Regional Party System Dataset (RPSD)
Codebook

Version 2024

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The datasets contain variables that have been collected by other researchers or institutions. All those are referenced. We would like to remind you that appropriate citation refers to the real creators of those data even if they have been used based on our dataset!

Access: via the BJPS Harvard Dataverse (link https://dataverse.harvard.edu/dataverse/mld/)

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Feedback: We are very grateful for any constructive comments or suggestions for improvement. Please provide feedback via the **GitHub repository.** (link https://github.com/leonce-collab/Multi-level-Data)

Explore: Visit our dashboard to explore the data within interactive maps: **http://multi-level-cross-level-politics.eu/**.

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Country extensions in the future: Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Czech Republic, Ecuador, Finland, Ireland, Japan, Netherlands, Panama, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Venezuela (N = 15).

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1. Conceptual information

Definition of a region: The definition of a region is closely related to the definition within the dataset of the Regional Authority Index (Hooghe et al. 2016). A region is defined as a jurisdiction between the country government and local government. We do not apply the population criterion used by Hooghe et al. (2016), but define a region as the second jurisdictional tier below the country level (compare the coverage table in the Appendix as well as the codebooks).

Temporal specification: We one temporal configurations of the dataset. In its standard configuration, the dataset is based on yearly periods. Other temporal specifications, like cabinet or electoral periodization can be generated based on the yearly data.

Unit of analysis in the RPSD: The RPSD contains **regional-level data**, including regional government positions, features of the party-system, regional cabinet information, regional socio-demographic variables, and ID based links to other datasets.

