**Codebook**

**Replication data for "How state capacity helps autocrats win elections"**

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| Variable Name | Description |
|---|---|
| **gwno** | Numeric country code |
| **country** | country name |
| **MulParElec4617** | Scored 1 if at least one multiparty authoritarian election is held that year. A score of 1 is achieved if i) at least one election is held that year (source: NELDA until 2012; V-Dem after 2012) AND ii) the country is authoritarian at the time of the election (source: GWF until 2010; Lexical Index of Electoral Democracy after 2010) AND iii) parties outside the ruling front exist and are represented in the legislature (source: CGV until 2008; Lexical Index of Electoral Democracy after 2008). |
| **nelda13_summ** | Were opposition leaders prevented from running? 0: no. 1: yes. Source: NELDA. For country-years with multiple authoritarian elections, the indicator was collapsed. A score of 1 is given if a country scored 1 on the indicator for at least one of the elections held that year. Otherwise, they score 0. |
| **nelda16_summ** | In the run-up to the election, were there allegations of media bias in favor of the incumbent? 0: no. 1: yes. Source: NELDA. For country-years with multiple authoritarian elections, the indicator was collapsed. A score of 1 is given if a country scored 1 on the indicator for at least one of the elections held that year. Otherwise, they score 0. |
| **nelda33_num** | Was there significant violence involving civilian deaths immediately before, during, or after the election? 0: no. 1: yes. Source: NELDA. For country-years with multiple authoritarian elections, the indicator was collapsed. A score of 1 is given if a country scored 1 on the indicator for at least one of the elections held that year. Otherwise, they score 0. |
| **v8v2elirreg** | In this national election, was there evidence of other *intentional* voting irregularities by incumbent and/or opposition parties, and/or vote fraud? Examples include use of double IDs, intentional lack of voting materials, ballot-stuffing, misreporting of votes, and false collation of votes. This question does not refer to lack of access to registration, harassment of opposition parties, manipulation of the voter registry or vote-buying. 0: yes. There were systematic and almost nationwide other irregularities. 4: none. There was no evidence of intentional other irregularities. For V-Dem variables, min and max refer to the scores assigned by the experts. The actual variable used in analyses represents the median values of the probability distributions generated by V-Dem based on expert assessments and taking into account disagreement and measurement error (Coppedge et al. 2018b, 29). Source: V-Dem. |

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| **v8v2elfrcamp** | In this national election, did parties or candidates receive either free or publicly financed access to national broadcast media? 0: Either no parties or only the governing party receives free access. 1: Some parties in addition to the governing party receive free access. 2: All parties receive free access. Source: V-Dem. For V-Dem variables, min and max refer to the scores assigned by the experts. The actual variable used in analyses represents the median values of the probability distributions generated by V-Dem based on expert assessments and taking into account disagreement and measurement error (Coppedge et al. 2018b, 29). |
| **v8v2ellostsl** | In this election, what percentage (%) of the total seats in the lower (or unicameral) chamber of the legislature was obtained by the largest party? Source: V-Dem. |
| **v8v2ellovtlg** | In this election to the lower (or unicameral) chamber of the legislature, what percentage (%) of the vote was received by the largest party in the first/only round? Source: V-Dem. |
| **v8v2eldommon** | In this national election, were election monitors from all parties and independent domestic election monitors allowed to monitor the vote at polling stations across the country? 0: no. 1: yes. For V-Dem variables, min and max refer to the scores assigned by the experts. The actual variable used in analyses represents the median values of the probability distributions generated by V-Dem based on expert assessments and taking into account disagreement and measurement error (Coppedge et al. 2018b, 29). Source: V-Dem. |
| **v8lagpartseat60**<br>**v8lagpartseat55**<br>**v8lagpartseat58**<br>**v8lagpartseat62**<br>**v8lagpartseat65** | Did the largest party get at least 55/58/60/62/65 % of the seats? Based on v8v2ellostsl. Source: V-Dem. |
| **v8lgparty60**<br>**v8lgparty55**<br>**v8lgparty58**<br>**v8lgparty62**<br>**v8lgparty65** | Did the largest party get at least 55/58/60/62/65 % of the vote? Based on v8v2ellovtlg. Source: V-Dem. |
| **v8terr3yearav** | Over what percentage (%) of the territory does the state have effective control? Source: V-Dem. This variable is a three year running average of the original variable. |
| **LAGLogOilGas** | The value of oil and gas production/capita (log). Lagged one year. Source: Ross and Mahdavi 2015. |
| **LAGgrowth** | GDP/capita growth rate. Lagged one year. Source: The Maddison Project Database (2018), data extracted from V-Dem. |

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| **LAGGDP** | GDP/capita (log). Lagged one year. Source: The Maddison Project Database (2018), data extracted from V-Dem. |
| **gwf_duration (CubedGwf_duration, SqGwf_duration)** | Regime age in years (squared, cubed). Source: GWF until 2010. Updated for country-years with multiparty elections after 2010. Regime age is set to 0 immediately after a successful coup and counts again until regime is no longer authoritarian (source: Lexical Index of Electoral Democracy) or another successful coup occurs. |
| **gwf_party** | Scored 1 if party regime. Source: GWF. |
| **gwf_monarchy** | Scored 1 if monarchy. Source: GWF |
| **Agwfnelda_firstelec** | Scored 1 if first election under current regime. Source: NELDA. |
| **Majoritar** | Scored 1 if electoral system is majoritarian. Source: V-Dem. |
| **e_Civil_War** | Did the country experience an internal armed conflict? Source: V-Dem. |
| **resseatwom** | Is there a national-level gender quota for the lower (or unicameral) chamber of the legislature? 0: no. 1: yes. Source: V-Dem. |
| **restrict** | Scored 1 if there were restrictions on the seat share such as seats reserved for the incumbent party (Poland in 1989), seats reserved for the military (Myanmar in 2010), MPs appointed by the president (e.g., Kenya in 1992) or a cap on the number of seats won by any one party (Kyrgyzstan in 2005). Sources: Nohlen's edited volumes, The Inter-parliamentary Union, the African Elections Database. |
| **sr13viol** | Pre-election violence. 0: no problems. 3: major problems. Source: QED, Kelley 2012. |
| **oppvic** | Scored 1 if the incumbent lost and allowed the opposition to take power. Source: GWF. |