

# Request Form: Special Coder-Level Data

General ethics principles and Swedish Law, Personal Data Act (1998:204), requires us to make sure that identities or personal identifying information[[1]](#footnote-1) of the *Country Expert Coders* participating in *Varieties of Democracy’s* (V-Dem) surveys and contributing with data are not revealed. Since certain combinations of variables from the post survey questionnaire could be used to identify individual Country Experts, only a selection of these variables are released publicly.

In order to request data on variables that are not in the public release, please fill in the form below. For each request received, the V-Dem Principal Investigators make a risk assessment to estimate the likelihood of the applicant being able to use the requested selection of indicators to identify the Country Experts.  
  
By submitting this form you are also agreeing to the terms of use, where you legally oblige not to use this data as a means to, in any way, with intent or not, deanonymize the real identity of any Country Expert that provide their services to V-Dem.

This form is relevant for the following variables: v2zzemploy, v2zzempcnt, v2zzyrsout, v2zztimein, v2zzreside, v2zzansecreas, v2zzbornin, v2zzgender, v2zzreasatisf, v2zzborn, v2zzedcnt, v2zzcurred, v2zzanfirstreas, v2zzdate, v2zzedlev, v3zzmajdem, v3zzedcnt, v3zzborn, v3zzbornin, v3zzreside, v3zztimein, v3zzyrsout, v3zzempcnt, v3zzemploy, v3zzfremrk, v3zzelcdem, v3zzlibdem, v3zzcondem, v3zzprtdem, v3zzdeldem, v3zzegldem, v3zzrole, v3zzdate, v3zzgender, v3zzedlev, v3zzcurred.

Please let us know the following (by typing it in this document):

1. **Requested data**
   1. List requested variables from the post-survey questionnaire.

Please provide zz-question tag and title.

* PSQ: v2zzedlev, v2zzedcnt, v2zzborn, v2zzbornin, v2zzreside, v2zztimein, v2zzyrsout, v2zzdemsc, v2zzelcdem, v2zzlibdem, v2zzprtdem, v2zzegldem, v2zztimespent, v2zzsatisf, v2zzreasatisf, v2zzmaterials
  + Historical PSQ: v3zzborn, v3zzbornin, v3zzdemsc, v3zzedcnt, v3zzreside, v3zztimein, v3zzyrsout
  1. For which countries would you like data?   
     For all countries or a selection, if a selection, please provide a list.  
     Colombia
  2. For which survey/variables would you like the zz-variables to apply to?

I.e, if you specify ‘v2clacfree’, you would request zz-data for Country Experts that have coded ‘v2clacfree’. If you specify the survey ‘Exclusion’, you would request zz-data for all Country Experts that have coded at least one variable in the 'Exclusion’ survey.

* Variables: v2elsnless, v2elsnmore
* Comments: v2clcommnt, v2cscommnt, v2exl\_commnt, v2pecommnt, v2smcommn, v2zzcoment
  + Historical: v3elcomsn

1. **Purpose/usage of the requested data, please be as specific as possible (max 1 page in total).**
   1. Describe the hypotheses to be tested.

Do subnational characteristics of democracy correlate with development outcomes? Development outcomes in subnational areas may be correlated with free and fair elections, or with pressure from a mobilized civil society (civil liberties).

* 1. Describe why these variables are important to include.

Coder-level information around subnational election fairness and civil liberties can be used to assign weighted values reflecting agreement levels on variables. These values can provide insight into favorable democratic factors for subnational development outcomes.

* 1. Elaborate on what kind of analysis will be done.

Qualitative coder responses will be coded (e.g., fair elections in the “North” = 1) and turned into a proportional measure of coder agreement to create subnational panel data. These responses can be mapped onto the regions of the country of interest using a choropleth/heat map to identify overlapping aspects of democracy that may be beneficial for development outcomes, such as education or health. Census data could be merged to gain more detail within regions.

* 1. Describe what are you planning to do with the findings.

Findings will provide insight into subnational democracy according to V-Dem data. The analysis may provide a pipeline for collating subnational V-Dem data from qualitative responses, including coder comments. This text-based analysis can be used to write a report for V-Dem which would assess success, obstacles, or potential follow-up tasks.

1. Would you agree to sign a non-disclosure agreement, i.e., not to share this special data with anyone, beyond who may be involved in the project you apply for here?

\_✓\_: Yes \_\_: No

1. Please state here any other information relevant to the request.  
   This research will form part of my PhD requirements for Research Assistance. It will be carried out under the guidance of Prof. Michael Coppedge.
2. Do you have any connections to a government or state agency in any country?

No.

1. Personal Information
   1. Name: Patrick McQuestion
   2. Email: pmcquest@nd.edu
   3. Affiliation: Kellogg Institute
   4. Academic title: PhD student in Peace Studies and Political Science
   5. Name, affiliation, and title of co-authors:

Date and signature:

1. Personal identifying data is information that can be used on its own or with other information to identify, contact, or locate a single person, or to identify an individual in context. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)