I. Case selection

The data set comprises 106 minorities in the EU and OECD member states listed in the World Directory of Minorities and Indigenous People (Minority Rights Group International 2013). The directory lists exclusively minorities and indigenous people which are either politically or economically disadvantaged or discriminated against. Yet, it does not claim to provide an exclusive list of all relevant groups.

Focusing on the directory for the case selection carries several advantages: First, the data set can include a diversity of groups referring to group size and historical background and therefore for broader usage of this data. The directory does not set a lower threshold for the group size. Further, it considers migrant groups, national minorities and indigenous people. Second, data for many control variables can be extracted from the qualitative case information provided by the directory.

Some descriptions by the directory capture more than one group at the same time, e.g. Belarusians and Ukrainians in Lithuania. The data set treats these combined groups as a single case, because the common description symbolizes that these groups are perceived like one in the political sphere of a country. Separating these groups into several cases would inflate the number of observations artificially. At December 19 2014, the directory listed 133 groups in the region, but several groups had to be excluded.

- The Buraku people in Japan had to be excluded from the data set since they are a social caste rather than an ethnical or religious group.
- The description of Northern Ireland is a description of the conflict rather than a minority within the state.
- Some descriptions failed to fulfil a minimum requirement of mentioning either a minority-related problem or a new minority-related law between 1970 and 2012. These observations were ignored (Arab and other Middle Eastern Americans (US), Laz, Caucasians, Caferis (Turkey), Vlachs (Greece), Ukrainians/Belarussians (Estonia)).

II. Time frame

The data covers a time frame between 1997 and 2013. The exact timing might vary with the operationalization of the variables (see variable descriptions).

III. Data structure

Minorities are nested in countries. Prior to each variable, the abbreviation m_ for minority-level and ctry_ for country-level indicate the level to which a variable refers.

1. Identification Variables

country

Short description: Name of country

minority

Short description: Name of minority

2. Minority-level Variables

m_newminorityright

Short description:	New minority rights introduced between 1997 and 2013
Type:	Binary 1 “new rights” 0 “no new rights”,
Time frame:	1997-2013
Data source(s):	World Directory of Minorities and Indigenous People (Minority Rights Group International 2013)
Details:	Experts describe important “current developments” since the last version of the directory in 1997. If this section identifies at least one new right, law, regulation, or measure by the state in order to improve minority-wellbeing, the variable takes the value “1”.

m_size

Short description:	Minority group size (estimation, maximum)
Type:	Continuous in persons
Time frame:	2013
Data source(s):	World Directory of Minorities and Indigenous People (Minority Rights Group International 2013)

m_mpichange_00_10

Short description:	Change in the multiculturalism policy index between 2000 and 2010
Type:	Categorical -6 (indicating decreases) to +6 (indicating increases)
Time frame:	2000-2010
Data source(s):	Multiculturalism Policy Index by Banting and Kymlicka (2012)

m_immigrant

Short description:	Immigrant minority (arrived after 1980)
Type:	Binary

	1 “immigrant minority”
	0 “no immigrant minority”
Data source(s):	World Directory of Minorities and Indigenous People (Minority Rights Group International 2013)
Details:	If the expert describes the minority as not native and arriving in the country after 1980 (or continuing to arrive after 1980), the variable takes the value “1”.

m_mpi_00

Short description:	multiculturalism policy index (in 2000)
Type:	Categorical
	0 (no rights) to 6 (all possible rights)
Time frame:	2000
Data source(s):	Multiculturalism Policy Index by Banting and Kymlicka (2012)

m_affirmativeaction

Short description:	Existence of affirmative electoral arrangements
Type:	Binary
	1 “affirmative electoral arrangement”
	0 “no affirmative electoral arrangement”
Time frame:	1997-2013
Data source(s):	Reynolds (2005)

m_minorityparty

Short description:	Existence of an ethnic minority party
Type:	Continuous in percent
Time frame:	2008-2012 (in latest legislative period before 2013)
Data source(s):	Own coding and coding of ethnic parties as provided by the Manifesto Data Project by Volkens et al. (2013)

2. Country-level Variables

ctry_electoralthreshold_97_13

Short description:	Formal vote percentage necessary to enter parliaments
Type:	Continuous in percent (average)
Time frame:	1997-2013
Data source(s):	Database on Political Institutions (2012)
Notes	Since the original data set lists single member districts as missing values, the author changed them to zero (no threshold). In addition, Belgium is missing in the data. The author added coding in accordance

with the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (2017). According to this information, Belgium introduced a 5% threshold in 2003.

References

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