

Users' Manual for the IAEP Dataset version 2.0

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Overview

This users' manual represents a description of the variables in the Institutions and Elections Project data files, as well as the values that each variable can take. The objective is to describe the formal political institutions that are in place, even if practice does not comport with those formal rules, and to account for all election events. The data include all countries with populations over 500,000 spanning the period from 1960 through 2012.

The data are broken down into ten sections, each capturing a different element of the political institutions that govern in each country, and the elections taking place and events surrounding them. The unit of observation is the country year.

The data for each country year is recorded as of January 1st of that year. If institutions change during the year these changes will show up in the following year (unless they changed on January 1st). The exception to this is the data on elections, which are recorded on the date of the election in the current year. Sometimes this can lead to apparent ambiguities in the data, where for instance, there might be no institutional mechanisms for an election in a given year, but there are elections that take place. The interpretation of this is that on January 1st of that year there were no mechanisms for elections, during the year the institutions changed and elections were held. In the following year evidence of that institutional change will show up in the data. If the constitutional arrangements within a country change during the year and after January 1st, it will be recorded that one constitution went out of force (and the date) but all the variables for that year will be based on the constitution that was in force on January 1st.

One of the central foci of the data involves the makeup of the legislative and executive branches of government. The legislative branch tends to be fairly straight forward. There is one or there isn't; it has a certain number of seats or it does not. The executive branch is considerably trickier and a quick perusal of some of the more well-established democracies will make this clear. Executives tend to be appointed, anointed, elected, and they can be appointed, anointed, or elected by different sets of constituencies. For example, a prime minister can be elected by popular vote by virtue of party leadership, and only standing for election in her legislative district; a prime minister can be elected by the legislature, and when elected as such may but may not need be a member of that legislative body; and a prime minister can be appointed by an elected president who stood the test of a popular plebiscite. An executive can also be a dictator who comes to power by force of arms, or a king who is confirmed by a small group of elite members of a council, but who might be subject to dismissal by that council. In short the number of possible permutations of how an executive comes to power, how many of them share power at one time, and how they are removed from power is rather large. We record executive selection based on four questions that taken together describe the makeup of the executive branch of government (see Section 8).

Many of our cases have more than one executive; under this section and all others dealing with an executive position in the government of a state, the executive referred to may be any one of the executives established in a country.

The common link between these data and other data sets of interest is through the country code (ccode, and gwno), year, and the three letter country abbreviation (cabr). These allow the data to be easily merged into other sets such as Uppsalla-PRIO's conflict data, POLITY, MID, State Failure, and others.

The data are provided in ASCII comma delimited format, and R and Stata formatted data.

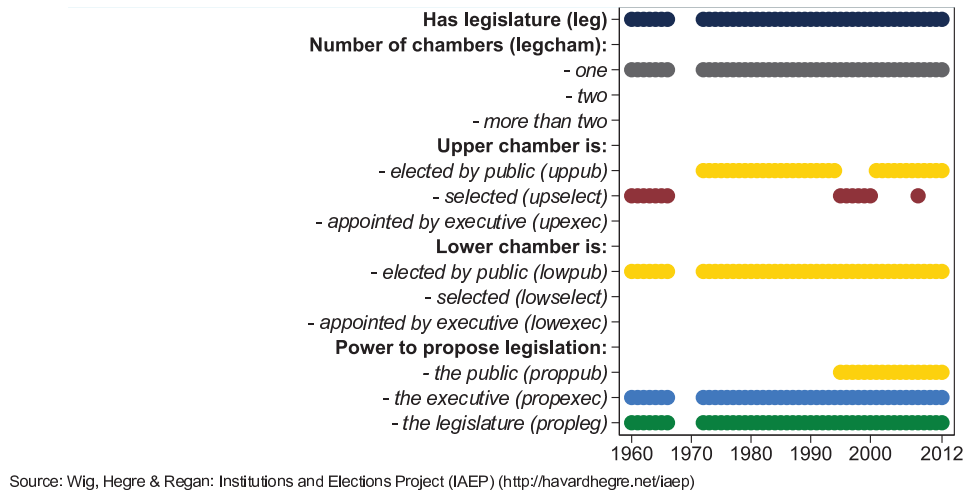
Sources

The information in the dataset is gathered from a number of publicly available sources, some used more heavily than others. Most of the information on constitutions have been gathered from HeinOnline's World Constitutions Illustrated database (available at: <http://heinonline.org>), which contains most of the current and historical constitutions of the world, as well as amendment histories and other political legal documents for a large number of countries. Another source that was used for coding the *de jure* institutions was the Political Handbook of the World, for relevant years (?). Some of the information on legislatures and elections

