

# FULL CODEBOOK

## Parliamentary Events Dataset (Version 1.0), 1945-2024

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The dataset and documentation, including primary sources, are available at:

<https://github.com/bromofra/Parliamentary-Events-Dataset-1945-2024.git>

Replication files are available at:

<https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/FYGFLS>

For questions or comments about the dataset, or to report any potential errors or inaccuracies, please contact **Francesco Bromo** ([francesco.bromo@bsg.ox.ac.uk](mailto:francesco.bromo@bsg.ox.ac.uk)) or **José A. Cheibub** ([cheibub@pitt.edu](mailto:cheibub@pitt.edu)).

# Variables

**order:** Observation number.

**country\_number:** Sequential numbering of countries. See table A1.

**country:** Country name (English). See table A1.

**country\_code:** Three letter country code. See table A1.

**event\_id:** Unique event identifier.

**event:** Parliamentary event (listed below in alphabetical order).

- 1 APPOINTMENT: Formal appointment of the prime minister (or the cabinet) by whoever has the power of appointment.
- 2 DISSOLUTION: Formal parliamentary dissolution (lower chamber). See table A2.
- 3 HOS\_OFFICE: Entry of head of state in office (including acting and regents).
- 4 INVESTITURE: Prime minister (or cabinet) vote of investiture in the lower chamber. When both an ex-ante and an ex-post vote are required (e.g., Ireland), we record the date of the ex-ante vote.
- 5 LEG\_ELEC: First or only round of elections for the lower chamber of parliament. When applicable, we also record repeat elections of the lower chamber (e.g., Austria 4-Oct-1970).
- 6 PARL\_CONVENES: First meeting of parliament following a legislative election (lower chamber). We add a "PARL\_CONVENES\_DISS" event for the first meeting of formally dissolved parliaments. We do not record convening after recesses or prorogation between elections.
- 7 PRES\_ELEC: First or only round of direct or indirect presidential election. We add a "PM\_ELEC" event in Israel to record the three direct elections of the prime minister in 1996, 1999, and 2001.
- 8 RESIGNATION: Prime minister resignation. Given that all countries in the dataset operate on the basis of collective responsibility, the resignation of the prime minister is equivalent to the resignation of the cabinet as a whole. We consider the death of an incumbent prime minister as a resignation (e.g., Francisco Sá Carneiro in Portugal 4-Dec-1980).

**formation\_spell:** Sequential numbering of government formation spells by country. Starts with the event that indicates the beginning of a caretaker period and ends with the event that indicates the end of the caretaker period.

**flag\_form\_trigger:** Flag for a parliamentary event that triggered the corresponding formation spell.

**form\_trigger\_type:** Type of event that triggered a formation spell (listed below).

- 1 PM resignation (RESIGNATION).
- 2 Formal parliamentary dissolution (DISSOLUTION).
- 3 Legislative elections (LEG\_ELEC).

**flag\_form\_conclusion:** Flag for a parliamentary event that marked the end of the corresponding formation spell and the beginning of a full-power government.

**form\_conclusion\_type:** Type of event that marked the end of a formation spell (listed below).

- 1 PM appointment (APPOINTMENT).
- 2 Vote of investiture (INVESTITURE).
- 3 First meeting of a new parliament (PARL\_CONVENES or PARL\_CONVENES\_DISS).

**formation\_spell\_days:** Sequential numbering for days without a full-power government (i.e., caretaker period). Used to compute the number of days under a caretaker administration. For this reason, it excludes the event indicating the termination of the caretaker period. This is so because the last event is associated with the days that follow it.

**fullpower\_flag:** Flag for days with a full-power government.

**fullpower\_spell:** Sequential numbering for days with a full-power government.

**form\_multipleevents:** Flag for formations that include multiple events that trigger or mark the end of a caretaker period (e.g., failed investiture)

**change\_pm:** Type of PM appointment (listed below).

- 1 New prime minister appointed to lead a full-power government or caretaker administration.
- 2 Incumbent prime minister re-appointed to lead a full-power government or caretaker administration.

**form\_censored:** Flag for right-censored formations.

**fullpower\_censored:** Flag for right-censored periods with a full-power government.

**date:** Date of corresponding parliamentary event (DD-MM-YYYY).

**date\_lead:** Date of subsequent parliamentary event (DD-MM-YYYY).

**days:** Difference in days between **date\_lead** and **date**. Note that the days refer to the time spent under the state created by the date. Thus, for example, if a caretaker period is triggered by a DISSOLUTION event, the days associated with it actually took place under a full-power government. For this reason, we distinguish between **formation\_spell** and **formation\_spell\_days**.

**pm:** Last name of PM in office when the corresponding parliamentary event occurred. For events APPOINTMENT and INVESTITURE, we enter the name of the individual who came into office as a result of the event.

**hos:** Last name of the head of state in office when the corresponding parliamentary event occurred. For HOS\_OFFICE, we enter the name of the individual who came into office. For Australia, Canada, and New Zealand, we record the last name of the Governor-General. Starting from 1971, we also record the name of the speaker of the unicameral *Riksdag* in Sweden (e.g., Carl XVI Gustaf/Allard).

