

Party Government in Europe Database (PAGED) – Basic potential cabinets/coalitions dataset

This comparative dataset builds on previous datasets (Andersson et al 2020, Bergman et al 2019, Bergman et al 2021, Hellström et al 2021, Strøm et al 2008), and has been updated in-house to late 2024.

The dataset contains an exhaustive list of potential cabinets and coalitions for each government formation opportunity included in the PAGED basic dataset, with variables recording various attributes of these potential cabinets and coalitions. Each government formation opportunity corresponds to a cabinet in the PAGED basic dataset.

How to cite

When using these data please cite the following:

Hellström, Johan, Torbjörn Bergman, Jonas Lindahl, and Elsa Karlsson Gustafsson (2024). *Party Government in Europe Database (PAGED) – Basic potential cabinets/coalitions dataset, Version 2024.12*. Available on <https://repdem.org>.

Structure of the codebook

The following sections then each contain detailed information on

- the name of the variable as it is defined in the dataset,
- the label briefly describing the variable,
- the attached value label,
- relevant additional information on specific coding decisions (where applicable),

For several variables such as the partisan composition of the cabinet or the allocation of portfolios the information is given using party abbreviations and/or party-IDs. Please refer to the corresponding *Party codebook* for further information.

References

Andersson, Staffan, Torbjörn Bergman, Svante Ersson, and Johan Hellström (2020). “The European Representative Democracy Data Archive, Release 4 (Final release)”. Main sponsor: Riksbankens Jubileumsfond (In2007-0149:1-E).

Bergman, Torbjörn, Hanna Bäck, and Johan Hellström (eds.). (2021). *Coalition Governance in Western Europe*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Bergman, Torbjörn, Gabriella Ilonszki and Wolfgang C. Müller, eds. (2019). *Coalition Governance in Central Eastern Europe*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Hellström, Johan, Torbjörn Bergman, and Hanna Bäck (2021). Party Government in Europe Database (PAGED). Main sponsor: Riksbankens Jubileumsfond (IN150306:1). Available on <https://repdem.org>.

Strøm, Kaare, Müller, Wolfgang C. and Bergman, Torbjörn, eds. (2008). *Cabinets and Coalition Bargaining: The Democratic Life Cycle in Western Europe*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

General information on the cabinets and potential coalitions

Variable	Label	Value Label/Format	Additional Information
country_id	Country		
country_id_iso	Country numeric ISO code		ISO 3166-1 standard
cab_id	Cabinet ID	First two digits: country Second two digits: cabinet	Each individual cabinet is considered a government formation opportunity.
potential_coalition	Members of potential cabinet	Party IDs; see party codebook	List of potential cabinet parties, in alphanumerical order
unique_id	Unique ID for cabinet ID and potential government	256-bit hex value	
pcab_status_quo	Potential cabinet has identical composition to previous cabinet	0: no 1: yes	
pcab_party1-pcab_party23	Potential cabinet party 1	Party ID; see party codebook	
pcab_num_parties	Number of potential cabinet parties		
real_gov	Actual cabinet	0: no 1: yes	Potential cabinet corresponding to the actually formed cabinet.
real_nonpartisan	Actual cabinet is non-partisan	0: no 1: yes	
pcab_coalition	Potential coalition cabinet	0: no 1: yes	
pcab_seats	Potential cabinet seats: lower chamber		
pcab_seat_share	Potential cabinet seats: lower chamber		

pcab_upper_seats	Potential cabinet seats: upper chamber		
pcab_upper_seat_share	Potential cabinet seats: upper chamber		
pcab_pm_party_prev	Potential cabinet includes PM party of previous cabinet	0: no 1: yes	
pcab_largest_party	Potential cabinet includes largest party in parliament	0: no 1: yes	
pcab_maj	Potential majority cabinet: lower chamber	0: no 1: yes	The potential cabinet holds at minimum 50%+1 seats
pcab_upper_maj	Potential majority cabinet: upper chamber	0: no 1: yes	The potential cabinet holds at minimum 50%+1 seats
pcab_mwc	Potential minimal winning coalition	0: no 1: yes	
pcab_surplus	Potential surplus majority cabinet	0: no 1: yes	
pcab_govtype	Potential government type	1: Min 2: Maj 3: Mwc 4: Sur 5: Non	<p>Minority cabinet: Holds less than 50 % plus one seat in parliament. Single-party minority cabinets are likewise coded as 'Min'</p> <p>Single-party majority cabinet: Holds 50% plus one seat in parliament. Is not a coalition.</p> <p>Minimal winning coalition: Is turned into a losing coalition by the subtraction of any of the coalition parties, i.e., if it loses a coalition party it holds less than 50 % plus one seat.</p> <p>Surplus majority coalition: Can lose a coalition party and still be winning, i.e. control 50 % plus one seat or more in the parliament</p> <p>A non-partisan cabinet, e.g. appointed by a president to hold an election</p>

