Codebook: Elections, Governments, Heads, and Legislatures in Italy 1720-2021

Francesco Bromo*

February 9, 2022

*Francesco Bromo is a Ph.D. student at Texas A&M University. ✉ bromofra@tamu.edu

1 Elections

Note: `+1000` added to all years before 1900.

1.1 Variables

country_no: Country number

1 = Kingdom of Sardinia (*Regno di Sardegna*)
2 = Kingdom of Italy (*Regno d'Italia*)
3 = Italian Republic (*Repubblica Italiana*)

country: Country name (English)

Sardinia, Kingdom; Italy, Kingdom; Italy, Republic

elec_id: Unique election identifier

e.g., "ELECKSA001" - ELEC = Election, KSA = Kingdom of Sardinia, 001 = First election

elec_t: Election at time *t* (`MM/DD/YYYY`)

elec_t-1: Election at time *t-1* (`MM/DD/YYYY`)

elec_t+1: Election at time *t+1* (`MM/DD/YYYY`)

inbetween_elec_days: Days inbetween elections [(**elec_t+1**)-(**elec_t**)]

constituencies_lh: Constituencies for the lower house (*Circoscrizioni elettorali per Camera dei deputati*)

districts_lh: Districts for the lower house (*Collegi elettorali per Camera dei deputati*)

constituencies_uh: Constituencies for the upper house (*Circoscrizioni elettorali per Senato*)

districts_uh: Districts for the upper house (*Collegi elettorali per Senato*)

voters_lh: Eligible voters for lower house elections

turnout_lh: Turnout for lower house elections

turnout_lh%: Turnout as percentage of eligible voters

flag_fascism: Flag variable for fascist elections[1]

1 = Fascist dictatorship

flag_constituent: Flag variable for constituent assembly election

1 = Constituent assembly

system: Electoral system

SMDP = Single-member district plurality
MMDP = Multi-member district plurality
PR = Proportional representation
MBS = Majority bonus system

1.2 Main sources

- Archivio storico delle elzioni - Ministero dell'Interno (Last accessed 01/22/2022)
- Bartolotta (1971)
- Camera dei deputati - Portale storico (Last accessed 01/22/2022)
- Nohlen and Stöver (2010)

[1]The fascist period is counted from the appointment of Benito Mussolini on October 31, 1922 to the approval of the *OdG Grandi* on July 25, 1943.

2 Governments

Note: `+1000` added to all years before 1900.

2.1 Variables

country_no: Country number

1 = Kingdom of Sardinia (*Regno di Sardegna*)
2 = Kingdom of Italy (*Regno d'Italia*)
3 = Italian Republic (*Repubblica Italiana*)

country: Country name (English)

Sardinia, Kingdom; Italy, Kingdom; Italy, Republic

cabinet_no: Cabinet number[2]

cabinet_id: Unique cabinet identifier

e.g., "CABKSA001" - CAB = Cabinet, KSA = Kingdom of Sardinia, 001 = First cabinet

hog: Prime minister (Last name)

hog_pre: Prime minister is the same as preceding cabinet

1 = Same PM
0 = Different PM

hog_served: Prime minister has already served at least another term

1 = PM served another term
0 = PM first time in office

hos_appointment: Head of state responsible for cabinet appointment (Last name)

cab_start: Cabinet entry date (`MM/DD/YYYY`)[3]

investiture: Date of investiture vote in the lower house (`MM/DD/YYYY`)

failed_investiture: Investiture vote outcome

[2]New cabinets are counted when a formal resignation occurs.

[3]The two possible entry dates are: (1) formal appointment by the head of state or (2) the occurrence of parliamentary elections.

1 = Failed investiture
0 = Successful investiture

cabinet_end Cabinet exit date (`MM/DD/YYYY`)

resignation: Date of formal cabinet resignation (`MM/DD/YYYY`)

cab_durarion_days: Total cabinet duration in days [(**cab_end**)-(**cab_start**)]

flag_fascism: Flag variable for fascist cabinet

1 = Fascist dictatorship

flag_constituent: Flag variable for cabinets in constituent periods

1 = National Council/Constituent assembly cabinet

2.2 Main sources

- Bartolotta (1971)
- Camera dei deputati - Conoscere la Camera (Last accessed 01/22/2022)
- Camera dei deputati - Portale storico (Last accessed 01/22/2022)
- Müller and Strøm (2000)
- Russo (2015)

3 Heads 1720-1848

Notes: `+1000` added to all years before 1900. Blank cells = date unavailable.

