

The Governance Report 2017 Codebook

(January 2017)

Variable	Description	Source	Orig. variable
votingAge.ace	Minimum voting age	ACE	What.is.the.legal.voting.age.in.the.national.elections
<p>What is the minimum age at which citizens are allowed to vote in national elections?</p> <p>Numeric</p>			
compulsory.vdem	Compulsory voting	V-Dem	v2elcomvot
<p>Is voting compulsory (for those eligible to vote) in national elections?</p> <p>0: No.; 1: Yes. But there are no sanctions or sanctions are not enforced.; 2: Yes. Sanctions exist and are enforced, but they impose minimal costs upon the offending voter.; 3: Yes. Sanctions exist, they are enforced, and they impose considerable costs upon the offending voter.</p>			
onlineVoting.idea	Online voting	IDEA	E.Voting...If.e.voting.is.currently.being.used..what.type.s.of.technology.used.
<p>Are voters able to vote online in any elections with EMB participation?</p> <p>0: No.; 1: Yes.</p>			
evoting.idea	E-voting	IDEA	E.Voting...Is.e.voting.currently.used.in.any.elections.with.EMB.participation.
<p>Is e-voting currently used in any elections with EMB participation?</p> <p>0 = Not at all; 1 = Used, but abandoned; 2 = Feasibility studies; 3 = Yes</p>			
evotingNational.idea	Possibility of e-voting for national elections	IDEA	E.Voting...Is.e.voting.currently.used.in.any.elections.with.EMB.participation.
<p>Legal provisions for e-voting at the national level.</p> <p>0: No.; 1: Yes.</p>			

evotingRegional.idea	Possibility of e-voting for subnational elections	IDEA	E.Voting...Is.e.voting.currenly.used.in.any.electio ns.with.EMB.participatio n.
Legal provisions for e-voting at the subnational level			
0: No.; 1: Yes.			
evotingUniversal.idea	E-voting availability	IDEA	E.Voting...If.e.voting.is.c urrently.being.used..is.it. available.for.all.voters.or .only.some.groups.of.vot ers.
Is e-voting available for all voters?			
0: No.; 1: Yes.			
voterRegistrationOnline .idea	Online voter registration	IDEA	Online.data.publication. by.EMBs...Does.the.coun try.provide.individual.onl ine.voter.registration.pol ling.assignment.checks..
Does the country provide individual online voter registration / polling assignment checks?			
0: No.; 1: Yes.			
publishCandidatesOnlin e.idea	Online candidate lists	IDEA	Online.data.publication. by.EMBs...Does.the.coun try.publish.the.lists.of.pa rties.and.or.candidates.r egistered.for.elections.o nline.
Does the country publish the lists of parties and/or candidates registered for elections online?			
0: No.; 1: Yes.			
publishCampaignFinanc esOnline.idea	Online campaign finances reports	IDEA	Online.data.publication. by.EMBs...Does.the.coun try.publish.candidate.par ty.financing.reports.onlin e.
Does the country publish candidate party financing reports online?			
0: No.; 1: Yes.			

candidateQuotas.idea	Legislated candidate quotas	IDEA	Quota.type..Single.Lower.House.; Quota.type..Upper.House.
Are there legislated candidate quotas for the Single/Lower House and/or for the Upper House?			
0: No.; 1: Yes.			
reservedSeats.idea	Reserved seats in parliament	IDEA	Quota.type..Single.Lower.House.; Quota.type..Upper.House.
Are there reserved seats for women in parliament?			
0: No.; 1: Yes.			
partyQuotas.idea	Voluntary party quotas for women	IDEA	Voluntary.political.party.quotas
Are there voluntary party candidate quotas for women?			
0: No.; 1: Yes.			
externalVoting.idea	Voting from abroad	IDEA	Election.type
Are voters allowed to cast their vote from abroad?			
0: No.; 1: Yes.			
autonomyEMB.vdem	EMB autonomy	V-Dem	v2elembaut_ord
Does the Election Management Body (EMB) have autonomy from government to apply election laws and administrative rules impartially in national elections?			
0: No. 1: Yes. (Converted from five categories into two (0=0-3; 1=4)			
initiative.vdem	Initiatives permitted	V-Dem	v2ddlegci
Is there legal provision for initiatives?			
0: Not allowed.; 1: Allowed but non-binding (or with an intervening institutional veto).; 2: Allowed and binding.			
initiativeLevel.vdem	Initiative level	V-Dem	v2ddlevci
At what level(s) of government can initiatives be held?			
0: Only at the national level.; 1: Only at subnational levels.; 2: At both national and subnational levels.			

