Political Configurations Database

Codebook

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Contents

List of Tables

1 Introduction

The Political Configuration Database, short PCDB, is a compliation of …

2 Tables

The tables in the PCDB record the primary data on countries' political institutions, parties, elections, and electoral systems.

Each table provides data on exclusively one institution and/or type of event.[1] *Prefixes of variable names* in the tables are often abbrevations of types of institutions or instutional events (e.g, `cab` for variables containing information on cabinets, `lhelc` for variables containing information on lower house elections, etc.).

Rows in tables are unique data points with regard to the configuration of interest (e.g., historically distinct lower house configurations). Criteria for what constitutes a unique data point is provided in the introductions to the respective sections.

Columns represent the variables contained in a table. The first column of a table is usually an identifier, indicated by the suffix `_id`, which is principally a sequencial counter that is unique within countries.

Technical note Note that tables usually store the primary information and data contained in the database, whereas views report aggregate data, such as totals or computed indices. However, much of the primary data provided in official statistics is already aggregated (e.g., total votes or vote turnout at the national level). These figures are recorded in the tables according to primary sources. Computation of indices is regularly proceeded with primary data at the lowest conceptional level. Detailed information on computed variables in views is provided in Chapter **??**.

[1] This is thought to avoid redundancy.

2.1 Country

This table 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.

List 1: ISO3 country-codes and names of countries recorded in the PCDB.

AUS	Australia
AUT	Austria
BEL	Belgium
CAN	Canada
CHE	Switzerland
DEU	Germany
DNK	Denmark
ESP	Spain
FIN	Finland
GBR	United Kingdom
GRC	Greece
IRL	Ireland
ISL	Iceland
LUX	Luxembourg
NLD	Netherlands
NOR	Norway
PRT	Portugal
SWE	Sweden
USA	United States of America
ISR	Israel
CHL	Chile
CZE	Czech Republic
EST	Estonia
HUN	Hungary
POL	Poland
SVK	Slovakia
SVN	Slovenia
TUR	Turkey
FRA	France
NZL	New Zealand
JPN	Japan
ITA	Italy
MEX	Mexico
ROK	Republic of Korea

Table 2.1: Variables in Country Table

Variable	***Description***	***Format***
ctr_id	Country identifier	Integer
ctr_n	Country name	Character
ctr_ccode	ISO3 country code[2]	Character
ctr_ccode2	ISO2 country code[2]	Character
ctr_ccode_nr	ISO3 country code[2]	Numeric
ctr_eu_date	Date of EU accession[3]	YYYY-MM-DD
ctr_oecd_date	Date of OECD accession[4]	YYYY-MM-DD
ctr_wto_date	Date of WTO accession[5]	YYYY-MM-DD
ctr_cmt	Comments	Text
ctr_src	Data sources	Text

[2] ISO (2015), http://www.iso.org/iso/home/standards/country_codes.htm
[3] EU (2015), http://europa.eu/about-eu/countries/member-countries/index_en.htm
[4] OECD (2015), http://www.oecd.org/about/membersandpartners/list-oecd-member-countries.htm
[5] WTO (2015), https://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/whatis_e/tif_e/org6_e.htm

2.2 Cabinet

This table 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, recieves 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 portolios is an integer counter equal to the number of parties in cabinet, as listed in table 2.3.

Sources Information is obtained from Woldendorp, Keman and Budge (2000) and the Political Data Yearbook (2006–2014), and was complemented by individual-case research.

[table Variables in Cabinet Table on next page]

Table 2.2: Variables in Cabinet Table

Variable	***Description***	***Format***
cab_id	Cabinet identifier	Numeric(5,0)
cab_prv_id	Cabinet identifier of the previous cabinet	Numeric(5,0)
ctr_id	Country identifier	Integer
cab_sdate	Cabinet start date	YYYY-MM-DD
cab_hog_n	Name of the Head of Government	Character
cab_sts_ttl	Total number of cabinet portfolios	Numeric
cab_care	Indicates if cabinet is a caretaker cabinet	Boolean
cab_cmt	Comments	Text
cab_src	Data sources	Text
cab_valid_sdate	Indicates whether cabinet start date has been double-checked	Boolean

2.3 Cabinet Portfolios

This table provides information on cabinet portfolios.

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. Section 2.2):

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.

Information is obtained from Woldendorp, Keman and Budge (2000) and the Political Data Yearbook (2006–2014), and was complemented by individual-case research.

Table 2.3: Variables in Cabinet Portfolios Table

Variable	***Description***	***Format***
ptf_id	Portfolio identifier	Numeric(5,0)
cab_id	Cabinet identifier	Numeric(5,0)
pty_id	Party identifier	Numeric(5,0)
pty_cab	Indicates if party is in cabinet	Boolean
pty_cab_sts	A party's number of portfolios/ministries in a cabinet	Numeric
pty_cab_hog	Indicates if party fills the position of the Head of Government	Boolean
pty_cab_sup	Indicates if party is supporting the cabinet but is not part of it	Boolean
ptf_cmt	Comments	Text
ptf_src	Data sources	Text

2.4 Lower House

This table provides basic information on lower houses, including start date of legislature, the total number of seats and the effective number of parties in parliament (ENPP). Rows are compositions of lower houses, identified by `lh_id`.

A new Lower House 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 reuslts data, Table 2.7).

Effective Number of Parties in Parliament The effective number of parties in parliament (ENPP) is a measure of party system fractionalization that takes into acount the relative size of parties present in a country's lower house. The PCDB records the variable `lh_enpp`, according to Laakso and Taagepera's original formular:

$$ENPP(k) = 1/\sum_{j=1}^{J} s_{j,k}^2 \tag{2.1}$$

, 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.

