

Release Notes for the Manifesto Project Dataset / MARPOR Full Dataset:

Updates (2011-2016a), changes, corrections, and known errors

Known bugs, errors and problems (which will be fixed with next update)

MARPOR Full Dataset 2016a: May 2016 Version

Elections added:

- Bosnia & Herzegovina 2010/2014
- Estonia 2015
- Greece January/September 2015
- UK 2015
- Japan 2003/2005/2009/2012
- Turkey June/November 2015
- Bosnia & Herzegovina 2010/2014
- Estonia 2015
- Latvia 2006/2010
- Moldova 2014
- Montenegro 2001/2002/2006/2009/2012
- Turkey June/November 2015
- UK 2015

Raw data (digitalized and annotated electoral programs) for most of these observations can be accessed via the Manifesto Corpus (see <https://manifesto-project.wzb.eu/information/documents/corpus>). These entries are based on version 2016-3 of the Manifesto Corpus.

Individual manifestos added:

We added 12 electoral programs of (mostly) smaller Dutch parties, and one UK party:

- Communist Party of the Netherlands (22210:1946),
- Reformed Political Party(22952:1946,1994,1998,2002),
- Reformed Political League (22527:1994),
- Reformatory Political Federation (22528:1994,1998),
- Centre Democrats (22711:1994),
- General Elderly Alliance (22954:1994),
- Union55+ (22955:1994),
- Scottish National Party (51902:1997).

New variables:

- A new variable *datasetversion*, constant for all observations, indicates the version of the dataset. It helps keep track of the dataset version even if, for example, the filename is changed.
- We decided to split the information contained in the *partyname* variable (party abbreviation + partyname) into two variables in order to facilitate labeling graphs with party abbreviations. Now *partyname* only represents the name of the party, in English. The new variable *partyabbrev* represents the abbreviation of the party name.
- We added a new variable indicating a coder's reliability based on his/her coding of the entry test. This measure compares the sequence of codes from a coder's entry test to the sequence of codes from the master copy of the entry test. The new variable *testedit_{sim}* indicates the relative Levenstein distance between the two sequences of codes, and subtracts it from 1 (a value of 0 indicates no matching codes, 1 indicates all codes match).

Corrections and changes:

- 28 observations (elections from Hungary, Cyprus and Greece) coded with version 5 of the coding instructions incorrectly left out one new sub-category (606_1:civic mindedness: general +) in the calculation of the *rile* variable. We corrected this. For these 28 observations this led to an average error of 2.2 in the *rile*. In four cases the *rile* error was more than 5, with a maximum error of 22.
- We completed the standardization the calculation of the coding reliability by slightly changing the coding of the entry test master copy of manual 4 and 5, and recalculated the reliability scores (Krippendorff's Alpha, variable *testresult*) of the coders that were trained with manual 4 or 5. This affects 456 cases. The change in Krippendorff's alpha for these cases ranges from -0.13 to +0.23 with a median of 0.003. We also added a new variable to measure the coding reliability called *testedit_{sim}*, see above.
- We substituted the document that was coded for the New Zealand National's Party from the 2011 election. The former coding was based on a speech, the new coding is based on the party's manifesto. All per variables, *progtype* and the indicators have changed.

Smaller changes:

- The Serbian Democratic party appeared twice in the dataset with different codes (79955 and 79952). We changed 79952 to 79955.

- The Democratic Party of Socialists of Montenegro (91220 and 91322) appeared twice in the dataset. We changed 91322 to 91220.
- The manual variable (indicating the version of the coding instructions used to code the program) was corrected and changed from 3 to 4 for the Lithuanian elections in 2008.
- We deleted the entry for the joint list bloc (81899) from the 2000 Croatian elections as it resulted in showing a higher number of seats than the size of the parliament. The observation for the electoral alliance first appeared with MPP2, and was an estimate based on codings from prior elections. It should have been but was not removed when the individual parties of the electoral alliance were coded and added to the dataset.
- We also deleted a single estimate for the Montenegrin 2002 election and replaced it with the coded 2002 manifesto.
- We set the pervote of the Fidesz_MPP-MDF alliance to 0, because the two parties are individually in the dataset with their respective voteshare.
- Changed parfam from 60 (conservative) to 20 (socialist) for the Progressive Party (61622), a minor US party from the 1948 election.
- We recoded some entries of parfam from 0 to 98 and other more meaningful codes to avoid the 0 parfam code. This only concerns electoral alliances.
- Changed the name of country 51 from "Great Britain" to "United Kingdom".

