

DFG-Project

# **Political Configurations Database Documentation\***

Hauke Licht<sup>†</sup>

October 2016

Chair of Comparative Politics  
Humboldt University of Berlin

\* Last update of document: Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> October, 2016

<sup>†</sup> Documentation author, [hauke.licht.1@cms.hu-berlin.de](mailto:hauke.licht.1@cms.hu-berlin.de)

# Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>The PCDB in pgAdmin</b>	<b>7</b>
2.1	Connecting to the PCDB	8
2.2	Querying data from the PCDB	11
2.2.1	Browse data in the PCDB: The ‘Data viewer’ window	12
2.2.2	Export data from the PCDB: The SQL-query tool	14
2.3	Keeping the PCDB updated	16
2.3.1	Manually inserting data	18
2.3.2	Manually updating data	19
2.3.3	Manually deleting data	20
2.3.4	Insert and update using the <code>upsert</code> -function	20
2.3.4.1	Function description	21
2.3.4.2	A minimal working example	22
<b>3</b>	<b>Data in the PCDB</b>	<b>30</b>
3.1	Roles in the PCDB	31
3.2	Tables in the <code>config_data</code> schema	32
3.2.1	Countries	34
3.2.2	Parties	34
3.2.3	Cabinets	35
3.2.4	Cabinet Portfolios	36
3.2.5	Lower Houses	37
3.2.6	Lower House Elections	37
3.2.7	Lower House Vote Results	40
3.2.8	Lower House Seat Results	40
3.2.9	Upper Houses	41
3.2.10	Upper House Elections	42
3.2.11	Upper House Seat Results	42
3.2.12	Presidential Elections	42
3.2.13	Presidential Election Vote Results	43
3.2.14	Veto Points	44
3.2.15	Electoral Alliances	46

3.3	Views in the <code>config_data</code> schema . . . . .	48
3.3.1	Configuration Events View . . . . .	49
3.3.2	Configuration Country-Years . . . . .	52
3.3.3	Partisan Veto Players . . . . .	54
3.3.4	Lower House Veto Point . . . . .	55
3.3.5	Upper House Veto Point . . . . .	56
3.3.6	Presidential Veto Point . . . . .	57
3.3.7	Judicial Veto Point . . . . .	58
3.3.8	Electorate Veto Point . . . . .	58
3.3.9	Territorial Veto Point . . . . .	59
3.3.10	Lower House Election Disproportionality . . . . .	59
3.3.11	Effective Number of Parties in Parliament, Minimum Fragmentation . . . . .	61
3.3.12	Effective Number of Parties in Parliament, Maximum Fragmentation . . . . .	62
3.3.13	Lower House Election Effective Thresholds . . . . .	64
3.3.14	Type A Volatility in Lower House Election Vote Shares . . . . .	65
3.3.15	Type B Volatility in Lower House Election Vote Shares . . . . .	67
3.3.16	Type A Volatility in Lower House Seat Shares . . . . .	68
3.3.17	Type B Volatility in Lower House Seat Shares . . . . .	70
3.4	Materialized views in the <code>config_data</code> schema . . . . .	72
3.4.1	Configuration Events Materialized View . . . . .	72
3.4.1.1	Selecting corresponding institution identifiers . . . . .	73
3.4.1.2	Computing configurations end dates . . . . .	74
3.4.1.3	Propagate through changes on base tables . . . . .	74
3.4.1.4	Propagate change through to rows with affected IDs . . . . .	76
3.4.2	Configuration Country-Years Materialized View . . . . .	77
3.4.2.1	Propagate through changes on base tables . . . . .	77
3.5	Triggers and Functions . . . . .	79
3.5.1	Identify previous institution configurations within countries . . . . .	79
3.5.2	Identify next institution configurations within countries . . . . .	80
3.5.3	Create materialized view . . . . .	80
3.5.4	Insert corresponding institution identifiers . . . . .	82
3.5.5	Computing configurations end dates . . . . .	83
3.5.6	Function <code>mv_config_ev_refresh_row()</code> . . . . .	83
<b>4</b>	<b>Bibliography . . . . .</b>	<b>85</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Appendix . . . . .</b>	<b>87</b>
5.1	SQL Data Definition . . . . .	87
5.1.1	<code>upsert_base_table</code> function . . . . .	87

5.1.2	Lower House Election Disproportionality, excluding others with seats . . . . .	88
5.1.3	Description of triggers to identify previous instituion confi- grations . . . . .	89
5.1.4	Description of triggers to identify next instituion configurations	92
5.1.5	Refresh materialized view . . . . .	94
5.1.6	Drop materialized view . . . . .	95
5.1.7	Insert corresponding insitution identifiers . . . . .	95
5.1.8	Functions and triggers like <code>mv_config_ev_#_*</code> . . . . .	97
5.1.9	Functions and triggers like <code>mv_config_ev_#_id*_trg</code> . . . .	101
5.1.10	Definition of Configuration Country-Years View . . . . .	108
5.1.11	Definition of function <code>refresh_mv_config_ctr_yr_row()</code> . .	110
5.1.12	Definition of triggers like <code>mv_config_ctr_yr_refresh_*</code> . . .	110

,

# 1 Introduction

The data in the Political Configurations Database (PCDB) is defined as a relational database in **PostgreSQL**, an open source object-relational database system.<sup>1</sup> Using *Structured Query Language* (SQL) is thought to guarantee for the integrity, reliability, and correctness of the data contained in the PCDB.

The *integrity* of the data in the PCDB is imposed by

**compiling primary data** (e.g., vote turnouts, seat results, election and institution configuration start dates), and

**computing aggregate figures and indicators**, such as the Effective Number of Parties in Parliament, Type A and B volatilities in seats and vote, or the total votes and seats at the level of the legislature, open veto points in a given configuration, etc., from the primary data.

Yet, there are also aggregates figures recorded in the PCDB—mostly obtained from official election statistics—to allow for comparison between recorded and computed values.

In addition, computing these indicators and figures using **PostgreSQL** ensures the *reliability* and actuality of the data contained in the PCDB, in that, for instance, recording new election results figures requires no further computation of aggregate figures, but indices, aggregates, and changes in political configurations will be generated automatically (see 3.3, 3.4, and 3.5).

Lastly, the *correctness* of the data is improved by providing automatically generated consistency checks (see ??) that users may query instantly, using the corresponding views.

These are a few but nevertheless important features of working with a relational database system like **PostgreSQL**. For general comments and questions the reader may contact [Hauke Licht](#), the author of this version of the PCDB Documentation.

---

<sup>1</sup> See <http://www.postgresql.org/>

## 2 The PCDB in pgAdmin

The PCDB is mostly easily accessed using the database management and administration software **pgAdmin**. You need to install **pgAdmin** on your computer,<sup>1</sup> and connect to the PCDB on the server of the Humboldt-University, which is hosted by the Computer and Media Service (CMS).

The next couple of sections will provide a hands-on guide on how to connect to the PCDB on the CMS server (see 2.1), how to query data from the PCDB (see 2.2), and how to keep data in the PCDB up-to-date (see 2.3) using the tools provided by **pgAdmin3**.<sup>2</sup>

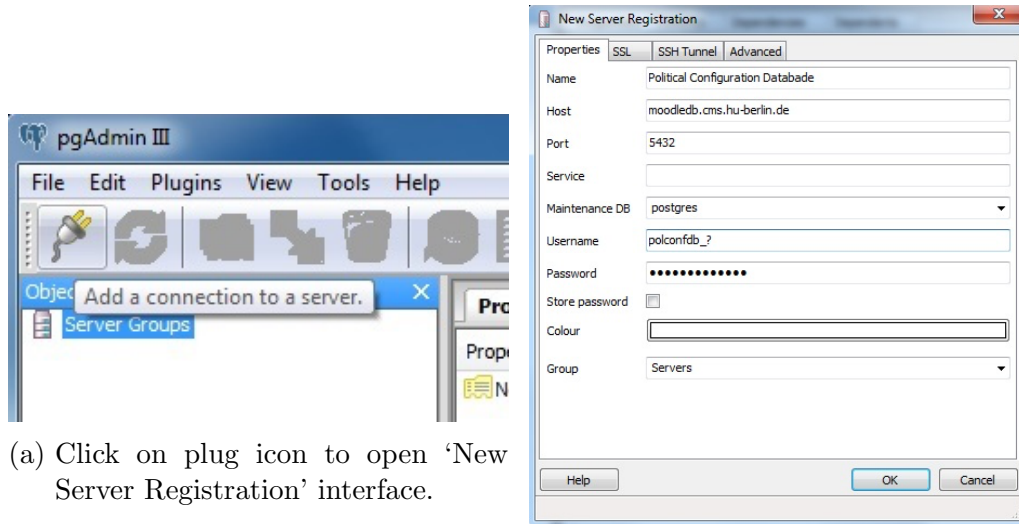
---

<sup>1</sup> Refer to <https://www.pgadmin.org/download/>

<sup>2</sup> When the first Pages of this Documentation were written, **pgAdmin4** was not available.

## 2.1 Connecting to the PCDB

After opening pgAdmin3, click ‘Add Server...’ in the ‘File’ tab of the program’s menu bar, or click the toolbar icon looking like a plug; see figure 2.1a).



(a) Click on plug icon to open ‘New Server Registration’ interface.

(b) Enter server information to ‘New Server Registration’ interface.

**Figure 2.1:** How to add and register a new server connection in pgAdmin3.

Enter the following properties of the PCDB in the corresponding lines of the Properties-tab of pgAdmin3’s ‘New Server Registration’ wizard (see figure 2.1b):

**Name:** *Choose a name for the server connection!* (Political Configuration Database or CMS Database recommended)

**Host:** moodledb.cms.hu-berlin.de

**Port:** 5432

**Maintenance DB:** postgres

**Username & Password:** Contact [the administrator](#) to receive a user-name and a user password!

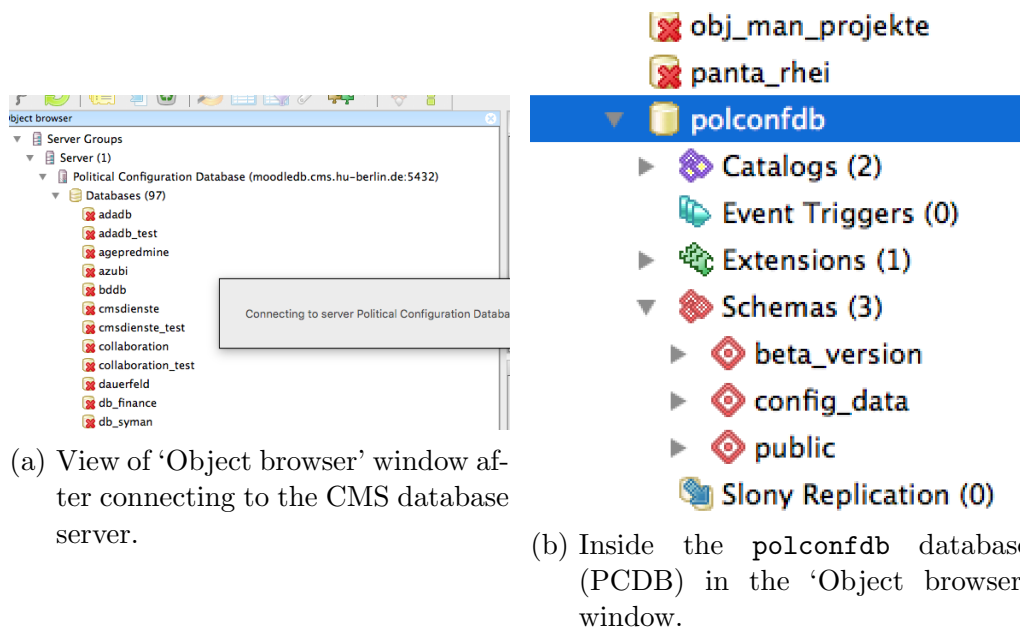
Please always unselect the ‘Store password’ checkbox for security reasons! Finally, click ‘OK’ to connect to the server.



**In case you fail** In case `pgAdmin3` prompts an error message on your server connection attempt in the ‘New Server Registration’ wizard, read through carefully the error message and also double-check your input (its likely that the error is due to a spelling error in your input). Always do some online research first (e.g., search the error message in Google or browse `pgAdmin3`’s documentation under <https://www.pgadmin.org/docs/dev/index.html>) in order to fix your problems.

Should you not be able to fix your problem, and hence unable to connect to the CMS database server, you can contact the CMS database service via email: [dbtech@cms.hu-berlin.de](mailto:dbtech@cms.hu-berlin.de). In case it turns out to be an issue with your version of `pgAdmin3`, contact your IT team (in the ISW this is Andreas Goroncy, [andreas.goroncy@sowi.hu-berlin.de](mailto:andreas.goroncy@sowi.hu-berlin.de) or phone (030) 2093 4389).

**In case you succeed** Once you have successfully connected to the CMS database server, an element with the name you gave your server connection in the registration will appear in the ‘Object browser’ (left panel below toolbar in `pgAdmin3`). Double-click on this icon to access the server.

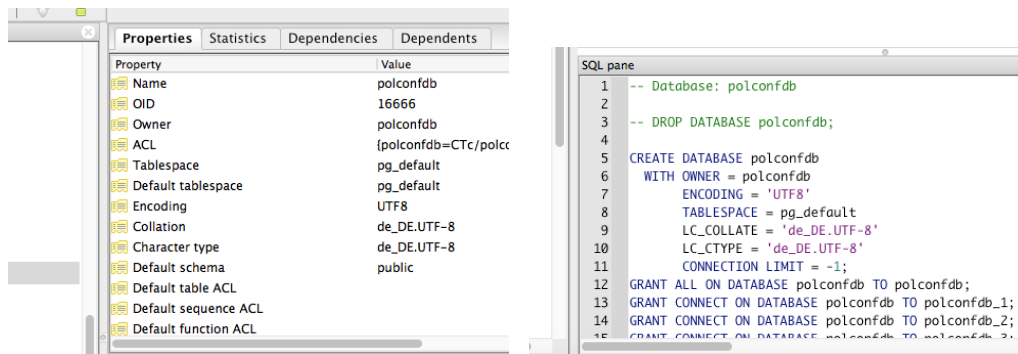


**Figure 2.2:** Connecting to the CMS database server and accessing the PCDB in `pgAdmin3`.

Several databases will be associated in the ‘Object browser’ with your server connection (see figure 2.2a). The only database that is open to your access though is

named `polconfdb` (see figure 2.2b). (In contrast to the other databases, its icon is not visually marked with a red cross.)

By default, to the right of the ‘Object browser’ panel, you should see an information panel (upper-right, see figure 2.3a), and a ‘SQL pane’ (lower-right panel, see figure 2.3b). The information panel always informs you about the properties, statistics, etc. of the object you have currently selected in the ‘Object browser,’ and the ‘SQL pane’ displays the definition of this object in SQL.



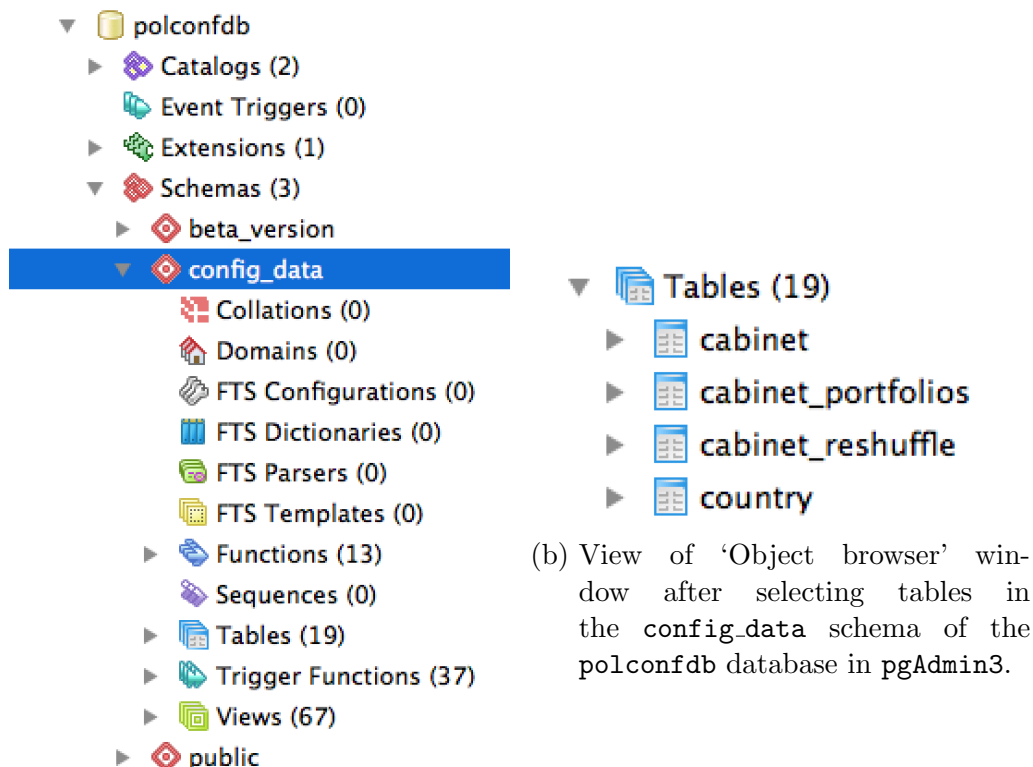
(a) View of ‘Object browser’ window after connecting to the CMS database server. (b) ‘SQL pane’ display for `polconfdb` database (PCDB).

**Figure 2.3:** Information and SQL panels of the `polconfdb` database in pgAdmin3.

## 2.2 Querying data from the PCDB

As figure ?? shows, there are multiple schemas inside the PCDB. (Read about schemas in the PostgreSQL documentatin, <https://www.postgresql.org/docs/9.1/static/ddl-schemas.html>) The organization of the schemas in the PCDB is described in chapter ??.

To browse a schema, simply select it with a doubl-click in the ‘Object browser.’ Selection by double-click will drop-down the objects inside the given schema, as shown in figure 2.4a for the `config_data` schema inside the PCDB.



(a) View of ‘Object browser’ window after selecting the `config_data` schema of the `polconfdb` database in pgAdmin3.

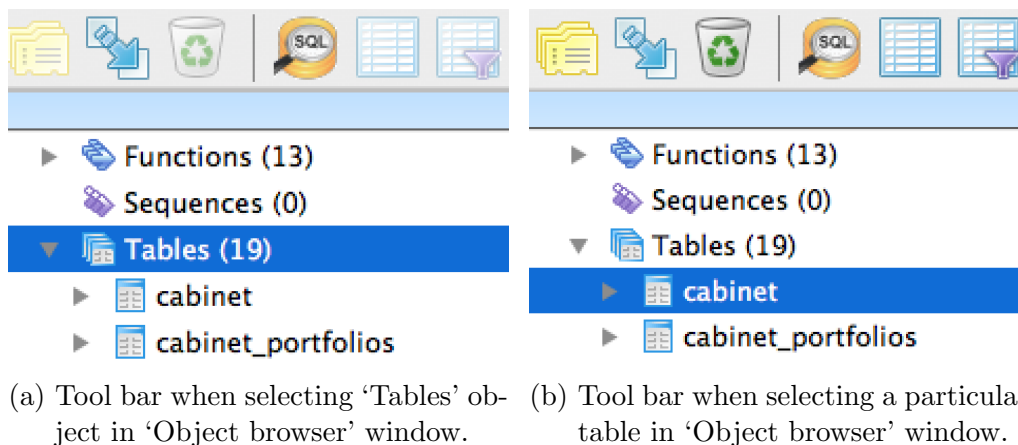
(b) View of ‘Object browser’ window after selecting tables in the `config_data` schema of the `polconfdb` database in pgAdmin3.

**Figure 2.4:** Inside the `config_data` schema of the `polconfdb` database in pgAdmin3.

There are a some contents you will usually be less concerned with, such as ‘Collations,’ ‘Domains,’ ‘FTS’ objects, and ‘Sequences.’ (Note that they are empty, as

indicated by the zero in brackets after their names.) Most important to you, in case you want to query data from the PCDB, are the ‘Tables’ and ‘Views’ objects.<sup>3</sup> When you double-click on the ‘Tables’ object in pgAdmin3’s ‘Object browser’, a list of all tables in the current schema (here `config_data`) will be displayed (see figure 2.4b).

Double-clicking again on a particular table object will cause some changes in the tool bar: When selecting a particular table, the ‘Data Viewer’ tool is activated (the icon that looks like a data table; right to the ‘SQL’-labeled magnifying glass, which is pgAdmin3’s built-in SQL-query editor). The visual difference is shown in figures 2.5a and 2.5b: When no particular table or view is selected, the ‘Data Viewer’ icon is blurred and not click-able (see figure 2.5a); after selecting a particular table or view, you can double-click on the data viewer tool, and a data table window will pop up on your desktop.



**Figure 2.5:** Change in pgAdmin3’s tool bar when selecting a particular table.

### 2.2.1 Browse data in the PCDB: The ‘Data viewer’ window

Figure 2.6 displays the window that pops-up when selecting the country table in the `config_data` schema in of the `polconfdb` database on the CMS database server.

The ‘Data viewer’ window has the following elements (from top to bottom):

<sup>3</sup> Tables are the permanent repositories that store the data of the PCDB; views are virtual tables based on the result-sets of pre-defined SQL-queries (queries are always executed when you query a view). Detailed descriptions of the content and definition of the tables and view in the PCDB are provided in chapter ??.

	ctr_id [PK] smallint	ctr_n name	ctr_ccode character varying(3)	ctr_ccode2 character varying(2)	ctr_ccode_nr numeric(3,0)	ctr_eu_date date	ctr_oecd_date date	ctr_wto_date date	ctr_cmt text	ctr_src text
1	1	AUSTRALIA	AUS	AU	36		1971-06-07	1995-01-01		www.iso.c
2	2	AUSTRIA	AUT	AT	40	1995-01-01	1961-09-29	1995-01-01		www.iso.c
3	3	BELGIUM	BEL	BE	56	1951-04-18	1961-09-13	1995-01-01		www.iso.c
4	4	CANADA	CAN	CA	124		1961-04-10	1995-01-01		www.iso.c
5	5	SWITZERLAND	CHE	CH	756		1961-09-28	1995-01-01		www.iso.c
6	6	GERMANY	DEU	DE	276	1951-04-18	1961-09-27	1995-01-01		www.iso.c
7	7	DENMARK	DNK	DK	208	1973-01-01	1961-05-30	1995-01-01		www.iso.c
8	8	SPAIN	ESP	ES	724	1986-01-01	1961-08-03	1995-01-01		www.iso.c
9	9	FINLAND	FIN	FI	246	1995-01-01	1969-01-28	1995-01-01		www.iso.c
10	10	UNITED KINGDOM	GBR	GB	826	1973-01-01	1961-05-02	1995-01-01		www.iso.c
11	11	GREECE	GRC	GR	300	1981-01-01	1961-09-27	1995-01-01		www.iso.c
12	12	IRELAND	IRL	IE	372	1973-01-01	1961-08-17	1995-01-01		www.iso.c
13	13	ICELAND	ISL	IS	352		1961-06-05	1995-01-01		www.iso.c
14	14	LUXEMBOURG	LUX	LU	442	1951-04-18	1961-12-07	1995-01-01		www.iso.c
15	15	NETHERLANDS	NLD	NL	528	1951-04-18	1961-11-13	1995-01-01		www.iso.c
16	16	NORWAY	NOR	NO	578		1961-07-04	1995-01-01		www.iso.c
17	17	PORTUGAL	PRT	PT	620	1986-01-01	1961-08-04	1995-01-01		www.iso.c
18	18	SWEDEN	SWE	SE	752	1995-01-01	1961-09-28	1995-01-01		www.iso.c
19	19	UNITED STATES	USA	US	840		1961-04-12	1995-01-01		www.iso.c
20	20	ISRAEL	ISR	IL	376		2010-09-07	1995-04-21		www.iso.c
21	21	CHILE	CHL	CL	152		2010-05-07	1995-01-01		www.iso.c
22	22	CZECH REPUBLIC	CZE	CZ	203	2004-05-01	1995-12-21	1995-01-01		www.iso.c
23	23	ESTONIA	EST	EE	233	2004-05-01	2010-12-09	1999-11-13		www.iso.c

**Figure 2.6:** Data Viewer pop-up window of country table in `config_data` schema.

- The **window header** informs you that this is an editor (i.e., if writing-rights are granted to your role, you can edit the data by double-clicking inside cells and change their content), and about the name of the server you are connected to (here “Political Configuration Database”), the host and port number (“(moodledb.cms.hu-berlin.de:5432)”), as well as the database (“polconfdb”), and schema and table names (“config\_data.country”). This is in fact the all information you need to know which data table is displayed.
- The window’s **tool bar** allows you to refresh the current data table (icon with one red and one green circular arrow); and, in case you have writing rights, to save changes (blue shaded disc icon), or undo changes to the data (right-to-left upward-bend blue shaded arrow).
- The **main panel** displays the data of the selected table or view. Columns are variables, where the main panel’s header displays variable names and types (e.g., `ctr_id` and `smallint`), and constraints are displayed in square brackets (e.g., `[PK]`, which stands for primary key). By default, all rows are listed; but you can limit the number of rows displayed in the most-right tool bar panel by typing a number in the input window label ‘No limit’ by default.)
- The **window footer** informs you how many rows the displayed data

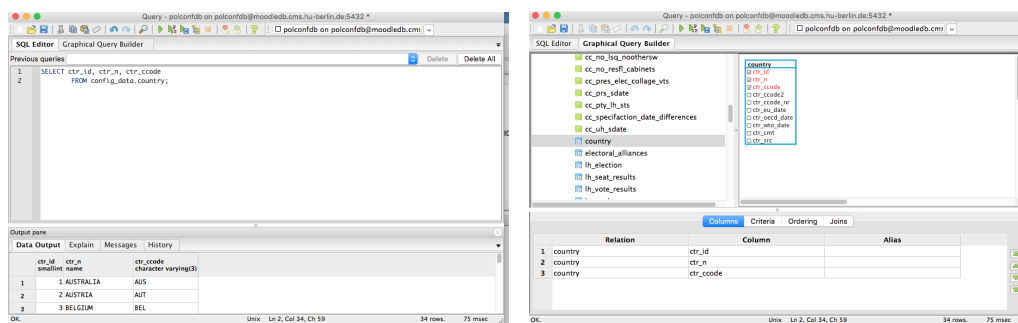
has.

## 2.2.2 Export data from the PCDB: The SQL-query tool

While the ‘Data Viewer’ only allows to view data (and to edit data only manually, one-by-one, in case you have writing-rights), pgAdmin3’s SQL-query tool allows to actually write and execute SQL-queries to obtain data from tables and views. Moreover, the SQL-Query tool allows to export the result-set of your query (a data table) to a file. Using the SQL-query tool is therefore the easiest way to export data from the PCDB.

Figure 2.7a and 2.7b show the two ways in which you may query data using the SQL-query tool, again using the example of the country table in the `config_data` schema.

- You may explicitly write SQL code to define a query in the ‘SQL Editor’ tab of the SQL-query tool window’s top panel. Double-clicking the green play-button in the SQL-query tool’s toolbar (second from left in figure 2.8) will execute the query; the result will be displayed as data table in the ‘Output pane’ (bottom panel of the window).
- You may construct your query manually, using the in the ‘Graphical Query Builder’ tab of the SQL-query tool window’s top panel. Double-clicking the green play-button in the SQL-query tool’s toolbar (second from left in figure 2.8) will return the manually built query in explicit SQL code, execute it, and display the result as data table in the ‘Output pane’ (bottom panel of the window).



- Query data with explicit SQL code from country table in the ‘SQL Editor’ tab.
- Query data from country table by manual selection in the ‘Graphical Query Builder’ tab.

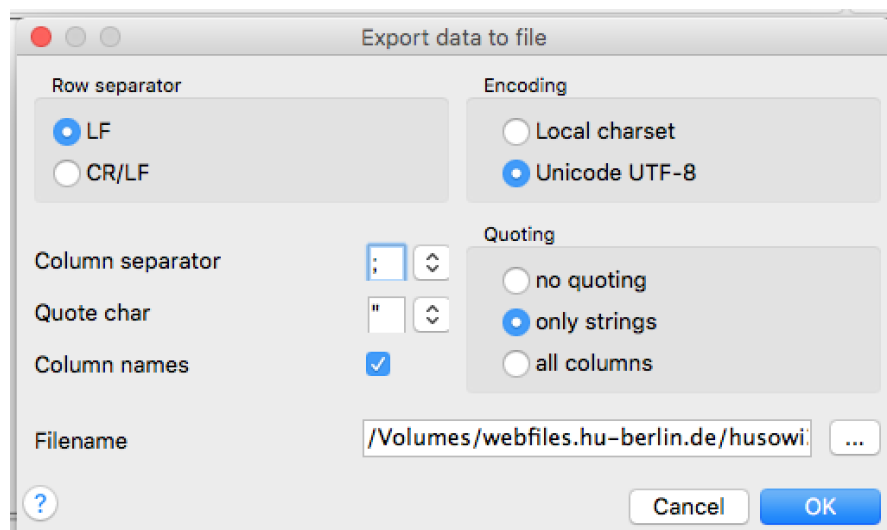
**Figure 2.7:** Two ways to define queries in pgadmin3’s SQL-query tool window.

The double-clicking the green play-button in the SQL-query tool's toolbar (second from left in figure 2.8) will execute the query; the result will be displayed as data table in the bottom panof the window. The square shaped icon is the stop button (most right in figure 2.8), which allows to cancel a running query.



**Figure 2.8:** Toolbar of pgAdmin3' SQL-query tool window.

The icon that combines a green play-button with a blue-shaded disc (third from right in figure 2.8) will open the 'Export data to file' wizard, which allows to write the result-set of a query to a file (see figure 2.9. Select a column separator (default is a semicolon ;), a quote character (default is the double quote ' '), select check-box 'Column names' in case you want to include column (i.e., variable) names in the first row of the file, and select a path and file name to write to. Then click the 'OK' button to export data to file.



**Figure 2.9:** 'Export data to file' wizard of pgAdmin3' SQL-query tool.

When saving the result-set of the query to a file in the .csv-format, the result should look familiar to you. It's a plain semicolon-separated table (see figure 2.10).

	A	B	C	
1	ctr_id	ctr_n	ctr_ccode	
2		1 AUSTRALIA	AUS	
3		2 AUSTRIA	AUT	
4		3 BELGIUM	BEL	
5		4 CANADA	CAN	
6		5 SWITZERLAND	CHE	
7		6 GERMANY	DEU	
8		7 DENMARK	DNK	

**Figure 2.10:** Result after exporting data with pgAdmin3's 'Export data to file' wizard.

## 2.3 Keeping the PCDB updated

Data in the PCDB is manipulated using PostgreSQL's data manipulation language (DML) operations `INSERT`, `UPDATE`, and `DELETE`.<sup>4</sup>

The following paragraphs will use the cabinet table (see subsection 3.2.3) in the `config_data` schema of the `polconfdb` database as an example to introduce some minimal working examples.

These examples can easily be applied to the other tables in the PCDB.

**Some words of caution** Please do not manipulate (i.e., insert, update, or delete) data without having a clear idea of

- what is the primary key of a given table or the columns that uniquely identify rows;
- which referential dependencies are implied by the structure of the PCDB; and accordingly,
- how incomplete inserts or updates, or thoughtless deletes affects the integrity and consistency of the PCDB.

