

Codebook

Supplement to the Comparative Political Data Set – Government Composition 1960-2020

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The Supplement to the Comparative Political Data Set provides detailed information on party composition, reshuffles, duration, reason for termination and on the type of government for 36 democratic OECD and/or EU-member countries.

The data begins in 1959 for the 23 countries formerly included in the CPDS I, respectively, in 1966 for Malta, in 1976 for Cyprus, in 1990 for Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Romania and Slovakia, in 1991 for Poland, in 1992 for Estonia and Lithuania, in 1993 for Latvia and Slovenia and in 2000 for Croatia. In order to obtain information on both the change of ideological composition and the following gap between the new and old cabinet, the supplement contains alternative data for the year 1959.

The government variables in the main Comparative Political Data Set are based upon the data presented in this supplement.

When using data from this data set, please quote both the data set and, where appropriate, the original source. Please quote this data set as:

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1 General Variables

Year	<p>Year of observation.</p> <p><u>Period covered:</u> Documentation starts 1959, respectively with the first democratic elections in post-communist countries.</p> <p>1959-2020: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, UK and the US.</p> <p>1966-2020: Malta.</p> <p>1976-2020: Portugal and Cyprus.</p> <p>1977-2020: Spain.</p> <p>1990-2020: Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Romania and Slovakia.</p> <p>1991-2020: Poland.</p> <p>1992-2020: Estonia and Lithuania.</p> <p>1993-2020: Latvia and Slovenia.</p> <p>2000-2020: Croatia.</p> <p>Notes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Greece: From 21st of April 1967 to 26th of July 1974 data are missing due to military junta rule.
Investiture Date	<p>Date of investiture of government.</p> <p><u>Source:</u> Colberg et al. (1998), Political Data Yearbook (EJPR, various issues), “Keesing’ Record of World Events” (various issues), ParlGov (various years), “Parline Database” (various years), J. Woldendorp et al. (1998), and J. J. Woldendorp et al. (2011).</p>
Days in Year	<p>Number of days a government was in office in the given year.</p> <p><u>Source:</u> Own calculations based on the dates of investiture.</p> <p>Notes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Leap years are taken into account.
Parliament. Election	<p>Date of election of national parliament (lower house).</p> <p><u>Source:</u> Bugajski (2002) and “Election World” (various), Political Data Yearbook (EJPR, various issues), “Keesing’ Record of World Events” (various issues), Mackie and Rose (1991), ParlGov (various years), and “Parline Database” (various years).</p> <p>Notes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Greece 2012: From the two elections in 2012 (May 6 and June 17), only the results of the second one on June 17 are entered.

2 Governments - Composition

Termination Reason for the termination of the previous government due to

- (1) elections,
- (2) voluntary resignation of Prime Minister,
- (3) resignation of Prime Minister due to health,
- (4) dissension withing government (break up of the coalition),
- (5) lack of parliamentary support (vote of no confidence),
- (6) intervention by the head of state, or
- (7) broadening of the coalition (inclusion of new parties).

Source: J. J. Woldendorp et al. (2000, pp. 16–17); and own adjustments based on the Political Data Yearbook (EJPR, various issues).

Notes:

1. Reshuffles do not count as a reason for termination and are indicated with a 0.
2. USA: The reason for termination of the previous government on 22nd of November 1963 is the assassination of President Kennedy.
3. Greece: The reason for termination of the previous government on 26th of July 1974 is the military coup of 21st of April 1967.
4. Belgium: The reason for termination of the previous government on 17th of March 2020 is the Covid-19 pandemic. The caretaker government was replaced by a fully empowered government in order to better manage the pandemic.

Number of Cabinet Posts Number of cabinet posts in government split into the categories right, center and left. Only full cabinet members count.

Source: J. J. Woldendorp et al. (2000, pp. 16–17), Colberg et al. (1998, p. 843), Casal Bértoa (2016), and from 1995 onwards own adjustments based on the Political Data Yearbook (EJPR, various issues).

Notes:

1. In depth information on the categories and the allocation of parties to these categories is provided in Appendix A.
2. France: Junior ministers (secrétaires d’Etat) are not considered as full cabinet ministers. However, ministers attached to the Prime Minister (ministres auprès du premier ministre) are taken into account.
3. France 2017: only the seats of LRM and MoDem are taken into account, since the other parties did not support the government.
4. France 2018/19: In consultation with Nicolas Sauger, Associate Professor at Sciences Po/CEE, the government composition was reconstructed and may not always reflect the one displayed in the EJPR Yearbook.
5. USA: Cabinet-level officials are not considered as full cabinet ministers. Only the Vice President and the Heads of the Executive Departments are taken into account.

% of Posts in Government Number of cabinet posts of right, center and left governing parties as a percentage of the total number of ministries in government.

Source: Own calculations based on J. J. Woldendorp et al. (2000, pp. 16–17) and from 1995 onwards on the Political Data Yearbook (EJPR, various issues).

