THE EUROPEAN QUALITY OF GOVERNMENT INDEX 2010 & 2013

CODEBOOK

When using the 2010 EQI data, please cite as follows:

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For the 2013 data, please cite:

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Contents

1 Introduction

1.1 The Quality of Government Institute

The QoG Institute was founded in 2004 by Professor Bo Rothstein and Professor Sören Holmberg. It is an independent research institute within the Department of Political Science at the University of Gothenburg. The institute conducts research on the causes, consequences and nature of Good Governance and the Quality of Government (QoG) - that is, trustworthy, reliable, impartial, uncorrupted, and competent government institutions.

The main objective of the research is to address the theoretical and empirical problems of how political institutions of high quality can be created and maintained. A second objective is to study the effects of Quality of Government on a number of policy areas, such as health, environment, social policy, and poverty. While Quality of Government is the common intellectual focal point of the research institute, a variety of theoretical and methodological perspectives are applied.

1.2 The QoG Data

The Quality of Government Data is a collection of different types of datasets that are related to the concept of Quality of Government. These data are open-source tools created to facilitate the access of the academic community to high quality information.

There are three main types of datasets: the first one is the compilation datasets (Standard, Basic and OECD) which gather other sources variables into a comprehensive time-series spanning more than 200 countries and more than 70 year data points. There are also researchers' datasets (e.g. Swedish Municipalities Dataset), which are QoG researchers' efforts to contribute to their field with specialized data at different observation levels (country, region, individual etc.). Last but not least there are the original datasets such as the European Quality of Government Index.

The most updated versions of QoG datasets can be accessed from Data Downloads section on the QoG Website: https://qog.pol.gu.se/data/datadownloads. Previous versions of all our datasets are also available in the Data Archive: http://qog.pol.gu.se/data/datadownloads/data-archive

1.3 QoG European Quality of Government Index Survey Dataset

This codebook provides information on the EQI survey data, which is intended to provide scholars and policy makers with metrics about citizens' perceptions and experiences with governance in Europe. The survey has been thus far done in three rounds – 2010, 2013 and 2017. This codebook refers to the dataset of 2010 and 2013.

The survey provides unique data for researchers and policy makers in that it is mainly concerned with governance of public sector institutions at the sub-national level. Questions are posed to respondents about perceived and experience with corruption, impartiality of services and quality of public services in several public service sectors.

Data for the European QoG Index (EQI) was constructed from a report sponsored by the EU Commission for Regional Policy titled "Measuring Quality of Government and Sub-National Variation" (Charron, Nicholas; Victor Lapuente and Bo Rothstein eds.), 2010. The full EU policy report can be located at QoG website.

Further and more detailed information about the data can be found in the following published book: Rothstein, Bo, Nicholas Charron, and Victor Lapuente. *Quality of government and corruption from a European perspective: a comparative study on the quality of government in EU regions.* Edward Elgar Publishing, 2013.

1.3.1 Brief Background

In this document, we present the latest version of the European Quality of Government Index ('EQI'). The data builds on previously published data from 2010 (Charron, Lapuente and Rothstein 2013; Charron, Dijkstra and Lapuente 2014)[1].

Based on the largest regionally-focused survey to date, collected in the spring of 2013, the EQI 2013 is draws on over 84,000 respondents in 212 NUTS 1 and NUTS 2 regions in 24 countries2. Together with national estimates from the World Bank Governance Indicators (Kaufmann, Kraay and Mastruzzi 2009), we report data on Quality of Government ('QoG') for all EU 28 countries, Turkey and Serbia, for a total of 236 political units[2].

In addition, we provide slightly revised 2010 data that covers all 28 EU countries as well as 179 NUTS 1 and NUTS 2 regions within 18 of the 28 countries, thus the data is given 2 for 181 separate units. The data for regions was collected via a large survey of roughly 34,000 respondents in Europe in December of 2009. In both 2013 and 2010, the regional estimates are comprised of 16 separate indicators, each described below and included in the data set. The method and formula for constructing the index is also described here so that replication and further sensitivity tests can be done by outside scholars. All underlying indicators are included for purposes of replication and other research along with several other variables from the EU report cited above.

