

## The Representative Democracy Data Archive (REPDEM) - Basic dataset

This comparative dataset builds on several previous datasets (Andersson et al. 2020, Bergman et al. 2019, Bergman et al. 2021, Bergman et al. 2024, Hellström et al. 2021, Strøm et al. 2008) and has been updated in-house to cover additional years, countries, and variables. The dataset provides detailed information on key aspects of government formation and termination across 33 parliamentary democracies. It covers governments formed from 1945 (or their democratic transitions) up to the 1<sup>st</sup> of July 2026.

### How to cite

When using these data, please cite the following:

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### 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, the information is given using party abbreviations and/or party IDs. Please refer to the corresponding Party codebook for further information. For additional information on coding and definitions of most variables, please see Notes on Coding Principles.

## 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 Johan Hellström (eds.). (2024). *Coalition Politics in Central Eastern Europe: Governing in Times of Crisis*. Oxfordshire: Taylor & Francis.

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

| Variable       | Label                                                   | Value Label/Format                                      | Additional Information                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|----------------|---------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| country_id     | Country                                                 |                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| country_id_iso | Country numeric ISO code                                |                                                         | ISO 3166-1 standard                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| country_name   | Country name                                            |                                                         | Country name in English                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| cab_id         | Cabinet ID                                              | First two digits: country<br>Last three digits: cabinet |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| old_cab_id     | Cabinet ID, old standard                                | First two digits: country<br>Second two digits: cabinet |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| unique_id      | Unique ID for the cabinet ID and government composition | 256-bit hex value                                       | Unique ID based on a SHA256 hash of a concatenated string of cab_id, ., and potential_government. E.g., if cab_id is 1001, and potential_government is 10001,10004,10005, the concatenated string is 1001.10001,10004,10005            |
| old_unique_id  | Unique ID for old cabinet ID and government composition | 256-bit hex value                                       | Unique ID based on a SHA256 hash of a concatenated string of old_cab_id, ., and potential_government. E.g., if old_cab_id is 101, and potential_government is 10001,10004,10005, the concatenated string is 1001.10001,10004,10005     |
| cab_name       | Cabinet                                                 |                                                         | Name of the PM consecutively numbered with Roman numerals                                                                                                                                                                              |
| date_in        | Date in                                                 | YYYY-MM-DD (e.g., 2014-07-13)                           | The first day in cabinet life, according to official criteria, is defined as:<br>(a) The date that the PM/cabinet was appointed by the head of state<br>(b) Date of investiture vote in parliament<br>(c) Date of the general election |
| year_month_in  | Year/month of cabinet formation                         | YYYYMM (e.g. 201407)                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| year_in        | Year of cabinet formation                               | YYYY                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| date_out       | Date out                                                | YYYY-MM-DD (e.g., 2014-07-13)                           | Last day in cabinet life is defined as:<br>(a) Day of cabinet resignation<br>(b) Day of the general election                                                                                                                           |

|                       |                                                |                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| year_month_out        | Year/month of cabinet termination              | YYYYMM (e.g. 201407)                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| year_out              | Year of cabinet termination                    | YYYY                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| date_in_str           | Date in string                                 | YYYY-MM-DD (e.g., 2014-07-13)                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| date_out_str          | Date out string                                | YYYY-MM-DD (e.g., 2014-07-13)                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| form_decade           | Decade by date of formation                    | <i>For example:</i><br>90: 1990s<br>100: 2000s<br>110: 2010s<br>120: 2020s |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| cab_duration_max      | Maximum possible cabinet duration              | measured in days                                                           | Defined as:<br>Remainder of the parliamentary term, when the cabinet assumes office until<br>(a) Next constitutionally mandated parliamentary elections<br>(b) The next constitutionally mandated presidential elections if it is required or customary for governments to resign at that time |
| cab_duration_days     | Cabinet duration                               | measured in days                                                           | Defined as:<br>time period between cabinet's first and last day in office                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| cab_duration_relative | Relative cabinet duration                      | measured as a proportion (0–1)                                             | Defined as:<br>share of potential duration the cabinet was in office                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| cab_duration_full     | Full duration technical termination            | 0: no<br>1: yes                                                            | Takes the value 1 if the cabinet terminates due to technical reasons and its relative duration is greater than 90%.                                                                                                                                                                            |
| cab_composition1      | Cabinet composition                            | Party abbreviations; see party codebook                                    | List of cabinet parties, beginning with the party of the PM                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| cab_composition2      | Cabinet composition                            | Party IDs; see party codebook                                              | List of cabinet parties, beginning with the party of the PM                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| cab_partyX            | Cabinet party <u>X</u>                         | Party-IDs; see party codebook                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| cab_seatshare_partyX  | Cabinet party <u>X</u> , seat share in cabinet |                                                                            | The seat share in the cabinet for party X, corresponding to the same party as in cab_partyX. E.g., cab_seatshare_party1 is the seat share in the cabinet for the party listed under cab_party1.                                                                                                |
| cab_num_parties       | Number of cabinet parties                      |                                                                            | Number of cabinet parties excluding independents.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |

|                     |                                  |                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| cab_coalition       | Coalition                        | 0: no<br>1: yes | A government coalition is defined as a multi-party government where more than one party is represented in the cabinet. This includes all types of coalition governments, including minority coalitions, minimal winning coalitions (MWCs), and surplus/oversized majority cabinets. |
| cab_majority        | Cabinet majority (50% + 1) seat) | 0: no<br>1: yes | The cabinet holds 50% plus one seat in parliament. This includes all types of majority governments, including Single party majority cabinet; minimal winning coalitions; and surplus/oversized majority cabinets.                                                                   |
| cab_sp_majority     | Single-party majority cabinet    | 0: no<br>1: yes | A single-party majority cabinet holds 50% plus one seat in parliament and is not a coalition.                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| cab_minority        | Minority cabinet                 | 0: no<br>1: yes | A minority cabinet holds less than 50 % plus one seat in parliament. This includes all types of minority governments, including single party minority cabinets and minority coalition.                                                                                              |
| cab_sp_minority     | Single-party minority cabinet    | 0: no<br>1: yes | A single-party minority cabinet holds less than 50% plus one seat in parliament (and is not a coalition).                                                                                                                                                                           |
| cab_coal_minority   | Minority coalition               | 0: no<br>1: yes | A minority coalition hold less than 50 % plus one seat in parliament.                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| cab_sub_minority    | Substantial minority cabinet     | 0: no<br>1: yes | A substantial minority cabinet is a minority cabinet that does not reach majority status with seats added from formal support parties.                                                                                                                                              |
| cab_mwc             | Minimal winning coalition        | 0: no<br>1: yes | A minimal-winning coalition (MWC) is one that needs all its members for a parliamentary majority.                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| cab_formal_minority | Formal minority cabinet          | 0: no<br>1: yes | A formal minority cabinet has majority support in parliament (only) when including the seats of formal support parties                                                                                                                                                              |
| cab_surplus         | Surplus majority cabinet         | 0: no<br>1: yes | Surplus majority coalitions or oversized coalitions have more parties than is needed for a parliamentary majority (i.e., they can lose a coalition party and still have a majority of parliamentary seats).                                                                         |
| cab_caretaker       | Caretaker cabinet                | 0: no<br>1: yes | A caretaker cabinet refers to a non-partisan cabinet, e.g., appointed by a president to hold an election.                                                                                                                                                                           |

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|------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| govtype                | Government type              | 1: Min<br>2: Maj<br>3: Mwc<br>4: Sur<br>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> |
| newgov_type            | Type of new government       | 1: Election<br>2: Replacement<br>3: PM change, but same party composition as previous cabinet<br>4: Other<br>5: Non-partisan cabinet | <p>Records if a new cabinet results from an election, replacement of one or several cabinet parties without a preceding election, or if there has only been a change of PM without a preceding election.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| post_election_cab      | Post-electoral cabinet       | 0: No<br>1: Yes                                                                                                                      | <p>A post-electoral cabinet is a cabinet formed after (and as a result of) a parliamentary election.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| support_parties        | Support parties              | See party codebooks.                                                                                                                 | <p>Only includes formal support parties, i.e., those that have a formal written agreement with the government guaranteeing, at minimum, support in issues of confidence and supply.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| support_party <u>X</u> | Support party <u>X</u>       | See party codebooks.                                                                                                                 | <p>The party ID for support party X.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| techno_maj             | Technocrat ministry majority | 0: No<br>1: Yes                                                                                                                      | <p>Indicates whether a majority of cabinet ministers are technocrats (1) or whether a majority of cabinet ministers are party representatives (0).</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| techno_pm              | Technocrat PM                | 0: No<br>1: Yes                                                                                                                      | <p>Indicates whether the PM is a technocrat or not.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| techno_remit           | Broad policy remit           | 0: No<br>1: Yes                                                                                                                      | <p>A cabinet without a broad policy remit is considered a caretaker cabinet.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |

## The political parties and the party system (lower chamber)

| Variable            | Label                                                        | Value Label/Format                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Additional Information                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| prox_election       | Proximity to election: lower chamber                         | <p>1 (FE): Cabinets formed immediately following an election and ended by the next election.</p> <p>2 (F): Cabinets formed immediately following an election.</p> <p>3 (N): Cabinets neither formed immediately following an election nor ended by the next election.</p> <p>4 (E): Cabinets ended by an election.</p> | Information on when a cabinet was formed and terminated in relation to parliamentary elections (lower chamber). Please note that the 'proximity to election' is undecided for the last cabinet in each country if it has not terminated.      |
| elecdate            | Election date                                                | YYYY-MM-DD (e.g. 2014-07-13)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | <p>Date of most recent parliamentary election:</p> <p>(a) Two-round elections: date of the second round</p> <p>(b) Elections held over several days: date of last day</p>                                                                     |
| country_elec_num    | Sequential election number in the country                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Starts at 1 for the first election recorded in the data. Does not always correspond to the country's first free and open multiparty election if these were held before the end of World War II.                                               |
| country_elec_id     | Election ID                                                  | <p>First two digits: country ID</p> <p>Second two digits: election number</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | A sequential number recording the sequence of elections in a country, beginning with the election preceding the first cabinet in the data. E.g., the first election in country 1 has the election ID 101.                                     |
| num_parties         | Number of parties in parliament                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | All political parties, excluding 'others'.                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| largest_party1      | Largest party in parliament, 1 <sup>st</sup>                 | See party codebooks.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Largest party in terms of seats.                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| largest_party2      | Largest party in parliament, 2 <sup>nd</sup>                 | See party codebooks.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | The largest party in terms of seats if two parties have equal size.                                                                                                                                                                           |
| largest_party_incab | The largest party in parliament is in the cabinet            | <p>0: No</p> <p>1: Yes</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | If the largest party in parliament (lower chamber) is in government. If there are two parties with the largest number of seats in parliament, the inclusion of either party is counted as the largest party being a member of the government. |
| largest_party_share | Seat share of the largest party in parliament: lower chamber | measured as a proportion (0–1)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Seat share of the largest party in parliament (lower chamber).                                                                                                                                                                                |

|                              |                                                                                    |                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| largest_party_bp             | Bargaining power (Banzhaf index) of the largest party in parliament: lower chamber |                 | Bargaining power (the normalized Banzhaf index) of the largest party in parliament (lower chamber). The normalised, or relative, index assigns voting power shares to each parliamentary party and captures the numerical importance of political parties in forming majority coalitions. For instance, a majority party that controls 50 % plus one seat or more in the parliament will always get a Banzhaf score of one, as it will always be needed to form a majority. |
| minority_sit                 | Minority situation in parliament                                                   | 0: no<br>1: yes | No single party holds 50% plus one seat or more of the parliamentary seats.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| seats_total                  | Total number of seats: lower chamber                                               |                 | The total number of seats in parliament (lower chamber).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| cab_strength_lower           | Cabinet strength: lower chamber                                                    |                 | Total number of seats of all cabinet parties.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| cab_strength_lower_supported | Cabinet strength including formal support parties: lower chamber                   |                 | Total number of seats of all cabinet parties plus the seats of any formal support parties.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| cab_strength_out             | Cabinet strength at date out: lower chamber                                        |                 | Total number of seats of all cabinet parties on the last day of a government's tenure.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| cab_seatshare                | Cabinet seat share: lower chamber                                                  |                 | The total seat share of all cabinet parties.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| cab_seatshare_supported      | Cabinet seat share including formal support parties                                |                 | The seat share in the lower chamber of all cabinet parties, including any formal support parties.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| cab_connected                | Ideologically connected cabinet                                                    | 0: no<br>1: yes | In a "connected cabinet," the parties are "next to one another" along an economic left-right placement of political parties.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| cab_mwcc                     | Minimal Winning Connected Cabinet                                                  | 0: no<br>1: yes | A cabinet is a MWCC if (i) it is connected, and (ii) it cannot remain winning AND connected by dropping a party.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| cab_mwccs                    | MWCC including single-party cabinets                                               | 0: no<br>1: yes | Minimal Winning Connected Cabinet, including single-party majority governments.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| cab_prefrange                | Cabinet preference range, RILE                                                     |                 | The cabinet preference range is the distance between the left-most and right-most parties in the cabinet. Based on the Manifesto Project's Right-Left (RILE) scale                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| cab_prefrange_logit          | Cabinet preference range, RILE, logit scaled                                       |                 | The cabinet preference range is 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.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |

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| cab_prefrange_prosser       | Cabinet preference range, Prosser (2014) left-right scale               |  | The cabinet preference range is the distance between the left-most and right-most parties in the cabinet. Based on Manifesto Project's data, but using the categories suggested by Prosser (2014) for constructing the left-right scale.                                                            |
| cab_prefrange_prosser_logit | Cabinet preference range, Prosser (2014) left-right scale, logit scaled |  | The cabinet preference range is the distance between the left-most and right-most parties in the cabinet. Based on Manifesto Project's data, but using the categories suggested by Prosser (2014) for constructing the left-right scale, and the data have been logit-scaled (see Lowe et al. 2011) |
| cab_prefrange_ches          | Cabinet preference range, CHES general left-right scale (lrgen)         |  | The distance between the left-most and right-most parties in the cabinet based on the Chapel Hill Expert Survey's general left-right scale (lrgen).                                                                                                                                                 |
| cab_polar                   | Cabinet polarization, RILE                                              |  | Measured as the standard deviation from the mean position in the cabinet, based on the Manifesto Project's Right-Left (RILE) scale                                                                                                                                                                  |
| cab_polar_logit             | Cabinet polarization, RILE, logit scaled                                |  | Measured as the standard deviation from the mean position in the cabinet, based on the logit scaling (Lowe et al. 2011) of the Manifesto Project's Right-Left (RILE) scale                                                                                                                          |
| cab_polar_prosser           | Cabinet polarization, Prosser (2014) left-right scale                   |  | Measured as the standard deviation from the mean position in the cabinet, based on Prosser's (2014) suggested categories in the Manifesto Project data for the general left-right dimension                                                                                                         |
| cab_polar_prosser_logit     | Cabinet polarization, Prosser (2014) left-right scale, logit scaled     |  | Measured as the standard deviation from the mean position in the 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                                                                 |
| cab_polar_ches              | Cabinet polarization, CHES general left-right scale (lrgen)             |  | Measured as the standard deviation from the mean position in the cabinet, based on the Chapel Hill Expert Survey's general left-right scale (lrgen).                                                                                                                                                |
| cab_wpolar                  | Cabinet polarization, RILE, weighted SD                                 |  | Measured as the standard deviation from the weighted (by seats) mean position in the cabinet, based on the Manifesto Project's Right-Left (RILE) scale                                                                                                                                              |
| cab_wpolar_logit            | Cabinet polarization, RILE, weighted SD, logit scaled                   |  | Measured as the standard deviation from the weighted (by seats) mean position in the cabinet, based on the logit scaling (Lowe et al. 2011) of the Manifesto Project's Right-Left (RILE) scale                                                                                                      |
| cab_wpolar_prosser          | Cabinet polarization, RILE, weighted SD                                 |  | Measured as the standard deviation from the weighted (by seats) mean position in the cabinet, based on Prosser's (2014) suggested categories in the Manifesto Project data for the general left-right dimension                                                                                     |

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| cab_wpolar_prosser_logit  | Cabinet polarization, RILE, weighted SD, logit scaled                    |  | Measured as the standard deviation from the weighted (by seats) mean position in the 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                                                                                                                                        |
| cab_wpolar_ches           | Cabinet polarization, CHES general left-right scale (lrgen)              |  | Measured as the standard deviation from the weighted (by seats) mean position in the cabinet, based on the Chapel Hill Expert Survey's general left-right scale (lrgen).                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| cab_gravity               | Cabinet centre of gravity, RILE                                          |  | The Centre of gravity is a measure of a government's mean ideological position (by calculating the cabinet's ideological centre of gravity as the weighted mean position of the parties in the cabinet). The Manifesto Project's left-right (RILE) scale has been used to estimate party positions.                                                                                            |
| cab_gravity_logit         | Cabinet centre of gravity, RILE, logit scaled                            |  | The Centre of gravity is a measure of a government's mean ideological position (by calculating the cabinet's ideological centre of gravity as the weighted mean position of the parties in the cabinet). The logit scaled version (Lowe et al. 2011) of the Manifesto Project's left-right (RILE) scale has been used to estimate party positions.                                             |
| cab_gravity_prosser       | Cabinet centre of gravity, Prosser (2014) left-right scale               |  | The Centre of gravity is a measure of a government's mean ideological position (by calculating the cabinet's ideological centre of gravity as the weighted mean position of the parties in the cabinet). The Manifesto Project categories suggested by Prosser (2014) for a general left-right scale have been used to estimate party positions.                                               |
| cab_gravity_prosser_logit | Cabinet centre of gravity, Prosser (2014) left-right scale, logit scaled |  | The Centre of gravity is a measure of a government's mean ideological position (by calculating the cabinet's ideological centre of gravity as the weighted mean position of the parties in the cabinet). The logit scaled version (Lowe et al. 2011) of the Manifesto Project categories suggested by Prosser (2014) for a general left-right scale has been used to estimate party positions. |
| cab_gravity_ches_lrgen    | Cabinet centre of gravity, CHES general left-right scale (lrgen)         |  | The Centre of gravity is a measure of a government's mean ideological position (by calculating the cabinet's ideological centre of gravity as the weighted mean position of the parties in the cabinet). The Chapel Hill Expert Surveys general left-right (lrgen) scale has been used to estimate party positions.                                                                            |
| cab_enpp                  | Effective number of cabinet parties: lower chamber                       |  | The 'effective number of cabinet parties' is a measure of cabinet fractionalization.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| enpp                      | Effective number of parliamentary parties: lower chamber                 |  | The effective number of parliamentary parties in the lower chamber. All legislators subsumed under 'others' are treated as one single party. The effective number of parties is a measure of parliamentary fractionalization.                                                                                                                                                                  |