Notes:

1. Due to independents, the total sum does not always add up to 100 percent.

Government Type Type of government based on the following classification:

- (1) Single-party majority government:
One party takes all governments seats and has a parliamentary majority [$>50.0\%$].
- (2) Minimal winning coalition:
All participating parties are necessary to form a majority government [$>50.0\%$].
- (3) Surplus coalition:
Coalition governments which exceed the minimal-winning criterion [$>50.0\%$].
- (4) Single-party minority government:
The party in government does not possess a majority in Parliament [50.0%].
- (5) Multi-party minority government:
The parties in government do not possess a majority in Parliament [50.0%].
- (6) Caretaker government:
Governments which should simply maintain the status quo.
- (7) Technocratic government:
Led by technocratic prime minister, consists of a majority of technocratic ministers and is in possession of a mandate to change the status quo.

Period covered: 1960-2020.

Source: 1960-1994: J. Woldendorp et al. (1998) and J. J. Woldendorp et al. (2011); post-communist countries: Berglund (2013); 1995 onwards (USA 1991 onwards): own calculations based on Political Data Yearbook EJPR (various issues) according to the definitions of J. J. Woldendorp et al. (2000, pp. 17–18) and McDonnell and Valbruzzi (2014, p. 11) for the last two categories.

Notes:

1. The indicator refers to the type of government that was in office for the longest period in each year.
2. Caretaker governments are governments which should simply maintain the status quo Golder (2010, p. 4). Mostly the ministers of such governments, including the prime minister, belong to a specific party. However, in a few cases the governments consist of nonpartisan technocratic ministers. We still code these governments as caretaker governments as long as their mandate does not exceed the remit “to mind the shop”.
3. Based on McDonnell and Valbruzzi (2014, p. 11), we define a technocratic government as a government which is led by a technocratic prime minister, consists of a majority of technocratic ministers and is in possession of a mandate to change the status quo. In a few cases, only the minority of ministers are technocrats. However, as long as the first and third criterion (technocratic prime minister and mandate to change the status quo) are fulfilled, we still code these governments as technocratic. Following McDonnell and Valbruzzi (2014, pp. 4–5) we classify a prime minister as a being a technocrat if “at the time of his/her appointment to government, he/she: (1) has never held public office under the banner of a political party; (2) is not a formal member of any party; (3) is said to possess recognized non-party political expertise which is directly relevant to the role occupied in government”.
4. If a single party’s seat share is exactly 50%, we code the government as a single party minority government. If two governmental parties possess combined 50% of the seat share, we code the government as a multi party minority government. If the government consists of three parties of which the two biggest ones hold 50% of the seat share, we code the government as a minimal winning coalition one.
5. Sister parties count as one party for the classification of the type of government (for example the CDU and CSU in Germany).
6. We classify the governments of Cyprus and the United States continuously as single party majority governments due to the countries’ presidential systems.

3 Governing Parties

% of Seats in Parliament Seat shares (previous legislative election, lower house) of parties in government divided into the categories right, center or left.

Source: Bugajski (2002), “Election World” (various), “Keesing’ Record of World Events” (various issues), Mackie and Rose (1991), ParlGov (various years), and “Parline Database” (various years), Political Data Yearbook (EJPR, various issues).

Notes:

1. In depth information on the categories and the allocation of parties to these categories is provided in Appendix A and B.
2. Portugal 1980-83: Electoral Alliance of Center Social Democrats, Social Democrats and Popular Monarchist Party with a total of 52.6% Seats in Parliament.

Governing Party 1-8 Short description of parties in government based on name, family, ideology and seat share.
Source: see variable ‘% of Seats in Parliament’.

Notes:

1. In depth information on name, family and ideology is provided in Appendix A and B.

4 Governments - Aggregated Variables

gov_right1 Government composition: cabinet posts of right-wing parties in percentage of total cabinet posts. Weighted by the number of days in office in a given year.

Period covered: 1960-2020.

Missing: None.

Source: Own calculations primarily based on Schmidt and Beyer (1992); from 1991 on from the political data published in the EJPR (various issues) Political Data Yearbook. For details see Appendix A, for the classification of parties into “left”, “centre” or “right” parties see Appendix B.

gov_cent1 Government composition: cabinet posts of centre parties in percentage of total cabinet posts. Weighted by the number of days in office in a given year.

Period Covered: 1960-2020.

Missing: None.

Source: See variable ‘gov_right1’.

gov_left1 Government composition: cabinet posts of social democratic and other left parties in percentage of total cabinet posts. Weighted by the number of days in office in a given year.

Period Covered: 1960-2020.

Missing: None.

Source: See variable ‘gov_right1’.

Note:

1. Due to independents in government or non-partisan/technocratic governments, the calculations of ‘gov_right1’, ‘gov_cent1’ and ‘gov_left1’ do not always add up to 100 percent.
2. In countries where the democratic transition started later than in 1960, the calculations of government composition in the first year do not start on the 1st of January. Instead, calculations start with the investiture date of the first democratic government. Thus the variables can still add up to 100 percent.

gov_right2 Government composition: relative power position of right-wing parties in government based on their seat share in parliament, measured in percentage of the total parliamentary seat share of all governing parties. Weighted by the number of days in office in a given year.

Period covered: 1960-2020.

Missing: None.

Source: See variable 'gov_right1'.

gov_cent2 Government composition: relative power position of centre parties in government based on their seat share in parliament, measured in percentage of the total parliamentary seat share of all governing parties. Weighted by the number of days in office in a given year.

Period covered: 1960-2020.

Missing: None.