Read about primary keys and the implementation of referential dependencies using foreign keys in the PostgreSQL documentation.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>4</sup> See <https://www.postgresql.org/docs/9.3/static/dml.html>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.postgresql.org/docs/9.3/static/ddl-constraints.html>



With respect to the minimum working example, (a) The cabinet identifiers column (`cab_id`) is primary key of cabinet table, and cabinet start date (`cab_sdate`) in combination with the country identifier (`ctr_id`) uniquely identify observations (i.e., rows).

With respect to (b), `cab_id` is referenced as foreign key in the cabinet portfolios table (see subsection 3.2.4), and, in combination with the party identifier `pty_id`, uniquely identifies cabinet portfolios. Moreover, as cabinet compositions (i.e., rows in the cabinet tables) sequenced alongside lower house, upper house, and presidency configurations in the configuration events view, cabinet compositions are essential to compute configuration-specific indicators, such as cabinet parties cumulated seat share in the lower house; to identify open veto points; etc.

Finally, in view of (c), though it is possible to insert a new observation to table Cabinet without providing, for instance, its start date, this would cause non-trivial problems, for instance, when compiling the configurations events view.

Users are thus strongly inclined to pay attention to the key and uniqueness constraints of a given table when inserting, updating or deleting data from it. Information on constraints is provided in the respective subsections of the Table section (??) and the PCDB Codebook (see documentation Appendix).

**Some words on data consistency** Note that the trigger structure and functions defined on the `config_data` schema ensures that manipulation executed on the cabinet, lower house, upper house, presidential election, and veto points tables propagate through to the configuration events and configuration country-years tables. The interrelation between the configuration tables and the structure is explained in detail in sections ??, ?? and ??.

In other cases, such as the interrelation between the cabinet portfolios on the cabinet table, dependencies exist, but consistency is not enforced using a trigger structure. If you insert a new cabinet configuration, you have to manually add the corresponding cabinet portfolio (rows of parties in cabinet and the parliamentary opposition). No error will be raised if you fail to do so. Likewise, if you record a new lower house election (upper house election), you have to make sure that the corresponding vote results are listed at the party level in the lower house vote results table, and that you record the lower house (upper house) configuration that corresponds to the election. And if you record a new lower house (upper house) composition, you have to make sure that the corresponding seat results are listed at the party level in the lower house seat results (upper house seat results) table.

### 2.3.1 Manually inserting data

Adding a new row (i.e., an observation) to a table is proceeded with the `INSERT INTO`-command, by simply specifying the table (and schema), then the target columns, and third the values to insert. Though insertation does not require to specify the target columns, as the original order of columns of a table is used as default, specifying target columns corresponding to insert values is best-practice, as it ensures a correct insert operation.

Here a minimum workin example:

```
1 INSERT INTO config_data.cabinet
2   (cab_id, ctr_id, cab_sdate, cab_hog_n, cab_care)
3   VALUES (6038, 6, '2017-01-01', 'Licht', 'FALSE');
```

Note that the values you attempt to insert need to match the specified types of the target columns. If you attempt to insert a value that does not match the type of the respective column, an error message will be raised.<sup>6</sup> You can avoid such error messages, if you type instead

```
1 INSERT INTO config_data.cabinet
2   (cab_id, ctr_id, cab_sdate, cab_hog_n, cab_care)
3   VALUES (6038::NUMERIC(5,0), 6::SMALLINT, '2017-01-01'::DATE,
4           'Licht'::NAME, 'FALSE'::BOOLEAN);
```

Always refer to either the Codebook or browse the properties of the given table in `pgAdmin3` before you attempt to insert data into a table, as there exist constraints (e.g., `NOT NULL`, `PRIMARY KEY`, or `UNIQUE`) on some of the columns, which require inserting a value to these specific columns when adding a new row to the table.

Also, it is best-practice to assign ascending integer counters to subsequent institution configurations within countries. Finally, remember that the primary key of the cabinet table, `cab_id`, contributes to the unique identification of observations in the cabinet portfolios table. Due to this dependency, inserting a new cabinet configuration necessitates to also insert the corresponding observations to the cabinet portfolios table.<sup>7</sup>

Please refer to the PostgreSQL documentation for further details.<sup>8</sup>

<sup>6</sup> To recall the type of a given column, refer to the Codebook or browse the properties of the given table in `pgAdmin3` (left click on table in menu bar, and view ‘SQL pane’).

<sup>7</sup> Particularly, because information on the newly inserted cabinet’s portfolios is required to generate indicators at the level of political configuration (i.e., the cabinet’s cumulated seat share in the lower house and upper house, respectively, or to identify whether a president is in cohabitation with the cabinet).

<sup>8</sup> See <https://www.postgresql.org/docs/9.3/static/dml-insert.html>

### 2.3.2 Manually updating data

Altering the values of an existing row in a table is achieved with the `UPDATE`-operation, specifying the table and the column of the values that is thought to be updated.<sup>9</sup> Updating is achieved by `SET`ting a column equal to some value that matches the type of the respective column. A `WHERE`-clause is required to identify the row(s) which you attempt to update.

A minimum working example reads as follows:

```
1 UPDATE config_data.cabinet
2   SET cab_sdate = '2017-06-15'::DATE
3   WHERE cab_id = 6038
4   AND ctr_id = 6
5   AND cab_sdate = '2017-01-01'::DATE;
```

Here, the value of the column that reports the cabinet's start date is updated in only one observation, as the attributes `cab_id`, and `ctr_id` and `cab_sdate`, respectively, uniquely identify rows in the cabinet table. (Note that using one identifier only would suffice.)

Note that it is possible to update information of more than one row. You could, for instance,

```
1 UPDATE config_data.cabinet
2   SET cab_hog_n = 'John Doe'::NAME
3   WHERE cab_hog_n = 'Licht'
4   AND ctr_id = 6;
```

which would apply to all German cabinet configurations in which some guy with last name 'Licht' was recorded as head of government (i.e., prime minister).

Note further that updating is proceeded row-by-row. Executing

```
1 UPDATE config_data.cabinet
2   SET cab_id = cab_id+1
3   WHERE ctr_id = 6;
```

would thus prompt an error, because increasing the first rows identifier by one would conflict with the `PRIMARY KEY`-constraint on the second rows `cab_id`.<sup>10</sup>

---

<sup>9</sup> <https://www.postgresql.org/docs/9.3/static/dml-update.html>

<sup>10</sup> Because the second row might have `cab_id = 6002`, increasing the first cabinet's identifier to 6002 violate the `UNIQUE`-constraint that is implicit to `PRIMARY KEY`.

### 2.3.3 Manually deleting data

Removing rows from a table is achieved with the `DELETE`-operation, specifying the table and the row to be delete.<sup>11</sup> Deleting is achieved by identifying the row in a `WHERE`-clause.

See the minimum working example:

```
1 DELETE FROM config_data.cabinet
2 WHERE cab_id = 6038
3 AND ctr_id = 6
4 AND cab_sdate = '2017-06-15'::DATE;
```

This will delete the complete row from the cabinet table that is identified by `cab_id` = 6038, that is, the (unique) German cabinet configuration that was recorded as starting on July 15, 2017. (Note that using one identifier only would suffice.)

Note again that it is possible to delete more than one row. You could, for instance, execute

```
1 DELETE FROM config_data.cabinet
2 WHERE ctr_id = 6 AND cab_hog_n = 'John Doe';
```

in order to delete all German cabinet configurations in which some guy with last name 'John Doe' was recorded as head of government (i.e., prime minister).

Note further that deleting is irreversible unless a back-up copy of the data exists (or is generated on delete).

### 2.3.4 Insert and update using the upsert-function

Suppose you have created a CSV table with, say, cabinet configuration that contains both new cabinet configurations and, in addition, changes to already existing cabinets. That is, the listed cabinet configurations in your table may match some recorded cabinet configurations in the PCDB cabinet table.

Due to the `UNIQUE`-constraint on `ctr_id` and `cab_sdate` in the cabinet table, attempting to insert cabinet configurations that are identified by an already recorded `ctr_id-cab_sdate` combination would prompt an error. And its likely that, while you want to add not-yet recorded configurations to the cabinet table, you simply want to update the already existing configuration in the PCDB where the information on a given configuration on in your table differs from that in the current record. This scenario is where the `upsert`-function comes in to play ('upsert' stands for update-or-insert).

<sup>11</sup> <https://www.postgresql.org/docs/9.3/static/dml-delete.html>

Plainly speaking, the **upsert**-function performs exactly the steps outlined in the above paragraph: First, it takes your table as source of the upsert operation, checking which columns actually correspond to the columns of the target table (i.e., the table you want to populate with your new records). Second, the function checks if a record in the source table matches a record (i.e., row) in the target table. The result of this second step are two distinct result sets (your source table is split into two categories, so to speak): One containing all observations that are not yet recorded in the target table. This first result set is the base of a grand insert operation on the target table. The other result set comprises all observations in the source table that are already recorded in the target table, and hence is the base of a grand update operation on the target table.

Put simply, the function looks up which column(s) contain the primary key of the target variable, and then checks if a given observation's primary-key column value in the source table exists in the target table. For example, `cab_id` is the primary-key column of the cabinet table. Say your target table contains a cabinet configuration with the `cab_id` value 1040. If 'Is 1040 is in the list of all values of the `cab_id` column in target table?' evaluates to true, this row in the source table will be in the second result set. Otherwise it will be in the first, insert-operations result set.

#### 2.3.4.1 Function description

Because the **upsert**-function is at the heart of the updating process, it follows a detailed description of its working in verbatim pseudo-code.

You may want to skip this paragraph if you are immediately interested in a minimal working example (beginning on page 22). You may need to turn to the functional definition, however, Whenever the **upsert**-function is not yielding the results you were intending it to give.

Function `upsert_base_table()` is defined in the `public` schema of the `polconfdb` database.

- It has four input arguments:
  - `target_schema`: schema name of the table that is upserted (target)
  - `target_table`: name of the table that is upserted (target)
  - `source_schema`: schema name of the table that is the source of the upserted operation

- `source_table`: name of the table that is the source of the upserted operation

All input arguments have require type `TEXT`.

- Return type is `VOID`, i.e., nothing is returned
- `DECLARE` variables that will be used in `EXECUTE` block:
  - variable `pkey_column` stores the name of the column that contains the primary key of the target table
  - variable `pkey_constraint` stores the name of the primary key constraints of the target table
  - array `shared_columns` stores a comma-seperated list of the columns the target and source tables have in common; will be used in `INSERT`-statement
  - array `update_columns` stores a comma-seperated list of target columns that are set equal to source columns in `SET`-statementto of update operation
- `EXECUTE` block:
  - execute `UPDATE` of target table, setting target column values equal to source column values for all intersecting identifiers
  - execute `INSERT INTO` target table, inserting data into from source table for all rows that are not in target table (set difference of identifiers)
  - cluster data, i.e., order by priamary key values

A definition of function `upsert_base_table()` in the PostgreSQL procedural language `plpgsql`<sup>12</sup> is provided in the Appendix (see 5.1.1).

#### 2.3.4.2 A minimal working example

To stick with the above example of making changes to the cabinet table in the PCDB, suppose yout task is to check cabinet start dates, and to add cabinet configurations that are not yet recorded in the `config_data` schema of the database. Say you split the work load with your co-workers, and you start with checking and updating all Australian cabinet configurations.

<sup>12</sup> See <https://www.postgresql.org/docs/8.4/static/plpgsql.html>

**Exporting the to-be-updated data** The first step in a well-organized work flow would be to export all recorded Australian cabinet configurations that require a double-check of the start date into a CSV. The following query would give you just these configurations:

```
1 SELECT * FROM config_data.cabinet
2 WHERE ctr_id = 1
3 AND cab_valid_sdate = FALSE;
```

Note that the column `cab_valid_sdate` is a boolean indicator that records whether the start date of a given cabinet configuration has already been double-checked. Hence, you only want the Australian cabinet configurations where this is not yet the case.

Exporting the result set of the query into a CSV is easily achieved using the write-result-to-file wizard of `pgAdmin3`'s SQL-query tool. (Refer to Subsection 2.2.2, and figures 2.8 and 2.9 in particular, if you do not know how to do export data to a file in `pgAdmin3`.)

In order to know which Australian cabinets are not yet recorded, and hence need to be added in your 'upsert' source table, you need to know, which is the youngest recorded Austrian cabinet in the PCDB (i.e., the cabinet with the most recent start date). The result set of the above query does not necessarily inform you about this, however (if `cab_valid_sdate` is true for the last recorded cabinet configuration, it will not be in the result set.)

You could query

```
1 SELECT * FROM config_data.cabinet
2 WHERE ctr_id = 1
3 ORDER BY cab_sdate DESC
4 LIMIT 1;
```

in order to get the respective information, or export all Austrian cabinet configurations in the first place, and only check start dates of these where `cab_valid_sdate` is false instead.

**Changing the to-be-updated data** With the exported CSV at hand, you can directly make your changes in the respective cells of the table; of course always documenting your changes and the information sources in the comment and source columns. In case of already existing cabinets, you would not change the `cab_id` but only the `cab_sdate`. In case of missing cabinets, you would choose a not existing `cab_id` value (optimally increasing it by one within country with ascending start dates) and add all corresponding information in the respective cells of that new entry.

**Getting the to-be-updated data into the PCDB** In order to upsert the target table with the changes you have recorded in your CSV, the data in your CSV first needs to be imported into the PCDB again. The `updates` schema of the PCDB provides for the environment in which you can securely import to-be-updated data into upsert source tables.

Note that, if it not already exists, you first have to create a table in the `updates` schema that matches the column names and types of your CSV. If you have proceeded as described thus far in this minimal working example, your CSV containing the to-be-updated data will have the same definition as the upsert target table (because the CSV was originally exported from the target table). Hence you can simply type

```
1 CREATE TABLE IF NOT EXISTS updates.cabinet (LIKE config_data.cabinet INCLUDING ALL)
```

Note that the option `INCLUDING ALL` will create a new table that copies all column names, their data types, their not-null constraints, primary and foreign key.<sup>13</sup> The resulting table will be empty but prompt the same requirements when inserting data as the target table (here `cabinet` in the `config_data` schema). That is, you won't be able to insert duplicate `cab_ids`, rows with missing start date information, etc. (see the definition of table `cabinet` for a complete list of column and table constraints).

Once you have created an empty source table in the `updates` schema as, you can use `pgAdmin3`'s easy-to-handle import wizard to import data to the now existing table.<sup>14</sup> Simply right-click on the table in the Object Browser and select "Import" (See Figure 2.11a). The 'Import data from file into table' wizard will open (shown for the case of the `cabinet` table in Figure 2.11b), and allow you to browse your system for the respective CSV. Remember to select check-box 'Header' in the 'Misc. Options' tab of the wizard and enter the delimiter of the data (see Figure 2.11c).<sup>15</sup>

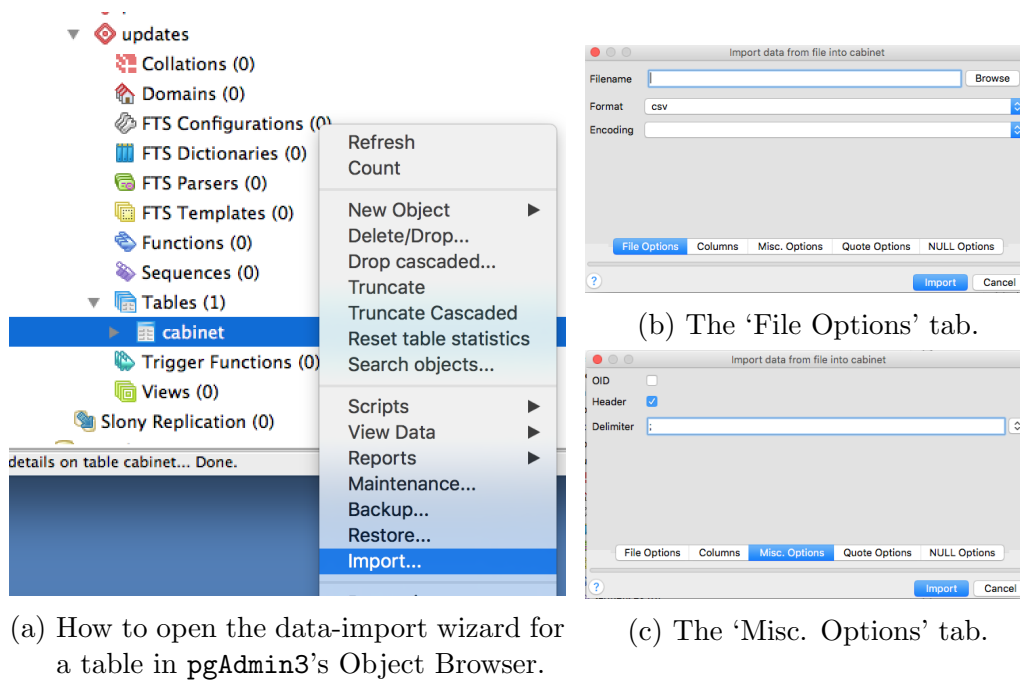
In case you have initially exported fewer columns from the target table, you can use the 'Columns' tab in the wizard to unselect the columns of the source table that are not recorded in your CSV.

<sup>13</sup> See <https://www.postgresql.org/docs/9.1/static/sql-createtable.html>

<sup>14</sup> If the table is not empty, e.g., storing data from previous updating rounds, it's recommended to remove the superfluous data before adding new to-be-updated data. Use the 'Drop/Delete ...' function provided on right-click on the respective table in the Object Browser or explicit SQL to empty the source table.

<sup>15</sup> In CSVs produced with German default settings, columns are usually separated with semicolons (;).





**Figure 2.11:** pgAdmin3's 'Import data from file into table' wizard.

Alternatively, you can define a table writing explicit SQL. Suppose, for instance, you have updated presidency start dates (i.e., column `prs_sdate`) for configurations in table presidential election, but your work-in-progress CSV looks like the example displayed in Figure 2.12.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
1	prselc_id	ctr_id	prs_n	prselc_date	prs_sdate	date_dif	prs_valid_sdate	prs_src	prs_comment
14	9013	9	Sauli Vaeinaemoe Niinistö	05.02.12	01.03.12	25 f			
15	17001	17	Antonio dos Santos Ramalho Eanes	27.06.76	14.07.76	17 t		<a href="http://www.presidencia.pt/?idc">http://www.presidencia.pt/?idc</a>	
16	17002	17	Antonio dos Santos Ramalho Eanes	07.12.80	09.03.81	92 t		<a href="http://www.presidencia.pt/?idc">http://www.presidencia.pt/?idc</a>	
17	17003	17	Mario Alberto Nobre Lopes Soares	16.02.86	09.03.86	21 t		<a href="http://www.presidencia.pt/?idc">http://www.presidencia.pt/?idc</a>	
18	17004	17	Mario Alberto Nobre Lopes Soares	13.01.91	09.03.91	55 t		<a href="http://www.presidencia.pt/?idc">http://www.presidencia.pt/?idc</a>	
19	17005	17	Jorge Fernando Branco de Sampaio	14.01.96	09.03.96	55 t		<a href="http://www.presidencia.pt/?idc">http://www.presidencia.pt/?idc</a>	
20	17006	17	Jorge Fernando Branco de Sampaio	14.01.01	09.03.01	54 t		<a href="http://www.presidencia.pt/?idc">http://www.presidencia.pt/?idc</a>	
21	17007	17	Anibal Antonio Cavaco Silva	22.01.06	09.03.06	46 t		<a href="http://www.presidencia.pt/?idc">http://www.presidencia.pt/?idc</a>	
22	17008	17	Anibal Antonio Cavaco Silva	23.01.11	09.03.11	45 t		<a href="http://www.presidencia.pt/?idc">http://www.presidencia.pt/?idc</a>	
23	19001	19	Franklin D. Roosevelt	07.11.44	20.01.45	74 t		<a href="http://www.inaugural.senate.gov">http://www.inaugural.senate.gov</a>	
24	19002	19	Harry S. Truman	07.11.44	12.04.45	156 t		<a href="http://www.inaugural.senate.gov">http://www.inaugural.senate.gov</a>	
25	19003	19	Harry S. Truman	02.11.48	20.01.49	79 t		<a href="http://www.inaugural.senate.gov">http://www.inaugural.senate.gov</a>	
26	19004	19	Dwight D. Eisenhower	04.11.52	20.01.53	77 t		<a href="http://www.inaugural.senate.gov">http://www.inaugural.senate.gov</a>	

**Figure 2.12:** Example of CSV with to-be-updated data that does not match column structure of target table.

Because the order of the columns in this CSV do not match the order of columns in the target table (e.g., in the CSV `prs_n` comes before `prselc_date` and `prs_sdate`, whereas it comes between `prselc_date` and `prs_sdate` in the target table), just unselecting the columns that do not exist in the source table when importing data

to an exact, empty copy of the presidential election table in the `updates` schema would nor fix the problem. Instead, you would have to define a matching table in the `updates` schema like

```

1 CREATE TABLE updates.presidential_election (
2   prselc_id NUMERIC(5,0) PRIMARY KEY ,
3   ctr_id    SMALLINT  UNIQUE NOT NULL,
4   prs_n     NAME      ,
5   prselc_date DATE    UNIQUE NOT NULL,
6   prs_sdate DATE      ,
7   date_dif  INTEGER   ,
8   prs_valid_sdate BOOLEAN ,
9   prs_src   TEXT      ,
10  prs_comment TEXT);

```

The work-flow in this example is clearly more complicated, so be aware of the difficulties arising from non-matching column ordering when attempting to update an existing table in the `config_data` schema.<sup>16</sup>

**Upserting the target table based on the data in the source table** Let’S return to our previous minimal workin example: updating the cabinet table. Once you have exported the to-be-updated data from your target table into a CSV, made your changes in the CSV, and imported it to the source table in the `updates` schema, you can call the `upsert`-function by executing the following code in the SQL-editor:

```

1 SELECT upsert_base_table(
2   target_schema='config_data', target_table='cabinet',
3   source_schema='updates', source_table='cabinet')
4 -- alternatively, but less explicit and hence more error prone
5 SELECT upsert_base_table('config_data', 'cabinet', 'updates', 'cabinet')

```

**Summary: under the hood of the upsert-function** In order to better understand the working of the `upsert`-function, lets use this minimal working example to reconstruct what’s happening under the hood when executing the above query.

First, it queries the primary-key information from the `constraint_column_usage` table in the `information_schema` schema.

<sup>16</sup> You may wonder why then deviating from the column structure of the target table should be considered at all when creating (i.e., exporting) a CSV with to-be-updated data. The answer is readability. Some tables, like the lower house election tables have more then a dozen of columns; just exporting the data from the columns that actually require updating then is quiet convenient. And you are on the sage side, if you simple stick to the column order in the target table.

```

1  -- parameter pkey_column will have the following value
2  SELECT column_name::VARCHAR FROM information_schema.constraint_column_usage
3  WHERE (table_schema = 'config_data' AND table_name = 'cabinet')
4  AND constraint_name LIKE '%pkey%';
5  -- returning cab_id
6
7  -- parameter pkey_constraint will have the following value
8  SELECT constraint_name::VARCHAR FROM information_schema.constraint_column_usage
9  WHERE (table_schema = 'config_data' AND table_name = 'cabinet')
10 AND constraint_name LIKE '%pkey%';
11 -- returning cabinet_pkey

```

Then get the intersecting columns, i.e., the columns that exist in both the target and the source table, and store the result set as comma-separated string of column names in the parameter `shared_columns`:

```

1  WITH intersecting_columns AS (
2    SELECT column_name, ordinal_position FROM information_schema.columns
3    WHERE table_schema = 'config_data'
4    AND table_name = 'cabinet'
5    AND column_name IN
6      (SELECT column_name
7       FROM information_schema.columns
8       WHERE table_schema = 'updates'
9       AND table_name = 'cabinet')
10   ORDER BY ordinal_position)
11 SELECT ARRAY_TO_STRING(ARRAY(SELECT column_name::VARCHAR AS columns FROM intersecting_columns),

```

In order to be able to set the values of the columns the target table shares with the source table equal to the values in the corresponding columns in the source table, a comma separated string is constructed following the logic `SET target_column = source_column`, and stored in the parameter `update_columns`:

```

1  WITH intersecting_columns AS (
2    SELECT column_name, ordinal_position FROM information_schema.columns
3    WHERE table_schema = 'config_data'
4    AND table_name = 'cabinet'
5    AND column_name IN
6      (SELECT column_name
7       FROM information_schema.columns
8       WHERE table_schema = 'updates'
9       AND table_name = 'cabinet')
10   AND column_name NOT LIKE 'cab_id' -- which is the value stored in parameter pkey_column
11   ORDER BY ordinal_position)
12 SELECT ARRAY_TO_STRING(
13   ARRAY(SELECT ' ' || column_name || ' = update_source.' || column_name FROM intersecting_columns
14   ' , ');

```

Note the use of the above declared parameter `pkey_column` to exclude the primary-key column from the update operation. (Setting the `cab_id` in the target table equal to `cab_id` in the source table makes no sense, if corresponding observations in both tables are identified by equality of `cab_id`.) Also, note that prefixing the column name in the source table with `update_source` is due to the fact that in

the subsequent update operation the subquery from which the update will be performed has the alias `update_source` (see line 55 of the function definition).

Further It is important to note that the `upsert`-function will only perform an upsert of data in columns that have the same (i.e., intersecting) name in the source and target tables. If you have, for instance, added an additional commenting column in your CSV, you may be able to import this column, too, by defining the source table such that it allows to import data from this additional-comments column. Calling the upsert function, however, will ignore this non-intersecting column.

When all required parameters are declared, concatenating the parameters values into long strings that can be called in `EXECUTE` statements allows to perform the due upsert and insert operations. The resulting update statement reads as follows given the above declared parameters:

```

1  EXECUTE 'UPDATE config_data.cabinet
2      SET cab_prv_id = update_source.cab_prv_id,
3          ctr_id = update_source.ctr_id,
4          cab_sdate = update_source.cab_sdate,
5          cab_hog_n = update_source.cab_hog_n,
6          cab_sts_ttl = update_source.cab_sts_ttl,
7          cab_care = update_source.cab_care,
8          cab_cmt = update_source.cab_cmt,
9          cab_src = update_source.cab_src,
10         cab_nxt_id = update_source.cab_nxt_id,
11         cab_valid_sdate = update_source.cab_valid_sdate
12 FROM (SELECT * FROM updates.cabinet
13       WHERE cab_id IN (SELECT DISTINCT cab_id FROM config_data.cabinet)
14       ) AS update_source
15 WHERE cabinet.cab_id = update_source.cab_id';

```

Note that it is updated performed only for the set of observations that recorded in both the target and the source table.

Conversely, the insert statement is

```

1  EXECUTE 'INSERT INTO config_data.cabinet
2      (cab_id, cab_prv_id, ctr_id, cab_sdate,
3       cab_hog_n, cab_sts_ttl, cab_care, cab_cmt,
4       cab_src, cab_nxt_id, cab_valid_sdate)
5      SELECT cab_id, cab_prv_id, ctr_id, cab_sdate,
6             cab_hog_n, cab_sts_ttl, cab_care, cab_cmt,
7             cab_src, cab_nxt_id, cab_valid_sdate
8      FROM (SELECT * FROM updates.cabinet
9            WHERE cab_id NOT IN (SELECT DISTINCT cab_id FROM config_data.cabinet)
10           ) AS insert_source';

```

Here, insert is only performed for the set of rows identified by `cab_id` in the source table, whose `cab_id` value is *not* yet recorded in the target table. This is, in fact, the crux of an upsert operation: Insert only where no update possible, because no identifiable record exists.

Please, as always, use the **beta\_version** schema for any test run of the function.

### 3 Data in the PCDB

This chapter provides a description of the data structure in the PCDB.

Five entity types will be discussed:

**Tables:** The permanent data repositories that store information at different levels of aggregation (e.g., parties, institutions, countries, etc.) and serve as primary source for all computed indices and aggregate figures.

**Views:** Virtual tables based on the result-sets of predefined SQL-queries. Views serve two purposes in the PCDB:

- a) Compute aggregates and indices from the primary data contained in tables,
- b) and create consistency checks that allow to control for the consistency of the data.

**Materialized views:** Tables created from views that may be updated from the original base tables as implemented by triggers and functions.

**Triggers:** Implemented on tables or materialized views to insert, update, or delete data as consequence of specific events. Triggers are mainly implemented to enable the automatic up-dating of the data in the PCDB.

**Functions:** The stored procedures to execute predefined data manipulation operations when called.

### 3.1 Roles in the PCDB

There exist three different roles with different sets of privileges to operate in the PCDB via pgAdmin3:

- (1) **Administrator:** Having all privileges on both the public and the config\_data schemes. This role is assumed by account polconfdb and polconfdb.1. Having all privileges includes to GRANT and REVOKE privileges to and from other the user roles.
- (2) **Read-and-Write:** Having privileges SELECT, INSERT, and UPDATE on both the public and the config\_data schemes. This role is assumed by account polconfdb.2 and polconfdb.3. Note that the SELECT-privilege includes the operation COPY TO, which allows to extract data from queries to .csv-documents.
- (3) **Read-Only:** Having privilege SELECT on both the public and the config\_data schemes. This role is assumed by account polconfdb.4 and polconfdb.5. The SELECT-privilege includes the operation COPY TO.

The roles in the PCDB are defined as follows:

```

1  -- Grant usage of all schemes to all accounts
2  GRANT usage ON SCHEMA public TO polconfdb_1,polconfdb_2,polconfdb_3,polconfdb_4,polconfdb_5 ;
3  GRANT usage ON SCHEMA config_data TO polconfdb_1,polconfdb_2,polconfdb_3,polconfdb_4,polconfdb_5 ;
4  GRANT usage ON SCHEMA beta_version TO polconfdb_1,polconfdb_2,polconfdb_3,polconfdb_4,polconfdb_5 ;
5  GRANT usage ON SCHEMA updates TO polconfdb_1,polconfdb_2,polconfdb_3,polconfdb_4,polconfdb_5 ;
6
7  -- create additional administrator role
8  GRANT ALL ON SCHEMA public TO polconfdb_1;
9  GRANT ALL ON SCHEMA config_data TO polconfdb_1;
10 GRANT ALL ON SCHEMA beta_version TO polconfdb_1;
11 GRANT ALL ON SCHEMA updates TO polconfdb_1;
12
13 -- create two read-and-write accounts
14 GRANT select, insert, update, delete ON ALL TABLES IN SCHEMA config_data TO polconfdb_2, polconfdb_3;
15 GRANT execute ON ALL FUNCTIONS IN SCHEMA config_data TO polconfdb_2, polconfdb_3;
16
17 GRANT select, insert, update, delete ON ALL TABLES IN SCHEMA beta_version TO polconfdb_2, polconfdb_3;
18 GRANT execute ON ALL FUNCTIONS IN SCHEMA beta_version TO polconfdb_2, polconfdb_3;
19
20 GRANT select, insert, update, delete ON ALL TABLES IN SCHEMA updates TO polconfdb_2, polconfdb_3;
21 GRANT execute ON ALL FUNCTIONS IN SCHEMA updates TO polconfdb_2, polconfdb_3;
22
23 -- create two read-only accounts
24 GRANT select ON ALL TABLES IN SCHEMA config_data TO polconfdb_4, polconfdb_5;
25 GRANT select ON ALL TABLES IN SCHEMA beta_version TO polconfdb_4, polconfdb_5;
26 GRANT select ON ALL TABLES IN SCHEMA updates TO polconfdb_4, polconfdb_5;

```

## 3.2 Tables in the *config\_data* schema

Tables store the primary data of the PCDB, that is used to compute aggregate figures and indices. This section provides a description of how tables in the PCDB are defined, and thus provides a comprehensive overview of variable names, their types (i.e., storage format), and potential constraints.