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| enpp_no_others               | Effective number of parliamentary parties: lower chamber (Other minor parties and independents excluded) |  | The effective number of parliamentary parties in the lower chamber, excluding some minor parties and independents (i.e., all legislators subsumed under 'others' have been excluded from the measure's calculation). The effective number of parties is a measure of parliamentary fractionalization |
| bp_fract                     | Bargaining power (Banzhaf index) fractionalization: lower chamber                                        |  | A measure of parliamentary fractionalization that uses the same calculation as for the effective number of parties, but using bargaining power (the banzhaf index) values instead of party seat shares as weights.                                                                                   |
| soc_share                    | Seat share of socialist parties: lower chamber                                                           |  | Seat share of socialist parties includes parties that are coded as belonging to the socialist or other left parties (20) or social democratic parties (30) party families in the Manifesto Project data.                                                                                             |
| soc_green_share              | Seat share of socialist and green parties: lower chamber                                                 |  | Seat share of socialist and green parties includes parties that are coded as belonging to the ecologist/green parties (10), socialist or other left parties (20), or social democratic parties (30) party families in the Manifesto Project data.                                                    |
| con_share                    | Seat share of conservative parties: lower chamber                                                        |  | Seat share of conservative parties includes parties that are coded as belonging to the liberal (40) or conservative (60) party families in the Manifesto Project data.                                                                                                                               |
| con_alt_share                | Seat share of conservative parties: lower chamber, alternative operationalization                        |  | Seat share of conservative parties includes parties that are coded as belonging to the Christian democratic (50) or conservative (60) party families in the Manifesto Project data.                                                                                                                  |
| rad_share                    | Seat share of radical left/right parties: lower chamber                                                  |  | Seat share of radical left/right parties includes parties that are coded as belonging to the socialist or other left parties (20) or nationalist and radical right parties (70) party families in the Manifesto Project data.                                                                        |
| parl_prefrange               | Parliamentary preference range: lower chamber, RILE                                                      |  | The distance between the left-most and right-most parties in parliament on the Manifesto Project's Right-Left (RILE) scale.                                                                                                                                                                          |
| parl_prefrange_logit         | Parliamentary preference range: lower chamber, RILE, logit scaled                                        |  | The distance between the left-most and right-most parties in parliament on the Manifesto Project's Right-Left (RILE) scale using logit scaling (Lowe et al. 2011).                                                                                                                                   |
| parl_prefrange_prosser       | Parliamentary preference range: lower chamber, Prosser (2014) scale                                      |  | The distance between the left-most and right-most parties in parliament on the general-left right dimension in the Manifesto Project data based on the categories suggested by Prosser (2014).                                                                                                       |
| parl_prefrange_prosser_logit | Parliamentary preference range: lower chamber, Prosser (2014) scale, logit scaled                        |  | The distance between the left-most and right-most parties in parliament on the general-left right dimension in the Manifesto Project data based on the categories suggested by Prosser (2014) using logit scaling (Lowe et al. 2011).                                                                |

|                          |                                                                                                                                      |                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| parl_prefrange_ches      | Parliamentary preference range: lower chamber, CHES general left-right scale (lrgen)                                                 |                                | The distance between the left-most and right-most parties in parliament on the Chapel Hill Expert Survey's general left-right scale (lrgen).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| parl_polar_rile          | Parliamentary polarization, RILE                                                                                                     |                                | Measured as the standard deviation from the weighted (by seats) mean position in parliament, based on the Manifesto Project's Right-Left (RILE) scale                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| parl_polar_rile_logit    | Parliamentary polarization, RILE, logit scaled                                                                                       |                                | Measured as the standard deviation from the weighted (by seats) mean position in parliament, based on the logit scaling (Lowe et al. 2011) of the Manifesto Project's Right-Left (RILE) scale                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| parl_polar_prosser       | Parliamentary polarization, Prosser (2014) left-right scale                                                                          |                                | Measured as the standard deviation from the weighted (by seats) mean position in parliament, based on Prosser's (2014) suggested categories in the Manifesto Project data for the general left-right dimension                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| parl_polar_prosser_logit | Parliamentary polarization, Prosser (2014) left-right scale, logit scaled                                                            |                                | Measured as the standard deviation from the weighted (by seats) mean position in parliament, 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                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| parl_polar_ches          | Parliamentary polarization, CHES general left-right scale (lrgen)                                                                    |                                | Measured as the standard deviation from the weighted (by seats) mean position in parliament, based on the Chapel Hill Expert Survey's general left-right scale (lrgen).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| dim_first_median         | Party of the median legislator: first policy dimension; lower chamber                                                                | Party-IDs; see party codebooks | The party of the median legislator on the first policy dimension of conflict, excluding parties subsumed under the 'other' category.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| dim_first_median_2nd     | Party of the median legislator: first policy dimension; lower chamber; 2nd party                                                     | Party-IDs; see party codebooks | The party of the median legislator on the first policy dimension of conflict, excluding parties subsumed under the 'other' category. Only recorded if there is a tie between two parties (i.e., when there are two median legislators).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| dim_first_median_bp      | Bargaining power (Banzhaf index) of the party of the median legislator: first policy dimension; lower chamber                        |                                | Bargaining power (the normalized Banzhaf index) of the party of the median legislator of the first policy dimension. The normalised, or relative, index assigns voting power shares to each parliamentary party and captures the numerical importance of political parties in forming majority coalitions. For instance, a majority party that controls 50 % plus one seat or more in the parliament will always get a Banzhaf score of one, as it will always be needed to form a majority government. |
| dim_first_median_2nd_bp  | Bargaining power (Banzhaf index) of the party of the median legislator: first policy dimension; lower chamber; 2 <sup>nd</sup> party |                                | Bargaining power (the normalized Banzhaf index) of the party of the median legislator of the second policy dimension. The normalised, or relative, index assigns voting power shares to each parliamentary party and captures the numerical importance of political parties in forming majority coalitions. For instance, a majority party that controls 50 %                                                                                                                                           |