Source: See variable 'gov_right1'.

gov_left2 Government composition: relative power position of social democratic and other left parties in government based on their seat share in parliament, measured in percentage of the total parliamentary seat share of all governing parties. Weighted by the number of days in office in a given year.

Period covered: 1960-2020.

Missing: None.

Source: See variable 'gov_right1'.

Notes:

1. Changes in the composition of the parliament are not entered until there has been a change in government.
2. For some calculations the total weight does not amount to 100 percent due to non-partisan/technocratic governments in office.

gov_right3 Government support: parliamentary seat share of right-wing parties in government. Weighted by the number of days in office in a given year.

Period covered: 1960-2020.

Missing: None.

Source: See variable 'gov_right1'.

gov_cent3 Government support: parliamentary seat share of centre parties in government. Weighted by the number of days in office in a given year.

Period covered: 1960-2020.

Missing: None.

Source: See variable 'gov_right1'.

gov_left3 Government support: parliamentary seat share of social democratic and other left parties in government. Weighted by the number of days in office in a given year.

Period covered: 1960-2020.

Missing: None.

Source: See variable 'gov_right1'.

Notes:

1. Some calculations do not start on the 1st January in a given year due to previous undemocratic governments. Starting date of calculations: Bulgaria 20.09.1990, Croatia 27.01.2000, Cyprus 08.03.1978, Czech Republic 26.06.1990, Estonia 21.10.1992, Greece 26.07.1974, Hungary 23.05.1990, Latvia 03.08.1993, Lithuania 10.12.1992, Malta 01.04.1966, Poland 23.12.1991, Portugal 23.07.1976, Romania 28.06.1990, Slovakia 27.06.1990, Slovenia 12.01.1993 and Spain 05.07.1977.

gov_sup Total government support: seat share of all parties in government. Weighted by the numbers of days in office in a given year.
Period covered: 1960-2020.
Missing: None.
Source: See variable 'gov_right1'.

Appendix A Notes concerning the variables gov_right, gov_cent, gov_left

All entries were calculated on the basis of Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Casal Bértoa (2016), Colberg et al. (1998), EJPR (various issues), Ismayr (ed.) (2003), "Keesing' Record of World Events" (various issues), ParlGov (various years), "Parline Database" (various years), Schmidt (1992), and J. Woldendorp et al. (1998). The classification of parties was done according to Schmidt (1996). If there was no classification by Schmidt (1996), we classified parties using the following assignments (see Appendix B):

- 'Left' denotes social democratic parties and political parties to the left of social democrats.
- 'Right' denotes liberal and conservative parties.
- 'Centre' denotes centre parties, in particular Christian Democratic or Catholic parties. According to Schmidt (1996, p. 160), centre parties favour a "moderate social amelioration in a location to the left of conservative or conservative-neoliberal parties."

Appendix B Assignment of governing political parties to left, centre, right

Australia

left Australian Labour Party (ALP)

center –

right Liberal Party (LIB)
Country National Party (CNT)

Austria

left Socialist Party (Sozialdemokratische Partei Österreichs, SPÖ)
The Greens (Die Grüne Alternative (GA))

center People's Party (Österreichische Volkspartei, ÖVP)

right Freedom Party (Freiheitliche Partei Österreichs, FPÖ)

Belgium

left Socialist Party Different (Socialistische Partij Anders, SP.a/SPIRIT) (until 2001: Flemish Socialist Party, in 2003 and 2007: electoral coalition with SPIRIT)
Francophone Socialist Party (Parti Socialiste, PS)
AGALEV (Greens, francophone)
ECOLO (Greens, flemish)

center Christian Democrat & Flemish (Christen-demokratisch & Vlaams, CD & V) (until 2001: Christian People's Party (CVP))
Democrat Humanist Centre (Centre Démocrate Humaniste, CDH) (until 2002: Christian Social Party (PSC))
Francophone Democratic Front (FDF)
New Flemish Alliance (Nieuw-Vlaamse Alliantie, N-VA) (former: Flemish/People's Union (VU))
Democratic Union (DU)
Wallon Rally (RW)

right Liberal Party (LP)
Open Flemish Liberals & Democrats (Vlaamse Liberalen en Democraten, Open VLD) (former: Party of Liberty and Progress (PVV))
Reformist Movement (Mouvement Réformateur, MR) (former: Francophone Liberal Reform Party (PRL))
Movement of Citizens for Change (Mouvement des citoyens pour le changement, MCC)

Bulgaria

left Bulgarian Socialist Party (Bulgarska Socialističeska Partija, BSP)
Coalition for Bulgaria (Koalitsiya za Bulgaria, KB)
Alternative for Bulgarian Revival/Renaissance (Alternativa za balgarsko vazrazhdane, ABV)

center Democratic Party (Demokrateska partia, DP)

right Coalition Movement for Rights and Freedoms (Dviženie za Pravata i Svobodie) [formed of Movement for Rights and Freedoms (Dviženie za Pravata i Svobodie); Liberal Union (Liberalen Sajuz) and Euroroma (Evrroma)]
National Movement Simeon II (Nacionalno Dvisenie Simeon Tvorii, NDSV)
Union of Democratic Forces (Sil Demokrateski Sajuz, SDS)
Citizens for European Development of Bulgaria (Grazhdani za Evropeisko Razvitie na Bulgaria, GERB)
Reformist Bloc (Reformatorski blok, RB)
United Patriots (OP) [coalition of International Bulgarian National Movement (VMRO); National Front for the Salvation of Bulgaria (NFSB) – Party Ataka (ATAKA)]

