PARTICIPATION IN BOYCOTTS - General Target Variable Report (GVR)

1. General Information

The target variable T_BOYCOTT measures respondents' reported boycott acts in the past (i.e., reported fact) and willingness to join boycotts in the future (i.e., reported potential). The measure is nominal (see Table 1.1). It takes the value 1 whenever respondents report that they did not join a boycott in the past (in the 'yes/no' question). It takes the value 2 when respondents indicate unwillingness to join a boycott in the future (in the 'yes/would/would not' question). It takes the value 3 when respondents state their willingness to join a boycott in the future (in the 'yes/would/would not' question). Whenever respondents confirm that they joined a boycott in the past, T_BOYCOTT takes the values 4 (in the 'yes/would/would not' question) and 5 (in the 'yes/no' question).

The target variable T_BOYCOTT is accompanied by two harmonization control variables (see Table 1.1 and Section 3.3) specifying: (a) the time span for joining boycotts (C_BOYCOTT_YEARS) and (b) if the source question wording explicitly mentions 'boycotted certain products' (C_BOYCOTT_PRODUCTS).

The target variable report for T_BOYCOTT is accompanied by the following Excel documents:

- The Detailed Variable Report (DVR) T_BOYCOTT _DVR_SDR2.xlsx. DVR Excel files in SDR2 systemize all information about source variables that were used for harmonization into a given target variable of the SDR2 database;
- A Crosswalk Table (CWT): T_BOYCOTT _CWT_SDR2.xlsx. CWT Excel files in SDR2 contain details about mapping of source values to target values.

Table 1.1. PARTICIPATION IN BOYCOTTS: Description of the target, source, and control variables

	Variable description	**Variable name**	**Variable values***
Target variable	Participation in boycotts and willingness to join boycotts	T_BOYCOTT	1 = No (question type: yes/no) 2 = Would not (question type: yes/would/would not) 3 = Would (question type: yes/would/would not) 4 = Yes (question type: yes/would/would not) 5 = Yes (question type: yes/no)
Source variables			See: T_BOYCOTT_DVR_SDR2.xlsx

			T_BOYCOTT_CWT_SDR2.xlsx
Control variables	Participation in boycotts: time frame	C_BOYCOTT_YEARS	1 = Last year 5 = Last 5 years 10 = Last 10 years 11 = Ever
	Source wording includes 'certain products' vs boycotting in general	C_BOYCOTT_PRODUCTS	1 = Boycotting specific products 0 = No products specified

* Missing values are assigned according to the SDR2 missing codes schema, provided in the Appendix.

2. Survey Projects

Source variables that we used for T_BOYCOTT appear in 8 international survey projects: EB, ESS, EVS, ISJP, ISSP, PA1, PA2, WVS, 26 waves and 669 national surveys. The data cover 102 countries and years from 1973 to 2017.

3. General Rules and Procedures

3.1. Source data description

To construct the target variable T_BOYCOTT, we use two types of source variables on joining in boycotts: first, on the past behavior (i.e., reported fact), which we label as the yes/no question type, and second, on the past behavior and future intent (i.e., reported potential), which we label as the yes/would/would question type. We mainly rely on the English language questionnaires and codebooks describing the source survey data.

A typical question about participation in boycotts is: *During the last 12 months, have you done any of the following? … Joining in boycotts* (EVS). Some source surveys include measures that combine retrospective information with information about respondents' prospective behavior (i.e., questions about joining boycott have *yes/would/would not* answer format). Often, but not always, *yes/would/would not* question type asks first whether respondents joined a boycott in the past, and, if not, whether they would be willing to join a boycott in the future.

3.2. Rules of transformation of source variables into target variable

For ex-post harmonization, we select source variables that refer to respondents' participation in boycott in the past (i.e., reported fact) or willingness to take part in boycott in the future (i.e.,

reported potential). Categories denoting a fact of joining a boycott and categories denoting willingness to do so in the future are mutually exclusive (i.e., a respondent cannot choose both *yes, I have* and *I would* at the same time). We do not harmonize variables on approval for joining boycotts or evaluating the effectiveness of such actions.

If respondents did not participate in boycott in the past (source questions about actual participation in boycott, which we label 'yes/no' question type) we assign the value 1; if respondents would not participate in boycott in the future (source questions that combine information about past activity and information about willingness to participate in boycott in the future, which we label 'yes/would/would not' question type) we assign the value 2; if respondents would participate in boycott in the future ('yes/would/would not' question type) we assign the value 3; if respondents report that they joined boycott in the past while answer options included also potential behavior ('yes/would/would not' question type) we assign the value 4; if respondents reported participation in the boycott in the past "yes, did participate in boycott in the past" ('yes/no' question type) we assign value 5 (see Section 1 and Table 1.1).

Missing values and different situations that warrant to be treated as missing data are coded according to the SDR2 missing codes schema. The schema is provided in Table A.1 in the Appendix.

3.3. Methodological variables that accompany T_BOYCOTT

The target variable `T_BOYCOTT` is accompanied by two harmonization control variables (see Table 1.1).

