### Welcome

Thank you for taking part in the 21st Century Evangelicals online research.

These surveys are designed by the Evangelical Alliance working with a group of other Christian organisations – our research club partners.

This quarter's survey is about politics – how you are involved, what you think of politicians, the issues that concern you and the way the Bible and your Christian faith influence your thinking in this area.

A report from this survey will be published in early 2015. The findings will also be used in the preparation of materials to help Christians engage in the general election in May 2015, including briefings for hustings events.

All answers are anonymous. If you'd really rather not answer a particular question you can always leave it blank. People vary, but we estimate the survey shouldn't take longer than about 20 minutes, unless you choose to write a lot in open-ended comment boxes.

### **About you**

Male

1950s

In every survey we need to ask everyone a few short background questions so that we can easily break down the responses from different groups of people. We apologise if you have completed this for a previous survey – unfortunately we cannot carry over your demographic data.

1990s

1. Yo	our	gen	der:
-------	-----	-----	------

2. In which decade were you born?		
C 1920s	C 1960s	
C 1930s	C 1970s	
C 1940s	C 1980s	

C Female

### Where do you live?

3. I	3. In which region or nation of the UK do you normally reside?				
0	London (within M25)				
0	South-east England outside London (Kent, Hampshire, Sussex, Surrey, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire)				
0	East Anglia (Essex, Hertfordshire, Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Norfolk, Suffolk)				
0	East Midlands (Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Rutland, Northamptonshire, Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire)				
0	West Midlands (Herefordshire, Shropshire, Staffordshire, Warwickshire, Birmingham & West Midlands conurbation, Worcestershire)				
0	South-west England (Bristol, Gloucestershire, Somerset, Dorset, Wiltshire, Devon, Cornwall)				
0	North-west England (Cumbria, Lancashire, Greater Manchester, Merseyside, Cheshire)				
0	North-east England (Northumberland, County Durham, Tyne and Wear, Teesside)				
0	Yorkshire and the Humber				
0	Wales				
0	Scotland				
0	Northern Ireland				
0	Elsewhere or outside UK				

Your ethnic background			
4. How would you describe your ethnic background?			
○ White British	C South Asian (Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi, Sri-Lankan background)		
C White (but not British)	Chinese or other East Asian background		
C Black (Caribbean background)	C A mixture of two or more of the above		
C Black (African background)	C Prefer not to say		
Other background or preferred description (please specify below)			

# Politics survey – August/September 2014 Are you a Christian? 5. Do you consider yourself to be a committed Christian (ie someone who believes in God, tries to follow Jesus, practises your faith, prays and attends church as you are able)? O No O Yes O Unsure 6. Do you consider yourself to be an evangelical Christian? O No ① Yes O Unsure 7. Are you a church leader or minister? Tick one or more boxes as appropriate. Yes, with lone (or senior) responsibility for one (or more) congregation(s) Yes, as part of a team of leaders, elders or ministers I serve on a church Council (PCC), Board of Trustees, or deacons group I have responsibility for leading a group, ministry or activity within the church (eq home group or children's work) ☐ I am married to an ordained minister or church leader No, I am not a recognised church leader

### Your church background

8. How would you describe the church (congregation) you most often attend (or where you are in membership)?		
	Anglican (Church of England, Church in Wales, Episcopalian)	
0	Baptist	
0	Charismatic – independent or non-denominational (eg Vineyard, Pioneer, Newfrontiers or local community church)	
0	Church of Scotland or other Presbyterian	
0	Free Church denomination (eg Methodist, URC, Salvation Army)	
0	Other evangelical church, denomination, assembly or fellowship	
0	Pentecostal (eg Elim, Assemblies of God, New Testament Church of God, Redeemed Christian Church of God)	
0	Uncommitted to any church at present	
0	Other (please specify)	