MARPOR Full Dataset 2015a: May 2015 Version

New elections:

Armenia 2012, Cyprus 2006/2011, Greece 2007/2009/2012 May election/2012 June election, Hungary 2014, Macedonia 2014, Netherlands 2012

A note on the Greek data:

We advise to use the Greek data, in particular after the financial crisis, with caution for two reasons. First, collecting proper electoral programs is a challenge in Greece. In many cases, electoral programs in the classical sense do or did not exist. Many of the coded documents are the best equivalents that we could find, however some of them are very short and hardly cover a broad range of policy issues. Second, we advise to use other estimates than the rile for left-right positions. After the financial crisis a huge part of the political discourse in Greece was based on blaming the political elites for their failures. Such statements fall under the 305 category in the MARPOR scheme. Especially the Left parties (Syriza and KKE) blamed the former elites from PASOK and ND for the crisis. The rile score considers 305 as a right-wing category, moving these left parties to (extremely) right-wing positions. Considering 305 a right-wing category is definitely problematic in Greece and we advise to use other estimates than the rile to measure left-right positions in Greece.

Changes:

For the first time, we release data coded with the new version of the coding instructions/category scheme (version 5). This version contains new subcategories which are easily identifiable in the dataset as they contain an underscore (eg. per301_1). The first three digits indicate the main category to which they are related. The new coding instructions foresee that the new subcategories are used instead of the respective main categories. Currently, the new categories are aggregated into the former main categories according to the scheme below to ensure the over-time comparability of the dataset. So, scholars interested in long-time series can simply continue to use the existing main categories (per101-706, including eg. the rile) as they did in the past and ignore the new categories. Scholars interested in the new categories should be aware that the respective main categories of the new subcategories are aggregates of the new categories (i.e. if one uses the main categories together with the new subcategories the per-variables will likely add up to more than 100%). For more information on the new coding scheme, please visit our website.

Coding Instructions Version 5 codes	Replaced categories Coding Instructions Version 4 and before
per103_1 state centred anti-imperialism	per103 anti-imperialism
per103_2 foreign financial influence -	
per201_1 freedom	per201 freedom & human rights
per201_2 human rights	
per202_1 democracy: general +	per202 democracy
per202_2 democracy: general -*	
per202_3 representative democracy +	

per202_4 direct democracy +	
per305_1 political authority: party competence	
per305_2 political authority: personal competence	
per305_3 political authority: strong government	per305 political authority
per305_4 transition: pre-democratic elites +	
per305_5 transition: pre-democratic elites -	
per305_6 rehabilitation and compensation	
per416_1 anti-growth economy +	per416 anti-growth economy +
per416_2 sustainability +	
per601_1 national way of life: general +	per601 national way of life +
per601_2 national way of life: immigration -	
per602_1 national way of life: general -	per602 national way of life -
per602_2 national way of life: immigration +	
per605_1 law and order +	per605 law and order +
per605_2 law and order -*	
per606_1 civic mindedness: general +	per606 civic mindedness +
per606_2 bottom-up activism	
per607_1 multiculturalism: general +	per607 multiculturalism +
per607_2 multiculturalism: immigrants diversity	
per607_3 multiculturalism: indigenous rights +	
per608_1 multiculturalism: general -	per608 multiculturalism -
per608_2 multiculturalism: immigrants assimilation	
per608_3 multiculturalism: indigenous rights -	
per703_1 agriculture and farmers +	per703 agriculture +
per703_2 agriculture and farmers -*	

To make data coded with version 5 comparable with data coded with former versions, the summed shares of the new subcategories can be aggregated to the share of the main category. *The only exceptions are the categories 202_2, 605_2 and 703_2 which have to be added to the uncoded sentences, as such issues were not covered in the handbook 4 category scheme and these sentences were thus previously coded as 000.