|                           |                                                                                   |                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                           |                                                                                   |                                | plus one seat or more in the parliament will always get a Banzhaf score of one, as it will always be needed to form a majority government.                                                                                               |
| dim_first_label           | First policy dimension (label)                                                    |                                | A descriptive label of the first policy dimension of conflict.                                                                                                                                                                           |
| dim_second_median         | Party of the median legislator: second policy dimension; lower chamber            | Party-IDs; see party codebooks | The party of the median legislator on the second policy dimension of conflict, excluding parties subsumed under the 'other' category.                                                                                                    |
| dim_second_median_2nd     | Party of the median legislator: second policy dimension; lower chamber; 2nd party | Party-IDs; see party codebooks | The party of the median legislator on the second policy dimension of conflict, excluding parties subsumed under the 'other' category. Only recorded if there is a tie between two parties (i.e., when there are two median legislators). |
| dim_second_label          | Second policy dimension (label)                                                   |                                | A descriptive label of the second policy dimension of conflict.                                                                                                                                                                          |
| dim_third_median          | Party of the median legislator: third policy dimension; lower chamber             | Party-IDs; see party codebooks | The party of the median legislator on the third policy dimension of conflict, excluding parties subsumed under the 'other' category.                                                                                                     |
| dim_third_label           | Third policy dimension (label)                                                    |                                | A descriptive label of the third policy dimension of conflict.                                                                                                                                                                           |
| median_party_economic_1st | Party of the median legislator on the economic left-right policy dimension        |                                | The median legislator party on the economic left-right policy dimension                                                                                                                                                                  |
| median_party_economic_2nd | Party of the median legislator on the economic left-right policy dimension        |                                | The second median legislator party on the economic left-right policy dimension, if there is a tie between two parties (i.e., when there are two median legislators).                                                                     |

## The political parties and the party system (upper chamber)

| Variable                | Label                                                                  | Value Label/Format                                                                        | Additional Information                                                                                                                                     |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| prox_election_upper     | Proximity to election: upper chamber                                   | 1 (FE): Cabinets immediately following an election and ending by the next election.       | Information on when a cabinet was formed and terminated in relation to parliamentary elections (upper chamber).                                            |
|                         |                                                                        | 2 (F): Cabinets immediately following an election.                                        |                                                                                                                                                            |
|                         |                                                                        | 3 (N): Cabinets neither immediately following an election nor ended by the next election. |                                                                                                                                                            |
|                         |                                                                        | 4 (E): Cabinets ended by an election.                                                     |                                                                                                                                                            |
| upper_seats_total       | Total number of seats: upper chamber                                   |                                                                                           | The total number of seats in parliament (upper chamber).                                                                                                   |
| cab_strength_upper      | Cabinet strength: upper chamber                                        |                                                                                           | Total number of seats of all cabinet parties (upper chamber).                                                                                              |
| cab_strength_upper_out  | Cabinet strength at date out: upper chamber                            |                                                                                           | Total number of seats of all cabinet parties at the last day of a government's tenure (upper chamber).                                                     |
| upper_majority          | Cabinet majority (50% + 1) seat: upper chamber                         | 0: no<br>1: yes                                                                           | The government has a parliamentary majority in the upper chamber.                                                                                          |
| upper_enpp              | Effective number of parliamentary parties: upper chamber               |                                                                                           | All legislators subsumed under 'others' are treated as one single party (minimum fragmentation)                                                            |
| upper_dim_first_median  | Party of the median legislator: first policy dimension; upper chamber  | Party-IDs; see party codebooks                                                            | The party of the median legislator on the first policy dimension of conflict in the upper chamber, excluding parties subsumed under the 'other' category.  |
| upper_dim_second_median | Party of the median legislator: second policy dimension; upper chamber | Party-IDs; see party codebooks                                                            | The party of the median legislator on the second policy dimension of conflict in the upper chamber, excluding parties subsumed under the 'other' category. |

## Bargaining over government

| Variable          | Label                                         | Value Label/Format | Additional Information                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| form_duration     | Number of days required for cabinet formation | measured in days   | Time period between ‘Date out’ of the previous cabinet and ‘Date in’ of the current cabinet.                                                                                                                                                             |
| form_duration_alt | Number of days required for cabinet formation | measured in days   | Number of days since the election, OR the ‘Date out’ of the previous cabinet if it is terminated between elections. Thus, this alternative measurement ignores/does not count the time between ‘Date out’ of the previous cabinet and the election date. |
| form_invest_pro   | Final vote of investiture: pro                |                    | Number of votes in favour (pro) in the final investiture vote.                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| form_invest_con   | Final vote of investiture: contra             |                    | Number of votes against (contra) in the final investiture vote.                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| form_invest_abs   | Final vote of investiture: abstentions        |                    | Number of abstentions in the final investiture vote.                                                                                                                                                                                                     |

### Ministries/ministers

| Variable       | Label                     | Value Label/Format | Additional Information                                           |
|----------------|---------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| num_ministries | Number of ministries      |                    | Number of ministries of the incumbent government.                |
| num_ministers  | Number of cabinet members |                    | Number of cabinet members/ministers of the incumbent government. |