came from the Interparliamentary Union’s Parline database (<http://www.ipu.org/parline/>). Our data on *Elections in Practice* (Part II in this manual) mostly come from the Keesing’s Records of World Events online news archive (<http://www.keesings.com>). A range of other publicly available sources have been consulted when needed.

Web resources

Figure 1: Example graph: Legislature indicators, Argentina



This article is accompanied by a number of resources available at <http://hvardhegre.net/iaep> as well as at <http://rap.sagepub.com/content/by/supplemental-data>. The dataset is posted in Stata and R formats along with this users’ manual and a printout of the codebook automatically created by Stata. The website also makes available graphical representations of the indicators for every country. Figure 1 gives an example – it depicts developments in the existence and operation of the legislature in Argentina. The website visualizes all the institutional indicators in IAEP for every country, and all countries for various indicators.

Handling of missing data

The dataset has two types of missing values, logical missing values and actual missing values. In the Stata version of the data, missing values have been coded with a number of missing value codes that are triggered if a logical condition for the given institutional feature is not present. For example, we create a missing code ‘.b’ which is triggered where there is no constitution. A question like whether the executive can veto legislative decisions according to the constitution is meaningless, since there is no constitution. A more detailed description of this procedure, and the list of missing codes and the variables they affect are presented in Table 1.

NOTE: This missing-value coding means that testing whether a value is missing cannot be done using the standard Stata expression ‘exp==.’ – this returns ‘false’ if exp equals one of the extended missing-value types such as .a. To test whether a value is missing, use either ‘exp >= .’ or ‘missing(exp)’.

Changes from the original version

There are a handful of changes relative to the original version of the IAEP dataset (?). First, the variable that recorded whether an executive is a *dictator* or not has not been updated, and is removed from the

Table 1: Variables that trigger automatic missing-data coding

Variable name	Reason	Variables affected	Missing-data code
hline	Missing information		.a
formalconstit==0	No constitution	This affects most variables that are coded by looking at the constitution, including: writconstit, ineffect, cease, ceasedate, amend, amfrmlconv, amexec, amleg, amregprov, rat, ratfrmlconv, ratexec, ratleg, ratref, ratregprov, estabcon, amyear, proppub, propexec, propleg, execveto, legveto, removeexec, rattreaty, court, appelec, remove, whoby, life, courtexec, courtleg	.b
ineffect==0	Constitution not in force	cease, ceasedate,	.c
amend==0	Constitutional amendments impossible	rat, ratfrmlconv, ratexec, ratleg, ratref, ratregprov	.d
leg==0	No legislature	amleg, ratleg, legcham, lowcham, upcham, chamother, uppub, upselect, upexec, lowpub, lowselect, lowexec, propleg, execveto, legveto, removeexec, rattreaty, execforce, exectax, execbudget, courtleg, elecleg, exleg, <i>execindep</i> , legpm, electleg, reservedseat, proppub, propexec, schedleg	.e
legcham == 1	Unicameral legislature	upcham, chamother, uppub, upselect, upexec	.f
court==0	No constitutional court	appelec, remove, whoby, life, courtexec, courtleg	.g
remove==0	Court members cannot be removed	whoby	.h
centralbank==0	No centralbank	bankdir, dirterm, bankpol	.i
elecexec==0	No elected executive	epartynom, eprimary, eselfnom, epetition, eelectrules	.j
electtime==3	Inexact election schedule	schedexec, schedleg, scedboth, schedna	.k
elecleg=0	No elected legislature	lpartynom, lprimary, lselfnom, lpetition, lexcnom, lelecsystem	.l
reservedseat==3	No reserved seats	reservedby	.m
banned == 0	No banned parties	banethnic, banrelig, bansys, banall	.n
election==0	No election this year	electexec, electleg, electboth, exeledate, legeledate, electboy, electpost, electprot, electdelay, protestpart, postprot, legelig, execelig	.o
electprot==0	No election protest this year	electdelay, protestpart	.p
electpost==3	No postponed/cancelled elections	postprot	.q
elecexec==0 & elecleg ==0	No elections	suffage, suffgen, suffprop, suffparty, suffethrel, suffcrim, suffreg, suffother, callpm, callpres, callnone, electtime, callother	.r

