

Technical Notes

Categorization

This database gathers relevant information for the study of fraud and corruption. The data were collected from four public surveys, namely the Eurobarometer, the European Social Survey, the International Social Survey and the World Values Survey. Both the Eurobarometer and the European Social Survey are confined, respectively, to the European Union and Europe, whereas the other two are geographically broader. The informative value of the variables selected is two-fold: i) all of these surveys directly address, to some extent, phenomena such as fraud and corruption: for instance, the perceived extent of corruption in the respondent's country's national government, tolerance to corruption and the transparency and supervision of the financing of political parties; ii) aside from such a direct approach, these surveys offer a broad range of variables which may be useful for the study of the same phenomena in what concerns, generally speaking, to the institutional framework which underlies each country where the surveys were conducted; more specifically, they also focus on aspects such as trust in political institutions, moral rightness of certain actions and the effectiveness of tax authorities in doing their job. Even though a two-fold categorization, following the distinction made, might be theoretically more meaningful for the use of this database, it was decided that, since each survey respects to a different population, it would be better to categorize the database by survey, as follows:

- A. Eurobarometer
 - A.1 Standard Eurobarometer
 - A.2 Corruption
 - A.3 Fraud
- B. European Social Survey
 - B.1 Economic Morality
 - B.2 Justice
 - B.3 Politics
 - B.4 Welfare Attitudes
- C. International Social Survey
 - C.1 Citizenship
 - C.2 Role of Government
- D. World Values Survey,

where A., B., C. and D. stand for each of the four surveys analyzed; A.1, A.2, A.3, B.1, B.2, B.3, B.4, C.1, C.2 stand for a topic (each topic is named just as in the original databases). From each topic, several variables were selected. Synthetically, the database is organized as follows (see example):

Survey => Topic => Year (Excel file) => Variable (Excel page).

Example: searching for the observations of the variable ESS_Po§02 ('Trust in the legal system') for 2008:

Survey (paste 'B. European Social Survey') =>

=> **Topic** (paste 'B.3 Politics') =>

=> **Year** (Excel file 'ESS4_2008') =>

=> **Variable** (Excel page 'ESS_Po§02').

A. Eurobarometer	25-09-2016 16:11	Pasta de ficheiros
B. European Social Survey	25-09-2016 16:14	Pasta de ficheiros
C. International Social Survey	25-09-2016 15:02	Pasta de ficheiros
D. World Values Survey	25-09-2016 15:12	Pasta de ficheiros
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Survey

B.1 Economic Morality	24-09-2016 21:26	Pasta de ficheiros
B.2 Justice	24-09-2016 21:33	Pasta de ficheiros
B.3 Politics	25-09-2016 16:23	Pasta de ficheiros
B.4 Welfare Attitudes	25-09-2016 16:19	Pasta de ficheiros
European Social Survey_Variables List	24-09-2016 22:03	Documento do Mi... 24 KB

Topic

ESS1_2002	08-03-2016 15:30	Folha de Cálculo ...	3.122 KB
ESS2_2004	08-03-2016 15:29	Folha de Cálculo ...	3.993 KB
ESS3_2006	08-03-2016 15:27	Folha de Cálculo ...	3.609 KB
ESS4_2008	25-09-2016 16:23	Folha de Cálculo ...	4.756 KB
ESS5_2010	08-03-2016 15:21	Folha de Cálculo ...	4.396 KB
ESS6_2012	08-03-2016 15:20	Folha de Cálculo ...	4.580 KB
ESS7_2014	08-03-2016 15:18	Folha de Cálculo ...	2.345 KB
Politics_Variables Description	11-02-2016 11:28	Documento do Mi...	15 KB