Both types and constraints define the requirements that data thought to be inserted into a column needs to met.<sup>1</sup>

Figure 18 presents the entity-relationship model of the tables in the PCDB, including the focal configuration events and country-years materialized views.

---

<sup>1</sup> An overview of the types provided within PostgreSQL can be found [here](#); information on constraints in tables [here](#).



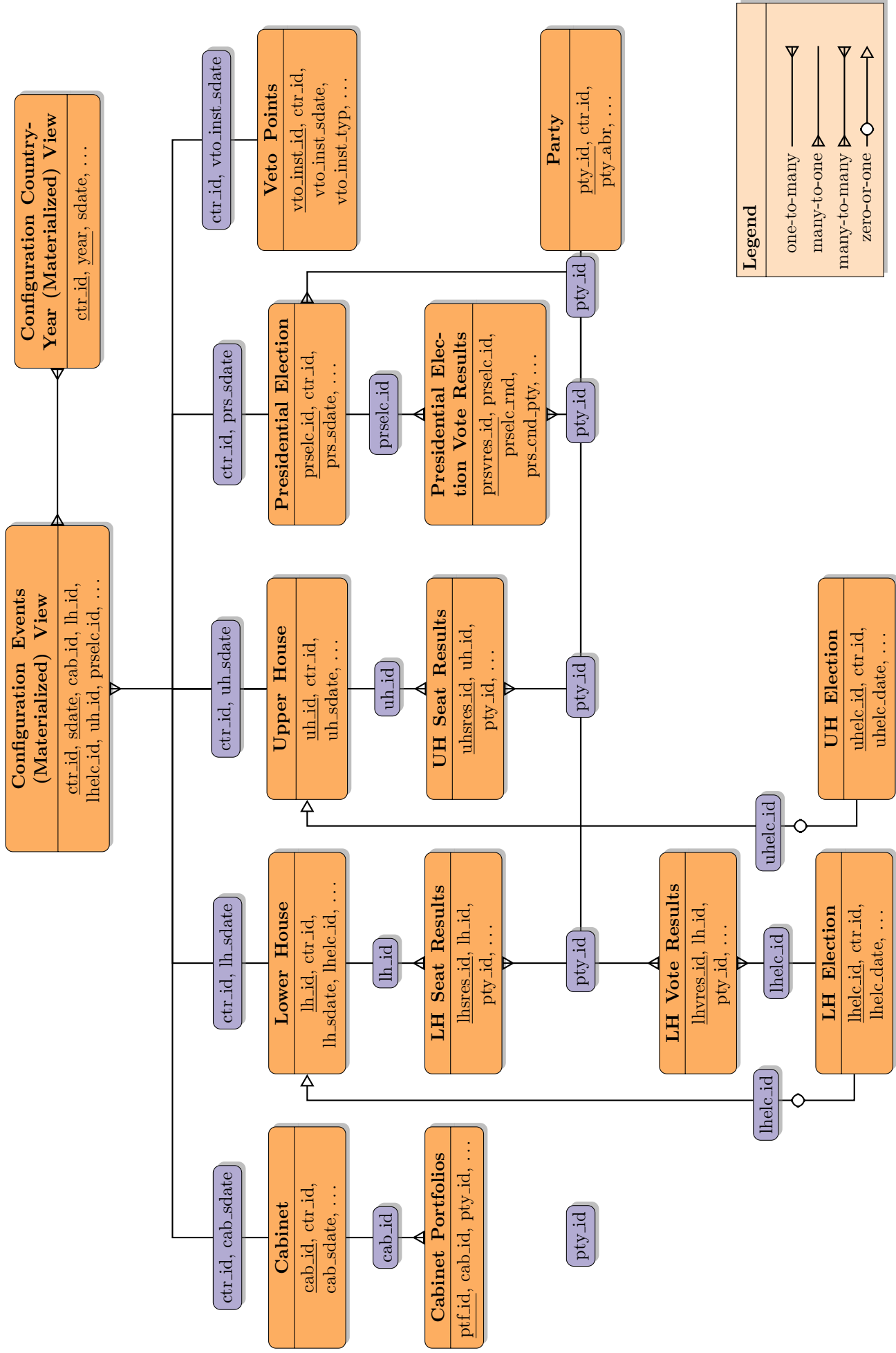


Figure 3.1: Entity-relationship diagram of the tables in the config\_data schema of the PCDB.

### 3.2.1 Countries

Table `country` contains the 34 countries covered in the PCDB as rows, attributing each country a unique identifier (`ctr_id`) and providing information on their accession date to specific international organizations.

It is defined as follows:

```

1  CREATE TABLE config_data.country (
2      ctr_id      SMALLINT PRIMARY KEY,
3      ctr_n       NAME      UNIQUE,
4      ctr_ccode   VARCHAR(3)  UNIQUE,
5      ctr_ccode2  VARCHAR(2)  UNIQUE,
6      ctr_ccode_nr NUMERIC(3)  UNIQUE,
7      ctr_eu_date DATE        CONSTRAINT def_eu_date
8      CHECK (ctr_eu_date >= '1951-04-18'::DATE OR ctr_eu_date IS NULL),
9      ctr_oecd_date DATE      CONSTRAINT def_oecd_date
10     CHECK (ctr_oecd_date >= '1961-04-10'::DATE OR ctr_oecd_date IS NULL),
11     ctr_wto_date  DATE      CONSTRAINT def_wto_date
12     CHECK (ctr_wto_date >= '1995-01-01'::DATE OR ctr_wto_date IS NULL),
13     ctr_cmt       TEXT,
14     ctr_src       TEXT
15 );

```

### 3.2.2 Parties

Table `party` provides general information on parties, permitting to link them to other party-level databases or tables in the PCDB. Rows are parties within countries, identified by `pty_id` or unique combinations of `ctr_id` and `pty_abr`.

**Party identifier** The PCDB uses simple running counters to identify parties in a country's political system and history (variable `pty_id`). In contrast to the coding schemes applied in other political databases (e.g., [Volken et al. 2013](#) or [Döring and Manow 2012](#)), identifiers convey no meaning such as alignment with party-families or ideological leaning on a left-right scale.

Special suffix are assigned to independent candidates (`##997`), other parties with seats in the legislature (`##998`), and other parties without seats in the legislature (`##999`).

Table `party` is defined as follows:

```

1  CREATE TABLE config_data.party (
2      pty_id      NUMERIC(5) PRIMARY KEY,
3      pty_abr     VARCHAR(10) UNIQUE NOT NULL,
4      pty_n       VARCHAR(45),
5      pty_n_en    VARCHAR(45),
6      cmp_id      NUMERIC(5),
7      prlgv_id    INTEGER,
8      pty_eal     INTEGER,
9      pty_eal_id  NUMERIC(5),
10     ctr_id      SMALLINT UNIQUE
11     REFERENCES config_data.country(ctr_id)
12     ON UPDATE CASCADE,
13     clea_id     VARCHAR(10),
14     pty_cmt     TEXT,
15     pty_src     TEXT
16 );

```

### 3.2.3 Cabinets

Table **cabinet** contains information on cabinets. Rows are the different cabinet configurations, identified by variable **cab\_id**. A new cabinet is enlisted if one of the following events took place:

- a) Coalition composition changes at the party-level.
- b) Head of government changes.
- c) Government formation after general legislative elections (not in presidential systems).

**Cabinet start date** Variable **cab\_sdate** refers to the date on which the cabinet, as proposed by the Head of Government, receives a vote of confidence in the legislature. The variable **cab\_src** regularly contains links to the websites or online repositories which are used as references. If available, data was compiled directly from information reported on government websites or other official sources.

**Total number of cabinet portfolios** In the present version of the database (!) the number of cabinet portfolios is an integer counter equal to the number of parties in cabinet. Because it is an aggregate of data contained in the Cabinet Portfolios table (3.2.4), the total number of cabinet portfolios is computed in **view\_pty\_cab\_sts** (??).

Table `cabinet` is defined as follows:

```

1  CREATE TABLE config_data.cabinet (
2    cab_id      NUMERIC(5)  PRIMARY KEY,
3    cab_prv_id  NUMERIC(5),
4    ctr_id      SMALLINT
5    REFERENCES config_data.country (ctr_id)
6    ON UPDATE CASCADE,
7    cab_sdate   DATE,
8    cab_hog_n   VARCHAR(15) ,
9    cab_sts_ttl NUMERIC(2,0) ,
10   cab_care     BOOLEAN ,
11   cab_cmt      TEXT,
12   cab_src      TEXT
13  );

```

### 3.2.4 Cabinet Portfolios

Table `cabinet_portfolios` provides information on parties in cabinets.

As cabinet portfolio we define the composition of a cabinet at the party-level. Thus, new portfolios are included whenever a new cabinet emerges. The changes that occur at the party-level regularly correspond to the events enumerated as criteria for recording a new cabinet configuration (cf. subsection 3.2.3):

- a) Coalition composition changes.
- b) Head of government changes.
- c) Government formation after general legislative elections (not in presidential systems).

Obviously, combinations of cabinet and party identifier are unique in the cabinet portfolios table.

Table `cabinet_portfolios` is defined as follows:

```

1  CREATE TABLE config_data.cabinet_portfolios (
2    ptf_id      NUMERIC(5)  PRIMARY KEY,
3    cab_id      NUMERIC(5)
4    REFERENCES config_data.cabinet(cab_id)
5    ON UPDATE CASCADE,
6    pty_id      NUMERIC(5)
7    REFERENCES config_data.party(pty_id)
8    ON UPDATE CASCADE,
9    pty_cab     BOOLEAN ,
10   pty_cab_sts INTEGER ,
11   pty_cab_hog BOOLEAN ,
12   pty_cab_sup BOOLEAN ,
13   ptf_cmt      TEXT ,
14   ptf_src      TEXT
15  );

```

### 3.2.5 Lower Houses

Table `lower_house` provides information on lower houses. Rows are compositions of lower houses, identified by `lh_id`.

A new lower house configuration is included when the seat composition is changed through legislative elections or through mergers or splits in factions during the legislature. When enlistment is due to the latter event, no lower house election identifier (`lhelc_id`) is recorded. Else, each lower house corresponds to a lower house election.

**Lower house start date** PCDB codes the date of the first meeting in the first legislative session of a new lower house as its start date (variable `lh_sdate`). Information on the sources is provided in variable `lh_src`. If no information on this event is available, the default is equal to the corresponding election date.

**Total number of seats in lower house** The figures on the total number of seats in the respective lower house are recorded in accordance with official electoral statistics (variable `lh_sts_ttl`). These figures do not necessarily equal the sum of all seats distributed between different parties of a legislature (as recorded in the lower house seat results data, see subsection ??).

Table `lower_house` is defined as follows:

```

1  CREATE TABLE config_data.cabinet (
2      cab_id      NUMERIC(5) PRIMARY KEY,
3      cab_prv_id  NUMERIC(5),
4      ctr_id      SMALLINT
5      REFERENCES config_data.country (ctr_id)
6      ON UPDATE CASCADE,
7      cab_sdate   DATE,
8      cab_hog_n   VARCHAR(15) ,
9      cab_sts_ttl NUMERIC(2,0) ,
10     cab_care     BOOLEAN ,
11     cab_cmt      TEXT,
12     cab_src      TEXT
13 );
```

### 3.2.6 Lower House Elections

Table `lh_election` provides information on lower house elections. Rows are lower house elections, identified by `lhelc_id`. It is noteworthy that each lower house

election corresponds to a lower house configuration (cf. subsection 3.2.5).<sup>2</sup>

**Elections, plurality versus proportional voting, and seat allocation** Lower house election dates (`lhelc_date`), and figures on registered voters (`lhelc_reg_vts` × ), the number valid votes (`lhelc_vts_`), and the number of seats elected (`lhelc_sts_*`) are recorded in accordance with official statistics, if available. Else, [Nohlen \(2001, 2005, 2010\)](#) is the primary source, complemented by individual-case research. Information on data sources is provided in variable `lhelc_src`.

**Electoral system** Key information on the electoral system to elect the lower house is provided for each tier disaggregatedly namely

- the electoral formular (`lhelc_fml_t*`), as defined by a customed type `elec_formula`,
- the number of constituencies (`lhelc_ncst_t*`),
- the number of seats allocated (`lhelc_sts_t*`),
- the average district magnitude (`lhelc_mag_t*`),
- the national threshold (`lhelc_ntrsh_t*`), and
- the district threshold (`lhelc_dtrsh_t*`).

Type `elec_formula` is defined as follows:

```

1  CREATE TYPE elec_formula AS ENUM (
2    '2RS', -- Two Round System
3    'AV', -- Alternative Vote
4    'DHondt',
5    'Droop',
6    'LR-Droop', -- Droop w/ Largest Remainders
7    'Hare',
8    'modified Hare',
9    'LR-Hare', -- Hare w/ Largest Remainders
10   'highest average remaining',
11   'Imperiali',
12   'MMD', -- Multi-Member District
13   'mSainteLague',
14   'Reinforced Imperiali',
15   'SainteLague',
16   'SMP', -- Single Member Plurality
17   'SNTV', -- Single Non-Transferable Vote
18   'STV' -- Single Transferable Vote
19 );
```

<sup>2</sup> While the opposite, that each lower house configuration corresponds to a lower house election, is not true.

In addition, variables `lhelc_dstr_mag` and `lhelc_dstr_mag_med` aggregate the average district magnitudes across the different tiers of the electoral system, reporting the mean and the median, respectively.

Comments and information on the sources of data on the electoral system are provided in `lhelc_esys_cmt` and `lhelc_esys_src`, respectively.

Table `lh_election` is defined as follows:

```

1  CREATE TABLE config_data.lh_election (
2    lhelc_id      NUMERIC(5) PRIMARY KEY,
3    lhelc_prv_id  NUMERIC(5),
4    ctr_id        SMALLINT
5    REFERENCES config_data.country(ctr_id)
6    ON UPDATE CASCADE,
7    lhelc_date    DATE NOT NULL,
8    lhelc_early   BOOLEAN,
9    lhelc_reg_vts NUMERIC,
10   lhelc_reg_vts_pr NUMERIC,
11   lhelc_reg_vts_pl NUMERIC,
12   lhelc_vts_pr   NUMERIC DEFAULT NULL,
13   lhelc_vts_pl   NUMERIC DEFAULT NULL,
14   lhelc_sts_pr   NUMERIC DEFAULT NULL,
15   lhelc_sts_pl   NUMERIC DEFAULT NULL,
16   lhelc_sts_ttl  NUMERIC DEFAULT NULL,
17
18   lhelc_fml_t1   elec_formula,
19   lhelc_ncst_t1  NUMERIC DEFAULT NULL,
20   lhelc_sts_t1   NUMERIC DEFAULT NULL,
21   lhelc_dstr_mag NUMERIC DEFAULT NULL,
22   lhelc_dstr_mag_med NUMERIC DEFAULT NULL,
23   lhelc_mag_t1   NUMERIC DEFAULT NULL,
24   lhelc_ntrsh_t1 NUMERIC DEFAULT NULL,
25   lhelc_dtrsh_t1 NUMERIC DEFAULT NULL,
26
27   lhelc_fml_t2   elec_formula,
28   lhelc_ncst_t2  NUMERIC DEFAULT NULL,
29   lhelc_sts_t2   NUMERIC DEFAULT NULL,
30   lhelc_mag_t2   NUMERIC DEFAULT NULL,
31   lhelc_ntrsh_t2 NUMERIC DEFAULT NULL,
32   lhelc_dtrsh_t2 NUMERIC DEFAULT NULL,
33
34   lhelc_fml_t3   elec_formula,
35   lhelc_ncst_t3  NUMERIC DEFAULT NULL,
36   lhelc_sts_t3   NUMERIC DEFAULT NULL,
37   lhelc_mag_t3   NUMERIC DEFAULT NULL,
38   lhelc_ntrsh_t3 NUMERIC DEFAULT NULL,
39   lhelc_dtrsh_t3 NUMERIC DEFAULT NULL,
40
41   lhelc_fml_t4   elec_formula,
42   lhelc_ncst_t4  NUMERIC DEFAULT NULL,
43   lhelc_sts_t4   NUMERIC DEFAULT NULL,
44   lhelc_mag_t4   NUMERIC DEFAULT NULL,
45   lhelc_ntrsh_t4 NUMERIC DEFAULT NULL,
46   lhelc_dtrsh_t4 NUMERIC DEFAULT NULL,
47
48   lhelc_bon_sts  NUMERIC DEFAULT NULL,

```

```

49     lhelc_esys_cmt      TEXT,
50     lhelc_cmt          TEXT,
51     lhelc_esys_src      TEXT,
52     lhelc_lsq           DOUBLE PRECISION,
53     lhelc_vola_sts      DOUBLE PRECISION,
54     lhelc_volb_sts      DOUBLE PRECISION,
55     lhelc_vola_vts      DOUBLE PRECISION,
56     lhelc_volb_vts      DOUBLE PRECISION,
57     lhelc_src           TEXT -
58 );

```

### 3.2.7 Lower House Vote Results

Table `lh.vote_results` contains data on the distribution of votes in the lower house at the party-level. Rows are the parties (identified by variable `pty_id`) and their respective vote results in a given lower house election (variable `lh_id`).

It is defined as follows:

```

1  CREATE TABLE config_data.lh_vote_results (
2     lhvres_id NUMERIC(5) PRIMARY KEY,
3     lhelc_id  NUMERIC(5)
4     REFERENCES config_data.lower_house(lh_id)
5     ON UPDATE CASCADE,
6     pty_id    NUMERIC(5)
7     REFERENCES config_data.party(pty_id)
8     ON UPDATE CASCADE,
9     pty_lh_vts_pr INTEGER DEFAULT NULL,
10    pty_lh_vts_pl INTEGER DEFAULT NULL,
11    lhvres_cmt  TEXT,
12    lhvres_src  TEXT
13 );

```

### 3.2.8 Lower House Seat Results

Table `lh.seat_results` contains data on the distribution of seats in the lower house at the party-level. Rows are the parties (identified by variable `pty_id`) and their respective vote results in a given lower house election (variable `lh_id`).

It is defined as follows:

```

1  CREATE TABLE config_data.lh_seat_results (
2     lhsres_id NUMERIC(5) PRIMARY KEY,
3     lhelc_id  NUMERIC(5)
4     REFERENCES config_data.lower_house(lh_id)
5     ON UPDATE CASCADE,
6     pty_id    NUMERIC(5)
7     REFERENCES config_data.party(pty_id)
8     ON UPDATE CASCADE,
9     pty_lh_sts_pr INTEGER DEFAULT NULL,
10    pty_lh_sts_pl INTEGER DEFAULT NULL,

```



```

11     pty_lh_sts  INTEGER,
12     lhvres_cmt  TEXT,
13     lhvres_src  TEXT
14 );

```

### 3.2.9 Upper Houses

Table `upper_house` provides basic information on upper houses, including start date of legislature and the total number of seats. Rows are compositions of upper houses, identified by `uh_id` as well as unique combinations of `ctr_id` and `uh_sdate`.

A new upper house composition is included when

- a) the composition changes through legislative elections, or
- b) mergers or splits in factions occur during the legislature.

Only countries with bicameral systems are recorded.

**Upper house start date** PCDB codes the date of the first meeting in the first legislative session of a new upper house as its start date. If no information on these events was available, the default is equal to the corresponding election date.

Table `upper_house` is defined as follows:

```

1  CREATE TABLE config_data.upper_house (
2    uh_id    NUMERIC(5) PRIMARY KEY,
3    uh_prv_id NUMERIC(5),
4    uhelc_id NUMERIC(5)
5    REFERENCES config_data.uh_election
6    MATCH SIMPLE
7    ON UPDATE CASCADE,
8    ctr_id   SMALLINT
9    REFERENCES config_data.country(ctr_id)
10   ON UPDATE CASCADE,
11   uh_sdate DATE,
12   uh_sts_ttl INTEGER NOT NULL,
13   uh_cmt   TEXT,
14   uh_src   TEXT
15 );

```

### 3.2.10 Upper House Elections

Table `uh_election` includes information on upper house elections. Rows report elections to form the upper house, and are identified by `uhelc_id` as well as unique combinations of `ctr_id` and `uhelc_date`. Information is only provided for countries with bicameral systems.

It is defined as follows:

```

1  CREATE TABLE config_data.uh_election (
2    uhelc_id NUMERIC(5) PRIMARY KEY,
3    uhelc_prv_id NUMERIC(5),
4    ctr_id SMALLINT
5    REFERENCES config_data.country(ctr_id)
6    ON UPDATE CASCADE,
7    uhelc_date DATE,
8    uh_sts_ttl INTEGER NOT NULL,
9    uhelc_sts_elc INTEGER NOT NULL,
10   uhelc_cmt TEXT,
11   uhelc_src TEXT
12  );

```

### 3.2.11 Upper House Seat Results

Table `uh_seat_results` compiles data on the seat composition in upper houses at the party-level. Rows record parties, identified by variable `pty_id`, and the number of seats they hold in a given upper house (`uh_id`).

The table is defined as follows:

```

1  CREATE TABLE config_data.uh_seat_results (
2    uhsres_id NUMERIC(5) PRIMARY KEY,
3    uh_id NUMERIC(5)
4    REFERENCES config_data.upper_house(uh_id)
5    ON UPDATE CASCADE,
6    pty_id NUMERIC(5)
7    REFERENCES config_data.party(pty_id)
8    ON UPDATE CASCADE,
9    pty_uh_sts_elc NUMERIC,
10   pty_uh_sts NUMERIC NOT NULL,
11   uhsres_cmt TEXT,
12   uhsres_src TEXT
13  );

```

### 3.2.12 Presidential Elections

Table `presidential_election` provides information on the election date, the winner and the electoral system that was applied in an election. Rows are presidential

elections, identified by variable `prselc_id` as well as unique combinations of `ctr_id` and `prselc_date`.<sup>3</sup>

In addition variable `prs_n`, `pty_id` and `prs_sdate`, respectively, report the name, the party affiliation and the date of investiture of the candidate that won the election.

Table `presidential_election` is defined as follows:

```

1  CREATE TABLE config_data.presidential_election (
2    prselc_id NUMERIC(5) PRIMARY KEY,
3    prselc_prv_id NUMERIC(5),
4    ctr_id SMALLINT
5    REFERENCES config_data.country(ctr_id)
6    ON UPDATE CASCADE,
7    prselc_date DATE,
8    prselc_rnd_ttl SMALLINT DEFAULT ('1'),
9    prselc_vts_clg NUMERIC,
10   reg_vts_prselc_r1 NUMERIC,
11   reg_vts_prselc_r2 NUMERIC DEFAULT NULL,
12   prselc_vts_ppl_r1 NUMERIC,
13   prselc_vts_ppl_r2 NUMERIC DEFAULT NULL,
14   prselc_clg BOOLEAN,
15   prs_n NAME,
16   pty_id NUMERIC(5)
17   REFERENCES config_data.party(pty_id)
18   ON UPDATE CASCADE,
19   prs_sdate DATE,
20   prselc_cmt TEXT,
21   prselc_src TEXT
22 );
```

### 3.2.13 Presidential Election Vote Results

Table `pres_elec_vres` provides data on vote results in presidential elections at the candidate-election round level . Rows are the candidates running in the (multiple rounds of) election(s) and their respective vote results, identified by `prsvres_id` as well as unique combinations of `prselc_id`, `prselc_rnd` and `prselc_cnd_pty`.

Table `pres_elec_vres` is defined as follows:

```

1  CREATE TABLE config_data.pres_elec_vres (
2    prsvres_id NUMERIC(5) PRIMARY KEY,
3    prselc_id NUMERIC(5)
4    REFERENCES config_data.presidential_election(prselc_id)
5    ON UPDATE CASCADE,
6    prselc_rnd SMALLINT,
7    prs_cnd_pty NUMERIC(5)
8    REFERENCES config_data.party(pty_id)
9    ON UPDATE CASCADE,
```

<sup>3</sup> Note that the direct elections of the Prime Minister in Israel between 1996 and 2001 are included in this table as well.

```

10     prs_cnd_n NAME,
11     prs_cnd_vts_clg INTEGER,
12     prs_cnd_vts_ppl INTEGER,
13     prsvres_cmt TEXT,
14     prsvres_src TEXT
15 );

```

### 3.2.14 Veto Points

Table **veto\_points** contains information on the different veto institutions in a country's political system and their veto power (i.e., entitlement to block national legislation). Rows are the veto institution configurations in a country, identified by **vto\_id** as well as unique combinations of **ctr\_id**, **vto\_inst\_typ** and **vto\_inst\_sdate**. Each institution type is recorded at least once, and each additional record per type is due to a change in national constitutional law that affects the institution's veto power.

Do not confuse a institutions veto power with its status as veto point. A veto institution may have differing veto potential in the legislative process, depending on national constitutional law; but whether it is active or not, and hence, whether it is an open or a closed veto point, varies both with its temporal correspondence vis-à-vis a government political configurations, and changing constitutional law.

**Veto Institution Type** Variable **vto\_inst\_typ** is defined as customized type, and is defined as follows:

```

1  CREATE TYPE vto_type AS ENUM (
2    'head of state',
3    'head of government',
4    'lower house',
5    'upper house',
6    'judicial',
7    'electoral',
8    'territorial');

```

**Veto Potential** Variable **vto\_pwr** records the veto potential for each institution type in a country. It is an ordinal variable bound between 1 and 0. An institution's veto power is

- coded 0 if it is generally not entitled to veto national legislation;
- coded 1 if it is assigned unconditional veto potential;

- or may assume values in the range between 0.5 and 1, indicating conditionality of its veto power with regard to the required seats share of cabinet parties in the lower or upper house, respectively, given a certain constitutional threshold.

Note that information on institutions' veto power is essential to identify open institutional veto points in a given political configuration, for they depend on both constitutional entitlement of veto and the specific date (i.e., duration) of the present political configuration, and—given some conditionality—on the size of political majorities or party alignment of the president.

**Veto institution start and end date** Variables `vto_inst_sdate` and `vto_inst_edate` report the start and end dates of the veto power status of respective institutions.

Though constitutional reforms are rare and in the vast majority of cases there is recorded only one veto power status per type of veto institution within countries, not every institution's veto power has remained unchanged throughout the PCDB's period of coverage.<sup>4</sup>

Table `veto_points` is defined as follows:

```

1  CREATE TABLE config_data.veto_points (
2    vto_id      NUMERIC(5) PRIMARY KEY,
3    ctr_id      SMALLINT
4      REFERENCES config_data.country(ctr_id)
5      ON UPDATE CASCADE,
6    vto_inst_typ VTO_TYPE,
7    vto_inst_n   NAME,
8    vto_inst_n_en NAME,
9    vto_inst_sdate DATE
10     CONSTRAINT def_inst_sdate NOT NULL DEFAULT '1900-01-01'::date,
11    vto_inst_edate DATE
12     CONSTRAINT def_inst_edate DEFAULT NULL,
13    vto_pwr      NUMERIC(3,2),
14    vto_cmt      TEXT,
15    vto_src      TEXT
16  );

```

<sup>4</sup> The *Belgian Senaat* (the upper house), for instance, lost its conditional, 50-percent counter-majoritarian threshold veto power in 1995. The Veto Points table therefore records two rows for the Belgian upper house, one with start date 1<sup>st</sup> January, 1900, (the default start date) and May 20, 1995, as end date, and one row with start date May 21, 1995, and the default end date December 31, 2099, because no other change of veto power took place until the end of 2014.

### 3.2.15 Electoral Alliances

Table `electoral_alliances` provides information on electoral alliances, to identify the parties forming an electoral alliance when possible. Parties listed in the Party table (see 3.2.2) that are recorded as electoral alliances are listed with their respective `pty_id`.

Variable `pty_eal_nbr` is a counter that enumerates parties that constitute an electoral alliance.<sup>5</sup> Accordingly, there occur as many rows for each electoral alliance in the table as variable `pty_eal` counts.

Variable `pty_eal_id`, in turn, records the party identifiers of the parties that form an electoral alliance. Combinations of `pty_id` (electoral alliance) and `pty_eal_nbr` (enumerator of party in electoral alliance) are therefore unique.

**Table 3.1:** Example of composition of selected electoral alliances in Portugal.

Electoral Alliances			Party	
Identifier	Abbreviation	Enumerator	Identifier	Abbreviation
<code>pty_id</code>	<code>pty_abr</code>	<code>pty_eal_n</code>	<code>pty_eal_id</code>	
8003	AP	1	8999	Other
8003	AP	2	8999	Other
8003	AP	3	8999	Other
8005	PSP.US	99	8058	PSP
8006	PDPC	1	8059	CDC
8006	PDPC	2	8999	Other
8006	PDPC	3	8999	Other
8006	PDPC	4	8999	Other

The example given in Table 3.1 presents a selection from the recorded electoral alliances in Portugal, and seeks to illustrate the coding scheme and organization of data in the table. Electoral alliance AP is formed by three parties, of which none is recorded in PCDB Party data (see 3.2.2) and thus `##999s` are assigned. One party that forms electoral alliance PSP.US is identified as PSP; however it could not be validated how many parties form the alliance, and therefore the enumerator is coded 99. The electoral alliance PDPC was knowingly formed by four parties, of which only one (CDC) is identified in the Party table.

<sup>5</sup> The counter is also recorded in the Party table and equals one for all ‘conventional’ parties.

Though `pty_eal_id` often references `##999`, it allows to link additional information on parties provided in table `??` to the electoral-alliance information.

Table `electoral_alliances` is defined as follows:

```
1  CREATE TABLE config_data.electoral_alliances(  
2      ctr_id      SMALLINT  
3          REFERENCES config_data.country(ctr_id)  
4          ON UPDATE CASCADE,  
5      pty_id      NUMERIC(5)  
6          REFERENCES config_data.party(pty_id)  
7          ON UPDATE CASCADE,  
8      pty_abr     VARCHAR(50),  
9      pty_eal_nbr INTEGER,  
10     pty_eal_id  NUMERIC(5),  
11     pty_eal_cmt TEXT,  
12     pty_eal_src TEXT  
13 );
```

### 3.3 Views in the *config\_data* schema

The views contained in the *config\_data* schema of the PCDB compute aggregates and indices from primary data (see section 3.2).

In the following subsections, the views that exist in the *config\_data* schema will be discussed with regard to the tables, views and materialized views they are based on, the level at which information is provided, and sources of potential missings (i.e., NULL-values).

**Some words on terminology** A view is **based on** another view, table, or materialized view, if it is queried in the view's definition. This is equivalent to say that a view references another entity or that this view stems from that entity, and implies that the view depends on it respectively that the view is a dependent of that entity.

The level at which a view provides information (i.e., data) is equivalent to its **level of aggregation** or analysis, respectively. If, for instance, a view references a vote results table, and aggregates these results at the institution level, it provides information at the institution level. If it, in contrast, computes some aggregate measure, grouping by country and party, it provides information at the party level. The level of aggregation may or may not differ from the level of aggregation of the entities a view is based on.