### **Your vote** 9. How likely are you to vote in the next UK general election? Certain C Likely O Not sure C Unlikely C Certain not to O Not eligible 10. If there was a general election across the UK tomorrow which political party would you be most likely to vote for? C I am not eligible to vote Plaid Cymru SNP (Scottish National Party) O BNP Christian People's Alliance Alliance Party (NI) O DUP (NI) Christian Party C SDLP (NI) Conservative Sinn Fein (NI) Green O UUP (NI) C Labour C Liberal Democrat O Not yet decided C I am not likely to use my vote O UKIP Other (please specify)

### **Change over time**

### 11. Did you vote for the same party you ticked above (in Q10) at:

	Yes	No	I did not use my vote	vas not eligible to vote
The 2010 general election	0	0	O	O
Your most recent local elections	0	$\circ$	O	O
The 2014 European Elections	0	O	O	0
(If you live in Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland) The most recent election for the nationally devolved parliament or assembly	O	O	О	C

If you have changed your voting intentions, voted for different parties at different elections since May 2010, or are currently undecided please explain how and why.

	<u>_</u>
	$\overline{}$

### 12. Compared to five years ago, are you more or less:

	More	About the same	Less
Interested/engaged in politics	O	O	O
Trusting of the government	0	0	0
Confident in your MP	O	O	O
Likely to believe what a politician says	0	0	O
Convinced your vote matters	0	O	O
Aware of how you can get involved in political issues	0	O	O
Hopeful about the future of the country	0	O	O
Confident that you and your family will have opportunities to prosper in the years ahead	0	0	0

### Supporting a party

13.	Thinking about the party you would vote for in a general election today, which of these statements best describes you?
0	I am actively campaigning for them
0	I am a member of the party
0	I identify with and usually vote for this party
0	I will vote for this party for tactical reasons to keep another party from winning
0	I am a floating voter but will vote for this party this time
0	I have not yet made up my mind
0	I am not likely to vote
0	Other (please specify)

Politics survey	v – August/Se	ptember 2014
	y /tagacucc	Pionibol Eon

14. Thinking about the party you would vote for in a	general election today, which of these	factors most influence your decision?
--	--	---------------------------------------

Ple	ase tick no more than three
	It has the leader I most want to be prime minister
	It is the party that I think will best manage the economy
	It is the party that will most help me (and my family) personally
	It will best help others who are in need, regardless of the impact on me
	It shares my stance on a particular issue(s) which is important to me
	It is the party most closely aligned with Christian/biblical values
	It is the party which best represents people of my background or social group
	The candidate is more important to me than the party
	This party is the least bad option among those likely to stand in my constituency
	Other (please specify)

### **Voting for a candidate**

### 15. Thinking now about voting for particular candidates, how important are these factors?

	Most important of all (tick only one in this column)	Very important	Important	Not important	This would turn me against them
Belonging to the party I support	0	O	0	O	0
Speaking out and sharing my views on particular issues	0	0	0	0	0
Coming across well on TV	0	0	0	O	0
Having clear strong convictions and sticking to them	O	0	0	0	0
Being honourable and not corrupt	O	0	0	0	0
Being a Christian	O	0	0	0	0
Having strong local roots and connections	O	0	0	0	0
Having a good record/reputation as a local MP or councillor	O	0	0	0	0
Other factors (please specify)					

### The key issue

1110	Noy looks		
16.	What would you say is the single most important issue f	facing the	UK today?
0	Race/immigration	0	Poverty/inequality
0	NHS/health	0	Crime/law and order
0	Unemployment	0	EU/Europe
0	Pensions/benefits	0	Defence and security of the UK
0	Economy	0	Education/schools
0	Housing	0	Inflation/prices
0	Scottish independence	0	Environment
C	Other (please specify)		

### Issues that matter to you

### 17. When considering how you will vote in the general election how important are these policy positions/issues to you?

