How Political Careers Affect Prime-Ministerial Performance: Evidence from Central and Eastern Europe

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Codebook for the dataset

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The dataset contains performance ratings and background information on prime ministers in Central and Eastern European democracies after democratization. The countries covered include all EU member states in the region. Acting, interim and caretaking prime ministers are excluded from the data. The dataset includes all other prime minister that finished their term until December 2018. Starting with the election of the first parliament elected under the new democratic constitution and in independent states (i.e. Czechoslovakian PMs not included). The unit of observation are expert ratings of prime ministerial performance in cabinets.

To replicate the findings presented in the article with the data described in this codebook please consult the Stata do-file 'main_analysis_and_robustness.do'.

All gathered information additional to the expert survey is based on:

- List of prime ministerial cabinets are based on ParlGov, ERD, and official government information provided at websites.
- Political context variables (cabinet & parliament compositions, presidential & prime ministerial powers) were collected from:
    - Bergman et al 2018.
    - Andrews, Josephine T., and Richard L. Bairett Jr. 2019. Measuring Executive Power. Working paper.
    - ERD; Who Governs Europe.
    - Döring, Holger and Philip Manow. 2018. Parliaments and governments database (ParlGov): Information on parties, elections and cabinets in modern democracies. Development version.
    - Andersson, Staffan; Bergman, Torbjörn & Ersson, Svante. 2014. The European Representative Democracy Data Archive, Release 3. Main sponsor: Riksbankens Jubileumsfond (In2007-0149:1-E). [www.erdda.se]
    - Comparative Political Dataset (CPDS) (Armingeon et al., 2018) http://www.cpds-data.org/
    - Doyle, David and Robert Elgie. 2015. Maximizing the reliability of cross-national measures of presidential power. British Journal of Political Science.
- Socio-economic context variables were collected from:

- World Inequality Database https://wid.world/data/
- World Bank https://data.worldbank.org
- The Standardized World Income Inequality Database (Frederick Solt, 2016) https://dataverse.harvard.edu/dataset.xhtml?persistentId=hdl:1902.1/11992
- Comparative Political Dataset (CPDS) (Armingeon et al., 2018) http://www.cpds-data.org/
- International Labour Organization (ILOSTAT) database https://www.ilo.org/ilostat
- Penn World Table, 2015. https://www.rug.nl/ggdc/productivity/pwt/
- United Nations Development Programme http://hdr.undp.org/en/data

For accessibility, variables are grouped in four categories depending on the subject and level to which they refer:

- Experts' prime ministerial performance ratings from the expert survey (pmp_XX)
- Prime minister demographics & career data, as well as prime ministerial powers (pm_XX & pmc_XX &)
- Context data: investiture, duration, composition of cabinets and parliaments, as well as, socio-economic context (parl_XX & cab_XX & pmc_XX & account_XX)
- Data on investiture and powers of heads of state (pres_XX & prespow_XX)
- Expert characteristics (expert_XX)

country	COUNTRY *Annotations: The included countries and respective observation periods are: Bulgaria (1991-2016), Croatia (2000-2017), Czech Republic (1992-2017), Estonia (1992-2016), Hungary (1990-2018), Latvia (1993-2016), Lithuania (1993-2016), Poland (1992-2017), Romania (1992-2018), Slovakia (1992-2018), Slovenia (1992-2018).*

1) Expert performance rating variables - *Versions of performance rating variables that have not been altered by qualitative revision of expert explanations have a* **_NO_REV** *suffix.*

pmp_conflict1	PREVAILING IN PM-MINISTER CONFLICTS (0) Not at all successful (1) Not very successful (2) Moderately successful (3) Fairly successful (4) Very successful
pmp_conflict2	MEDIATING INTER-MINISTERIAL CONFLICTS (0) Not at all successful (1) Not very successful (2) Moderately successful (3) Fairly successful (4) Very successful
pmp_policy1	ENACTING PREFERRED POLICIES FOR SOCIETAL CONCERNS (0) Not at all successful (1) Not very successful (2) Moderately successful (3) Fairly successful (4) Very successful
pmp_policy2	AVERTING NON-PREFERRED POLICIES (0) Not at all successful (1) Not very successful (2) Moderately successful (3) Fairly successful (4) Very successful

pmp_crisis1	STRATEGIZING CRISES RESPONSE (0) Not at all successful (1) Not very successful (2) Moderately successful (3) Fairly successful (4) Very successful
pmp_crisis2	RESPONDING TO CRISES IN APPROPRIATE TIME (0) Not at all successful (1) Not very successful (2) Moderately successful (3) Fairly successful (4) Very successful
pmp_international1	SECURING NATIONAL INTERESTS TOWARDS OTHER COUNTRIES (0) Not at all successful (1) Not very successful (2) Moderately successful (3) Fairly successful (4) Very successful
pmp_international2	SECURING NATIONAL INTERESTS TOWARDS EUROPEAN UNION (0) Not at all successful (1) Not very successful (2) Moderately successful (3) Fairly successful (4) Very successful

