README – Making Electoral Democracy Work: Aggregated Dataset

This is an aggregated dataset that combines information from 27 election surveys conducted in Canada, France, Germany, Spain, and Switzerland between 2010 and 2015. It covers national, subnational and supranational elections. The surveys were fielded in two waves: one in the week or so before the election and one in the period immediately after the election (see for fieldwork dates). The dataset constitutes the core data module of the Making Electoral Democracy Work (MEDW) project.

The dataset folder includes a data file (Stata 13 and Stata 12 versions) and a codebook.

The following elections are included:

Election ID in the dataset	Country	Region	Election Type	Fieldwork	
				Pre-Election Questionnaire	Post-Election Questionnaire
1	Switzerland	Lucerne	Federal	13/10–22/10/2011	25/10–06/11/2011
2	Switzerland	Lucerne	Cantonal	31/03-09/04/2011	12/04-19/04/2011
3	Switzerland	Zürich	Federal	13/10–22/10/2011	25/10–06/11/2011
4	Switzerland	Zürich	Cantonal	24/03-02/04/2011	04/04-09/04/2011
5	France	Ile de France	National[1]	31/05-09/06/2012	18/06-03/07/2012
6	France	Provence	National[1]	31/05-09/06/2012	18/06-03/07/2012
7	Spain	Catalonia	National	10/11-19/11/2011	21/11-04/12/2011
8	Spain	Catalonia	Regional	16/11-23/11/2012	26/11-10/12/2012
9	Spain	Madrid	National	10/11-19/11/2011	21/11-04/12/2011
10	Germany	Lower Saxony	Federal	12/09-19/09/2013	23/09-30/09/2013
11	Germany	Lower Saxony	State	11/01-19/01/2013	21/01-04/02/2013
12	Germany	Bavaria[2]	Federal	16/09-21/09/2013	23/09-28/09/2013
13	Germany	Bavaria[2]	State	30/08-14/09/2013	16/09-21/09/2013
14	Canada	Ontario	Provincial	25/09-05/10/2011	07/10-20/10/2011

15	Canada	Quebec	Provincial	23/08-03/09/2012	05/09-25/09/2012
16	France	Provence	European	12/05-21/05/2014	26/05-09/06/2014
17	France	Ile de France	European	12/05-20/05/2014	26/05-09/06/2014
18	Germany	Lower Saxony	European	12/05-21/05/2014	26/05-09/06/2014
19	Germany	Bavaria[2]	European[2]	12/05-20/05/2014	26/05-02/06/2014
20	Spain	Catalonia	European	12/05-20/05/2014	26/05-10/06/2014
21	Spain	Madrid	European	12/05-20/05/2014	26/05-09/06/2014
22	France	Paris	Municipal	13/03-22/03/2014	31/03-14/04/2014
23	France	Marseille	Municipal	13/03-22/03/2014	31/03-14/04/2014
24	Spain	Madrid	Regional	14/05-20/05/2015	25/05-08/06/2015
25	Canada	Ontaria	Federal	09/10-18/10/2015	20/10-06/11/2015
26	Canada	British Columbia	Federal	09/10-18/10/2015	20/10-05/11/2015
27	Canada	Quebec	Federal	09/10-18/10/2015	20/10-06/11/2015

[1] Legislative Elections to the National Assembly. [2] The Bavarian Panel Study

Citation Requirements

When you use the aggregated dataset, please, cite the following reference:

Stephenson, Laura; Blais, André; Bol, Damien; Kostelka, Filip, 2017, "Making Electoral Democracy Work", doi:10.7910/DVN/RR0NNQ, Harvard Dataverse.

Contact

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GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE MEDW PROJECT

The MEDW Project

Making Electoral Democracy Work (MEDW) is an international collaborative project that was conducted between 2009 and 2017 by a large team of political scientists, economists, and psychologists from Canada, Europe, and the United States (for a full list, see below). Its goal was to examine how the rules of the game (especially the electoral system) and the electoral context (especially the competitiveness and salience of the election) influence the dynamic and reciprocal relationship between voters and parties. To do so, the project gathered data for different types of elections held in Canada, France, Germany, Spain, and Switzerland between 2010 and 2016. In each country, two subnational units, typically regions, were studied. The analyses were complemented by laboratory and online experiments, as well as data on the parties' campaigns. A selection of the project publications can be found at http://electoraldemocracy.com/publications. For more information on the project visit the project website (http://electoraldemocracy.com) or read André Blais, "Making Electoral Democracy Work," Electoral Studies 29 (2010): 169–70.

The MEDW Project Dataverse and Data

The MEDW project dataverse contains the MEDW survey data. These data cover national, subnational, and supranational elections from the five countries under study. The studies were typically conducted in two waves: one in the week or so before the election and one in the period immediately after the. One of the unique features of the MEDW data is that they provide the same kind of information for different levels of government and allow for cross-level comparison and the study of cross-level interactions.

The core data module is an aggregated dataset that combines information from 27 single-election surveys (including a Bavarian panel study of three elections). These single-election surveys are also available as individual datasets (see below). In addition, the dataverse comprises "special datasets" (additional studies conducted in Belgium, France, Germany, Spain and Sweden) that are not included in the aggregated dataset but contain a large number of questions asked in the regular MEDW surveys. Finally, contextual information (e.g. official results, incumbents, etc.) was collected for the 27 aforementioned elections and is available in an accompanying excel file.

The project dataverse contains the Aggregated Dataset folder and 6 (sub) dataverses with 22 individual, mostly single-election, datasets: "MEDW Canada", "MEDW France", "MEDW Germany", "MEDW Spain", "MEDW Switzerland" and "MEDW Special Datasets". All datasets are in Stata 13 format and are supplemented with codebooks, questionnaires (usually in both the original language and in English), and technical reports.

<u>List of MEDW Datasets</u>

"Making Electoral Democracy Work" [aggregated dataset]

In the (sub)dataverse "MEDW Canada":

"MEDW 2011 Ontario Provincial Election Study"

"MEDW 2012 Quebec Provincial Election Study"

"MEDW 2015 Canadian Federal Election Study"

In the (sub)dataverse "MEDW France":

"MEMEDW 2012 French Legislative Election Study"

"MEDW 2014 French Municipal Election Study"

"MEDW 2014 French European Election Study"

In the (sub)dataverse "MEDW Germany":

"MEDW 2013 Lower Saxony State Election Study"

"MEDW 2013 Lower Saxony Federal Election Study"

"MEDW 2014 Lower Saxony European Election Study"

"MEDW 2013-2014 Bavaria Panel Study"

In the (sub)dataverse "MEDW Spain":

"MEDW 2011 Spanish National Eletion Study"

"MEDW 2012 Catalan Regional Election Study"

"MEDW 2014 Spanish European Election Study"

"MEDW 2015 Madrid Regional Election Study"

In the (sub)dataverse "MEDW Switzerland":

"MEDW 2011 Zurich Cantonal Election Study"

"MEDW 2011 Swiss Federal Election Study"

"MEDW 2011 Lucerne Cantonal Election Study"

In the (sub)dataverse "MEDW Special Datasets":

"MEDW 2010 North Rhine-Westphalia State Election Study"

"MEDW 2010 Swedish National Election Study"

"MEDW 2012 French Presidential Election Study"

"MEDW 2014 Belgian National Election Study"

"MEDW 2016 Spanish National Election Study"

Citation suggestions for the single-election datasets are provided in specific readme files that can be found in each dataset folder.

The MEDW Team

A large number of scholars and students have contributed in various ways to this project. They include:

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