

Replication materials for:

Happiness and Voting: Evidence from Four Decades of Elections in Europe

American Journal of Political Science

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I. Contents of the replication packet

Data cleaning do files:

- **Cleaner_swb.do:** This Stata programme (“.do file”) takes the raw Eurobarometer data, cleans the relevant variables and creates a country-survey panel that can be merged with election results.
- **Cleaner_votingdata.do:** This file cleans the electoral data from ParlGov.
- **DatasetBuilder_EB_Macro.do:** This file merges the cleaned SWB and electoral data, in order to create the final dataset “*clean_macro.dta*” that is used in the national-level analysis in the paper.
- **DatasetBuilder_EB_Micro.do:** This file takes the raw Eurobarometer data, cleans it, and creates the final dataset “*clean_micro.dta*” that is used in the individual-level cross-sectional analysis in the paper.
- **DatasetBuilder_BHPS.do:** This file takes the BHPS and UKHLS data, cleans the it, and creates the final dataset “*clean_bhps.dta*” that is used in the individual panel analysis in the paper.
- **DatasetBuilder_SOEP.do:** This file takes the German SOEP data, cleans it, and creates the final dataset “*clean_soep.dta*” that is used in the individual panel analysis in the paper.

Data analysis do files:

- **Analysis_EB_Macro.do:** constructs tables and figures for section II of the paper.
- **Analysis_EB_Micro.do:** constructs tables and figures for section III of the paper.
- **Analysis_Panels.do:** constructs tables and figures for section IV of the paper.
- **Master.do:** Once all the required data has been obtained, the *Master* file will do the data cleaning and all of the analysis required to construct the tables and figures reported in the paper.

Data files:

- gallagher_data.xlsx (Party fractionalization data)
- parlgov_stable.xlsx (Electoral data)
- party_xwalk.xlsx (Eurorometer to Parlgov party IDs)
- economic_data.dta (World Bank and OECD data)

Miscellaneous:

- **nearmrgstable.ado:** This ado file is required in order to facilitate merging of Eurobarometer data to election results (matching the election month to the nearest prior survey month).
- **results.smcl:** This Stata log file shows the output of all of the analysis files, which construct all of the tables and figures reported in the paper and supplementary materials.
- **Dataverse Codebook.pdf:** This is a codebook.

II. Data Access

All data used in this paper is freely available to academic researchers. However, several data sources require the user to first register with the data provider, and agree to the terms and conditions.

Eurbarometer

- A full list of Eurobarometer surveys used in the analysis is included below.
- Each one can be downloaded from the GESIS database. These data files are freely available to researchers, but require the user to sign up and agree to the terms and conditions.
- See <https://www.gesis.org/eurobarometer-data-service/search-data-access/eb-trends-trend-files/list-of-trends/life-satisf/> for a full list of surveys that include the life satisfaction question.

BHPS

- This is freely available to academic researchers, but requires the user to register and agree to the terms of use.
- Data can be requested and downloaded from the UK Data Service at <https://beta.ukdataservice.ac.uk/datacatalogue/studies/study?id=6614>
- The dataset used here is Study #6614: “Understanding Society: Waves 1-8, 2009-2017 and Harmonised BHPS: Waves 1-18, 1991-2009”.

SOEP

- This is freely available to academic researchers, but requires the user to register and agree to the terms of use.
- The full set of necessary files can be requested from DIW at <https://www.diw.de/en/soep>.
- The SOEP data release used here is the bilingual version 31.
- You must request the LONG format version of the data in order to work with the scripts provided here.
- When users request SOEP data, they will not be able to do so through the normal request form as this does not permit users to select previous versions of the data. Once users have submitted the signed data use agreement, they should email SOEP directly and ask for the specific data file needed for verification: SOEP-LONG_v31_stata_de+en.

III. Instructions

1. Create a folder within which you want to work.
2. Create four subfolders entitled: “Raw Data”, “Clean Data”, “Do Files”, “Results”.
3. Place the 4 data files included in this replication packet (listed above) in a subfolder of “Raw Data” you create called “Voting”.
4. Within the raw data folder, create a subfolder called “BHPs”. Unzip the contents of the BHPs file from the UK Data Service, which gives you a folder called “UKDA-6614-stata”. This will contain a series of folders “BHPs_w1” to “BHPs_w18” and “ukhls_w1” to “ukhls_w8”. Place these folders into the “BHPs” subfolder you created.
5. Within the raw data folder, create a subfolder called “SOEP”. Unzip the contents of the data packet downloaded from DIW. Within the folder “SOEP-LONG_v31_stata_de+en”, there are a number of data files. Place the following five into the “SOEP” subfolder you created: pequiv.dta, pgen.dta, pl.dta, pl2.dta, hl.dta.
6. Within the raw data folder, create a subfolder called “EB”. Place the raw Eurobarometer data files downloaded from GESIS into this subfolder.
7. Place the i) analysis .do files, ii) cleaning .do files, iii) .ado file, and iv) Master .do file into the “Do Files” folder.
8. At the beginning of the Master .do file, input the path of your working directory.
9. Run the Master .do file.

