| Variable Name | Description | Units |
|---|---|---|
| | **MAIN OUTCOMES** | |
| **deb_high0_ratio_local** | Local reference index for low-visibility debate interventions, calculated for less prominent speeches or interventions. | Index |
| **deb_high1_ratio_local** | Local reference index for high-visibility debate interventions, calculated for prominent or widely covered interventions. | Index |
| **deb_ratio_local** | Logarithmic ratio of local references to national references in debate interventions, reflecting candidates' focus on local issues. | Log(ratio) |
| **deb_sh_local** | Percentage of debate references that are local (sum of department and commune references), highlighting candidates' local | Percentage (%) |
| **deb_sh_nat** | Percentage of debate references that are national, reflecting candidates' focus on national policy or issues. | Percentage (%) |
| **economy_prob1** | Probability that the candidate's manifesto focuses on economic issues, derived from text analysis using keywords and semantic analysis. | Probability (0-1) |
| **foreign_prob1** | Probability that the candidate's manifesto focuses on foreign policy topics such as international relations or global economics. | Probability (0-1) |
| **homeland_prob1** | Probability that the candidate's manifesto focuses on homeland security or administrative policy topics. | Probability (0-1) |
| **qu_ratio_local** | Ratio of local to national references in written questions submitted by candidates, showing how much candidates focus on | Log(ratio) |
| **sh_dons_firms** | Percentage of campaign revenues originating from firm donations. Calculated as (firm donations / total revenues) × 100. | Percentage (%) |
| **sh_dons_indiv** | Percentage of campaign revenues originating from individual donations. | Percentage (%) |
| **sh_nat_party1** | Share of references in manifestos or debates that focus on national topics for candidates affiliated with a specific party in | Percentage (%) |
| **sh_party_contrib** | Percentage of campaign revenues originating from contributions made by the candidate's political party. | Percentage (%) |
| **sh_personal_contrib** | Percentage of campaign revenues contributed personally by the candidate. | Percentage (%) |
| **total_expenditures_cst** | Total spending by the candidate during the campaign, adjusted for inflation. Includes all expenditures declared in compliance with campaign finance rules. | Constant euros |
| **total_revenues_cst** | Total revenues collected by the candidate's campaign from all sources, adjusted for inflation. | Constant euros |
| | **MAIN EXPLANATORY VARIABLES** | |
| **donor_multi_circo** | Indicates whether a donor contributed to candidates across multiple electoral districts. | Binary (0/1) |
| **donor_multi_dep** | Indicates whether a donor contributed to candidates across multiple departments (larger administrative regions). | Binary (0/1) |
| **donor_multiparty** | Indicates whether a donor provided contributions to candidates from more than one political party. Useful for assessing donor behavior. | Binary (0/1) |
| **donor_oneparty** | Indicates whether a donor provided contributions exclusively to candidates from a single political party. | Binary (0/1) |
| **inter_pred_dons_firms** | Interaction term of predicted firm donations and election year, capturing how firm donations influence outcomes over time. | Euros × year |
| **party_contribution_cst** | Financial contributions provided by the candidate's political party to support their campaign. | Constant euros |

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|---|---|---|
| **personal_contribution_cst** | Personal funds contributed by the candidate to their own campaign, adjusted for inflation. | Constant euros |
| **private_donation_firms_cst** | Total monetary donations received by the candidate from firms during the campaign, adjusted for inflation. Includes all firm donors. | Constant euros |
| **private_donation_indiv_cst** | Total monetary donations received by the candidate from individuals during the campaign, adjusted for inflation. | Constant euros |
| **std_dons_firms** | Standardized measure of firm donations, calculated as (value - mean) / standard deviation, to normalize donations for | Standardized |
| **RUNNING VARIABLES** | | |
| **index_originality** | Measures how distinct a candidate's campaign manifesto is from other candidates within the same party. Higher scores indicate more unique messaging. | Index (0-1) |
| **nb_circo_actif** | The number of electoral districts where a specific donor made contributions. Reflects donor reach and activity level. | Count |