### Termination events

| Variable          | Label                          | Value Label/Format | Additional Information                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| term_disc         | Discretionary termination      | 0: no<br>1: yes    | Events of cabinet termination for political reasons. Discretionary termination can be strategically timed early elections, parliamentary defeat, or when a cabinet ends because a cabinet member leaves or a new one joins the coalition, or because of policy or personnel conflicts between coalition parties (these two are not mutually exclusive) |
| term_tech_regelec | Regular parliamentary election | 0: no<br>1: yes    | Termination due to a regularly scheduled election.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |

|                            |                                                              |                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| term_tech_const            | Other constitutional reason                                  | 0: no<br>1: yes                | Termination due to various constitutional reasons (except regular elections), e.g., a new constitution.                                                                                                                |
| term_tech_death            | Death of PM                                                  | 0: no<br>1: yes                | Termination due to the death of the PM.                                                                                                                                                                                |
| term_disc_earlyelec        | Early parliamentary election                                 | 0: no<br>1: yes                | A termination due to an early parliamentary election. As many countries lack fixed election dates, we do not count reductions by less than 10 % of the maximum legislative term as early elections in these countries. |
| term_disc_enlarge          | Voluntary enlargement of coalition                           | 0: no<br>1: yes                | New coalition partners join the cabinet.                                                                                                                                                                               |
| term_disc_voluntary        | Other voluntary reason                                       | 0: no<br>1: yes                | These are all instances that do not fall into any of the existing discretionary termination categories, such as the PM's voluntary resignation.                                                                        |
| term_disc_cabdefeat        | Cabinet defeat in parliament                                 | 0: no<br>1: yes                | Cabinet defeat in parliament refers to when a cabinet resigns due to a non-confidence or confidence vote.                                                                                                              |
| term_disc_conflict_pol     | Conflict between coalition parties (policy)                  | 0: no<br>1: yes                | Policy conflicts emerge from disputes over policies between coalition parties.                                                                                                                                         |
| term_disc_conflict_pers    | Conflict between coalition parties (personnel)               | 0: no<br>1: yes                | Personnel conflicts emerge from the election or appointment of officeholders.                                                                                                                                          |
| term_disc_conflict         | Conflict between coalition parties (policy and/or personnel) | 0: no<br>1: yes                | Terminations due to policy and/or personnel conflicts.                                                                                                                                                                 |
| term_disc_conflict_parties | Conflict between coalition parties: Parties involved         | Party IDs; see party codebooks |                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |

|                          |                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                     |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| term_disc_intra          | Intra party conflict                     | 0: no<br>1: yes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Termination due to conflict within a single party or within several parties in the cabinet.                                                                         |
| term_disc_intra_party    | Intra party conflict: Party involved     | Party IDs; see party codebooks                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                     |
| term_disc_intra_conflict | Intra party conflict: Type of conflict   | <p>L – Conflict in national party leadership (national executive committee, cabinet, parliamentary party leadership) (NB: This is conflict contained in the leadership.)</p> <p>NL – Conflict between united national party leadership (national executive committee, cabinet, parliamentary party leadership) and non-leaders (party activists, party congress delegates, backbench MPs, regional leaders, etc.)</p> <p>LNL – Conflict in national party leadership (national executive committee, cabinet, parliamentary party leadership), including grass-roots mobilization (i.e., conflict is not confined to the top level)</p> | Indicates the type of intra-party conflict for cabinets that terminated due to internal conflicts within one or several parties.                                    |
| term_event_nonparlelec   | Non-parliamentary elections              | 0: no<br>1: yes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Non-parliamentary elections (presidential, regional) that cause government resignation for political reasons.                                                       |
| term_event_popshock      | Popular opinion shock                    | 0: no<br>1: yes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Resignation because the cabinet has lost public support or resignation because the government wants to hold an early election to benefit from a boost in the polls. |
| term_event_intnat        | International or national security event | 0: no<br>1: yes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | International or security event, e.g., the outbreak of war or a terrorist attack.                                                                                   |
| term_event_econ          | Economic event                           | 0: no<br>1: yes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Termination due to an economic event, e.g., a major bank's breakdown or a currency crash.                                                                           |

|                 |                            |                 |                                                                                                       |
|-----------------|----------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| term_event_pers | Personal event             | 0: no<br>1: yes | Indicates termination due to various personal events, e.g., a sex scandal, a corruption scandal, etc. |
| term_ministry   | Ministry involved          |                 | Indicates which ministries are involved in the conflict(s) that result in cabinet termination.        |
| term_descr      | Description of termination |                 | A brief description of why a cabinet terminated.                                                      |

## Institutions

| Variable        | Label                              | Value Label/Format | Additional Information                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|-----------------|------------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| inst_bicam      | Bicameralism                       | 0: no<br>1: yes    | Bicameral systems where the upper chamber must at least have a temporary suspensive veto.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| inst_posparl    | Positive parliamentarism           | 0: no<br>1: yes    | A new PM/cabinet comes to power only if it wins a majority vote (positive investiture) in the parliament.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| inst_convote    | Constructive vote of no-confidence | 0: no<br>1: yes    | Parliament is only allowed to withdraw confidence from a PM/cabinet if there is an absolute majority for a chosen successor as PM.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| inst_pmpower    | PM powers                          |                    | Ranges theoretically from 0 to 7, with an increasing number indicating an increasingly more powerful PM. Additive index of seven indicators that together form a simple additive index. The indicators concern the PMs (1) appointment and (2) dismissal powers vis-à-vis the individual ministers, (3) agenda power over cabinet meetings, (4) steering and coordination prerogatives, (5) parliamentary accountability of ministers only via the PM (and not directly), and (6) direct PM control over setting the jurisdiction of ministers. Finally (7), whether the PM has an administrative unit that can monitor and scrutinize individual ministries. |
| pmpower_formcab | Formal cabinet decision rule       | 0: no<br>1: yes    | Is there a formal decision rule in the cabinet?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |

|                         |                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                      |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| pmpower_formcab_rule1   | Type of actual decision rule 1   | 1: unanimity<br>2: majority<br>3: consensus defined by PM (by way of summarizing cabinet debate)<br>4: consensus defined by the head of state (by way of summarizing cabinet debate) | Which type of decision rule (formal or informal) is used in cabinet decision-making? |
| pmpower_formcab_rule2   | Type of actual decision rule 2   | 1: unanimity<br>2: majority<br>3: consensus defined by PM (by way of summarizing cabinet debate)<br>4: consensus defined by the head of state (by way of summarizing cabinet debate) | Which type of decision rule (formal or informal) is used in cabinet decision-making? |
| pmpower_minappoint      | PM right to appoint ministers    | 0: no<br>1: yes                                                                                                                                                                      | Does the PM have the right to appoint ministers?                                     |
| pmpower_minappoint_rule | Type of actual appointment right | 1: yes, PM alone<br>2: yes, through a formal act carried out by the head of state<br>3: no, the head of state has discretionary powers<br>4: other                                   | Does the PM have the right to appoint ministers, and under which rules?              |
| pmpower_mindismiss      | PM right to dismiss ministers    | 0: no<br>1: yes                                                                                                                                                                      | Does the PM have the right to dismiss ministers?                                     |
| pmpower_mindismiss_rule | Type of actual dismissal right   | 1: yes, PM alone<br>2: yes, through a formal act carried out by the head of state<br>3: no, the head of state has discretionary powers<br>4: other                                   | Does the PM have the right to dismiss ministers, and under which rules?              |