2. Coverage

Table 1: Coverage of the RPSD

Country	ID	Regions (region ID)	Electoral period
Australia	2	Australian Capital Territory (201), New South Wales (202), Northern Territory (203), Queensland (204), South Australia (205), Tasmania (206), Victoria (207), Western Australia (208)	1941-2013
Austria	1	Burgenland (101), Kärnten (102), Niederösterreich (103), Oberösterreich (104), Salzburg (105), Steiermark (106), Tirol (107), Vorarlberg (108), Wien (109)	1945-2018
Belgium	3	Bruxelles-Capitale (301), Vlaanderen (302), Wallonie (303)	1995-2014
Canada	4	Alberta (401), British Columbia (402), Manitoba (403), New Brunswick (404), New Foundland and Labrador (405), Nova Scotia (406), Ontario (407), Prince Edward Islands (408), Quebec (409), Saskatchewan (410), Yukon (411)	1943-2015
Denmark	5	Arhus (501), Bornholms (502), Faroe Islands (503), Frederiksberg Municipality (504), Frederiksborg (505), Fyns (506), Gronland (507), Hovedstaden (508), Kobenhavn Municipality (509), Kobenhavns (510), Midtjylland (511), Nordjylland (512), Nordjyllands (513), Ribe (514), Ringkobing (515), Roskilde (516), Sjælland (517), Sonderjyllands (518), Storstroms (519), Syddanmark (520), Vejle (521), Vestjaellands (522), Viborg (523)	1966-2009
France	17	Alsace (1701), Alsace-Champagne-Ardenne-Lorraine (1702), Aquitaine (1703), Aquitaine-Limousin-Poitou-Charentes (1704), Auvergne (1705), Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes (1706), Basse-Normandie (1707), Bourgogne (1708), Bourgogne-Franche-Comté (1709), Bretagne (1710), Centre (1711), Centre-Val de Loire (1712), Champagne-Ardenne (1713), Corse (1714), Franche-Comté (1715), Haute-Normandie (1716), Languedoc-Roussillon (1717), Languedoc-Roussillon-Midi-Pyrénées (1718), Limousin (1719), Lorraine (1720), Midi-Pyrénées (1721), Nord-Pas-de-Calais (1722), Nord-Pas-de-Calais-Picardie (1723), Normandie (1724), Pays de la Loire (1725), Picardie (1726), Poitou-Charentes (1727), Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur (1728), Rhône-Alpes (1729), Île-de-France (1730)	1986-2015
Germany	8	Baden-Württemberg (801), Bayern (802), Berlin (803), Brandenburg (804), Bremen (805), Hamburg (806), Hessen (807), Mecklenburg-Vorpommern (808), Niedersachsen (809), Nordrhein-Westfalen (810), Rheinland-Pfalz (811), Saarland (812), Sachsen (813), Sachsen-Anhalt (814), Schleswig-Holstein (815), Thüringen (816)	1946-2017
Italy	10	Abruzzo (1001), AltoAdige (1002), Basilicata (1003), Calabria (1004), Campania (1005), Emilia-Romagna (1006), Friuli-Venezia Giulia (1007), Lazio (1008), Liguria (1009), Lombardi (1010), Marche (1011), Molise (1012), Piemonte (1013), Puglia (1014), Sardegna (1015), Sicilia (1016), Tosca. (1017), Trentino (1018), Umbria (1019), Valled D'Aosta (1020), Veneto (1021)	1947-2019
Japan	7	Aichi (701), Akita (702), Aomori (703), Chiba (704), Ehime (705), Fukui (706), Fukuoka (707), Fukushima (708), Gifu (709), Gunma (710), Hiroshima (711), Hokkaido (712), Hyougo (713), Ibaraki (714), Ishikawa (715), Iwate (716), Kagawa (717), Kagoshima (718), Kanagawa (719), Kouchi (720), Kumamoto (721), Kyoto (722), Mie (723), Miyagi (724), Miyazaki (725), Nagano (726), Nagasaki (727), Nara (728), Niigata (729), Ohita (730), Okayama (731), Okinawa (732), Osaka (733), Saga (734), Saitama (735), Shiga (736), Shimane (737), Shizuoka (738), Tochigii (739), Tokushima (740), Tokyo (741), Tottori (742), Toyama (743), Wakayama (744), Yamagata (745), Yamaguchi (746), Yamanashi (747)	1990-2019
Norway	13	Akershus (1301), Aust-Agder (1302), Buskerud (1303), Finnmark (1304), Hedmark (1305), Hordaland (1306), Møre og Romsdal (1307), Nord-Trøndelag (1308), Nordland (1309), Oppland (1310), Oslo (1311), Ostfold (1312), Rogaland (1313), Sogn og Fjordane (1314), Sør-Trøndelag (1315), Telemark (1316), Troms (1317), Vest-Agder (1318), Vestfold (1319)	1975-2015
Spain	14	Andalucia (1401), Aragon (1402), Asturias (1403), Baleares (1404), Canarias (1405), Cantabria (1406), Castilla y Leon (1407), Castilla-La Mancha (1408), Cataluna (1409), Ceuta (1410), Extremadura (1411), Galicia (1412), La Rioja (1413), Madrid (1414), Melilla (1415), Murcia (1416), Navarra (1417), Pais Vasco (1418), Valencia (1419)	1979-2019
Sweden	15	Blekinge (1501), Bohus (1502), Dalarna (1503), Gotlands (1504), Gävleborg (1505), Göteborgs (1506), Halland (1507), Jämtland (1508), Jönköping (1509), Kalmar (1510), Kristianstad (1511), Kronoberg (1512), Malmö (1513), Malmöhus (1514), Norrbotten (1515), Skaraborg (1516), Skåne (1517), Stockholm (1518), Södermanland (1519), Uppsala (1520), Värmland (1521), Västerbotten (1522), Västernorrland (1523), Västmanland (1524), Västra (1525), Älvsborg (1526), Örebro (1527), Östergötland (1528)	1942-2014
Switzerland	16	Aargau (1601), Appenzell Außer-Rhoden (1602), Appenzell Inner-Rhoden (1603), Basel Land (1604), Basel Stadt (1605), Bern (1606), Freiburg-Fribourg (1607), Genève (1608), Glarus (1609), Graubünden-Grigioni (1610), Jura (1611), Luzern (1612), Neuchâtel (1613), Nidwalden (1614), Obwalden (1615), Schaffausen (1616), Schwyz (1617), Solothurn (1618), St.Gallen (1619), Thurgau (1620), Ticino (1621), Uri (1622), Vaud (1623), Wallis-Valais (1624), Zug (1625), Zürich (1626)	1980-2010
United Kingdom	18	London (1801), Northern Ireland (1802), Scotland (1803), Wales (1804)	1945-2012
USA	6	Alabama (601), Alaska (604), Arizona (603), Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New, Hampshire, New, Jersey, New, Mexico, New, York, North, Carolina, North, Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode, Island, South, Carolina, South, Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West, Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming	1990-2019
15 countries		**314 regions**	**1941-2019**