dataset for consistency.¹ This change also meant altering three variables recording whether the dictator has a given constitutional power: The variables *mildict*, *calldict* and *legdict* registered whether the dictator held legislative, and military powers, and powers to call elections. We recoded these cases such that the powers previously assigned to the dictator are now coded as assigned to an ‘other executive’. We thus created three new variables; *milother*, *callother*, and *legother* that all register the cases where the power in question was assigned to a dictator in the previous version, but now refer to an ‘other executive’.

Second, we have corrected a number of inconsistencies in version 1.0. Notably, we have corrected a number of inconsistencies in indicators reflecting the most essential components of a country’s constitution.²

We have also created some new variables that might come in handy for users of the dataset; The age of the constitution (*constage*), the time the constitution has been in effect (*timeineffect*), and the time since the last amendment (*lastamend*).³

1 Country-year identifiers

cname – Country name

cabr – Three letter country abbreviation

ccode – Correlates of War country code

year – Year

gwno – Gleditsch and Ward country codes

Part I: Political institutions

2 Constitution

2.1 Existence of constitution

formalconstit (yes/no) – We operationally define a constitution as a system of fundamental laws and principles that prescribes the nature, functions, and limits of a government. By this definition, does the country have a formal constitution?

writconstit (yes/no) – Is the constitution a written document? For a constitution to be written we require that one set of accessible documents describe the constitutional arrangements. A constitution may be considered unwritten if it consists of many documents that have been brought into force at several different times, and there is no unified and exhaustive collection of documents that make up what the country considers its constitution.

ineffect (yes/no) – To be in force, the constitution must be in effect during some part of the year in question; that is, it has not been formally suspended or replaced. Is the constitution in force in the current year?

¹This change reflects an intention to concentrate on *de jure* constitutional provisions. The coding of the *dictator* variable deviated from most other indicators in the extent to which it necessitated subjective evaluations, and was more difficult to code reliably than other variables.

²These are; Government structure (*govstruct*), formal constitution (*formalconstit*), the presence of a legislature (*leg*), legislative electoral system (*lelecsystem*), election of executive (*eelect*), rules for election of executive (*eelectrules*), executive independent of the legislature (*execindep*), national election for the executive (*elecexec*), legislative veto (*legveto*), executive veto (*execveto*), amendment variables (*amexec*, *amleg*, *amregprov*, *amfrmlconv*), the year the constitution (*estabcon_year*). Most inconsistencies stem from inter-coder disagreements.

³Since we do not have information prior to 1960, the duration variables (*timeineffect* and *lastamend*) will start when the observation enters the dataset; meaning that these variables are left-censored)

cease (yes/no) – Does the constitution cease to be in force at any point during the year in question? In the following sections, where questions refer to constitutional institutions, the institutions of a suspended constitution are coded until new constitution comes into place in the next years coding.

ceasedate (date) – If so, what is the date it ceases to be in force?

2.2 Rules that govern amendments to the constitution

amend (yes/no) – Constitutions can be formally amended under a set of procedures described in the constitution. Can the constitution be formally amended?

amfrmlconv (yes/no) – Can amendments be proposed by formal convention?

amexec (yes/no) – Can amendments be proposed by an executive? This can be any of the codeable executives that exist in the country (see section 8).

amleg (yes/no) – Can amendments be proposed by the legislature?

amregprov (yes/no) – Can amendments be proposed by regional/provincial governments?

2.3 Rules that govern the ratification process

rat (yes/no) – Ratification is the formal approval process of proposed amendments. Is ratification of proposed amendments required?

ratfrmlconv (yes/no) – Does a formal convention have ratification authority?

ratexec (yes/no) – Does the executive have ratification authority?

ratleg (yes/no) – Does the legislature have ratification authority?

ratref (yes/no) – Does a referendum (public vote) have ratification authority?

ratregprov (yes/no) – Do regional/provincial governments have ratification authority?