The categories 'Others with seats' (otherw) and 'Independents' (INDs), that lump small parties or single representatives in the parliement into single categories (cf. Section 2.14), enter into the calculation as if it were single parties. This might result in an underestimate of fractionalization. A method of adjustment is described in in Section 3.3.

[table Variables in Lower House Table on next page]

Table 2.4: Variables in Lower House Table

Variable	*Description*	*Format*
lh_id	Lower house identifier	Numeric(5,0)
lh_prv_id	Identifier of the previous lower house	Numeric(5,0)
lh_nxt_id	Identifier of the next lower house	Numeric(5,0)
lhelc_id	Lower house election identifier	Numeric(5,0)
ctr_id	Country identifier	Integer
lh_sdate	Lower house start date	YYYY-MM-DD
lh_sts_ttl	Total number of seats in lower house	Numeric
lh_enpp	Effective number of parties in parliament[6]	Numeric
lh_cmt	Comments	Text
lh_src	Sources of information on lower house	Text
pty_lh_rght	Indicates whether there was a right-winged party in the lower house[7]	Boolean
lh_valid_sdate	Indicates whether lower house start date has been double-checked	Boolean

[6] Recorded figures only; computed as proposed by Laakso and Taagepera (1979).
[7] Abou-Chadi (2014)

2.5 Lower House Election

This table 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. Section 2.4).[8]

Elections, pluarality 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[9] (`lhelc_fml_t*`),
- 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*`).

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.

Sources Information is obtained from Nohlen (2001, 2005, 2010), and complemented by individual-case research.

[8] While the opposite, that each lower house configuration corresponds to a lower house election, is not true.

[9] The PCDB distinguishes between the following electural formular: Two Round System (2RS), Alternative Vote (AV), DHondt, Droop, Droop with Largest-Remainders (LR-Droop), Hare, modified Hare, Hare with Largest-Remainders (LR-Hare), Highest Average Remaining, Imperiali, Multi-Member District (MMD), mSainteLague, Reinforced Imperiali, SainteLague, Single Member Plurality (SMP), Single Non-Transferable Vote (SNTV), and Single Transferable Vote (STV).

Table 2.5: Variables in Lower House Election Table

Variable	*Description*	*Format*
lhelc_id	Lower house election identifier	Numeric(5,0)
lhelc_prv_id	Previous lower house election identifier	Numeric(5,0)
ctr_id	Country identifier	Integer
lhelc_date	Lower house election date	YYYY-MM-DD
lhelc_early	Indicates an early election	Boolean
lhelc_reg_vts	Number of registered voters	Numeric
lhelc_reg_vts_pr	Number of registered voters, PR system	Numeric
lhelc_reg_vts_pl	Number of registered voters, plurality system	Numeric
lhelc_vts_pr	Valid votes for lower house elected with proportional representation system	Numeric
lhelc_vts_pl	Valid votes for lower house elected with plurality system	Numeric
lhelc_sts_pr	Number of lower house seats elected with proportional representation system	Numeric
lhelc_sts_pl	Number of lower house seats elected with plurality system	Numeric
lhelc_sts_ttl	Total number of lower house seats elected in the election	Numeric
lhelc_fml_t1	Electoral formula used for allocation of lower house seats on the first tier	Character
lhelc_ncst_t1	Number of lower house constituencies at the first tier	Numeric
lhelc_sts_t1	Number of lower house seats allocated at the first tier	Numeric
lhelc_dstr_mag	Mean average lower house district magnitude[10]	Numeric

continued on next page ...

[10] Data obtained from Carey and Hix (2011).

Table 2.5: *... continued*

Variable	*Description*	*Format*
lhelc_dstr_mag_med	Median average lower house district magnitude[11]	Numeric
lhelc_ mag_t1	Average lower house district magnitude on first tier	Numeric
lhelc_ntrsh _t1	National threshold for lower house on the first tier	Numeric
lhelc_dtrsh_t1	District threshold for lower house on first tier	Numeric
lhelc_fml_t2	Electoral formula used for allocation of lower house seats on the second tier	Character
lhelc_ncst_t2	Number of lower house constituencies at the second tier	Numeric
lhelc_sts_t2	Number of lower house seats allocated at the second tier	Numeric
lhelc_ mag_t2	Average lower house district magnitude on second tier	Numeric
lhelc_ntrsh _t2	National threshold for lower house on the second tier	Numeric
lhelc_dtrsh_t2	District threshold for lower house on second tier	Numeric
lhelc_fml_t3	Electoral formula used for allocation of lower house seats on the third tier	Character
lhelc_ncst_t3	Number of lower house constituencies at the third tier	Numeric
lhelc_sts_t3	Number of lower house seats allocated at the third tier	Numeric
lhelc_ mag_t3	Average lower house district magnitude on third tier	Numeric
lhelc_ntrsh _t3	national threshold for lower house on the third tier	Numeric

continued on next page ...

[11] Data and definition provided byCarey and Hix (2008).