`C_BOYCOTT_YEARS` specifies the time span for joining in boycotts. It takes the value 1 when the source question asked about participation in boycotts in the last year (e.g., ESS/1-8). It takes the value 5 when the question was about joining boycotts in the last 5 years (e.g., WVS/5). It takes the value 10 when the respondents were asked if they joined in boycotts in the last 10 years (e.g., EB/31). It takes the value 11 when respondents were asked if they EVER participated in boycotts (e.g., EVS/1-4). Note that no source questions in the datasets we downloaded for harmonization ask about participating in boycotts in other time spans than the last year, five years, ten years or ever.

The majority of source variables that we harmonized into `T_BOYCOTT` include the time span in the question wording and thus, the harmonization control `C_BOYCOTT_YEARS` is measured at the level of national surveys. However, in ISSP 2004 and 2014, the time span appears as a response option, not in the question wording: *Not done, never do; Not done, might do; In more distant past done; In the past year done*. Although this is a special case, we take it and code as

illustrated in Table 3.3.1, on the individual level (see T_BOYCOTT_CWT_SDR2.xlsx for more details). Thus, C_BOYCOTT_YEARS cannot be used directly as a filtering variable for the "last year" or "ever" time spans. It requires additional recodes, depending if a user would like to select only joined boycotts "last year" or is interested in having "ever" joined a boycott.

Table 3.3.1. Example of coding C_BOYCOTT_YEARS in special cases when time span is coded at the individual level; more in T_BOYCOTT_CWT_SDR2.xlsx.

C_BOYCOTT_YEARS: Control variable labels	**Control values**	**Source values**	**Source labels**	**Target values**	**T_BOYCOTT SDR target labels**
ISSP/2014					
CINAP*	-11 (.k)	9	NA	-2 (.b)	NA*
CINAP*	-11 (.k)	8	DK	-1 (.a)	DK*
„ever"	11	4	Not done, never do	2	Would not (qt: yes/would/would not)
„ever"	11	3	Not done, might do	3	Would (qt: yes/would/would not)
„ever"	11	2	In more distant past done	4	Yes (qt: yes/would/would not)
"last year"	1	1	In the past year done	4	Yes (qt: yes/would/would not)

* Missing values are assigned according to the SDR2 missing codes schema, provided in the Appendix.

C_BOYCOTT_PRODUCTS indicates when the source wording mentions 'boycotted certain products.' It takes the value 1 if the respondents were asked about boycotting certain products (e.g., ESS/1-8). Otherwise, it takes the value 0 (e.g., EVS/1-4).

4. Special Cases

- In ISSP/2004 and ISSP/2014 the question asks whether respondents "*Boycotted, or deliberately bought, certain products for political, ethical or environmental reasons*". We code C_BOYCOTT_PRODUCTS = 1, although the question includes both a refusal to buy certain goods and a deliberate buying as an expression of a support of certain goods.
- ISSP/2004 and 2014 contained two answer options: "Have done it in the past year" and "Have done it in the more distant past". We took both options into T_BOYCOTT and created the control variable concerning time frame for past participation C_BOYCOTT_YEARS = 1 and C_BOYCOTT_YEARS = 11 at the individual level (but not survey wave or national survey level). See also Section 3.3.
- WVS waves 5 and 6 contain a set of two variables on boycotts:

  First, both WVS 5 and 6 waves (like all other WVS waves) provide a general question about joining in boycotts in the past or willingness to join in boycotts in the future (without specifying a time frame, which we treat as **ever** C_BOYCOTT_YEARS = 11) variable E026:

"*Whether you have done any of these things, whether you might do it or would never under any circumstances do it (…): Joining in boycotts*".

Second, variable E026B in WVS wave 5 records if a respondent participated in boycotts during the last year (for Hong Kong only) or during the **last five years** (for all other countries in WVS/5). In WVS wave 6 it records how often during **the last year a** respondent participated in boycotts. We code `C_BOYCOTT_YEARS` = 5 and 1, accordingly.

We take both variables E026 and E026B to construct the target variable and its accompanying control variables.

Appendix: Codes for missing values in SDR2

In the SDR database v.2 we identify different situations that warrant to be treated as missing data. Table A.1 lists all SDR2 missing value codes:

Table A.1. Codes for missing values in SDR2

SDR tag[a] [a]	SPSS (STATA) codes	Label
		Standardized source codes for missing values
DK	-1 (.a)	Don't know
NA	-2 (.b)	No answer
REF	-3 (.c)	Refusal
DU	-4 (.d)	Don't understand the question
DNR	-5 (.e)	Any combination of DK, NA, REF, DU
INAP	-6 (.f)	Inapplicable
NEC	-7 (.g)	Not elsewhere classified
		SDR created codes for missing values
UNFIT	-8 (.h)	Source value does not fit to target
ERR	-9 (.i)	Errors in source data and undocumented source values
COMBI	-10 (.j)	Different missing codes on multiple sources taken for a target
CINAP	-11 (.k)	For control variables only: inapplicable
INSUF	-12 (.l)	For survey: Insufficiently defined response categories
QNA	-20 (.t)	For survey: Question not available

[a] Abbreviations for the labels corresponding to the SDR2 codes for missing values. These tags are used in the Crosswalk Table (CWT) files (Excel) that accompany documentation of SDR2 target variables.

In exceptional situations when codes for missing data listed in Table A.1 cannot be used, we apply a system missing <null> value.