pcab_median_first	Potential cabinet includes party of the median legislator, first dimension	0: no 1: yes	
pcab_median_second	Potential cabinet includes party of the median legislator, second dimension	0: no 1: yes	
pcab_prefrange	Cabinet preference range, RILE		The distance between the left-most and right-most parties in the cabinet on the Manifesto Project's Right-Left (RILE) scale.
pcab_prefrange_logit	Cabinet preference range, RILE, logit scaled		The distance between the left-most and right-most parties in the cabinet based on the logit scaling (Lowe et al. 2011) of the Manifesto Project's Right-Left (RILE) scale.
pcab_prefrange_prosser	Cabinet preference range, Prosser (2014) left-right scale		As pcab_prefrange, but using the categories suggested by Prosser (2014) for constructing the left-right scale
pcab_prefrange_logit_prosser	Cabinet preference range, Prosser (2014) left-right scale, logit scaled		As pcab_prefrange_logit, but using the categories suggested by Prosser (2014) for constructing the left-right scale
pcab_polar	Cabinet polarization, RILE		Measured as the standard deviation from the mean position in cabinet, based on the Manifesto Project's Right-Left (RILE) scale
pcab_polar_logit	Cabinet polarization, RILE, logit scaled		Measured as the standard deviation from the mean position in cabinet, based on the logit scaling (Lowe et al. 2011) of the Manifesto Project's Right-Left (RILE) scale
pcab_wpolar	Cabinet polarization, RILE, weighted SD		As pcab_polar, but standard deviation from the weighted (by seats) mean position.
pcab_wpolar_logit	Cabinet polarization, RILE, weighted SD, logit scaled		As pcab_wpolar, but standard deviation from the weighted (by seats) mean position.
pcab_polar_prosser	Cabinet polarization, Prosser (2014) left-right scale		Measured as the standard deviation from the mean position in cabinet, based on Prosser's (2014) suggested categories in the Manifesto Project data for the general left-right dimension
pcab_polar_logit_prosser	Cabinet polarization, Prosser (2014) left-right scale, logit scaled		Measured as the standard deviation from the mean position in cabinet, based on the logit scaling (Lowe et al. 2011) on Prosser's (2014) suggested categories in the Manifesto Project data for the general left-right dimension
pcab_wpolar_prosser	Cabinet polarization, RILE, weighted SD		As pcab_polar_prosser, but standard deviation from the weighted (by seats) mean position.

pcab_wpolar_logit_prosser	Cabinet polarization, RILE, weighted SD, logit scaled		As pcab_wpolar_prosser, but standard deviation from the weighted (by seats) mean position.
pcab_connected	Connected potential cabinet, RILE		Party ranks based on the Manifesto Project's Left-Right (RILE) scale. Should be interpreted with caution!
pcab_mw_connected	Connected minimal winning potential cabinet, RILE		Minimal winning and connected cabinet, based on connected status from pcab_connected.
pcab_connected_logit	Connected potential cabinet, RILE, logit scaled		Party ranks based on logit scaling (Lowe et al. 2011) of the Manifesto Project's Left-Right (RILE) scale. Should be interpreted with caution!
pcab_mw_connected_logit	Connected minimal winning potential cabinet, RILE, logit scaled		Minimal winning and connected cabinet, based on connected status from pcab_connected_logit.
pcab_connected_prosser	Connected potential cabinet, Prosser (2014) left-right scale		Party ranks based on Prosser's (2014) suggested categories in the Manifesto Project data for the general left-right dimension. Should be interpreted with caution!
pcab_mw_connected_prosser	Connected minimal winning potential cabinet, Prosser (2014) left-right scale		Minimal winning and connected cabinet, based on connected status from pcab_connected_prosser.
pcab_connected_logit_prosser	Connected potential cabinet, Prosser (2014) left-right scale, logit scaled		Party ranks based on logit scaling (Lowe et al. 2011) of Prosser's (2014) suggested categories in the Manifesto Project data for the general left-right dimension.. Should be interpreted with caution!
pcab_mw_connected_logit_prosser	Connected minimal winning potential cabinet, Prosser (2014) left-right scale, logit scaled		Minimal winning and connected cabinet, based on connected status from pcab_connected_logit_prosser.