### 3.3.1 Configuration Events View

The Configuration Events View (`view_configuration_events`) is based on tables Cabinet, Lower House, Upper House, Presidential Elections and Veto Points, and provides the primary information on political configurations, namely country identifiers, a political configurations' start date, and the identifier values (IDs) of corresponding institutional configurations.

Accordingly, every row corresponds to a historically unique political configuration of a country's government, lower house, upper house, the position of the Head of State, and the veto institutions in place. , and because configuration start dates are identical with the start date of the institution the most recent change occurred, political configurations are uniquely identified by combinations of `ctr_id` and `sdate`).

View `view_configuration_events` thus sequences changes in the political-institutional configurations of a country by date. A new political configuration is recorded when one of the following changes occurs at one point in time during the respective period of coverage of a given country:

- A change in cabinet composition (rows in table Cabinet, identified by `cab_id` or unique combinations of `cab_sdate` and `ctr_id`).
- A change in lower house composition (rows in table Lower House, identified by `lh_id` or unique combinations of `lh_sdate` and `ctr_id`).
- If exists in the respective country, a change in upper house composition (rows in table Upper House, identified by `uh_id` or unique combination of `uh_sdate` and `ctr_id`).
- If exists in the respective country, a change in presidency (rows in table Presidential Election, identified by `prselc_id` or unique combination of `prs_sdate` and `ctr_id`).
- A change in the veto power of an institution (rows in table Veto Point, identified by `vto_inst_id` or unique combination of `ctr_id`, `vto_inst_typ` and `vto_inst_sdate`).

Hence, changes in political configurations are either due to a change in the partisan composition of some institution, i.e., a change in the (veto-)power relations *within* the institution, and consequently reflect changes in the (veto-)power relations *between* the institutions. Or a new configuration is recorded due to party splits or merges in the legislature, newly elected upper or lower houses, or new presidencies, that not necessarily affect the respective institutional veto potential vis-à-vis the government. Variable `type_of_change` classifies every configuration

according to its emergence, that is, what discerns is from the respective previous configuration in that country.

View *view\_configuration\_events* is defined as follows:

```

1  CREATE OR REPLACE VIEW config_data.view_configuration_events
2  AS
3  WITH
4      start_dates AS (SELECT cab_sdate AS sdate, ctr_id
5                        FROM config_data.cabinet
6                      UNION
7                        SELECT lh_sdate AS sdate, ctr_id
8                        FROM config_data.lower_house
9                      UNION
10                       SELECT uh_sdate AS sdate, ctr_id
11                       FROM config_data.upper_house
12                     UNION
13                       SELECT prs_sdate AS sdate, ctr_id
14                       FROM config_data.presidential_election
15                     UNION
16                       SELECT vto_inst_sdate AS sdate, ctr_id
17                       FROM config_data.veto_points
18                       WHERE vto_inst_sdate >= '1995-01-01'::DATE
19                     ORDER BY ctr_id, sdate NULLS FIRST ),
20      cabinets AS (SELECT ctr_id, cab_sdate, cab_id FROM config_data.cabinet) ,
21      lower_houses AS (SELECT ctr_id, lh_sdate, lh_id, lh_elc_id FROM config_data.lower_house) ,
22      upper_houses AS (SELECT ctr_id, uh_sdate, uh_id FROM config_data.upper_house) ,
23      presidents AS (SELECT ctr_id, prs_sdate, prs_elc_id FROM config_data.presidential_election),
24      configs AS (SELECT DISTINCT ON (ctr_id, sdate) start_dates.ctr_id, start_dates.sdate,
25                  cabinets.cab_id, lower_houses.lh_id, lower_houses.lh_elc_id, upper_houses.uh_id, presiden
26                  DATE_PART('year', sdate)::NUMERIC AS year,
27                  NULL::DATE AS edate
28      FROM
29          start_dates
30          LEFT OUTER JOIN cabinets
31              ON (start_dates.ctr_id = cabinets.ctr_id
32                  AND start_dates.sdate = cabinets.cab_sdate)
33          LEFT OUTER JOIN lower_houses
34              ON (start_dates.ctr_id = lower_houses.ctr_id
35                  AND start_dates.sdate = lower_houses.lh_sdate)
36          LEFT OUTER JOIN upper_houses
37              ON (start_dates.ctr_id = upper_houses.ctr_id
38                  AND start_dates.sdate = upper_houses.uh_sdate)
39          LEFT OUTER JOIN presidents
40              ON (start_dates.ctr_id = presidents.ctr_id
41                  AND start_dates.sdate = presidents.prs_sdate))
42  SELECT *,
43  CASE
44      WHEN cab_id IS NOT NULL THEN
45          CASE WHEN (lh_id, lh_elc_id, uh_id, prs_elc_id) IS NULL THEN 'change in cabinet composition'
46              WHEN lh_id IS NOT NULL THEN
47                  CASE WHEN lh_elc_id IS NOT NULL THEN
48                      CASE WHEN uh_id IS NOT NULL AND prs_elc_id IS NULL THEN 'change in cabinet, LH (due to
49                          WHEN prs_elc_id IS NOT NULL AND uh_id IS NULL THEN 'change in cabinet and LH (due
50                          WHEN (uh_id, prs_elc_id) IS NOT NULL THEN 'change in cabinet, LH (due to election
51                      ELSE 'change in cabinet and LH (due to election) composition'::TEXT
52                  END
53              ELSE
54                  CASE WHEN uh_id IS NOT NULL AND prs_elc_id IS NULL THEN 'change in cabinet, LH (due to
55                      WHEN prs_elc_id IS NOT NULL AND uh_id IS NULL THEN 'change in cabinet and LH (due

```

```

56         WHEN (uh_id, prselc_id) IS NOT NULL THEN 'change in cabinet, LH (due to party sp
57     ELSE 'change in cabinet and LH (due to party split/merger) composition'::TEXT
58     END
59 END
60     WHEN uh_id IS NOT NULL THEN
61     CASE WHEN prselc_id IS NULL THEN 'change in cabinet and UH composition'::TEXT
62     WHEN prselc_id IS NOT NULL THEN 'change in cabinet and UH composition, and preside
63     END
64     WHEN prselc_id IS NOT NULL THEN 'change in cabinet composition and presidency'::TEX
65 END
66 WHEN lh_id IS NOT NULL THEN
67     CASE WHEN lhelc_id IS NOT NULL THEN
68     CASE WHEN uh_id IS NOT NULL AND prselc_id IS NULL THEN 'change in LH (due to election)
69     WHEN prselc_id IS NOT NULL AND uh_id IS NULL THEN 'change in LH composition (due t
70     WHEN (uh_id, prselc_id) IS NOT NULL THEN 'change in LH (due to election) and UH co
71     ELSE 'change in LH composition (due to election)'::TEXT
72     END
73     ELSE
74     CASE WHEN uh_id IS NOT NULL AND prselc_id IS NULL THEN 'change LH (due to party split/m
75     WHEN prselc_id IS NOT NULL AND uh_id IS NULL THEN 'change LH composition (due to p
76     WHEN (uh_id, prselc_id) IS NOT NULL THEN 'change LH (due to party split/merger) an
77     ELSE 'change LH composition (due to party split/merger)'::TEXT
78     END
79 END
80 WHEN uh_id IS NOT NULL THEN
81     CASE WHEN prselc_id IS NULL THEN 'change UH composition'::TEXT
82     ELSE 'change UH composition and presidency'::TEXT
83     END
84     WHEN prselc_id IS NOT NULL THEN 'change in presidency'::TEXT
85     ELSE 'change in institutional veto power (constitutional change)'::TEXT
86 END AS type_of_change
87 FROM configs
88 ORDER BY ctr_id, sdate ASC

```

Rows are reported for all temporarily corresponding combinations of institutional configurations. Table 3.2 illustrates this for the Polish case.<sup>6</sup>

Note that the very first configuraton of each country regularly has a non-trivial missings, because one institutional configuration usually has an earlier start date than others (cabinets, for instance, are formed from lower houses compositions; hence, a new cabinet usually starts only after a new lower hosue is formed). This makes it impossible to determine veto constellations for the very first recorded configuration event, resulting in missing information.

From the conceptional point of view, these incomplete configurations generally provide no information on the institutional-political setting of legislation. In order to provide an overview over countries' political history, these 'incomplete configurations' are reported, however.

<sup>6</sup> Poland has been chosen as an example because it is one of the few countries in the PCDB in which all political institutions of interest exist, as, besides lower and upper house, presidents are popularly elected since 1990.

**Table 3.2:** Configuration Events View with empty cells for temporally corresponding institutional configurations.

ctr_id	sdate	cab_id	lh_id	lh_id	lhelc_id	prselc_id
25	1993-09-19		25002	25002		
25	1993-10-15				25002	
25	1993-10-26	25005				
25	1995-05-06	25006				
25	1995-12-23					25002
25	1996-02-07	25007				
25	1997-01-02					
25	1997-09-21		25003	25003		
25	1997-10-17					
25	1997-10-21				25003	

### 3.3.2 Configuration Country-Years

The Configuration Country-Year View `view_configuration_ctr_yr` provides information at the level of political configurations in a country-year format. It is based on the Configuration Events Materialized View (see 3.4.1,) and the basic logic of political configurations, described in subsection 3.3.1, applies.

The configurations that are reported for country-years are *no* aggregates (e.g., averaging across all configurations in a given country-year, as it is often done when coding economic data at the yearly interval), but the view reports *representative configurations*, having the highest temporal weight in a given country-year.

**Choosing representative configurations** A configuration’s temporal weight in a country-year is computed by dividing its duration in the given year by the total recorded days of that year (365 days or 366 for leap years, and except from years of a country’s first and last recorded year). The configurations with the highest weight in a given country-year is selected as representative for this year.<sup>7</sup>

Table 3.3 illustrates the procedure for choosing representative configurations of country-years. The first row reports the very first recorded Australian configuration, starting on September 28, 1946, which was active total 34 days. The second recorded configuraton started on the first November of the same year, but prevailed

<sup>7</sup> There occur no configurations between 1945 and 2014 where the weight of two or more configurations in a year equal each other.

**Table 3.3:** Example of duration and temporal weight of configurations in Australia, 1946 to 1949.

Start date	End date	Year	Duration in year	Recorded days	Weight
1946-09-28	1946-10-31	1946	34	95	0.3579
1946-11-01	1947-06-30	1946	61	95	0.6421
1946-11-01	1947-06-30	1947	181	365	0.4959
1947-07-01	1949-12-09	1947	184	365	0.5041
1947-07-01	1949-12-09	1948	366	366	1.0000
1947-07-01	1949-12-09	1949	343	365	0.9397
1949-12-10	1949-12-18	1949	9	365	0.0247
1949-12-19	1950-06-30	1949	13	365	0.0356

until the next year, ending on June 30, 1947. Thus, the second configuration durated 61 days in 1946 and 181 days in 1947, having clearly the highest temporal weight in 1946.

The third configuration durated total 184 days in 1947 and lasted until December 9, 1949. Accordingly, it has the highest temporal weight in 1947, and is therefore chosen as representative configuration for year 1947. In 1948 only one configuration is recorded. This is because the fourth configuration, starting on first July, 1947, lasted until 1949 and is obviously representative for the whole year of 1948. The third configuration that started in 1947 and outlasted 1948 durated total 343 days in 1949. It was temporally dominant also in the year of its end, as the other two configurations recorded with a start date in 1949 only amounted to weights equal to 0.0247 and 0.0356, respectively.

**View Definition** Because the definition of view `view_configuration_ctr_yr` is lengthy, it is provided in the Appendix (see 5.1.10), and only verbatim pseudo code is provided here.

- Generate country-year time series by taking the cross-product of all countries and the series of years, starting from the lowest recorded year to the current year.
- Join time series on all country-start year combinations enlisted in Configuration Events Materialized View, and keep only those with a match

(i.e., if a configuration started in 1970 and ended in 1971, 1971 will not be matched in the country's time serie).

- Select configurations from the Configuration Events Materialized View that are matched; select temporally most proximate configurations with lower start year than current year as 'then still active' configurations for all country-year combinations not enlisted in configuration events; get the set union of both selects, and compute start and end years.
- Compute configurations' durations in the year(s) of their activity (i.e., from start day in start year to first day of next year, from last day of start year to last day of duration in end year, and number of days of year for all years in which its was the only active configuration).
- Right outer join configuration information from materialized view on configurations with highest temporal weight in a given year of the country's time serie by country identifier and start date. In case of two configurations having the same temporal weight in a given year, select the one with the lowest start date as a tie-breaking rule.

### 3.3.3 Partisan Veto Players

View `view_configuration_vto_pts` is based on view `Cabinet's Seat Total` (??) and materialized view `Configuration Events`, and provides information at the level of political configurations. It computes the number of partisan veto players in a given configuration.

View `view_configuration_vto_pts` is defined as follows:

```

1  CREATE OR REPLACE VIEW config_data.view_configuration_vto_pts
2  AS
3  WITH cab_sts_ttl
4  AS (SELECT cab_id, COUNT(pty_cab) AS cab_sts_ttl_computed
5       FROM config_data.cabinet_portfolios
6       WHERE pty_cab IS TRUE
7       GROUP BY cab_id ) -- WITH AS cab_sts_ttl
8  SELECT ctr_id, sdate, cab_id, (cab_sts_ttl_computed-1)::SMALLINT AS vto_pts
9  FROM
10 (SELECT ctr_id, sdate, cab_id FROM config_data.mv_configuration_events) AS CONFIGS
11 JOIN
12 (SELECT cab_id, cab_sts_ttl_computed FROM cab_sts_ttl ) AS CAB_STS_TTL
13 USING(cab_id)
14 ORDER BY ctr_id, sdate NULLS FIRST;
```

### 3.3.4 Lower House Veto Point

View `view_configuration_vto_lh` is based on table Veto Points, Cabinet Portfolios and Lower House Seat Results, and materialized view Configuration Events, and provides information at the level of political configurations. It computes whether the lower house constitutes an open veto point vis-à-vis the government in a given configuration, by comparing cabinet's seat share in the temporal corresponding lower house with the decisive counter-majority threshold recorded in table Veto Points.

View `view_configuration_vto_lh` is defined as follows:

```

1  -- CREATE OR REPLACE VIEW config_data.view_configuration_vto_lh
2  -- AS
3  WITH
4  configs AS (SELECT ctr_id, sdate, cab_id, lh_id FROM config_data.mv_configuration_events), -- W
5  pty_lh_sts_shr AS (SELECT lh_id, pty_id, pty_lh_sts,
6                     SUM(pty_lh_sts::NUMERIC) OVER (PARTITION BY lh_id) AS lh_sts_ttl_computed,
7                     (pty_lh_sts::NUMERIC / SUM(pty_lh_sts::NUMERIC) OVER (PARTITION BY lh_id) ) AS pty_lhelc
8                     FROM config_data.lh_seat_results
9                     WHERE pty_lh_sts <> 0), -- WITH AS pty_lhelc_sts_shr
10 cab_lh_sts_shr AS (SELECT DISTINCT ON (ctr_id, sdate) ctr_id, sdate, cab_id, lh_id, SUM(pty_lhe
11                    FROM
12                    (SELECT cab_id, pty_id, pty_cab FROM config_data.cabinet_portfolios ) AS CAB_PORTFOLIOS
13                    JOIN
14                    (SELECT * FROM configs LEFT OUTER JOIN pty_lh_sts_shr USING(lh_id) ) AS CAB_LH_CONFIGS
15                    USING(cab_id, pty_id)
16                    WHERE pty_cab IS TRUE
17                    GROUP BY ctr_id, sdate, lh_id, cab_id ), -- WITH AS cab_lh_sts_shr
18 configs_w_sts_shr AS (SELECT * FROM configs JOIN cab_lh_sts_shr USING(ctr_id, sdate, cab_id, lh
19 veto_inst AS (SELECT ctr_id, vto_pwr, vto_inst_sdate, vto_inst_edate
20               FROM config_data.veto_points
21               WHERE vto_inst_typ = 'lower house')
22 SELECT veto_inst.ctr_id, sdate,
23        cab_id, lh_id, cab_lh_sts_shr, vto_pwr AS vto_pwr_lh,
24        CASE WHEN (cab_lh_sts_shr-vto_pwr)::NUMERIC >= 0 -- if cab has at least seat share of (ordina
25              THEN 0::SMALLINT -- veto point is closed
26              ELSE 1::SMALLINT -- else, it's open
27        END AS vto_lh
28 FROM configs_w_sts_shr, veto_inst
29 WHERE configs_w_sts_shr.ctr_id = veto_inst.ctr_id
30 AND configs_w_sts_shr.sdate >= veto_inst.vto_inst_sdate
31 AND configs_w_sts_shr.sdate < veto_inst.vto_inst_edate
32 ORDER BY ctr_id, sdate NULLS FIRST;
```

To guarantee that the computation of the lower houses veto potential is sensitive to constitutional changes, joining political configurations with veto information is proceeded by start dates and country identifier.

Subtracting the total seat share of cabinet parties in the lower house from the respective veto power threshold of lower houses results in a positive value when the former is smaller than the latter, for instance, in the case of a minority government

in a parliamentary system. In this case, `vto_pwr_lh` assumes a value equal to one, indicating an open veto point.

### 3.3.5 Upper House Veto Point

View `view_configuration_vto_uh` is based on table Veto Points, Cabinet Portfolios and Upper House Seat Results, and materialized view Configuration Events, and provides information at the level of political configurations. It computes whether the upper house constitutes an open veto point vis-à-vis the government in a given configuration, by comparing cabinet's seat share in the temporal corresponding upper house with the decisive counter-majority threshold recorded in table Veto Points.

View `view_configuration_vto_lh` is defined as follows:

```

1  CREATE OR REPLACE VIEW config_data.view_configuration_vto_uh
2  AS
3  WITH
4  configs AS (SELECT ctr_id, sdate, cab_id, uh_id FROM config_data.mv_configuration_events), -- AS
5  pty_uh_sts_shr AS (SELECT uh_id, pty_id, pty_uh_sts,
6                      SUM(pty_uh_sts::NUMERIC) OVER (PARTITION BY uh_id) AS uh_sts_ttl_computed,
7                      (pty_uh_sts::NUMERIC / SUM(pty_uh_sts::NUMERIC) OVER (PARTITION BY uh_id)) AS pty_uh_elc_s,
8                      FROM config_data.uh_seat_results
9                      WHERE pty_uh_sts <> 0 ), -- AS pty_uh_sts_shr
10 cab_uh_configs AS (SELECT * FROM configs LEFT OUTER JOIN pty_uh_sts_shr USING(uh_id) ), -- AS
11 cab_uh_sts_shr AS (SELECT DISTINCT ON (ctr_id, sdate) ctr_id, sdate, cab_id, uh_id, SUM(pty_uh_elc_s)
12                    FROM (SELECT cab_id, pty_id, pty_cab FROM config_data.cabinet_portfolios) AS CAB_PORTFOLIOS
13                    JOIN cab_uh_configs USING(cab_id, pty_id)
14                    WHERE pty_cab IS TRUE
15                    GROUP BY ctr_id, sdate, uh_id, cab_id ), -- AS cab_uh_sts_shr
16 configs_w_sts_shr AS (SELECT * FROM configs JOIN cab_uh_sts_shr USING(ctr_id, sdate, cab_id, uh_id) ),
17 veto_inst AS (SELECT ctr_id, vto_pwr, vto_inst_sdate, vto_inst_edate
18               FROM config_data.veto_points
19               WHERE vto_inst_typ = 'upper house')
20 SELECT veto_inst.ctr_id, sdate,
21        cab_id, uh_id, cab_uh_sts_shr, vto_pwr AS vto_pwr_uh,
22        CASE WHEN (cab_uh_sts_shr-vto_pwr)::NUMERIC >= 0 -- if cab has at least seat share of (ordina
23              THEN 0::SMALLINT -- veto point is closed
24              ELSE 1::SMALLINT -- else, it's open
25        END AS vto_uh
26 FROM configs_w_sts_shr, veto_inst
27 WHERE configs_w_sts_shr.ctr_id = veto_inst.ctr_id
28 AND configs_w_sts_shr.sdate >= veto_inst.vto_inst_sdate
29 AND configs_w_sts_shr.sdate < veto_inst.vto_inst_edate
30 ORDER BY ctr_id, sdate NULLS FIRST;
```

To guarantee that the computation of the upper houses veto points is sensitive to constitutional changes, joining political configurations with veto information is proceeded by start dates and country identifier. Subtracting the total seat share of cabinet parties in the upper house from the respective veto power threshold of upper houses results in a positive value when the former is smaller than the latter.



In this case, `vto_pwr_uh` assumes a value equal to one, indicating an open veto point.

### 3.3.6 Presidential Veto Point

View `view_configuration_vto_prs` is based on tables Presidential Elections, Cabinet Portfolios, Veto Points, and materialized view Configuration Events, and provides information at the level of political configurations. It computes whether the president, that is, the Head of State (HoS) constitutes an open veto point vis-à-vis the government in a given configuration, by checking for cohabitation and whether the president is constitutionally entitled to veto national legislation.

View `view_configuration_vto_prs` is defined as follows:

```

1  CREATE OR REPLACE VIEW config_data.view_configuration_vto_prs
2  AS
3  WITH
4  configs AS (SELECT ctr_id, sdate, cab_id, prselc_id FROM config_data.mv_configuration_events) ,
5  cab_parties AS (SELECT cab_id, pty_id FROM config_data.cabinet_portfolios WHERE pty_cab IS TRUE) ,
6  config_cab_parties AS (SELECT * FROM configs FULL OUTER JOIN cab_parties USING(cab_id) ) , -- W
7  cab_pty_hos_pty AS (SELECT ctr_id, sdate, ABS(SIGN(pty_id-pty_id_hos)) AS in_cohabitation -- un
8                      FROM config_cab_parties FULL OUTER JOIN
9                      (SELECT prselc_id, pty_id AS pty_id_hos FROM config_data.presidential_election) AS
10                     USING(prselc_id)
11                     WHERE prselc_id IS NOT NULL), -- AS cab_pty_hos_pty
12 config_cohabitation AS (SELECT ctr_id, sdate, LEAST(in_cohabitation) AS cohabitation -- only
13                        FROM cab_pty_hos_pty
14                        GROUP BY ctr_id, sdate, in_cohabitation), -- AS config_cohabitation
15 veto_inst AS (SELECT ctr_id, vto_pwr, vto_inst_sdate, vto_inst_edate
16               FROM config_data.veto_points
17               WHERE vto_inst_typ = 'head of state')
18 SELECT config_cohabitation.ctr_id, sdate, cohabitation, vto_pwr,
19        (cohabitation*vto_pwr)::SMALLINT AS vto_prs -- president constitutes open veto point, if conf
20 FROM config_cohabitation, veto_inst
21 WHERE config_cohabitation.ctr_id = veto_inst.ctr_id
22 AND config_cohabitation.sdate >= veto_inst.vto_inst_sdate
23 AND config_cohabitation.sdate < veto_inst.vto_inst_edate
24 ORDER BY ctr_id, sdate NULLS FIRST;
```

To guarantee that the computation of the presidents' veto potential is sensitive to constitutional changes, joining political configurations with veto information is proceeded by start dates and country identifier. The resulting indicator is 1, if the president was entitled to veto national legislation, and if he or she was in cohabitation (i.e., was affiliated with a party that was not in government) in a given political configuration.

### 3.3.7 Judicial Veto Point

View `view_configuraion_vto_jud` is based on table Veto Points and materialized view Configuration Events, and provides information at the level of political configurations. It computes whether the judiciary constitutes an open veto point vis-à-vis the government in a given configuration.

View `view_configuraion_vto_jud` is defined as follows:

```

1  CREATE OR REPLACE VIEW config_data.view_configuration_vto_jud
2  AS
3  WITH
4    configs AS (SELECT ctr_id, sdate FROM config_data.mv_configuration_events ),
5    veto_inst AS (SELECT ctr_id, vto_pwr, vto_inst_sdate, vto_inst_edate
6                  FROM config_data.veto_points
7                  WHERE vto_inst_typ = 'judicial')
8  SELECT configs.ctr_id, sdate, ROUND(vto_pwr)::SMALLINT AS vto_jud
9  FROM configs, veto_inst
10 WHERE configs.ctr_id = veto_inst.ctr_id
11 AND configs.sdate >= veto_inst.vto_inst_sdate
12 AND configs.sdate < veto_inst.vto_inst_edate
13 ORDER BY ctr_id, sdate NULLS FIRST;
```

Because the veto power of the judiciary is dependent on constitutional provision, joining political configurations with veto information is proceeded by start dates and country identifier. The resulting indicator is 1, if the judiciary was entitled to veto national legislation in a given political configuration.

### 3.3.8 Electorate Veto Point

View `view_configuraion_vto_elec` is based on table Veto Points and materialized view Configuration Events, and provides information at the level of political configurations. It computes whether the electorate constitutes an open veto point vis-à-vis the government in a given configuration.

View `view_configuraion_vto_elec` is defined as follows:

```

1  CREATE OR REPLACE VIEW config_data.view_configuration_vto_elct
2  AS
3  WITH
4    configs AS (SELECT ctr_id, sdate FROM config_data.mv_configuration_events ),
5    veto_inst AS (SELECT ctr_id, vto_pwr, vto_inst_sdate, vto_inst_edate
6                  FROM config_data.veto_points
7                  WHERE vto_inst_typ = 'electoral')
8  SELECT configs.ctr_id, sdate, ROUND(vto_pwr)::SMALLINT AS vto_elct
9  FROM configs, veto_inst
10 WHERE configs.ctr_id = veto_inst.ctr_id
11 AND configs.sdate >= veto_inst.vto_inst_sdate
12 AND configs.sdate < veto_inst.vto_inst_edate
13 ORDER BY ctr_id, sdate NULLS FIRST;
```

Since the veto power of the electorate is dependent constitutional provision, joining political configurations with veto information is proceeded by start dates and country identifier. The resulting indicator is 1, if the electorate was entitled to veto national legislation in a given political configuration.

### 3.3.9 Territorial Veto Point

View `view_configuraion_vto_terr` is based on table Veto Points and materialized view Configuration Events, and provides information at the level of political configurations. It computes whether territorial units constitute an open veto point vis-à-vis the government in a given configuration.

View `view_configuraion_vto_terr` is defined as follows:

```

1  CREATE OR REPLACE VIEW config_data.view_configuration_vto_terr
2  AS
3  WITH
4  configs AS (SELECT ctr_id, sdate FROM config_data.mv_configuration_events ),
5  veto_inst AS (SELECT ctr_id, vto_pwr, vto_inst_sdate, vto_inst_edate
6                FROM config_data.veto_points
7                WHERE vto_inst_typ = 'territorial')
8  SELECT configs.ctr_id, sdate, ROUND(vto_pwr)::SMALLINT AS vto_terr
9  FROM configs, veto_inst
10 WHERE configs.ctr_id = veto_inst.ctr_id
11 AND configs.sdate >= veto_inst.vto_inst_sdate
12 AND configs.sdate < veto_inst.vto_inst_edate
13 ORDER BY ctr_id, sdate NULLS FIRST;
```

Because veto power of territorial units is contingent on constitutional provisions, joining political configurations with veto information is proceeded by start dates and country identifier.

### 3.3.10 Lower House Election Disproportionality

View `view_lhelc_lsq` is based on tables Lower Houses, LH Elections, LH Vote Results and LH Vote Results, and provides data at the level of lower house elections.

It computes Gallagher's Least-square index (LSq) according to [Gallagher \(1991\)](#), which measures the disproportionality in the distribution of seats in a lower house election:

$$\text{LSq}_{\text{Gallagher}} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2} \sum_{j=1}^J (v_j - s_j)^2}, \quad (3.1)$$

where  $j$  denotes parties,  $v$  vote and  $s$  seat shares gained in an election to the lower house.

The LSq weighs the deviations of seat from vote shares by their own value, creating a index ranging from zero to 100. The lower the index value, the lower the disproportionality and vice versa.

Note that seat results that stem from lower houses elections constitute only a subset of all seat results, because a lower house configuration may not only result from a lower house election, but also from party splits or mergers. Therefore, the disproportionality figures are provided at the lower house election, so that they can be joined on the first-mentioned, larger subset of lower house configurations.

View `view_lhelc_lsq` is defined as follows:

```

1  CREATE OR REPLACE VIEW config_data.view_lhelc_lsq
2  AS
3  WITH
4  lhelc_ids AS (SELECT lhelc_id, lhelc_prv_id, lhelc_nxt_id FROM config_data.lh_election), --WITH
5  lh_ids AS (SELECT *
6      FROM (SELECT ctr_id, lh_id, lhelc_id FROM config_data.lower_house) AS LHS
7      LEFT OUTER JOIN lhelc_ids USING (lhelc_id)), -- WITH AS lh_ids
8  lhelc_vres AS (SELECT lhelc_id, pty_id,
9      NULLIF(COALESCE(pty_lh_vts_pr, 0) +
10         COALESCE(pty_lh_vts_pl, 0), 0)::NUMERIC AS pty_lhelc_vts_computed, -- NULL if pl
11      (SUM(COALESCE(pty_lh_vts_pr, 0) +
12         COALESCE(pty_lh_vts_pl, 0)
13      ) OVER (PARTITION BY lhelc_id))::NUMERIC AS lhelc_vts_ttl_computed
14      FROM config_data.lh_vote_results), -- WITH AS lhelc_vres
15  lhelc_vote_res AS (SELECT lhelc_id, pty_id,
16      (pty_lhelc_vts_computed/lhelc_vts_ttl_computed) AS pty_lhelc_vts_shr_computed
17      FROM lh_ids LEFT OUTER JOIN lhelc_vres USING (lhelc_id)
18      WHERE lh_id IN (SELECT DISTINCT lh_id FROM lh_ids)), -- WITH AS lhelc_vote_res
19  lh_sres AS (SELECT lh_id, pty_id, pty_lh_sts::NUMERIC,
20      (SUM(pty_lh_sts::NUMERIC ) OVER (PARTITION BY lh_id)) AS lh_sts_ttl_computed,
21      CASE WHEN (pty_lh_sts = 0)
22      THEN 0
23      ELSE (pty_lh_sts::NUMERIC/(SUM(pty_lh_sts::NUMERIC) OVER (PARTITION BY lh_id) ) )
24      END AS pty_lh_sts_shr_computed
25      FROM config_data.lh_seat_results), -- WITH AS lh_seat_res
26  lh_seat_res AS (SELECT lh_id, lhelc_id, pty_id, pty_lh_sts_shr_computed
27      FROM lh_sres JOIN lh_ids USING(lh_id)),
28  invalid_lsq AS (SELECT DISTINCT lhelc_id
29      FROM lhelc_vote_res FULL OUTER JOIN lh_seat_res USING(lhelc_id, pty_id)
30      WHERE (pty_lhelc_vts_shr_computed IS NOT NULL
31          AND pty_lh_sts_shr_computed = 0 AND (pty_id - 999) % 1000 != 0) -- case (a) vote res
32      OR (pty_lhelc_vts_shr_computed IS NULL
33          AND pty_lh_sts_shr_computed > 0)) -- case (b) seat results are recorded (i.e., party h
34  SELECT DISTINCT ON (lhelc_id) lhelc_id, lh_id, -- select distinct at level of lower house elect
35      CASE WHEN lhelc_id IN (SELECT lhelc_id FROM invalid_lsq) -- when in list of invalid lower hou
36      THEN NULL -- no lsq is computed, for result would be biased by missingness of vote/seat res
37      ELSE SQRT(0.5*(SUM((pty_lhelc_vts_shr_computed -
38          pty_lh_sts_shr_computed)^2.0) OVER (PARTITION BY lh_id) ))
39      END AS lhelc_lsq_computed
40  FROM lhelc_vote_res FULL OUTER JOIN lh_seat_res USING(lhelc_id, pty_id)
41  WHERE lhelc_id IS NOT NULL -- excluding lower house configuration to which no election correspo
42  ORDER BY lhelc_id, pty_id;
```

43 -- NOTE that the problem of 'bunching' of others and independents (i.e. small parties and indep

Note that variable `lhelc_lsq_computed` cannot be computed for lower house elections in which (a) for at least one party with seat(s) in the lower house neither proportional nor plurality vote results are recorded, or (b) neither proportional nor plurality seats are recorded, even though the party is not identified as 'Other without seat', i.e. `pty_id` is not `##999`.