Replacement/Recoding of content analytical data:

German Green Party (41113 @ 2013): 26 quasi-sentences (of over 5000 in total) in the document were not counted correctly. Per categories, rile, etc. are corrected. The estimates hardly changed (eg. rile changed from -19.59 to -19.51)

Swiss EVP Protestant People Party (43530 @ 2003): All codes on the backside of this document were not counted. Per-categories changed quite a lot as the total number of quasi-sentences almost doubled (from 64 to 126).

Macedonia VMRO-DPMNE (89710 @ 2003): per-categories incorrectly indicated the frequencies of a wrong document. All per-categories and their aggregates were corrected. Per categories, rile, etc. changed significantly.

Smaller changes/corrections:

We changed the order of the variables in the dataset. The total and peruncod variable are now between the datasetorigin and the per101 variables.

Pro Patria and Res Publica Union (83611 @ 2007): progtpye corrected to 4

Party for the Animals (22951): party family code (parfam) corrected to 95 (special issue)

SGP Refomred Political Party (22952): party family code (parfam) corrected to 95 (special issue)

MARPOR Full Dataset 2014b: December 2014 Version

	whole election	Luxembourg 2013, Australia 2013, Armenia 2007, Georgia 1990, South Africa 2014, Mexico 2009/2012, Serbia 2014, Czech Republic 2013	
new data	whole election – replacing existing data	Germany 1998 / 2002 All codings replaced by more recent recodings. The former coding of the Green party in 1998 was based on a bad proxy document (see Chapter on “Coder Training: Key to Enhancing Coding Reliability and Estimate Validity” for more details on the recoding). Therefore we replaced it. As we prefer (if possible) to provide data from the one coder for all parties from one election, we replaced the other data as well.	
	single parties – additions and updating of missing data	Italy 2013 Turkey 2007 Macedonia	Added manifesto of the South Tyrolean People’s Party (32904) Added manifesto for Democratic Society Party (74326) Added manifesto for Democratic Union for Integration (89940:2011), Socialist Party of Macedonia (89320:2008), Democratic Party of Turks (89920:2006)
		general changes	per301 The label of per301 was changed from federalism to decentralization to reflect more accurately the content of the category.
changes	on the election level	The edate variable for all elections from the update 2014a were wrong (by one day) and are corrected with this update. These concerns the following elections:	
		Canada 2011 edate corrected	
		France 2012 edate corrected	
		New Zealand 2011 edate corrected	
		Slovakia 1998 edate corrected	
		Switzerland 2011 edate corrected	
		Portugal 1979 edate corrected	
		Iceland 2013 edate corrected	
		Bulgaria 2013 edate corrected	

	Macedonia 2002, 2006, 2008, 2011	edate corrected
	Romania 2012	edate corrected
	Mexico 2006	edate corrected
	South Africa 1994, 2004, 2009	edate corrected
	Lithuania 2008	Totseats was corrected from 70 to 141.
	Turkey 2011	corrected eumember-variable from 0 (no member) to 20 (applicant)
	Macedonia 2006, 2008 and 2011	eumember was corrected to 20 (eu applicant)
on the party level at one election point	Lithuania 2008	Absseat incorrectly indicated only the seats from the proportional tier. We corrected absseat to cover seats from the proportional and the majoritarian tier.
	Luxembourg 2004 / 2009	Codes 101 and 102 should not be used in Luxembourg, quasi-sentences with these codes were recoded which causes small changes in some per-categories. Partyid for the Green Party in 2004 and 2009 was corrected from 23114 to 23113.

