Codebook for the ParlText Slovak Legislative Speech database

This dataset contains information on the speeches held in the Slovak parliament for the time period from 3 November 1994 to 20 September 2023, for 423,952 observations. The source of the data is the database provided to us by Jakub Szabó (see Szabó, Jakub. 2024. Research Note: Parliamentary Speeches from the National Council of the Slovak Republic (1994-2023). Manuscript). The dataset contains the following variables:

speech_id: The unique identifier of the speech. It is composed of the two-digit ISO country code, 'S' for speeches, the date of the speech's presentation in YYYYMMDD format and the running order of the speech within the given parliamentary session. For example, SK_S_20030226_00147 for the Slovak parliamentary speech held on 26 February 2003 as the 147^{th} speech of the given parliamentary session.

link: Link to the database provided to us by Jakub Szabó.

agenda: Agenda item title under which the speech was given. 9999 if there is none, like in the case of pre/post-agenda speeches. NA if the agenda item is unknown. This variable is currently unavailable in this database.

electoral_cycle: The electoral cycle during which the speech was given.

speechnumber: The rank order of the speech within the given session.

speaker: The name of the speaker.

chair: Dummy variable indicating whether the speaker is the parliamentary chair. 1 if the speaker is the chair, 0 if the speaker is not the chair.

date: The date when the speech was held (YYYY-MM-DD).

speech_text: The text of the speech.

bill_ID: The id of the bill(s) discussed. It is composed by the two-digit ISO country code, 'B' for bills, the starting year of electoral cycle in which the bill was introduced, and the official record number under which the bill was introduced. For example, SK_B_2012_00730 for the Slovak bill introduced in the electoral cycle started in 2012 under the official record number 730. If multiple bills are related to the speech, their IDs are separated by a comma; if the speech is not connected to any bills, it is marked with 9999. NA if the agenda item is unknown. This variable is currently unavailable in this database.

major_topic: The policy content of the bills coded based on the methodology of the Comparative Agendas Project (https://comparativeagendas.net/pages/master-codebook). The codes are mutually exclusive, all-encompassing, and all laws are classified into one category. The codes mean the following policy content of the law:

1 – Macroeconomics
2 – Civil rights
3 – Health
4 – Agriculture
5 – Labour
6 – Education
7 – Environment
8 – Energy
9 – Immigration
10 – Transportation
12 – Law and crime
13 – Social welfare
14 – Housing
15 – Domestic commerce
16 – Defence
17 – Technology
18 – Foreign trade
19 – Foreign affairs
20 – Government operations
21 – Public lands
23 – Culture

999 – No policy content