CODEBOOK

Elections Increase Satisfaction with Democracy

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This document provides the names, descriptions, and, where relevant, value labels for all variables in the datasets that are used in the analysis. The associated article appears in *Comparative Political Studies*.

Study 1.dta

Variable	Variable Definition	Coding	Source
age_harmonized	Respondent's age	Age in years	AmericasBarometer; ESS; Eurobarometer; EVS/WVS; Latinobarometer
contacts	Number of contact attempts	Number of contacts made by ESS enumerators before an interview was conducted	ESS
country_and_year	Country and year of survey		Created by author
country_and_year_num	Country and year of survey, numerical		Created by author
date_nat	Date of interrupting national election	DDmmmYYYY	Created by author
educ_harmonized_0_10	Education level or years completed	Harmonized to range from 0 to 10 within surveys, with higher values indicating more education	AmericasBarometer; ESS; Eurobarometer; EVS/WVS; Latinobarometer
female_harmonized	Gender Identification	female = 1; male = 0	AmericasBarometer; ESS; Eurobarometer; EVS/WVS; Latinobarometer
happy	Reported Happiness	Ranges from 0 to 10, with 0 indicating extreme unhappiness and 10 extreme happiness	ESS
income_harmonized_0_10	Income level	Harmonized to range from 0 to 10 within surveys, with higher values indicating more income	AmericasBarometer; ESS; Eurobarometer; EVS/WVS; Latinobarometer
interrupt_nat	Indicator for whether survey was interrupted by a national election	1 if survey was interrupted by a national election; 0 otherwise	Created by author
interv_on_or_after_elec	Indicator for whether respondent was interviewed before or after interrupting election	1 if respondent was interviewed on or after national election; 0 otherwise	Created by author
interview_date	Date of survey interview	DDmmmYYYY	AmericasBarometer; ESS; Eurobarometer; EVS/WVS; Latinobarometer
ppltrst	Trust in other people	Ranges from 0 to 10, with 0 indicating "you can't be too careful in dealing with people" and 10 "Most people can be trusted"	ESS
source	Survey institute		Created by author

stfeco	Satisfaction with economy	Ranges from 0 to 10, with 0 indicating extreme dissatisfaction and 10 extreme satisfaction	ESS
stfgov	Satisfaction with government	Ranges from 0 to 10, with 0 indicating extreme dissatisfaction and 10 extreme satisfaction	ESS
survey_and_wave_and_cntry_year	Survey institute and wave & country and year of survey		Created by author
svy_and_wv_and_cntry_year_num	Survey institute and wave & country and year of survey, numerical		Created by author
swd_original	SWD on its original scale	Varies by survey institute and wave	AmericasBarometer; ESS; Eurobarometer; EVS/WVS; Latinobarometer
swd_same_direction_0_10	SWD, uniform direction, bound between 0 and 10	Harmonized to range from 0 to 10 within surveys, with higher values indicating more satisfaction with democracy	AmericasBarometer; ESS; Eurobarometer; EVS/WVS; Latinobarometer
swd_same_direction_Foa_dich	SWD, dichotomized	Following the scheme of Foa et al. (2020),[1] 1 is satisfied; 0 not	AmericasBarometer; ESS; Eurobarometer; EVS/WVS; Latinobarometer
swd_same_direction_Foa_dich_0_10	SWD, dichotomized, bound between 0 and 10	Following the scheme of Foa et al. (2020), 1 is satisfied; 0 not, multiplied by 10	AmericasBarometer; ESS; Eurobarometer; EVS/WVS; Latinobarometer
time_from_elec	Days from date of interview to national election	Number of days, with negative values meaning pre-election survey interviews and positive values post-election interviews	Created by author
trstplt	Trust in politicians	Ranges from 0 to 10, with 0 indicating no trust at all in politicians and 10 complete trust	ESS
trstprt	Trust in political parties	For the ESS, ranges from 0 to 10, with 0 indicating no trust at all in political parties and 10 complete trust. For the Eurobarometer, 0 indicates "tend not to trust" and 10 "tend to trust"	ESS and Eurobarometer

[1] Foa, Roberto S., Andrew Klassen, Michael Slade, Alex Rand, and Rosie Collins. 2020. The Global Satisfaction with Democracy Report 2020. Cambridge: Centre for the Future of Democracy.