1.3.2 Sample and Method

The survey, part of a European-wide anti-corruption research project, was conducted in both rounds by Efficience 3 (E3), a French market-research, survey company specializing in public opinion throughout Europe for researchers, politicians and advertising firms. E3 conducted the interviews themselves in several countries and used sub-contracting partners in others[3]. The respondents, from 18 years of age or older, were contacted randomly via telephone in the local language. Telephone interviews were conducted via both landlines and mobile phones, with both methods being used in most countries. Decisions about whether to contact residents more often via land or mobile lines was based on local expertise of market research firms in each country. For purposes of regional placement, respondents

[1]Data was originally funded by the EU Commission (REGIO) and published in a report by Charron, Lapuente and Rothstein (2010). Report can be found here: https://nicholascharron.wordpress.com/books-and-book-chapters/regional-qog-in-the-european-union/

[2]NUTS stands for 'Nomenclature of territorial units for statistics' and more can be read about this at: http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/nuts_nomenclature/introduction. Kosovo is included, and because it is technically still a region in Serbia according to the EU, it is coded as such here as well.
The 2013 round of survey data and research was funded by the EU Commission via ANTICORRP, a large collaborative research group of scholars across Europe. For more information on ANTICORRP and its research, see: http://anticorrp.eu/

[3]http://www.efficience3.com/en/. For names of the specific firms to which Efficience 3 sub-contracted in individual countries, please write cati@efficience3.com

Table 1: Sample of Countries, Number of Regions,Years Covered

Abreviation	*Countries at NUTS 1 level*	No. of Regions	number of respondents		
			2010	2013	TOTAL
DE	Germany	16	3120	6400	9520
UK	United Kingdom	12	2340	4800	7140
SE	Sweden	3	585	1295	1880
BE	Belgium	3	585	1208	1793
HU	Hungary	3	585	1215	1800
GR	Greece	4	780	1613	2393
TR	Turkey*	12		4800	4800
	Countries at NUTS 2 level				
IT	Italy	21	4095	8510	12605
DK	Denmark	5	975	2028	3003
FI	Finland*	5		2000	2000
NL	Netherlands*†	4/12	780	4822	5602
AT	Austria	9	1755	3600	5355
CZ	Czech Republic	8	1560	3236	4796
SK	Slovakia	4	780	1609	2389
ES	Spain	17	3315	6800	10115
PT	Portugal	7	1365	2886	4251
FR	France	26	5070	10409	15479
PL	Poland	16	3120	6400	9520
RO	Romania	8	1560	3200	4760
BG	Bulgaria	6	1170	2402	3572
HR	Croatia*	2		800	800
IE	Ireland*	2		800	800
RS	Serbia*	5		2015	2015
UA	Ukraine*‡	6		2400	2400
Total	18/24 countries	212	33540	85248	118788

** It denotes a new country to the sample compared with EQI 2010.*

† *In the case of the Netherlands, the NUTS level is now level 2 as opposed to 1 in 2010, where four of NUTS1 regions were sampled.*

‡ **** is not included in final EQI 2013 dataset due to limited amount of regions represented, but full individual level data is available in this file for the six regions surveyed.*

were asked the post code of their address to verify the area/ region of residence if mobile phones were used.

The chosen sampling method for this data was simple random sampling and the sampling unit is individuals18 years or older. Rather than a fixed number of respondents per country, the NUTS 2 (or NUTS 1) region within countries is the primary political sampling unit and thus the two EQI surveys fix the number of respondents at this level, which is why countries in the sample can have an uneven amount of respondents, as seen in Table 1. The number of respondents per region in 2010 was 195, while in 2013 it was 400.

To achieve a random sample, we used what was known in survey-research as the 'next birthday method'. The next birthday method is an alternative to the so-called quotas method. When using the quota method for instance, one obtains a (near) perfectly representative sample – e.g. a near exact proportion of the amount of men, women, certain minority groups, people of a certain age, income, etc. However, as one searches for certain demographics within the population, one might end up with only 'available' respondents, or those that are more 'eager' to respond to surveys, which can lead to less variation in the responses, or even bias in the results. The 'next-birthday' method, which simply requires the interviewer to ask the person who answers the phone who in their household will have the next birthday, still obtains a reasonably representative sample of the population. The interviewer must take the person who has the next coming birthday in the household (if this person is not available, the interviewer makes an appointment), thus not relying on whomever might simply be available to respond in the household. So, where the quota method is stronger in terms of a more even demographic spread in the sample, the next-birthday method is stronger at ensuring a better

range of opinion. The next-birthday method was thus chosen because we felt that what we might have lost in demographic representation in the sample would be made up for by a better distribution of opinion.

A full description of the survey method and other details about how the survey was conducted is given in the appendix of above-mentioned EU Report.