Table 2.5: *... continued*

Variable	*Description*	*Format*
lhelc_dtrsh_t3	District threshold for lower house on third tier	Numeric
lhelc_fml_t4	Electoral formula used for allocation of lower house seats on the fourth tier	Character
lhelc_ncst_t4	Number of lower house constituencies at the fourth tier	Numeric
lhelc_sts_t4	Number of lower house seats allocated at the fourth tier	Numeric
lhelc_mag_t4	Average lower house district magnitude on fourth tier	Numeric
lhelc_ntrsh_t4	National threshold for lower house on the fourth tier	Numeric
lhelc_dtrsh_t4	District threshold for lower house on fourth tier	Numeric
lhelc_bon_sts	Majority seat bonus	Numeric
lhelc_esys_cmt	Comment on electoral system	Text
lhelc_cmt	Comments on lower house elections	Text
lhelc_esys_src	Source of inforamtion on electoral system	Text
lhelc_lsq	Gallagher's Least-square index (LSq) of disproportionality[12]	Numeric
lhelc_vola_sts	Seat A volatility[13]	Numeric
lhelc_volb_sts	Seat B volatility[14]	Numeric
lhelc_vola_vts	Vote A volatility[13]	Numeric
lhelc_volb_vts	Vote B volatility[14]	Numeric
lhelc_src	Sources of information on lower house elections	Text

continued on next page ...

[12] Gallagher (1991, 1992)
[13] Volatility arising from new entering and retiering parties, respectively (Powell and Tucker, 2013).
[14] Volatility arising from gaines and losses of stable parties (Powell and Tucker, 2013).

Table 2.5: *... continued*

Variable	***Description***	***Format***
lhelc_valid_date	Indicates whether lower house election date has been double-checked	Boolean

2.6 Lower House Vote Results

This table 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`).

Information is obtained from Nohlen (2001, 2005, 2010), and complemented by individual-case research. Weblinks to or citation of individual sources are provided either in `lhvres_src`, or the general source information on the correponding lower house election (`lhelc_src` in Table 2.5).

Table 2.6: Variables in Lower House Vote Results Tabele

Variable	***Description***	***Format***
lhvres_id	Lower house vote result identifier	Numeric(5,0)
lhelc_id	Lower house election identifier	Numeric(5,0)
pty_id	Party identifier	Numeric(5,0)
pty_lh_vts_pr	A party's valid votes in lower house elected with proportional representation system	Numeric
pty_lh_vts_pl	A party's valid votes in lower house elected with plurality system	Numeric
lhvres_cmt	Comments	Text
lhvres_src	Sources of information on lower house vote results	Text

2.7 Lower House Seat Results

This table 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 seat results in a given lower house election (variable `lh_id`).

Information is obtained from Nohlen (2001, 2005, 2010), and complemented by individual-case research. Weblinks to or citation of individual sources are provided either in `lhsres_src`, or the general source information on the correponding lower house election (`lhelc_src` in Table 2.5).

Table 2.7: Variables in Lower House Seat Results Table

Variable	***Description***	***Format***
lhsres_id	Lower house seats results identifier	Numeric(5,0)
lh_id	Lower house identifier	Numeric(5,0)
pty_id	Party identifier	Numeric(5,0)
pty_lh_sts_pr	A party's number of seats in lower house elected with proportional representation system	Numeric
pty_lh_sts_pl	A party's number of seats in lower house elected with plurality system	Numeric
pty_lh_sts	A party's total number of seats in lower house	Numeric
lhsres_cmt	Comments	Text
lhsres_src	Sources of information on lower house seat results	Text

2.8 Upper House

This table provides basic information on upper houses, including start date of legislature and the total number of seats. Rows are compositions of upper houses. 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.

Obviously, information is only provided for countries with bicameral systems.

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 2.8: Variables in Upper House

Variable	*Description*	*Format*
uh_id	Upper house identifier	Numeric(5,0)
uh_prv_id	Identifier of previous upper house	Numeric(5,0)
uhelc_id	Upper house election identifier	Numeric(5,0)
ctr_id	Country identifier	Integer
uh_sdate	Upper house start date	YYYY-MM-DD
uh_sts_ttl	Total number of seats in the upper house	Numeric
uh_cmt	Comments	Text
uh_src	Sources of information on upper house	Text
uh_valid_sdate	Indicates whether upper house start date has been double-checked	Boolean

2.9 Upper House Election

This table includes information on upper house elections. Rows report elections to form the upper house. Obviously, information is only provided on countries with bicameral systems.

Table 2.9: Variables in Upper House Election Table

Variable	*Description*	*Format*
uhelc_id	Upper house election identifier	Numeric(5,0)
uhelc_prv_id	Previous upper house election identifier	Numeric(5,0)
ctr_id	Country identifier	Integer
uhelc_date	Upper house election date	YYYY-MM-DD
uh_sts_ttl	Total number of seats	Numeric
uhelc_sts_elc	Total number of seats elected in the election	Numeric
uhelc_cmt	Comments	Text
uhelc_src	Sources of information on upper house election	Text
uhelc_valid_date	Indicates whether upper house election date has been double-checked	Boolean

2.10 Upper House Seat Results

This table compiles data on the seat composition in upper houses at the party-level. Rows are the parties (identified by variable `pty_id`) and their respective seat results in a given upper house (variable `uh_id`).

Information is obtained from Nohlen (2001, 2005, 2010), and was complemented by individual-case research. Weblinks to, or citations of individual sources are provided either in `uhsres_src`, or the general source information on the correponding upper house election (`uhelc_src` in Table **??**).