initiativeNational.vdem	Possibility of national initiatives	V-Dem	v2ddlevci
<p>Initiatives can be held at the national level or at both the national and subnational levels.</p> <p>0: No.; 1: Yes.</p>			
initiativeRegional.vdem	Possibility of subnational initiatives	V-Dem	v2ddlevci
<p>Initiatives can be held at the subnational level or at both the national and subnational levels.</p> <p>0: No.; 1: Yes.</p>			
agendaInit.idea	Agenda initiative level	IDEA	Legal.provisions.for.agenda.initiatives.at.national.level; Legal.provisions.for.direct democracy.at.the.regional.level; Legal.provisions.for.direct democracy.at.the.local.level
<p>At what level(s) of government can agenda initiatives be held?</p> <p>0: Only at the local level.; 1: Only at regional level.; 2: Only at the national level.</p>			
agendaInitNational.idea	Possibility of national agenda initiatives	IDEA	Legal.provisions.for.agenda.initiatives.at.national.level
<p>Legal provisions for agenda initiatives at the national level.</p> <p>0: No.; 1: Yes.</p>			
agendaInitRegional.idea	Possibility of regional agenda initiatives	IDEA	Legal.provisions.for.direct democracy.at.the.regional.level
<p>Legal provisions for agenda initiatives at the regional level.</p> <p>0: No.; 1: Yes.</p>			
agendaInitLocal.idea	Possibility of local agenda initiatives	IDEA	Legal.provisions.for.direct democracy.at.the.local.level
<p>Legal provisions for agenda initiatives at the local level.</p>			

0: No.; 1: Yes.			
nrInitiative.vdem	Occurrence of citizen-initiative this year	V-Dem	v2ddciniyr
How many citizen-initiatives occurred this year?			
Numeric			
referendum.vdem	Referendums permitted	V-Dem	v2ddlegrf
Is there legal provision for referendums?			
0: Not allowed.; 1: Allowed but non-binding (or with an intervening institutional veto).; 2: Allowed and binding.			
referendumLevel.vdem	Referendum level	V-Dem	v2ddlevrf
At what level(s) of government can referendums be held?			
0: Only at the national level.; 1: Only at subnational levels.; 2: At both national and subnational levels.			
referendumNational.vdem	Possibility of national referendums	V-Dem	v2ddlevrf
Referendums can be held at the national level or at both the national and subnational levels.			
0: No.; 1: Yes.			
referendumRegional.vdem	Possibility of subnational referendums	V-Dem	v2ddlevrf
Referendums can be held at the subnational level or at both the national and subnational levels.			
0: No.; 1: Yes.			
nrOblReferendum.vdem	Occurrence of obligatory referendum this year	V-Dem	v2ddoblref
How many obligatory referendums occurred this year?			
Numeric			
nrReferendum.vdem	Occurrence of referendum this year	V-Dem	v2ddrefyr
How many referendums occurred this year?			
Numeric			
plebiscite.vdem	Plebiscite permitted	V-Dem	v2ddlegpl

Is there legal provision for plebiscites?			
0: Not allowed.; 1: Allowed but non-binding (or with an intervening institutional veto).; 2: Allowed and binding.			
nrPlebiscite.vdem	Occurrence of plebiscite this year	V-Dem	v2ddplebyr
How many plebiscites occurred this year?			
Numeric			
plebisciteLevel.vdem	Plebiscite level	V-Dem	v2ddlevpl
At what level(s) of government can plebiscites be held?			
0: Only at the national level.; 1: Only at subnational levels.; 2: At both national and subnational levels.			
plebisciteNational.vdem	Possibility of national plebiscites	V-Dem	v2ddlevpl
Plebiscites can be held at the national level or at both the national and subnational levels.			
0: No.; 1: Yes.			
plebisciteRegional.vdem	Possibility of subnational plebiscites	V-Dem	v2ddlevpl
Plebiscites can be held at the subnational level or at both the national and subnational levels.			
0: No.; 1: Yes.			
recall.idea	Recall level	IDEA	Legal.provisions.for.recall.at.national.level; Legal.provisions.for.direct democracy.at.the.regional.level; Legal.provisions.for.direct democracy.at.the.local.level
At what level(s) of government can recalls be held?			
0: Only at the local level.; 1: Only at regional level.; 2: Only at the national level.			
recallNational.idea	Possibility of national recall	IDEA	Legal.provisions.for.recall.at.national.level
Legal provisions for recall at the national level			