3. Variables

Table 2: Variables of the RPSD

Variable	Name	Description	Data format (for numbers we report min-max)
		Temporal and geographical identification	
year	Year of observation	Calendar year of the observation	YYYY
country	Country name	Name of the country in English	string
country_id	Country ID	Unique identification of country within the project	**1-18**
region	Region name	Name of the region (different languages; accent formats). It can differ from the RD|SED data; use region_id for merges	string
region_id	Region ID	Unique identification number of the region composed by the 'country_id' at the beginning and a two-digit code for each region, unique and mergeable with aggregations to the RD|SED data	country_id + two-digit code
		Regional cabinet data	
cab_name_reg	Regional cabinet name	Surname of head of cabinet (first letter capitalized). If two or more head of cabinets in the data set have the same surname, the first letter (capitalized) of the cabinet leaders' first name is indicated in addition. If this does not suffice to discriminate among the cabinet leaders, the full first name (first letter capitalized) is indicated. Moreover, roman letters indicate the tenure for every cabinet leader with more than one tenure. We code the dominant regional cabinet in terms of most days in government in the calendar years.	string (+ first letter of first name or full first name) (+ roman digit)
reg_cab_nr	Cabinet government number	Count number of the regional cabinet government, within the coverage of the dataset	number
reg_elec_year	Regional electoral year	Year of the regional election. A 'b' is added at the end if this was the second election in the region that year.	YYYY (+b)
reg_elec_date	Regional electoral date	Date of regional election	YYYY-MM-DD
reg_gov_st_year	Regional government start year	Calendar year of regional cabinet government start in the panel data structure	YYYY
reg_gov_start	Regional government start date	Start date of the regional cabinet government [many missing dates]	YYYY-MM-DD
nr_parties_gov	Number of parties in regional cabinet	Number of parties in regional cabinet calculated on the basis of the RED dataset	number (1-10)
cog_rile_vote	Center of Gravity - Left-Right (vote)	Ideological position of the mean voter measured as the weighted left-right party position, weights based on regional vote shares	number (0-1)
cog_rile_seat	Center of Gravity - Left-Right (seat)	Ideological position of the mean voter measured as the weighted left-right party position, weights based on regional seat shares	number (0-1)
cog_market_vote	Center of Gravity - Market liberalism (vote)	Ideological position of the mean voter measured as the weighted mean market-liberalism party position, weights based on regional vote shares	number (0-1)
cog_market_seat	Center of Gravity - Market liberalism (seat)	Ideological position of the mean voter measured as the weighted mean market-liberalism party position, weights based on regional seat shares	number (0-1)
cog_cultural_vote	Center of Gravity - Cultural dimension (vote)	Ideological position of the mean voter measured as the weighted cultural party position, weights based on regional vote shares	number (0-1)
cog_cultural_seat	Center of Gravity - Cultural dimension (seat)	Ideological position of the mean voter measured as the weighted mean cultural party position, weights based on regional seat shares	number (0-1)
reg_gov_rile	Regional government - Left-Right position	Regional government's left-right position based on rilestand_imp and weighted by cabinet parties seat share within cabinet	number (0-1)
reg_gov_market	Regional government - Market-Liberalism position	Regional government's market-liberalism position based on market_state_imp and weighted by cabinet parties seat share within cabinet	number (0-1)
reg_gov_cultural	Regional government - Cultural dimension position	Regional government's cultural position based on cultural.dim_imp and weighted by cabinet parties seat share within cabinet	number (0-1)
gov_seats	Percentage of government seats	Percentage of regional election seats hold by the government of all regional parliamentary seats	percentage (0-100)