Table 2.10: Variables in Upper House Seat Results Table

Variable	***Description***	***Format***
uhsres_id	Upper house seats result identifier	Numeric(5,0)
uh_id	Upper house identifier	Numeric(5,0)
pty_id	Party identifier	Numeric(5,0)
pty_uh_sts_elc	A party's number of seats in upper house gained through election	Numeric
pty_uh_sts	A party's total number of seats in upper house (including seats allocated through appointment)	Numeric
uhsres_cmt	Comments	Text
uhsres_src	Sources of information on upper house seats results	Text

2.11 Presidential Election

The Presidential Election table contains information on the election date, the winner and the electoral system that was applied in an election. Rows are presidential elections.[15]

Table 2.11: Variables in Presidential Election Table

Variable	*Description*	*Format*
prselc_id	Presidential election identifier	Numeric(5,0)
prselc_prv_id	Previous presidential election identifier	Numeric(5,0)
ctr_id	Country identifier	Integer
prselc_date	Presidential election date	YYYY-MM-DD
prselc_rnd_ttl	Number of rounds in the presidential election	Integer
prselc_vts_clg	Number of total votes in electoral college	Numeric
reg_vts_prselc_r1	Registered voters for presidential elections first round	Numeric
reg_vts_prselc_r2	Registeres voters for presidential elections second round	Numeric
prselc_vts_ppl_r1	Number of total valid votes in presidential election in round 1	Numeric
prselc_vts_ppl_r2	Number of total valid votes in presidential election in round 2	Numeric(5,0)
prselc_clg	Indicates if president is elected through an electoral college (coded 1 if yes, 0 if no)	Boolean
prs_n	Name of president	Name
pty_prs	Party identifier of President's party	Numeric(5,0)
prs_sdate	Start date of presidency	YYYY-MM-DD
prselc_cmt	Comments	Text
prselc_src	Sources of information on presidential election	Text

continued on next page ...

[15] Note that the direct elections of the Prime Minister in Israel between 1996 and 2001 are included in this table as well.

Table 2.11: *... continued*

Variable	***Description***	***Format***
prselc_valid_date	Indicates whether Presidency start date has been double-checked	Boolean
prs_valid_sdate	Indicates whether Presidential election date has been double-checked	Boolean

2.12 Presidential Election Vote Results

This table provides data on vote results in presidential elections at the candidate-level. Rows are the candidates running in the (multiple rounds of) election(s) and their respective vote results.

Table 2.12: Variables in Presidential Election Vote Results Table

Variable	***Description***	***Format***
prsvres_id	Presidential election vote results identifier	Numeric(5,0)
prselc_id	Presidential election identifier	Numeric(5,0)
prselc_rnd	Enumerates the round of a presidential election	Integer
prs_cnd_pty	Party identifier of candidate's party	Numeric(5,0)
prs_cnd_n	Name of candidate	Name
prs_cnd_vts_clg	Number of electoral college votes for candidate	Numeric
prs_cnd_vts_ppl	Number of popular votes for candidate	Numeric
prsvres_cmt	Comments	Text
prsvres_src	Sources of information on presidential election vote results	Text

2.13 Veto Points

This table contains information on the potential veto points in a country's political system, including the type of institution and the time period of its existence as a veto point. Rows are the different institutions in a country.

Veto Potential Variable `vto_pwr` records the veto potential for each institution type in a country. It is ordinal and bound between 1 and 0.

- An institution's veto power is coded 0 if it is generally not entitled to a veto right;
- coded 1 if it enjoys unconditional veto potential;
- or may assume values in between 0.5 and 1, indicating conditionality of veto potential with regard to the required seats share of cabinet parties in lower or upper house, respectively, given a certain constitutional threshold.

Note that information on institutions' veto potential is essential to identify open institutional veto points in a given political configuration (see Section 3.1), for they depend on both constitutional entitlement of veto and the specific date (i.e., duration) of the present political configuartion, and—given some conditionality—on the size of political majorities or party allignment 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 instution within countries, not every institution's veto power has remained unchanged throughout the PCDB's period of coverage. The Belgian Senaat (the upper house), for instance, lost its conditional, 50-percent counter-majoritarian threshold veto potential in 1995. The Veto Points table therefore records two rows for the Belgian upper house, one with start date 1st 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.[16]

Sources Information on countries' political stystems and, particularly, potential institutional veto points has been obtained from Ismayr (2003), Ismayr (2004), and Immergut, Anderson and Schulze (2006), and was complemented by individual-case research.

[16] The reform of the upper house in 2014 has not yet been registered, http://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Senat_(Belgien)#Senatsreform_2014.

Table 2.13: Variables in Veto Points Table

Variable	***Description***	***Format***
vto_id	Veto point identifier	Numeric(5,0)
ctr_id	Country identifier	Integer
vto_inst_typ	One of the following types of veto institutions: 1. Head of State 2. Head of Government 3. Lower House 4. Upper House 5. Judicial 6. Electoral 7. Territorial	Character
vto_inst_n	Original name of institution	Character
vto_inst_n_en	Name of institution in English	Character
vto_inst_sdate	Date since which this institution exists[17]	YYYY-MM-DD
vto_inst_edate	Date on which the institution was abolished[18]	YYYY-MM-DD
vto_pwr	Instituional veto potential	Numeric
vto_cmt	Comments	Text
vto_src	Data sources	Text

[17] Coded 1900-01-01 if institutionalized before time period covered by PCDB
[18] Coded 2099-12-31 if still existent at the end of time period covered by PCDB

2.14 Party

This table provides basic information on parties, permitting to link them to other party-level databases or tables in the PCDB. Rows are the different parties.

Party identifier The PCDB uses simple running counters to identify parties in a country's political system and history (variable `pty_id`). That is, in contrast to the coding schemes applied in the Manifesto Project (Volkens et al., 2013) or the ParlGov data (Döring and Manow, 2012), identifiers do not encode allignment with party-families or ideological leaning on a left-right scale.