Canada

left –

center Liberal Party (LIB)

right Progressive Conservative Party (PC)

Croatia

left Social Democratic Party of Croatia (Socijaldemokratska Partija Hrvatska, SDP)

center Croatian Democratic Union (Hrvatska Demokratska Zajednica, HDZ)
Croatian Peasant Party (Hrvatska Seljačka Stranka, HSS)

right Croatian Social Liberal Party (Hrvatska Socijalno Liberalna Stranka, HSLS)
Croatian People's Party (Hrvatska Narodna, HNS)
Party of Liberal Democrats (LIBRA)
Democratic Center (Demokratski Centar, DC)
Istrian Democratic Assembly (Istarski Demokratski Sabor, IDS)
Liberal Party (Liberalna Stranka, LS)
Independent Democratic Serb Party (Samostalna demokratska srpska stranka, SDSS)

Cyprus

left Social Democrats Movement (Kinima Socialdemokraten, KISOS), former EDEK (United Democratic Union of Cyprus, The Socialist Party)
Progressive Party of the Working People, The Communist Party, (Anorthotiko Komma tou Ergazomenou Laou, AKEL)

center –

right The Democratic Rally (Demokratikos Synagermos, DISY)
The Democratic Party (Demokratiko Komma, DIKO)
Free/United Democrats (Enomenoi Democrates, EDI)
Liberal Party
European Party (Evropaiko Komma, EVROKO)
Bridge of Independent List (Most nezavisnih lista, MOST)

Czech Republic

left Czechoslovak Party of Social Democracy (Ceská strana sociálně demokratická CSSD)
Green Party (SZ)

center Christian Democratic Union - Czechoslovak People's Party (Kresťianskaá a Demokratická Unie – Československá Strana Lidová, KDU-CSL)

right Civic Democratic Party (Obcanska Demokraticka Strana, ODS)
Union of Freedom/Democratic Union (Unie Svobody/Demokraticka Unie, US/DEU)
Democratic Union (Krestanka a Demokraticka Unie/Ceskoslovenska Strana Lidova. KDU/CSL – Unie Svobody/Demokraticka Unie, US/DEU) [christian democrats and liberals]
Civic Democratic Alliance (Obcanská demokratická aliance, ODA)
TOP 09 (TOP 09)
Public Affairs (Věci veřejné, VV)
LIDEM-Liberal Democrats (LIDEM – liberální demokraté)
Action of Dissatisfied Citizens (Akce nespokojených občanů 2011, ANO)

Denmark

left Social Democrats (Socialdemokratiet, SD)
Left Socialist Party (LSP)
Socialist People's Party (Socialistisk Folkeparti, SF)

center Centre Democrats (Centrum Demokraterne, CD)
Christian People's Party (Kristendemokraterne, KRF)

right Liberals (Venstre, LIB)
Conservative People's Party (Det Konservative Folkeparti, KF)
Justice Party
Radical Party (Social Liberal Party) (Det Radikale Venstre, RV)
Liberal Alliance (Ny-Liberal Alliance LA)

Estonia

left Social Democratic Party (SDE) [Formerly: Moderates (Mõõdukad) [merger of People's Party (Estonian Social Democratic Party + Rural Centre Party) with Moderates; from 1999 known as the People's Party Moderates (Rahvaerakond Mõõdukad)]
KMU - Estonian Coalition Party (Eesti Koonderakond, EK) and Rural Union (Eesti Maaliit, EM)- [formed from Estonian Coalition Party (KE or KMU-K), Estonian Rural Union (EM or KMU-M), Estonian Country People's Party (EME), Estonian Pensioners' and Families' League (EPPL) and Farmers' Assembly (PK)]

center Estonian Centre Party (Eesti Keskerakond, KE)

right Homeland (Isamaa) until 1999; in 1999 merged with Pro Patria and formed Homeland - Pro Patria Union (Isamaaliit)
Res Publica (Ühendus Vabariigi Eest - Res Publica, ResP)
Estonian People's Union (Rahvaliid, RL)
Estonian Reform Party (Eesti Reformierakond, RE)
Estonian National Independence Party (Eesti Rahvusliku Sõltumatuse Partei, ERSP)
Pro Patria and Res Publica Union (Isamaa ja Res Publica Liit, IRL) [merger of Res Publica and Pro Patria Union]
Conservative People's Party of Estonia (Eesti Konservatiivne Rahvaerakond, EKRE) [until 2012: Estonian People's Union (Rahvaliid, RL), until 2002: Estonian Country People's Party (Eesti Maarahva Erakond, EME)]

