Codebook
The Politics of Legislative Expansion
Thalia Gerzso & Nicolas van de Walle

- CENS: Censoring variable. Dummy variable that takes the value of 1 when the legislature size increases or 0 if it remains the same

- OBS: Observed time: Measures how many years the legislature size has remained the same.

- TERMLIMIT: Dummy variable that for each year takes the value of
  1 = the constitution provides a presidential term limit
  0 = the constitution does not provide a presidential term limit

- DEFEAT0: Dummy variable that for each year takes the value of
  1= the ruling party lost seats in the legislature
  0= the ruling party did not lose any seats (wins election and more seats)

- INCPOP: Measures population growth (%) per year. Variable was calculated based on population data from World Bank.

- GDP: Measures the GDP per capita of each country in 2018 (Source: World Bank Data)

- NATRESOURCES: Measures oil rent % of GDP of each country in 2017 (Source: World Bank Data)

- CAM1: Dummy variable that measures whether a second chamber was introduced in the legislature in the last 30 years (1990-2019)
  1 = A second chamber was created
  0 = A second chamber was not created

- EFFPARTY: Average of the number of effective parties in the last 30 years (1990-2019). Data from Bleck, Jaimie, and Nicolas Van de Walle. *Electoral politics in Africa since 1990: Continuity in change*. Cambridge University Press, 2018.

- PARL: Dummy variable that measures whether the state has a parliamentary system
  1 = The state has a parliamentary system
  0 = The state does not have a parliamentary system

- AVRFH: Average of the Freedom House Scores over the last 30 years (1990-2019). Range from 0 (free state) to 14 (authoritarian regime).

- PR: Dummy variable that measures whether the state has a proportional representation system

1= The state has adopted proportional representation
0= the state has not adopted proportional representation

- DENSITY: Using World Bank data, this variable measures population density (people per sq. km of land area).

- APPEC90: Dummy variable that measures the level of independence of the electoral management body (i.e., electoral commissions or courts with jurisdiction over electoral management issues).
  1 = members of the electoral management body are appointed by the executive branch
  0 = members of the electoral management body are not appointed by the executive branch

- CONST: Dummy variable that measures whether the constitution has a provision setting the legislature size.
  1 = The constitution has a provision on the size of the legislature
  0 = The constitution does not have a provision on the size of the legislature

- XCONSTAVR (Polity dataset): This measure "refers to the extent of institutionalized constraints on the decision-making powers of chief executives." This variable is an average of the XCONST score over the last thirty years.

- Executive Power Index (CPI): developed by Elkins et al. (2012), this index "ranges from 0-7 and captures the presence or absence of important aspects of lawmaking" (e.g., initiate legislation, decrees, constitutional amendments, declare the state of emergency, challenge the constitutionality of legislation, dissolve the legislature and veto power). This index does not vary across time.

- Presidential Power Scores (PP1 and PP2): Measures the strength of the executive branch Developed by Dolye and Elgie (2016): Both scores are calculated across existing datasets and then normalized.

- VDEMEXE – Legislative Constraints on the executive (VDEM data): This dummy variable measures to what extent the legislature and government agencies, e.g., comptroller general, general prosecutor, or ombudsman capable of questioning, investigating, and exercising oversight over the executive? (1990-2019). Interval, from low to high (0-1)