

QPR: Quantified Political Relationships

Version 1.0

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The Quantified Political Relationships (QPR) data provides a new comparative measure of cooperation and conflict in public relationships among politicians, non-partisan political actors, and societal actors. It uses more than 250,000 machine-coded domestic events from 13 Western European countries from 2001 to 2014 and scales them using latent factor network models. This provides information on the degree of cooperation and conflict between thousands of actors.

I provide two versions of the data. In the first version, events of all actors that are members of a political party are aggregated together before estimating the cooperation scores, so parties are treated as unitary actors. The aggregation is only done for parties that obtained at least 5 percent of the vote in a national election at least once during the period of observation (see below for a list of parties). In the second version of the data, no aggregation took place.

I did my best to make sure the data is free of errors, but there probably are still some in there. If you find one, please [email](#) me.

Citation

If you use the data, please cite:

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Description

For a description of the event data and the steps taken to obtain the cooperation scores, please read my [APSR paper](#) and the accompanying [Online Appendix](#).

The data is organized in a dyadic way by country-year. An actor is included in the data if they have at least one reported domestic event in the ICEWS event collection in a given year. If they do, cooperation scores of that actor are computed for that year with *all* other actors from the same country. The data does not contain cooperation scores between actors from different countries.

The cooperation scores are estimated separately by country-year. To ensure comparability, it is advisable to follow one of the following approaches:

- Include the mean cooperation score for the country-year (`coopscore.globalmean`) as a covariate.
- As a more stringent option, include a set of country dummies (`country`).
- As the most stringent option that addresses any potential comparability issues, include a set of country-year dummies (`country` and `year`). This means that only variation from within each latent space is used. Of course, this option precludes the analysis of differences between countries.

Since the cooperation scores are themselves estimates, it is important to account for their estimation uncertainty in any analyses. I do not post all 1000 draws of the posterior distribution, since the resulting dataset is very large. Instead, I provide the posterior means and standard deviations of the cooperation scores. It is straightforward to simulate 1000 draws from the posterior. If want to use the dataset with all posterior draws, email me and I'm happy to provide you with a link.

Data Set 1 (fulldata_agg): Aggregated to Party Level

In this version of the data, I aggregate the events of all actors that are members of a political party together before estimating the cooperation scores. This is the version of the data that I use in my [APSR paper](#) as well as my [BJPS paper](#).

Variables

- **country**: Country of the two actors.
- **year**: Year for which the cooperation score is estimated
- **id.dyad**: Dyad ID. Composite of three variables in the form: `country_id.1_id.2`.
- **type.dyad**: Describes the types of actors in the dyad. Combines information from the variables `type.1` and `type.2` (see details below). For example, if both dyadic actors are partisan-political, the variable takes the form 1-1. If one actor is partisan-political and the other is non-partisan-political, the code is 1-2. Note that the lower number always comes first, so there is no code 2-1.
- **id.1**: ID for the first actor in the dyad. Follows the form `country_X`, where X is a number that uniquely identifies an actor within a country.
- **name.1**: Name of the first actor in the dyad.
- **type.1**: Type of the first actor in the dyad:
 - 1: Partisan-political actor. All events aggregated to the party-level. For a list of parties, see Section “Parties” below.
 - 2: Non-partisan political actor
 - 3: Societal actor
 - 4: Partisan-political actor, but of a party that does not reach the threshold for aggregation
 - 5: Other actors that do not fit any of the other categories. Mostly these are cities/regions or historical personalities.
- **cmpid.1**: Comparative Manifestos Project ID of the first actor in the dyad, if `type.1` is 1.
- **id.2**: ID of the second actor in the dyad.
- **name.2**: Name of the second actor in the dyad.
- **type.2**: Type of the second actor in the dyad.
- **cmpid.2**: Comparative Manifestos Project ID of the second actor in the dyad, if `type.2` is 1.