2.4 Establishment of the prevailing constitution

estabcon (date) – The date that the prevailing constitution was initially established. This is coded as the day the constitution is promulgated, or the day on which the founding constitutional document(s) are established.

amyear (yes/no) – Was the constitution amended in the current year? Amendments are coded in the year they are enacted; following the January 1st rule, however, the effects of constitutional amendments are reflected in the coding for years in which they were in force as of January 1st.

2.5 Institutional duration

constage (the age of the constitution in years) – How long has the current constitution existed (years since the constitution was established)?

timeineffect (years the constitution has been in effect) – How long has the current constitution been in effect (years counting *ineffect*== 1)?

lastamend (years since last amendment) – How many years since the last amendment (years since *amyear*== 1)?

3 Legislature

3.1 Existence and chambers

leg (yes/no) – Does the country have a formal legislative body for this specific year? In cases with an existing, though suspended, constitution, the legislative institutions are coded according to the constitutional specifications for these bodies.

legcham (number of chambers) – The number of chambers in the legislature.

lowcham (number of seats) – The number of seats in the lower chamber. (If unicameral, the single chamber is coded as the lower chamber). If this legislature has not been filled, however, the value is missing. In cases of suspended constitutions, a missing value code may be used to indicate that a transitional legislature has been established, but has not been filled as of January 1st.

upcham (number of seats) – The number of seats in the upper chamber. If this legislature has not been filled, however, the value is missing. In cases of suspended constitutions, a missing value code may be used to indicate that a transitional legislature has been established, but has not been filled as of January 1st.

chamother (number of seats) – The number of seats in any other chamber. If this legislature has not been filled, however, the value is missing. In cases of suspended constitutions, a missing value code may be used to indicate that a transitional legislature has been established, but has not been filled as of January 1st.

3.2 Rules that determine selection into legislature

uppub (yes/no) – Are members to the upper chamber (if there is one) elected by the general public?

upselect (yes/no) – Are members to the upper chamber (if there is one) selected by a selected electorate (members of the other chamber (including hereditary appointment), elite council, or other such restricted group)?

upexec (yes/no) – Are members to the upper chamber (if there is one) appointed by executive authority?

lowpub (yes/no) – Are members to the lower chamber elected by the general public?

lowselect (yes/no) – Are members to the lower chamber selected by selected electorate (members of the other chamber (including hereditary appointment), elite council, or other such restricted group)?

lowexec (yes/no) – Are members to the lower chamber appointed by executive authority?

3.3 Rules that govern the introduction of legislation

proppub (yes/no) – Does the general public have the constitutional power to propose legislation?

propexec (yes/no) – Does the executive have the constitutional power to propose legislation? Here, ‘yes’ may be coded when an executive has the power to propose legislation by way of his or her cabinet, council of ministers, ‘Government,’ or similar executive body.

propleg (yes/no) – Do members of the legislature have the constitutional power to propose legislation?

4 Executive-legislature relationship

We code information on the formal relationship between the executive and the legislature. The legislature is defined above; we define the executive as the official or officials charged with putting into effect and enforcing a country’s laws and the administering its functions. The executive has principle authority over foreign affairs. The executive can be elected, appointed, or arrive through coercive means. Furthermore, if elected,

the executive can be a member of the legislature. Our interest is in the role of the executive and legislature in the process of making laws, and the amount of control one exerts over the other.

execveto (yes/no) – Does an executive have constitutional veto power over laws passed by the legislature? This question refers to whether or not the constitution explicitly grants the legislature/executive a veto right. If the constitution limits the period of postponement, and there is an absence of right to repeat postponement, postponement of legislation is not a veto.

legveto (yes/no) – Does the legislature have the constitutional power to stop executive action, in effect a legislative veto?

removeexec (yes/no) – According to the constitution, can the legislature remove an executive from office?

removeleg (yes/no) – According to the constitution, can an executive dissolve the legislature?

rattreaty (3 categories) – Does the legislature have the constitutional authority to ratify international treaties negotiated by an executive?