Finland

left Social Democrats (Suomen Sosialidemokraattinen Puolue, SDP)
Finnish People's Democratic Union (SKDL)
Social Democratic League (TPSL)
Left-Wing Alliance (Vasemmistoliitto, VAS)
Green League (Vihreä Liitto, VIHR)

center Centre Party (Keskusta, KESK)
Liberal People's Party (LKP)
Christian Democrats (Kristillisdemokraatit, KD) (former Christian League, SKL)
Finnish Rural Party (Suomen Maaseudun Puolue, SMP) (SMP) (now True Finns, PS)

right National Coalition (Kansallinen Kokoomus, KOK)
Swedish People's Party (Svenska Folkepartiet i Finland, SFP/RKP)
True Finns (Perussuomalaiset, PS) (former Finnish Rural Party, SMP)
Blue Reform (Sininen tulevaisuus, SIN) (splinter of the True Finns, PS)

France

left Socialist Party (Parti Socialiste, PS)
Communist Party (Parti Communiste Français, PCF)
Greens (Les Verts)
Movement for Citizens (Mouvement des Citoyens, MDC)
Generation Ecology (Génération Écologie, GE)
Left Radicals (Parti Radical de Gauche, PRG (since 1998)) (former: Mouvement des radicaux de gauche, MRG (until 1996) and Parti Radical Socialiste, PRS (until 1998))
In Common (En Commun, EC)
Territories of Progress (Territoires de Progrès, TDP)

center Centre of Social Democrats (CDS), Democratic Force (Force Démocrate, FD)
Popular Republican Movement (MRP)
Centre of Progress and Modern Democracy (PDM)
Democratic Movement (Mouvement démocrate, MoDem) (until 2007: Union for French Democracy (Union pour la Démocratie Française, UDF))
Reformers' Movement (REF, Reformers' Movement)
Republican Party (Parti Républicain, PR)
New Centre (Nouveau centre, NC)

right The Republicans (Les Républicains, LR) (former: Union for a Presidential Majority UMP) Gaullists, Rally for the Republic (Rassemblement pour la République, RPR) (former Union pour la Nouvelle République (UNR) and Union des Démocrates pour la République (UDR), in 2002: Union for a Presidential Majority (UMP))); in 2007: Union for a Popular Movement (UMP))
Centre National des Indépendants (IND)
Centre Democracy and Progress (CDP)
Radical Party (Parti Radical, RAD)
Forward (La République En Marche!, LRM)
Act (Agir)

Germany

left Social Democrats (Sozialdemokratische Partei Deutschlands, SPD)
Greens/Alliance 90 (Bündnis 90/Die Grünen)

center Christian Democratic Union (Christlich-demokratische Union, CDU)
Christian Social Union (Christlich-soziale Union, CSU)

right German Party (Deutsche Partei, DP)
Free Democrats (Freie demokratische Partei, FDP)

Greece

left Pan-Hellenic Social Movement (Panellinio Sosialistiko Kinima, PASOK)
Communist Party (Kommunistiko Komma Elladas, KKE)
Democratic Left (Dimokratiki Aristera, DIMAR)
Coalition of the Radical Left (SYRIZA; former Coalition of Left and Progress)

center –

right New Democracy (Nea Dhimokratia, ND)
Political Spring (POLAN)
National Radical Union (ERE)
Progressives (KP)
Centre Union, Union of the Democratic Centre (EDIK)
Independent Hellenes (ANEL)

Hungary

left Hungarian Socialist Party (Magyar Szocialista Párt, MSzP)
Independent Smallholders Party (Független Kisgazdapárt, FKGP)

center Christian Democratic People's Party (Keresztény Demokrata Néppárt, KDNP)

right Hungarian Democratic Forum (Magyar Demokrata Fórum, MDF)
Hungarian Civic Union (Magyar Polgári Szövetség, Fidesz)
Alliance of Free Democrats (Szabad Demokraták Szövetsége, SzDSz)

Iceland

left Social Democratic Party (SDP) (Althýduflokkur)
People's Alliance (PA, USP) (Althýdubandalag)
Social Democratic Alliance (SDA) (Samfylkingin)
Left-Greens (LG) (Vinstri græn)

center Progressive Party (PP) (Framsóknarflokkur)
Union of Liberals and Leftists (ULL)
Regional Equality Platform (REP)

right Independence Party II (IP) (Sjálfstaedisflokkur)
Citizens' Party (CP) (Borgaraflokkur)
Reform (Viðreisn, V)
Bright Future (Björt framtíð, BF)

Ireland

left Labour Party (LAB)
Democratic Left (DL)
Green Party (GP)

center Republican Party (Clann na Poblachta, CNP)
Fine Gael (FG)

right Party of the Land (Clann na Talmhan, CNT)
Progressive Democrats (PD)
Fianna Fail (Republican Party, FF)

Italy

left Socialist Party of Proletarian Unity (PSIU)
Communist Party (Partito dei Comunisti Italiani, PDCI)
Socialist Party (Partito Socialista Italiano, PSI)
United Socialist Party (PSU)
Social Democratic Party (Socialisti Democratici Italiani, PSDI)
Greens (Verdi)
Party of the Democratic Left (Democratici di Sinistra, PDS), (in 2006, the DS ran together with Daisy (Margherita) in the Olive Tree Coalition (Ulivo))
The Democrats (I Democratici, DEM)
Di Pietro List (Lista di Pietro/Italia dei Valori, IdV)
Socialists and Radicals (former Rose in the Fist, Rosa nel Pugno, RnP)
Democratic Party (Partito Democratico, PD)