MARPOR Full Dataset 2014a: August 2014 Version

d	whole	Bulgaria 2013· Canada 2011· France 2012· Iceland 2013· Macedonia 2002/2006/2008/2011· Mexico 2006· New Zealand 2011· Romania
changes	general changes	<p>The coding of missings was changed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Missing Information / Not Applicable is now coded as “.” for continuous variables (testresult, coderyear, pervote, presvote, absseat, totseats, perXXX, peruncod, total, rile, planeco, markeco, welfare, intpeace). <p>Missing data in categorical variables (parfam, coderid, manual, progtype) was not changed. It is still coded as 998 (not applicable) and 999/99 (missing information).</p> <p>The following observations were accidentally deleted with the 2013b version due to a programming error:</p> <p>New Clean Government Party (71530) 2003; New Clean Government Party (71530) 2005; New Conservative Party (71626) 2003; Peace and Democracy Party (74325) 2011; ZL Joint List Bloc (81899) 2000; United Opposition (National Council/Rights) (84041)2008; Bidzina Ivanishvili – Georgian Dream (84042) 2012; Republican Party of Georgia (84440) 2008; Christian-Democratic Movement (84530) 2008; SzDSz Alliance of Free Democrats (86422) 2002; FiDeSz-MPP/MDF Alliance (86429) 2002; Labour Party and Youth (88042) 2008; Liberal Movement (88450) 2008; Order and Justice (88460) 2008; Homeland Union (88621) 2008; National Resurrection Party (88630) 2008; Palikot's Movement (92440) 2011.</p> <p>All observations were reincorporated in this dataset version.</p> <p>We changed the country abbreviations in the label of the party variable to international iso standard abbreviations</p>
	corrections	On the election level

	Greece 2004	The incorrect usage of subcategory 6014 (Cyprus-issue) in three manifestos (34313, 34511 and 34210) was corrected. Note: per6014 should only be used in Cyprus. Sentences in this category were recoded to per101 and per102.
on the party level at one election	Front National 31720 (France 2002) DSP Democratic Left Party 74324 & ANAP Motherland Party 74623 (Turkey 2002)	pervote was corrected. We decided to drop both observations because both parties gained no seats at this election and both observations were only duplicates (proctype = 3) of the codings from 1999.

MARPOR Full Dataset 2013b: December 2013 Version

new data	whole election	Australia 2010; Germany 2013; Greece 2004; Italy 2013; Lithuania 2012; Norway 2005; South Korea 2012; Switzerland 2007.	
	whole election – replacing estimates	Mexico 2003.	
	single parties	Hungary 2002	SZDSZ Alliance of Free Democrats (86422). (The old data was based on a partially coded document. The new data is based on the coding of the whole document.)
changes	general changes	party	spelling and correct wording of all labels checked and revised if appropriate.
		partyname	spelling and correct wording of all English party names checked and revised if appropriate.
		parfam	made constant over time for all parties. Parfam was coded inconsistently in a few cases mostly due to change from CMP to MARPOR and did not reflect real changes in party family affiliation.
		coderyear	set to 998 if the data is an estimate (progtype = 3) or if we are missing the data completely (progtype = 99).
		manual	set to 998 if the data is an estimate (progtype = 3) or if we are missing the data completely (progtype = 99).
		testresult	set to 998 if the data is an estimate (progtype = 3) or if we are missing the data completely (progtype = 99).
corrections	on the coder level	manual	corrected for a few cases.
	on the election level	UK 1992	totseats corrected.
		Croatia 2000	totseats, pervote and absseat corrected/recalculated and voteest changed to 1 where appropriate.
on the party level for all elections	Austrian Freedom Party 42420 (Austria)	parfam changed to national.	
	VMRO-DPMNE 89710 (Macedonia)	parfam changed to Christian democratic.	