1.3.3 Unit of Analysis in 2013 EQI

In 23 countries, we include data at both the national and the regional levels. NUTS 1 level regions are employed for the following countries: Belgium, Germany, United Kingdom, Greece, Hungary, Sweden and Turkey. NUTS 2 level regions are employed in the following countries: Austria, Netherlands, Denmark, Spain, France, Italy, Portugal, Romania, Slovak Republic, Czech Republic, Poland, Croatia, Serbia (including Kosovo), Ireland, Finland and Bulgaria.

In 7 countries, we include data at the national level only: Slovenia, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourgh, Malta and Cyprus. It is worth noting that in several of the countries, the unit of analysis is not the primary administrative level, as several countries such as Romania or Slovakia are highly centralized. The NUTS region is thus a planning region constructed by the EU Commission. Therefore, any analysis using variables to account for regional level party systems or electoral institutions would only available for 'politically-administratively relevant' regions, such as those in Germany or Spain for example.

1.3.4 Primary Adjustments since 2010 & Retrospective Changes to 2010 EQI for Comparability between 2010 and 2013

For the second wave of EQI, we have done two primary adjustments. Firstly, we added the new countries and their regions retrospectively to 2010 EQI. The new countries added to the 2013 regional survey, giving them regional estimates, were Finland, Ireland, Serbia[4], Turkey, and Croatia[5]. For Serbia, Croatia, Turkey (which were not included in the 2010 data), we give the regions the national level score for 2010 for calculation purposes (not to be compared with 2013 data at the regional level). The same was done with Finland and Ireland, which had national level estimates in 2010, but not NUTS 2 estimates.

Secondly, we added additional regions to already existing countries in the 2010 data. For the Netherlands, we sampled on NUTS 1 in 2010, yet on the NUTS 2 level in 2013. We thus impose the NUTS 1 level data on the NUTS 2 regions for the previous round for comparability (e.g. NL11, NL12 NL13 all get the score of NL1 for 2010).For Finland and Ireland, the national average is simply used for each of the region NUTS 2 regions for the 2010 round.

1.4 Construction of European Quality Index and Weights in EQI Survey Data

We start by taking the country average from the WGI data for four indicators: 'control of corruption', 'government effectiveness', 'rule of law' and 'voice and accountability' and combine the four into one composite index (equal weighting). Then, the combined WGI data is standardized for the EU sample. This figure is used as country's mean score in the EQI for all 30 countries[6].

The regional data itself combines 16 survey questions about QOG in the region. The services in question are public education, public health care and law enforcement. The questions are centered on three QoG concepts: 'quality', 'impartiality' and 'corruption'. In building the regional index, we

[4]Serbia's regional population weights come from 2011. We also include Kosovo as a region in Serbia, as the EU has not officially recognized Kosovo as an independent state at the time of the survey.

[5]*Croatia's 3 Nuts 2 regions have been merged into 2 – HR1 and HR2 now make up what is called HR4, and the data prior to 2012 will combine these two using population weighted averages. H3 remains the same.

[6]In addition, we underwent extensive sensitivity testing of each of these 4 pillars of QoG from the World Bank and found the data to be highly robust. For a closer look at the reginaol-level sensitivity tests and results for the EU sample of countries see Charron, Nicholas. 2013. "From Aland to Ankara: European Quality of Government Index. 2013 Data, Sensitivity Analysis". QoG Working paper.
More information on the national scores (WGI) that anchor the regional estimates can be also found in Charron, Nicholas. 2010. "Assessing The Quality of the Quality of Government Data: A Sensitivity Test of the World Bank Government Indicators". QoG Working paper.

aggregated the 16 questions/indicators to three pillars based on factor analysis; labeled 'quality', 'impartiality' and 'corruption', then we averaged these three pillars together to form the final index figure for each region. After each stage of aggregation, the data are standardized. For the nine countries outside of the regional survey, there is nothing to add to the WGI Country score, thus the WGI data is used as the QoG estimate alone, and regional variation is unobserved. With respect to countries with the regional data, we set the national average using the WGI and explain the within-country variance using the regional-level data. Simply speaking, we aggregate the regional QoG score for each of the 23 countries in the survey, weighting for each region's score by their share of the national population. We then subtract this mean score from each region's individual QoG score from the regional study, which shows if the region is above or below its national average and by how much. This figure is then added to the national level, WGI data, so each region has an adjusted score, centered on the WGI. In equation 1, 'EQI' is the final score from each region or country in the EQI, 'WGI' is the World Bank's national average for each country, 'Rqog' is each region's score from the regional survey and 'CRqog' is the country average (weighted by regional population) of all regions within the country from the regional survey. The EQI is standardized so that the mean is '0' with a standard deviation of '1'. Extensive sensitivity testing has been done for both the WGI national level data as well as the regional data within the index to show that the data is robust to several specification alterations in weighting scheme, aggregation and individual indicators among other changes. With regard to the 2010 data, a more detailed version of this description can be found in Charron, Lapuente and Rothstein (2010). The results of the sensitivity test can be found in a working paper by Charron (2010). The formula employed is the following:

$$EQI_{regionX\ in\ countryY} = WGI_{countryY} + (Rqog_{regionX\ in\ countryY} - CRqog_{countryY})$$

To avoid extreme weighting values, all values are truncated at the 99$^{\text{th}}$ percentile of the distribution of the originally calculated design and post-stratification weight values. Weights are then divided by the mean value of the sample to adjust for the sample size, giving the mean weight a value of '1'.

In the case of missing data, this outcome is coded '99' in the dataset. On the two post-stratification control variables (gender and education) in no case do we find that any country exceeds 1% of the total observations as missing values, thus we follow the standard practice of MCAR (missing completely at random assumption) and simply drop these observations from the weighting scheme.

1.4.1 Design weights (*Dweight*)

Design weights are included to compensate for the fact that certain people have a higher or lower likelihood of being selected for the survey than others. As the EQI survey is one that draws an equal number of respondents from each NUTS 2 (or NUTS 1 region in some cases), respondents do not have the same likelihood of selection within countries. There are an uneven amount of regions across countries and the design weights are country-centric, and are equal to the inverse of the size of a region's population within each country, so that more (less) populous regions receive greater (lesser) weights than rural ones to compensate for the fact that their sample size is equal in the survey data. Although for all analyses it is important to use the *Dweight*, it is especially important for country comparisons, means, proportions, etc. to use the design weights, otherwise results will likely be biased.

$$Dweight = \frac{Population\ size\ aged\ 18\ years\ and\ above\ in\ region_x}{in\ country_y\ Net\ sample\ size\ of\ region_x\ in\ country_y}$$

It therefore has a mean value of '1' in each country.

1.4.2 Population weight (*Pweight*)

The population weight is included for comparisons across countries and is included to adjust for a country's proportion in the sample relative to its actual population of the total population of all countries in the survey. The weights are thus at the country level and do not need to be included for single country, regional level analyses or analyses where comparing country averages of certain survey items are of interest where the country-level is the primary unit of comparison. However, in

obtaining sample-wide (or EU-wide) means or proportions, it is recommended to use the population weights.

The *Pweight* helps to correct for any potential bias in obtaining means, proportion, etc when combining data from two or more countries. Without the Pweight, the researcher risks (most often) over-represent smaller countries at the expense of larger ones. The Pweight thus is included to adjust so that every country is represented in relative proportion to its population size of the countries in the sample for each year. The population size weight is calculated as

$$Pweight = \frac{Population\ size\ aged\ 18\ years\ and\ above}{Net\ sample\ size\ in\ country}$$

1.4.3 Post-stratification weights (*PSweight*)

The PSweights are the product of the Iweights and the Dweights. PSweights are recommended when comparing means, proportions, etc across regions and/or countries to correct for sampling issues. However, for more sophisticated, multilevel statistical analyses, the researcher can/should include additional demographic controls as independent variables in the model, such as income or age.

2 Individual Level Dataset

2.1 Identification Variables

2.1.1 id - Respondent ID (2013)

A unique identification number given each respondent for the 2013 survey.

2.1.2 resp_id - Respondent ID (2010 & 2013)

A unique identification number given each respondent in the combined dataset of 2010 & 2013 EQI.

2.1.3 year

The year to which the observation belong (2010 or 2013 EQI).

2.1.4 country - Country of respondents

Unique country code, numeric.

Country name	Country Code	Country name	Country Code	Country name	Country Code
France	1	Italy	10	Netherlands	18
Bulgaria	2	Spain	11	Poland	19
Portugal	3	UK	12	Finland	20
Denmark	4	Hungary	13	Ireland	21
Sweden	5	Czech Republic	14	Turkey	22
Belgium	6	Slovakia	15	Serbia	23
Croatia	7	Romania	16	Ukraine	24
Greece	8	Austria	17	Kosovo	25
Germany	9				

2.1.5 nuts - NUTS abbreviation Code

Abbreviation code of both NUTS1 and NUTS2-level region to which the observation belong. The Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics, (NUTS), is a geocode standard for referencing the administrative divisions of countries for statistical purposes. NUTS 1: major socio-economic regions, NUTS 2: basic regions for the application of regional policies.