	Important to me and WILL affect my vote	Important to me but will not greatly affect my vote	Not very important t me	o This would lessen my support for them
Strong commitment to law and order	O	O	0	O
Reducing unemployment	0	0	0	0
Tackling climate change	0	0	0	O
Improving education	0	0	0	O
Reducing the welfare budget	0	0	0	O
Maximising the UK's influence and protecting our interests in international relationships	0	0	0	O
Opposition to spending cuts affecting my local community	0	0	0	O
Policies which are likely to make a positive difference to the poorest people in the UK	0	0	0	O
A commitment to maintain overseas aid at a minimum of 0.7% of GDP	0	0	0	O
Better pensions and care for the elderly	0	0	0	0
Policies which lead to sustained economic growth	0	0	0	0
Reducing the power of the state over people's lives	0	0	0	0
Reducing immigration to the UK	0	0	0	0
Better health services	0	0	0	0
Other (please specify)				

### **Issues that matter to Christians**

# 18. When considering how you will vote in the general election, how important are these issues (often discussed among Christians) to you?

	Important to me WILL affect my	will not dreatly affect	Not very important to me	This would lessen my support for them
A pro-life stance on euthanasia	O	O	0	0
Policies to introduce the living wage	O	O	0	0
More generous treatment of refugees and asylum seekers	O	O	0	0
Support for faith schools	O	O	0	O
Policies to tighten regulations on gambling	O	O	O	0
Policies to reduce consumption of alcohol	O	O	0	0
Policies to eliminate human trafficking	0	0	O	0
Opposition to same-sex marriage legislation	O	0	0	O
Policies to reduce the need for foodbanks	O	O	0	0
Policies which ensure religious liberty and freedom of expression	O	0	0	O
Policies to reduce availability of pornography	0	0	O	0
A pro-life stance on abortion	O	0	0	0
Tax incentives in support of marriage	0	0	0	0
Other (please specify)				

(p.cccc cpcc.iy)

#### Politics survey – August/September 2014 **Awareness of politics** 19. From which party is the MP for the Westminster parliamentary constituency where you vote? Conservative C Labour C Liberal Democrat O Don't know Other party (please specify) 20. Is it a safe seat or a marginal? Marginal seat/could swing C Safe seat/always votes this way O Don't know 21. Do you know the names of your elected representatives? Definitely Not applicable I think so No 0 0 0 0 MP 0 $\odot$ 0 0 Directly elected mayor 0 0 0 Local councillor(s) 0 0 0 0 MSP / AM / MLA MEP(s)

# Politics survey – August/September 2014 **Interest in politics** 22. How interested would you say you are in politics? Very interested C Fairly interested O Not very interested Not at all interested O Don't know 23. How much, if anything, do you feel you know about politics? C A great deal A fair amount O Not very much O Nothing at all O Don't know

### Your involvement in politics

### 24. In the last 12 months have you done any of the following to influence decisions, laws or policies?

Ple	ase tick all that apply	
	Contacted a local councillor or MP/MSP/Welsh Assembly Member	Donated money or paid a membership fee to a political party
	Contacted the media	Taken part in a demonstration, picket or march
	Taken an active part in a campaign	Voted in an election
	Created or signed a paper petition	Contributed to a discussion or campaign online or on social media
	Created or signed an e-petition	Taken part in a public consultation
	Donated money or paid a membership fee to a campaigning organisation	Spoken or written about a political issue within your church context
	Boycotted certain products for political, ethical or environmental reasons	Taken part in TV or radio broadcast
	Attended political meetings	None of the above

### Politics survey – August/September 2014 **Engagement in politics** 25. Have you ever been actively involved in politics in these ways? Yes, within the last 12 months Yes, but more than a year ago No, never 0 0 0 I was elected and have served as an MP/councillor etc 0 0 0 I stood unsuccessfully in an election for a political office I have been a political party member/activist/employee 0 0 0 0 0 I have been an organiser/leader in a campaign group 0 0 I have had a close relationship or friendship with a politician If you answered "Yes" for any questions, please specify:

Politics survey – August/Septe	ember 2014	
Views on political leaders		
26. Choosing between the major par	rty leaders, who do you think would make  My first choice	the most capable prime minister?  My second choice
Ed Miliband	0	•
Alex Salmond	0	0
Nick Clegg	С	О
David Cameron	С	O
Nigel Farage	О	O
Other (please specify)		