on the party level at one election point	<p>Christian Social People's Party 23520 (Luxembourg 2004) per1013 changed to zero, quasi-sentences in this category recoded to per101.</p> <p>Republicans 61620 (USA 2012) per7062 changed to zero, quasi-sentences recoded to per706.</p> <p>Christian Democratic Union/Christian Social Union 41521 (Germany 2009) absseat corrected.</p> <p>FIDESZ-MDF Alliance 86429 (Hungary 2002) Alliance dropped. The observation only reported the data from the FIDESZ manifesto, which is already in the dataset as FIDESZ. pervote divided between FIDESZ and MDF according to the number of seats they won.</p>
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MARPOR Full Dataset 2013a: August 2013 Version

dat	whole election	Belgium 2010: Flemish parties; Georgia 2008, 2012; Lithuania 2008; Poland 2011; Turkey 2011; United States 2012.	
changes	general changes	eu	Change of eu variable. The variable is now coded depending on the election. It is no longer reporting if a country was EU member at some point of time but if the country was member or applicant at the time of the specific election. See the codebook for more information. To make this change obvious the name of the variable changed to eumember.
		oecd	Change of oecd variable. The variable is now coded depending on the election. It is no longer reporting if a country was OECD member as some point of time but if the country was member or applicant at the time of the specific election. See the codebook for more information. To make this change obvious the name of the variable changed to oecdmember.
corrections	on the coder level	testresult	corrected for a number of coders.
		manual	corrected for a number of coders.
	on the election level	Belgium 2010	month in edate corrected. month in date corrected.
		Hungary 1994-2010	totseats corrected. absseat corrected for a few parties.
		Italy 2001	totseats corrected.
		Lithuania 2004	totseats corrected.
		Luxembourg 2009	absseat corrected for four parties.
on the party level for all elections	Lithuanian Peasant and Green Union 88081 (Lithuania)	party code changed to 88820.	
	New Zealand first Party (New Zealand)	label corrected.	
	Maori Party (New Zealand)	label corrected.	

	New Zealand Democratic Party (New Zealand)	label corrected.
on the party level at one election point	Basque Nationalist Party 33902 (Spain 2011)	parfam changed to regional (90).
	Catalan Republican Left 33905 (Spain 2011)	parfam changed to regional (90).
	Canarian Coalition 33907 (Spain 2011)	parfam changed to regional (90).
	Galician Nationalist Bloc 33908 (Spain 2011)	parfam changed to regional (90).
	Social Democratic Party 83320 (Estonia 2007 and 2011)	the party evolved out of an alliance that was already coded in 2003 under the code 83410. In 2007 the alliance formed a real party. In our dataset the code had then changed to 83320, which is the code of one of the founding members of the party. The code changed to the alliance code (83410).
	Vojvodinian Coalition 95951 (Serbia 1997)	party code changed to 95091. 95951 was the code of another Vojvodinian party.
	People's Democratic Party 89954 (Macedonia 1994 and 1998)	appeared with two party codes in the dataset, in 1990 it appeared in the dataset with its Albanian name (89952) and in 1994 and 1998 the same party appeared with its Macedonian name but a new code (89954). The party is now only listed as 89952.
	United Democratic Forces 80418 (Bulgaria 2001)	In 2001 the party appeared twice in the dataset, also with the same content analytical data. One of these cases was dropped (80418). Now the party appears only as 80411 in the dataset.
	Alliance for Mexico 171305 (Mexico 2000)	Before it appeared under the code of the Democratic Revolutionary Party (171305) which was just one of the members of the alliance. Now the alliance has its own code (171031).
	Union of Peasants and New Democracy Party 88820 (Lithuania 2004)	absseat changed.
Bridge 96955 (Slovakia 2010)	absseat changed.	

Unified Democratic Coalition absseat and pervote changed.
35229 (Portugal 2002 and 2005)

Navarrese People's Union 33910 absseat changed.
(Spain 2004 and 2008)

Christian Democratic and Flemish absseat and pervote changed.
21521 (Belgium 2007)

New Flemish Alliance 21916 absseat and pervote changed.
(Belgium 2007)