2.1.6 nuts_name - Name of NUTS Region

Full name of NUTS1 and NUTS2-level region to which the observation belong.

2.1.7 nuts_c - Numeric NUTS code found in the QoG Regional data

Numerical code of the region to which the observation belong. The Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics, (NUTS), is a geocode standard for referencing the administrative divisions of countries for statistical purposes. See appendix of this document for each region's code.

2.1.8 typetel - Type of interview

whether mobile or landline was used in the interview.

1. Landline
2. Mobil Phone

2.1.9 language - Language of interview

The language in which the interview was conducted.

Language	Language Code	Language	Language Code	Language	Language Code
French	1	Italian	10	Dutch	18
Bulgarian	2	Spanish	11	Polish	19
Portugese	3	English	12	Finnish	20
Danish	4	Hungarian	13	Irish	21
Swedish	5	Czech	14	Turkish	22
Flemish	6	Slovak	15	Serbian	23
Croatian	7	Romanian	16	Albanian	24
Greek	8	Austrian	17	Ukranian	25
German	9				

2.2 Survey Questions

2.2.1 q1 - Have you or any of your immediate family been enrolled or employed in the public school system in your area in the past 12 months?

(1) Yes
(2) No
(99) Don't know/Refused

2.2.2 q2 - In the past 12 months have you used public health care services in your area?

(1) Yes
(2) No
(99) Don't know/Refused

2.2.3 q3 - Have you had any recent contact (positive or negative) with the security or police forces in your area in the past 12 months?

(1) Yes
(2) No
(99) Don't know/Refused

2.2.4 q4 - How would you rate the quality of public education in your area?

Very poor									Excellent
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

2.2.5 q5 - How would you rate the quality of the public health care system in your area?

Very poor									Excellent
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

2.2.6 q6 - How would you rate the quality of the police force in your area?

Very poor									Excellent
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

2.2.7 q7 - Certain people are given special advantages in the public education system in my area.

Strongly disagree									Strongly agree
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

2.2.8 q8 - Certain people are given special advantages in the public health care system in my area.

Strongly disagree									Strongly agree
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

2.2.9 q9 - The police force gives special advantages to certain people in my area.

Strongly disagree									Strongly agree
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

2.2.10 q10 - All citizens are treated equally in the public education system in my area.

Agree	Rather agree	Rather disagree	Disagree
1	2	3	4

2.2.11 q11 - All citizens are treated equally in the public health care system in my area.

Agree	Rather agree	Rather disagree	Disagree
1	2	3	4

2.2.12 q12 - All citizens are treated equally by the police force in my area.

Agree	Rather agree	Rather disagree	Disagree
1	2	3	4

2.2.13 q13 - Corruption is prevalent in my area's local public school system.

Strongly disagree									Strongly agree
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

2.2.14 q14 - Corruption is prevalent in the public health care system in my area.

Strongly disagree									Strongly agree
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

2.2.15 q15 - Corruption is prevalent in the police force in my area.

Strongly disagree									Strongly agree
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

2.2.16 q16_1 - In the past 12 months have you or anyone living in your household paid a bribe in any form to education services?

(1) Yes
(2) No
(99) Don't know/Refused

2.2.17 q16_2 - In the past 12 months have you or anyone living in your household paid a bribe in any form to health or medical services?

(1) Yes
(2) No
(99) Don't know/Refused

2.2.18 q16_3 - In the past 12 months have you or anyone living in your household paid a bribe in any form to police?

(1) Yes
(2) No
(99) Don't know/Refused

2.2.19 q16_4 - In the past 12 months have you or anyone living in your household paid a bribe in any form to any other government-run agency?

(1) Yes
(2) No
(99) Don't know/Refused

2.2.20 q17 - In your opinion, how often do you think other citizens in your area use bribery to obtain public services?

Strongly disagree									Strongly agree
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

2.2.21 q18 - Please respond to the following: Corruption is NOT present in elections in my area.

Note: In EQI 2010, it is framed as "Elections in my area are honest and clean from corruption".

Strongly disagree									Strongly agree
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

2.2.22 q19 - I trust the information provided by the local mass media in reporting on matters of politics and public services in my area.

Note: In EQI 2010, the same question is asked as following: "In your opinion, if corruption by a public employee or politician were to occur in your area, how likely is it that such corruption would be exposed by the local mass media?".

