The Electoral Implications of Legislative Candidate Selection Democratization

Jorge Fernandes, Alon Yakter, Yael Shomer, and Gert-Jan Put

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Replication Materials

The empirical analysis in the paper was conducted with RStudio v2025.05.0+496 using R v4.5.0. All codes successfully replicated in June 2025, upon the paper's acceptance for publication.

The observational dataset is provided in recoded form. At the same time, we also include a code detailing the steps used to construct it from various publicly available datasets (V-Party, V-Dem, ParlGov). Of these, the final recoded dataset was constructed using V-Party v2 (February 2022) and V-Dem v15 (March 2025).

Due to respondent privacy and ethical requirements, the survey data files are available only in recoded formats rather than in raw form. Interested parties may contact the authors for further information about the full raw data.

The replication materials include the following files:

Code files

1. ***Fernandes et al 2025 - observational - data preparation.R***: an R code file detailing the steps to create our observational data set for the matched difference-in-differences analysis. The code uses the "vdemdata" package to download the most recent V-party and V-dem data from the web and ParlGov data files included in this package (see below). The paper's data was specifically constructed using V-Party v2 and V-Dem v15 and is attached in its recoded form (see below). Accordingly, this preparation code is not necessary for the replication but shows how to reconstruct our steps.
2. ***Fernandes et al 2025 - observational - main analysis.R***: an R code file detailing the steps for our primary observational (matched difference-in-differences) estimation.
3. ***Fernandes et al 2025 - observational - matching selection.R***: an R code detailing the matching process and method selection used ahead of the primary observational analysis, reported in the supplementary material.
4. ***Fernandes et al 2025 - observational - robustness tests.R***: an R code detailing a series of robustness tests estimated following the primary observational analysis, reported in the supplementary material.
5. ***Fernandes et al 2025 - experimental - main analysis.R***: an R code detailing the steps for our primary experimental conjoint analyses.

6. ***Fernandes et al 2025 - experimental - neutrality tests.R***: an R code detailing the profile and task-order neutrality tests following our experimental analysis, reported in the supplementary material.
7. ***Fernandes et al 2025 - experimental - second conjoint.R***: an R code detailing the steps for a secondary experimental conjoint analysis, reported in the supplementary material.
8. ***Fernandes et al 2025 - survey - recall question.R***: an R code detailing the steps taken to plot the distribution of answers for the selection-method recall question.

Data files

1. ***Party data for analysis.csv***: the primary recoded comma-separated-values data file for the observational matched difference-in-differences analysis.
2. ***partyfacts-parlgov-vparty.csv***: an auxiliary comma-separated-values data file from the ParlGov project used to construct the "Party data for analysis" data file.
3. ***parlgov parties.csv***: an auxiliary comma-separated-values data file from the ParlGov project used to construct the "Party data for analysis" data file.
4. ***France - cjoint 1.csv***: a recoded comma-separated-values data file of the French survey used for the primary conjoint analysis.
5. ***France - cjoint 2.csv***: a recoded comma-separated-values data file of the French survey used for the secondary conjoint analysis.
6. ***France - recall.csv***: a recoded comma-separated-values data file of the French survey used for the recall question plot.
7. ***Israel - cjoint 1.csv***: a recoded comma-separated-values data file of the Israeli survey used for the primary conjoint analysis.
8. ***Israel - cjoint 2.csv***: a recoded comma-separated-values data file of the Israeli survey used for the secondary conjoint analysis.
9. ***Israel - recall.csv***: a recoded comma-separated-values data file of the Israeli survey used for the recall question plot.
10. ***Sweden - cjoint 1.csv***: a recoded comma-separated-values data file of the Swedish survey used for the primary conjoint analysis.
11. ***Sweden - cjoint 2.csv***: a recoded comma-separated-values data file of the Swedish survey used for the secondary conjoint analysis.
12. ***Sweden - recall.csv***: a recoded comma-separated-values data file of the Swedish survey used for the recall question plot.