Codebook

Spohr, F., Bernhagen, P., Krüger, K., & Goldberg, F. (2025). Lobbying on multiple routes to influence national legislation: German federalism and the European Union. *Regional & Federal Studies*, 1–36. https://doi.org/10.1080/13597566.2025.2553196

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Content

Part I – Proposal level variables

Variable	Values and coding	Format	Source
ID Gesetz	ID of the proposal.	numeric	Own Coding
Title of the legislative proposal (Titel Gesetz)	Name of the proposal.	string	Government data
Subnational jurisdiction (Zustimmungsgesetz)	Indicates whether the proposal needs approval of the second chamber (Bundesrat). 0 = no approval needed (Einspruchsgesetz) 1 = approval needed (Zustimmungsgesetz)	dichotomous	Government data
Policy Area (Policy Area)	1 = Policy Area Macroeconomy 2 = Policy Area Civil Rights, Minority Issues and Civil Liberties 3 = Policy Area Healthcare 4 = Policy Area Agriculture 5 = Policy Area Labour, Employment and Immigration 6 = Policy Area Education 7 = Policy Area Environment 8 = Policy Area Energy 10 = Policy Area Transportation 12 = Policy Area Law, Crime and Family Issues 13 = Policy Area Social Welfare 14 = Policy Area Community Development and Housing Issues 15 = Policy Area Banking, Finance and Domestic Commerce	numeric	German Policy Agendas Codebook v2.4
Second Chamber initiative (Bundesratsinitiative)	Indicates if the origin of the proposal is the Bundesrat. 0 = No Bundesrat proposal 1 = Bundesrat proposal	dichotomous	Government data

Variable	Values and coding	Format	Source
EU origin of the proposal (EU-origin)	Indicates whether the proposal has a national or European origin. 0 = national origin 1 = EU origin	dichotomous	Government data
Media salience (salience)	Number of articles in which the proposal was mentioned.	numeric	Nexis; sample of 7 newspapers
Party of the Ministry that introduced the proposal (Lead Ministry)	It is denoted which party was leading the ministry that proposed the proposal. Either: CDU/CSU Or: SPD	String	Government data

Part II – Interest Group Variables

Variable	Values and coding	Format	Source
Actor Type (v_178)	1 = National interest group 4 = Central government actor 5 = Local government actor 6 = Institution 7 = Private firm 10 = Local interest group 11 = International group (German groups are coded as 1) 12 = Regional group	nominal	Own coding. In collaboration with DFG project "Eingeladene Mobilisierung? Interessenorganisationen, Experten und Gesetzgebung im Deutschen Bundestag", PI Rainer Eising.

Group Type (v_179)	11–12 = Unions 11 = Blue-collar union (affiliated with the DGB) 12 = Other union (not affiliated with the DGB) 21–25 = Business group 21 = Peak-level business group (representing all or major sectors of production according to the ISIC scheme) 22 = Sectoral business group 24 = Technical association (business with a focus on technical issues) 25 = Other business group 26 = Agricultural groups 31–34 = Institutional associations (associations of public authorities or institutions) 31 = Associations of local authorities (members are local or regional authorities) 32 = Associations of other public institutions (associations of institutions formally within the public sector) 34 = Other institutional associations (associations of other institutions such as non-public schools or theaters) 41–44 = Occupational associations (associations of employees not negotiating terms and conditions. Categories are based on professions the organization organizes. Associations negotiating work-related terms and conditions are categorized in 11-13.) 41 = Doctors' associations 42 = Associations of other medical professions 43 = Teachers' associations 44 = Other occupational associations 51–57 = Identity groups (associations where members/supporters have a selective interest in group goals (not work related) 51 = Groups of patients or disabled 52 = Elderly groups 53 = Student groups 54 = Friendship groups 55 = Racial or ethnic groups 56 = other identity groups 57 = Gender 61–63 = Hobby/leisure groups (associations of people with a common sport/leisure interest) 61 = Sport associations (associations of people engaged in sports) 62 = Other hobby/leisure groups 63 = Other cultural or leisure related groups	nominal	Own coding, according to INTERARENA coding scheme. In collaboration with DFG project "Eingeladene Mobilisierung? Interessenorganisationen, Experten und Gesetzgebung im Deutschen Bundestag", PI Rainer Eising.

Variable	Values and coding	Format	Source
	71–73 = Religious groups 71 = Groups associated with the state church 72 = Other religious groups 73 = Groups related to the Christian churches 81–85 = Public interest groups (associations where members/supporters do not have a selective interest in group goals) 81 = Environment and animal welfare group 82 = Humanitarian group - international 83 = Humanitarian group - national 84 = Consumer groups 85 = Other public interest groups (-77 = no interest group)		
Business Organization (Business organization)	Contains firms, business associations and professional associations representing primarily the interests of the self-employed. 0 = no business organization 1 = business organization	dichotomous	Own coding
Specific Interest (Specific Interest, Economic Interest)	Defines if an actor represents specific interests. 0 = no specific interest 1 = specific interest	dichotomous	Own coding
Public Interest (Public Interests)	Defines if an actor represents public interests 0 = no public interest 1 = public interest		Own coding
Federally organized (Federally organized)	Differentiates if the actor is federally organized, with regional associations. 0 = not federally organized 1 = federally organized	dichotomous	Own coding
Federal structure of interest groups (Federal structure of Igs)	Ordinal variable indicating on how many/which level interest groups have units. 0 = no federal structure 1 = federal level only 2 = regional & federal level 3 = regional, federal & (membership of) EU-level	ordinal	Own coding
Number of regional associations (Number of regional associations)	If the Ig is a federally structured the number of regional associations is counted.	numeric	Own coding
Umbrella Structure (Umbrella Structure)	A variable indicating if the interest group has an umbrella structure. 0 = no umbrella structure 1 = umbrella structure	dichotomous	Own coding
Mitgliedschaften Lobbyregister alte Version (Mitgliedschaften Lobbyregister alte Version)	Number of memberships in other associations of the Igs in the old Lobbyregister	numeric	German lobby register