|                        |                                                                                        |                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| pmpower_minaccount     | Ministers' parliamentary accountability                                                | 0: direct<br>1: via PM only<br>2: via vote of no confidence against full cabinet only                                    | Can parliament pass a motion of no-confidence against individual ministers (rather than the PM or the entire cabinet)?                                                                                     |
| pmpower_pmjurisdiction | PM formal right to determine jurisdiction of ministries                                | 0: no<br>1: yes                                                                                                          | Does the PM hold the constitutional right to determine the number of ministries, their tasks and their jurisdictions? The PM does not have this right if a law or parliamentary vote is required for that. |
| pmpower_pmsteering     | PM steering or coordination rights vis-à-vis cabinet ministers                         | 0: no<br>1: yes                                                                                                          | Does the PM have formal (constitutional) steering or coordination rights vis-à-vis cabinet ministers?                                                                                                      |
| pmpower_pmagenda       | PM full control over agenda for cabinet meeting                                        | 0: no<br>1: yes                                                                                                          | Does the PM have full control over the cabinet agenda?                                                                                                                                                     |
| pmpower_pmoffice       | Regular bureaucratic structure in PM's office designed to monitor departmental affairs | 0: no<br>1: yes                                                                                                          | Does the PM have resources that provide her/him with independent information/expertise on what goes on in the individual ministries?                                                                       |
| pmpower_pmoffice_rule1 | Description of structure 1                                                             | 1: personal staff (political appointees)<br>2: civil service staff<br>3: PM occupies specific (PM) portfolio<br>4: other | What type of assistance do the PMs have to monitor ministers? (These categories are not mutually exclusive.)                                                                                               |
| pmpower_pmoffice_rule2 | Description of structure 2                                                             | 1: personal staff (political appointees)<br>2: civil service staff<br>3: PM occupies specific (PM) portfolio<br>4: other | What type of assistance do the PMs have to monitor ministers? (These categories are not mutually exclusive.)                                                                                               |
| pmpower_pmoffice_rule3 | Description of structure 3                                                             | 1: personal staff (political appointees)<br>2: civil service staff<br>3: PM occupies specific (PM) portfolio<br>4: other | What type of assistance do the PMs have to monitor ministers? (These categories are not mutually exclusive.)                                                                                               |

|                         |                                    |                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                          |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| pmpower_pmooffice_rule4 | Description of structure 4         | 1: personal staff (political appointees)<br>2: civil service staff<br>3: PM occupies specific (PM) portfolio<br>4: other | What type of assistance do the PMs have to monitor ministers? (These categories are not mutually exclusive.)                                                             |
| inst_seminpres          | Semi-presidentialism               | 0: no<br>1: yes                                                                                                          | Semi-presidential systems are defined as political systems (1) with a popularly elected head of state (2), who directly influences cabinet formation and/or termination. |
| inst_comment            | Comments on institutional features |                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                          |

## Investiture vote rules

| Variable          | Label                                           | Value Label/Format                                                                                                                                            | Additional Information                                                                |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| invest_exist      | Existence of investiture vote                   | 0: no<br>1: yes                                                                                                                                               | Is there a de facto investiture vote before or after a new PM/cabinet comes to power? |
| invest_rounds_max | Allowed number of investiture votes/rounds      |                                                                                                                                                               | What is the maximum number of votes/rounds for investiture votes (if any)?            |
| invest_rule1      | Decision rule for first investiture vote/round  | 1: Majority support (50%+1 votes)<br>2: Plurality support<br>3: Plurality support among different options<br>4: No majority against<br>5: No investiture vote | Which kind of vote/decision rule is used for the first round of voting?               |
| invest_rule2      | Decision rule for second investiture vote/round | 1: Majority support (50%+1 votes)<br>2: Plurality support<br>3: Plurality support among different options<br>4: No majority against<br>5: No investiture vote | Which kind of vote/decision rule is used for the second round of voting?              |

|                 |                                                |                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                          |
|-----------------|------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| invest_rule3    | Decision rule for third investiture vote/round | 1: Majority support (50%+1 votes)<br>2: Plurality support<br>3: Plurality support among different options<br>4: No majority against<br>5: No investiture vote | Which kind of vote/decision rule is used for the third round of voting?                                                                                  |
| invest_rule4    | Decision rule for forth investiture vote/round | 1: Majority support (50%+1 votes)<br>2: Plurality support<br>3: Plurality support among different options<br>4: No majority against<br>5: No investiture vote | Which kind of vote/decision rule is used for the fourth round of voting?                                                                                 |
| invest_object   | Object of investiture vote                     | 1: Only PM<br>2: Whole cabinet<br>3: Single ministers<br>4: Government and its programme                                                                      | Lists all objects that need to pass an investiture vote, separated by commas.                                                                            |
| invest_object1  | Object of investiture vote: first object       | 1: Only PM<br>2: Whole cabinet<br>3: Single ministers<br>4: Government and its programme                                                                      | Which elements of the cabinet and/or its policy programme are subject to the investiture vote?                                                           |
| invest_object2  | Object of investiture vote: second object      | 1: Only PM<br>2: Whole cabinet<br>3: Single ministers<br>4: Government and its programme                                                                      | Which elements of the cabinet and/or its policy programme are subject to the investiture vote?                                                           |
| invest_inoffice | Government in office after investiture object  | 1: Only PM<br>2: Whole cabinet<br>3: Single ministers<br>4: Government and its programme                                                                      | In the case of multiple objects of investiture, it indicates after which object the government can effectively act (e.g., has control over armed forces) |

|                  |                                                             |                                                                                             |                                                                                                                   |
|------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| invest_timing    | Timing of investiture vote                                  | 1: Before taking office<br>2: After taking office<br>3: Both before and after taking office | When must the investiture votes take place in relation to the government taking office?                           |
| invest_bicameral | Approval required for investiture vote in bicameral systems | 1: Only in first/lower chamber<br>2: In both chambers                                       | Is approval required in both chambers, or only in the lower chamber? (In unicameral systems, this is coded as 1). |
| invest_comment   | Comments on investiture vote                                |                                                                                             |                                                                                                                   |