Extremely unlikely									Extremely likely
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

2.2.23 q20 - Generally speaking, would you say that most people can be trusted or that you can't be too careful in dealing with people in your area? [2013 ONLY]

(1) Most people can be trusted
(2) Can't be too careful
(99) Don't know/Refused

2.2.24 q21a - Which statement comes closer to your own views? "In business most people can succeed if they are willing to work hard" (1) or "Hard work is no guarantee of success in business for most people, it's more a matter of luck and connections" (10). [2013 ONLY]

"Don't know/Refused" is coded as 99.

Success with hard work									Luck and Connections
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

2.2.25 q21b - Which statement comes closer to your own views? "In the public sector most people can succeed if they are willing to work hard" (1) or "Hard work is no guarantee of success in the public sector for most people– it's more a matter of luck and connections" (10). [2013 ONLY]

"Don't know/Refused" is coded as 99.

Success with hard work									Luck and Connections
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

2.2.26 q22 - How would you judge the current state of the economy in (YOUR COUNTRY)?

(1) Very good
(2) Somewhat good
(3) Somewhat bad
(4) Very bad

2.2.27 q23 - In politics, people sometimes talk of "left" and "right". Where would you place yourself on a scale from 1 to 7, where '1' means the extreme left and '7' means the extreme right? [2013 ONLY]

Extreme left						Extreme right
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

2.2.28 q24 - What political party would you vote for if the national parliamentary election were today? [2013 ONLY]

Each respondent hears a pre-coded list of all actual political parties, including an "other" (not specified) and a "don't know/refused".

2.2.29 q25 – Now imagine that your preferred party was involved in a corruption scandal where party leaders had given high level jobs to their unqualified friends and family, which of the following would be most likely? [2013 ONLY]

(1) Still vote for preferred party
(2) Vote for another established party not involved in the corruption scandal
(3) Not vote at all
(99) Don't know/Refused

2.2.30 q26 - Is your first language (mother tongue) the same as the official language in your region?

(1) Yes
(2) No
(99) Don't know/Refused

2.3 Demographic Variables and Weights

The following demographic variables (d1-d6 and their recoded variables) are only available for the 2013 data.

2.3.1 d1 - Gender of respondent

(1) Male
(2) Female

2.3.2 d2 - Education of respondent

(1) Elementary (primary) school or less (no diploma)
(2) High (secondary) school (but did not graduated from it)
(3) Graduation from high (secondary) school
(4) Graduation from college, university or other third-level institute
(5) Post-graduate degree (Masters, PHD) beyond your initial college degree
(99) Don't know/Refused

2.3.3 d3 - Age of respondent

"Don't know/refused" is coded as 999.

2.3.4 rd3 - Age of respondent (recoded categories)

(1) 18-29
(2) 30-49
(3) 50-64
(4) 65+
(99) Don't know/Refused

2.3.5 d4 - Household income

Total household net income per month, after taxes. Stated in Euros (€). "Don't know/Refused" is coded as 99.

2.3.6 rd4 - recoded d4 in local currency

Total household net income per month, after taxes. Stated in local currency. "Don't know/Refused" is coded as 999.

2.3.7 recoded4 – categorical re-code of rd4 income, country specific

(1) Low
(2) Medium
(3) High
(99) Don't know/Refused

2.3.8 d5 - Occupation by sector

As far as your current occupation is concerned, would you say you work in the public sector (a public sector organization is either wholly owned by the public authorities or they have a majority share), the private sector or would you say that you are without a professional activity?

(1) Public sector
(2) Private sector
(3) Without professional employment
(99) Don't know/Refused

2.3.9 d5bis - Occupation

If d5a=1		If d5a=2	
(1)	Military, soldier	(6)	Self-employed, small business owner, freelancer
(2)	Law enforcement, police, fire-fighter	(7)	Other private sector employee
(3)	Healthcare worker, doctor	(99)	Don't know/Refused
(4)	Teacher, academic, researcher		
(5)	Other government agency		
(99)	Don't know/Refused		

If d5a=1	
(8)	Currently unemployed
(9)	Housewife, houseman
(10)	Pensioner, retired
(11)	Pupil, student, trainee
(12)	Other
(99)	Don't know/Refused

2.3.10 d6 - Population

About how many people live in the place the interview was conducted?

