



## Project Documentation

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Important documentation regarding the V-Dem data is found in the documents listed below:

- ***The V-Dem Measurement Model: Latent Variable Analysis for Cross-National and Cross-Temporal Expert-Coded Data, V-Dem Working Paper by Pemstein et al 2015:***  
This paper describes key aspects of the Bayesian ordinal IRT-measurement model that the V-Dem Project uses to aggregate country expert ratings accounting for differential item functioning and variation in rater reliability. The output produces country-date point estimates and confidence intervals found in the datasets. The paper also highlights issues with the current model, and describes long-term plans for improving the estimates.  
Link: [Measurement Model Working Paper](#)
- ***V-Dem Methodology document:***  
This document offers a complete overview of the V-Dem methodology. It sets forth the V-Dem conceptual scheme, discusses the process of data collection, and briefly details the Bayesian ordinal IRT measurement model.  
Link: [Methodology](#)
- ***V-Dem Country Units document:***  
This document lists every coding unit (country/polity) in the V-Dem dataset; the years for which we have collected data, the identities of each polity that comprises a country's history (e.g., Russia-USSR), and the borders of each country (wherever this might be unclear).  
Link: [Country units](#)
- ***V-Dem Organization & Management document:***  
This document presents the organizational structure of V-Dem, provides information about the team working on the project, the V-Dem infrastructure and the website, the outreach and policy-oriented activities, our funders, and the progress of data collection to date.  
Link: [Organization & Management](#)
- ***V-Dem Comparisons & Contrast with Other Measurement Projects document:***  
This document provides a comparison of the V-Dem project with other democracy measurement projects. It discusses how the V-Dem approach to data collection and aggregation differs from extant efforts, and how our approach might assist the work of scholars and policy makers, among others.  
Link: [Comparison & Contrasts](#)

You can also access all documents via:

If you have questions, contact us at: [contact@v-dem.net](mailto:contact@v-dem.net)