All programs were run using Stata 14 for Mac.

IV. List of Eurobarometer Surveys to Download

Eurobarometer #	Data File Name	Study URL
Trend	ZA3521_v2-0-1.dta	https://dbk.gesis.org/dbksearch/sdesc2.asp?no=3521
44.2	ZA2828_v1-0-1.dta	https://dbk.gesis.org/dbksearch/sdesc2.asp?no=2828
58.1	ZA3693_v1-0-1.dta	https://dbk.gesis.org/dbksearch/sdesc2.asp?no=3693
60.1	ZA3938_v1-0-1.dta	https://dbk.gesis.org/dbksearch/sdesc2.asp?no=3938
62.0	ZA4229_v1-1-0.dta	https://dbk.gesis.org/dbksearch/sdesc2.asp?no=4229
62.2	ZA4231_v1-1-0.dta	https://dbk.gesis.org/dbksearch/sdesc2.asp?no=4231
63.4	ZA4411_v1-1-0.dta	https://dbk.gesis.org/dbksearch/sdesc2.asp?no=4411
64.2	ZA4414_v1-1-0.dta	https://dbk.gesis.org/dbksearch/sdesc2.asp?no=4414
65.2	ZA4506_v1-0-1.dta	https://dbk.gesis.org/dbksearch/sdesc2.asp?no=4506
66.1	ZA4526_v1-0-1.dta	https://dbk.gesis.org/dbksearch/sdesc2.asp?no=4526
67.2	ZA4530_v2-1-0.dta	https://dbk.gesis.org/dbksearch/sdesc2.asp?no=4530
68.1	ZA4565_v4-0-1.dta	https://dbk.gesis.org/dbksearch/sdesc2.asp?no=4565
69.2	ZA4744_v5-0-0.dta	https://dbk.gesis.org/dbksearch/sdesc2.asp?no=4744
70.1	ZA4819_v3-0-2.dta	https://dbk.gesis.org/dbksearch/sdesc2.asp?no=4819
71.1	ZA4971_v4-0-0.dta	https://dbk.gesis.org/dbksearch/sdesc2.asp?no=4971
71.2	ZA4972_v3-0-2.dta	https://dbk.gesis.org/dbksearch/sdesc2.asp?no=4972
71.3	ZA4973_v3-0-0.dta	https://dbk.gesis.org/dbksearch/sdesc2.asp?no=4973
72.4	ZA4994_v3-0-0.dta	https://dbk.gesis.org/dbksearch/sdesc2.asp?no=4994
73.4	ZA5234_v2-0-1.dta	https://dbk.gesis.org/dbksearch/sdesc2.asp?no=5234
73.5	ZA5235_v4-0-0.dta	https://dbk.gesis.org/dbksearch/sdesc2.asp?no=5235
74.2	ZA5449_v2-2-0.dta	https://dbk.gesis.org/dbksearch/sdesc2.asp?no=5449
75.3	ZA5481_v2-0-1.dta	https://dbk.gesis.org/dbksearch/sdesc2.asp?no=5481
75.4	ZA5564_v3-0-1.dta	https://dbk.gesis.org/dbksearch/sdesc2.asp?no=5564
76.3	ZA5567_v2-0-1.dta	https://dbk.gesis.org/dbksearch/sdesc2.asp?no=5567
77.3	ZA5612_v2-0-0.dta	https://dbk.gesis.org/dbksearch/sdesc2.asp?no=5612
77.4	ZA5613_v3-0-0.dta	https://dbk.gesis.org/dbksearch/sdesc2.asp?no=5613
78.1	ZA5685_v2-0-0.dta	https://dbk.gesis.org/dbksearch/sdesc2.asp?no=5685
79.3	ZA5689_v2-0-0.dta	https://dbk.gesis.org/dbksearch/sdesc2.asp?no=5689
80.1	ZA5876_v2-0-0.dta	https://dbk.gesis.org/dbksearch/sdesc2.asp?no=5876
80.2	ZA5877_v2-0-0.dta	https://dbk.gesis.org/dbksearch/sdesc2.asp?no=5877
81.2	ZA5913_v2-0-0.dta	https://dbk.gesis.org/dbksearch/sdesc2.asp?no=5913
81.4	ZA5928_v3-0-0.dta	https://dbk.gesis.org/dbksearch/sdesc2.asp?no=5928
81.5	ZA5929_v3-0-0.dta	https://dbk.gesis.org/dbksearch/sdesc2.asp?no=5929
82.3	ZA5932_v3-0-0.dta	https://dbk.gesis.org/dbksearch/sdesc2.asp?no=5932