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Variable	Name	Description	Data format (for numbers we report min-max)
		Country cabinet data	
cab_name_state	Country cabinet name	Surname of head of cabinet (first letter capitalized). If two or more head of cabinets in the data set have the same surname, the first letter (capitalized) of the cabinet leaders' first name is indicated in addition. If this does not suffice to discriminate among the cabinet leaders, the full first name (first letter capitalized) is indicated. Moreover, roman letters indicate the tenure for every cabinet leader with more than one tenure. We code the dominant regional cabinet in terms of most days in government in the calendar years.	string (+ first letter of first name or full first name) (+ roman digit)
state_cab_nr	Cabinet government number	Count number of the regional cabinet government, within the coverage of the dataset	number (1-66)
state_parl_year	National electoral year	Year of the country election. A 'b' is added at the end if this was the second election in the region that year	YYYY (+b) (1948-2019)
state_parl_date	Country electoral date	Date of country election	YYYY-MM-DD
state_gov_start	Country government start year	Calendar year of country cabinet government start in the panel data structure	YYYY
state_gov_rile	Country government Left-Right position	Regional government Left-Right position based on rile positions and weighted by cabinet parties seat share within cabinet	number (0.08-0.75)
state_gov_market	Country government Market-Liberalism position	Regional government Market-Liberalism position based on state-market position and weighted by cabinet parties seat share within cabinet	number (0.11-0.88)
state_gov_cult	Country government Cultural dimension position	Regional government Cultural dimension position based on cultural position and weighted by cabinet parties seat share within cabinet	number (0.10-0.80)
rile_proximity	Ideological proximity (overall left-right)	Ideological proximity is the ideological distance between the regional government and the country government. Government ideology on both levels include coalition governments. Parties in coalitions are weighted by cabinet seat shares	number (0.70-1)
market_proximity	Ideological proximity (state-market dimension)	Ideological proximity is the ideological distance between the regional government and the country government. Government ideology on both levels include coalition governments. Parties in coalitions are weighted by cabinet seat shares	number (0.53-1)
culture_proximity	Ideological proximity (cultural dimension)	Ideological proximity is the ideological distance between the regional government and the country government. Government ideology on both levels include coalition governments. Parties in coalitions are weighted by cabinet seat shares	number (0.41-1)
		Regional institutions	
electoral_system	Proportionality of regional party system	Proportional (1), mixed member (0.5), first-past-the-post (0)	number (0-1)
seats_assembly	Number of seats in regional assembly	Number of seats in regional assembly	number (16-241)
districts	Number of districts in region	Number of districts in region	number (1-152)
district_magnitude	Regional district magnitude	Regional district magnitude	number (0.85-129)
coverage	Coverage of electoral data	Coverage of electoral data by percentage of votes	number (0-100)
selfrule	Degree of self-rule	Taken from the regional authority index (Hooghe et al. 2016, 2020). Note, regional identifiers allow to merge additional RAI data with this data-set (use variable rai_id and year for merging).	number (0-18)
sharedrule	Degree of shared rule	Taken from the regional authority index (Hooghe et al. 2016, 2020). Note, regional identifiers allow to merge additional RAI data with this data-set (use variable rai_id and year for merging).	number (0-12)
rai_id	Region of regional authority index	This is the regional id of the regional authority index. Note, this id can change within a region over time. The reason is, that RAI aggregate id over regions with similar scores but over time this can change and accordingly, the ids change too.	four-digit code

