himself should prove his abilities.

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

16. Our present political leadership underestimates the provision of social security to the people.

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

17. Every competent man can earn a lot of money nowadays.

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

18. The majority of people are lazy and they rely too much on the help of someone else.

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

19. Economic ministers in our federal government are competent professionals.

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

20. The quality of environment will be better within next five years.

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

21. In the last year one could notice in our society an improvement of interpersonal relations .

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

22. A good government should provide housing for every family, corresponding to its needs.

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

23. A good government should secure a job to everybody.

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

24. A good government should explain all its decisions and actions to the people.

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

25. Have a look at this card. What is, by your opinion, the most important task of the government?

*Instruction: Display CARD V, record only one answer!*

Policy against inflation	1
Policy against unemployment	2
Policy against corruption	3
Improvement of environment	4
Justice in incomes	5
Liquidation of surviving power of communist bosses	6
Better supply of goods	7

**We would also like to know your ideas about future development in our society. Tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with following statements.**

26. Private entrepreneurship should be given complete freedom.

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

27. It is right that capable and competent people have a lot of money, even millions.

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

28. Unemployment should be prevented even at the cost of preserving many unnecessary jobs.

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

29. Even in the new conditions should the economy be under the control of the state.

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

30. ALL big state enterprises should be transformed into share holders' companies or private firms.

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

31. There should be an absolutely open space for foreign firms in our country.

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

32. The significance of subsidiary incomes should be gradually diminished.

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

33. The number of people, who repair their flats, cars, cottages and build their houses in a self-help way, should gradually decrease in future.

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

34. Would you agree that some of public networks, such as some railroads, water supply stations and electric power plants would be privatised?

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

35. Would it be right, according to your opinion, that a part of social care, e.g. care for the elderly, would be performed by private institutions?

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

36. Would you agree with the introduction of private medical care?

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

37. Do you think that there should be promoted the development of private secondary schools?

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

38. Do you think that existing provisions and measures of social policy, i.e. the benefits, family allowances, contributions are at present satisfactory?

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

39. Do you think it is right that the rich regions would subsidize the poorer regions?

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

40. Do you think that present distribution of competence between the Czech and the Slovak republics is beneficiary for our economy?

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

41. Do you have a feeling that during the last five years the Czechs have to pay for the Slovaks? (vice versa in Slovak version)

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

**The growth of prices is a topical problem. You certainly know that the prices were liberalized since January 1991, i.e. the prices were set free from state control and subsidies.**

42. Do you think that the liberalization of prices was necessary?

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

43. Do you think that the liberalization of prices was implemented in an appropriate way?

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

44. Was the growth of prices higher than you had expected?

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

45. Do you think that the growth of prices due to the liberalization was acceptable to the majority of our population?

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

46. According to your opinion, should the state to a higher level administratively fix the prices?

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

47. Do you think it is right that the people react to the growth of prices by strikes?

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

48. It is said, that the prices of food have risen by 40% since the beginning of the year. Would you say that the cost of food in your household rose:

*Instruction: Read out the answers!*

Much more	1
Somewhat more	2
About the same	3
Somewhat less	4
Much less	5

**Now we shall concentrate to your family and to your household.**

49. How do you manage with the present income, you have in your household?

*Instruction: Hand the respondent CARD C!*

Very hard	1
Hard	2
Rather hard	3
Rather easy	4
Easy	5
Very easy	6

**50. Is the money, you have in your household, enough for good food?**

*Instruction: CARD A!*

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

**51. And is the money enough for a good quality clothing for the members of your family?**

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

**52. Is some money left for culture, recreation, sport, and similar activities and for the purchase of things you need for that (books, records, sportswear, equipment)?**

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

**53. Do you consider your present expenses for housing, i.e. the rent, heating, electricity and the gas reasonable?**

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

**54. Do you try to do, make, or repair as much as possible just yourself at home?**

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

**55. Did you succeed in saving something during the last three months?**

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

**56. Is the help of parents, relatives or friends essential for the life in your household?**

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

**57. Are subsidiary incomes very important in your household today?**

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

**58. Can you say already today, that present economic situation is favourable to your family?**

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

**59. Do you think that within next two years the extent of household activities you have to perform yourself today will diminish, as you will be able to buy these things and services?**

