Variable Description

Austerity and Niche Parties: The Electoral Consequences of Fiscal Reform

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Abstract

This document contains a very brief description of the data used for the analysis in Grittersová et al. (2016). Further details can be found in the article.

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The Data

The data is in Stata format (Austerity & Niche Parties Replication Data.dta). The file "Austerity & Niche Parties Replication Data.do" contains the Stata code to run the models presented in the paper (and appendix).

Information on electoral results, parties, and party families was obtained from Döring & Manow (2012). The information on fiscal austerity measures comes from Alesina et al. (2015). The economic data comes from http://stats.oecd.org.

VARIABLES

Variable	**Explanation/Coding**
country	Country name
country_code	Country code
year	Year
edate	Election Date
baseyear	Year (1978=0)
unempl	Unemployment Rate
change_gdp	Δ GDP
gdp_cap	GDP per Capita
yearsoffice	Years in Office
inflation	Inflation
lnvote_s	Left Niche Party Vote Share (Incl. Special Interest Parties)
rnvote_s	Right Niche Party Vote Share (Incl. Special Interest Parties)
lnvote_r	Left Niche Party Vote Share (Niche = Radical)
rnvote_r	Right Niche Party Vote Share (Niche = Radical)
lnvote_sa	Left Niche Party Vote Share (Incl. Special Interest & Agrarian Parties)
rnvote_sa	Right Niche Party Vote Share (Incl. Special Interest & Agrarian Parties)
lnvote_m	Left Niche Party Vote Share (Niche = Not Mainstream Party)
rnvote_m	Right Niche Party Vote Share (Niche = Not Mainstream Party)
nvote_s	Niche Party Vote Share (Incl. Special Interest Parties)
nvote_sa	Niche Party Vote Share (Incl. Special Interest & Agrarian Parties)
nvote_m	Niche Party Vote Share (Niche = Not mainstream party)
nvote_r	Niche Party Vote Share (Niche = Radical party)
leftin1yr	Left Gov't (%Yr)
rightin1yr	Right Gov't (%Yr)
sh1spend	Austerity (Spend: 1 Yr.)
sh2spend	Austerity (Spend: 2 Yr.)
sh1tax	Austerity (Tax: 1 Yr.)
sh2tax	Austerity (Tax: 2 Yr.)
sh1total	Austerity (Total: 1 Yr.)
sh2total	Austerity (Total: 2 Yr.)
l_sh1spend	Austerity by Left Gov't (Spend: 1 Yr.)
nl_sh1spend	Austerity by Other Gov't (Spend: 1 Yr.)
r_sh1spend	Austerity by Right Gov't (Spend: 1 Yr.)
nr_sh1spend	Austerity by Other Gov't (Spend: 1 Yr.)
l_sh1tax	Austerity by Left Gov't (Tax: 1 Yr.)
nl_sh1tax	Austerity by Other Gov't (Tax: 1 Yr.)
r_sh1tax	Austerity by Right Gov't (Tax: 1 Yr.)
nr_sh1tax	Austerity by Other Gov't (Tax: 1 Yr.)
l_sh1total	Austerity by Left Gov't (Total: 1 Yr.)
nl_sh1total	Austerity by Other Gov't (Total: 1 Yr.)
r_sh1total	Austerity by Right Gov't (Total: 1 Yr.)
nr_sh1total	Austerity by Other Gov't (Total: 1 Yr.)
d_gcrs	Niche Party in Gov't
d_gcrsa	Niche Party in Gov't (Incl. Agrarian Parties)

References

Alesina, A., Barbiero, O., Favero, C., Giavazzi, F., & Paradisi, M. (2015). Austerity in 2009-2013. Technical Report 18423, National Bureau of Economic Research.

Döring, H. & Manow, P. (2012). Parliament and government composition database (parlgov): An infrastructure for empirical information on parties, elections and governments in modern democracies. Version 12/10, 15 October.

Grittersová, J., Indridason, I. H., Gregory, C. C., & Crespo, R. (2016). Austerity and niche parties: The electoral consequences of fiscal reforms. *Electoral Studies*, *42*, 276–289.