1. No
2. Yes, one chamber's approval is necessary
3. Yes, both chambers' approval is necessary

execforce (yes/no) – Does an executive have the power to use military force abroad without legislative approval?

execntax (yes/no) – Can an executive change domestic taxes (excluding import/export tariffs) without legislative approval?

execbudget (yes/no) – Does an executive have to secure legislative approval for the budget?

5 Judiciary

National constitutional courts normally rule on disputes over constitutional issues and over disputes between legislatures and executives. We record whether such courts exist, and if they do, we record details about those courts. We begin with the general question of whether such a court exists, setting aside whether its powers are binding or advisory.

court (yes/no) – According to the constitution, does the country have a national constitutional court? In some cases, a council with the powers of a constitutional court may exist, though it may not be part of the formal judiciary. In such cases, this non-judicial council with the powers of a constitutional court is coded as the constitutional court.

appelec (2 categories) – Are members of the constitutional court appointed or elected? Elected here refers to a popular election. Elections by legislative bodies are considered as appointments.

1. Appointed
2. Elected

remove (yes/no) – Can members of this court be removed?

whoby (5 categories) – Who can remove members of the constitutional court?

1. Legislature
2. Executive
3. Requires both legislature and executive action
4. Vote of the general public

5. Court itself (this may refer to another court in the judiciary, not necessarily the constitutional court itself)

life (yes/no) – Are members of the court appointed for life?

courtxec (yes/no) – Can the court rule on executive actions?

courtleg (yes/no) – Can the court rule on legislative actions?

6 Government centralization

In this section, we examine the relationship between the central and regional governments, those which are immediately below the central government. We focus exclusively on states or provincial levels of government, municipalities are not coded.

govstruct (3 categories) – What is the government structure?

1. Unitary system: Strong central government with few if any regional administrative structures, where such structures have no autonomy.
2. Confederation: Weak central government and strong regional governments or semi-autonomous provinces.
3. Federal system: Strong central government with semi-autonomous regional political units or subordinate provincial governments.

regstruct (3 categories) – How are regional governmental representatives selected?

1. Autonomously by region
2. Appointed by the central government
3. No regional government

To code this question, we identify the highest administrative level below that of the state, identify who has administrative authority at this level, and decide whether they are appointed by central government or not.

7 Central bank

centralbank (yes/no) – Is there is a central bank? In cases where the country is a member of a supranational monetary organization, a central bank is coded only when this country retains a national central bank separate from the supranational organization of which it is a member. Member-states of the European Monetary Union, for example, typically maintain individual central banks and are coded as such. Member-states of the Central Bank of West African States, however, often do not; they would be coded as having no central bank.

bankdir (3 categories) – How is the director of the central bank selected?

1. Executive appointment
2. Legislative appointment
3. Executive appointment with legislative confirmation or consultation
4. Other

dirterm (numeric) – The term of office (in years) for the director of the central bank (.s = variable term).

bankpol (yes/no) – Does the central bank have authority over monetary policy?

8 Elections and electoral outcomes

elecexec (yes/no) – Does the country hold national elections for an executive? We consider national elections to involve subjecting the executive to some form of popular plebiscite. This electoral process may or may not bear any relationship to the ultimate appointment of the executive. Executive council elections that select an executive are not considered national elections.

electeg (yes/no) – Does the country hold national elections for the legislature? We consider national elections to involve subjecting the members of the legislature to some form of popular plebiscite. While seats may be divided into districts, we consider national elections to occur when district-wide elections are organized at the national level.

elecrefer (yes/no) – Does the country hold national elections on referendum items?

8.1 Selection of the executive

exleg (yes/no) – Is there an executive who is also a member of the legislature (like a prime minister, for example)? We consider membership in the legislature if either an explicit rule exists which requires an executive to maintain a seat in the legislature, or if practice and/or convention determines membership.

execindep (yes/no) – Is there an executive chosen independently of the legislature (like a president, for example)? If these processes that select the executive is distinct from that which selects the legislature, then we consider the two to be independent. The selection processes, moreover, can involve different – albeit competing or complimentary – forms of selection.

execappoint (yes/no) – Is there an executive appointed either by a PM (that is, an executive who is also a member of the legislature) or a president (an independently selected executive)? An example of this would be when the president appoints the prime minister.

