Codebook Every Bundestag Vote Dataset

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06.12.2023

Use this dataset to reproduce the analyses in

Lukas Hohendorf, Ulrich Sieberer, and Jonas Wenzig (2023): Recorded votes as attention booster: How opposition parties use roll-calls and non-recorded votes for position-taking in the German Bundestag, 2017-2021, *Legislative Studies Quarterly*, doi: 10.1111/lsq.12442.

The dataset contains information on every plenary vote (recorded or non-recorded) taken in the German Bundestag during the 19th legislative period (2017-2021). It is the first dataset available that systematically reports Bundestag votes taken by means other than roll call (*Namentliche Abstimmung*). We gratefully acknowledge excellent research assistance by Jakob Hirn.

The dataset may be used freely for scientific purposes. **Please cite the article above if using the data.**

Vote level dataset (EveryBundestagVote_VoteLevel.dta)

Note: the unit of analysis is a vote in parliament

Variable name	**Variable label**	**Value label**	**Data source**	**Notes**
nr	Internal id		Own variable	Internal ID
date	Date of vote		Bundestag plenary protocol	Date on which the vote is taken
source	Source in protocol		Own variable	Source in the official protocol of the Bundestag
agenda_title	Agenda title		Bundestag plenary protocol	Title of the agenda item under which the vote occurred
Title	Title		Bundestag plenary protocol	Title of the motion voted
voting_procedure	Voting procedure	1=show of hands, 2=Hammelsprung, 3=Namentliche Abstimmung (recorded)	Bundestag plenary protocol	Voting procedure used
recorded	Recorded	0=no, 1=yes	Own variable	Recorded vote, i.e. voting_procedure = 3
result	Result	0=no majority, 1=majority in favor	Bundestag plenary protocol	Was the vote successful?
CDUCSU	Voting behavior of CDUCSU	1=yes, 2=no, 3=abstention, 4=unknown	Bundestag plenary protocol	Voting behavior of CDU/CSU party group

SPD	Voting behavior of SPD	1=yes, 2=no, 3=abstention, 4=unknown	Bundestag plenary protocol	Voting behavior of SPD party group
AfD	Voting behavior of AfD	1=yes, 2=no, 3=abstention, 4=unknown	Bundestag plenary protocol	Voting behavior of AfD party group
FDP	Voting behavior of FDP	1=yes, 2=no, 3=abstention, 4=unknown	Bundestag plenary protocol	Voting behavior of FDP party group
Left	Voting behavior of Left	1=yes, 2=no, 3=abstention, 4=unknown	Bundestag plenary protocol	Voting behavior of Left party group
Greens	Voting behavior of Greens	1=yes, 2=no, 3=abstention, 4=unknown	Bundestag plenary protocol	Voting behavior of Green party group
motiontype	Motion type	1=Motion, 2=Resolution, 3=Bill, 4=Election, 5=Report, 6=Petition, 7=Transfer vote	Own variable	Type of the motion voted; created based on drucksache_type and vorgang_type
sponsor_cat	Motion sponsor	1=Government only, 2=Opposition, 3=Government & Opposition, 4=Petition committee	Own variable	Sponsor of the motion voted (categorical measure created from raw data in sponsor_unstructured)
cyc	Year in electoral cycle		Own variable	Year in the electoral period in which vote occurred (starting with inaugural session on October 24, 2017)
final_debate	Final Debate	0=no, 1=yes	Bundestag plenary protocol	Is the vote a final debate vote, i.e. a vote after the second plenary reading?
currenttop	Salient topic	0=no, 1=yes	Own variable	Does the vote refer to the most salient issue in public debate? Based on lead committee, DIP keywords and Most Important Problem for the public according to Forschungsruppe Wahlen
sponsor_gov	Government is sponsor	0=no, 1=yes	Own variable	Is one of the government parties a sponsor (possibly among other sponsors)?

sponsor_fdp	FDP is sponsor	0=no, 1=yes	Own variable	Is the FDP a sponsor (possibly among others)?
sponsor_greens	Greens is sponsor	0=no, 1=yes	Own variable	Are Greens a sponsor (possibly among others)?
sponsor_left	Left is sponsor	0=no, 1=yes	Own variable	Is the Left party a sponsor (possibly among others)?
sponsor_afd	AfD is sponsor	0=no, 1=yes	Own variable	Is the AfD a sponsor (possibly among others)?
drucksache	Drucksache number		Bundestag plenary protocol	Official document number of the motion
date_drucksache	Date of Drucksache		Tidybundestag	Date on which the motion was introduced
bundeswehreinsatz	Troop deployment vote		Own variable	Is the vote on foreign deployment of the German military?
policy_area	Policy Area	1=Economy, Finance & Traffic, 2=Social, Health & Education, 3=Interior, 4=Foreign & Defense, 5=Environment & Agriculture, 6=Other	Own variable	Policy dimension of the vote; coded based on the lead_committee
lead_committee	Lead committee		Tidybundestag	Lead (or only) committee dealing with the motion; Information according to DIP
unisonvote	Unanimous vote	0=no, 1=yes	Own variable	Did all parties vote the same way?
unisonvote_exAfD	Unanimous vote among non-AfD parties	0=no, 1=yes	Own variable	Did all parties except the AfD vote the same way?
final_vote	Final reading in Bundestag	0=no, 1=yes	Bundestag plenary protocol	Is the vote on the final reading of the motion?
sponsor_unstructured	Sponsor (unstructured)		Tidybundestag	Who sponsored the motion (unstructured information from DIP[1])
zustimmungsbedueftigkeit	zustimmungsbedueftigkeit	0=no, 1=yes	Tidybundestag	Does the Bundesrat have a final veto?
id	Tinybundestag ID		Tidybundestag	Internal ID from tidybundestag
drucksache_type	Drucksache type		Tidybundestag	Type of the motion (raw information from DIP

