# The Legislative Agenda in 13 African Countries: A Comprehensive Database

## Codebook

| | Variable name | Source label | Source |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Issue attention** | Topic1-Topic23 | | Own coding |
| **Legislative agenda** | | | |
| Source: Law or bill | Laws | | Own coding |
| Size | Bills | | Own coding |
| Diversity | Shannon_h | | Own coding |
| Stability | Volatility | | Own coding |
| **Democratic development** | | | |
| | v2x_polyarchy | v2x_polyarchy | V-Dem |
| | lib_dem | lib_dem | V-Dem |
| Free and fair elections | free_elec | free_elec | V-Dem |
| Freedom of expression | free_expr | free_expr | V-Dem |
| Freedom of association | free_assoc | free_assoc | V-Dem |
| **Executive constraints** | | | |
| Judicial constraints on executive index | v2x_jucon | v2x_jucon | V-Dem |
| Legislative constraints on executive index | v2xlg_legcon | v2xlg_legcon | V-Dem |
| Opposition party autonomy | v2psoppaut | v2psoppaut | V-Dem |
| Executive oversight | v2lgotovst | v2lgotovst | V-Dem |
| Legislature can introduce bills | v2lgintblo | v2lgintblo | V-Dem |
| Government seat share | v2paseatshare | v2paseatshare | V-Dem |
| **Legislature resources** | | | |
| Legislature controls resources | v2lgfunds | v2lgfunds | V-Dem |
| Lower chamber committees | v2lgcomslo | v2lgcomslo | V-Dem |
| Lower chamber staff | v2lgstafflo | v2lgstafflo | V-Dem |
| Number of cabinet ministers | wgov_min | wgov_min | Nyrup & Bramwell (2020) |
| **Contentious legislation** | | | |
| Public saliency of issue | prob_legis | prob_legis | Afrobarometer |
| **Institutions** | | | |
| Seat in lower chamber | v2elloseat | v2elloseat | V-Dem |
| Political system: | v2eltype | v2eltype | V-Dem |
| Presidential | | | |
| Mixed | | | |
| Parliamentarian | | | |
| Unicameral or bicameral | v2lgbicam | v2lgbicam | V-Dem |
| Election years | | | V-Dem |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Electoral system in lower chamber:<br>Proportional<br>Mixed<br>Majoritarian | v2elparlel | v2elparlel | V-Dem |
| **Social characteristics** | | | |
| Population | wdi_pop | wdi_pop | World Bank |
| GDP growth | wdi_gdpgr | wdi_gdpgr | World Bank |
| Life expectancy | wdi_lifexp | wdi_lifexp | World Bank |

Note: Source of V-Dem data: Coppedge et al. 2021. "Topic1-Topic23" reports the percentage attention to each of the major categories in the comparative agendas codebook (https://www.comparativeagendas.net/pages/master-codebook).