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Variable	Name	Description	Data format (for numbers we report min-max)
		Regional party system characteristics	
enp_reg_seat	Effective number of regional parties (seat based)	Effective number of regional parties (seat based), calculated with the formulae of Golosov (2010)	number (1-9)
enp_reg_vote	Effective number of regional parties (vote based)	Effective number of regional parties (vote based), calculated with the formulae of Golosov (2010)	number (1-11)
enp_nat	Effective number of parties at the country level	Effective number of parties at the country level (parliamentary seats), taken from Döring and Manow (2019)	number (1-8)
regpol	Regional party system polarization	The maximum distance between two parties running for any regional or country election on the general left-right scale following Matakos et al. (2016)	number (0-1)
rokkan_region	Regions with a distinct cultural difference	Operationalization of Stein Rokkan's concepts of difference, dependence, and distance as indications of a territory's peripherality following Hooghe and Marks (2016) and Shair-Rosefield et al. (2021)	number (0-4)
mountain_region	Mountainous and populated region	Mountainous regions close to the classification of Eurostat (2018): 0 = majority of population lives in non-mountainous regions. 1 = regions with more than 50% of their population living in mountain areas; 2 = regions with more than 50% of their surface covered by mountain areas, and with more than 50% of their population living in mountain areas. The original classification is on the NUTS-3 Level and we adapted it to our territorial units of interest. Estimates for regions outside the EU are based on data of ARCGIS (2016) and population density data.	number (0-2)
		Socio-demographics and economic factors	
pop	Regional population	OECD (2016), compare Garritzmann et al. (2022)	13,504- 52,400,000
perc14	Percentage of population <15	OECD (2016), compare Garritzmann et al. (2022)	percentage (15-51)
pop65	Regional population >=65 in percent	OECD (2016), compare Garritzmann et al. (2022)	number (1083-8482251)
density	Population density	OECD (2016), compare Garritzmann et al. (2022)	number (0-6902)
const_gdppc	Regional GDP per capita in int. $ (in 1000)	OECD (2016), compare Garritzmann et al. (2022)	number (9603-96760)
gdp	Regional gross domestic product in international $	OECD (2016), compare Garritzmann et al. (2022)	number (372-99900000)
curr_gdppc	GDP per capita	OECD (2016), compare Garritzmann et al. (2022)	number (7272-7938310)
gdp_growth	Growth rate of regional GDP	OECD (2016), compare Garritzmann et al. (2022)	number (-22-41)
unemp	Rate of regional unemployment	OECD (2016), compare Garritzmann et al. (2022)	number (0-34)

4. Regional Level Governments Database

Here we provide information on our government conceptualization with a short description of regional governments. In the easiest case, regional governments reign without any powerful checks and balances and we can perceive them as the primary and sole locus of power. However, in some countries, regional political systems resemble presidential systems and the concept of divided governments is of importance. Government ideology measures are constructed by using the relative seat share of regional cabinet parties as a weight for their ideological position on the state-market dimension (Röth et al. 2018; Röth 2018). We additionally use alternative ideology scales such as the RILE (Laver and Budge 1992) or a country-specific procedure developed by Franzmann and Kaiser (2006).

Our sources of party position are threefold. First, we use state-wide party positions for the same regional parties and merge them by the nearest temporal match. Second, we impute average party family positions, when regional parties exist but the state-wide party branch is not available. Finally, we hand code parties that only exist on the regional level, such as regionalist parties. Here we use ideology labels such as socialist or social democrats. We assign typical values for these party family labels based on the average positions on the entire population of available positions in the same decade. In some regions, alternative sources are available that are based on regional manifestos. We use those sources for validation purposes but do not use them in the data set for two reasons. First, the positions would be not comparable across regions in time and countries because of the limited coverage. Second, the aggregation and scaling methods for regional manifesto data differ from the state-wide approaches and induce a second type of bias. For example, differences across levels could solely be based on the different scaling procedures but might not reflect substantial differences. On the other hand, our procedure ignores regional differences of the same party across regions and time that regional manifestos might entail. For multi-level analysis, we prefer the second bias over the first because we think we increase comparability and coverage in comparison to the alternative approach. However, cross-links to regional manifesto and country-wide manifesto data are provided and allow all types of choices preferred by users. We provide a detailed validation of party positions in the codebook of the RED data Set.

To generate multi-level alignment scores between the regional and national government, we compare the regional cabinet that covers the longest period during the calendar year with the country government of the same time period.

