

PCP ORG DATA CORRECTIONS

The following corrections should be made by the user before using the Party Change Project Data.

Corrections were made and justified by graduate research assistants in consultation with Robert Harmel.

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Corrections for German Parties

German FDP:

Var. 8.01: Structural Articulation

Original Codes: 1950-1990: 7
Corrected Codes: 1950-1970: 7
1971-1990: 10

The change is based on the information gathered from Katz and Mair. Katz and Mair present that in 1971 the function of general Secretary was created (p.357). Moreover, they provide the year when three additional members are added to the National Executive. 1968 should be added to the text. Finally, the year 1978 should be added to the last paragraph of the justification as the year when a member of the European parliamentary fraction is member of the Praesidium.

Var. 9.01: Nationalization of Structure

Original Codes: 1950-1956: 3
1957-1979: 5
Corrected Code: 1950-1959: 3
1960-1979: 5

Janda does not give any justification for the change in 1957. Instead, he states:

“Party composed of land associations. They may have created sub-divisions depending on local requirements. Three identifiable levels of FDP organization: Federal Party, Land Associations, Sub-divisions of Land Associations. While land associations enjoyed somewhat more decision making power in the FDP than in the other two parties, the federal party organization still had ultimate control over party organization. During the first half the land associations enjoyed more autonomy, but *in 1960-61*, the federal party (*under Mende*) strengthened its position.” (italics added)

Mende became the leader in January 1960 and therefore there was a change in 1960 instead of 1957.

Var. 9.03: Selecting Parliamentary Candidates

Original Codes: 1950-1953: 5
1954-1990: 6
Corrected Codes: 1950-1952: 5
1953-1990: 6

The correction is based on Janda's own justification: "By law, nominations for constituency seats were the responsibility of the constituency party associations. However, *since 1953*, the FDP won almost no seats in constituency elections and depended on list candidates, which are named in convention at the Laender level with some sort of national review. The code for the first three years, then, recognized some constituency association participation on candidate selection. That for the second half recognized the joint roles of the land and national organizations." (italics added)

Moreover, it seems more reasonable to attribute the change to 1953 rather than 1954 because there were elections in 1953.

German CDU:

Var. 8.03: Extensiveness of Organization

Original Codes: 1950-1962: 6
 1963-1966: 7
 1967: 8
 1968-1990: 6
Corrected Codes: 1950-1990: 6

Codes for this variable are from 0 to 6 where:

0: Either there are no identifiable party organs or the only organs that can be identified are national organs

6: The most intensive level of organization for the party can be found throughout the country; while the strength of these organizations may be variable, the coverage is thorough.

There are no codes of 7 or 8 provided in the coding scheme and there is no justification of a change between these years.

The second, third, fourth and sixth paragraphs should also be removed since they are dealing with foreign extensiveness.

Var. 8.05: Frequency of National Meetings

An explanation should be added to the coding scheme of the variable. The variable looks both to national committee and council meetings. If national committee and council are different bodies the average of the number of meetings each has should be taken for coding.

Var. 8.06: Maintaining Records

The code given to 'publishing program' variable cannot exceed 2. Therefore, the codes should be given as:

1950-1968: 10 (2,0,8)

1969-1986: 13 (2,3,8)

1987-1990: 16 (2,6,8)

Var. 9.04: Allocating Funds

No coding change. Change in the justification part:

On page 35 it says that in 1969 coding decreased by 1. However, there is an increase. It should be corrected as “Coding increased by 1 to reflect this change in collection of monies.”

German SPD:

Var. 8.04: Frequency of Local Meetings

Original Codes: 1950-1982: 5

1983-1990: 6

Corrected Codes: 1950-1990: 5

The justification provided by Janda refers to Braunthal (1983, p.29). Although it is clear from Braunthal (1983) that the party increased the frequency of local meetings (from the code of 5 to the code of 6) sometimes between 1950 and the publication of Braunthal's book, it has not been possible for us to narrow the time span during which the change occurred. Hence we have opted for leaving the code of 5 throughout the entire period.

Corrections for the British Parties

UK Labor

Var. 8.04: Frequency of Local Meetings

Original Coding: 1950-1956: 6
1957-1990: 5
Corrected Codes: 1950-1954: 6
1955-1990: 5

The justification is based on the date of elections and the information gathered from Pelling's book of 'A Short History of the Labour Party' (1968). There were elections in 1955 and Pelling states in his book: "the election was a quite one. (...) The electors were apathetic, meetings were generally small, partly, but only partly, owing to the use of television as a political medium; and the Labour Party machine in particular was shown to be very rusty" (p.114).

Var. 9.02: Selecting the National Leader:

Original Coding: 1950-1980: 4
1981-1987: 3
1988-1990: 1
Corrected Codes: 1950-1980:4
1981-1987:3
1988-1990:2

The correction is based on the justification provided by Janda: "The change in 1988 stems from the election of party leadership on a 'one-man, one-vote' principle by all individual members of the party. This extended to seven seats on the NEC one year later. The change may be attributed to Kinnock's attempt to reduce trade unionists (and the left's) influence within the party (Seyd in King et al, 1993: 88-9)."

UK Liberals

Var. 8.05: Frequency of National Meetings

Original Codes: 1950-1990: 7

Corrected Codes: 1950-1990: 4

The correction is based on the justification provided by Janda. "The Council meets four times per year. Other bodies overlap membership with the Council and therefore these other bodies are considered to be 'inner organizations.' The coding reflects the frequency of meeting by the Council. The National Executive Committee meets eight times a year. The Assembly meets annually. The Standing Committee meets monthly (Kavanagh, 1983: 124-5). Norton adds that the Liberal Parliamentary Party (LPP) meets weekly when the House is sitting (Norton, 1983: 144)."

From this justification it is clear that the code of 4 is more appropriate than the code of 7.

Democratic Party

US Democratic Party:

Var. 8.06: Maintaining Records

Original Coding: 1950-1987: 8 (1, 3, 4)
1988-1990: 12 (1, 3, 8)
Corrected Codes: 1950-1955: 4 (1, 3, 0)
1956-1986: 8 (1, 3, 4)
1987-1990: 12 (1, 3, 8)

The correction is based on the justification provided by Janda in terms of maintaining membership lists. There is no information on any list before 1956. "The Democrats did maintain mailing lists of financial contributors, especially through their sustaining membership plan begun in 1956."

The change in 1987 based on the justification provided by Sabato (1988): "In 1985, the DNC moved the mailing program in-house, resulting in a savings for the party of \$300,000 per year. The DNC's mailing list grew from 25,000 names in 1981 to over 500,000 donors in 1987."

Var. 8.07: Pervasiveness of Organization

An explanation should be added to the coding scheme of the variable that clears the coding rule for this variable. The variable looks to the control *over* activities. It is not both about judging control and judging activity.