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

Table 2.14: Variables in Party Table

Variable	*Description*	*Format*
pty_id	Party identifier	Numeric(5,0)
pty_abr	Abbreviation of party name	Character
pty_n	Full party name in country's official language	Character
pty_n_en	Full party name in English	Character
cmp_id	Party identifier in Manifesto Project Database[19]	Numeric(6,0)
prlgv_id	Party identifier in Parlgov database[20]	Integer
pty_eal	Indicates the number of parties participating in an electoral alliance	Integer
pty_eal_id	Lists party IDs of parties participating in an alliance	Text
ctr_id	Country identifier	Integer
clea_id	Party identifier in Constituency-Level Elections Archive (CLEA)[21]	Character
pty_cmt	Comments	Text

continued on next page ...

[19] Volkens et al. (2013)
[20] Döring and Manow (2012)
[21] Kollman et al. (2014)

Table 2.14: *... continued*

Variable	***Description***	***Format***
pty_src	Sources of information on party	Text

2.15 Electoral Alliances

This table provides information on electoral alliances, attempting to identify the parties forming an electoral alliance. Parties listed in Table 2.14 that are recorded as electoral alliances are listed in Table 2.15 with their respective `pty_id`.

Variable `pty_eal_nbr` is a counter that enumerates parties that constitute an electoral alliance.[22] Accordingly, there occur as many rows for each electoral alliance in Table 2.15 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 within countries.

Example 1: Composition of selected electoral alliances in Portugal.

Electoral Alliances			Party	
Identifier `pty_id`	Abbrevation `pty_abr`	Enumerator `pty_eal_n`	Identifier `pty_eal_id`	Abbrevation
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

Example 1 displays a selection from the recorded electoral alliances in Portugal, thought to illustrate the coding scheme and organization of data. Electoral alliance AP is formed by three parties, of which none is recorded in PCDB Party data (Table 2.14) 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 enumeraor is coded 99. PDPC is knowingly formed by four parties of which only one (CDC) is recorded in the PCDB Party data.

Thought `pty_eal_id` often references ##999, it allows to link additional information on parties provided in Table 2.14 to the electoral-alliance information.

[22] The counter is also recorded in Table 2.14 and equals one for all 'conventional' parties.

Table 2.15: Variables in Electoral Alliances Table

Variable	***Description***	***Format***
ctr_id	Country identifier	Integer
pty_id	Party identifier	Numeric(5,0)
pty_abr	Party abbrevation	Character
pty_eal _nbr	Indicates the number of parties participating in an electoral alliance	Integer
pty_eal_id	Electoral alliance party identifier	Numeric(5,0)
pty_eal_cmt	Comment	Text
pty_eal_src	Source of inforamtion on party's participation in electoral alliance	Text

3 Views

Technical note Views are virtual tables based on the result-set of queries executed on tables. That is, a view contains rows and columns, just like a real table. However, the fields in a view regularly compile (i.e., join')information from more than one real table in the database.

It is a specific property of views that they are not physically materialized. Instead, the query is run every time the view is selected or referenced in another query.

Whenever you obtain information from a view, it is certain that all provided information is up-to-date.

3.1 Configuration

This view sequences changes in countries' political-institutional configurations by institutional start dates. A new political configuration is recorded when one of the following changes occurs at one point in time during the respective period of coverage:

- A change in cabinet composition (rows in Table 2.2, identified by `cab_id` and unique combination of `cab_sdate` and `ctr_id`).
- A change in lower house composition (rows in Table 2.4, identified by `lh_id` and unique combination of `lh_sdate` and `ctr_id`).
- If exists in the respective country, a change in upper house composition (rows in Table 2.8, identified by `uh_id` and unique combination of `uh_sdate` and `ctr_id`).
- If exists in the respective country, a change in presidency (rows in Table 2.11, identified by `prselc_id` and unique combination of `prs_sdate` and `ctr_id`).

Accordingly, every new row corresponds to a historically unique political configuration among a country's government, lower house, upper house and the position of the Head of State, and a configuration is uniquely identified by combinations of `ctr_id`, `cab_id`, `lh_id`, `uh_id` (if applies), and `prs_id` (if applies).

Changes in political configurations are generally due to a change in the partisan composition of some institution, i.e., a change in the (veto-)power relations *within* the institution, and consquently reflect changes in the (veto-)power relations *between* the institutions.[1]

Note that rows are reported for all temporally corresponding combinations of institutional-political configurations. Thus, no institution correspond to the very first institutional configuration that is recorded in the PCDB, resulting in rows with many non-trivial missings in countries' first configurations. From the conceptional point of view, these incomplete configurations provide no information on the institutional-political setting of legislation. However, to provide an overview on countries' political history these *incomplete configurations* are reported. It is up to the user to anticipate potential merging problems.

Configuration start dates, end dates and duration A configuration's start date corresponds to the start date of the institution the most recent change occured. End dates, in turn, equal the day before the start date of the next configuration in the given country. Obviously, variable `config_duration` simply counts the days from the first to the last day of a configuration.

Cabinet's seat share in the lower and the upper house Variable `cab_lh_sts_shr` quantifies the share of seats of the party/parties in the cabinet on the total seats in the corresponding lower house. Variable `cab_uh_sts_shr` quantifies the share of seats of the party/parties in the cabinet on the total seats in the corresponding upper house.

[1] Cases where ...constitute exceptions.