Table 3: Regional Level Government Information

Australia **States and Self-Governing Territories, n=7**	**NUTS**	**Head of Executive**	**Executive**	**Elected Legislative Body**	**Ideology**	**Period**
Australian Capital Territory, New South Wales, Northern Territory, Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania, Victoria, Western Australia	-	Formally the Governor is head of the executive and governors are appointed by the Queen (only in the States). However, in practice, they only act on the advice of State Premiers and Chief Ministers (in the case of the Australian Capital Territory). Premiers are appointed by governors if they command a simple majority of the votes in the State legislature. The Chief Minister is appointed by the administrator.	Executive Council	Legislative Assembly or House of Assembly as well as a Legislative Council (Upper House). Unicameral exceptions: Australian Capital Territory, Northern Territory, Queensland. Legislative Assemblies of ACT and Northern Territory lack the full power of a state legislature. For example, legislation passed by the Assembly can still be overridden by Australian Commonwealth legislation under the Territories Self-Government Legislation Amendment (Disallowance and Amendment of Laws) Act 2011 (see also section 'reforms').	Manifesto Project (closest temporal match; Volkens et al. (2019)).	1990-2010
Austria						
States (Bundesländer), n=9	**NUTS**	**Head of Executive**	**Executive**	**Elected Legislative Body**	**Ideology**	**Period**
Vienna, Lower Austria, Upper Austria, Styria, Tyrol, Carinthia, Salzburg, Vorarlberg, Burgenland	NUTS-2	Governor (Landeshauptmann, Landeshauptfrau). Appointed by the State Council (Landtag).	State Government (Landesregierung)	State Council (Landtag)	Manifesto Project (closest temporal match; Volkens et al. (2019)).	1990-2010
Belgium						
Communities, n=3 **Regions, n = 3**	**NUTS**	**Head of Executive**	**Executive**	**Elected Legislative Body**	**Ideology**	**Period**
Communities: Flemish Community, French Community, German-Speaking Community **Regions:** Bruxelles-Capitale, Vlaanderen, Wallonie	German-Speaking Community: NUTS-3, others not classified. Regions: NUTS-2	The Governor is Appointed by a majority of the Community Parliament.	Government	Parliament (Flemish-speaking parliamentarians from the Flemish regional parliament as well as from Brussels are automatically part of the parliament of the Flemish Language Community. The same holds for French-speaking representatives of the Walloon regional parliament.	Manifesto Project (closest temporal match; Volkens et al. (2019)).	1990-2010
Canada **Provinces, n=10**						
Territories, n=3	**NUTS**	**Head of Executive**	**Executive**	**Elected Legislative Body**	**Ideology**	**Period**
Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Manitoba, British Columbia, Prince Edward Island, Saskatchewan, Alberta, Newfoundland and Labrador, Northwest Territories, Yukon, Nunavut	-	Premier, is usually the head of the party with the most seats in the Legislative Assembly. The Lieutenant Governor or the Commissioner is the representative of the Federal Government without considerable powers.	Government	Legislative Assembly, House of Assembly (in Nova Scotia and Newfoundland and Labrador), National Assembly (in Quebec)	Manifesto Project (closest temporal match; Volkens et al. (2019)).	1990-2010