3.1 Variables

country_no: Country number

1 = Kingdom of Sardinia (*Regno di Sardegna*)

country: Country name (English)

Sardinia, Kingdom

head_id: Unique head identifier

e.g., "PERSKSA001" - PERS = Person, KSA = Kingdom of Sardinia, 001 = First head

head: Head (Last name)

position: Position

Grand Chancellor (or acting/regent) (*Gran Cancelliere o provvisorio/reggente*); King of Sardinia (or regent) (*Re di Sardegna o reggente*); Lord Privy Seal (*Guardasigilli*); President of the Council of Sardinia (or provisional/regent) (*Presidente del Consiglio Supremo di Sardegna o provissiorio/reggente*)

hos: Head of state

1 = HoS
0 = Not HoS

entry_date: Head entry date (`MM/DD/YYYY`)

exit_date: Head exit date (`MM/DD/YYYY`)

birth_year: Head year of birth (`YYYY`)

death_year: Head year of death (`YYYY`)

tenure_days: Head days in office [(**exit_date**)-(**entry_date**)]

tenure_years: Head years in office ($\frac{\textbf{tenure_days}}{365}$)

3.2 Main sources

- Dionisotti (1881)
- Galli della Loggia (1798)

4 Legislatures

Notes: `+1000` added to all years before 1900. Blank cells = missing figure.

4.1 Variables

country_no: Country number

1 = Kingdom of Sardinia (*Regno di Sardegna*)
2 = Kingdom of Italy (*Regno d'Italia*)
3 = Italian Republic (*Repubblica Italiana*)

country: Country name (English)

Sardinia, Kingdom; Italy, Kingdom; Italy, Republic

leg_no: Legislature number[4]

leg_id: Unique legislature identifier

e.g., "LEGKSA001" - LEG = Legislature, KSA = Kingdom of Sardinia, 001 = First legislature

elected: Date of election of legislature (`MM/DD/YYYY`)

term_years: Constitutional term[5]

tot_no_deputies: Total number of elected members of the lower house

deputies_fem: Number of female members of the lower house

leg_opened: Date of opening of legislature (`MM/DD/YYYY`)

leg_closed: Date of closure of legislature (`MM/DD/YYYY`)

leg_days: Total duration of legislature in days [(**leg_closed**)-(**leg_opened**)]

leg_years: Total duration of legislature in years ($\frac{\textbf{leg_days}}{365}$)

early_dissolution: Legislature dissolved prematurely[6]

[4] New legislatures are counted when a formal dissolution occurs and new elections are called.
[5] Albertine Statute, Article 42; Italian Constitution, Article 60.
[6] A premature dissolution is counted if parliament is dissolved at least six months before the expiration of the constitutional term.

1 = Early dissolution
0 = Regular dissolution

intpar_days: Inter-parliamentary spells in days[7]

billsint_gov_lh: Number of bills introduced by the government in the lower house

billsapp_gov_lh: Number of bills introduced by the government in the lower house and approved

billsint_par_lh: Number of bills introduced by the assembly in the lower house

billsapp_par_lh: Number of bills introduced by the assembly in the lower house and approved

sessions_lh: Number of sessions of the lower house

flag_fascism: Flag variable for fascist legislatures[8]

1 = Fascist dictatorship

flag_constituent: Flag variable for legislatures in constituent periods

1 = National Council/Constituent assembly

dissolution: Reason for parliamentary dissolution

4.2 Main sources

- Archivio storico delle elzioni - Ministero dell'Interno (Last accessed 01/22/2022)
- Bartolotta (1971)
- Camera dei deputati - Portale storico (Last accessed 01/22/2022)
- Governo Italiano - I Governi nelle Legislature (Last accessed 01/22/2022)

[7]Days in-between the opening of a new legislature and the closure of the preceding legislature.

[8]The fascist period is counted from the appointment of Benito Mussolini on October 31, 1922 to the approval of the *OdG Grandi* on July 25, 1943.

References

Bartolotta, Francesco. 1971. *Parlamenti e Governi d'Italia dal 1848 al 1970*. Rome, Italy: Vito Bianco Editore.

Dionisotti, Carlo. 1881. *Storia della Magistratura Piemontese*. Vol. 2. Turin, Italy: Roux & Favale.

Galli della Loggia, Pietro G. 1798. *Cariche del Piemonte*. Vol. 1. Turin, Italy: Onorato Derossi.

Nohlen, Dieter and Philip Stöver. 2010. *Elections in Europe: A Data Handbook*. Baden-Baden, Germany: Nomos.

Müller, Wolfgang C. and Kaare Strøm. 2000. *Coalition Governments in Western Europe*. Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press.

Russo, Federico. 2015. "Government Formation in Italy: The Challenge of Bicameral Investiture." In Rasch, Bjørn E., Shane Martin, and José A. Cheibub. 2015. *Parliaments Government Formation: Unpacking Investiture Rules*. Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press.