Veto points

Whether an existing institution constitutes a potential veto point vis-à-vis the government is determined by legal (i.e., constitutional) entitlement of veto power. Veto power is either non-existent, conditional, or unconditional. Information on a country's institutions veto powers is recorded in Table 2.13, specifically variable `vto_pwr`.

Whether a potential veto institution constitute an *open veto point* vis-à-vis the government is only contingent if its veto power is conditional. Regularly, constitutional law specifies a threshold that determines how large a counter-governmental faction needs to be to blockade government's legisaltive initiatives. The size of non-government factions in combination with the legal veto threshold thus determine whether an institution constitutes an open veto point vis-à-vis the government.

Lower and Upper House Whether the lower or the upper house constitute open veto points vis-à-vis the government in a given configuration is recorded in variables `vto_lh` and `vto_uh`. They combine information on the lower or upper house's veto power (cf. Tabe 2.13) with data on the size of cabinet parties seat share in the lower house (variable `cab_lh_sts_shr`) or the upper house (variable `cab_uh_sts_shr`), respectively.

Regularly, the lower house constitutes an open veto point if cabinet parties seat share surpasses the 50%-threshold to pass simple legislation (i.e., minority government).[2] The president constitutes an open veto point if he is allign to a party different from those constituting the cabinet (e.g., when he or she was an independent candidate).

Table 3.1: Variables in Configuration View

Variable	*Description*	*Format*
ctr_id	Country identifier	Integer
sdate	Configuration start date	YYYY-MM-DD
edate	Configuration end date	YYYY-MM-DD
cab_id	Cabinet identifier	Numeric(5,0)
lh_id	Lower house identifier	Numeric(5,0)
lhelc_id	Lower house election identifier	Numeric(5,0)
uh_id	Upper house identifier	Numeric(5,0)
prselc_id	Presidential election identifier	Numeric(5,0)

continued on next page ...

[2] Obviously, it is necessary to check whether there are special (or super-)majorities required for legislation. This holds also true for the upper house, particularly because upper houses veto power often varies over policy fields (e.g., in federal states, where some legislation requieres only 50%-consent in the lower house for becoming effective).

Table 3.1: *... continued*

Variable	***Description***	***Format***
cab_sts_ttl	Total number of cabinet portfolios	Numeric
cab_lh_sts_shr	Seat share of cabinet party or parties in corresponding lower house	Numeric
cab_uh_sts_shr	Seat share of cabinet party or parties in corresponding upper house	Numeric
vto_lh	Indictates whether the lower house constitutes an open veto points visa-à-vis the cabinet	Integer
vto_uh	Indictates whether the upper house constitutes an open veto points visa-à-vis the cabinet	Integer
vto_prs	Indictates whether the president constitutes an open veto points visa-à-vis the cabinet (i.e., cohabitation)	Integer
vto_pts	Numer of partisan veto players in the cabinet (zero for single-party government)	Integer
vto_jud	Indictates whether the judiciary constitutes an open veto point visa-à-vis the cabinet	Integer
vto_elct	Indictates whether the electroate constitutes an open veto point visa-à-vis the cabinet	Integer
vto_terr	Indictates whether lower-level territorial units constitutes an open veto point visa-à-vis the cabinet	Integer
vto_sum	Sum of open veto points	Integer
year	Year	Integer
config_duration	Duration of configuration (from start to end date in days)	Numeric

3.2 Configuration Country-Years

This table provides information on countries' political configurations in a country-year format, which is basically identical with that of the correpsonding configurations in Table 3.1. See Section 3.1 for comments and explanations on computation of variables.

Note that 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 summarizing economic data), but Table Configuration Country-Years 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[3] by the total recorded days of that year (365 days, except from leap years, and years of a country's first and last recorded configurations). The configurations with the highest weight in a given country-year is selected as representative for this year.[4]

Example 2: 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	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

Example 2 illustrates the procedure for choosing representative configurations of country-years. The first line lists the very first recorded Australian configuration, starting on September 28, 1946 and durating total 34 days. The second recorded configuraton started on the first November of the same year but prevailed 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.

[3] Not to be confused with variable `config_duration`, which reports a configuration's total duration from the day it started to its end.

[4] There occure no configurations between 1945 and 2014 where the weight of two or more configurations in a year equals each other. In fact, for having equal weight there would have to occur five configurations during one year with exactly equal duration of 73 days.

The third configuration durated total 184 days in 1947 and lasted until December 9, 1949. Accordingly, it has slightly the highest temporal weight in 1947 and is therefore chosen as representative configuration for year 1947.[5]

Note that in 1948 no configuration has been 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. Apparently, it was temporally extremely dominant also in the year of its end, as the other to configurations recorded with a start date in 1949 only amounted to weights equal to 0.0247 and 0.0356, respectively.

[5] Obviously, choosing representative configurations based on such a slight difference in relative duration is not unproblematic.

3.3 Lower House

This table provides extended information on lower houses, including computed figures based on the disagregated data in lower house vote and seat results (cf. Table 2.6 and 2.7). Rows are compositions of lower houses, identified by `lh_id`.

A new Lower House 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. If no information on these events was available, the default is equal to the corresponding election date. Variable `lh_valid_sdate` indicates whether the start date has been double-checked and a valid weblink or reference is provided in the source inforamtion.

Total number of seats in lower house The figures reported in variabl `lh_ttl_sts` are recorded in accordance with official electoral statistics. Variable `lh_ttl_sts_computed`, in contrast, is computed from lower house seat results information, summing seats for all parties listed in a corresponding lower house. Both figure do not necessarily converge, but are useful to check for consistency between official statistics and the PCDB records and to identify potential data issues.