0: No.; 1: Yes.			
recallRegional.idea	Possibility of regional recall	IDEA	Legal.provisions.for.direct.democracy.at.the.regional.level
Legal provisions for recall at the regional level			
0: No.; 1: Yes.			
recallLocal.idea	Possibility of local recall	IDEA	Legal.provisions.for.direct.democracy.at.the.local.level
Legal provisions for recall at the local level			
0: No.; 1: Yes.			
constChangePopVote.vdem	Constitutional changes popular vote	V-Dem	v2ddvotcon
Is a popular and direct vote required in order for a constitutional change to be legally binding?			
0: No, it is not required.; 1: Depends on the content of constitutional change (for some it is required, for others however it is not).; 2: Yes, any constitutional change must be approved directly by the citizenry.			
nrDirectVote.vdem	Number of popular votes this year	V-Dem	v2ddnumvot
How many popular votes occurred this year?			
Numeric			
directVoteIndex.vdem	Direct popular vote index	V-Dem	v2xdd_dd
To what extent is the direct popular vote utilized?			
Interval Scale between 0 and 1.			
publicDeliberation.vdem	Deliberative component index	V-Dem	v2xdl_delib
To what extent is the deliberative principle of democracy achieved?			
Interval Scale between 0 and 1.			
rangeConsult.vdem	Range of consultation	V-Dem	v2dlconstl_ord
When important policy changes are being considered, how wide is the range of consultation at elite levels?			
0: No consultation. The leader or a very small group (e.g. military council) makes authoritative decisions on their own.; 1: Very little and narrow. Consultation with only a narrow circle of loyal party/ruling elites.; 2:			

Consultation includes the former plus a larger group that is loyal to the government, such as the ruling party's or parties' local executives and/or women, youth and other branches.; 3: Consultation includes the former plus leaders of other parties.; 4: Consultation includes the former plus a select range of society/labor/business representatives.; 5: Consultation engages elites from essentially all parts of the political spectrum and all politically relevant sectors of society and business.

engagedSociety.vdem	Engaged society	V-Dem	v2dlengage_ord
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When important policy changes are being considered, how wide and how independent are public deliberations?

0: Public deliberation is never, or almost never allowed.; 1: Some limited public deliberations are allowed but the public below the elite levels is almost always either unaware of major policy debates or unable to take part in them.; 2: Public deliberation is not repressed but nevertheless infrequent and non-elite actors are typically controlled and/or constrained by the elites.; 3: Public deliberation is actively encouraged and some autonomous non-elite groups participate, but it is confined to a small slice of specialized groups that tends to be the same across issue-areas.; 4: Public deliberation is actively encouraged and a relatively broad segment of nonelite groups often participate and vary with different issue-areas.; 5: Large numbers of non-elite groups as well as ordinary people tend to discuss major policies among themselves, in the media, in associations or neighborhoods, or in the streets. Grass-roots deliberation is common and unconstrained.

reasonedJustification.vdem	Reasoned justification	V-Dem	v2dlreason_ord
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When important policy changes are being considered, i.e. before a decision has been made, to what extent do political elites give public and reasoned justifications for their positions?