pmp_parliament1	MAINTAINING PARLIAMENTARY SUPPORT FOR GOVERNMENT POLICY (0) Not at all successful (1) Not very successful (2) Moderately successful (3) Fairly successful (4) Very successful
pmp_parliament2	MAINTAINING SUPPORT OF WIDER ELECTORATE (0) Not at all successful (1) Not very successful (2) Moderately successful (3) Fairly successful (4) Very successful
pmp_party1	MAINTAINING SUPPORT OF PARTY ELITES (0) Not at all successful (1) Not very successful (2) Moderately successful (3) Fairly successful (4) Very successful
pmp_party2	MAINTAINING SUPPORT OF PARTY BASE (0) Not at all successful (1) Not very successful (2) Moderately successful (3) Fairly successful (4) Very successful
pmp_overall	COMBINED OVERALL PERFORMANCE (0) Not at all successful - (4) Very successful

pmp_rating RATING OF PM

(0) Not at all successful
(1) Not very successful
(2) Moderately successful
(3) Fairly successful
(4) Very successful

pmp_ranking RANKING OF PM

Rank-order of PM within the country by experts.

pmp_conflict_subd SETTLING CABINET CONFLICTS

(0) Not at all successful
(1) Not very successful
(2) Moderately successful
(3) Fairly successful
(4) Very successful

pmp_policy_subd SHAPING GOVERNMENT POLICIES

(0) Not at all successful
(1) Not very successful
(2) Moderately successful
(3) Fairly successful
(4) Very successful

pmp_crisis_subd MANAGING EXOGENOUS CRISES

(0) Not at all successful
(1) Not very successful
(2) Moderately successful
(3) Fairly successful
(4) Very successful

pmp_international_subd SECURING NATIONAL INTERESTS ABROAD

(0) Not at all successful
(1) Not very successful
(2) Moderately successful

(3) Fairly successful
(4) Very successful

pmp_parliament_subd SECURING SUPPORT OF PARLIAMENTARY MAJORITY

(0) Not at all successful
(1) Not very successful
(2) Moderately successful
(3) Fairly successful
(4) Very successful

pmp_party_subd SECURING SUPPORT OF OWN PARTY

(0) Not at all successful
(1) Not very successful
(2) Moderately successful
(3) Fairly successful
(4) Very successful

pmp_delegation_dim DELEGATION DIMENSION

(0) Not at all successful
(1) Not very successful
(2) Moderately successful
(3) Fairly successful
(4) Very successful

pmp_accountability_dim ACCOUNTABILITY DIMENSION

(0) Not at all successful
(1) Not very successful
(2) Moderately successful
(3) Fairly successful
(4) Very successful

2) Prime minister demographics & career data

pm_name_national NAME OF PRIME MINISTER IN NATIONAL WRITING

pmc_name CABINET NAME

	Annotations: The cabinet name is a combination of the PM's name (in English writing) with a Latin number (starting at I) counting the number of cabinets included in the data set.
pmc_date_in	STARTING DATE OF CABINET WORK *Annotations: Inauguration date or if necessary date of investiture vote; election date if government continues after elections.* *Data sources: European Representative Democracy (ERD) and official government sources.*
pmc_date_out	ENDING DATE OF CABINET WORK *Annotations: Date of acceptance of head of state of resignation, of vote of no confidence, or general election.* *Data sources: European Representative Democracy (ERD) and official government sources.*
pmc_date_election	DATE OF LAST LEGISLATIVE ELECTION Annotations: In bicameral systems this information refers to elections of the lower house. *Data sources: European Representative Democracy (ERD) and official government sources.*
pmc_duration	DURATON OF PRIME MINISTERIAL CABIENT (IN DAYS)
pmc_id_parlgov1	IDENTIFICATION NUMBER OF CABINET IN PARLGOV
pmc_id_parlgov2	IDENTIFICATION NUMBER OF CABINET IN PARLGOV
pmc_id_erd1	IDENTIFICATION NUMBER OF CABINET IN EUROPEAN REPRESENTATIVE DEMOCRACY
pmc_id_erd2	IDENTIFICATION NUMBER OF CABINET IN EUROPEAN REPRESENTATIVE DEMOCRACY
pm_sex	SEX OF PRIME MINISTER *(0) male* *(1) female*
pm_birthday	DAY OF BIRTH OF PRIME MINISTER
pmc_outsider_dummy	PM DID NOT HAVE A CAREER IN POLITICS PRIOR TO