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

**60. Do you think the new economic situation will lead to the improvement of the standard of living of your family in the near future (approx. within 2 years)?**

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

**61. Imagine your family gets into a very difficult financial situation due to unfavourable external conditions. I will offer you a series of possible solutions. Decide which of them would be the most feasible in your present situation to you and your family.**

*Instruction: Answers again through CARD A!*

For you personally:

- |  |
|--|
| A. Try to increase the income from present employment        |
| B. Find a better paid job                                    |
| C. To work abroad  |
| D. Find a supplementary job, perform paid services to others |
| E. To run a private business                                 |

For your family:

- |  |
|--|
| F. To rent rooms, cottage, summer house                    |
| G. To sell home made products                              |
| H. To sell own produced fruit, vegetables, flowers         |
| I. To make, produce, repair as much as possible ourselves. |
| J. To economize  |

**Now we shall deal with with serious social problems.**

62. Do you think your profession has a future with respect to present changes?

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

63. Do you think your enterprise has a future with respect to present changes?

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

64. Are you personally afraid of unemployment?

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

65. Is your partner afraid of unemployment?

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

66. Have you been unemployed more than 2 months during last two years?

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

67. And has your partner been unemployed more than two months during last two years?

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

68. What should be the government policy on unemployment?

*Instruction: Read out the answers!*

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| To provide such benefits, which would not diminish much the standard of living of the unemployed  | 1 |
| To provide only minimal benefits, which would lead everyone to look for employment, even at cost of less qualified work, retraining, moving to other place etc. | 2 |

69. If your job was endangered, would you be willing to work even for a lower salary, just to remain employed?

*Instruction: CARD A!*

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

70. Would you be willing to work even for minimum wage (i.e. 2000 Czechoslovak crowns)?

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

71. And would you be willing to work even for a salary lower than minimum wage?

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

72. Do you have a feeling that you are a poor family?

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

73. Those households, whose income is under certain limit, are considered to be poor. This is the poverty line. Would you try to fix the poverty line for the family of four members, i.e. the married couple and two children in their school age. We are interested in monthly income.

--	--	--	--

74. What should be the minimal income which would be sufficient for meeting basic needs of your household?

--	--	--	--

75. What would you consider as a very bad or very good income for your family in a month? Try to assess sums which would correspond to following statements.

A very bad income is about	Kčs					
A bad income is about	Kčs					
Insufficient income is about	Kčs					
Sufficient income is about	Kčs					
A good income is about	Kčs					
A very good income is about	Kčs					

<b>Now we shall address political questions.</b>
--

76. Which is your most favourable political party/movement?

(write out) .....

--	--

77. Can you tell us, which political party did you vote in June 1990 parliamentary elections for the Chamber of people?

(write out) .....

--	--

78. The "left" and the "right" are often used concepts in politics. Where would you place yourself, where do you belong with your political views?

*Instruction: Read out the answers!*

Complete left	1
Rather left	2
Centre	3
Rather right	4
Complete right	5

*Instruction: CARD A!*

79. Do you have a confidence in president VBclav Havel?



1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

80. Do you have a confidence in our federal government?

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

81. Do you trust in Federal parliament?

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

82. Can you say, that you understand present political scene?

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

83. Do you think that Czechoslovakia succeeded in laying the foundations for democracy?

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

84. Do you think that the civil freedoms in Czechoslovakia today are on the level of the advanced western countries?

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

<p><b>With regard to the political and economic reform the role of trade unions is often discussed. On the following question please answer only yes, no or does not concern.</b></p>
---

84. Do you know the activity of your trade union organization?

Yes	1
No	2
Does not concern	3

85. Do you know, to which trade union you belong to?

Yes	1
No	2
Does not concern	3

86. Are, according to your opinion, trade unions necessary for a functioning of the society?

Yes	1
No	2
Does not concern	3

87. Do you think that the activity of trade unions facilitates democratic development in our society?

Yes	1
No	2
Does not concern	3

88. Do you think that the activity of trade unions is beneficent for improving of our economy?

Yes	1
No	2
Does not concern	3

89. Do you think that trade unions should prefer the battle with a management or rather the collaboration with management?