center Christian Democratic Party (Democrazia Cristiana, DC)
Republican Party (Partito Repubblicano Italiano, PRI)
Italian Popular Party (Partito Popolare Italiano, PPI)
Union of the Centre (Unione Democratici di Centro, UDC)
Dini List – Italian Renewal (Rinnovamento Italiano, RI)
Democratic Union (Unione Democratica, UD)
Union of Republican Democrats (Unione dei Democratici per la Repubblica, UDR), known as Union of Democrats for Europe (Unione dei Democratici per l'Europa, UDEUR) since 1999
Christian Democratic Centre, United Christian Democrats (Centro Cristiano Democratico, CCD, Cristiani Democratici Uniti, CDU)
Christian Democracy for the Autonomies (Democrazia Cristiana per le Autonomie, DCpA)
New Centre-Right (Nuovo Centrodestra, NCD)
Popular Area (Area Popolare, AP-NCD) [until 2016 comprised of New Centre-Right and Union of the Centre (NCD-UDC), in 2016 most of the UDC members left the group]
Five Star Movement (Movimento 5 Stelle, M5S)

right The People of Freedom (Il Popolo della Libertà, PdL)
Liberal Party (Partito Liberale Italiano, PLI)
Forza Italia (FI)
Lombard League, Northern League (Lega Lombarda, Lega Norte, LN)
National Alliance (Alleanza Nazionale, AN)
Civic Choice-Monti for Italy (Scelta civica-Monti per l'Italia, SC)
Italian Radicals (Radicali Italiani, IR)

Japan

<i>left</i>	Social Democratic Party (SDP) (Shakai Minshuto) Japan Communist Party (JCP) (Nihon Kyosanto) Democratic Socialist Party (Minshu Shakaito) United Democratic Socialists (UDS)
<i>center</i>	Clean Government Party (CGP) (Komeito) Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ) (Minshutō)
<i>right</i>	Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) (Jiyu Minshuto) New Liberal Club (NLC) Japan Renewal Party (JRP) Japan New Party (JNP) (Nihon Shinto) New Conservative Party (NCP) (Hoshu Shinto) Liberal Party (LP) People's New Party (PNP) (New) Sakigake Party (NPS)

Note: According to its party manifesto, the Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ) is a center-left party. Since it is more to the center than to the left, we classified it as 'center' with regard to the party composition of government. However, for the 'elections' variables, we assigned this left-liberal party to the socialist party family ('social') which includes both traditional social democratic parties as well as blends of social-democratic and liberal parties.

Latvia

<i>left</i>	Democratic Centre Party (since 1995, Democratic Party "Master" (DPS Saimnieks) Latvian Social-Democratic Alliance (Latvijas Sociāldemokrātu Apvienība, LSDA) New Party (Jauna partija, JP) Latvia's Unity Party (Latvijas Vienības Partija, LVP) Latvian Farmers' Union (Latvijas Zemnieku Savienība, LZS)
<i>center</i>	United List of Latvia's Farmers' Union and Latvian Christian Democratic Union and Latgale Democratic Party Latvia's First Party (Latvijas Pirma Partija, LPP) First Party of Latvia and Union "Latvia's Way" (Latvijas Pirma Partija un Savienība Latvijas Ceļš) Union of Greens and Farmers (Zaīo un Zemnieku savienība, ZZS) [formed of Latvian Green Party (Latvijas Zaiā Partija) and Latvian Farmers' Union (Latvijas Zemnieku savienība)] Development/For! (Attīstībai/Par!, A/P)
<i>right</i>	Latvia's Way (Latvijas Ceļš, LC) New Era (Jaunais laiks, JL) For Homeland (Fatherland) and Freedom TB Peoples' Party (Tautas Partija, TP) Alliance for Homeland and Freedom / Latvian National Independence Movement (TB/LNNK) Civic Union (Pilsoniskā savienība, PS) Unity (Vienotība, V) Zatlers Reform Party (Zatlera reform partija, ZRP) National Alliance (Nacionālā apvienība, NA) KPV LV Party (Kam pieder valsts?, KPV) New Conservative Party (Jaunā konservatīvā partija, JKP)

Lithuania

- left* Lithuanian Democratic Labour Party (Lietuvos Demokratine Darbo Partija, LDDP)
Lithuanian Farmers and Greens Union (Lietuvos valstiečių sąjunga LVŽS) [former Lithuanian Peasants People Union (Lietuvos valstiečių liaudininkų sąjunga, LPPU), Union of Farmers and New Democratic Party (Valstiečių ir naujosios Demokratijos partijų sąjunga, VNDPS)]
Lithuanian Social-Democratic Party (Lietuvos Socialdemokratu Partija, LSDP)
Social-Democratic Coalition of Algirdas Brazauskas [comprised of Lithuanian Democratic Labour Party; Lithuanian Social Democratic Party; Union of Lithuanian Russians; Party of New Democracy]
For a Working Lithuania (LSDP and NU)
Labour Party (DP)
Civic Democratic Party (CDP)
Social Democratic Labour Party of Lithuania (LSDDP)
- center* Lithuanian Christian Democratic Party (Lietuvos Krikščionių Demokratų Partija LKDP)
New Union - Social Liberals (Naujoji Sąjunga – Socialliberalai, NS-SL)
Electoral Action of Poles in Lithuania (Lietuvos Lenkų Rinkimų Akcija, LLRA)
- right* Homeland Union - Lithuanian Conservatives (Tevynės Sąjunga – Lietuvos Konservatoriai, TS-LK) [in 2008: electoral alliance with the Lithuanian Christian Democrats]
Lithuanian Centre Union (Lietuvos Centro Sąjunga, LCS)
Lithuanian Liberal Union (Lietuvos Liberalų Sąjunga, LLS)
Liberal and Centre Union (merger of LCS and LLS)
Liberal Movement of Lithuanian Republic (Lietuvos Respublikos Liberalų sąjūdis, LMLR)
Nation's Resurrection Party (Tautos prisikėlimo partija, NRP)
Order and Justice Party (Partija Tvarka ir teisingumas, TT)
Freedom Party (Laisvės partija, LP)