The PCDB also includes the variable `lhelc_lsq_noothers_computed`, which excludes the vote and seat shares listed for the category 'Others with seats' from computing the LSq. The definition of view `view_lhelc_lsq_noothers` is provided in the Appendix (see 5.1.2).

### 3.3.11 Effective Number of Parties in Parliament, Minimum Fragmentation

View `view_lh_enpp_minfrag` is based on table Lower House Seat Results, and aggregates data at the level of lower houses.

The effective number of parties in parliament (ENPP) is a measure of party system fractionalization that takes into account the relative size of parties present in a country's lower house.

Variable `lh_enpp_minfrag` is computed based on the formula originally proposed by [Laakso and Taagepera \(1979\)](#)

$$\text{ENPP}_{\text{minfrag}}(k) = 1 / \sum_{j=1}^J s_{j,k}^2, \quad (3.2)$$

where  $k$  denotes a country's lower house at a given point in time,  $J$  are parties in a given lower house  $k$ , and  $s$  is party  $j$ 's seat share in the  $k$ th lower house.

View `view_lh_enpp_minfrag` is defined as follows:

```

1  CREATE OR REPLACE VIEW config_data.view_lh_enpp_minfrag
2  AS
3  WITH
4  lh_sres AS (SELECT lh_id, pty_id,
5                  pty_lh_sts::NUMERIC,
6                  (COALESCE(pty_lh_sts_pr, 0) +
7                   COALESCE(pty_lh_sts_pl, 0))::NUMERIC AS pty_lh_sts_computed,
8                  SUM(COALESCE(pty_lh_sts_pr, 0) +
9                     COALESCE(pty_lh_sts_pl, 0)
10                  ) OVER (PARTITION BY lh_id)::NUMERIC AS lh_sts_ttl_computed, -- summing parties' seats w
11                  ((COALESCE(pty_lh_sts_pr, 0) + COALESCE(pty_lh_sts_pl, 0))::NUMERIC /
12                  (SUM(COALESCE(pty_lh_sts_pr, 0) +

```

```

13         COALESCE(pty_lh_sts_pl, 0)
14     ) OVER (PARTITION BY lh_id)::NUMERIC
15 ) AS pty_lh_sts_shr -- computing parties's seat shares in given lower house
16 FROM config_data.lh_seat_results
17 WHERE COALESCE(pty_lh_sts_pr, 0) +
18        COALESCE(pty_lh_sts_pl, 0) > 0)
19 SELECT lh_id, 1/SUM(pty_lh_sts_shr^2.0) AS lh_enpp_minfrag -- Effective Number of Parties in P
20 FROM lh_sres
21 GROUP BY lh_id
22 ORDER BY lh_id;

```

Note that the ENPP is calculated with the computed, not the recorded total number of parties' seats in the lower house.

The variable suffix *\_minfrag* points to the fact that Laakso and Taagepera's original formula lumps small parties or independent representatives in the parliament into one single categories (here the categories 'Others with seats' [*otherw*] and 'Independents' [*IND*]). other parties with seats and independents, respectively, enter into the calculation as if they each form a single party, and thus tend to increase the fractionalization indice only marginally. Hence, this is equivalent to assume minimum fragmentation, and this likely results in an underestimate of fragmentation (cf. Gallagher and Mitchell, 2005).

The PCDB provides for an alternative ENPP indice that adjusts for this tendency (see 3.3.12).

### 3.3.12 Effective Number of Parties in Parliament, Maximum Fragmentation

View *view\_lh\_enpp\_maxfrag* is based on tables Lower House Seat Results and Parties, and aggregates data at the level of lower houses.

The effective number of parties in parliament (ENPP) is a measure of party system fractionalization that takes into account the relative size of parties present in a country's lower house.

Variable *lh\_enpp\_maxfrag* adjusts for the tendency of underestimating fractionalization of lower houses that is implicit in Laakso and Taagepera's original formula (Equ 3.2).

It applies what Gallagher and Mitchell (2005, pp. 600-602) refer to as 'Taagepera's least component approach': The seat share of the groups 'Others with seats' (*otherw*) and 'Independents' (*IND*) are split into  $m$  fractions each, resulting in  $m$  seat shares of size  $s_m$ .

The formula to compute `lh_enpp_maxfrag` is

$$\text{ENPP}_{\text{maxfrag}}(k) = 1 / \sum_{j=1}^J m \left( \frac{s_{j,k}}{m} \right)^2, \quad (3.3)$$

where  $m$  is computed by dividing the number of seats of `otherw` or that of `INDs` by the number of seats of the smallest ‘real’<sup>8</sup> party in the respective lower house, and upround to the next bigger integer value, to guarantee that the seat share of `otherw` and/or of `INDs` are smaller than that of the smallest ‘real’ party. This adjustment equates to assuming maximum fragmentation.

View `view_lh_enpp_maxfrag` is defined as follows:

```

1  CREATE OR REPLACE VIEW config_data.view_lh_enpp_maxfrag
2  AS
3  WITH
4  lh_sres AS (SELECT lh_id, pty_id,
5                  pty_lh_sts::NUMERIC,
6                  (COALESCE(pty_lh_sts_pr, 0) +
7                   COALESCE(pty_lh_sts_pl, 0))::NUMERIC AS pty_lh_sts_computed,
8                  SUM(COALESCE(pty_lh_sts_pr, 0) +
9                     COALESCE(pty_lh_sts_pl, 0)
10                  ) OVER (PARTITION BY lh_id)::NUMERIC AS lh_sts_ttl_computed, -- summing parties' seats w
11                  ((COALESCE(pty_lh_sts_pr, 0) + COALESCE(pty_lh_sts_pl, 0))::NUMERIC /
12                   (SUM(COALESCE(pty_lh_sts_pr, 0) +
13                      COALESCE(pty_lh_sts_pl, 0)
14                   ) OVER (PARTITION BY lh_id))::NUMERIC
15                  ) AS pty_lh_sts_shr -- computing parties's seat shares in given lower house
16  FROM config_data.lh_seat_results
17  WHERE COALESCE(pty_lh_sts_pr, 0) +
18         COALESCE(pty_lh_sts_pl, 0) > 0), -- WITH AS lh_seats, records lower house seats and
19  others_and_inds AS (SELECT DISTINCT pty_id
20                      FROM config_data.party
21                      WHERE (pty_id - 999) % 1000 = ANY ('{0, 998, 999}'::int[])), -- WITH AS otherw_and_ind_pa
22  lh_min_sts AS (SELECT DISTINCT lh_id,
23                  MIN(pty_lh_sts_computed) OVER (PARTITION BY lh_id) AS min_lh_sts
24  FROM lh_sres),
25  lh_others_sts AS (SELECT DISTINCT lh_id, pty_id, pty_lh_sts_computed AS others_lh_sts
26  FROM lh_sres
27  WHERE pty_id IN (SELECT pty_id FROM others_and_inds)),
28  m_upround AS (SELECT lh_id, pty_id, CEIL(others_lh_sts/min_lh_sts) AS lh_m_upround
29  FROM lh_min_sts JOIN lh_others_sts USING (lh_id))
30  SELECT lh_id, 1/SUM(COALESCE(lh_m_upround, 1)*(
31                      (pty_lh_sts_shr/COALESCE(lh_m_upround, 1)
32                      )^2))::NUMERIC AS lh_enpp_maxfrag -- Effective Number of Parties in Parliam
33  FROM lh_sres LEFT OUTER JOIN m_upround USING (lh_id, pty_id)
34  GROUP BY lh_id
35  ORDER BY lh_id;
```

Note that the ENPP is calculated with the computed, not the recorded total number of parties’ seats in the lower house.

<sup>8</sup> ‘Real’ in the sense that the respective party is identified by a counter different from `##997` or `##998` (see 3.2.2).

### 3.3.13 Lower House Election Effective Thresholds

View `view_lhelc_eff_thrshlds` is based on table Lower House Elections and provides data at the level of lower house elections.

It computes different measurements of the effective threshold in a given lower house election.

Variable `lhelc_eff_thrshld_lijphart1994` computes the threshold according to the definition provided by [Lijphart \(1994\)](#):

$$\text{EffT}_{\text{Lijphart}} = \frac{0.5}{m+1} + \frac{0.5}{2m}, \quad (3.4)$$

where  $m$  is the district magnitude.

Variable `lhelc_eff_thrshld_taagepera2002`, in contrast, computes the threshold according to the definition provided by [Taagepera \(2002, p. 309\)](#):

$$\text{EffT}_{\text{Taagepera}} = \frac{0.75}{n^2 + (S/n^2)}, \quad (3.5)$$

where  $S$  is the size of the lower house (i.e., the total number of seats), and  $n$  is the number of seat winning parties.

In the PCDB, it is assumed that  $n \approx \sqrt[4]{m * S}$ . This yields

$$\text{EffT}_{\text{PCDB}} = \frac{0.75}{(m+1) * \sqrt{S/m}} \quad (3.6)$$

to compute variable `lhelc_eff_thrshld_pcdb`, which is in fact identical with [Taagepera](#)'s formula, if  $n = \sqrt[4]{m * S}$ .

View `view_lhelc_eff_thrshlds` is defined as follows:

```

1 CREATE OR REPLACE VIEW config_data.view_lhelc_eff_thrshlds
2 AS
3 SELECT lhelc_id, ctr_id, lhelc_date, lhelc_sts_ttl, lhelc_dstr_mag,
4        ((0.5/(lhelc_dstr_mag+1)) +
5         (0.5/(2*lhelc_dstr_mag)))
6       )::NUMERIC(7,5) AS lhelc_eff_thrshld_lijphart1994,
7        (0.75/(((lhelc_dstr_mag*lhelc_sts_ttl)^0.25)^2 +
8         (lhelc_sts_ttl/((lhelc_dstr_mag*lhelc_sts_ttl)^0.25)^2))
9       )::NUMERIC(7,5) AS lhelc_eff_thrshld_taagepera2002,
10       (0.75/((lhelc_dstr_mag+1)*(lhelc_sts_ttl/lhelc_dstr_mag)^0.5)
11      )::NUMERIC(7,5) AS lhelc_eff_thrshld_pcdb
12 FROM config_data.lh_election
13 ORDER BY lhelc_id, ctr_id, lhelc_date NULLS FIRST;
```



### 3.3.14 Type A Volatility in Lower House Election Vote Shares

View `view_lhelc_vola_vts` is based on tables Lower Houses, Lower House Elections and Lower House Vote Results, and provides data at the level of lower house elections.

Generally, type A volatility measures volatility from party entry and exit to the political system, and is quantified by the change that occurs in the distribution of shares between parties due to parties newly entering respectively retiering from the electoral arena (Powell and Tucker, 2013), majorly the domestic party system or the lower house.

Type A volatility in votes in a given lower house election is defined as volatility in the distribution of votes arising from new entering and retiering parties, given by the formula

$$\text{Vote A Volatility}(k) = \frac{\left| \sum_{n=1}^{\text{New}} v_{n,k} + \sum_{o=1}^{\text{Old}} v_{o,k} \right|}{2}, \quad (3.7)$$

where  $o$  refers to retiering parties that contested only the election  $k - 1$  and  $n$  to new-entering parties that contested only election  $k$ , and generally  $v$  is party's vote share in the lower house election (i.e., the number of votes gained by party, divided by the total number of votes distributed between all parties  $J$  that railed in the respective election  $k$ ).

View `view_lhelc_vola_vts` is defined as follows:

```

1  CREATE OR REPLACE VIEW config_data.view_lhelc_vola_vts
2  AS
3  WITH
4  lhlc_ids AS (SELECT lhlc_id, lhlc_prv_id, lhlc_nxt_id FROM config_data.lh_election) , -- WH
5  lh_ids AS (SELECT *
6    FROM (SELECT ctr_id, lh_id, lhlc_id FROM config_data.lower_house) AS LHS
7    LEFT OUTER JOIN lhlc_ids USING (lhlc_id)), -- WITH AS lh_ids, enlists lower house configu
8  lhlc_vres AS (SELECT lhlc_id, pty_id,
9    NULLIF(COALESCE(pty_lh_vts_pr, 0) +
10     COALESCE(pty_lh_vts_pl, 0),
11     0)::NUMERIC AS pty_lhlc_vts_computed, -- NULL if plurality and proportional vote records
12    (SUM(COALESCE(pty_lh_vts_pr, 0) +
13     COALESCE(pty_lh_vts_pl, 0)
14    ) OVER (PARTITION BY lhlc_id))::NUMERIC AS lhlc_vts_ttl_computed
15    FROM config_data.lh_vote_results
16    WHERE (pty_id - 999) % 1000 != 0),
17  lhlc_vote_res AS (SELECT *, (pty_lhlc_vts_computed/lhlc_vts_ttl_computed) AS pty_lhlc_vts_s
18    FROM lh_ids LEFT OUTER JOIN lhlc_vres USING (lhlc_id)), -- WITH AS lhlc_vote_res, record
19  new_ptys AS (SELECT DISTINCT ON (lhlc_id) lhlc_id,
20    SUM(pty_lhlc_vts_shr_computed) OVER (PARTITION BY lhlc_id) AS new_ptys_vts_shr -- computa
21    FROM lhlc_vote_res
22    WHERE (lhlc_id, pty_id) NOT IN -- by exclusion of present stable parties, only new-entry
23    (SELECT DISTINCT ON (CUR_LHELC.lhlc_id, CUR_LHELC.pty_id) CUR_LHELC.lhlc_id, CUR_LHELC
24    FROM (SELECT lhlc_id, lhlc_nxt_id, pty_id
25    FROM (SELECT lhlc_id, pty_id FROM lhlc_vote_res) AS VRES
```

```

26         JOIN lhelic_ids USING(lhelic_id)) AS PREV_LHELC
27     JOIN lhelic_vote_res AS CUR_LHELC
28     ON (CUR_LHELC.lhelic_id = PREV_LHELC.lhelic_nxt_id
29         AND CUR_LHELC.pty_id = PREV_LHELC.pty_id)) -- joining current lower houses on
30     AND lhelic_id NOT IN (SELECT min(lhelic_id) OVER (PARTITION BY ctr_id) FROM lh_ids)), --
31 ret_ptys AS (SELECT DISTINCT ON (lhelic_id) lhelic_id, sum(pty_lhelic_vts_shr_computed) OVER (PART
32     FROM lhelic_vote_res
33     WHERE (lhelic_id, pty_id) NOT IN -- by exclusion of future stable parties, only parties
34     (SELECT DISTINCT ON (CUR_LHELC.lhelic_id, CUR_LHELC.pty_id) CUR_LHELC.lhelic_id, CUR_LHELC
35     FROM
36     (SELECT lhelic_id, lhelic_prv_id, pty_id
37     FROM (SELECT lhelic_id, pty_id FROM lhelic_vote_res) AS VRES
38     JOIN lhelic_ids USING(lhelic_id)) AS NXT_LHELC
39     JOIN lhelic_vote_res AS CUR_LHELC
40     ON (CUR_LHELC.lhelic_id = NXT_LHELC.lhelic_prv_id AND CUR_LHELC.pty_id=NXT_LHELC.pty_id
41     AND lhelic_id NOT IN (SELECT max(lhelic_id) OVER (PARTITION BY ctr_id) FROM lh_ids)) --
42 SELECT lh_ids.lh_id, lh_ids.lhelic_id,
43     CASE WHEN lh_ids.lhelic_id IS NULL -- if no corresponding lhelic_id recorded for lower house con
44     THEN NULL -- do not record volatility
45     ELSE (ABS(COALESCE(ret_ptys_vts_shr, 0) + COALESCE(new_ptys_vts_shr, 0))/2)
46     END AS lhelic_vola_vts_computed
47 FROM lh_ids -- list of all lower houses constitutes reference point
48 LEFT OUTER JOIN new_ptys USING(lhelic_id)
49 LEFT OUTER JOIN ret_ptys ON(lh_ids.lhelic_prv_id = ret_ptys.lhelic_id) -- joining the set of futu
50 articles that contested last lower house election at did not contest the current lower house el
51 ORDER BY lh_id;

```

Because the SQL-syntax of `view_lhelic_vola_vts` is rather complex, some brief comments follow:

- The enumerator of Equ 3.7 consists of two summands; each is computed separately as `new_ptys_vts_shr` and `ret_ptys_vts_shr`, respectively.
- With respect to the subqueries, `new_ptys` aggregates the vote shares of parties that contested in the present lower house election but not in the previous one, and `ret_ptys` aggregates the vote shares of parties that contested in the previous election but not in the current one.
- Excluding ‘stable’ parties (i.e., parties that entered the lower house in the present as well as the previous election) within the subqueries is achieved by the `EXCEPT`-clauses, which pair parties recorded for the present and the previous lower house by party identifiers. If a party contested only in the present election, or only in the previous elections, then it does not occur in the query that follows the `EXCEPT`-clauses. In consequence, only votes gained by new entering and retiering parties enter the aggregation.
- The category ‘Others without seat’ (`pty_id` is `##999`) are excluded from the computation of individual parties’ vote shares, because volatility in the lower house is of interest (not volatility in the party system more generally).

- Generally, joining parties' vote results with different combinations of the identifiers of the previous, the current, and the next lower house election enables to easily identify new entering and retiring parties.

Note that figures for first and last recorded elections are invalid, because it is impossible to determine which parties are 'newcomers' in first and which parties will retire in last election, respectively.

### 3.3.15 Type B Volatility in Lower House Election Vote Shares

View `view_lhelc_volb_sts` is based on tables Lower Houses, Lower House Elections and Lower House Vote Results, and provides data at the level of lower house elections.

Type B volatility quantifies the change that occurs in the distribution of vote shares of parties in subsequent elections, comparing the results in the current election to that of the previous one. Accordingly, type B volatility considers only so-called stable parties, and measures the volatility in the distribution of votes arising from gains and losses of these stable parties.

The formula to compute `lhelc_volb_vts` is

$$\text{Seat B Volatility}(k) = \frac{\left| \sum_{j=1}^{\text{Stable}} v_{j,(k-1)} - v_{j,k} \right|}{2}, \quad (3.8)$$

where  $v$  are vote shares that party  $j$  gained in the current lower house  $k$  or in the previous lower house  $k - 1$ .

View `view_lhelc_volb_vts` is defined as follows:

```

1  CREATE OR REPLACE VIEW config_data.view_lhelc_volb_vts
2  AS
3  WITH
4  lhelc_ids AS (SELECT lhelc_id, lhelc_prv_id, lhelc_nxt_id FROM config_data.lh_election) , -- WH
5  lh_ids AS (SELECT * FROM lhelc_ids
6           RIGHT OUTER JOIN (SELECT ctr_id, lh_id, lhelc_id FROM config_data.lower_house) AS LHS USING
7  lhelc_vres AS (SELECT lhelc_id, pty_id,
8                  (COALESCE(pty_lh_vts_pr,0) + COALESCE(pty_lh_vts_pl,0))::NUMERIC AS pty_lhelc_vts_computed
9                  (sum(COALESCE(pty_lh_vts_pr,0) + COALESCE(pty_lh_vts_pl,0)) OVER (PARTITION BY lhelc_id)
10 FROM config_data.lh_vote_results
11 WHERE (pty_id - 999) % 1000 != 0), -- Others without seat (pty_id is 9999) are exclu
12 lh_vote_res AS (SELECT *, (pty_lhelc_vts_computed/lhelc_vts_ttl_computed) AS pty_lhelc_vts_shr
13 FROM lh_ids LEFT OUTER JOIN lhelc_vres USING (lhelc_id)), -- WITH AS lhelc_vres, record
14 prev_lhelc AS (SELECT lhelc_id, pty_id, pty_lhelc_vts_shr_computed AS pty_lhelc_vts_shr FROM lh
15 cur_lhelc AS (SELECT lhelc_id, lhelc_prv_id, pty_id, pty_lhelc_vts_shr_computed AS pty_cur_lhel
16 SELECT DISTINCT ON (lh_id, lhelc_id) lh_id, lh_ids.lhelc_id,
17 (SUM(ABS(pty_lhelc_vts_shr-pty_cur_lhelc_vts_shr)) OVER (PARTITION BY lh_ids.lhelc_id) )/2 AS
18 FROM lh_ids
```

```

19     LEFT OUTER JOIN cur_lhelc ON (cur_lhelc.lhelc_id = lh_ids.lhelc_id)
20     LEFT OUTER JOIN prev_lhelc ON (cur_lhelc.lhelc_prv_id = prev_lhelc.lhelc_id AND cur_lhelc.pty
21     ORDER BY lh_id, lhelc_id;

```

Stable parties are identified computationable by calculating the cross-product between rows in the subqueries `CUR_LHELC` and `PREV_LHELC`, and reporting only those for which a party identifier is enlisted in both the previous and the current election.

Note that the concept of stable party makes no sense for first recorded lower house elections, and hence B volatilities are not computed. The measure is highly sensitive to missing data, as no aggregate value is computed for lower house elections in which at least one party except the group ‘Others without seat’ has NULL records for total vote results. A lack of reliable lower-level data thus causes missingness of aggregate data.

### 3.3.16 Type A Volatility in Lower House Seat Shares

View `view_lh_vola_sts` is based on tables `Lower Houses` and `Lower House Seat Results`, and provides data at the level of lower houses.

Generally, type A volatility measures volatility from party entry and exit to the political system and is quantified by the change that occurs in the distribution of shares between parties due to parties newly entering respectively retiering from the electoral arena (Powell and Tucker, 2013), majorly the domestic party system or the lower house.

Type A volatility in seats in a given lower house is defined as volatility in the distribution of seats arising from new entering and retiering parties, given by the formula

$$\text{Seat A Volatility}(k) = \frac{\left| \sum_{n=1}^{\text{New}} s_{n,k} + \sum_{o=1}^{\text{Old}} s_{o,k} \right|}{2}, \quad (3.9)$$

where  $o$  refers to retiering parties that contested only the election  $k - 1$  and  $n$  to new-entering parties that contested only election  $k$ , and generally  $s$  is party’s seat share in the lower house (i.e., the number of seats gained by party, divided by the total number of seats distributed between all parties  $J$  that entered the lower house  $k$  in the corresponding election).

View `view_lh_vola_sts` is defined as follows:

```

1     CREATE OR REPLACE VIEW config_data.view_lh_vola_sts
2     AS
3     WITH
4     lh_ids AS (SELECT ctr_id, lh_id, lh_prv_id, lh_nxt_id FROM config_data.lower_house) , -- WITH A
5     lh_seat_res AS (SELECT lh_id, pty_id, pty_lh_sts::NUMERIC ,

```

```

6      SUM(pty_lh_sts::NUMERIC) OVER (PARTITION BY lh_id) AS lh_sts_ttl_computed --
    summing parties' seats within lower house configurations to total lower house seats
7      FROM config_data.lh_seat_results
8      WHERE pty_lh_sts >= 1), -- WITH AS lh_seat_res, records lower house seat results at par
9  new_ptys AS (SELECT DISTINCT ON (lh_id) lh_id,
10     SUM(pty_lh_sts/lh_sts_ttl_computed) OVER (PARTITION BY lh_id) AS new_ptys_sts_shr
11     FROM lh_seat_res -- seat results of parties that were not in previous lower house, i.e., new
12     WHERE (lh_id, pty_id) NOT IN -- by exclusion of present stable parties, only new-entry pa
13     (SELECT DISTINCT ON (CUR_LH.lh_id, CUR_LH.pty_id) CUR_LH.lh_id, CUR_LH.pty_id
14     FROM (SELECT DISTINCT ON (lh_id, pty_id) lh_id, pty_id FROM lh_seat_res ) AS CUR_LH
15     JOIN (SELECT DISTINCT ON (lh_id, pty_id) lh_seat_res.lh_id, lh_nxt_id, pty_id
16     FROM lh_seat_res LEFT OUTER JOIN lh_ids USING(lh_id)) AS PRV_LH
17     ON (CUR_LH.lh_id = PRV_LH.lh_nxt_id AND CUR_LH.pty_id=PRV_LH.pty_id)) -- joining current
18     AND lh_id NOT IN (SELECT min(lh_id) OVER (PARTITION BY ctr_id) FROM lh_ids)), -- exclusion
19  ret_ptys AS (SELECT DISTINCT ON (lh_id) lh_id,
20     SUM(pty_lh_sts/lh_sts_ttl_computed) OVER (PARTITION BY lh_id) AS ret_ptys_sts_shr
21     FROM lh_seat_res -- seat results of parties not in next lower house, i.e., retiring parti
22     WHERE (lh_id, pty_id) NOT IN -- by exclusion of future stable parties, only parties th
23     (SELECT DISTINCT ON (CUR_LH.lh_id, CUR_LH.pty_id) CUR_LH.lh_id, CUR_LH.pty_id
24     FROM (SELECT DISTINCT ON (lh_id, pty_id) lh_id, pty_id FROM lh_seat_res) AS CUR_LH
25     JOIN (SELECT DISTINCT ON (lh_id, pty_id) lh_seat_res.lh_id, lh_prv_id, pty_id
26     FROM lh_seat_res LEFT OUTER JOIN lh_ids USING(lh_id)) AS NXT_LH
27     ON (CUR_LH.lh_id = NXT_LH.lh_prv_id AND CUR_LH.pty_id=NXT_LH.pty_id))) -- joining c
28  SELECT lh_ids.lh_id,
29     ABS(COALESCE(ret_ptys_sts_shr, 0) + COALESCE(new_ptys_sts_shr, 0))/2 AS lh_vola_sts_computed
30  FROM lh_ids
31  LEFT OUTER JOIN new_ptys USING(lh_id)
32  LEFT OUTER JOIN ret_ptys ON(lh_ids.lh_prv_id = ret_ptys.lh_id) -- joining the set of future ret
33  ORDER BY lh_id;

```

Because the SQL-syntax of `view_lhelc_vola_sts` is rather complex, some comments follow:

- The enumerator of Equ 3.9 consists of two summands; each is computed separately as `new_ptys_sts_shr` and `ret_ptys_sts_shr`, respectively.
- With respect to the subqueries, `new_ptys` aggregates the seat shares of parties that newly entered in the present lower house for the present lower house, and `ret_ptys` aggregates the seat shares of parties that entered the previous but not the current lower house.
- Excluding ‘stable’ parties (i.e., parties that entered the present as well as the previous lower house) within the subqueries is achieved by the `EXCEPT`-clauses, which pair parties recorded for the present and the previous lower house by party identifiers. If a party was only in the present lower house, or if it was in the previous but is not in present lower house, then it does not occur in the query that follows the `EXCEPT`-clauses. In consequence, only seats gained by new entering parties, and those lost by retiring parties enter the aggregation.
- Generally, joining parties’ seat results with different combinations of the identifiers of the previous, the current, and the next lower house enables to easily identify new entering and retiring parties.

Note that no figures for first and last recorded elections in a given country are reported, because it is impossible to determine which parties are 'newcomers' in first and which parties will retire in last election, respectively.

### 3.3.17 Type B Volatility in Lower House Seat Shares

View `view_lhvolb_sts` is based on tables Lower House and Lower House Seat Results, and provides data at the level of lower houses.

Type B volatility quantifies the change that occurs in the distribution of seat shares within parties in subsequent lower houses, comparing the results in the current to that of the previous one. Accordingly, type B volatility considers only so-called stable parties and measures the volatility in the distribution of seats arising from gains and losses of these stable parties.

The formula to compute `lh_volb_sts` is

$$\text{Seat B Volatility}(k) = \frac{\left| \sum_{j=1}^{\text{Stable}} s_{j,(k-1)} - s_{j,k} \right|}{2}, \quad (3.10)$$

where  $s$  are seat or vote shares that party  $j$  gained in the current lower house  $k$  or in the previous lower house  $k - 1$ .

View `view_lh_volb_sts` is defined as follows:

```

1  CREATE OR REPLACE VIEW config_data.view_lh_volb_sts
2  AS
3  WITH
4  lh_ids AS (SELECT ctr_id, lh_id, lh_prv_id, lh_nxt_id FROM config_data.lower_house) , -- WITH A
5  lh_seat_res AS (SELECT lh_id, pty_id, pty_lh_sts::NUMERIC,
6                    sum(pty_lh_sts::NUMERIC) OVER (PARTITION BY lh_id) AS lh_sts_ttl_computed
7                    FROM config_data.lh_seat_results
8                    WHERE pty_lh_sts >= 1) , -- WITH AS lh_seat_res, records lower house seat results at the
9  invalid_lhs AS (SELECT DISTINCT lh_id
10                  FROM lh_seat_res
11                  WHERE pty_lh_sts IS NULL
12                  OR (pty_lh_sts = 0 AND (pty_id - 999) % 1000 != 0)
13                  OR ((pty_lh_sts IS NOT NULL OR pty_lh_sts > 0) AND (pty_id - 999) % 1000 = 0)), -- WITH
14  prev_lh AS (SELECT lh_id, pty_id,
15                (pty_lh_sts/lh_sts_ttl_computed) AS pty_prv_lh_sts_shr
16                FROM lh_seat_res), -- WITH AS prev_lh
17  cur_lh AS (SELECT lh_ids.lh_id, lh_prv_id, pty_id,
18                (pty_lh_sts/lh_sts_ttl_computed) AS pty_cur_lh_sts_shr
19                FROM lh_seat_res LEFT OUTER JOIN lh_ids USING(lh_id)) -- WITH AS cur_lh
20  SELECT DISTINCT
21    cur_lh.lh_id AS lh_id,
22    CASE WHEN cur_lh.lh_id IN (SELECT * FROM invalid_lhs) -- when for at least one party NULL seat
23         THEN NULL -- aggregation of seats will be erroneous, and no valid Seats B Volatility can be
24         ELSE COALESCE((SUM(ABS(pty_prv_lh_sts_shr-pty_cur_lh_sts_shr)) OVER (PARTITION BY cur_lh.lh
25         END AS lh_volb_sts_computed

```

```
26     FROM lh_ids
27     LEFT OUTER JOIN cur_lh ON (cur_lh.lh_id = lh_ids.lh_id)
28     LEFT OUTER JOIN prev_lh ON (cur_lh.lh_prv_id = prev_lh.lh_id AND cur_lh.pti_id = prev_lh.pti_id)
29     ORDER BY lh_id;
```

Stable parties are identified computationally by calculating the cross-product between rows in the subqueries `CUR_LH` and `PREV_LH`, and reporting only those for which a party identifier is enlisted in both the previous and the current election.