Effective Number of Parties in Parliament The effective number of parties in parliament (ENPP) is a measure of party system fractionalization that takes into acount the relative size of parties present in a country's lower house. In addition to the recorded figure (Formular 2.1), the PCDB provides two ENPP indices that are computed based on the recorded lower house seat and vote results data (cf. Table 2.6 and 2.7).

The first, `lh_enpp_minfrag`, is computed based on the formula originally proposed by Laakso and Taagepera (1979)

$$ENPP_{minfrag}(k) = 1/\sum_{j=1}^{J} s_{j,k}^2 \tag{3.1}$$

, 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 kth lower house.

The categories 'Others with seats' (otherw) and 'Independents' (INDs), that lump small parties or single representatives in the parliement into single categories (cf. Section 2.14), enter into the calculation as if it were single parties. As it has already been mentioned, this might lead to an underestimate of fragmentation, hence the suffix `_minfrag`.

The second inidice, `lh_enpp_maxfrag`, adjusts for this tendency of underestmating fractionalization of lower houses. It employs what Gallagher and Mitchell (2005, pp. 600-602) refer to as 'Taagepera's least component approach': The seat share of the groups otherw and INDs

are split into m fractions each, resulting in m seat shares of size s_m. The fromula to compute `lh_enpp_maxfrag` is

$$ENPP_{maxfrag}(k) = 1/\sum_{j=1}^{J} m\left(\frac{s_{j,k}}{m}\right)^2 \tag{3.2}$$

, 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'[6] party in the respective lower house, and uproud 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 (as it is implied by assuming maximum fragmentation).[7]

Note that the computation of the minimum and maximum fractionalization ENPPs is proceeded with the computed, not the recorded total number of lower house seats in the PCDB.

Table 3.2: Variables in Lower House View

Variable	***Description***	***Format***
ctr_id	Country identifier	Integer
ctr_ccode	ISO3 country code	Character
lh_sdate	Start date of lower house	YYYY-MM-DD
lh_valid_sdate	Indicates whether lower house start date has been double-checked	Boolean
lh_id	Lower house identifier	Numeric(5,0)
lh_prv_id	Identifier of the previous lower house	Numeric(5,0)
lhelc_id	Lower house election identifier	Numeric(5,0)
lh_sts_ttl	Total number of seats in lower house, recorded	Numeric
lh_sts_ttl_computed	Total number of seats in lower house, computed	Numeric
lh_enpp	Effective number of parties in parliament, recorded[8]	Numeric

continued on next page ...

[6] 'Real' in the sense that the respective party is identified by a counter different from ##997 or ##998, cf. Section 2.14.

[7] When the number of seat hold by otherw and/or INDs exceeds the number of seats hold by the smallest 'real' party in the respective lower house, this procedure results in a m-time partition of $s_{j,k}$. Accordingly, adjustment only matters when $m > 1$, and $ENPP_{maxfrag} \neq ENPP_{minfrag}$ only if $m > 1$ for either otherw or INDs, or both.

[8] Figures in accordance with Laakso and Taagepera (1979) (cf. Formular 2.1).

Table 3.2: *... continued*

Variable	***Description***	***Format***
lh_enpp_minfrag	Effective number of parties in parliament, computed assuming minmum fractionalization[9]	Numeric
lh_enpp_maxfrag	Effective number of parties in parliament, computed assuming maximum fractionalization[10]	Numeric
pty_lh_rght	Indicates whether there was a right-winged party in the lower house[11]	Boolean
lh_cmt	Comments	Text
lh_src	Data sources	Text

[9] Figures computed as proposed by Laakso and Taagepera (1979) (cf. Formular 3.1).
[10] Figures computed as proposed by Laakso and Taagepera (1979) and Gallagher and Mitchell (2005, pp. 600-602) (cf. Formular 3.2).
[11] Abou-Chadi (2014)

3.4 Lower House Election

This view is identical to Table 2.5, except that it reports the computed, not the recorded values of some key aggregate indices. Rows are lower house elections, identified by `lhelc_id`.

Effective thresholds The PCDB provides information on the effective thresholds (EffT) at the different tiers of a given political systems in the election of the lower house.

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

$$EffT_{Lijphart} = \frac{0.5}{m+1} + \frac{0.5}{2m} \tag{3.3}$$

, 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):

$$EffT_{Taagepera} = \frac{0.75}{n^2 + (S/n^2)} \tag{3.4}$$

, 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

$$EffT_{PCDB} = \frac{0.75}{(m+1) * \sqrt{S/m}} \tag{3.5}$$

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

Disproportionality Variable `lhelc_lsq` provides information on the dispoportionality between the distribution of votes and seats in lower house elections, as defined by Gallagher's (1991) Least-square index (LSq)

$$LSq_{Gallagher} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}\sum_{j=1}^{J}(v_j - s_j)^2} \tag{3.6}$$

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

The LSq weighs the deviations by their own value, creating a responsive index, ranging from 0 to 100. The lower the index value the lower the disproportionality and vice versa.

The PCDB also includes the variable `lhelc_lsq_noothers`, which excludes the vote and seat shares listed for the category 'Others with seats' from computing the LSq.

Type A and B volatility

Four Variables in the Lower House Election view figure volatility in seats and votes between subsequent lower house elections of a given country according to Powell and Tucker (2013).

Type A Volatility 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 and retiering from the electoral arena (i.e., the domestic party system or the lower house) (Powell and Tucker, 2013).