Luxembourg

- left* Socialist Workers' Party (Parti Ouvrier socialiste luxembourgeois/Letzemburger Sozialistisch Arbeiterpartei, POSL/LSAP)
The Greens (Déi Gréng, GLEI-GAP)
- center* Christian Social Party (Parti Crétien Social/Chrestlech Sozial Vollekspartei, PCS/CSV)
- right* Democratic Party (Parti Démocratique/Demokratesch Partei, PD/DP)

Malta

- left* Malta Labour Party MLP (Partit Laburista)
- center* Nationalist Party (Partit Nazzjonalista, PN)
- right* –

Netherlands

- left* Labour Party (Partij van der Arbeid, PvdA)
Political Party of the Radicals (PPR)
- center* Catholic People's Party (KVP)
Christian Democratic Appeal (Christen Democratisch Appel, CDA)
Democratic Socialists' 70 (DS'70)
Democrats' 66 (Democraten '66, D'66)
Christian Union (Christen Unie, CU)

right Liberal Party/People's Party for Freedom and Democracy (Volkspartij voor Vrijheid en Democratie, VVD)
Christian Historical Union (CHU)
Anti Revolutionary Party (ARP)
List Pim Fortuyn (LPF)

New Zealand

left Labour Party (LAB)
Alliance (A)
Progressive Coalition (PC)

center –

right National Party (NP)
New Zealand First (NZF)
United Party (U)

Norway

left Labour Party (Det Norske Arbeiderparti DNA, AP)
Socialist Left Party (Sosialistisk Venstreparti, SV)

center Centre Party (Senterpartiet, SP), former Farmers' Party
Christian People's Party (Kristelig Folkeparti, KRF)

right Conservatives (Hoyre, H)
Liberals (Venstre, V)
Progress Party (Fremskrittspartiet, FRP)

Poland

left Alliance of the Democratic Left (Sojusz Lewicy Demokratycznej, SLD) [formed of Social Democracy of the Republic of Poland; All-Polish Accord of Trade Unions; Polish Socialist Party]
Labour Union (Unia Pracy, UP)
Polish Peasant Party (Polskie Stronnictwo Ludowe, PSL)
Self Defence of Polish Republic (Samoobrona Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej, SRP)
Polish Social Democracy (Socjaldemokracja Polska, SdPL)

center Peasant Christian Alliance (SLCh)
Peasant Alliance PL [comprised of Solidarity Polish Peasant Party and Rural Solidarity Peasant Union]
Party of Christian Democrats (Partia Chrzescijanskich Demokratów-PChD) Catholic Election Action (Wyborcza Akcja Katolicka, WAK) [comprised of Christian National Union (ZChN); Conservative Party and other small groupings]

right Democratic Union (Unia Demokratyczna, UD)
Solidarity Election Action (Akcja Wyborcza Solidarność, AWS)
Liberal Democratic Congress (Kongres LiberalnoDemokratyczny, KLD)
Freedom Union (Unia Wolności, UW) [merger of Democratic Union and Liberal Democratic Congress]
League of Polish Families
Law and Justice (Prawo i Sprawiedliwosc, PiS)
Civic Platform (Platforma Obywatelska, PO)

Portugal

<i>left</i>	Socialist Party (Partido Socialista Português, PSP) Communist Party (PCP)
<i>center</i>	–
<i>right</i>	Social Democrats, Popular Democrats (Partido Social Democrata, PSD, Partido Popular Democrático, PPD) Centre Social Democrats, Popular Party (Partido do Centro Democrático Social, Partido Popular, CDS/PP) Popular Monarchist Party (PPM)

Romania

<i>left</i>	National Salvation Front = Democratic National Salvation Front = Party of Social Democracy from Romania (Partidul Democratiei Sociale din Romania PDSR) = Social Democratic Party (Partidul Social Democrat PSD) Ecological Movement from Romania (Mișcarea Ecologistă din România) National Salvation Front - Democratic Party = Democratic Party (Partidul Democrat PD) Democratic Agrarian Party from Romania (Partidul Democrat Agrar din România) National Union for Romania's Progress (Uniunea Nationala pentru Progresul Romaniei, UNPR)
<i>center</i>	Democratic Union of Magyars in Romania (Uniunea Democratică a Maghiarilor din România UDMR) Conservative Party of Romania (Partidul Conservator, PC) [former: Alliance Social Democratic Party – Humanist Party of Romania]
<i>right</i>	National Liberal Party (Partidul Național Liberal PNL) Party of National Unity of Romanians (Partidul Unității Naționale Române PUNR) Democratic Convention from Romania (Convenția Democrată din România) Alliance Truth and Justice (National Liberal Party PNL and Democrat Party DP) Democrat-Liberal Party (Partidul Democrat-Liberal) (through the incorporation of a PNL dissident group into the Democrat Party) Liberal Reformist Party (Partidul Liberal Reformato PLR) Alliance of Liberals and Democrats Party (Alianța Liberalilor și Democraților, ALDE) Save Romania Union (Uniunea Salvați România, USR) [in 2020: in an alliance with Freedom, Unity, and Solidarity (Partidul Libertate, Unitate si Solidaritate, PLUS)]