[1] DIP is the official electronic information system of the Bundestag (http://dip.bundestag.de/)

vorgang_id	vorgangsbezug_id		Tidybundestag	ID for this legislative process (information from DIP)
vorgang_title	vorgangsbezug_titel		Tidybundestag	Title for this legislative process (information from DIP)
vorgang_type	vorgangsbezug_vorgangstyp		Tidybundestag	Type of this legislative process (information from DIP)
arbeit	arbeit	0=no, 1=yes	Tidybundestag	Does DIP assign this keyword to the motion (multiple keywords per motion possible)?
aussenpolitik	aussenpolitik	0=no, 1=yes	Tidybundestag	DIP key word
aussenwirtschaft	aussenwirtschaft	0=no, 1=yes	Tidybundestag	DIP key word
Bildung	bildung	0=no, 1=yes	Tidybundestag	DIP key word
Bundestag	bundestag	0=no, 1=yes	Tidybundestag	DIP key word
deutsche_einheit	deutsche_einheit_innerdeutsche_beziehungen_bis_1990	0=no, 1=yes	Tidybundestag	DIP key word
Energie	energie	0=no, 1=yes	Tidybundestag	DIP key word
Entwicklung	entwicklung	0=no, 1=yes	Tidybundestag	DIP key word
Europa	europa	0=no, 1=yes	Tidybundestag	DIP key word
Gesellschaft	gesellschaft	0=no, 1=yes	Tidybundestag	DIP key word
Gesundheit	gesundheit	0=no, 1=yes	Tidybundestag	DIP key word
innere_sicherheit	innere_sicherheit	0=no, 1=yes	Tidybundestag	DIP key word
Kultur	kultur	0=no, 1=yes	Tidybundestag	DIP key word
Landwirtschaft	landwirtschaft	0=no, 1=yes	Tidybundestag	DIP key word
medien_kommunikationn	medien_kommunikation	0=no, 1=yes	Tidybundestag	DIP key word
migration	migration_und_aufenthaltsrecht	0=no, 1=yes	Tidybundestag	DIP key word
oeffentliche_finanzen	offentliche_finanzen_steuern_und_abgaben	0=no, 1=yes	Tidybundestag	DIP key word
parteien	parteien	0=no, 1=yes	Tidybundestag	DIP key word
raumordnung_bau	raumordnung_bau_und_wohnungswesen	0=no, 1=yes	Tidybundestag	DIP key word
recht	recht	0=no, 1=yes	Tidybundestag	DIP key word
soziale_sicherung	soziale_sicherung	0=no, 1=yes	Tidybundestag	DIP key word
sport_tourismus	sport_tourismus	0=no, 1=yes	Tidybundestag	DIP key word
staat_verwaltung	staat_verwaltung	0=no, 1=yes	Tidybundestag	DIP key word
umwelt	umwelt	0=no, 1=yes	Tidybundestag	DIP key word
verkehr	verkehr	0=no, 1=yes	Tidybundestag	DIP key word
verteidigung	verteidigung	0=no, 1=yes	Tidybundestag	DIP key word
wirtschaft	wirtschaft	0=no, 1=yes	Tidybundestag	DIP key word
wissenschaft	wissenschaft	0=no, 1=yes	Tidybundestag	DIP key word

Additional variables in the party level dataset (EveryBundestagVote_PartyLevel.dta)

Note: the unit of analysis is party per vote

Variable name	Variable label	Value label	Data source	Notes
party	Observed party	4=FDP, 5=Greens, 6=Left, 7=FDP	Own variable	The party whose voting behavior is observed
party line	Party line	1=yes, 2=no, 3=abstention	Own variable	Voting behavior of the party observed
government line	Government line	1=yes, 2=no, 3=abstention	Own variable	Voting behavior of the government (note: government parties always voted in the same way)
plgl	Party and government line agreement	0=no, 1=yes	Own variable	Does the observed party vote the same way as the government?
sponsor_cat_party	Motion Sponsor (Party level categories)	1=Government, 2=Own, 3=Other opposition party, 4=Petition committee	Own variable	Sponsor of the motion (opposition motions split further than in the vote-level dataset)
sponsor_cat_party_woafd	Motion Sponsor (Party level categories, without AfD)	1=Government, 2=Own, 3=Other opposition party, 4=Petition committee	Own variable	Same as sponsor_cat_party but without AfD