

Methodology

The questionnaire aims at measuring political preferences and thus is a central element of smartvote Tibet. The questionnaire will be created specifically for the upcoming Tibetan elections and should conform with several quality criteria. First of all, **political neutrality** is absolutely essential. Second, the questionnaire should include a **broad spectrum of topics**. At the same time, the questions should reflect **current debates** on the one hand, but also **future discussions** which will become important in the upcoming years on the other. Finally, the questions need to be formulated in a **clear and comprehensible way**. In order to meet the aforementioned requirements, the process of the questionnaire design consists of several steps:

1. **INCLUSIVE AND PARTICIPATIVE APPROACH:** In order to ensure to cover all relevant topics and to represent different views, backgrounds and positions, an inclusive and participative approach will be used inviting everyone to give input.
2. **EDITORIAL PROCESS:** The questions will be edited in several rounds, for which task the smartvote Tibet project team has the sole responsibility.
3. **QUALITY CONTROL:** The scientific network Politools as well as an advisory group will be invited to give feedback in order to ensure that 1) the questionnaire is created in a methodologically sound way, and 2) the content represents all main policy issues.

Taking all these steps we aim to create **a comprehensive, relevant and interesting smartvote questionnaire** which then will support the decision-making process. Our hope with this is to help shift the focus of voters away from personal characteristics, media presence, and regional affiliation and towards an issue-based discourse contributing to the development of our young Tibetan democracy.

Project Democracy Tibet

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