Variable	Values and coding	Format	Source
Lobby budget (Jähhrliche finanzielle Aufwendung im Bereich der Interessenvertretung)	Annual expenses on advocacy (in increments of 10.000 Euros)	numeric	German lobby register

Part III – Interest Group/Proposal Level Variables

Variable	Values and coding	Format	Source
Position of the interest group (v_2)	Respondents indicate their need for amendments on the proposed legislation.	ordinal, 11-point-scale	Survey
Access to national-level policymakers (v_3)	Respondents indicate their possible access to the national-level policymakers	ordinal, 11-point-scale	Survey
National-level policymaker opposes the position of the interest group (v_4)	Respondents indicate wheter there has been opposition from the national-level policymaker	ordinal, 11-point-scale	Survey
Mobilization bias (v_6)	Respondents indicate whether there has been opposition from other stakeholders to their position.	ordinal, 11-point-scale	Survey
Subnational government support (Eigenes BL profitiert)	coded 1 if the respondent named the government of the Land in which the interest group is headquartered to share their position.	dichotomous	Survey
Perceived Salience (salience_igs)	Respondents indicate how publicly visible they perceived the subject of the draft law	ordinal, 11-point-scale	Survey
Deutscher Bundestag (v_257)	0 = group did not lobby this venue 1 = group lobbied this venue	dichotomous	Survey
Bundesregierung (federal government) (v_259)	0 = group did not lobby this venue 1 = group lobbied this venue	dichotomous	Survey
National route (national_route)	Coded 1 if the group lobbied at least one of the two venues above (Bundestag and/or Bundesregierung). 0 = group did not take this route 1 = group took this route	dichotomous	Survey
European Parliament (v_262)	0 = group did not lobby this venue 1 = group lobbied this venue	dichotomous	Survey
Council of the EU (v_263)	0 = group did not lobby this venue 1 = group lobbied this venue	dichotomous	Survey
European Commission (v_264)	0 = group did not lobby this venue 1 = group lobbied this venue	dichotomous	Survey
European Economic and Social Committee (v_266)	0 = group did not lobby this venue 1 = group lobbied this venue	dichotomous	Survey
Brussels route (brussels_route)	Coded 1 if the group lobbied at least one of the four venues above. 0 = group did not take this route 1 = group took this route	dichotomous	Survey
Bundesrat (v_258)	0 = group did not lobby this venue 1 = group lobbied this venue	dichotomous	Survey
Länder governments (v_260)	0 = group did not lobby this venue 1 = group lobbied this venue	dichotomous	Survey
Standing conferences of Länder ministers (v_267)	0 = group did not lobby this venue 1 = group lobbied this venue	dichotomous	Survey
Joint Science Conference (v_271)	0 = group did not lobby this venue 1 = group lobbied this venue	dichotomous	Survey
Representations of the Länder in the federal republic (v_268)	0 = group did not lobby this venue 1 = group lobbied this venue	dichotomous	Survey

Variable	Values and coding	Format	Source
Domestic subnational route (second_chamber_route)	Coded 1 if the group lobbied at least one of the five venues above. 0 = group did not take this route 1 = group took this route	dichotomous	Survey
Committee of the Regions (v_265)	0 = group did not lobby this venue 1 = group lobbied this venue	dichotomous	Survey
Representations of the Länder at the EU (v_269)	0 = group did not lobby this venue 1 = group lobbied this venue	dichotomous	Survey
Observer of the Länder at the EU (v_270)	0 = group did not lobby this venue 1 = group lobbied this venue	dichotomous	Survey
Subnational-Brussels route (subnational_brussels_route)	Coded 1 if the group lobbied at least one of the three venues above. 0 = group did not take this route 1 = group took this route	dichotomous	Survey
Länder government sympathizing with interest groups' position (v_256)	Respondents answer if one or more Länder governments were sympathizing with their position. 0 = no answer 1 = Yes 2 = No 3 = I don't know	Ordinal	Survey
Number of Länder governments that where sympathizing with groups' position (länder_collaboration)	Count variable of how many Länder governments were chosen by the respondents. Maximum of 16.	numeric	Survey
Enumeration of all 16 Länder in Germany	0 = Länder government was not sympathizing 1 = Länder government was sympathizing -77 = missing	dichotomous	Survey
Headquarters of Ig group (Stammsitz BL)	Headquarters of Ig to check for variable Eigenes BL profitiert.	string	Own research

Notes: Missing Values are coded as NA; Variable names in the dataset are shown in parentheses below their written-out names