Note that the stable parties cannot be identified for every first recorded lower house, and hence B values are missing for these institutional configurations. It may be also worth highlighting that indicator is highly sensitive to missing data in the tables it references, as no aggregate value is computed for lower house elections in which at least one party except the group ‘Others without seat’ has NULL records for both seats gained by plurality and proportional vote. A lack of reliable lower-level data thus causes missingness at the aggregate level.

## 3.4 Materialized views in the `config_data` schema

The materialized views contained in the `config_data` schema of the PCDB compute are exact copies of the views (see 3.3), and are therefore often homonyms

Generally, in database management, a view is a virtual table representing the result set of a predefined query on the database. While a view complies the defined data whenever it is queried, a materialized view caches the result set of the view in a manifest table. When changes on the data in the tables the view is defined on occur, when queried, the view will be up-to-date. The materialized view created before these changes occur, however, will still hold the deprecated data. Hence, materialization comes at the cost of being potentially out-of-date.

It is therefore imperative to define trigger structures on base tables and materialized views, in order to maintain the consistency of the data in materialized views. This aspect of view materialization will henceforth be highlighted in the subsections of this section.

### 3.4.1 Configuration Events Materialized View

The Configuration Events Materialized View sequences changes in the political-institutional configurations of a country by date as configuration events. It is based on the Configuration Events View (see 3.3.1). Creating a materialization of the Configuration Events View is necessary to keep the recorded identifier values of temporarily corresponding institutional configurations and end dates consistent with the underlying data, without executing a refresh of the view whenever data in the base tables changes. Also, querying the materialization (i.e., a table) is much faster computationally than querying the view.<sup>9</sup>

Refer to Table 3.2 in order to recall how data is organized in the Configuration Events View. The second recorded president, for instance, who came into power on December 23, 1995, was in charge during the subsequent five configuration events. Thus, the presidential election identifier 25002 is valid in these subsequent cells, too. Apparently, sequencing institutional configurations by start dates results in empty cells where a previous institutional configuration was still active while another changed. Note further that technically, in order to compute open veto points

---

<sup>9</sup> The difference in efficiency is real. The `beta_version` schema has `view_configuration_events_adv`, which retruns with in-view computation of edate and insertion of corresponding institution identifiers, but is 800 times slower than querying the equivalent, once-refreshed materialized view. This decelerating effect would obviously multiply with every view or function querying configuration events.



for a given political configuration, empty cells need to be filled with the identifiers that refer to the cabinet, president, lower house composition etc. that were in active at any given point configuration event.

To ensure that the Configuration Events materialized view is up-to-date, there exists a trigger structure that is described in below (see 3.4.1.3).

The materialized view `mv_configuration_events` is created by calling

```
1 SELECT config_data.create_matview('config_data.mv_configuration_events',
2                                'config_data.view_configuration_events',
3                                '{ctr_id, sdate}');
```

where the definition of function `create_matview()` is given in subsection 3.5.3.

### 3.4.1.1 Selecting corresponding institution identifiers

To fill empty cells with temporally corresponding identifiers, function `trg_mv_config_ev_correspond` is executed (see 3.5.4). After executing function `trg_mv_config_ev_correspond_ids()`, the data in the Configuration Events Materialized View looks as exemplified in Table 3.4.

**Table 3.4:** Configuration Events Materialized View with filled cells for temporally corresponding institutional configurations.

ctr_id	sdate	cab_id	lh_id	lh_id	lhelc_id	prselc_id
25	1993-10-15	25004	25002	25002	25002	25001
25	1993-10-26	25005	25002	25002	25002	25001
25	1995-05-06	25006	25002	25002	25002	25001
25	1995-12-23	25006	25002	25002	25002	25002
25	1996-02-07	25007	25002	25002	25002	25002
25	1997-01-02	25007	25002	25002	25002	25002
25	1997-09-21	25007	25003	25003	25002	25002
25	1997-10-17	25007	25003	25003	25002	25002
25	1997-10-21	25007	25003	25003	25003	25002
25	1997-10-21	25007	25003	25003	25003	25002

The empty cells have been filled and the materialized view can be used to compute the respective veto-potential configurations, cabinet seat shares in the lower and upper houses, and so forth.

### 3.4.1.2 Computing configurations end dates

Configuration end dates are computed and inserted into cells of column `edate` by calling function `trg_mv_config_ev_edate()` (see 3.5.5). The function selects the start date of the next recorded political configuration, as identified by the next bigger date of all recorded political configurations for a country, subtracts one day from this date and assigns the resulting date as end date of the respective configuration. The function is called by triggers `trg_*_mv_config_ev_edate` (see ??) on insert, update, or delete on the materialized view.

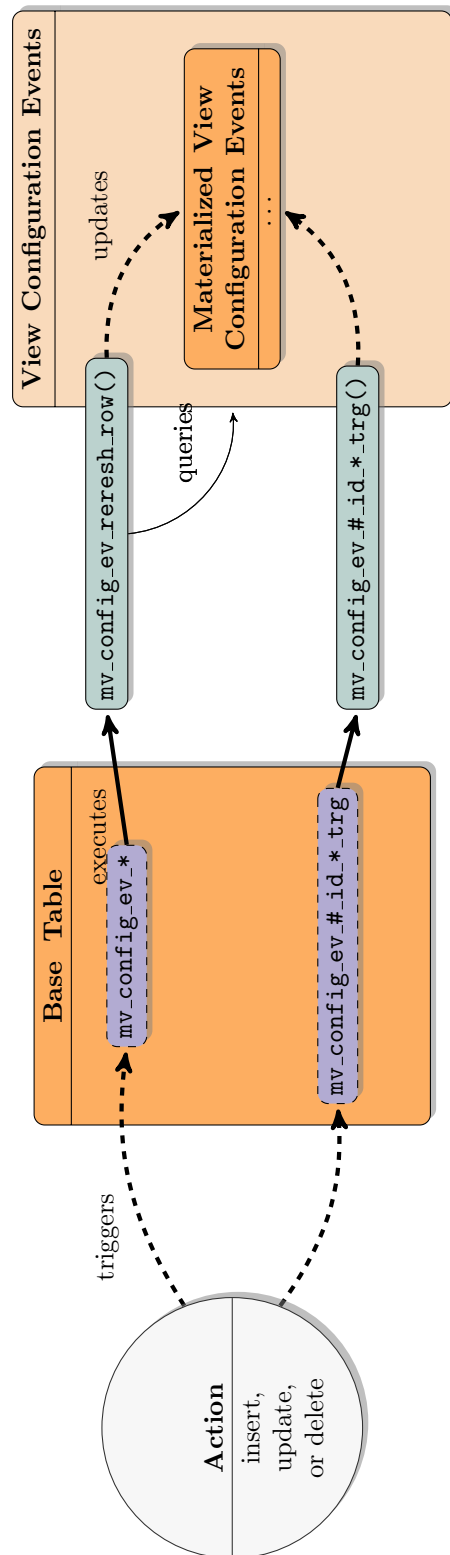
### 3.4.1.3 Propagate through changes on base tables

Whenever a change on the base tables Cabinet, Lower House, Upper House, Presidential Elections, and Veto Points occurs, the Configuration Events View is up-to-date when queried; the Configuration Events Materialized View, due to its ‘eagerness’ is not, though. A number of triggers defined on the base tables and two functions guarantee that a change on a base table is propagated through the materialized view Configuration events; this structure is illustrated in Figure 3.4.1.3.

Central to the structure implemented to update configuration events displayed in Figure 3.4.1.3 are two functions, which will be described in turn.

**Refresh out-dated rows** A change on a base table triggers a refresh of affected rows in the Configuration Events Materialised View:

- On update of columns having the institutional configuration identifier or start date values listed in the materialized view, function `mv_config_ev*_ut()` is called, where the asterisk `*` is a placeholder for the table name. This function will perform one call of function `mv_config_ev_refresh_row()` (see 3.5.6) with old country identifier and start date values (note that start date refers to the configuration start date at the level of the base table, e.g. `cab_sdate` or `prs_sdate`), and another call with new (i.e., updated) country identifier and configuration start date values for each row that is updated.
- On insert into a base table function `mv_config_ev*_it()` is called, which performs a call of `mv_config_ev_refresh_row()` with newly inserted country identifier and configuration start date values for each row that is inserted.



**Figure 3.2:** Functions and trigger structure implemented in *config\_data* schema in order to propagate changes on base tables through to configuration events.

- On delete from a base table call function `mv_config_ev*_dt()` is called, which performs a call of `mv_config_ev_refresh_row()` with the country identifier and start date values of the row that is removed for each row that is deleted.

These event triggers are defined on each of the base tables and named `mv_config_ev_update`, `mv_config_ev_insert`, and `mv_config_ev_delete`, respectively. Definitions of functions and triggers like `mv_config_ev_#_*` and `mv_config_ev_*` are provided in the Appendix (see 5.1.8).

#### **3.4.1.4 Propagate change through to rows with affected IDs**

Because function `mv_config_ev_refresh_row()` only affects rows in materialized view Configuration Events identified by arguments country identifier and start date, not all rows in which an institution-configuration ID is listed will be affected (recall that one institutional configuration may correspond to multiple configuration events). Hence, a change in a base table that affects the configuration identifier of this institutional configuration requires to propagate this change through to all configuration events in the materialized views that are associated with this identifier.

This is achieved by a set of triggers named `mv_config_ev_#_id*_trg`, where the hashtag stands for the institutions (i.e., is `cab`, `lh`, `uh`, `lhelc`, or `prselc`), and the asterisk is a placeholder for trigger events update (`ut`), insert (`it`), or delete (`dt`):

- Trigger `mv_config_ev_#_id_ut_trg` calls function `mv_config_ev_#_id_ut_trg()` on update of the identifier column, which performs function `mv_config_ev_ut_#_id()` with the two input arguments old and new identifier. `mv_config_ev_ut_#_id()` updates materialized view Configuration Events and sets all identifier values to the new identifier value where they are currently equal to the old identifier value.
- Trigger `mv_config_ev_#_id_it_trg` calls function `mv_config_ev_#_id_it_trg()`, which executes an update of materialized view Configuration Events, setting the respective identifier column equal to its actual values, which will trigger the inserting of corresponding IDs (implemented by yet another trigger defined on materialised view configuration events)
- Trigger `mv_config_ev_#_id_dt_trg` calls function `mv_config_ev_#_id_dt_trg()` on delete of a row in the respective base table, which performs function `mv_config_ev_dt_#_id()` with the old (i.e., to-be-removed) identifier value as single input argument. `mv_config_ev_dt_#_id()` updates

materialized view Configuration Events and sets all identifier values to NULL where they are equal to the old identifier value.

Definitions of the triggers and functions involved in updating changed institution identifiers in the Configuration Events Materialized View are provided in the Appendix (see ??).

### **3.4.2 Configuration Country-Years Materialized View**

A materialized view identical with the Configuration Country-Years View is created: `mv_configuration_ctr_yr`

Creating a materialization of the Configuration Country-Years View is necessary to ensure that the configuration country-year data is up-to-date. This is implemented with a trigger structure similar to that defined on materialized view Configuration Events.

#### **3.4.2.1 Propagate through changes on base tables**

Rows in materialized view `mv_configuration_ctr_yr` are uniquely identified by the primary key combination of `ctr_id` and `year`). Data in the materialized view stems from tables that are mentioned in the underlying view `view_configuration_ctr_yr`, which, in turn, is based on the Configuration Events materialized view (see 3.3.2 and 3.4.1, respectively).

Therefore, a data manipulation performed on the base tables Cabinets, Lower Houses, Upper Houses, Presidential Elections, and Veto Points requires to execute a refresh of rows recorded in materialized view Configuration Country-Years. This is achieved by function and a set of event triggers implemented on the base tables.

Specifically, a change in a base table that affects the configuration identifier of this institutional configuration or its start date may affect its affiliation with a political configuration or its duration, and hence requires to propagate this change through to all configuration country-years in the materialized view that are associated with this identifier or are affected by a change in durations.

This is achieved by a set of triggers named `mv_config_ctr_yr_#_id_*`, where the hashtag stands for the institutions (i.e., is `cab`, `lh`, `uh`, or `prselc`), and the asterisk is a placeholder for trigger events update (`ut`), insert (`it`), or delete (`dt`):

- Trigger `mv_config_ctr_yr_#_id.ut` calls function `mv_config_ctr_yr_refresh()` on update of the identifier or start date column of the respective base table.
- Trigger `mv_config_ctr_yr_#_id.it` calls function `mv_config_ctr_yr_refresh()` on insert on the respective base table.
- Trigger `mv_config_ctr_yr_#_id.dt` calls function `mv_config_ctr_yr_refresh()` on delete on the respective base table.

Function `mv_config_ctr_yr_refresh()` executes `refresh_mv_config_ctr_yr_row()` (see description below). These triggers are defined at the event-statement level, that is, they are not executed rowwise, but once for each insert, update, or delete statement on the respective base table.

**Function** `refresh_mv_config_ctr_yr_row()` Function `refresh_mv_config_ctr_yr_row()` is triggered by insert, delete or update statements on the base tables. When executed, it performs the following steps:

- (i) Drop table created in (ii), if exists.
- (ii) Create a table that records country identifier, start dates and years of the configurations that are in the (temporary) set differences between Configuration Country-Years View and the Materialized View (recall that, when queried, the view will be up to date).
- (iii) For each row in table (ii) identified by country identifier and year, update corresponding row in the materialized view according to the data in the view.
- (iv) End with deleting the table that recorded temporary differences.

Complete definitions of the triggers and functions described in this subsection can be found in the Appendix (see 5.1.12 and 5.1.11, respectively).

## 3.5 Triggers and Functions

Triggers are implemented on tables in order to execute some stored procedure on data manipulation events insert, update, or delete occurring on the table.

### 3.5.1 Identify previous institution configurations within countries

A set of triggers (`trg-*_prv_id()`) is implemented on the base tables Cabinet, Lower House, Upper House, and Presidential Election, and on table Lower House Election, respectively, to assign the identifiers of previous institution configurations into cells of column `*_prv_id` (the asterisk replaces table names).

Specifically, functions `trg-*_prv_id()` selects the identifier of the previous configuration, as identified by the next lower date of all the configurations recorded for a country within a base-table. Schematically, it is defined as follows:

```

1  CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION config_data.trg-*_prv_id()
2  RETURNS trigger AS $function$
3  BEGIN
4      NEW.*_prv_id :=
5          (SELECT *_id FROM config_data.#
6           WHERE *_sdate < NEW.*_sdate
7           AND ctr_id = NEW.ctr_id
8           ORDER BY ctr_id, *_sdate DESC
9           LIMIT 1);
10     RETURN NEW;
11     END;
12 $function$ LANGUAGE plpgsql;
13
14 CREATE TRIGGER trg-*_prv_id
15 BEFORE INSERT OR UPDATE ON config_data.#
16 FOR EACH ROW
17 EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.trg-*_prv_id();

```

Where the asterisk (\*) replaces `cab`, `lh`, `lhelc`, `uh` or `prselc`, and # to either `cabinet`, `lower_house`, `lh_election`, `upper_house` or `presidential_election`.

**Note:** In the case of table Lower House Election `_sdate` is replaced by `_date`, as it refers to election date instead of institution configuration start date.

A detailed description of the respective triggers and functions is provided in the Appendix (see 5.1.3).

### 3.5.2 Identify next institution configurations within countries

Another set of triggers (`trg-*_nxt_id()`) is implemented on the basetables Cabinet, Lower House, and on table Lower House Election, respectively, to assign the identifiers of the next institution configurations into cells of column `*_prv_id`.

Specifically, functions `trg-*_nxt_id()` selects the identifier of the next configuration, as identified by the next higher date of all the configurations recorded for a country within a table. Schematically, it is defined as follows:

```

1  CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION config_data.trg-*_nxt_id()
2  RETURNS trigger AS $function$
3  BEGIN
4      NEW.*_nxt_id :=
5          (SELECT *_id FROM config_data.#
6           WHERE *_sdate > NEW.*_sdate
7           AND ctr_id = NEW.ctr_id
8           ORDER BY ctr_id, *_sdate ASC
9           LIMIT 1);
10     RETURN NEW;
11     END;
12 $function$ LANGUAGE plpgsql;
13
14 CREATE TRIGGER trg-*_nxt_id
15 BEFORE INSERT OR UPDATE ON config_data.#
16 FOR EACH ROW
17 EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.trg-*_nxt_id();

```

Where the asterisk (\*) replaces `cab`, `lh`, or `lhelc`, and # to either `cabinet`, `lower_house`, or `lh.election`.

**Note:** In the case of table Lower House Election `_sdate` is replaced by `_date`, as it refers to election date instead of institution-configuration start date.

A detailed description of the respective triggers and functions is provided in the Appendix (see ??).

### 3.5.3 Create materialized view

Function `create_matview()` creates a table if not exists named as given by `matview_name` as an exact copy of the view `view_name`, and records its time of creation as time stamp in table Materialized Views (see ??), where `schema.matview_name` and `schema.view_name` are the first two non-optional input arguments. The third argument takes the primary key column(s) as a quoted comma-sepaerated list, e.g. `'{pkey_col1, pkey_col2}'`.

Function `create_matview()` is defined as follows:<sup>10</sup>

<sup>10</sup> Source is Listing 2 at <http://www.varlena.com/GeneralBits/Tidbits/matviews.html>.



```

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8 CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION config_data.create_matview(TEXT, TEXT, TEXT[])
9 RETURNS VOID
10 SECURITY DEFINER
11 LANGUAGE plpgsql AS $$
12 DECLARE
13     matview_name ALIAS FOR $1;
14     view_name ALIAS FOR $2;
15     entry config_data.matviews%ROWTYPE;
16
17     primary_key_columns TEXT := ARRAY_TO_STRING($3, ', ');
18     mv_schema_name TEXT := (REGEXP_SPLIT_TO_ARRAY($1,E'\\\.')[1];
19     mv_table_name TEXT := (REGEXP_SPLIT_TO_ARRAY($1,E'\\\.')[2];
20
21 BEGIN
22     SELECT * INTO entry FROM config_data.matviews WHERE matviews.mv_name = matview_name;
23
24     IF FOUND THEN
25         RAISE EXCEPTION 'Materialized view ''''%'''' already exists.',
26             matview_name;
27     END IF;
28
29     IF NULLIF(primary_key_columns, '') IS NULL THEN
30 RAISE EXCEPTION 'No primary key columns defined on materialized view ''''%''''. Please pass A
31         matview_name;
32     END IF;
33
34     EXECUTE 'REVOKE ALL ON ' || view_name || ' FROM PUBLIC';
35     EXECUTE 'GRANT SELECT ON ' || view_name || ' TO PUBLIC';
36     EXECUTE 'CREATE TABLE ' || matview_name || ' AS SELECT * FROM ' || view_name;
37
38     EXECUTE 'ALTER TABLE ' || matview_name || ' ADD PRIMARY KEY (' || primary_key_columns || ')';
39     EXECUTE 'CLUSTER ' || matview_name || ' USING ' || mv_table_name || '_pkey';
40
41     EXECUTE 'REVOKE ALL ON ' || matview_name || ' FROM PUBLIC';
42     EXECUTE 'GRANT SELECT ON ' || matview_name || ' TO PUBLIC';
43
44     INSERT INTO config_data.matviews (mv_name, v_name, last_refresh)
45         VALUES (matview_name, view_name, CURRENT_TIMESTAMP);
46
47     RETURN;
48 END
49 $$;

```

There also exist two functions which allow to refresh respectively drop a materialized view; definitions are provided in the Appendix (see 5.1.5 and 5.1.5).

### 3.5.4 Insert corresponding institution identifiers

Function `trg_mv_config_ev_correspond_ids()` is defined on table Configuration Events Materialized View in order to insert the identifiers of the then active institutional configuration into empty cells. To do so, it chooses the identifier value of the institutional configuration that became active most recently. It is triggered by insert, update, or delete from the Configuration Events Materialized View (see ??).

Technically, this equates to select the value of row with the next smallest start date where the identifier is not null Schematically, the functions and triggers are defined as follows

```

1  CREATE FUNCTION config_data.trg_mv_config_ev_prv_*_id()
2  RETURNS trigger AS $function$
3  BEGIN
4      IF
5          OLD.*_id IS NOT NULL THEN NEW.*_id = OLD.*_id;
6      ELSE
7          NEW.*_id :=
8              (SELECT *_id FROM config_data.mv_configuration_events
9               WHERE sdate < NEW.sdate
10                AND ctr_id = NEW.ctr_id
11                ORDER BY ctr_id, sdate DESC
12                LIMIT 1);
13      END IF;
14      RETURN NEW;
15  END;
16  $function$ LANGUAGE plpgsql;
17
18  DROP TRIGGER IF EXISTS trg_it_mv_config_ev_prv_*_id
19  ON config_data.mv_configuration_events;
20  CREATE TRIGGER trg_it_mv_config_ev_prv_*_id
21  AFTER INSERT ON config_data.mv_configuration_events FOR EACH ROW
22  EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.trg_mv_config_ev_prv_*_id();
23
24  DROP TRIGGER IF EXISTS trg_dt_mv_config_ev_prv_*_id
25  ON config_data.mv_configuration_events;
26  CREATE TRIGGER trg_dt_mv_config_ev_prv_*_id
27  AFTER DELETE ON config_data.mv_configuration_events FOR EACH ROW
28  EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.trg_mv_config_ev_prv_*_id();
29
30  DROP TRIGGER IF EXISTS trg_ut_mv_config_ev_prv_*_id
31  ON config_data.mv_configuration_events;
32  CREATE TRIGGER trg_ut_mv_config_ev_prv_*_id
33  BEFORE UPDATE ON config_data.mv_configuration_events FOR EACH ROW
34  EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.trg_mv_config_ev_prv_*_id();

```

Where the asterisk (\*) replaces `cab`, `lh`, `lhelc`, `uh` or `prselc`. A detailed definition of the single functions and triggers is provided in the Appendix (see 5.1.7).

### 3.5.5 Computing configurations end dates

Function `trg_mv_config_ev_edate()` is defined to computed and inserted configuration end dates into cells of column `edate` of table Configuration Events Materialized View. The function selects the start date of the next recorded political configuration, as identified by the next bigger date of all recorded political configurations for a country, subtracts one day from this date and assigns the resulting date as end date of the respective configuration:

```

1  CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION config_data.trg_mv_config_ev_edate()
2  RETURNS trigger AS $$
3  BEGIN
4      NEW.edate :=
5          (SELECT sdate-1 FROM config_data.mv_configuration_events
6             WHERE sdate > NEW.sdate
7             AND ctr_id = NEW.ctr_id
8             ORDER BY ctr_id, sdate ASC
9             LIMIT 1);
10     RETURN NEW;
11 END;
12 $$ LANGUAGE plpgsql;
13
14 DROP TRIGGER IF EXISTS trg_it_mv_config_ev_edate ON config_data.mv_configuration_events;
15 CREATE TRIGGER trg_it_mv_config_ev_edate
16     AFTER INSERT ON config_data.mv_configuration_events FOR EACH ROW
17     EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.trg_mv_config_ev_edate();
18
19 DROP TRIGGER IF EXISTS trg_dt_mv_config_ev_edate ON config_data.mv_configuration_events;
20 CREATE TRIGGER trg_dt_mv_config_ev_edate
21     AFTER DELETE ON config_data.mv_configuration_events FOR EACH ROW
22     EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.trg_mv_config_ev_edate();
23
24 DROP TRIGGER IF EXISTS trg_ut_mv_config_ev_edate ON config_data.mv_configuration_events;
25 CREATE TRIGGER trg_ut_mv_config_ev_edate
26     BEFORE UPDATE ON config_data.mv_configuration_events FOR EACH ROW
27     EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.trg_mv_config_ev_edate();

```

It is called by triggers `trg-*_mv_config_ev_edate` (see ??).

### 3.5.6 Function `mv_config_ev_refresh_row()`

Function `mv_config_ev_refresh_row()` performs a refresh of rows in materialized view Configuration Events for a given combination of country identifier and start date. It executes the following actions:

- (i) It disables all triggers implemented on materialized view Configuration Events;
- (ii) deletes the row from materialized view Configuration Events that is identified by input arguments country identifier and start date (`ctr_id` and `sdate`);

- (iii) inserts the respective configuration information (country identifier and start date) from *view* Configuration Events into *materialized view* Configuration Events;
- (iv) enables all triggers implemented on materialized view Configuration Events;
- (v) updates all columns containing the affected institution identifiers in order to trigger function `trg_mv_config_ev_correspond_ids()`; and
- (vi) updates column containing configuration end dates (`edate`) of the configurations of the same country that have a younger start date younger than the currently refreshed row (for older start and end dates will not be affected by refresh).

The function is defined as follows:

```

1  CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION config_data.mv_config_ev_refresh_row(SMALLINT, DATE)
2  RETURNS VOID
3  SECURITY DEFINER
4  LANGUAGE 'plpgsql' AS $$
5  DECLARE
6      country ALIAS FOR $1;
7      start_date ALIAS FOR $2;
8      entry config_data.matviews%ROWTYPE;
9  BEGIN
10     ALTER TABLE config_data.mv_configuration_events DISABLE TRIGGER USER;
11
12     DELETE FROM config_data.mv_configuration_events
13     WHERE mv_configuration_events.ctr_id = country
14     AND mv_configuration_events.sdate = start_date;
15
16     INSERT INTO config_data.mv_configuration_events
17     SELECT *
18     FROM config_data.view_configuration_events
19     WHERE view_configuration_events.ctr_id = country
20     AND view_configuration_events.sdate = start_date;
21
22     ALTER TABLE config_data.mv_configuration_events ENABLE TRIGGER USER;
23
24     UPDATE config_data.mv_configuration_events
25     SET cab_id = cab_id, lh_id = lh_id, lhelc_id = lhelc_id, uh_id = uh_id, prselc_id = prselc_id
26     WHERE mv_configuration_events.ctr_id = country
27     AND mv_configuration_events.sdate = start_date;
28
29     UPDATE config_data.mv_configuration_events SET edate = edate
30     WHERE mv_configuration_events.ctr_id = country
31     AND mv_configuration_events.sdate =
32     (SELECT sdate FROM config_data.mv_configuration_events
33     WHERE sdate < start_date
34     AND ctr_id = country
35     ORDER BY ctr_id, sdate DESC
36     LIMIT 1);
37     RETURN;
38 END
39 $$;
```

## 4 Bibliography

- Döring, Holger and Philip Manow. 2012. "Parliament and government composition database (ParlGov): An infrastructure for empirical information on parties, elections and governments in modern democracies. Version 12/10 15 October 2012." .  
URL: <http://Parlgov.org/stable/data.html> 3.2.2
- Gallagher, M. and P. Mitchell. 2005. *The Politics of Electoral Systems*. Oxford University Press. 3.3.11, 3.3.12
- Gallagher, Michael. 1991. "Proportionality, Disproportionality and Electoral Systems." *Electoral Studies* 10:33–51. 3.3.10
- Laakso, Markku and Rein Taagepera. 1979. "The 'Effective' Number of Parties: A Measure with Application to West Europe." *Comparative Political Studies* 12(1):3–27. 3.3.11, 3.3.11, 3.3.12
- Lijphart, Arend. 1994. *Electoral Systems and Party Systems: A Study of Twenty-Seven Democracies, 1945-1990*. Comparative European Politics Series Oxford: Oxford University Press. 3.3.13
- Nohlen, Dieter. 2001. *Elections in Asia and the Pacific. A Data Handbook*. Oxford and others: Oxford University Press. 19
- Nohlen, Dieter. 2005. *Elections in the Americas. A Data Handbook*. Oxford and others: Oxford University Press. 19
- Nohlen, Dieter. 2010. *Elections in Europe. A Data Handbook*. Baden-Baden: Nomos Verlags-Gesellschaft. 19
- Powell, Eleanor Neff and Joshua A. Tucker. 2013. "Revisiting electoral Volatility in Post-Communist Sountries: New Data, New Results and New Approaches." *British Journal of Political Science* 44:123–147. 3.3.14, 3.3.16
- Taagepera, Rein. 2002. "Nationwide threshold of representation." *Electoral Studies* 21(3):383–401. 3.3.13, 3.3.13

Volken, Andrea, Pola Lehmann, Nicolas Merz, Sven Regel, Annika Werner, Onawa Promise Lacewell and Henrike Schultze. 2013. “The Manifesto Data Collection (version 2013b).”.

**URL:** <https://manifesto-project.wzb.eu/> 3.2.2

# 5 Appendix

## 5.1 SQL Data Definition

### 5.1.1 upsert\_base\_table function

Function upsert\_base\_table is defines as follows:

```
1  DROP FUNCTION IF EXISTS upsert_base_table();
2
3  CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION upsert_base_table(
4    target_schema TEXT, target_table TEXT,
5    source_schema TEXT, source_table TEXT)
6  RETURNS VOID AS $$
7
8  DECLARE
9    pkey_column TEXT := column_name::VARCHAR
10     FROM information_schema.constraint_column_usage
11     WHERE (table_schema = target_schema AND table_name = target_table)
12     AND constraint_name LIKE '%pkey%';
13
14    pkey_constraint TEXT := constraint_name::VARCHAR
15     FROM information_schema.constraint_column_usage
16     WHERE (table_schema = target_schema AND table_name = target_table)
17     AND constraint_name LIKE '%pkey%';
18
19    shared_columns TEXT := ARRAY_TO_STRING(
20      ARRAY(SELECT column_name::VARCHAR AS columns
21        FROM (SELECT column_name, ordinal_position
22          FROM information_schema.columns
23          WHERE table_schema = target_schema AND table_name = target_table
24          AND column_name IN
25            (SELECT column_name
26              FROM information_schema.columns
27              WHERE table_schema = source_schema
28              AND table_name = source_table)
29          ORDER BY ordinal_position) AS INTERSECTION
30      ), ', ');
31
32    update_columns TEXT := ARRAY_TO_STRING(
33      ARRAY(SELECT '' || column_name || ' = update_source.' || column_name
34        FROM
35          (SELECT column_name, ordinal_position
36            FROM information_schema.columns
37            WHERE table_schema = target_schema
38            AND table_name = target_table
39            AND column_name IN
```

```

40         (SELECT column_name
41          FROM information_schema.columns
42          WHERE table_schema = source_schema
43          AND table_name = source_table)
44         AND column_name NOT LIKE pkey_column
45         ORDER BY ordinal_position) AS INTERSECTION
46     ), ', '));
47
48 BEGIN
49     EXECUTE 'UPDATE ' || target_schema || '.' || target_table ||
50     ' SET ' || update_columns ||
51     ' FROM (SELECT * FROM ' || source_schema || '.' || source_table ||
52     ' WHERE ' || pkey_column || ' IN
53     (SELECT DISTINCT ' || pkey_column ||
54     ' FROM ' || target_schema || '.' || target_table ||
55     ')) ) AS update_source
56     WHERE ' || target_table || '.' || pkey_column || ' = update_source.' || pkey_column;
57
58     EXECUTE 'INSERT INTO ' || target_schema || '.' || target_table || ' (' || shared_columns ||
59     SELECT ' || shared_columns ||
60     ' FROM (SELECT * FROM ' || source_schema || '.' || source_table ||
61     ' WHERE ' || pkey_column || ' NOT IN
62     (SELECT DISTINCT ' || pkey_column ||
63     ' FROM ' || target_schema || '.' || target_table ||
64     ')) AS insert_source';
65
66     EXECUTE 'CLUSTER ' || target_schema || '.' || target_table || ' USING ' || pkey_constraint;
67
68     RETURN;
69 END;
70 $$ LANGUAGE plpgsql;

```

A description of the function's parameters and execution states can be found on page 20 ff.