(1) Less than 10,000 (rural)
(2) 10,000 - 100,000 (small town or city)
(3) 100,000 - 1,000,000 (large city or urban area)
(4) More than 1,000,000 (very large city or urban area)
(99) Don't know/Refused

The following demographic variables are available for both 2010 and 2013 and are comparable across both years.

2.3.11 gender - Gender of respondent

(0) Male
(1) Female

2.3.12 Edu3 - Education of respondent

(1) Lower education (lower secondary or less) includes ISCED "level 0 Not completed primary education", "1 Primary or first stage of basic", and "2 Lower secondary or Second stage of basic education". Also short vocational programs (less than 3 years) taken after primary school (shorter 3C programs), labeled in LFS with "22".
(2) Medium education (higher secondary and post-secondary, non-tertiary) includes ISCED level "3 Upper secondary (A, B, C)" and "4 Post-secondary, non-tertiary".
(3) Higher education (post-secondary) includes ISCED level 5 and higher levels, i.e. any stage of tertiary education (e.g. BA, BSc, MA, PhD), including vocational ISCED 5B programs which have different names in different countries.
(99) Don't know/Refused

2.3.13 Age4 - Age of respondent (categorical)

(1) 18-29
(2) 30-49
(3) 50-64
(4) 65+
(99) Don't know/Refused

2.3.14 Income3 – Categorical income, country specific

(1) Low
(2) Medium
(3) High
(99) Don't know/Refused

2.3.15 Population - Population in respondent's place

About how many people live in the place the interview was conducted?

(1) Less than 10,000 (rural)
(2) 10,000 - 100,000 (small town or city)
(3) 100,000 - 1,000,000 (large city or urban area)
(4) More than 1,000,000 (very large city or urban area)
(99) Don't know/Refused

2.3.16 unemployed – Binary variable on respondent's employment status

(0) Respondent reported being employed
(1) Respondent reported being unemployed

2.3.17 Service_Exp – Public service experience

(0) Respondent has not had direct contact with any other public services in question (q1, q2 and/or q3)
(1) Respondent has had direct contact with any other public services in question (q1, q2 and/or q3)

2.3.18 Dweight – The design weight

For more information on its calculation, please refer to the introduction of this codebook.

2.3.19 PSweight – The post-stratification weight

For more information on its calculation, please refer to the introduction of this codebook.

2.3.20 Pweight – The population weight

For more information on its calculation, please refer to the introduction of this codebook.

3 Regional Level Dataset

3.1 Identification Variables

3.1.1 nuts – NUTS code

Nuts region code, as listed in Table 2 of Appendix.

3.1.2 name – Name of region

Name of the region.

3.1.3 region_code_n – Region code

Numerical code of the region to which the observation belong. The Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics, (NUTS), is a geocode standard for referencing the administrative divisions of countries for statistical purposes. See appendix of this document for each region's code.

3.2 Regional level variables

3.2.1 eqi_score – European Quality Index (EQI)

Final EQI index (centered around WGI), all units. The construction of EQI Index starts by taking the country average from the WGI data for four indicators: 'control of corruption', 'government effectiveness', 'rule of law' and 'voice and accountability' and combine the four into one composite index (equal weighting). Then, the combined WGI data is standardized for the EU sample. This figure is used as country's mean score in the EQI for all 30 countries[7].

In previous rounds, we then took the standardized sample mean for 2015 WGI data and set each country's national average as such. A key difference in this round (and retrospectively in other two rounds) we now aggregate to the WGI at the pillar levels of corruption impartiality and quality in order to better make use of these three distinct concepts empirically.

The regional data itself combines 18 survey questions about QoG in the region. In building the regional index, we re-score each variable so that higher numbers equate to higher QoG and then the 18 questions/indicators to three pillars based on factor analysis, then we averaged these three pillars together to form the final index figure for each region. After each stage of aggregation, the data are standardized.