8.2 Rules that govern executive authority

For the questions under this section, a president is considered the executive selected independently from the selection process of the legislators (as referred to in question ‘execindep’ above). A prime minister is the person holding the office that approximates the institutional characteristics of a prime minister; this executive may be referred to in question ‘exleg’ or question ‘execappoint’, above. Refer to the notes for individual cases for clarification of titles held by each of these executives.

milpm (yes/no) – Does a prime minister have the power to use military force abroad?

milpres (yes/no) – Does a president have the power to use military force abroad?

milnone (yes/no) – Is the power to use military force abroad outside the executive branch?

milother (yes/no) – Is the power to use military force vested in some other executive?

8.3 Rules that govern executive-legislative process

legpm (yes/no) – Does a prime minister have the power to introduce legislation in the legislature?

legpres (yes/no) – Does a president have the power to introduce legislation in the legislature?

legnone (yes/no) – Is the power to power to introduce legislation in the legislature outside of the executive branch?

legother (yes/no) – Does some other executive have the power to introduce legislation in the legislature?

8.4 Rules that govern the calling of elections

callpm (yes/no) – Does a prime minister have the power to call elections?

callpres (yes/no) – Does a president have the power to call elections?

callnone (yes/no) – Does no one have the power to call elections?

callother (yes/no) – Does some other executive have the power to call elections?

electtime (3 categories) – Under what conditions are elections scheduled?

1. No formal schedule (elections are at the will and timing of an executive)
2. Formal schedule, at exact times within a fixed interval
3. Formal schedule, at inexact times within a fixed interval

shedexec (yes/no) – If elections are scheduled but at inexact times, does an executive have constitutional authority to schedule elections?

shedleg (yes/no) – If elections are scheduled but at inexact times, does the legislature have constitutional authority to schedule elections?

shedboth (yes/no) – If elections are scheduled but at inexact times, do an executive and the legislature both have constitutional authority to schedule elections?

shedna (yes/no) – If elections are scheduled but at inexact times, do others have constitutional authority to schedule elections?

8.5 Rules that set the timing and participation in elections

elecperiod (2 categories) – What is the election period?

1. One day
2. Multiple days

reservedseat (3 categories) – Are legislative seats or districts reserved for:

1. Diaspora/refugee community
2. Domestic identity group; these groups may be considered any kind of underrepresented group, formally organized or not; residing within the country (e.g., women, indigenous peoples, ethnic minorities, etc.)
3. None reserved

reservedby (3 categories) – If seats are reserved, are they based on:

1. Number of seats
2. Percentage of seats
3. Percentage of districts

9 Rules governing elections

9.1 Rules describing the nomination process

lpartynom (yes/no) – Does party nomination (party list, convention, etc.) establish how the field of candidates who stand for legislative elections is determined?

lprimary (yes/no) – Do members of party vote (primary) establish how the field of candidates who stand for legislative elections is determined?

lselfnom (yes/no) – Does self-nomination establish how the field of candidates who stand for legislative elections is determined?

lpetition (yes/no) – Do petition signatures establish how the field of candidates who stand for legislative elections is determined?

lexecnom (yes/no) – Does executive nomination establish how the field of candidates who stand for legislative elections is determined?

epartynom (yes/no) – Does party nomination (party list, convention, etc.) establish how the field of candidates who stand for executive elections is determined?

eprimary (yes/no) – Do members of party vote (primary) establish how the field of candidates who stand for executive elections is determined?

eselfnom (yes/no) – Does self-nomination establish how the field of candidates who stand for executive elections is determined?

epetition (yes/no) – Do petition signatures establish how the field of candidates who stand for executive elections is determined?

9.2 Rules governing the outcome of elections

lelectsystem (4 categories) – What is the type of electoral system for legislative elections?