MARPOR Full Dataset 2012b: October 2012 Version

	whole election	Belgium 2007: Flemish parties; Denmark 2011; Finland 2011; Ireland 2011; Japan 2005; Norway 2009; Portugal 2011; Serbia 2012; Slovakia 2012; Slovenia 2011; Spain 2011; Turkey 2007.	
new data	whole election – replacing estimates	Japan 2003, Turkey 2002.	
	single parties	Hungary 2006	Alliance of Free Democrats (86422)
		Italy 2008	Northern League (32720)
		Lithuania 2004	Union of Peasants and New Democracy Party (88081)
		Luxembourg 2009	Déi Lenk (23230)
Netherlands 2010		D66 (22330) and Christian Union (22526)	
changes	general changes	pervote	is changed to . if missing instead of 999 to avoid wrong total votes when adding up.
		eu	changed eu applicant 2004 to eu applicant in general.
corrections	on the country level	Croatia	eu changed to eu applicant.
		Hungary	eu changed to eu member.
		Iceland	eu changed to eu applicant.
		Macedonia	eu changed to eu applicant.
		Montenegro	eu changed to eu applicant.
		Serbia	eu changed to eu applicant.
on the election level	Finland 2007	day in edate corrected.	
	France 2007	month in date corrected.	
	Hungary 1998 and 2010	totseats corrected.	

	Iceland 2009	month in date corrected.
	Japan 2003	month in date corrected.
	Lithuania 1996	totseats corrected.
	Lithuania 2004	absseat corrected for five parties.
	Macedonia 2002	dropped. It only reported one estimate on the basis of the 1998 data.
on the party level	Socialist Party Different (Belgium 2007)	parfam changed.
	Croatian People's Party 81430 (Croatia 2000, 2003 and 2007)	from 2000-2007 it was incorrectly reported under the code 81430, which belongs to another party. Now it has the correct code, which is 81712.
	Danish People's Party 13720 (Denmark 2005)	voteest changed.
	The Greens 23112 (Luxembourg 2004)	was incorrectly reported under the code 23112, which belongs to another party. Now it has the correct code, which is 23114.
	Maori Party 64951 (New Zealand 2005 and 2008)	was incorrectly reported under the code 64951, which belongs to another party. Now it has the correct code, which is 64901.
	Social Democratic Center-Popular Party 35995 (Portugal 2009)	was incorrectly reported under the code 35995, even though the party already had a code. Now it has the correct code, which is 35520.

MARPOR Full Dataset 2012a correction: May 2012 Version

corrections	on the country level	Czech Republic 2010 Iceland 2009	year in edate corrected (2009 to 2010). month in date corrected.
	on the party level	Italy 2009	data for the Northern League (32720) eliminated.

MARPOR Full Dataset 2012a: April 2012 Version

new data	whole election	Belgium 2007, 2010; Canada 2008; Croatia 2011; Estonia 2011; Iceland 2007, 2009; Italy 2008; Lithuania 2004; Moldova 2010; Netherlands 2006; Russia 2011; Serbia 2003, 2007; Slovakia 2010.		
	whole election – replacing estimates	Iceland 2003		
	single parties	Hungary 1994	Hungarian Social Democratic Party (86320)	
		Hungary 1998	Christian Democratic People’s Party (86522)	
		Hungary 2002	Hungarian Democratic Forum (86521) and Independent Smallholders’ Party (86810)	
Hungary 2006		Hungarian Social Democratic Party (86320)		
single parties	Hungary 2010	Hungarian Social Democratic Party (86320)		
corrections	on the party level	Estonian Center Party 83411 (Estonia 1999)	coderid, coderyear and manual corrected.	

MARPOR Full Dataset 2011b: October 2011 Version

new data	whole election	Czech Republic 2010; Estonia 2007, Netherlands 2010.
corrections	on the election level	Sweden 2010 There had been a mistake in the frequencies, this was fixed, i.e. frequencies and indices corrected for all Swedish parties in 2010.

MARPOR Full Dataset 2011a: July 2011 Version

new data	whole election	Austria 2006, 2008; Czech Republic 2006; Finland 2007; Hungary 2006, 2010; Luxembourg 2004, 2009; Moldova 2009.	
	single parties	Austria 2002	Austrian Freedom Party (42420)
		Czech Republic 2002	Association for the Republic – Republican Party of Czechoslovakia (82710)
		Portugal 2009	Socialist Party (35311)
		Romania 1996	Greater Romania Party (93712)