Changelog & Version History

This section provides a structured overview of key development stages, updates, and versioning milestones related to the dataset. It is designed to ensure full transparency, traceability, and reproducibility for academic and applied research use.

Version 1.0 — August 2025

Initial Public Release

Scope and Coverage

- Launch of the *MNC-Panel Dataset (2010–2024)* for academic use

- Includes **560 multinational manufacturing firms** from the *Forbes Global 2000 (2024)*

- Covers **firm-level data** on revenues, profits, assets, employment, governance, and internationalization

- Integrates **country-level indicators** (institutional, political, cultural, environmental) for up to 85 countries

- Fully structured as a **two-level panel dataset** (firm-year and country-year)

Data Sources and Methodology

- Primary sources: *Refinitiv Eikon*, *Orbis (Bureau van Dijk)*, *Forbes*, *World Bank*, *V-Dem*, *WVS*, *EPI*, *Hofstede Insights*

- Standardized variable naming (snake_case), units (e.g., millions USD, %), and missing data treatment (NA)

- Full **manual harmonization** and validation of variables

- **Single integrated data dictionary** covering both firm-level and country-level variables, including source, unit of measurement, and time availability

- Inclusion of:

    - Technical Appendix

    - User Guide

    - Final Report

Planned Updates

Version 1.1 — Planned: Q2 2026

Enhancements Under Development

- Addition of firm-year data for **2025** (subject to availability)

- Expansion of **board governance metrics** (e.g., tenure, diversity, compensation)

- Introduction of **sector-level aggregation** tools

- Broader coverage of country-level **metadata and documentation**

- Preparation of **public-facing variable catalog** (online access)

Version 1.2 — Planned: 2026–2027

- **Regional-level indicators** (e.g., subnational data for federal states)

- Additional variables: ESG, innovation, and international compliance indicators

- Launch of **interactive data access** tools (via web interface or API)

Versioning Policy

The dataset follows semantic versioning conventions:

- **Major versions (X.0)** = structural or methodological overhauls

- **Minor versions (1.X)** = new variables, time extensions, or improved metadata

- **Patch versions (1.0.X)** = minor corrections or formatting improvements

All updates are archived and fully documented to support long-term reproducibility.