

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:

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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) or **José A. Cheibub** (cheibub@pitt.edu).

Variables

order: Observation number.

country_number: Sequential numbering of countries. See Table 1 below.

country: Country name (English). See Table 1 below.

country_code: Three letter country code. See Table 1 below.

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 2 below.
- 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).

Table 1: Country Number, Name, Code, and First Event Recorded

Country Number	Country Name	Country Code	First Full-Power APPOINTMENT After
1	Australia	AUS	September 2, 1945
2	Austria	AUT	September 2, 1945
3	Belgium	BEL	September 2, 1945
4	Bulgaria	BGR	Constituent assembly elections, 1990
5	Canada	CAN	September 2, 1945
6	Croatia	HRV	Legislative elections, 1990
7	Czechia	CZE	Legislative elections, 1992
8	Denmark	DNK	September 2, 1945
9	Estonia	EST	Legislative elections, 1992
10	Finland	FIN	September 2, 1945
11	France	FRA	September 2, 1945
12	Germany	DEU	Legislative elections, 1949
13	Greece	GRC	Legislative elections, 1974
14	Hungary	HUN	Legislative elections, 1990
15	Iceland	ISL	September 2, 1945
16	India	IND	Legislative elections, 1951
17	Ireland	IRL	September 2, 1945
18	Israel	ISR	Constituent assembly elections, 1949
19	Italy	ITA	Constituent assembly elections, 1946
20	Japan	JPN	September 2, 1945
21	Latvia	LVA	Legislative elections, 1990
22	Lithuania	LTU	Legislative elections, 1990
23	Luxembourg	LUX	September 2, 1945
24	Malta	MLT	Legislative elections, 1962
25	Netherlands	NLD	September 2, 1945
26	New Zealand	NZL	September 2, 1945
27	Norway	NOR	September 2, 1945
28	Poland	POL	Legislative elections, 1991
29	Portugal	PRT	Constituent assembly elections, 1975
30	Romania	ROU	Legislative elections, 1990
31	Serbia	SRB	Legislative elections, 2007
32	Slovakia	SVK	Legislative elections, 1992
33	Slovenia	SVN	Legislative elections, 1990
34	Spain	ESP	Legislative elections, 1977
35	Sweden	SWE	September 2, 1945
36	United Kingdom	GBR	September 2, 1945

Table 2: Elections for Which a Formal Parliamentary Dissolution Took Place

Country	Elections with a Formal Dissolution	Document/Event	Notes
Australia	All 1949, 1952, 1956, 1959, 1962, 1965, 1971, 1979, 1983, 1986, 1990, 1995, 1999, 2002, 2006, 2008, 2017, 2019	Proclamation by Governor-General	
Austria		Early self-dissolution bill	Art. 29 prerogative
Belgium	All	Royal decree or parliament vote	
Bulgaria	1994, 1997, 2013, 2014, 2017, 2021 (May), 2021 (Sep), 2022, 2023	Presidential decree	Art. 99 application
Canada	All	Proclamation by Governor-General	
Croatia	All	Pres. of parliament notification or parliament vote	Art. 77 prerogative (excluding 1992, 1999)
Czechia	1998, 2009, 2013	Early self-dissolution bill	2009 dissolution annulled by constitutional court
Denmark	All	Official letter (<i>Kongelig åbent brev</i>)	
Estonia	N/A	N/A	No early dissolutions recorded
Finland	1953, 1961, 1971, 1975	Presidential decree	
France	1955, 1962, 1968, 1981, 1988, 1997, 2024	Presidential decree	Art. 51 prerogative (IV) Art. 12 prerogative (V)
Germany	1972, 1983, 2005, 2024	Presidential decree	Art. 68 application
Greece	All	Presidential decree	
Hungary	N/A	N/A	No early dissolutions recorded
Iceland	All	Presidential decree or parliament vote	
India	All	Presidential decree	
Ireland	All	Presidential decree	
Israel	1951, 1961, 1977, 1981, 1984, 1992, 1996, 1999, 2002, 2005, 2008, 2012, 2014, 2018, 2019 (May), 2019 (Dec), 2020, 2022	Early self-dissolution bill; PM order (2002, 2005); Const. requirement application (2008, 2020)	

Italy	All	Presidential decree	
Japan	All	Royal decree	
Latvia	2011	Popular referendum	Art. 48 prerogative
Lithuania	N/A	N/A	No early dissolutions recorded
Luxembourg	1958, 1968, 1989, 1994, 1999, 2004, 2009, 2013	Royal decree	
Malta	All	Presidential decree	
Netherlands	All	Royal decree	
New Zealand	All	Proclamation by Governor-General	
Norway	All	Solemn dissolution (<i>Oppløsning</i>) (until 1990); Official closing (<i>Avslutning</i>) (after 1990)	Early dissolution not contemplated
Poland	1993, 2007	Presidential decree or parliament vote	Art. 66 application (1993); Art. 98 prerogative (2007)
Portugal	1976, 1979, 1983, 1985, 1987, 2002, 2004, 2011, 2021, 2024	Presidential decree	
Romania	N/A	N/A	No early dissolutions recorded
Serbia	2008, 2014, 2016, 2022, 2023	Presidential decree	Art. 109 prerogative
Slovakia	2011	Early self-dissolution bill	
Slovenia	2011, 2014, 2018	Presidential decree	Art. 111 application
Spain	All	Royal decree	
Sweden	All	Official closing (<i>Avslutning</i>)	
UK	All	Proclamation by monarch	

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