## Presidential powers

| Variable           | Label                                                      | Value Label/Format                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Additional Information                                                                                |
|--------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| pres_pop           | Popularly elected president                                | 0: no<br>1: yes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Is the president elected by popular vote?                                                             |
| pres_appoint_pm    | Presidential power to appoint PM                           | 0: No appointment power<br>1: Free choice<br>2: Constitution gives open room for interpretation<br>3: Constitution gives clear instruction                                                                                                      | Does the president have the power to appoint the prime minister, and under which restrictions?        |
| pres_appoint_restr | Restrictions on presidential power to appoint PM           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Clarification on what constitutional restrictions apply if a president has limited appointment power. |
| pres_select_pm     | Presidential power to select the PM                        | 0: No power or only formal powers<br>1: Selecting power                                                                                                                                                                                         | Does the president have the power to appoint the prime minister, and under which restrictions?        |
| pres_dismiss       | Presidential power to dismiss PM/cabinet at own initiative | 0: No dissolution at own initiative<br>1: Free choice (at own initiative)<br>2: In case of parliamentary (in)activity                                                                                                                           | Does the president have the power to dismiss the PM/cabinet, and if so, when?                         |
| pres_dissolve_parl | Presidential power to dissolve parliament                  | 0: No dissolution at own initiative<br>1: Free choice (at own initiative)<br>2: In case of parliamentary (in)activity                                                                                                                           | Does the president have the power to dissolve parliament, and if so, when?                            |
| pres_veto          | Presidential veto powers                                   | 0: No veto power<br>1: Veto can be overruled by supermajority<br>2: Veto can be overruled by majority of the new parliament after new elections<br>3: Veto can be overruled by absolute majority<br>4: Veto can be overruled by simple majority | To what extent does the president have veto powers?                                                   |

|                  |                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                            |
|------------------|------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                  |                                                | 5: The Veto of the president leads to a referendum                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                            |
| pres_veto_expl   | Presidential veto powers: explanation          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Provides further detail on any veto powers held by the president, if any                                                   |
| pres_decree      | Presidential decree powers                     | 0: No decree power<br>1: Decree power<br>2: Decrees need to be countersigned by the PM                                                                                                                                                                               | Does the president have the power to issue decrees?                                                                        |
| pres_decree_expl | Presidential decree powers: explanation        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Provides further detail on any decree powers held by the president, if any                                                 |
| pres_init        | Presidential right of initiative (legislation) | 0: No (The President cannot initiate legislation)<br>1: Yes (The President can initiate legislation)                                                                                                                                                                 | Does the president have the right to initiate legislation?                                                                 |
| pres_refer       | Presidential power of referenda                | 0: No right to initiate referenda<br>1: Right to initiate referenda<br>2: Right to initiate referenda in assent with parliament/government<br>3: Right to initiate referenda on the initiative of the people<br>4: Right to initiate referenda on special issues     | Does the president have the right to initiate referenda? All relevant referenda powers are listed and separated by commas. |
| pres_refer_rule1 | Presidential power of referenda: first right   | 0: No right to initiate referenda<br>1: Right to initiate referenda<br>2: Right to initiate referenda in accordance with parliament/government<br>3: Right to initiate referenda on the initiative of the people<br>4: Right to initiate referenda on special issues |                                                                                                                            |

|                  |                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |  |
|------------------|-----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| pres_refer_rule2 | Presidential power of referenda: second right | 0: No right to initiate referenda<br>1: Right to initiate referenda<br>2: Right to initiate referenda in accordance with parliament/government<br>3: Right to initiate referenda on the initiative of the people<br>4: Right to initiate referenda on special issues |  |
| pres_refer_rule3 | Presidential power of referenda: third right  | 0: No right to initiate referenda<br>1: Right to initiate referenda<br>2: Right to initiate referenda in accordance with parliament/government<br>3: Right to initiate referenda on the initiative of the people<br>4: Right to initiate referenda on special issues |  |
| pres_comment     | Comments on presidential powers               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |  |

## External indices

| Variable       | Label                            | Value Label/Format | Additional Information                                                                                                        |
|----------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| vdem_elecDEM   | V-Dem: Electoral democracy index |                    | V-Dem's electoral democracy index (v2x_polyarchy) from the year the cabinet took office. Ranges from 0 (low) to 1 (high).     |
| vdem_libDEM    | V-Dem: Libreal democracy index   |                    | V-Dem's liberal democracy index (v2x_libDEM) from the year the cabinet took office. Ranges from 0 (low) to 1 (high).          |
| vdem_partipDEM | V-Dem: Electoral democracy index |                    | V-Dem's participatory democracy index (v2x_partipDEM) from the year the cabinet took office. Ranges from 0 (low) to 1 (high). |

|               |                                     |  |                                                                                                                             |
|---------------|-------------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| vdem_delibdem | V-Dem: Deliberative democracy index |  | V-Dem's deliberative democracy index (v2x_delibdem) from the year the cabinet took office. Ranges from 0 (low) to 1 (high). |
| vdem_egaldem  | V-Dem: Egalitarian democracy index  |  | V-Dem's egalitarian democracy index (v2x_egaldem), ranging from 0 (low) to 1 (high).                                        |

Please see <https://www.v-dem.net/data/the-v-dem-dataset/> for suggested citations for the V-Dem indices.

## Seat data

| Variable                   | Label                                     | Value Label/Format | Additional Information                                                                                                                                 |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| seats_party <u>X</u>       | Party seats lower chamber: Party <u>X</u> |                    | <u>X</u> corresponds to the party with the same last digits, e.g. seats_party14 for country 12 corresponds to the party with the party id 120014       |
| upper_seats_party <u>X</u> | Party seats upper chamber: Party <u>X</u> |                    | <u>X</u> corresponds to the party with the same last digits, e.g. upper_seats_party14 for country 12 corresponds to the party with the party id 120014 |