Boix-Miller-Rosato (BMR) Dichotomous Coding of Democracy, Version 4.0 (1800-2020)

Date: January 2022

Paper/Citation: 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.

This is an updated version of our data, now covering all sovereign countries (including micro-states) from 1800 to 2020.[1] The coding rules and data references are included in the above paper. This version includes 19,130 democracy observations across 222 distinct countries. A list of changes to the previous versions is below. Note that we continue to include a measure of democracy requiring female suffrage.

List of Variables

country: Country name
ccode: COW country code
abbreviation: World Bank 3-letter code
abbreviation_ucdp: UCDP 3-letter code

year: Year [1800-2020]

democracy: Dichotomous democracy measure

democracy_omitteddata: This is the same measure as **democracy**, except it records an NA for countries occupied during an international war (e.g., the Netherlands 1940-44) or experiencing state collapse during a civil war (e.g., Lebanon 1976-89). The **democracy** variable instead fills in these years as continuations of the same regime type to avoid coding democratic transitions at the end of military occupations. Researchers who want to code this differently can fill in the NA values in **democracy_omitteddata** with 0.

democracy_femalesuffrage: This adjusts **democracy** by also requiring that at least half of adult women have the right to vote. Thirty countries have changed values.

The following are based on **democracy**:

- **democracy_trans**: -1 = Democratic breakdown, 0 = No change, 1 = Transition (current year)
- **democracy_breakdowns**: Country's total number of democratic breakdowns (up through current year)
- **democracy_duration**: Consecutive years of current regime type

1 Generally, we use United Nations membership to define when micro-states enter the data set. We thank Benjamin A.T. Graham and his students at USC (Valeria Flores-Cadena, Jiaming Shi, Affan Rahman, and Apurvi Bhartia) for providing their own democracy ratings and supporting information as part of a class project.

Changes from Version 1.0 to 2.0

- We changed the dates for three cases of democratization:
  - Costa Rica was changed from 1948 to 1949.
  - Brazil was changed from 1979 to 1985.
  - Bangladesh was changed from 1986 to 1991.

Changes from Version 2.0 to 3.0

- South Sudan and Sudan-North have been added as new countries.
- Kosovo is coded as sovereign (and democratic) starting in 2012.
- San Marino is now coded as sovereign from 1800, democratizing in 1945.
- We added a variable (**democracy_femalesuffrage**) that requires a level of female suffrage.

Changes from Version 3.0 to 4.0

- We changed the dates for six cases of democratization:
  - France was changed from 1870 to 1871.
  - Chile was changed from 1934 to 1932.
  - Cyprus was changed from 1977 to 1976.
  - Panama was changed from 1950 and 1952 to 1956.
  - Sri Lanka was changed from 1991 to 1994.
  - Uruguay was changed from 1942 to 1943.
- We changed the date of democratic breakdown in Guatemala from 1982 to 1970.
- Denmark is now considered a sovereign autocracy from 1940 to 1942 and under military occupation from 1943 to 1944. It democratizes in 1945.
- We added democratization in Sri Lanka in 2015 and democratic breakdown in Burundi in 2015.