This formalizes in

$$Type\,A\,Volatility\,(k) = \frac{|\sum_{n=1}^{New} p_{n,k} + \sum_{o=1}^{Old} p_{o,k}|}{2} \tag{3.7}$$

, 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 p are seat or vote shares (i.e., the number of seats/votes gained by party j, divided by the total sum of seats/votes distributed between all parties J that entered the lower house/rallied in the present election k).

Type B Volatility Type B volatility, instead, quantifies the change that occurs over time in the distribution of shares within parties, i.e., change due to the share of votes or seats a party gains or loses, comparing the results in the current election to that of the previous. Accordingly, type B volatility considers only so-called stable parties (i.e., parties that are no new-comers to or that retiered from the electoral arena).

The formular to compute `lhelc_volb_*` is

$$Type\,B\,Volatility\,(k) = \frac{|\sum_{j=1}^{Stable} p_{j,(k-1)} - p_{j,k}|}{2} \tag{3.8}$$

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

Table 3.3: Variables in Lower House Election View

Variable	*Description*	*Format*
lhelc_id	Lower house election identifier	Numeric(5,0)
lhelc_prv_id	Previous lower house election identifier	Numeric(5,0)
ctr_id	Country identifier	Integer
lhelc_date	Lower house election date	YYYY-MM-DD

continued on next page ...

Table 3.3: *... continued*

Variable	*Description*	*Format*
lhelc_early	Indicates an early election	Boolean
lhelc_reg_vts	Number of registered voters	Numeric
lhelc_reg_vts_pr	Number of registered voters, PR system	Numeric
lhelc_reg_vts_pl	Number of registered voters, plurality system	Numeric
lhelc_vts_pr	Valid votes for lower house elected with proportional representation system	Numeric
lhelc_vts_pl	Valid votes for lower house elected with plurality system	Numeric
lhelc_sts_pr	Number of lower house seats elected with proportional representation system	Numeric
lhelc_sts_pl	Number of lower house seats elected with plurality system	Numeric
lhelc_sts_ttl	Total number of lower house seats elected in the election	Numeric
lhelc_fml_t1	Electoral formula used for allocation of lower house seats on the first tier	Character
lhelc_ncst_t1	Number of lower house constituencies at the first tier	Numeric
lhelc_sts_t1	Number of lower house seats allocated at the first tier	Numeric
lhelc_dstr_mag	Mean average lower house district magnitude[12]	Numeric
lhelc_dstr_mag_med	Median average lower house district magnitude[13]	Numeric
lhelc_esys_cmt	Comment on electoral system	Text
lhelc_esys_src	Source of inforamtion on electoral system	Text

continued on next page ...

[12] Data obtained from Carey and Hix (2011).
[13] Data and definition provided byCarey and Hix (2008).

Table 3.3: *... continued*

Variable	***Description***	***Format***
lhelc_cmt	Comments on lower house elections	Text
lhelc_src	Sources of information on lower house elections	Text
lhelc_valid_edate	Indicates whether lower house election date has been double checked	Boolean
lhelc_lsq	Gallagher's Least-square (LSq) index of disproportionality[14], recorded	Numeric
lhelc_lsq_computed	Gallagher's LSq index of disproportionality[14], computed	Numeric
lhelc_lsq_noothers_computed	Gallagher's LSq index of disproportionality[14], computed excluding 'Others'	Numeric
lhelc_vola_sts_computed	Seat A volatility[15], computed	Numeric
lhelc_volb_sts_computed	Seat B volatility[16], computed	Numeric
lhelc_vola_vts_computed	Vote A volatility[15], computed	Numeric
lhelc_volb_vts_computed	Vote B volatility[16], computed	Numeric
lhelc_eff_thrshld_lijphart1994	Effective threshold according to Lijphart[17]	Numeric
lhelc_eff_thrshld_taagepera2002	Effective threshold according to Taagepera[18]	Numeric
lhelc_eff_thrshld_pcdb	Effective threshold, approximating Taagepera's definition[18]	Numeric

[14] Gallagher (1991, 1992)
[15] Volatility arising from new entering and retiering parties, respectively (Powell and Tucker, 2013).
[16] Volatility arising from gaines and losses of stable parties (Powell and Tucker, 2013).
[17] Lijphart (1994)
[18] Taagepera (2002)

3.5 Lower House Election Party Results

This view compiles data on parties' vote and seat results in lower house elections.

Note that seat and vote shares are calculated using the computed, not the recorded number of total seats or votes in the lower house (see Section **??** for comments on the difference between both).

Table 3.4: Variables in Lower House Election Party Results View

Variable	***Description***	***Format***
ctr_id	Country identifier	Integer
ctr_ccode	ISO3 country code	Character
lhelc_date	Lower house election date	YYYY-MM-DD
pty_id	Party identifier	Numeric(5,0)
pty_abr	Party abbrevation	Character
pty_n_en	Party name in English	Character
pty_lh_sts	Party's number of seats in the lower house election	Numeric
lhelc_sts_ttl_computed	Total number of seats in the lower house election, computed	Numeric
pty_lh_sts_shr	Party's seat share in the lower house election	Numeric(7,5)
pty_lh_vts	Party's number of votes in the lower house election	Numeric
lhelc_vts_ttl_computed	Total number of votes in the lower house election, computed	Numeric
pty_lh_vts_shr	Party's vote share in the lower house election	Numeric(7,5)
lhelc_id	Lower house election identifier	Numeric(5,0)

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