Year

	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y
1																						
2		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
3	BE	98	75	125	195	169	331	237	268	189	44	22	0	7	0	1760		BE	Belgium		Values	Categories
4	BG	695	334	285	227	149	177	59	49	42	22	32	0	159	0	2230		BG	Bulgaria		0	No trust at all
5	CH	45	17	35	78	118	280	249	365	384	123	68	0	57	0	1819		CH	Switzerland		1	1
6	CY	30	28	38	67	83	192	111	198	224	146	58	0	40	0	1215		CY	Cyprus		2	2
7	CZ	140	164	254	291	267	354	172	144	122	60	23	0	26	1	2018		CZ	Czech Republic		3	3
8	DE	96		143	265	255	433	299	444	434	177	102	1	34	0	2751		DE	Germany		4	4
9	DK	4		39	52	53	158	124	240	433	314	160	0	21	0	1610		DK	Denmark		5	5
10	EE	100		131	198	165	296	150	210	168	66	33	0	68	2	1661		EE	Estonia		6	6
11	ES	201		260	293	337	516	265	236	176	53	24	10	53	0	2576		ES	Spain		7	7
12	FI	16		42	64	100	179	217	370	644	426	97	0	19	0	2195		FI	Finland		8	8
13	FR	128		145	217	197	419	299	307	215	56	28	1	8	0	2073		FR	France		9	9
14	GB	122		158	228	286	397	295	324	286	101	46	0	37	0	2352		GB	United Kingdom		10	Complete trust
15	GR	160		167	209	203	340	217	297	209	91	31	0	11	0	2072		GR	Greece		77	Refusal
16	HR	272		188	227	161	219	71	65	51	14	9	0	33	5	1484		HR	Croatia		88	Don't know
17	HU	213		168	227	172	260	96	112	85	29	23	12	41	0	1544		HU	Hungary		99	No answer
18	IE	88		124	186	223	316	237	238	206	39	31	0	13	0	1764		IE	Ireland			
19	IL	225		139	162	156	364	279	332	352	162	118	0	104	14	2490		IL	Israel			
20	LV	282		181	218	219	290	137	177	132	64	24	0	112	0	1980		LV	Latvia			
21	NL	35		58	114	146	272	299	408	312	79	10	1	14	0	1778		NL	Netherlands			
22	NO	20		30	63	92	187	154	314	397	191	79	1	15	0	1549		NO	Norway			
23	PL	147		179	252	203	329	125	115	63	19	8	0	78	1	1619		PL	Poland			
24	PT	306		249	331	257	422	214	158	114	42	15	7	114	0	2367		PT	Portugal			
25	RO	334		236	216	225	325	155	162	181	60	30	0	76	8	2146		RO	Romania			
26	RU	286		225	313	263	441	160	170	151	67	84	0	176	0	2512		RU	Russian Federation			
27	SE	27		59	103	157	287	278	353	346	131	39	0	25	0	1830		SE	Sweden			
28	SI	82		96	140	162	147	251	120	128	74	20	0	46	0	1286		SI	Slovenia			
29	SK																	SK	Slovakia			

Variable

Supplementary documents

For most variables, there are no observations for every year that a survey is conducted. The availability of observations for each variable is mapped in the documents '[survey]_Variables List' (e.g. 'D. World Values Survey_Variables List')

A short description of each variable is provided in the documents '[survey]_Variables Description' (e.g. 'B. European Social Survey_Variables Description'), briefly stressing its relevance for the study of fraud and corruption.

As an annex to this document is the list of all the variables selected and gathered for this database, according to the survey and the topic to which each belongs.

Annex: list of variables, according to the survey and the topic to which each belongs