Poli	tical systems
28.	Which of these statements best describes your opinion on the present system of governing the UK?
0	Works extremely well and could not be improved
0	Could be improved in small ways, but mainly works well
0	Could be improved quite a lot
0	Needs a great deal of improvement
0	Don't know
Any	comments

### Your views on politics and politicians

### 29. How much do you agree that...

	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree
The secular political system is fair to Christian believers	0	0	0	0	0
MPs and their advisors understand the needs and views of ordinary people	0	0	0	$\circ$	$\circ$
I'd like to see a more representative or more proportional voting system	0	0	0	0	0
The quality of political leadership in the UK is very high	0	$\circ$	0	$\circ$	0
The aggressive, noisy and confrontational style we see in parliament puts me off politics	0	0	0	0	0
Government by coalitions is generally better than government by a party with a decisive majority	0	$\circ$	0	$\circ$	0
Democracy is precious – we should value it and use our vote	0	0	0	0	0
Politics involves too much media manipulation and spin	0	0	$\circ$	$\circ$	0
The recent scandals over expenses and cash for questions have damaged my trust in parliament	0	0	0	0	0
Politicians can be trusted to keep the promises they make in manifestos	0	$\circ$	0	$\circ$	0
There is no real political difference between the major parties	0	0	0	0	0
In my constituency my vote doesn't count - one party always wins	0	$\circ$	0	$\circ$	0
None of the parties support Christian values	0	0	0	0	0
Any other comments about politicians					

# Politics survey – August/September 2014 **Sources of information** 30. Which of the following are your main sources of information about politics? Please tick no more than four ☐ BBC TV News ☐ Christian broadcasters ☐ ITV News Online news services ☐ Social media Channel 4 News Conversations with people you know ☐ Sky News Other TV news Printed newspapers ☐ BBC radio Party political broadcasts or literature ☐ Other radio

# Politics survey – August/September 2014 **Sources of information** 31. Do you read on a regular basis (print or online – daily or Sunday editions) any of the following? Please tick all that apply Mirror Express ☐ FT Regional and local newspapers ☐ Guardian/Observer Sun Telegraph ☐ Independent/i ☐ Mail ☐ Times ☐ Metro Other (please specify)

Politics survey – August/September 2014	
32. Do you read on a regular basis updates or briefings on political is organisations?	sues (print or online) from any of the following Christian
Please tick all that apply	
☐ Evangelical Alliance ☐	Christians in Politics
□ CARE	Ekklesia
☐ Christian Concern	Theos
Christian Institute	Joint Public Issues group of Methodist, URC and Baptists
Other (please specify)	

Politics survey – August/September 2014		
Personal influences on your politics		
33. Which of the following people influence and share your broad pol	itical outlook?	
Tick all boxes that apply – otherwise leave blank	They influence me	Thou tond to shore my views
Family/household	They influence me	They tend to share my views
Personal friends		
Work colleagues		
Neighbours		
Members of your church		
Your church leader(s)		
Online social network contacts		
Journalists and media commentators		
None of the above		

#### Politics survey – August/September 2014 Your church and politics 34. Has your church leadership encouraged you/your church...? Openly and clearly Subtly or implicitly Not at all 0 0 0 To vote 0 0 0 To get involved in party politics 0 To take up a particular political issue 0 0 0 To support or oppose a particular policy 0 To support or oppose a particular politician 0 $\bigcirc$ To support or oppose a particular party Please give further details

Politics survey – August/September 2014			
Politics in your church			
35. Does your church do any of the following around the time of general election	ons?		
Tick all that apply			
	It has done this previously	It might do this in 2015	It is not interested in or able to do this
Distribute materials about election issues			
Get involved in hustings meetings – where various candidates can speak and answer voters' questions			
Organise prayer for the general election	П		