0: No justification. Elites almost always only dictate that something should or should not be done, but no reasoning about justification is given. For example, We must cut spending.; 1: Inferior justification. Elites tend to give reasons why someone should or should not be for doing or not doing something, but the reasons tend to be illogical or false, although they may appeal to many voters. For example, We must cut spending. The state is inefficient. [The inference is incomplete because addressing inefficiencies would not necessarily reduce spending and it might undermine essential services.]; 2: Qualified justification. Elites tend to offer a single simple reason justifying why the proposed policies contribute to or detract from an outcome. For example, We must cut spending because taxpayers cannot afford to pay for current programs.; 3: Sophisticated justification. Elites tend to offer more than one or more complex, nuanced and complete justification. For example, We must cut spending because taxpayers cannot afford to pay for current government programs. Raising taxes would hurt economic growth, and deficit spending would lead to inflation.

commonGood.vdem	Common good	V-Dem	v2dlcommon_ord
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When important policy changes are being considered, to what extent do political elites justify their positions in terms of the common good?

0: Little or no justification in terms of the common good is usually offered.; 1: Specific business, geographic, group, party, or constituency interests are for the most part offered as justifications.; 2: Justifications are for the most part a mix of specific interests and the common good and it is impossible to say which justification is more common than the other.; 3: Justifications are based on a mixture of references to constituency/party/group interests and on appeals to the common good.; 4: Justifications are for the most

part almost always based on explicit statements of the common good for society, understood either as the greatest good for the greatest number or as helping the least advantaged in a society.

counterArgument.vdem	Respect counterarguments	V-Dem	v2dlcountr_ord
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When important policy changes are being considered, to what extent do political elites acknowledge and respect counterarguments?

0: Counterarguments are not allowed or if articulated, punished.; 1: Counterarguments are allowed at least from some parties, but almost always are ignored.; 2: Elites tend to acknowledge counterarguments but then explicitly degrade them by making a negative statement about them or the individuals and groups that propose them.; 3: Elites tend to acknowledge counterarguments without making explicit negative or positive statements about them.; 4: Elites almost always acknowledge counterarguments and explicitly value them, even if they ultimately reject them for the most part.; 5: Elites almost always acknowledge counterarguments and explicitly value them, and frequently also even accept them and change their position.

csolInvolve.vdem	CSO participatory environment	V-Dem	v2csptrcpt_ord
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Which of these best describes the involvement of people in civil society organizations (CSOs)?

0: Most associations are state-sponsored, and although a large number of people may be active in them, their participation is not purely voluntary.; 1: Voluntary CSOs exist but few people are active in them.; 2: There are many diverse CSOs, but popular involvement is minimal.; 3: There are many diverse CSOs and it is considered normal for people to be at least occasionally active in at least one of them.

csoConsult.vdem	CSO consultation	V-Dem	v2cscnsult_ord
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Are major civil society organizations (CSOs) routinely consulted by policymakers on policies relevant to their members?

0: No. There is a high degree of insulation of the government from CSO input. The government may sometimes enlist or mobilize CSOs after policies are adopted to sell them to the public at large. But it does not often consult with them in formulating policies.; 1: To some degree. CSOs are but one set of voices that policymakers sometimes take into account.; 2: Yes. Important CSOs are recognized as stakeholders in important policy areas and given voice on such issues. This can be accomplished through formal corporatist arrangements or through less formal arrangements.

citizenBudget.gir	Citizen input at budget hearings	Global Integrity Report	3_3.4_41_41b; 41b; 38b_subind; 34b
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In practice, citizens provide input at budget hearings.

0: Worst.; 1: Best.

publicParticipation.ob	Public participation in the budget process	Open Budget Survey	114:133
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What is the overall level of public participation in the budget process?

0: Worst.; 1: Best.

ombudsman.gir	Existence of national ombudsman	Global Integrity Report	5_5.1_55; 55.000000; 52_ind; 47.000000
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In law, is there a national ombudsman, public protector or equivalent agency (or collection of agencies) covering the entire public sector?

0: No.; 1: Yes.

Sources:

ACE

ACE Electoral Knowledge Network. 2016. Comparative Data: What is the Legal Voting Age in the National Elections? Retrieved from <http://aceproject.org/epic-en?question=VR001&f=>

Global Integrity Report

Global Integrity. Global Integrity Report 2006, 2009, 2011. <https://www.globalintegrity.org/>

IDEA

International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA). 2016. <http://www.idea.int/data-tools>

Open Budget Survey

International Budget Partnership. Open Budget Survey 2015. <http://www.internationalbudget.org/data-evidence/>

V-Dem

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