	ENTERING OFFICE (0) no (1) yes
pm_experience_leg	PM SERVED AS A MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL *Annotations: In bicameral systems, this revers to the lower chamber. Information refers to the time before entering office. If prime minister serves with interruption, this information is adapted if the PM served in parliament in between.* (0) no (1) yes
pm_experience_leg_duration	DURATION OF TIME PM SERVED AS A MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL (in years) *Annotations: In bicameral systems, this revers to the lower chamber. Information refers to the time before entering office. If prime minister serves with interruption, this information is adapted if the PM served in parliament in between.*
pm_experience_leg_start1	START DATE OF PRIME MINISTER'S SERVICE IN PARLIAMENT AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL (first time) *Annotations: In bicameral systems, this revers to the lower chamber. Information refers to the time before entering office. If prime minister serves with interruption, this information is adapted if the PM served in parliament in between.*
pm_experience_leg_end1	END DATE OF PRIME MINISTER'S SERVICE IN PARLIAMENT AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL (first time) *Annotations: In bicameral systems, this revers to the lower chamber. Information refers to the time before entering office. Latest end date is the date the prime ministerial cabinet entered office. If prime minister serves with interruption, this information is adapted if the PM served in parliament in between.*
pm_experience_leg_start2	START DATE OF PRIME MINISTER'S SERVICE IN PARLIAMENT AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL (second time) *Annotations: In bicameral systems, this revers to the lower chamber. Information refers to the time before entering office. If prime minister serves with interruption, this information is adapted*

	if the PM served in parliament in between.
pm_experience_leg_end2	END DATE OF PRIME MINISTER'S SERVICE IN PARLIAMENT AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL (second time) *Annotations: In bicameral systems, this revers to the lower chamber. Information refers to the time before entering office. Latest end date is the date the prime ministerial cabinet entered office. If prime minister serves with interruption, this information is adapted if the PM served in parliament in between.*
pmc_partyhead_pre	PM SERVED AS HEAD OF HIS PARLIAMENTARY PARTY BEFORE ENTERING OFFICE (0) no (1) yes
pmc_partyhead_during	PM SERVED AS HEAD OF HIS PARLIAMENTARY PARTY WHILE BEING IN OFFICE (0) no (1) yes
pmc_partyhead_start_year	START DATE OF PRIME MINISTER'S SERVICE AS PARTY HEAD
pmc_partyhead_end_year	END DATE OF PRIME MINISTER'S SERVICE AS PARTY HEAD
pmc_partyhead_pre_duration	TOTAL TIME PRIME MINISTER SERVED AS PARTY HEAD PRIOR TO ENTERING OFFICE (in days)
pmc_minister_dummy	PM SERVED AS A MINISTER BEFORE ENTERING OFFICE (0) no (1) yes
pmc_minister_duration	DURATION OF PRIME MINISTER'S OVERALL EXPERIENCE AS MINISTER (in years)
pmc_count	NUMBER OF CABINETS LED BY PRIME MINISTER *Annotations: Variable changes with every cabinet led by the prime minister.*
pmc_interruption_a	PRIME MINISTER CAME BACK IMMEDIATELY AFTER

	LEAVING OFFICE (0) no (1) yes
pmc_interruption_b	PRIME MINISTER CAME BACK AFTER A LONGER PERIOD OUT OF OFFICE (0) no (1) yes
pmc_decade	DECADE OF STARTING DATE OF CABINET (1) before 1st January 2000 (2) after 1st January 2000, before 1st January 2010 (3) after 1st January 2010 before 1st January 2017
pmc_years_since_election	DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PM INVESTITURE AND LAST ELECTION IN YEARS
pmc_post_electoral	POST ELECTORAL CABINETS (0) Replacement cabinet (1) Post electoral cabinet (first cabinet after parliamentary election)

3) Cabinet data

3.1 Institutional powers

pm_power_cabinet	PM POWERS TOWARDS CABINET Coding: # Source: Andrews, Josephine T., and Richard L. Bairett Jr. 2019.
pm_power_legislative	PM POWERS TOWARDS PARLIAMENT Coding: # Source: Andrews, Josephine T., and Richard L. Bairett Jr. 2019.
pm_power_overall	SUM OF PM POWERS TOWARDS CABINET AND PARLIAMENT Coding: # Source: Andrews, Josephine T., and Richard L. Bairett Jr. 2019.
pres_power_ab	PRESIDENTIAL POWER INDEX

Coding: #
Source: Andrews, Josephine T., and Richard L. Bairett Jr. 2019.

prespow1

PRESIDENTIAL POWER 1 RAW SCORE
Coding: #
Source: Doyle, David and Robert Elgie. 2015.

3.2 Parties in cabinet

cab_coalition

COALITION CABINET
(0) No
(1) Yes
Source: Döring, Holger and Philip Manow. 2018.

cab_minority

MINORITY CABINET
(0) No
(1) Yes
Source: Döring, Holger and Philip Manow. 2018.

cab_idrange_expert

IDEOLOGICAL RANGE BETWEEN THE TWO MOST EXTREME CABINET PARTIES
Source: Döring, Holger and Philip Manow. 2018.

pm_party_new

PM PARTY IS NEW
(0) No
(1) Yes
Source: own coding.

3.2 Socio-economic context variables

pmc_gdpchange_y1

FIRST YEAR GDP CHANGE

GDP year-to-year change in the first year of the PM's term in %.

Annotations: Own calculation from GDP data in the database.

Source: World Inequality Database.

pmc_inflation_y1	FIRST YEAR INFLATION Average inflation of consumer prices in the first year of the PMs' term in % Source: World Bank.
pmc_unemp_y1	FIRST YEAR UNEMPLOYMENT Average unemployment as % of total labour force in the first year of the PM’s term Source: International Labour Organization database.