### Politics survey – August/September 2014 36. Which political issues have been profiled/talked about (publicly) in your church during the last year or so? Please tick all that apply International poverty ☐ Welfare reform Poverty in the UK Healthcare Extreme wealth and inequality Education ☐ Tax justice Addictions policy (drugs/alcohol/gambling) Unemployment ☐ Housing and homelessness ☐ War and peace ☐ Crime and justice ☐ Climate change and the global environment Children and families Young people ☐ Marriage Racism Abortion Religious freedom in the UK Europe ☐ International religious freedom / persecution ☐ Human trafficking and slavery ☐ Immigration Local issues Refugees and asylum seekers Other (please specify)

# Politics survey – August/September 2014 Politically active people in your church 37. Are there any politicians or politically active people in your church? O Yes O No O Not sure/don't know 38. If yes, do they receive support, encouragement or prayer? And how? O Yes O Don't know O Not applicable O No Please give details of any specific support that is offered.

### Your personal faith and politics

### 39. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
I am convinced I have heard God leading me to vote in a particular way	0	0	0	0	0	0
I find it hard to understand how any Christian could vote Tory or for other parties to the right	0	0	0	0	0	0
I find it hard to understand how any Christian could vote Labour or for other parties to the Left	0	0	0	0	0	0
My political views and the way I vote have been greatly influenced by my reading of the Bible	0	0	0	0	0	0
My political views and the way I vote have been greatly influenced by my upbringing, social background and life experience	0	0	0	0	0	0
I spend time in prayer to seek God's will about who to vote for	0	0	0	0	0	0

### Theology and politics

### 40. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
Christians in the UK are good at tackling the symptoms of social problems, but not the underlying issues	0	0	0	0	0	0
Christians in the UK are generally good at speaking out when we see people oppressed or suffering	0	0	0	$\circ$	0	0
The Church should concentrate on preaching and teaching the gospel and leave political issues to the politicians	0	0	0	0	0	0
Politics is a corrupt worldly business, so it is better that Christians don't take part at all	0	0	0	$\circ$	$\circ$	0
We should support legislation that encourages traditional Christian values	0	0	0	0	0	0
We need to see more Christians willing to get involved in party politics and stand for election	0	0	0	$\circ$	0	0
The UK is a Christian country and this should be reflected in its laws	0	0	0	0	0	0
Christianity has deeply shaped the UK's political culture and democratic process	0	0	0	$\circ$	0	0
There are some issues where it is right for Christians to resist or disobey the law	0	0	0	0	0	0
Please give examples of where you believe a Christian might resist or disobey the law:						

# Politics survey – August/September 2014 **Jesus and politics** 41. If Jesus was living in the UK today, which of the following do you think he would do? Tick as many as you wish ☐ Use his vote Lead a campaign group ☐ Vote Labour ☐ Take part in demonstrations ☐ Vote Conservative ☐ Befriend politicians of all parties ☐ Vote Liberal Democrat Protest against corruption and injustice ☐ Vote UKIP Avoid political issues altogether ☐ Stand for political office ☐ Be put in jail Other (please specify)

Politics survey – August/September 2014				
A chance to tell us more				
42. This is an optional question if you have time to spare and an interest in the topic.				
How would you sum up what the Bible teaches about politics and how it influences your involvement?				

# Politics survey – August/September 2014 Have you read the latest report? Finally, we would like to know if you have seen or heard about our most recent report. 43. Have you in the last few months...? Yes No Can't remember 0 0 Read our 'Time for discipleship?' report, published in April 2014 0 0 0 Viewed any of the video clips on our website related to our 'Time for discipleship?' report Heard a church leader refer to our 'Time for discipleship?' report 0 0 0 Read, seen or heard any media coverage about the report Any other comments about the report

Politics survey – August/September 2014
Please confirm your contact details
44. We would like to invite you to take part in future research.
So, to make sure we can reach you, please enter your current email address below.

### You have finished.

Thank you for completing this survey.

For more details about the project and to read our previous reports, please visit www.eauk.org/snapshot. Here you can also find links to the websites of our research club partner organisations.

Please tell your Christian friends and people at your church about our surveys and encourage them to go to the website and take part.

We hope to publish a report and other materials based on this survey early in 2015. Please check our website at then to read what we have discovered.

Thanks again for taking part.