Codebook
Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe Roll Call Dataset (v1)

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1 Scraping procedure

The Assembly holds four sessions annually and debates about 10 to 15 topics per session. Roll calls may include resolutions, recommendations to the Council of Ministers, or oral and written amendments tabled during the plenary debate. The latter makes up the most significant portion of PACE votes. PACE publishes the detailed voting records of its electronic voting system online on its official website, accessible to the public (see https://assembly.coe.int/nw/xml/Votes/DB-Votes-ListingSession-EN.asp?SessionID=201704).

Using the hyperlinks on the PACE webpage, we webscraped PACE legislators' complete voting records from 2007 to 2021. Each parliamentarian who cast a vote is listed with vote choice, full name, country, and party affiliation. We also gathered information on the title and the assigned committee's name for the draft of each legislative text and linked it with the voting data. In total, our dataset covers 689 legislative proposals and 5,554 roll calls cast by 1,987 individual parliamentarians representing 278 different national parties.

In addition, we scraped the text proposals for amendments along with the names of the tabling signatories. The amendment data has a more limited time frame, starting in 2012 instead of 2007, due to PACE making this information available only from 2012 onwards. Additionally, information on amendments that were either rejected or accepted unanimously, or for which no roll call was conducted, could not be obtained. This scraping process yielded approximately 2,000 amendments.

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2 Datasets

2.1 Roll call votes

1. `MP_ID`: Personal MP identifier
2. `country`: MP home country
3. `MP_name`: MP name
4. `docno`: Document number as assigned by PACE
5. `voteid`: roll call vote identifier
6. `year`: Year
7. `docdate`: Date of the roll call vote
8. `document`: Document type with amendment number
9. `doctype`: Document type (either Resolution, Recommendation, or Amendment)
10. `doctitle`: Document title by PACE
11. `vote`: `1` if MP voted in favor, `0` if MP voted against, `0.5` if MP abstained
12. `committee`: Committee which is responsible for the draft document
13. `national_party`: Name of national party as scraped from the PACE website
14. `role`: Role/title in national parliament as scraped from the PACE website
15. `committee`: Committee which is responsible for the draft document
16. `vparty_coding`: A merged `country_name` and `partyname` variable as scraped from PACE website and harmonized with the `V-Party` data. Created to merge roll call data with `V-Party` data.

2.2 Amendment texts

1. `vote_id`: Individual vote identifier
2. `docid`: Individual document identifier
3. `amendmendid`: Individual amendment identifier
4. `text`: Amendment text