| **nb_dep_actif** | The number of departments where a specific donor made contributions. Useful for assessing donor geographic influence. | Count |
| **score_sr1** | Ideological left-right positioning score of the candidate's manifesto, derived from supervised text analysis. Indicates degree of political polarization. | Index |
| **yes_donation** | Indicates whether the candidate received firm donations in 1993. Helps differentiate treated vs. control candidates pre-ban. | Binary (0/1) |
| **OTHER CONTROLS** | | |
| **Candidate Characteristics** | | |
| **bigparty** | Categorical variable identifying candidates affiliated with major parties like Socialist or Right-wing parties. | Category |
| **candidat** | Full name of the candidate as registered in election records. | Text |
| **Dincumbent** | Binary indicator for whether the candidate is an incumbent, representing prior electoral success and office-holding. | Binary (0/1) |
| **female** | Binary indicator for whether the candidate identifies as female, capturing gender representation in candidacy. | Binary (0/1) |
| **id_cand** | Unique identifier assigned to each candidate. | Identifier |
| **mayor** | Binary indicator for whether the candidate holds a mayoral position, a proxy for local political power. | Binary (0/1) |
| **nb_elec** | Total number of elections the candidate has contested, providing a measure of political experience. | Count |
| **other_mandate** | Binary indicator for whether the candidate holds another electoral mandate, highlighting multi-office holders. | Binary (0/1) |
| **rerun** | Binary indicator for whether the candidate is running for re-election, showing continuity or change in candidacy. | Binary (0/1) |
| **year** | Year of the election during which the data was collected (e.g., 1993 or 1997). | Year |
| **Geographic and District Controls** | | |
| **codegeo** | Geographic code for the candidate's constituency, enabling district-level analysis. | Code |
| **nb_circo_actif** | Number of districts where a donor contributed, reflecting district-level donor activity. | Count |
| **nb_dep_actif** | Number of departments where a donor contributed, highlighting geographic spread of donor influence. | Count |
| **Donor-Related Controls** | | |

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|---|---|---|
| **local_donor** | Indicates whether the donor is based in the candidate's electoral district, showing local donor support. | Binary (0/1) |
| **nb_don** | Total number of firm donations received by a candidate. Measures intensity of support from firms | Count |
| **secround_circo** | Binary indicator for whether a second-round election occurred in the district, showing electoral competitiveness. | Binary (0/1) |
| **std_agri1990** | Standardized share of agricultural workers in the district in 1990, representing the rural economy's influence. | Standardized |
| **std_chef_lieudep** | Standardized indicator for whether the district includes an administrative center (chief town), reflecting the importance of urban centers. | Standardized |
| **std_nb_villes** | Standardized count of towns in the district, providing a proxy for urbanization and local political engagement. | Standardized |
| **std_ouvr1990** | Standardized share of blue-collar workers in the district in 1990, highlighting industrial labor presence. | Standardized |
| **std_pasdedip1990** | Standardized share of the population with no formal diploma in 1990, capturing educational disadvantage in the district. | Standardized |
| **std_pop_15_241990** | Standardized share of the population aged 15-24 in 1990, reflecting the presence of younger voters or labor force. | Standardized |
| **std_pop_65_plus1990** | Standardized share of the population aged 65 or older in 1990, capturing the district's elderly demographic. | Standardized |
| **std_sup1990** | Standardized share of the population with higher education in 1990, reflecting educational attainment in the district. | Standardized |
| **Financial Controls** | | |
| **dons_firms** | Total firm donations per voter in the candidate's district, adjusted for the electorate size. | Euros per voter |
| **ln_dons_firms** | Logarithmic transformation of firm donations per voter. Reduces skewness in donation data for analysis. | Log(euros) |
| **ln_expenditures** | Logarithmic transformation of total expenditures by the candidate. Highlights proportional changes. | Log(euros) |
| **ln_revenues** | Logarithmic transformation of total revenues received by the candidate. Ensures comparability across scales. | Log(euros) |