To battle	1
To collaborate	2
Do not know	3

**90. Which goals of trade unions are, according to your opinion, most important? Rank according to the importance following cards, from the most important to the least important.**

*Instruction: Show CARDS!*

	Most		Least	
Increasing wages	1	2	3	4
Assuring basic needs for employees	1	2	3	4
Participation in decision-making	1	2	3	4
Assuring jobs	1	2	3	4

**On the public the positive and negative changes are discussed We are interested what is, according to your opinion, at the present better, equal or worse.**

*Instruction: Show CARD D!*

**91. Would it be better for our country if the former members of communist party can not stay in an important job positions?**

Better	1
Equal	2
Worse	3

**92. Would it be better to introduce more austere rules for Gipsies?**

Better	1
Equal	2
Worse	3

**93. Would it be better for our country if we prefer keeping our national self-identity to the orientation towards foreign countries?**

Better	1
Equal	2
Worse	3

**94. Would it be better for our country if we close our state borders for an eastern immigrants?**

Better	1
Equal	2
Worse	3

**95. Would it be better for our country if the Jewish minority does not be present?**

Better	1
Equal	2
Worse	3

**96. Would it be better for our country to be ruled by a strong hand and someone who would clearly say what should be done, rather than head discussions about different solutions to our present situation?**

Better	1
Equal	2
Worse	3

**At the end some indicators which are necessary for statistical processing.**

**97. What is your age?**

*Instruction: Write into the box*

--	--

**98. What is age of your partner?**

*Instruction: Write into the box*

--	--

**99. Marital status:**

single	1
married first time	2
married repeatedly	3
divorced	4
widowed	5

**100. What is your occupation?**

.....

--	--	--	--

**101. What occupation is your partner?**

.....

--	--	--	--

**102. What is your highest school education?**

elementary	1
vocational training	2
secondary school	3
university, college	4

**103. What is the highest school education of your partner?**

elementary	1
vocational training	2
secondary school	3
university, college	4

**104. What is the highest school education of your father?**

elementary	1
vocational training	2
secondary school	3
university, college	4

**105. Are you or someone from your household registered for private business?**

yes	1
no	2

**106. What is your net monthly income from employment, without all social benefits?**

--	--	--	--	--

**107. What is the total net monthly income from employment of all other members of your household?**

--	--	--	--	--

**108. What is in your household total income from social benefits?**

--	--	--	--	--

109. How would you estimate your net monthly total other income of your household within the last six months?

--	--	--	--	--

110. How many grown-ups and children do live in your household?

Grown ups: 

--

Children: 

--

111. What is age of your children?

First one	<table border="1" style="display: inline-table; vertical-align: middle;"><tr><td></td><td></td></tr></table>			age
Second one	<table border="1" style="display: inline-table; vertical-align: middle;"><tr><td></td><td></td></tr></table>			age
Third one	<table border="1" style="display: inline-table; vertical-align: middle;"><tr><td></td><td></td></tr></table>			age

112. Does your household own:

*Instruction: Mark the answer in each row!*

	yes	no
family house	1	2
car	1	2
cottage	1	2

113. Imagine you were insured and in consequence of some natural disaster you would be deprived of all your property, assets and possessions, e.g. house, cottage, garden, all equipment of your household, all your savings and other belongings.

What should be the amount of money to compensate this loss? Make estimates of all the items, add them up and choose one of these categories.

*Instruction: Show CARD F!*

less than 50 thousand Kcs	1
50 - 99 thous. Kcs	2
100 - 199 thous. Kcs	3
200 - 299 thous. Kcs	4
300 - 399 thous. Kcs	5
400 - 499 thous. Kcs	6
500 - 999 thous. Kcs	7
1 - 2 million Kcs	8
more than two million Kcs	9

114. District of permanent residence:

District: .....

--	--	--

115. The locality size

village up to 999 inhabitants	1
locality 1000 - 1999 inhab.	2
locality 2000 - 4999 inhab.	3
town of 5000 - 19999 inhab.	4
town of 20000 - 99999 inhab.	5
the city over 100 000 inhab.	6

**116. Do you live in:**

a family house	1
in a cooperative flat	2
in a rented flat	3
otherwise	4

**Thank you for your answers**

**117. Sex of the respondent**

male	1
female	2

**118. Interviewer record: What is the order of this interview?**

*Write out*

**119. Date of the interview:**

--	--

**120. How did the interview go?**

easy, normal	1
demanding	2
difficult, hard	3