Codebook for Political Regimes of the World Dataset, v. 3.0.

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The following source should be cited when making use of the dataset: Anckar, C. and Fredriksson, C. 2019. ”Classifying political regimes 1800–2016: a typology and a new dataset”. *European Political Science* 18: 84-96.

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Overview

The ambition with the present database is to provide researchers with a longitudinal data set on democratic and autocratic regime characteristics. It contains yearly observations for the time period 1800-2024 for all countries that have been independent at any point in time between 1946 and 2024. In the dataset, we decompose democracies and autocracies into several regime categories. Regarding democracies, we make a first distinction between republics and monarchies. We then split up the category of republics into presidential, semi-presidential, and parliamentary systems. Within the category of monarchies, almost all systems are parliamentary but a few countries are conferred to the category semi-monarchies.

As there is far from any agreement on how to classify authoritarian regimes, the ambition has been to base the categorization on existing pioneering works in the field. In the present dataset autocratic countries are classified into the following main categories: *absolute monarchy, military rule, party-based rule, personalist rule, and oligarchy*

In addition, the dataset contains a number of sub-categories of certain regimes. This makes it possible for users of the dataset to apply different definitions of controversial regime types like one-party rule and oligarchies. In addition, there is far from any consensus on how to define semi-presidentialism. Many, but not all, authors may wish to include the popular election of the president as a necessary criterion of semi-presidentialism and some authors disregard the power dimension altogether. The database therefore provides information on whether the president was popularly elected or not. The inclusion of this variable also makes it possible to apply a wider definition of semi-presidentialism, which disregards the criterion that the president must share executive powers with the president.

Variables in the dataset

Country

Name of country

Ccode

Correlates of War country code. (Correlates of War Project, http://www.correlatesofwar.org/data-sets/cow-country-codes).

Abbreviation

Abbreviation of country name. (World Bank, https://wits.worldbank.org/wits/wits/witshelp/content/codes/country_codes.htm). Exceptions: Montenegro, Korea, Kosovo, and South Korea.

Year

Year

Democracy

Boix, Miller and Rosato's Dichotomous democracy measure (democracy_omitteddata). (Carles Boix, Michael K. Miller, and Sebastian Rosato. 2013. "A Complete Data Set of Political Regimes, 1800-2007." *Comparative Political Studies* 46(12): 1523-54). Dataset version 4.0. Supplemented for all countries for the period 2021-2024, as well as for Liechtenstein 1866-1990 and Monaco 1862-1993 by Anckar & Fredriksson. The following exceptions to Boix, Miller and Rosato's classifications apply: Bhutan is classified as a democracy 2013-2020, Burkina Faso is classified as a democracy 2015, Honduras is classified as a democracy 2017-2020. Madagascar is classified as a democracy 2014-2018, Maldives is classified as a democracy 2018-2020, Monaco is classified as an autocracy 1994-2020, Namibia is classified as a democracy 2011-18, Niger is classified as a democracy in 2020, San Marino is classified

as a democracy 1906-25, 1944, Serbia is classified as an autocracy 1920, Sri Lanka is classified as a democracy 1991-1993, Tonga is classified as democracy 2012-20, Tunisia is classified as a democracy 2013-14,

Values: 0 Autocracy

1 Democracy

99 Not available/unclear

Monarchy

Distinguishes between monarchies and republics in democratic countries.

Vales: 0 Republic

1 Monarchy

2 Hybrid

Regimebroadcat

Regime type. Classification with broad categories.

Values 0 Parliamentarism

1 Semi-presidentialism

2 Presidentialism

3 Semi-monarchy

4 Party-based rule

5 Personalist rule

6 Military rule

7 Absolute monarchy

8 Oligarchy

99 Occupation, civil war or otherwise unclear

Regimenarrowcat

Regime type classified with narrow categories

Values 0 Parliamentarism

1 Semi-presidentialism

2 Presidentialism

3 Semi-monarchy

4 Single-party rule

5 Multi-party authoritarian rule

6 Personalist rule

7 Military rule

8 Absolute monarchy

9 Monarchic oligarchy

10 Other oligarchy

99 Occupation, civil war or otherwise unclear

Popelection

Indicates if the head of state is popularly elected or not in democratic republics. The main source is V-dem dataset: "HOS directly elected (D) (v2ex_elechos)".[1]

Values 0 Head of state not popularly elected

1 Head of state popularly elected

[1] Coppedge, Michael, John Gerring, Carl Henrik Knutsen, Staffan I. Lindberg, Jan Teorell, David Altman, Fabio Angiolillo, Michael Bernhard, Agnes Cornell, M. Steven Fish, Linnea Fox, Lisa Gastaldi, Haakon Gjerløw, Adam Glynn, Ana Good God, Sandra Grahn, Allen Hicken, Katrin Kinzelbach, Kyle L. Marquardt, Kelly McMann, Valeriya Mechkova, Anja Neundorf, Pamela Paxton, Daniel Pemstein, Johannes von Römer, Brigitte Seim, Rachel Sigman, Svend-Erik Skaaning, Jeffrey Staton, Aksel Sundström, Marcus Tannenberg, Eitan Tzelgov, Yi-ting Wang, Felix Wiebrecht, Tore Wig, and Daniel Ziblatt. 2025. "V-Dem Codebook v15" Varieties of Democracy (V-Dem) Project The V-Dem Dataset – V-Dem.