1. Plurality (First past the post)
2. Majority
3. Proportional representation
4. Mixed systems (combination of PR and either plurality or majority). This option includes situations in which a single chamber contains seats selected by different methods, or situations in which all of the seats in a chamber are chosen with the same method, but each chamber is selected through different methods.

eelect (5 categories) – How is the executive elected:

1. Direct public vote
2. Legislative action by members of the legislature
3. Party process strictly by a party
4. Indirect public vote
5. Appointed

eelectrules (4 categories) – Election rules governing the determination of electoral outcomes for the executive: we record data on the electoral requirements for winning executive elections, specifically, the sorts of vote thresholds required for winners. If the executive is appointed or otherwise comes to power via non-electoral processes, we code this as missing.

1. Majority rule (50% + 1) Where run-offs are held, ‘majority rule’ is selected, as the intention of a run-off election is to have one candidate receive a majority of the votes.
2. Plurality
3. No official, explicit, rule governing the outcome
4. Party leader of majority party/coalition in legislature automatically selected without additional process.

parties (3 categories)– How many parties hold at least 5% of seats in the legislature?

1. One
2. Two
3. More than two

9.3 Rules governing party participation

banned (yes/no) – Are there banned parties?

banethnic (yes/no) – Does ethnic makeup determine the banning of parties?

banrelig (yes/no) – Does religious affiliation determine the banning of parties?

bansys (yes/no)– Does an anti-system platform determine the banning of parties?

banall (yes/no) – Are no parties allowed?

stateparty (yes/no) – Is there an official state party?

9.4 Rules governing suffrage rights

suffage (yes/no) – Is age a de jure restriction on participation?

suffgen (yes/no) – Is gender a de jure restriction on participation?

suffprop (yes/no) – Is property ownership/wealth a de jure restriction on participation?

suffparty (yes/no) – Is party membership a de jure restriction on participation?

suffethrel (yes/no) – Is being in an ethnic or religious group a de jure restriction on participation?

suffcrim (yes/no) – Is a criminal conviction a de jure restriction on participation?

suffreg (yes/no) – Is registration a de jure restriction on participation?

suffother (yes/no)– Is there another de jure restriction on participation?

Part II: Elections in practice

For this section, we record completed elections. Thus, if an election took place in the given year, but a run-off of this election took place the following year, we record the election for the following year. Also, we record only elections for national offices occurring in the regular election cycle (i.e., by-elections or special elections are not recorded).

election (yes/no) – Is there an election in this country during this year?

electexec (yes/no) – Is the election for the executive only?

electleg (yes/no) – Is the election for the legislature only?

electboth (yes/no) – Is the election for both the executive and the legislature? We consider simultaneous elections only if the final round of the elections for the executive and the legislature are held on the same day. If the first round of the executive and legislative elections are held on the same day, but the second round of either or both are held on different days, we consider these as separate elections. In this instance questions ‘electexec’ and ‘electleg’ would each be coded as ‘yes.’

For questions ‘exelecdate’ and ‘legelecdate’, the final date of the elections are recorded – this is the date on which the voting ceased.

exelecdate (MM/DD/YYYY) – The date of the above executive election (if any).

legelecdate (MM/DD/YYYY) – The date of the above legislative election (if any).

legcompet (yes/no) – In general, are legislative elections contested and competitive? A legislative election is competitive if no one party wins more than 90% of seats in the lower house of the legislature.

execompet (yes/no) – In practice is the executive election contested and competitive? An executive election is competitive if no one candidate receives more than 90% of the vote.

electboy (yes/no) – Were any of the national elections (executive or legislative) boycotted by any major party?

electpost (3 categories) – For this specific electoral cycle were scheduled elections postponed or cancelled?

1. Postponed
2. Cancelled
3. None of the above

electprot (yes/no) – Does an election outcome provoke protest or violence?

electdelay (3 categories) – The approximate time after election that protest begins is:

1. One day
2. One week
3. One month

protestpart (3 categories) – The extent of public participation in the protest:

1. Low participation: single location, less than 1000 people.
2. Moderate participation: single or multiple locations: multiple with under 1000 people, single with more than 1000.
3. Widespread participation: multiple locations in the country, involving more than 1000 people in those multiple locations.

postprot (yes/no) – If election is postponed or cancelled, does an election cancellation or postponement provoke protest or violence?

legelig (numeric) – Percentage of eligible population voting in legislative elections.

exceleg (numeric) – Percentage of eligible population voting in executive elections (if separate from legislative elections).

10 References