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Denmark **Regions, n=5 plus Greenland and Faroer Islands** **Counties (Amter) until 2006, n=16**	**NUTS**	**Head of Executive**	**Executive**	**Elected Legislative Body**	**Ideology**	**Period**
Regions: Hovedstaden, Midtjylland, Nordjylland, Sjælland, Syddanmark **Counties:** Copenhagen Municipality, Frederiksberg Municipality, Copenhagen, Frederiksborg, Roskilde, West Zealand, Storstrøm, Funen, South Jutland, Vejle, Ringkjøbing, Viborg, North Jutland , Aarhus, Bornholm.	Regions: NUTS-2, Counties: NUTS-3	Regions: Regional Council Chairman (*Regionsrådsformand*) elected by the Regional Council. Faroe Islands and Greenland have a Prime Minister appointed by a majority of the Parliament. Both have an additional High Commissioner, appointed by the Queen. Counties: County Mayor (*Amtsborgmester*) appointed by the County Council.	Regions: Executive Committee (Forretningsudvalget). Faroe Islands and Greenland have a government. Counties: County Council	Regional Council (R*egionsråd),* County Council (*Amtsrådet*) Parliament: Faroe Islands (Løgting) and Greenland (Inatsisartut).	Manifesto Project (closest temporal match; Volkens et al. (2019)).	1990-2010
France **Regions (excluding Guyane, Guadeloupe, Martinique, and Réunion), n=22**	**NUTS**	**Head of Executive**	**Executive**	**Elected Legislative Body**	**Ideology**	**Period**
Alsace, Aquitaine, Auvergne, Basse-Normandie, Bourgogne, Bretagne, Centre, Champagne-Ardenne, Corse, Franche-Comté, Haute-Normandie, Ile De France, Languedoc-Roussillon, Limousin, Lorraine, Midi-Pyrénées, Nord-Pas-De-Calais, Pays De La Loire, Picardie, Poitou-Charentes, Provence-Alpes-Côte D'Azur, Rhône-Alpes	NUTS-2	President elected by the regional council.	Cabinet	Counseil Régional	Manifesto Project (closest temporal match; Volkens et al. (2019)).	1990-2010
Germany **States (Bundesländer), n=16**	**NUTS**	**Head of Executive**	**Executive**	**Elected Legislative Body**	**Ideology**	**Period**
Baden-Württemberg, Bayern, Berlin, Brandenburg, Bremen, Hamburg, Hessen, Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Niedersachsen, Nordrhein-Westfalen, Rheinland-Pfalz, Saarland, Sachsen, Sachsen-Anhalt, Schleswig-Holstein, Thüringen	NUTS-1	Minister-President (Ministerpräsident), appointed the State Diet or Senate	Cabinet	State Diet (Landtag), Senate (Berlin, Bremen, Hamburg)	Manifesto Project (closest temporal match; Volkens et al. (2019)).	1990-2010
Italy **Regions, n=20**	**NUTS**	**Head of Executive**	**Executive**	**Elected Legislative Body**	**Ideology**	**Period**
Autonomous Regions: Sardinia, Sicily, Trentino-Alto Adige/Südtirol, Aosta Valley, Friuli-Venezia Giulia. **Regions with ordinary status:** Abruzzo, Apulia, Basilicata, Calabria, Campania, Emilia-Romagna, Lazio, Liguria, Lombardy, Marche, Molise, Piedmont, Tuscany, Umbria, Veneto	NUTS-2	Governor (Presidente della Giunta Regionale) or President (Presidente della Regione) The governor is directly elected. Exceptions are Aosta Valley and Trentino-Alto, where he/she is chosen by the regional council. The head of the executive was elected by the majority of the Regional Council until 1999. Since 1999 heads of regional governments have been directly elected.	Regional government (Giunta Regionale)	Regional council (Consiglio Regionale), Sicilian Regional Assembly in Sicily (Assemblea Regionale Siciliana), or Council of the Valley in Valle D'Aosta (Consiglio della Valle).	Manifesto Project (closest temporal match; Volkens et al. (2019)).	1990-2010

