24.10.2025 Johan Hellström & Jonas Lindahl

# Party Government in Europe Database (PAGED) – Central Eastern and Western Europe Dataset potential cabinets/coalitions dataset

This comparative dataset merges the data from Hellström et al. (2021) and Hellström et al. (2024), collected for the volumes Bergman et al. (2021) and Bergman et al. (2024).

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

## How to cite

When using these data please cite the following:

Hellström, Johan, Torbjörn Bergman, Jonas Lindahl, Hanna Bäck, Gabriella Ilonszki, Wolfgang C. Müller, and Kaare Strøm (2025). *Party Government in Europe Database (PAGED) – Coalition Governance in Central Eastern and Western Europe Dataset. Version 2025.09.* REPDEM is part of and funded by DEMSCORE, national research infrastructure grant 2021-00162 from the Swedish Research Council. Available on https://repdem.org

And

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

And

Bergman, Torbjörn, Gabriella Ilonszki, and Johan Hellström (eds.) (2024). Coalition Politics in Central Eastern Europe: Governing in Times of Crisis. London: Routledge.

## Structure of the codebook

The following sections then each contain detailed information on

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

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

### References

Lowe et al. (2011) Scaling Policy Preferences from Coded Political Texts. *Legislative Studies Quarterly* 36(1): 123-55.

Prosser C (2014) Building policy scales from manifesto data: A referential content validity approach. *Electoral Studies* 35: 88-101.

## General information on potential cabinets

| Variable | Label | Value Label/Format | Additional Information |
|---|---|---|---|
| country_id | Country | | |
| country_id_iso | Country numeric ISO code | | ISO 3166-1 standard |
| cab_id | Cabinet ID | First two digits: country<br>Second two digits: cabinet | Each individual cabinet is considered a government formation opportunity. |
| potential_government | Members of potential cabinet | Party IDs; see party codebook | List of potential cabinet parties, in alphanumerical order |
| unique_id | Unique ID for cabinet ID and government composition | 256-bit hex value | |
| old_cab_id | Cabinet ID, old system | First two digits: country<br>Second two digits: cabinet | |
| old_unique_id | Unique ID for old cabinet ID and government composition | 256-bit hex value | |
| pcab_status_quo | Potential cabinet has identical composition to previous cabinet | 0: no<br>1: yes | |
| pcab_party1-pcab_party17 | Potential cabinet party | Party ID; see party codebook | |
| pcab_num_parties | Number of potential cabinet parties | | |
| real_gov | Actual cabinet | 0: no<br>1: yes | Potential cabinet corresponding to the actually formed cabinet. |
| real_nonpartisan | Actual cabinet is non-partisan | 0: no<br>1: yes | |
| real_nonpartisan | Actual | | |
| pcab_num_parties | Number of potential cabinet parties | | |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| pcab_coalition | Potential coalition cabinet | 0: no<br>1: yes | |
| pcab_seats | Potential cabinet seats: lower chamber | | |
| pcab_seat_share | Potential cabinet seats: lower chamber | | |
| pcab_upper_seats | Potential cabinet seats: upper chamber | | |
| pcab_upper:seat_share | Potential cabinet seats: upper chamber | | |
| pcab_pm_party_prev | Potential cabinet includes PM party of previous cabinet | 0: no<br>1: yes | |
| pcab_largest_party | Potential cabinet includes largest party in parliament | 0: no<br>1: yes | |
| pcab_maj | Potential majority cabinet: lower chamber | 0: no<br>1: yes | The potential cabinet holds at minimum 50%+1 seats |
| pcab_upper:maj | Potential majority cabinet: upper chamber | 0: no<br>1: yes | The potential cabinet holds at minimum 50%+1 seats |
| pcab_mwc | Potential minimal winning coalition | 0: no<br>1: yes | |
| pcab_surplus | Potential surplus majority cabinet | 0: no<br>1: yes | |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| pcab_govtype | Potential government type | 1: Min<br>2: Maj<br>3: Mwc<br>4: Sur<br>5: Non | Minority cabinet: Holds less than 50 % plus one seat in parliament. Single-party minority cabinets are likewise coded as 'Min'<br>Single-party majority cabinet: Holds 50% plus one seat in parliament. Is not a coalition.<br>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.<br>Surplus majority coalition: Can lose a coalition party and still be winning, i.e. control 50 % plus one seat or more in the parliament<br>A non-partisan cabinet, e.g. appointed by a president to hold an election |
| pcab_median_first | Potential cabinet includes party of the median legislator, first dimension | 0: no<br>1: yes | |
| pcab_median_second | Potential cabinet includes party of the median legislator, second dimension | 0: no<br>1: yes | |
| pcab_prefrange | Cabinet preference range, RILE | | The distance between the left-most and right-most parties in the cabinet on the Manifesto Project's Right-Left (RILE) scale. |
| pcab_prefrange_logit | Cabinet preference range, RILE, logit scaled | | The distance between the left-most and right-most parties in the cabinet based on the logit scaling (Lowe et al. 2011) of the Manifesto Project's Right-Left (RILE) scale. |
| pcab_prefrange_prosser | Cabinet preference range, Prosser (2014) left-right scale | | As pcab_prefrange, but using the categories suggested by Prosser (2014) for constructing the left-right scale |
| pcab_prefrange_logit_prosser | Cabinet preference range, Prosser (2014) left-right scale, logit scaled | | As pcab_prefrange_logit, but using the categories suggested by Prosser (2014) for constructing the left-right scale |
| pcab_polar | Cabinet polarization, RILE | | Measured as the standard deviation from the mean position in cabinet, based on the Manifesto Project's Right-Left (RILE) scale |
| pcab_polar_logit | Cabinet polarization, RILE, logit scaled | | Measured as the standard deviation from the mean position in cabinet, based on the logit scaling (Lowe et al. 2011) of the Manifesto Project's Right-Left (RILE) scale |
| pcab_wpolar | Cabinet polarization, RILE, weighted SD | | As pcab_polar, but standard deviation from the weighted (by seats) mean position. |

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