Study 2.dta

Variable	Variable Definition	Coding	Source
age_10	Respondent's age	Age in tens of years	Making Electoral Democracy Work project
countryandyear	Country and year of survey		Created by author
countryandyear_num	Country and year of survey, numerical		Created by author
days_until_election	Days from date of interview to national election	Number of days	Created by author
educ_scale_0_10	Education level or years completed	Harmonized to range from 0 to 10 within surveys, with higher values indicating more education	Making Electoral Democracy Work project
female	Gender identification	female = 1; male = 0	Making Electoral Democracy Work project
income_harmonized_0_10	Income level	Harmonized to range from 0 to 10 within surveys, with higher values indicating more income	Making Electoral Democracy Work project
retained	Indicator for whether respondent completed both survey waves	1 if respondent completed wave 2 survey; 0 otherwise	Making Electoral Democracy Work project
sat_dem_nat_change	Change in satisfaction with democracy from wave 1 to wave 2	Wave 2 satisfaction with democracy minus wave 1 satisfaction with democracy	Making Electoral Democracy Work project
sat_dem_nat_post	Wave 2 satisfaction with democracy	Ranges from 0 to 10, with higher values indicating more satisfaction with democracy	Making Electoral Democracy Work project
sat_dem_nat_pre	Wave 1 satisfaction with democracy	Ranges from 0 to 10, with higher values indicating more satisfaction with democracy	Making Electoral Democracy Work project
voted_early	Indicator for whether respondent voted early	1 if respondent voted before election day; 0 otherwise	Making Electoral Democracy Work project
winner_early_voting	Indicator for whether early voting respondent voted for a party that went on to enter government	For those who voted early, 1 if chose party that entered gov.; 0 otherwise	Making Electoral Democracy Work project

Study 3.dta

Variable	Variable Definition	Coding	Source
age	Respondent's age	Age in years	Author's original survey
education_level	Level of education	1. Primary grades 1-6, elementary school 2. Primary school grades 7-9, 10, secondary school 3. Short vocational training (vocational school, college, institute, course) 4. Vocational qualification at university level 5. Matriculation examination 6. Polytechnic degree or equivalent 7. University degree (bachelor's or master's degree) 8. Postgraduate scientific degree	Author's original survey
election_2023	Treatment group	1 if respondent was in election condition; 0 otherwise	Author's original survey
FMC_TR_passed	Indicator for whether respondent passed the factual manipulation check	1 if respondent passed; 0 otherwise	Author's original survey
gender_cat	Gender identification	1. Man 2. Woman 3. Refused/other	Author's original survey
income	Level of income	1. No income 2. Less than €5,000 3. Between €5,000 and €15,000 4. Between €15,001 and €25,000 5. Between €25,001 and €35,000 6. Between €35,001 and €45,000 7. Between €45,001 and €55,000 8. Between €55,001 and €65,000 9. Between €65,001 and €75,000 10. Between €75,001 and €85,000 11. Between €85,001 and €95,000 12. Between €95,001 and €105,000 13. Between €105,001 and	Author's original survey

		€115,000 14. Between €115,001 and €125,000 15. Between €125,001 and €135,000 16. Between €135,001 and €145,000 17. Over €145,000	
sat_dem_post	Satisfaction with democracy following treatment	Ranges from 0 to 10, with higher values indicating more satisfaction with democracy	Author's original survey
turnout_propensity_pre	Likelihood of turning out in Finnish elections	1. Never votes 2. Usually does not vote 3. Usually votes 4. Always votes	Author's original survey
win_SD_other_none	Partisanship categories	1. Attachment to a party that entered government 2. Attachment to the Social Democrats 3. Attachment to any other party 4. No party attachment	Author's original survey
woman	Dichotomous gender identification	woman = 1; other = 0	Author's original survey

Brazil_Experiment.dta

Variable	Variable Definition	Coding	Source
age_10	Respondent's age	Age in tens of years	Author's original survey
education_years	Years of education	Years of education	Author's original survey
election_2022	Treatment group	1 if respondent was in election condition; 0 otherwise	Author's original survey
FMC_TR_passed	Indicator for whether respondent passed the factual manipulation check	1 if respondent passed; 0 otherwise	Author's original survey
gender_cat	Gender identification	1. Man 2. Woman 3. Refused/other	Author's original survey
income	Level of income	1. No income 2. Less than R$500.00 3. R$501.00 to R$1,000.00 4. R$1,001.00 to R$2,000.00 5. R$2,001.00 to R$3,000.00 6. R$3,001.00 to R$5,000.00 7. R$5,001.00 to R$10,000.00 8. R$10,001.00 to R$20,000.00 9. R$20,001.00 to R$100,000.00 10. R$100,001 or more	Author's original survey
sat_dem_post	Satisfaction with democracy following treatment	Ranges from 0 to 10, with higher values indicating more satisfaction with democracy	Author's original survey
turnout_propensity_pre	Likelihood of turning out in Brazilian elections	1. Never votes 2. Usually does not vote 3. Usually votes 4. Always votes	Author's original survey
woman	Dichotomous gender identification	woman = 1; other = 0	Author's original survey