## Country-Specific Sources

### 1. AUSTRALIA

Legislative elections:

[AustralianPolitics.com](#) (2022 version available [here](#))

Parliament opening meetings:

[Australian Parliament website](#)

[Parliamentary Handbook of the Commonwealth of Australia \(2020\)](#)

Assembly dissolutions:

[Parliamentary Handbook of the Commonwealth of Australia \(2020\)](#)

(Includes prorogation dates)

Documents:

[2022 dissolution](#)

PM appointments:

[ABC News](#)

[ParlGov](#)

Wilson and Healy (2017)

PM resignations:

[Carroll \(2004\)](#)

[ParlGov](#)

Wilson and Healy (2017)

Head of state entry:

[Rulers](#)

### References (Australia)

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Wilson, Janet and Margaret Healy. 2017. "That's It—I'm Leaving: Ministerial Departures 1901–2017." Parliament of Australia. Parliamentary Library, Research Paper Series, 2017–18. Available [here](#).

## 2. AUSTRIA

### Legislative elections:

[Austrian Interior Ministry website](#) [German]

Poier (2010)

### Parliament opening meetings:

[Austrian Parliament website](#) [German]

### Assembly dissolutions:

[Austrian Parliament website](#) [German]

Austrian State Gazette

[Rechtsinformationssystem des Bundes \(RIS\)](#) [German]

### Documents:

[1949 dissolution](#) [German]

[1952 dissolution](#) [German]

[1956 dissolution](#) [German]

[1959 dissolution](#) [German]

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[Austrian Chancellery website](#) [German]

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[ParlGov](#)

### PM resignations:

[Associated Press News \(AP News\)](#)

[BBC News](#)

Chicago Tribune  
Chroniknet  
Gulf News  
Los Angeles Times  
Müller (2000)  
[ParlGov](#)  
Reuters  
The New York Times  
United Press International (UPI)

Head of state elections:

[Austrian Interior Ministry website](#) [German]  
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[German Wikipedia](#) [German]  
Poier (2010)  
[Robert Schuman Foundation](#)  
The New York Times

Head of state entry:

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[German Wikipedia](#) [German]  
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Poier, Klaus. 2010. "Austria." In *Elections in Europe: A Data Handbook*, ed. Dieter Nohlen and Philip Stöver. Baden-Baden: Nomos pp. 169–232.

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Legislative elections:

[Belgian Interior Ministry website](#) [French]  
Trefs (2010)

Parliament opening meetings:

[Belgian Chamber of Representatives website](#) [French]  
[Belgian Senate website](#) [French]  
[plenum.be](#)

Assembly dissolutions:

[Belgian Chamber of Representatives website](#) [French]  
[Belgian Senate website](#) [French]

[Centre de recherche et d'information socio-politiques \(CRISP\)](#) [French]

Keesing's - World News Archive

Le Monde

[plenum.be](#)

Radio Télévision Belge Francophone (RTBF)

RTL Info

Documents:

[1977 dissolution](#) [French]

[1981 dissolution](#) [French]

[1985 dissolution](#) [French]

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PM appointments:

André et al. (2015)

[Centre de recherche et d'information socio-politiques \(CRISP\)](#) [French]

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Investitures:

André et al. (2015)

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[Bulgarian Electoral Commission website](#) [Bulgarian]  
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Parliament opening meetings:

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Parliament opening meetings:

[Library of the Canadian Parliament website](#)

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[Canadian House of Commons website](#)

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Legislative elections:

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Parliament opening meetings:

[Croatian Parliament website](#) [Croatian]

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Legislative elections:

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[IPU Parline](#)

Parliament opening sitting:

[Folketingstidende](#) [Danish]

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PM appointments:

Müller-Rommel et al. (2004)

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[Estonian Parliament website](#) [Estonian]

PM resignations:

Associated Press News (AP News)

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[ParlGov](#)

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Head of state elections:

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[Estonian Wikipedia](#) [Estonian]

Head of state entry:

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Legislative elections:

Anckar and Anckar (2010)

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Parliament opening meetings:

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Hildén (2007)

Documents:

[1961 dissolution](#) [Finnish]

PM appointments:

Nousiainen (2000)

[Finnish Government website](#) [Finnish]

[ParlGov](#)

Investitures:

[ParlGov](#)

PM resignations:

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Parliament opening meetings:

[French National Assembly website](#) [French]

Assembly dissolutions:

[French National Assembly website](#) [French]

Documents:



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[1981 dissolution](#) [French]  
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PM appointments:

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[French National Assembly website](#) [French]  
[French Wikipedia](#) [French]  
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Investitures:

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Clayton (1994)  
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[French Wikipedia](#) [French]  
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Ramadier et al. (1988)  
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Lindner and Schulze (2010)

**ParlGov**

Parliament opening meetings:

[German Parliament website](#) [German]

Assembly dissolutions:

[German Parliament website](#) [German]

Documents:

[1972 dissolution](#) [German]

[1983 dissolution](#) [German]

[2005 dissolution](#) [German]

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Investitures:

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#### Assembly dissolutions:

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[Greek Parliament website](#) [Greek]

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### Assembly dissolutions:

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Assembly dissolutions:

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Akirav (2024)

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Haaretz

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Laikraksts Latvietis  
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### PM resignations:

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[Slovak Parliament website](#) [Slovak]

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