Slovakia

<i>left</i>	Party of the Democratic Left (Strana Democratickej Ľavice, SDL') Association of Slovak Workers (Združenie Robotníkov Slovenska, ZRS) Direction – Social Democracy (Smer-SD, S)
<i>center</i>	Christian Democratic Movement (Křestanskodemokraticke Hnutie, KDH) Slovak Democratic and Christian Union (SDKU) [in 2006 merged with Democratic Party to SDKU-DS] Party of the Hungarian Coalition (Magyar Koalitio Partja SMK) (1994: Hungarian Coalition) Network (Siet')

right The Slovak Democratic Coalition (Slovenská Demokratická Koalícia, SDK)
Public Against Violence Union (Verejnost' proti násiliu, VPN)
Democratic Party (Demokratická Strana, DS)
Democratic Union of Slovakia (Demokratická Únia Slovenska, DUS) Party of Civic Understanding (Strana Občianskeho Porozumenia, SOP) Alliance of New Citizens (Aliancia nového občana, ANO)
Slovak National Party (Slovenská národná strana, SNS)
Movement for a Democratic Slovakia (Hnutie za demokratické Slovensko, HZDS)
Freedom and Solidarity (Sloboda a solidarita, SaS)
The Bridge (Most-Híd)
Ordinary People and Independent Personalities (Obyčajní ľudia a nezávislé osobnosti, OLaNO)
We are Family - Boris Kollar (Sme Rodina – Boris Kollár, SR)
For People (Za ľuďi)

Slovenia

left Social Democrats (Socialni demokrati, SD) (until 2008: United List of Social Democrats (Združena Lista Socialnih Demokratov, ZLSD))
Greens of Slovenia (Zeleni Slovenije, ZS)
Slovenian People's Party (Slovenska Ljudska Stranka, SLS)
Coalition of the Slovenian People's Party and the Slovenian Christian Democrats (SLS/SKD)
Democratic Party of Pensioners (DeSUS)
Social Democrats (Socialni demokrati, SD)
Positive Slovenia (Pozitivna Slovenija, PS)

center Slovenian Christian Democratic Party (Slovenski Krščanski Demokrati, SKD)
New Slovenia and People's Christian Party (NSi)
List of Marjan Šarec (Lista Marjana Šarca, LMS)

right Liberal Democracy of Slovenia (Liberalna Demokracija Slovenije, LDS)
Party for Real/New Politics (Zares/nova politika, ZARES)
Civic List (Državljska lista, DL) (until 2012: Citizens' Alliance of Gregor Virant (Državljska lista Gregorja Viranta, DLGV))
Alliance of Alenka Bratušek (Zavezništvo Alenke Bratušek, ZaAB)
Party of modern Centre (Stranka modernega centra, SMC) (former Party of Miro Cerar (Stranka Mira Cerarja, MC))
Social Democratic Party of Slovenia (Socialdemokratska Stranka Slovenije, SDS)

Spain

left Socialist Party (Partido Socialista Obrero Español, PSOE)

center Popular Alliance, Popular Party (Alianza Popular/Partido Popular, AP/PP)
Union of the Democratic Centre (UCD)

right –

Sweden

left Social Democrats (Socialdemokraterna, S)
Green Party (Miljöpartiet de gröna, MP)

center Agrarian Party, Center Party (Centerpartiet, C)
Christian Democratic Union (Kristen Demokratisk Samling, KDS)

right Conservatives, Moderate Unity Party (Moderate Samlingspartiet, M)
People's Party (The Liberals) (Folkpartiet, FP)

Switzerland

<i>left</i>	Social Democrats (Sozialdemokratische Partei der Schweiz Parti Socialiste Suisse/, SPS/PSS)
<i>center</i>	Christian Democrats (Christlichdemokratische Volkspartei/Parti Démocrate-Chrétien Suisse/, CVP/PDC)
<i>right</i>	Radical Democrats (Freisinnig-Demokratische Partei/Parti Radical-Démocratique, FDP/PRD) Swiss People's Party (Schweizerische Volkspartei/ Union Démocratique du Centre, SVP/UDC) Conservative Democratic Party (Bürgerlich-Demokratische Partei/Parti bourgeois démocratique Suisse, BDP/PBD)

United Kingdom

<i>left</i>	Labour Party (LAB)
<i>center</i>	–
<i>right</i>	Conservative Party (CON) Liberal Democrats (LIB)

USA

<i>left</i>	–
<i>center</i>	Democratic Party
<i>right</i>	Republican Party

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