- `coopscore.mean`: Cooperation score between the two actors in the dyad for the year. Posterior mean.
- `coopscore.mean.sd`: Standard deviation of the posterior distribution of the cooperation score between the two actors in the dyad for the year. It is important to take the estimation uncertainty of the cooperation scores into account in any analyses.
- `coopscore.globalmean`: Mean cooperation score for all dyads in a given country-year. Posterior mean.
- `coopscore.globalmean.sd`: Standard deviation of the posterior distribution of the mean cooperation score for all dyads in a given country-year. It is important to take the estimation uncertainty of the mean of the cooperation scores into account in any analyses.

Parties

Below is a list of the parties for which the events of were aggregated. Condition for inclusion: the party has to have achieved at least 5 percent of the votes in at least one national election during the period of observation.

- **Austria**: SPO, FPO, OVP, Greens, BZO
- **Belgium**: CD&V, CDH, Ecolo, Groen, MR, N-VA, PS, SP.A, SPIRIT, VB, VLD
- **Denmark**: Venstre, Social Democrats, DKF, DPP, SF, Liberal Alliance, Radikale Venstre
- **Finland**: Centre, Green League, Left Alliance, NCP, PS, SDP, SFP
- **France**: EELV, FN, MoDem, PCF, PS, RPR, UMP
- **Germany**: CDU/CSU, FDP, Grune, PDS/Linke, SPD
- **Greece**: PASOK, ND, KKE, Syriza, XA, ANEL
- **Ireland**: Fianna Fail, Fine Gael, Labour, Sinn Fein
- **Italy**: LN, FI, AN, DL, DS, PRC, UdC, PD, PdL, M5S, SC
- **Netherlands**: CDA, D66, GL, LPF, PvdA, PVV, VVD
- **Portugal**: CDS-PP, CDU, PS, PSD
- **Spain**: PP, PSOE
- **United Kingdom**: Labour, Conservative, LibDem

Data Set 2 (fulldata_nonagg): Not Aggregated to Party Level

In this version of the data, no aggregation by party takes place.

Variables

- **country**: Country of the two actors.
- **year**: Year for which the cooperation score is estimated
- **id.dyad**: Dyad ID. Composite of three variables in the form: `country_id.1_id.2`.
- **type.dyad**: Describes the types of actors in the dyad. Combines information from the variables `type.1` and `type.2` (see details below). For example, if both dyadic actors are partisan-political, the variable takes the form 1-1. If one actor is partisan-political and the other is non-partisan-political, the code is 1-2. Note that the lower number always comes first, so there is no code 2-1.
- **id.1**: ID for the first actor in the dyad. Follows the form `country_X`, where `X` is a number that uniquely identifies an actor within a country. Note that the IDs in this dataset are *not* identical to the IDs in the one with aggregated partisan-political actors.
- **name.1**: Name of the first actor in the dyad.
- **type.1**: Type of the first actor in the dyad:
 - 1: Partisan-political actor. All events aggregated to the party-level. For a list of parties, see Section “Parties” below.
 - 2: Non-partisan political actor
 - 3: Societal actor
 - 4: Partisan-political actor, but of a party that does not reach the threshold for aggregation
 - 5: Other actors that do not fit any of the other categories. Mostly these are cities/regions or historical personalities.
- **party.1**: Name of the political party of the first actor, if `type.1` is 1.
- **cmpid.1**: Comparative Manifestos Project ID of the first actor in the dyad, if `type.1` is 1.
- **id.2**: ID of the second actor in the dyad.
- **name.2**: Name of the second actor in the dyad.
- **type.2**: Type of the second actor in the dyad.

- `party.2`: Name of the political party of the second actor, if `type.2` is 1.
- `cmpid.2`: Comparative Manifestos Project ID of the second actor in the dyad, if `type.2` is 1.
- `coopscore.mean`: Cooperation score between the two actors in the dyad for the year. Posterior mean.
- `coopscore.mean.sd`: Standard deviation of the posterior distribution of the cooperation score between the two actors in the dyad for the year. It is important to take the estimation uncertainty of the cooperation scores into account in any analyses.
- `coopscore.globalmean`: Mean cooperation score for all dyads in a given country-year. Posterior mean.
- `coopscore.globalmean.sd`: Standard deviation of the posterior distribution of the mean cooperation score for all dyads in a given country-year. It is important to take the estimation uncertainty of the mean of the cooperation scores into account in any analyses.