### 5.1.2 Lower House Election Disproportionality, excluding others with seats

View `view_lhelc_lsq_noothers` is basically identical with the Lower House Election Disproportionality view (see 3.3.10), except that it excludes the vote and seat shares listed for the category 'Others with seats' from computing the LSq. Hence, it is defined as follows:

```

1  CREATE OR REPLACE VIEW config_data.view_lhelc_lsq_noothers
2  AS
3  WITH
4  lhlc_ids AS (SELECT lhlc_id, lhlc_prv_id, lhlc_nxt_id FROM config_data.lh_election) , --WITH
5  lh_ids AS (SELECT *
6             FROM (SELECT ctr_id, lh_id, lhlc_id FROM config_data.lower_house) AS LHS
7             LEFT OUTER JOIN lhlc_ids USING (lhlc_id)), -- WITH AS lh_ids
8  lhlc_vres AS (SELECT lhlc_id, pty_id,
9                    NULLIF(COALESCE(pty_lh_vts_pr, 0) +
10                           COALESCE(pty_lh_vts_pl, 0), 0)::NUMERIC AS pty_lhelc_vts_computed, -- NULL if plus
11                    (SUM(COALESCE(pty_lh_vts_pr, 0) +

```



```

12         COALESCE(pty_lh_vts_pl, 0)
13     ) OVER (PARTITION BY lhelc_id)::NUMERIC AS lhelc_vts_ttl_computed
14     FROM config_data.lh_vote_results
15     WHERE (pty_id - 999) % 1000 != 0), -- NOTE that including 'Others without seat,' as Gal
16     lhelc_vote_res AS (SELECT lhelc_id, pty_id,
17         (pty_lhelc_vts_computed/lhelc_vts_ttl_computed) AS pty_lhelc_vts_shr_computed
18     FROM lh_ids LEFT OUTER JOIN lhelc_vres USING (lhelc_id)
19     WHERE lh_id IN (SELECT DISTINCT lh_id FROM lh_ids)
20 ), -- WITH AS lhelc_vote_res
21     lh_sres AS (SELECT lh_id, pty_id, pty_lh_sts::NUMERIC,
22         sum(pty_lh_sts::NUMERIC) OVER (PARTITION BY lh_id) AS lh_sts_ttl_computed,
23         CASE WHEN (pty_lh_sts = 0)
24             THEN 0
25             ELSE (pty_lh_sts::NUMERIC/(SUM(pty_lh_sts::NUMERIC) OVER (PARTITION BY lh_id)))
26         END AS pty_lh_sts_shr_computed
27     FROM config_data.lh_seat_results), -- WITH AS lh_seat_res
28     lh_seat_res AS (SELECT lh_id, lhelc_id, pty_id, pty_lh_sts_shr_computed FROM lh_sres JOIN lh_id
29     invalid_lsq AS (SELECT DISTINCT lhelc_id
30         FROM lhelc_vote_res FULL OUTER JOIN lh_seat_res USING(lhelc_id, pty_id)
31         WHERE (pty_lhelc_vts_shr_computed IS NOT NULL
32             AND pty_lh_sts_shr_computed = 0 AND (pty_id - 999) % 1000 != 0) -- case (a) vote r
33         OR (pty_lhelc_vts_shr_computed IS NULL
34             AND pty_lh_sts_shr_computed > 0)) -- case (b) seat results are recorded (i.e., party
35     SELECT DISTINCT ON (lhelc_id) lhelc_id, lh_id, --select distinct at level of lower house elect
36     CASE WHEN lhelc_id IN (SELECT lhelc_id FROM invalid_lsq) -- when in list of invalid lower hou
37     THEN NULL -- no lsq is computed, for result would be biased by missingness of vote/seat rec
38     ELSE sqrt(0.5*(SUM((pty_lhelc_vts_shr_computed -
39         pty_lh_sts_shr_computed)^2.0
40     ) OVER (PARTITION BY lh_id)))
41     END AS lhelc_lsq_computed
42 FROM lhelc_vote_res FULL OUTER JOIN lh_seat_res USING(lhelc_id, pty_id)
43 WHERE lhelc_id IS NOT NULL -- excluding lower house configuration to which no election corres
44 ORDER BY lhelc_id, pty_id;
45 -- NOTE that the problem of 'bunching' of others and independents (i.e. small parties and indep

```

### 5.1.3 Description of triggers to identify previous institution configurations

**Cabinet** Trigger `trg_cab_prv_id` is implemented on table `Cabinet` and inserts data into cells of column `cab_prv_id`.

Specifically, function `trg_cab_prv_id()` selects the identifier of the previous cabinet configuration, as identified by the next lower date of all cabinets recorded for a country. It is defined as follows:

```

1  CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION config_data.trg_cab_prv_id()
2  RETURNS trigger AS $function$
3  BEGIN
4      NEW.cab_prv_id :=
5          (SELECT cab_id FROM config_data.cabinet
6           WHERE cab_sdate < NEW.cab_sdate
7           AND ctr_id = NEW.ctr_id
8           ORDER BY ctr_id, cab_sdate DESC
9           LIMIT 1);

```

```

10     RETURN NEW;
11     END;
12 $function$ LANGUAGE plpgsql;
13
14 CREATE TRIGGER trg_cab_prv_id
15     BEFORE INSERT OR UPDATE ON config_data.cabinet
16     FOR EACH ROW
17     EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.trg_cab_prv_id();

```

Trigger `trg_cab_prv_id` is executed for each row before inserting or updating of data in table Cabinet is performed.

**Lower House** Trigger `trg_lh_prv_id` is implemented on table Lower House and inserts data into cells of column `lh_prv_id`. Specifically, function `trg_lh_prv_id()` selects the identifier of the previous recorded lower house, as identified by the next lower date of all lower houses recorded for a country. It is defined as follows:

```

1  -- Trigger selects previous LH id
2  CREATE FUNCTION config_data.trg_lh_prv_id() RETURNS trigger AS $function$
3  BEGIN
4      NEW.lh_prv_id :=
5          (SELECT lh_id FROM config_data.lower_house
6             WHERE lh_sdate < NEW.lh_sdate
7             AND ctr_id = NEW.ctr_id
8             ORDER BY ctr_id, lh_sdate DESC
9             LIMIT 1); -- selects next lowest LH start date
10     RETURN NEW;
11     END;
12 $function$ LANGUAGE plpgsql;
13
14 CREATE TRIGGER trg_lh_prv_id
15     BEFORE INSERT OR UPDATE ON config_data.lower_house
16     FOR EACH ROW
17     EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.trg_lh_prv_id();

```

Trigger `trg_lh_prv_id` is executed for each row before inserting or updating of data in table Lower House is performed.

**LH Election** Trigger `trg_lhelc_prv_id` is implemented on table LH Election and inserts data into cells of column `lhelc_prv_id`. Specifically, function `trg_lhelc_prv_id()` selects the identifier of the previous lower house election, as identified by the next lower date of all recorded lower houses election dates for a country. It is defined as follows:

```

1  CREATE FUNCTION config_data.trg_lhelc_prv_id() RETURNS trigger AS $function$
2  BEGIN
3      NEW.lhelc_prv_id :=
4          (SELECT lhelc_id FROM config_data.lh_election
5             WHERE lhelc_date < NEW.lhelc_date
6             AND ctr_id = NEW.ctr_id
7             ORDER BY ctr_id, lhelc_date DESC

```

```

8         LIMIT 1);
9     RETURN NEW;
10    END;
11 $function$ LANGUAGE plpgsql;
12
13 CREATE TRIGGER trg_lhelc_prv_id
14 BEFORE INSERT OR UPDATE ON config_data.lh_election
15 FOR EACH ROW
16 EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.trg_lhelc_prv_id();

```

Trigger `trg_lhelc_prv_id` is executed for each row before inserting or updating of data in table Lower House Election is performed.

**Upper House** Trigger `trg_uh_prv_id` is implemented on table Upper House and inserts data into cells of column `uh_prv_id`. Specifically, function `trg_uh_prv_id()` selects the identifier of the previous recorded upper house configuration, as identified by the next lower date of all upper houses recorded for a country. It is defined as follows:

```

1  CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION config_data.trg_uh_prv_id()
2  RETURNS trigger AS $function$
3  BEGIN
4      NEW.uh_prv_id :=
5          (SELECT uh_id FROM config_data.upper_house
6             WHERE uh_sdate < NEW.uh_sdate
7             AND ctr_id = NEW.ctr_id
8             ORDER BY ctr_id, uh_sdate DESC
9             LIMIT 1);
10     RETURN NEW;
11    END;
12 $function$ LANGUAGE plpgsql;
13
14 CREATE TRIGGER trg_uh_prv_id
15 BEFORE INSERT OR UPDATE ON config_data.upper_house
16 FOR EACH ROW
17 EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.trg_uh_prv_id();

```

Trigger `trg_uh_prv_id` is executed for each row before inserting or updating of data in table Upper House is performed.

**Presidential Election** Trigger `trg_prselc_prv_id` is implemented on table Presidential Election and inserts data into cells of column `prselc_prv_id`. Specifically, function `trg_prselc_prv_id()` selects the identifier of the previous presidential election, as identified by the next lower date of all presidential elections recorded for a country. It is defined as follows:

```

1  CREATE FUNCTION config_data.trg_prselc_prv_id()
2  RETURNS trigger AS $function$
3  BEGIN
4      NEW.prselc_prv_id :=
5          (SELECT prselc_prv_id FROM config_data.presidential_election

```

```

6      WHERE prselc_date < NEW.prselc_date
7      AND ctr_id = NEW.ctr_id
8      ORDER BY ctr_id, prselc_date DESC
9      LIMIT 1);
10     RETURN NEW;
11     END;
12 $function$ LANGUAGE plpgsql;
13
14 CREATE TRIGGER trg_prselc_prv_id
15     BEFORE INSERT OR UPDATE ON config_data.presidential_election
16     FOR EACH ROW
17     EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.trg_prselc_prv_id();

```

Trigger `trg_prselc_prv_id` is executed for each row before inserting or updating of data in table `Presidential Election` is performed.

#### 5.1.4 Description of triggers to identify next institution configurations

**Cabinet** Trigger `trg_cab_nxt_id` is implemented on table `Cabinet` and inserts data into cells of column `cab_nxt_id`.

Specifically, function `trg_cab_nxt_id()` selects the identifier of the next cabinet configuration, as identified by the next bigger date of all cabinets recorded for a country. It is defined as follows:

```

1  CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION config_data.trg_cab_nxt_id() RETURNS trigger AS $function$
2  BEGIN
3      NEW.cab_nxt_id :=
4      (SELECT cab_id FROM config_data.cabinet
5       WHERE cab_sdate > NEW.cab_sdate
6       AND ctr_id = NEW.ctr_id
7       ORDER BY ctr_id, cab_sdate ASC
8       LIMIT 1);
9      RETURN NEW;
10     END;
11 $function$ LANGUAGE plpgsql;
12
13 CREATE TRIGGER trg_cab_nxt_id
14     BEFORE INSERT OR UPDATE ON config_data.cabinet
15     FOR EACH ROW
16     EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.trg_cab_nxt_id();

```

Trigger `trg_cab_nxt_id` is executed for each row before inserting or updating of data in table `Cabinet` is performed.

**Lower House** Trigger `trg_lh_nxt_id` is implemented on table `Lower House` and inserts data into cells of column `lh_nxt_id`. Specifically, function `trg_lh_nxt_id()`

selects the identifier of the next recorded lower house, as identified by the next bigger date of all lower houses recorded for a country. It is defined as follows:

```

1  CREATE FUNCTION config_data.trg_lh_nxt_id() RETURNS trigger AS $function$
2  BEGIN
3      NEW.lh_nxt_id :=
4          (SELECT lh_id FROM config_data.lower_house
5           WHERE lh_sdate > NEW.lh_sdate
6           AND ctr_id = NEW.ctr_id
7           ORDER BY ctr_id, lh_sdate ASC -- ascending
8           LIMIT 1);
9      RETURN NEW;
10     END;
11 $function$ LANGUAGE plpgsql;
12
13 CREATE TRIGGER trg_lh_nxt_id
14 BEFORE INSERT OR UPDATE ON config_data.lower_house
15 FOR EACH ROW
16 EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.trg_lh_nxt_id();

```

Trigger `trg_lh_nxt_id` is executed for each row before inserting or updating of data in table Lower House is performed.

**LH Election** Trigger `trg_lhelc_nxt_id` is implemented on table LH Election and inserts data into cells of column `lhelc_nxt_id`. Specifically, function `trg_lhelc_nxt_id()` selects the identifier of the next bigger house election, as identified by the next bigger date of all recorded lower houses election dates for a country. It is defined as follows:

```

1  CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION config_data.trg_lhelc_nxt_id() RETURNS trigger AS $function$
2  BEGIN
3      NEW.lhelc_nxt_id :=
4          (SELECT lhelc_id FROM config_data.lh_election
5           WHERE lhelc_date > NEW.lhelc_date
6           AND ctr_id = NEW.ctr_id
7           ORDER BY ctr_id, lhelc_date ASC
8           LIMIT 1);
9      RETURN NEW;
10     END;
11 $function$ LANGUAGE plpgsql;
12
13 CREATE TRIGGER trg_lhelc_nxt_id
14 BEFORE INSERT OR UPDATE ON config_data.lh_election
15 FOR EACH ROW
16 EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.trg_lhelc_nxt_id();

```

Trigger `trg_lhelc_nxt_id` is executed for each row before inserting or updating of data in table Lower House Election is performed.

### 5.1.5 Refresh materialized view

Function `refresh_matview(matview_name)` executes a refresh of a materialized view.

It is defined as follows:<sup>1</sup>

```

1  -- Define REFRESH MATERIALIZED VIEW function
2  -- source is Listing 4 of http://www.varlena.com/GeneralBits/Tidbits/matviews.html
3
4  -- The function takes one argument schema.matview_name; disables all triggers defined on matview
5
6  -- NOTE: when triggers on matview are defined, below line that updates row in matviews table,
7
8  CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION config_data.refresh_matview(TEXT, TEXT[] DEFAULT '{}')
9  RETURNS VOID
10 SECURITY DEFINER
11 LANGUAGE plpgsql AS $$
12 DECLARE
13     matview_name ALIAS FOR $1;
14     entry config_data.matviews%ROWTYPE; -- note change to destination of entry
15
16     primary_key_columns TEXT := ARRAY_TO_STRING($2, ', ');
17     mv_schema_name TEXT := (REGEXP_SPLIT_TO_ARRAY($1,E'\\.'))[1];
18     mv_table_name TEXT := (REGEXP_SPLIT_TO_ARRAY($1,E'\\.'))[2];
19
20     pkey_constraint TEXT := DISTINCT constraint_name::VARCHAR -- get name of primary key constraint
21     FROM information_schema.constraint_column_usage
22     WHERE (table_schema = mv_schema_name AND table_name = mv_table_name)
23     AND constraint_name LIKE '%pkey%';
24
25 BEGIN
26
27     SELECT mv_name, v_name INTO entry FROM config_data.matviews WHERE matviews.mv_name = matview_name;
28
29     IF NOT FOUND THEN
30         RAISE EXCEPTION 'Materialized view % does not exist.', matview_name;
31     END IF;
32
33     IF NULLIF(pkey_constraint, '') IS NULL AND NULLIF(primary_key_columns, '') IS NULL THEN
34         RAISE EXCEPTION 'No primary key columns defined on materialized view ''%'''. Please pass a
35         matview_name;
36     END IF;
37
38     EXECUTE 'ALTER TABLE ' || matview_name || ' DISABLE TRIGGER USER';
39     EXECUTE 'DELETE FROM ' || matview_name;
40     EXECUTE 'INSERT INTO ' || matview_name
41         || ' SELECT * FROM ' || entry.v_name;
42     EXECUTE 'ALTER TABLE ' || matview_name || ' ENABLE TRIGGER USER';
43
44     EXECUTE 'UPDATE ' || matview_name || ' SET edate = edate';
45
46     IF NULLIF(pkey_constraint, '') IS NULL THEN
47         EXECUTE 'ALTER TABLE ' || matview_name || ' ADD PRIMARY KEY (' || primary_key_columns || ')';
48         EXECUTE 'CLUSTER ' || matview_name || ' USING ' || mv_table_name || '_pkey';
49     ELSE
50         EXECUTE 'CLUSTER ' || matview_name || ' USING ' || pkey_constraint ;

```

<sup>1</sup> Source is Listing 3 at <http://www.varlena.com/GeneralBits/Tidbits/matviews.html>.

```

51     END IF;
52
53     UPDATE config_data.matviews
54         SET last_refresh=CURRENT_TIMESTAMP
55         WHERE matviews.mv_name = matview_name;
56
57     RETURN;
58 END $$;

```

Note that passing the materialized views primary key columns as the function's second argument is optional.

### 5.1.6 Drop materialized view

Function `drop_matview(matview_name)` drops a materialized view.

It is defined as follows:<sup>2</sup>

```

1  -- Define DROP MATERIALIZED VIEW function
2  -- Source is Listing 3 of http://www.varlena.com/GeneralBits/Tidbits/matviews.html
3
4  -- The function takes as argument schema.matview_name; drops matview from schema (if not exists)
5
6  -- NOTE: as the mv_configuration_events is intended to have multiple dependencies, consider exa
7
8  CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION config_data.drop_matview(NAME) RETURNS VOID
9  SECURITY DEFINER
10 LANGUAGE plpgsql AS $$
11 DECLARE
12     matview ALIAS FOR $1;
13     entry config_data.matviews%ROWTYPE;
14 BEGIN
15
16     SELECT * INTO entry FROM config_data.matviews WHERE mv_name = matview;
17
18     IF NOT FOUND THEN
19         RAISE EXCEPTION 'Materialized view ''%'' does not exist.', matview;
20     END IF;
21
22     EXECUTE 'DROP TABLE ' || matview;
23     DELETE FROM config_data.matviews WHERE mv_name=matview;
24
25     RETURN;
26 END $$;

```

### 5.1.7 Insert corresponding insitution identifiers

Function `trg_mv_config_ev_correspond_ids()` is defined on table Configuration Events Materialized View in order to insert the identifiers of the then active insti-

<sup>2</sup> Source is Listing 3 at <http://www.varlena.com/GeneralBits/Tidbits/matviews.html>.

tutional configuration into empty cells. The function and trigger that execute it are defined as follows:

```

1  DROP FUNCTION IF EXISTS config_data.trg_mv_config_ev_correspond_ids() CASCADE;
2  CREATE FUNCTION config_data.trg_mv_config_ev_correspond_ids()
3  RETURNS trigger AS $function$
4  BEGIN
5      IF
6          OLD.cab_id IS NOT NULL THEN NEW.cab_id = OLD.cab_id;
7      ELSE
8          NEW.cab_id :=
9          (SELECT cab_id FROM config_data.mv_configuration_events
10           WHERE sdate < NEW.sdate
11             AND ctr_id = NEW.ctr_id
12             ORDER BY ctr_id, sdate DESC
13             LIMIT 1);
14      END IF;
15      IF
16          OLD.lh_id IS NOT NULL THEN NEW.lh_id = OLD.lh_id;
17      ELSE
18          NEW.lh_id :=
19          (SELECT lh_id FROM config_data.mv_configuration_events
20           WHERE sdate < NEW.sdate
21             AND ctr_id = NEW.ctr_id
22             ORDER BY ctr_id, sdate DESC
23             LIMIT 1);
24      END IF;
25      IF
26          OLD.lhelc_id IS NOT NULL THEN NEW.lhelc_id = OLD.lhelc_id;
27      ELSE
28          NEW.lhelc_id :=
29          (SELECT lhelc_id FROM config_data.mv_configuration_events
30           WHERE sdate < NEW.sdate
31             AND ctr_id = NEW.ctr_id
32             ORDER BY ctr_id, sdate DESC
33             LIMIT 1);
34      END IF;
35      IF
36          OLD.uh_id IS NOT NULL THEN NEW.uh_id= OLD.uh_id;
37      ELSE
38          NEW.uh_id :=
39          (SELECT uh_id FROM config_data.mv_configuration_events
40           WHERE sdate < NEW.sdate
41             AND ctr_id = NEW.ctr_id
42             ORDER BY ctr_id, sdate DESC
43             LIMIT 1);
44      END IF;
45      IF
46          OLD.prselc_id IS NOT NULL THEN NEW.prselc_id= OLD.prselc_id;
47      ELSE
48          NEW.prselc_id :=
49          (SELECT prselc_id FROM config_data.mv_configuration_events
50           WHERE sdate < NEW.sdate
51             AND ctr_id = NEW.ctr_id
52             ORDER BY ctr_id, sdate DESC
53             LIMIT 1);
54      END IF;
55      RETURN NEW;
56  END;
57  $function$ LANGUAGE plpgsql;

```



```

58
59 DROP TRIGGER IF EXISTS trg_it_mv_config_ev_correspond_ids ON config_data.mv_configuration_event
60 CREATE TRIGGER trg_it_mv_config_ev_correspond_ids
61 AFTER INSERT ON config_data.mv_configuration_events FOR EACH ROW
62 EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.trg_mv_config_ev_correspond_ids();
63
64 DROP TRIGGER IF EXISTS trg_dt_mv_config_ev_correspond_ids ON config_data.mv_configuration_event
65 CREATE TRIGGER trg_dt_mv_config_ev_correspond_ids
66 AFTER DELETE ON config_data.mv_configuration_events FOR EACH ROW
67 EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.trg_mv_config_ev_correspond_ids();
68
69 DROP TRIGGER IF EXISTS trg_ut_mv_config_ev_correspond_ids ON config_data.mv_configuration_event
70 CREATE TRIGGER trg_ut_mv_config_ev_correspond_ids
71 BEFORE UPDATE ON config_data.mv_configuration_events FOR EACH ROW
72 EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.trg_mv_config_ev_correspond_ids();

```

### 5.1.8 Functions and triggers like mv\_config\_ev\_#\_\*

The function and triggers of family mv\_config\_ev\_#\_\*( ) and mv\_config\_ev\_\* are defined as follows:

```

1  -- cabinet triggers
2  -- update
3  CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION config_data.mv_config_ev_cabinet_ut()
4  RETURNS TRIGGER
5  SECURITY DEFINER
6  LANGUAGE 'plpgsql' AS '
7  BEGIN
8      PERFORM config_data.mv_config_ev_refresh_row(OLD.ctr_id, OLD.cab_sdate);
9      PERFORM config_data.mv_config_ev_refresh_row(NEW.ctr_id, NEW.cab_sdate);
10     RETURN NULL;
11 END';
12 DROP TRIGGER IF EXISTS mv_config_ev_update ON config_data.cabinet;
13 CREATE TRIGGER mv_config_ev_update
14 AFTER UPDATE OF cab_id, cab_sdate ON config_data.cabinet
15 FOR EACH ROW EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.mv_config_ev_cabinet_ut();
16
17 -- delet
18 CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION config_data.mv_config_ev_cabinet_dt()
19 RETURNS TRIGGER
20 SECURITY DEFINER
21 LANGUAGE 'plpgsql' AS '
22 BEGIN
23     PERFORM config_data.mv_config_ev_refresh_row(OLD.ctr_id, OLD.cab_sdate);
24     RETURN NULL;
25 END';
26 DROP TRIGGER IF EXISTS mv_config_ev_delete ON config_data.cabinet;
27 CREATE TRIGGER mv_config_ev_delete
28 AFTER DELETE ON config_data.cabinet
29 FOR EACH ROW EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.mv_config_ev_cabinet_dt();
30
31 -- insert
32 CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION config_data.mv_config_ev_cabinet_it()
33 RETURNS TRIGGER
34 SECURITY DEFINER
35 LANGUAGE 'plpgsql' AS '

```

```

36 BEGIN
37     PERFORM config_data.mv_config_ev_refresh_row(NEW.ctr_id, NEW.cab_sdate);
38     RETURN NULL;
39 END';
40 DROP TRIGGER IF EXISTS mv_config_ev_insert ON config_data.cabinet;
41 CREATE TRIGGER mv_config_ev_insert
42     AFTER INSERT ON config_data.cabinet
43     FOR EACH ROW EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.mv_config_ev_cabinet_it();
44
45
46 -- lower house triggers
47 -- update
48 CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION config_data.mv_config_ev_lower_house_ut()
49 RETURNS TRIGGER
50 SECURITY DEFINER
51 LANGUAGE 'plpgsql' AS '
52 BEGIN
53     PERFORM config_data.mv_config_ev_refresh_row(OLD.ctr_id, OLD.lh_sdate);
54     PERFORM config_data.mv_config_ev_refresh_row(NEW.ctr_id, NEW.lh_sdate);
55     RETURN NULL;
56 END';
57 DROP TRIGGER IF EXISTS mv_config_ev_update ON config_data.lower_house;
58 CREATE TRIGGER mv_config_ev_update
59     AFTER UPDATE OF lh_id, lh_sdate ON config_data.lower_house
60     FOR EACH ROW EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.mv_config_ev_lower_house_ut();
61
62 -- delete
63 CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION config_data.mv_config_ev_lower_house_dt()
64 RETURNS TRIGGER
65 SECURITY DEFINER
66 LANGUAGE 'plpgsql' AS '
67 BEGIN
68     PERFORM config_data.mv_config_ev_refresh_row(OLD.ctr_id, OLD.lh_sdate);
69     RETURN NULL;
70 END';
71 DROP TRIGGER IF EXISTS mv_config_ev_delete ON config_data.lower_house;
72 CREATE TRIGGER mv_config_ev_delete
73     AFTER DELETE ON config_data.lower_house
74     FOR EACH ROW EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.mv_config_ev_lower_house_dt();
75
76 -- insert
77 CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION config_data.mv_config_ev_lower_house_it()
78 RETURNS TRIGGER
79 SECURITY DEFINER
80 LANGUAGE 'plpgsql' AS '
81 BEGIN
82     PERFORM config_data.mv_config_ev_refresh_row(NEW.ctr_id, NEW.lh_sdate);
83     RETURN NULL;
84 END';
85 DROP TRIGGER IF EXISTS mv_config_ev_insert ON config_data.lower_house;
86 CREATE TRIGGER mv_config_ev_insert
87     AFTER INSERT ON config_data.lower_house
88     FOR EACH ROW EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.mv_config_ev_lower_house_it();
89
90 -- upper house triggers
91 -- update
92 CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION config_data.mv_config_ev_upper_house_ut()
93 RETURNS TRIGGER
94 SECURITY DEFINER
95 LANGUAGE 'plpgsql' AS '

```

```

96 BEGIN
97     PERFORM config_data.mv_config_ev_refresh_row(OLD.ctr_id, OLD.uh_sdate);
98     PERFORM config_data.mv_config_ev_refresh_row(NEW.ctr_id, NEW.uh_sdate);
99     RETURN NULL;
100 END';
101 DROP TRIGGER IF EXISTS mv_config_ev_update ON config_data.upper_house;
102 CREATE TRIGGER mv_config_ev_update
103     AFTER UPDATE OF uh_id, uh_sdate ON config_data.upper_house
104     FOR EACH ROW EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.mv_config_ev_upper_house_ut();
105
106 -- delet
107 CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION config_data.mv_config_ev_upper_house_dt()
108 RETURNS TRIGGER
109 SECURITY DEFINER
110 LANGUAGE 'plpgsql' AS '
111 BEGIN
112     PERFORM config_data.mv_config_ev_refresh_row(OLD.ctr_id, OLD.uh_sdate);
113     RETURN NULL;
114 END';
115 DROP TRIGGER IF EXISTS mv_config_ev_delete ON config_data.upper_house;
116 CREATE TRIGGER mv_config_ev_delete
117     AFTER DELETE ON config_data.upper_house
118     FOR EACH ROW EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.mv_config_ev_upper_house_dt();
119
120 -- insert
121 CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION config_data.mv_config_ev_upper_house_it()
122 RETURNS TRIGGER
123 SECURITY DEFINER
124 LANGUAGE 'plpgsql' AS '
125 BEGIN
126     PERFORM config_data.mv_config_ev_refresh_row(NEW.ctr_id, NEW.uh_sdate);
127     RETURN NULL;
128 END';
129 DROP TRIGGER IF EXISTS mv_config_ev_insert ON config_data.upper_house;
130 CREATE TRIGGER mv_config_ev_insert
131     AFTER INSERT ON config_data.upper_house
132     FOR EACH ROW EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.mv_config_ev_upper_house_it();
133
134 -- presidential election triggers
135 -- update
136 CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION config_data.mv_config_ev_presidential_election_ut()
137 RETURNS TRIGGER
138 SECURITY DEFINER
139 LANGUAGE 'plpgsql' AS '
140 BEGIN
141     PERFORM config_data.mv_config_ev_refresh_row(OLD.ctr_id, OLD.prs_sdate);
142     PERFORM config_data.mv_config_ev_refresh_row(NEW.ctr_id, NEW.prs_sdate);
143     RETURN NULL;
144 END';
145 DROP TRIGGER IF EXISTS mv_config_ev_update ON config_data.presidential_election;
146 CREATE TRIGGER mv_config_ev_update
147     AFTER UPDATE OF prselc_id, prs_sdate ON config_data.presidential_election
148     FOR EACH ROW EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.mv_config_ev_presidential_election_ut();
149
150 -- delet
151 CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION config_data.mv_config_ev_presidential_election_dt()
152 RETURNS TRIGGER
153 SECURITY DEFINER
154 LANGUAGE 'plpgsql' AS '
155 BEGIN

```

```

156     PERFORM config_data.mv_config_ev_refresh_row(OLD.ctr_id, OLD.prs_sdate);
157     RETURN NULL;
158 END';
159 DROP TRIGGER IF EXISTS mv_config_ev_delete ON config_data.presidential_election;
160 CREATE TRIGGER mv_config_ev_delete
161     AFTER DELETE ON config_data.presidential_election
162     FOR EACH ROW EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.mv_config_ev_presidential_election_dt();
163
164 -- insert
165 CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION config_data.mv_config_ev_presidential_election_it()
166 RETURNS TRIGGER
167 SECURITY DEFINER
168 LANGUAGE 'plpgsql' AS '
169 BEGIN
170     PERFORM config_data.mv_config_ev_refresh_row(NEW.ctr_id, NEW.prs_sdate);
171     RETURN NULL;
172 END';
173 DROP TRIGGER IF EXISTS mv_config_ev_insert ON config_data.presidential_election;
174 CREATE TRIGGER mv_config_ev_insert
175     AFTER INSERT ON config_data.presidential_election
176     FOR EACH ROW EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.mv_config_ev_presidential_election_it();
177
178
179
180 -- veto points triggers
181 -- update
182 CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION config_data.mv_config_ev_veto_points_ut()
183 RETURNS TRIGGER
184 SECURITY DEFINER
185 LANGUAGE 'plpgsql' AS '
186 BEGIN
187     PERFORM config_data.mv_config_ev_refresh_row(OLD.ctr_id, OLD.vto_inst_sdate);
188     PERFORM config_data.mv_config_ev_refresh_row(NEW.ctr_id, NEW.vto_inst_sdate);
189     RETURN NULL;
190 END';
191 DROP TRIGGER IF EXISTS mv_config_ev_update ON config_data.veto_points;
192 CREATE TRIGGER mv_config_ev_update
193     AFTER UPDATE OF vto_id, vto_inst_sdate ON config_data.veto_points
194     FOR EACH ROW EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.mv_config_ev_veto_points_ut();
195
196 -- delet
197 CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION config_data.mv_config_ev_veto_points_dt()
198 RETURNS TRIGGER
199 SECURITY DEFINER
200 LANGUAGE 'plpgsql' AS '
201 BEGIN
202     PERFORM config_data.mv_config_ev_refresh_row(OLD.ctr_id, OLD.vto_inst_sdate);
203     RETURN NULL;
204 END';
205 DROP TRIGGER IF EXISTS mv_config_ev_delete ON config_data.veto_points;
206 CREATE TRIGGER mv_config_ev_delete
207     AFTER DELETE ON config_data.veto_points
208     FOR EACH ROW EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.mv_config_ev_veto_points_dt();
209
210 -- insert
211 CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION config_data.mv_config_ev_veto_points_it()
212 RETURNS TRIGGER
213 SECURITY DEFINER
214 LANGUAGE 'plpgsql' AS '
215 BEGIN