Surveys (A., B., C., D.), topics (A.1, A.2, A.3, B.1, B.2, B.3, B.4, C.1, C.2) and variables	
A. EUROBAROMETER	
A.1 Standard Eurobarometer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Judgment of personal job situation - Judgment of financial situation of household - Judgment of employment situation in country - The EU makes doing business easier in Europe - The EU generates too much red tape - The EU is making the financial sector pay its fair share - Opinion on the introduction of a tax on financial transactions - Opinion on the regulation of wages in the financial sector (e.g. traders' bonuses) - Opinion on tougher rules on tax avoidance and tax havens
A.2 Corruption	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Think acceptable to give money if one wants to get something from the public administration or a public service - Think acceptable to give a gift if one wants to get something from the public administration or a public service - Think acceptable to do a favour if one wants to get something from the public administration or a public service - Tolerance index to corruption - How widespread the problem of corruption is in own country - Percepted evolution of level of corruption in own country in previous three years - Think that the giving and taking of bribes and the abuse of power for personal gain are widespread among [several institutions – see Excel file] - Experienced or witnessed any case of corruption in previous 12 months - Perception of corruptive practices in the local or regional public institutions in country - Perception of corruptive practices in the national public institutions in country - Perception of corruptive practices within the institutions of the EU - Opinion on the effectiveness of national government efforts to combat corruption - Opinion on the transparency and supervision of the financing of political parties in country - The only way to succeed in business in country is to have political connections - Impartiality in the application of measures against corruption in country
A.3 Fraud	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Perceived extent to which the state budget is being defrauded (customs fraud, VAT fraud, fraud with subsidies etc.) - Perceived extent of corruption or other wrongdoing in the national government and institutions - Perceived extent to which the EU budget is being defrauded (customs fraud, misappropriation of aids and grants etc.) - Perceived extent of corruption and other wrongdoing in the EU institutions - Perceived extent of corruption and other wrongdoing in international organizations (such the United Nations or World Bank)
B. EUROPEAN SOCIAL SURVEY	
B.1 Economic Morality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Citizens should not cheat on taxes - Trust financial companies/bank/insurers deal honestly with you - Trust public officials deal honestly with you - Bank/insurance company failed to offer best deal, how often last 5 years - You were sold things second-hand that proved faulty, how often last 5 years - Public official asked favour/bribe for service, how often last 5 years - Someone paying cash without receipt to avoid VAT or tax, how wrong - Someone making exaggerated/false insurance claim, how wrong - Public official asking favour/bribe in return for service, how wrong - If you want to make money, you can't always act honestly - You should always obey law even if it means missing good opportunities - Occasionally alright to ignore law and do what you want - Businesses only interested in profit, not improve service/quality - Nowadays large firms work together in order to keep prices high - Nowadays customer/consumer are in better position to protect interest - Get benefits/services not entitled to, how many friends could you ask - Paid cash with no receipt to avoid VAT or tax, last 5 years - Made an exaggeration or false insurance claim, last 5 years - Offered favour/bribe to public official for service, last 5 years - Falsely claim government benefit: social security or other, last 5 years

B.2 Justice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How likely be caught if made exaggerated or false insurance claim - Decisions and actions of police unduly influenced by political pressure - How often do police in country take bribes - Courts doing good or bad job in country - How often judges in country take bribes - Courts protect rich and powerful over ordinary people - The courts' decisions are unduly influenced by political pressure
B.3 Politics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Trust in country's parliament - Trust in the legal system - Trust in the police - Trust in politicians - Trust in political parties - Trust in the European Parliament - Trust in the United Nations - How satisfied with the way democracy works in country
B.4 Welfare Attitudes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tax authorities, how efficient in doing their job - Tax authorities give special advantages or deal with everyone equally
C. INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL SURVEY	
C.1 Citizenship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Good citizen: never try to evade taxes - Good citizen: always obey laws - Politicians only interested in personal profit - Public service: involvement in corruption - Democracy in country today
C.2 Role of Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Obey laws without exception - Politicians have not much impact - Trust in civil servants - Satisfied with democracy - Household income tax too high
D. WORLD VALUES SURVEY	
-no topics-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Country is run by a few big interests or for the benefit of all the people - Extent of political corruption in this country - How widespread is corruption within businesses in country - How widespread is corruption within government in country - Level of corruption in country than it was five years ago - Government of [country] is doing enough to fight corruption - Faced with (last year): People give a bribe/present to solve their problems which are supposed to be for free - Justifiable claiming government benefits to which you are not entitled - Justifiable cheating on taxes if you have a chance - Justifiable [someone] accepting a bribe in the course of their duties - Justifiable avoiding a fare on public transport - Justifiable buying something one knows was stolen - Satisfaction with the financial situation of household - Confidence in the police - Confidence in the justice system - Confidence in the national government - Confidence in the political parties - Confidence in the national parliament - Confidence in the civil services - Confidence in major companies - Confidence in banks - Confidence in the European Union - Confidence in the United Nations - Confidence in NATO - Child qualities: thrift saving money and things - Democracy is developing in our country - Democraticness in own country