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Japan **Prefectures (Todōfuken), n=47**	**NUTS**	**Head of Executive**	**Executive**	**Elected Legislative Body**	**Ideology**	**Period**
Aichi, Akita, Aomori,, Chiba,, Ehime, Fukui, Fukuoka, Fukushima, Gifu, Gunma, Hiroshima,, Hokkaido, Hyōgo, Ibaraki, Ishikawa, Iwate, Kagawa, Kagoshima, Kanagawa, Kōchi, Kumamoto, Kyoto, Mie, Miyagi, Miyazaki, Nagano, Nagasaki, Nara, Niigata, Ōita, Okayama, Okinawa, Osaka, Saga, Saitama, Shiga, Shimane, Shizuoka	-	Governor (Chiji, directly elected).	Government	Assembly (Gikai)	Manifesto Project (closest temporal match; Volkens et al. (2019)).	1990-2010
Norway **Counties (Fylker), n=19**	**NUTS**	**Head of Executive**	**Executive**	**Elected Legislative Body**	**Ideology**	**Period**
Østfold, Akershus, Oslo, Hedmark, Oppland, Buskerud, Vestfold, Telemark, Aust-Agder, Vest-Agder, Rogaland, Hordaland, Sogn og Fjordane, Møre og Romsdal, Sør-Trøndelag, Nord-Trøndelag, Nordland, Troms, Finnmark, Svalbard	NUTS-3	County Mayor (*Fylkesordfører*). The Mayor is appointed by the County Council (Fylkesting). There is also a County Governor (Fylkesmannen) appointed by the King in the country-level cabinet meeting and serves as a supervisor (prefect). Governors do not influence education.	County Council (Fylkesting)	County Council (Fylkesting)	Manifesto Project (closest temporal match; Volkens et al. (2019)).	1990-2010
Spain **Autonomous communities and two autonomous cities, n=19**	**NUTS**	**Head of Executive**	**Executive**	**Elected Legislative Body**	**Ideology**	**Period**
Andalusia, Aragon, Asturias, Balearic Islands, Basque Country, Canary Islands, Cantabria, Castile and León, Castile–La Mancha, Catalonia, Community of Madrid, Extremadura, Galicia, La Rioja, Navarra, Murcia, Valencian Community, Ceuta, Melilla	NUTS-2	President (usually appointed by an absolute majority of the plenary session in the parliament and approved by the King).	Government Council. It has different names in the communities. Generalitat (in Valencia and Catalonia), Junta General (Asturias), Xunta (in Galicia) Government or Junta (other communities)	Parliament	Manifesto Project (closest temporal match; Volkens et al. (2019)).	1990-2010
Sweden **Regions (Län), n=21**	**NUTS**	**Head of Executive**	**Executive**	**Elected Legislative Body**	**Ideology**	**Period**
Stockholm, Uppsala, Södermanland, Östergötland, Jönköping, Kronoberg, Kalmar, Gotland, Blekinge, Skåne, Halland, Västra Götaland, Värmland, Örebro, Västmanland, Dalarna, Gävleborg, Västernorrland, Jämtland, Västerbotten, Norrbotten	NUTS-3, NUTS-2 are used for eight so-called Riksomraden (areas without competencies) .	Governor (Landshövding) appointed by the national government. Usually, governors can be associated with specific parties on the national level.	County Administrative Board (Länsstyrelsen)	County Council (Landsting)	Manifesto Project (closest temporal match; Volkens et al. (2019)).	1990-2010
Switzerland **Cantons, n=26**	**NUTS**	**Head of Executive**	**Executive**	**Elected Legislative Body**	**Ideology**	**Period**
Aargau, Appenzell, Ausserrhoden, Appenzell, Innerrhoden, Basel-Stadt, Basel-Landschaft, Bern, Fribourg, Geneva, Glarus, Graubünden, Jura, Lucerne, Neuchâtel, Nidwalden, Obwalden, Schaffhausen, Schwyz,	NUTS-3	President of the Executive Council (Regierungsrat). However, principles of collegiality and rotation assign the President a role as a primus inter pares.	Direct election of the Executive Council (Regierungs-rat). The Executive council uses the principle of collegiality with rotating positions.	Grand Council, Cantonal Council, Landrat of Parliament	Manifesto Project (closest temporal match; Volkens et al. (2019)).	1990-2010

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Solothurn, St., Gallen, Thurgau, Ticino, Uri, Valais, Vaud, Zug, Zürich

United Kingdom **Countries, n=4**	**NUTS**	**Head of Executive**	**Executive**	**Elected Legislative Body**	**Ideology**	**Period**
England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales	-	First Minister (Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland). Approved by the regional parliament.	Cabinet Minister (Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland). England has no formal government and we selected the Department for Education as an equivalent body.	Parliament; National Assembly of Wales	Manifesto Project (closest temporal match; Volkens et al. (2019)).	1990-2010
USA **States, n=50**	**NUTS**	**Head of Executive**	**Executive**	**Elected Legislative Body**	**Ideology**	**Period**
Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New, Hampshire, New, Jersey, New, Mexico, New, York, North, Carolina, North, Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode, Island, South, Carolina, South, Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West, Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming	-	Governor: The Governor is directly elected.	Usually plural executives with different organizational forms across the states	Lower House (legislature, general assembly, legislative assembly, or general court) as well as upper house (senate). Nebraska is an exemption, having no lower house.	The governor's position is measured by ideal points for the party in the Senate or the lower house (see Shor & McCarty (2011)).	1990-2010

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