```

```

216     PERFORM config_data.mv_config_ev_refresh_row(NEW.ctr_id, NEW.vto_inst_sdate);
217     RETURN NULL;
218 END';
219 DROP TRIGGER IF EXISTS mv_config_ev_insert ON config_data.veto_points;
220 CREATE TRIGGER mv_config_ev_insert
221     AFTER INSERT ON config_data.veto_points
222     FOR EACH ROW EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.mv_config_ev_veto_points_it();

```

### 5.1.9 Functions and triggers like mv\_config\_ev\_#\_id\*\_trg

The function and triggers of family mv\_config\_ev\_#\_id\*\_trg are defined as follows:

```

1      -- Define function UPDATE IDs IN MATERIALIZED CONFIGURATON EVENTS
2      -- Define triggers that UPDATE IDs IN MATERIALIZED CONFIGURATON EVENTS on change on base tables
3
4      -- the structure A is the following:
5      -- (1) define function that takes new and old ID as arguments, and sets ID to new ID in rows w
6      -- (2) define trigger that executes the function defined under (1), passing in OLD.* and NEW.*
7
8      -- define structure A on all base tables
9
10     -- cabinet ID
11     CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION config_data.mv_config_ev_ut_cab_id(NUMERIC(5,0), NUMERIC(5,0))
12     RETURNS VOID
13     SECURITY DEFINER
14     LANGUAGE 'plpgsql' AS '
15     DECLARE
16         old_cab_id ALIAS FOR $1;
17         new_cab_id ALIAS FOR $2;
18     BEGIN
19         ALTER TABLE config_data.mv_configuration_events DISABLE TRIGGER USER;
20
21         UPDATE config_data.mv_configuration_events
22             SET cab_id = new_cab_id
23             WHERE cab_id = old_cab_id;
24
25         ALTER TABLE config_data.mv_configuration_events ENABLE TRIGGER USER;
26
27         RETURN;
28     END
29     ';
30
31     CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION config_data.mv_config_ev_cab_id_ut_trg()
32     RETURNS trigger
33     SECURITY DEFINER
34     LANGUAGE 'plpgsql' AS '
35     BEGIN
36         PERFORM config_data.mv_config_ev_ut_cab_id(OLD.cab_id, NEW.cab_id);
37         RETURN NULL;
38     END';
39
40     DROP TRIGGER IF EXISTS mv_config_ev_cab_id_ut_trg ON config_data.cabinet;
41     CREATE TRIGGER mv_config_ev_cab_id_ut_trg
42         AFTER UPDATE OF cab_id ON config_data.cabinet
43         FOR EACH ROW EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.mv_config_ev_cab_id_ut_trg();

```

```

44
45
46 CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION config_data.mv_config_ev_dt_cab_id(NUMERIC(5,0))
47 RETURNS VOID
48 SECURITY DEFINER
49 LANGUAGE 'plpgsql' AS '
50 DECLARE
51     old_cab_id ALIAS FOR $1;
52 BEGIN
53     ALTER TABLE config_data.mv_configuration_events DISABLE TRIGGER USER;
54
55     UPDATE config_data.mv_configuration_events
56         SET cab_id = NULL
57         WHERE cab_id = old_cab_id;
58
59     ALTER TABLE config_data.mv_configuration_events ENABLE TRIGGER USER;
60
61     RETURN;
62 END
63 ';
64
65 CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION config_data.mv_config_ev_cab_id_dt_trg()
66 RETURNS trigger
67 SECURITY DEFINER
68 LANGUAGE 'plpgsql' AS '
69 BEGIN
70     PERFORM config_data.mv_config_ev_dt_cab_id(OLD.cab_id);
71     RETURN NULL;
72 END';
73
74 DROP TRIGGER IF EXISTS mv_config_ev_cab_id_dt_trg ON config_data.cabinet;
75 CREATE TRIGGER mv_config_ev_cab_id_dt_trg
76 AFTER DELETE ON config_data.cabinet
77 FOR EACH ROW EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.mv_config_ev_cab_id_dt_trg();
78
79
80 CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION config_data.mv_config_ev_cab_id_it_trg()
81 RETURNS trigger
82 SECURITY DEFINER
83 LANGUAGE 'plpgsql' AS '
84 BEGIN
85     EXECUTE 'UPDATE config_data.mv_configuration_events SET cab_id = cab_id'';
86     RETURN NULL;
87 END';
88
89 DROP TRIGGER IF EXISTS mv_config_ev_cab_id_it_trg ON config_data.cabinet;
90 CREATE TRIGGER mv_config_ev_cab_id_it_trg
91 AFTER INSERT ON config_data.cabinet
92 FOR EACH STATEMENT EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.mv_config_ev_cab_id_it_trg();
93
94 -- lower house ID
95 CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION config_data.mv_config_ev_ut_lh_id(NUMERIC(5,0), NUMERIC(5,0))
96 RETURNS VOID
97 SECURITY DEFINER
98 LANGUAGE 'plpgsql' AS '
99 DECLARE
100     old_lh_id ALIAS FOR $1;
101     new_lh_id ALIAS FOR $2;
102 BEGIN
103     ALTER TABLE config_data.mv_configuration_events DISABLE TRIGGER USER;

```

```
104
105     UPDATE config_data.mv_configuration_events
106         SET lh_id = new_lh_id
107         WHERE lh_id = old_lh_id;
108
109     ALTER TABLE config_data.mv_configuration_events ENABLE TRIGGER USER;
110
111     RETURN;
112 END
113 ';
114
115 CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION config_data.mv_config_ev_lh_id_ut_trg()
116 RETURNS trigger
117 SECURITY DEFINER
118 LANGUAGE 'plpgsql' AS '
119 BEGIN
120     PERFORM config_data.mv_config_ev_ut_lh_id(OLD.lh_id, NEW.lh_id);
121     RETURN NULL;
122 END';
123
124 DROP TRIGGER IF EXISTS mv_config_ev_lh_id_ut_trg ON config_data.lower_house;
125 CREATE TRIGGER mv_config_ev_lh_id_ut_trg
126 AFTER UPDATE OF lh_id ON config_data.lower_house
127 FOR EACH ROW EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.mv_config_ev_lh_id_ut_trg();
128
129
130 CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION config_data.mv_config_ev_dt_lh_id(NUMERIC(5,0))
131 RETURNS VOID
132 SECURITY DEFINER
133 LANGUAGE 'plpgsql' AS '
134 DECLARE
135     old_lh_id ALIAS FOR $1;
136 BEGIN
137     ALTER TABLE config_data.mv_configuration_events DISABLE TRIGGER USER;
138
139     UPDATE config_data.mv_configuration_events
140         SET lh_id = NULL
141         WHERE lh_id = old_lh_id;
142
143     ALTER TABLE config_data.mv_configuration_events ENABLE TRIGGER USER;
144
145     RETURN;
146 END
147 ';
148
149 CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION config_data.mv_config_ev_lh_id_dt_trg()
150 RETURNS trigger
151 SECURITY DEFINER
152 LANGUAGE 'plpgsql' AS '
153 BEGIN
154     PERFORM config_data.mv_config_ev_dt_lh_id(OLD.lh_id);
155     RETURN NULL;
156 END';
157
158 DROP TRIGGER IF EXISTS mv_config_ev_lh_id_dt_trg ON config_data.lower_house;
159 CREATE TRIGGER mv_config_ev_lh_id_dt_trg
160 AFTER DELETE ON config_data.lower_house
161 FOR EACH ROW EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.mv_config_ev_lh_id_dt_trg();
162
163
```

```

164 CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION config_data.mv_config_ev_lh_id_it_trg()
165 RETURNS trigger
166 SECURITY DEFINER
167 LANGUAGE 'plpgsql' AS '
168 BEGIN
169     EXECUTE 'UPDATE config_data.mv_configuration_events SET lh_id = lh_id';
170     RETURN NULL;
171 END';
172
173 DROP TRIGGER IF EXISTS mv_config_ev_lh_id_it_trg ON config_data.lower_house;
174 CREATE TRIGGER mv_config_ev_lh_id_it_trg
175 AFTER INSERT ON config_data.lower_house
176 FOR EACH STATEMENT EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.mv_config_ev_lh_id_it_trg();
177
178
179 -- lower house election ID
180 CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION config_data.mv_config_ev_ut_lhelc_id(NUMERIC(5,0), NUMERIC(5,0))
181 RETURNS VOID
182 SECURITY DEFINER
183 LANGUAGE 'plpgsql' AS '
184 DECLARE
185     old_lhelc_id ALIAS FOR $1;
186     new_lhelc_id ALIAS FOR $2;
187 BEGIN
188     ALTER TABLE config_data.mv_configuration_events DISABLE TRIGGER USER;
189
190     UPDATE config_data.mv_configuration_events
191     SET lh_elc_id = new_lhelc_id
192     WHERE lh_elc_id = old_lhelc_id;
193
194     ALTER TABLE config_data.mv_configuration_events ENABLE TRIGGER USER;
195
196     RETURN;
197 END
198 ';
199
200 CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION config_data.mv_config_ev_lhelc_id_ut_trg()
201 RETURNS trigger
202 SECURITY DEFINER
203 LANGUAGE 'plpgsql' AS '
204 BEGIN
205     PERFORM config_data.mv_config_ev_ut_lhelc_id(OLD.lhelc_id, NEW.lhelc_id);
206     RETURN NULL;
207 END';
208
209 DROP TRIGGER IF EXISTS mv_config_ev_lhelc_id_ut_trg ON config_data.lower_house;
210 CREATE TRIGGER mv_config_ev_lhelc_id_ut_trg
211 AFTER UPDATE OF lh_elc_id ON config_data.lower_house
212 FOR EACH ROW EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.mv_config_ev_lhelc_id_ut_trg();
213 -- executed when the election ID that is recorded as corresponding to a lower house configuration
214
215 CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION config_data.mv_config_ev_dt_lhelc_id(NUMERIC(5,0))
216 RETURNS VOID
217 SECURITY DEFINER
218 LANGUAGE 'plpgsql' AS '
219 DECLARE
220     old_lhelc_id ALIAS FOR $1;
221 BEGIN
222     ALTER TABLE config_data.mv_configuration_events DISABLE TRIGGER USER;
223

```



```

224     UPDATE config_data.mv_configuration_events
225     SET lhelc_id = NULL
226     WHERE lhelc_id = old_lhelc_id;
227
228     ALTER TABLE config_data.mv_configuration_events ENABLE TRIGGER USER;
229
230     RETURN;
231 END
232 ';
233
234 CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION config_data.mv_config_ev_lhelc_id_dt_trg()
235 RETURNS trigger
236 SECURITY DEFINER
237 LANGUAGE 'plpgsql' AS '
238 BEGIN
239     PERFORM config_data.mv_config_ev_dt_lhelc_id(OLD.lhelc_id);
240     RETURN NULL;
241 END';
242
243 DROP TRIGGER IF EXISTS mv_config_ev_lhelc_id_dt_trg ON config_data.lower_house;
244 CREATE TRIGGER mv_config_ev_lhelc_id_dt_trg
245     AFTER DELETE ON config_data.lower_house
246     FOR EACH ROW EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.mv_config_ev_lhelc_id_dt_trg();
247
248
249 CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION config_data.mv_config_ev_lhelc_id_it_trg()
250 RETURNS trigger
251 SECURITY DEFINER
252 LANGUAGE 'plpgsql' AS '
253 BEGIN
254     EXECUTE ''UPDATE config_data.mv_configuration_events SET lhelc_id = lhelc_id'';
255     RETURN NULL;
256 END';
257
258 DROP TRIGGER IF EXISTS mv_config_ev_lhelc_id_it_trg ON config_data.lower_house;
259 CREATE TRIGGER mv_config_ev_lhelc_id_it_trg
260     AFTER INSERT ON config_data.lower_house
261     FOR EACH STATEMENT EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.mv_config_ev_lhelc_id_it_trg();
262
263 -- upper house ID
264 CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION config_data.mv_config_ev_ut_uh_id(NUMERIC(5,0), NUMERIC(5,0))
265 RETURNS VOID
266 SECURITY DEFINER
267 LANGUAGE 'plpgsql' AS '
268 DECLARE
269     old_uh_id ALIAS FOR $1;
270     new_uh_id ALIAS FOR $2;
271 BEGIN
272     ALTER TABLE config_data.mv_configuration_events DISABLE TRIGGER USER;
273
274     UPDATE config_data.mv_configuration_events
275     SET uh_id = new_uh_id
276     WHERE uh_id = old_uh_id;
277
278     ALTER TABLE config_data.mv_configuration_events ENABLE TRIGGER USER;
279
280     RETURN;
281 END
282 ';
283

```

```

284 CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION config_data.mv_config_ev_uh_id_ut_trg()
285 RETURNS trigger
286 SECURITY DEFINER
287 LANGUAGE 'plpgsql' AS '
288 BEGIN
289     PERFORM config_data.mv_config_ev_ut_uh_id(OLD.uh_id, NEW.uh_id);
290     RETURN NULL;
291 END';
292
293 DROP TRIGGER IF EXISTS mv_config_ev_uh_id_ut_trg ON config_data.upper_house;
294 CREATE TRIGGER mv_config_ev_uh_id_ut_trg
295     AFTER UPDATE OF uh_id ON config_data.upper_house
296     FOR EACH ROW EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.mv_config_ev_uh_id_ut_trg();
297
298
299
300 CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION config_data.mv_config_ev_dt_uh_id(NUMERIC(5,0))
301 RETURNS VOID
302 SECURITY DEFINER
303 LANGUAGE 'plpgsql' AS '
304 DECLARE
305     old_uh_id ALIAS FOR $1;
306 BEGIN
307     ALTER TABLE config_data.mv_configuration_events DISABLE TRIGGER USER;
308
309     UPDATE config_data.mv_configuration_events
310         SET uh_id = NULL
311         WHERE uh_id = old_uh_id;
312
313     ALTER TABLE config_data.mv_configuration_events ENABLE TRIGGER USER;
314
315     RETURN;
316 END
317 ';
318
319 CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION config_data.mv_config_ev_uh_id_dt_trg()
320 RETURNS trigger
321 SECURITY DEFINER
322 LANGUAGE 'plpgsql' AS '
323 BEGIN
324     PERFORM config_data.mv_config_ev_dt_uh_id(OLD.uh_id);
325     RETURN NULL;
326 END';
327
328 DROP TRIGGER IF EXISTS mv_config_ev_uh_id_dt_trg ON config_data.upper_house;
329 CREATE TRIGGER mv_config_ev_uh_id_dt_trg
330     AFTER DELETE ON config_data.upper_house
331     FOR EACH ROW EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.mv_config_ev_uh_id_dt_trg();
332
333
334 CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION config_data.mv_config_ev_uh_id_it_trg()
335 RETURNS trigger
336 SECURITY DEFINER
337 LANGUAGE 'plpgsql' AS '
338 BEGIN
339     EXECUTE 'UPDATE config_data.mv_configuration_events SET uh_id = uh_id';
340     RETURN NULL;
341 END';
342
343 DROP TRIGGER IF EXISTS mv_config_ev_uh_id_it_trg ON config_data.upper_house;

```

```

344 CREATE TRIGGER mv_config_ev_uh_id_it_trg
345 AFTER INSERT ON config_data.upper_house
346 FOR EACH STATEMENT EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.mv_config_ev_uh_id_it_trg();
347
348
349
350 -- presidential election ID
351 CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION config_data.mv_config_ev_ut_prselc_id(NUMERIC(5,0), NUMERIC(5,0))
352 RETURNS VOID
353 SECURITY DEFINER
354 LANGUAGE 'plpgsql' AS '
355 DECLARE
356     old_prselc_id ALIAS FOR $1;
357     new_prselc_id ALIAS FOR $2;
358 BEGIN
359     ALTER TABLE config_data.mv_configuration_events DISABLE TRIGGER USER;
360
361     UPDATE config_data.mv_configuration_events
362     SET prselc_id = new_prselc_id
363     WHERE prselc_id = old_prselc_id;
364
365     ALTER TABLE config_data.mv_configuration_events ENABLE TRIGGER USER;
366
367     RETURN;
368 END
369 ';
370
371 CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION config_data.mv_config_ev_prselc_id_ut_trg()
372 RETURNS trigger
373 SECURITY DEFINER
374 LANGUAGE 'plpgsql' AS '
375 BEGIN
376     PERFORM config_data.mv_config_ev_ut_prselc_id(OLD.prselc_id, NEW.prselc_id);
377     RETURN NULL;
378 END';
379
380 DROP TRIGGER IF EXISTS mv_config_ev_prselc_id_ut_trg ON config_data.presidential_election;
381 CREATE TRIGGER mv_config_ev_prselc_id_ut_trg
382 AFTER UPDATE OF prselc_id ON config_data.presidential_election
383 FOR EACH ROW EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.mv_config_ev_prselc_id_ut_trg();
384
385
386 CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION config_data.mv_config_ev_dt_prselc_id(NUMERIC(5,0))
387 RETURNS VOID
388 SECURITY DEFINER
389 LANGUAGE 'plpgsql' AS '
390 DECLARE
391     old_prselc_id ALIAS FOR $1;
392 BEGIN
393     ALTER TABLE config_data.mv_configuration_events DISABLE TRIGGER USER;
394
395     UPDATE config_data.mv_configuration_events
396     SET prselc_id = NULL
397     WHERE prselc_id = old_prselc_id;
398
399     ALTER TABLE config_data.mv_configuration_events ENABLE TRIGGER USER;
400
401     RETURN;
402 END
403 ';

```

```

404
405 CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION config_data.mv_config_ev_prselc_id_dt_trg()
406 RETURNS trigger
407 SECURITY DEFINER
408 LANGUAGE 'plpgsql' AS '
409 BEGIN
410     PERFORM config_data.mv_config_ev_dt_prselc_id(OLD.prselc_id);
411     RETURN NULL;
412 END';
413
414 DROP TRIGGER IF EXISTS mv_config_ev_prselc_id_dt_trg ON config_data.presidential_election;
415 CREATE TRIGGER mv_config_ev_prselc_id_dt_trg
416 AFTER DELETE ON config_data.presidential_election
417 FOR EACH ROW EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.mv_config_ev_prselc_id_dt_trg();
418
419
420 CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION config_data.mv_config_ev_prselc_id_it_trg()
421 RETURNS trigger
422 SECURITY DEFINER
423 LANGUAGE 'plpgsql' AS '
424 BEGIN
425     EXECUTE 'UPDATE config_data.mv_configuration_events SET prselc_id = prselc_id';
426     RETURN NULL;
427 END';
428
429 DROP TRIGGER IF EXISTS mv_config_ev_prselc_id_it_trg ON config_data.presidential_election;
430 CREATE TRIGGER mv_config_ev_prselc_id_it_trg
431 AFTER INSERT ON config_data.presidential_election
432 FOR EACH STATEMENT EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.mv_config_ev_prselc_id_it_trg();

```

### 5.1.10 Definition of Configuration Country-Years View

View `view_configuration_ctr_yr` is defined as follows:

```

1 CREATE OR REPLACE VIEW config_data.view_configuration_ctr_yr
2 AS
3 WITH
4 configs AS (SELECT * FROM config_data.mv_configuration_events) ,
5 max_sdate_in_year_configs AS (SELECT ctr_id, year, max(sdate) AS sdate, max(edate) AS edate
6 FROM configs GROUP BY ctr_id, year),
7 country_years AS (SELECT ctr_id, year::NUMERIC(4,0) FROM
8 (SELECT DATE_PART('year', years::date) AS year
9 FROM generate_series(
10 (SELECT min(sdate) FROM configs),
11 (SELECT current_date),
12 INTERVAL '1 year') AS years
13 ) AS YEARS
14 , (SELECT DISTINCT ctr_id FROM configs) AS COUNTRIES) ,
15 matches AS (SELECT ctr_id, year, COALESCE(matched, NULL, FALSE) AS matched
16 FROM country_years
17 FULL OUTER JOIN
18 (SELECT DISTINCT ctr_id, year, TRUE::BOOLEAN AS matched FROM configs ) AS DATA
19 USING(ctr_id, year) ),
20 matched AS (SELECT ctr_id, year FROM matches WHERE matched = FALSE ),
21 configs_in_year AS (SELECT ctr_id, year, sdate, edate,
22 DATE_PART('year', sdate) AS syear, DATE_PART('year', edate) AS eyear
23 FROM configs

```

```

24         WHERE (ctr_id, year)
25         IN (SELECT DISTINCT ON (ctr_id, year) ctr_id, year FROM matched)
26     UNION
27     SELECT matched.ctr_id AS ctr_id, matched.year AS year, max(sdate) AS sdate, max(edate) AS edate,
28           DATE_PART('year', max(sdate)) AS syear, DATE_PART('year', max(edate)) AS eyear
29     FROM
30     max_sdate_in_year_configs AS max_sdate, matched
31     WHERE max_sdate.ctr_id = matched.ctr_id
32     AND max_sdate.year < matched.year
33     GROUP BY matched.year, matched.ctr_id ,
34     durations AS (SELECT ctr_id, sdate, edate, year, ((edate+1)-sdate)::INT AS duration_in_year
35     FROM configs_in_year
36     WHERE syear = eyear
37     UNION
38     SELECT ctr_id, sdate, edate, syear AS year,
39           (TO_TIMESTAMP(''|| syear::INT+1 || '-01-01', 'YYYY-MM-DD'))::DATE-sdate) AS duration_in_year
40     FROM configs_in_year
41     WHERE syear < eyear
42     UNION
43     SELECT ctr_id, sdate, edate, eyear AS year,
44           (edate-TO_TIMESTAMP(''|| eyear::INT-1 || '-12-31', 'YYYY-MM-DD'))::DATE) AS duration_in_year
45     FROM configs_in_year
46     WHERE syear < eyear
47     UNION
48     SELECT ctr_id, sdate, edate, year,
49           (SELECT count(*)
50           FROM generate_series(
51             TO_TIMESTAMP(''|| year::INT || '-01-01', 'YYYY-MM-DD'))::DATE,
52             TO_TIMESTAMP(''|| year::INT || '-12-31', 'YYYY-MM-DD'))::DATE,
53             '1 day') d(the_day)
54           ) AS duration_in_year
55     FROM configs_in_year
56     WHERE year != syear
57     AND year != eyear
58   )
59   SELECT ctr_id,
60     representative_configs.year::NUMERIC,
61     representative_configs.sdate, configs.edate,
62     configs.cab_id, configs.lh_id, configs.lhelc_id, configs.uh_id, configs.prselc_id
63   FROM
64     configs
65   RIGHT OUTER JOIN
66     (SELECT ctr_id, year, sdate, duration_in_year
67     FROM durations
68     WHERE (ctr_id, year, duration_in_year)
69     IN (SELECT DISTINCT ctr_id, year, max(duration_in_year)
70     OVER (PARTITION BY ctr_id, year) AS duration_in_year
71     FROM durations)
72     AND (ctr_id, year, sdate)
73     IN (SELECT DISTINCT ctr_id, year, min(sdate)
74     OVER (PARTITION BY ctr_id, year, duration_in_year) AS duration_in_year
75     FROM durations) ) AS representative_configs
76   USING(ctr_id, sdate)
77   ORDER BY ctr_id, representative_configs.year;

```

### 5.1.11 Definition of function refresh\_mv\_config\_ctr\_yr\_row()

Function refresh\_mv\_config\_ctr\_yr\_row() is defined as follows:

```

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12 DROP FUNCTION IF EXISTS config_data.refresh_mv_config_ctr_yr_row();
13 CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION config_data.refresh_mv_config_ctr_yr_row() RETURNS VOID AS $$
14 DECLARE
15     ctr_yr_id RECORD;
16 BEGIN
17     SET LOCAL client_min_messages=warning;
18     DROP TABLE IF EXISTS temp_difference;
19     SET LOCAL client_min_messages=notice;
20
21     CREATE TABLE temp_difference
22     AS SELECT DISTINCT ON (ctr_id, year, sdate) *
23     FROM config_data.view_configuration_ctr_yr
24     WHERE (ctr_id, year, sdate)
25     NOT IN (SELECT ctr_id, year, sdate FROM config_data.mv_configuration_ctr_yr);
26
27     FOR ctr_yr_id IN SELECT DISTINCT ON (ctr_id, year) ctr_id, year FROM temp_difference
28     LOOP
29     UPDATE config_data.mv_configuration_ctr_yr
30     SET
31         sdate = (SELECT sdate FROM temp_difference WHERE (ctr_id, year) = ctr_yr_id),
32         edate = (SELECT edate FROM temp_difference WHERE (ctr_id, year) = ctr_yr_id),
33         cab_id = (SELECT cab_id FROM temp_difference WHERE (ctr_id, year) = ctr_yr_id),
34         lh_id = (SELECT lh_id FROM temp_difference WHERE (ctr_id, year) = ctr_yr_id),
35         lhelc_id = (SELECT lhelc_id FROM temp_difference WHERE (ctr_id, year) = ctr_yr_id),
36         uh_id = (SELECT uh_id FROM temp_difference WHERE (ctr_id, year) = ctr_yr_id),
37         prselc_id = (SELECT prselc_id FROM temp_difference WHERE (ctr_id, year) = ctr_yr_id)
38     WHERE (ctr_id, year) = ctr_yr_id;
39     END LOOP;
40
41     DROP TABLE temp_difference;
42
43     RETURN;
44 END;
45 $$ LANGUAGE plpgsql;

```

### 5.1.12 Definition of triggers like mv\_config\_ctr\_yr\_refresh\_\*

The triggers likelike mv\_config\_ctr\_yr\_refresh\_\*, implemented on the base tables, are defined as follows:

```

1
2
3 CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION config_data.mv_config_ctr_yr_refresh()
4 RETURNS TRIGGER
5 SECURITY DEFINER
6 LANGUAGE 'plpgsql' AS '
7 BEGIN
8     PERFORM config_data.refresh_mv_config_ctr_yr_row();
9     RETURN NULL;
10 END';
11
12
13 DROP TRIGGER IF EXISTS mv_config_ctr_yr_refresh_ut ON config_data.cabinet;
14 CREATE TRIGGER mv_config_ctr_yr_refresh_ut
15     AFTER UPDATE OF cab_id, cab_sdate ON config_data.cabinet
16     FOR EACH STATEMENT EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.mv_config_ctr_yr_refresh();
17
18 DROP TRIGGER IF EXISTS mv_config_ctr_yr_refresh_it ON config_data.cabinet;
19 CREATE TRIGGER mv_config_ctr_yr_refresh_it
20     AFTER INSERT ON config_data.cabinet
21     FOR EACH STATEMENT EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.mv_config_ctr_yr_refresh();
22
23 DROP TRIGGER IF EXISTS mv_config_ctr_yr_refresh_dt ON config_data.cabinet;
24 CREATE TRIGGER mv_config_ctr_yr_refresh_dt
25     AFTER DELETE ON config_data.cabinet
26     FOR EACH STATEMENT EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.mv_config_ctr_yr_refresh();
27
28
29 DROP TRIGGER IF EXISTS mv_config_ctr_yr_refresh_ut ON config_data.lower_house;
30 CREATE TRIGGER mv_config_ctr_yr_refresh_ut
31     AFTER UPDATE OF lh_id, lhlc_id, lh_sdate ON config_data.lower_house
32     FOR EACH STATEMENT EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.mv_config_ctr_yr_refresh();
33
34 DROP TRIGGER IF EXISTS mv_config_ctr_yr_refresh_it ON config_data.lower_house;
35 CREATE TRIGGER mv_config_ctr_yr_refresh_it
36     AFTER INSERT ON config_data.lower_house
37     FOR EACH STATEMENT EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.mv_config_ctr_yr_refresh();
38
39 DROP TRIGGER IF EXISTS mv_config_ctr_yr_refresh_dt ON config_data.lower_house;
40 CREATE TRIGGER mv_config_ctr_yr_refresh_dt
41     AFTER DELETE ON config_data.lower_house
42     FOR EACH STATEMENT EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.mv_config_ctr_yr_refresh();
43
44
45 DROP TRIGGER IF EXISTS mv_config_ctr_yr_refresh_ut ON config_data.upper_house;
46 CREATE TRIGGER mv_config_ctr_yr_refresh_ut
47     AFTER UPDATE OF uh_id, uh_sdate ON config_data.upper_house
48     FOR EACH STATEMENT EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.mv_config_ctr_yr_refresh();
49
50 DROP TRIGGER IF EXISTS mv_config_ctr_yr_refresh_it ON config_data.upper_house;
51 CREATE TRIGGER mv_config_ctr_yr_refresh_it
52     AFTER INSERT ON config_data.upper_house
53     FOR EACH STATEMENT EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.mv_config_ctr_yr_refresh();
54
55 DROP TRIGGER IF EXISTS mv_config_ctr_yr_refresh_dt ON config_data.upper_house;
56 CREATE TRIGGER mv_config_ctr_yr_refresh_dt
57     AFTER DELETE ON config_data.upper_house
58     FOR EACH STATEMENT EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.mv_config_ctr_yr_refresh();
59
60

```

```
61 DROP TRIGGER IF EXISTS mv_config_ctr_yr_refresh_ut ON config_data.presidential_election;
62 CREATE TRIGGER mv_config_ctr_yr_refresh_ut
63   AFTER UPDATE OF prselc_id, prs_sdate ON config_data.presidential_election
64   FOR EACH STATEMENT EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.mv_config_ctr_yr_refresh();
65
66 DROP TRIGGER IF EXISTS mv_config_ctr_yr_refresh_it ON config_data.presidential_election;
67 CREATE TRIGGER mv_config_ctr_yr_refresh_it
68   AFTER INSERT ON config_data.presidential_election
69   FOR EACH STATEMENT EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.mv_config_ctr_yr_refresh();
70
71 DROP TRIGGER IF EXISTS mv_config_ctr_yr_refresh_dt ON config_data.presidential_election;
72 CREATE TRIGGER mv_config_ctr_yr_refresh_dt
73   AFTER DELETE ON config_data.presidential_election
74   FOR EACH STATEMENT EXECUTE PROCEDURE config_data.mv_config_ctr_yr_refresh();
```