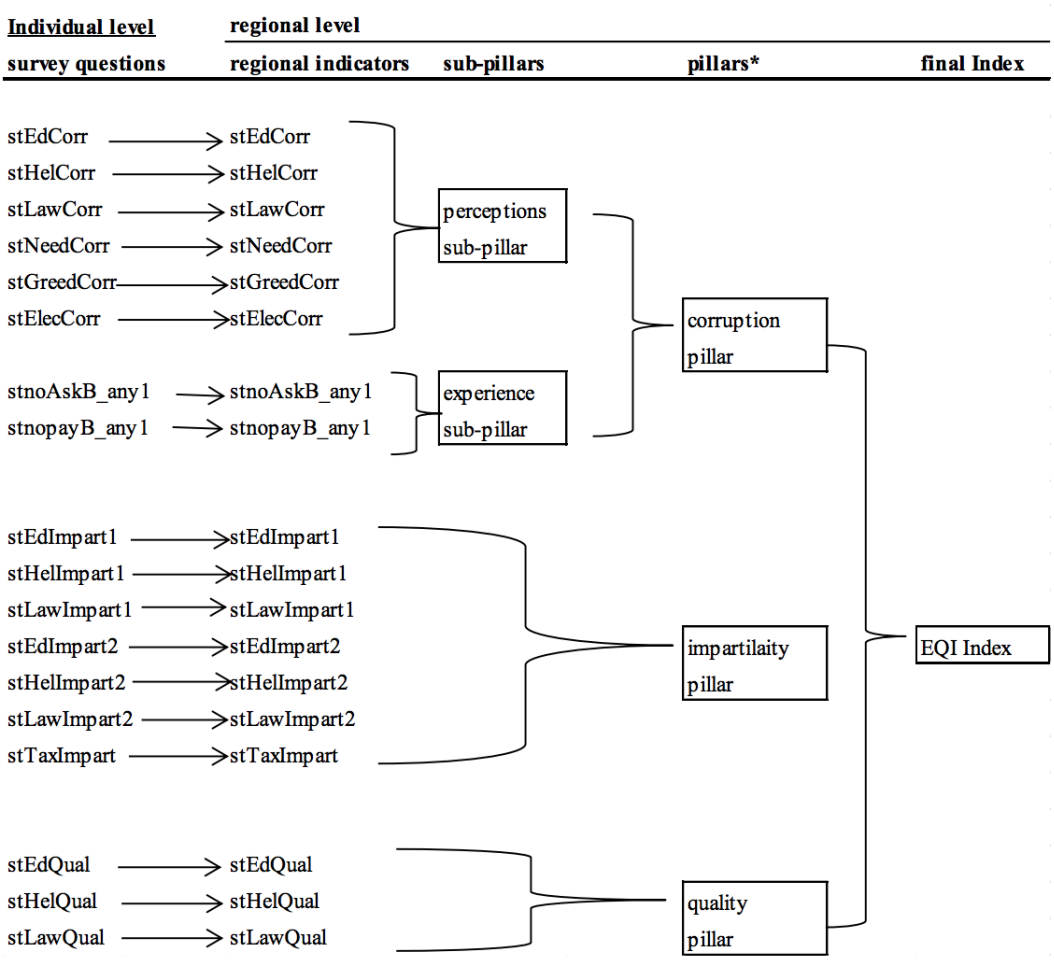
For data for the regional pillars' score for each of the countries included in the 2017 regional survey, weighting each region's score by their share of the national population. This figure is thus used to explain regional variation only within each country included (not absolute levels of QoG). We then subtract this mean score from each region's individual pillar score from the regional study, which shows if the region is above or below its national average and by how much. This figure is then added to the national level, WGI data, so each region has an adjusted score for each of the three pillars, centered on the respective WGI indicators. It is worth mentioning that none of the regional variation from the regional index is lost during this merging process; the country mean of all regional scores is simply adjusted. The formula employed is the following:

$$EQI_{regionX\ in\ countryY} = WGI_{countryY} + (Rqog_{regionX\ in\ countryY} - CRqog_{countryY})$$

where 'EQI' is the final score from each region or country in each pillar –corruption, impartiality and quality - of the EQI. 'WGI' is the World Bank's national average for each country for each pillar, while 'Rqog' is each region's score from the regional survey and 'CRqog' is the country average (weighted by regional population) of all regions within the country from the regional survey for each pillar. The EQI pillars are standardized so that the mean is '0' with a standard deviation of '1'. The three pillar scores are then aggregated using equal weighting.

[7]For a closer look at the sensitivity tests and results for the EU sample of countries see Charron, Nicholas. 2013. From Åland to Ankara: European Quality of Government Index. 2013 Data, Sensitivity Analysis and Final results." QoG Working paper 2013:11.

Figure 1: EQI 2017 Roadmap



Note: * represents the stage at which the regional data is centered on the national level WGI data.

(Charron, Lapuente, Rothstein, 2019, p. 19)

3.2.2 zquality – Quality pillar

Quality pillar, country centered and z-score standardized. We aggregate the individual scores ('survey question') to the corresponding regional level, so that each of question on the quality of public services is now a regional 'indicator'. After normalizing each of quality indicators (through z-score standardization) so that they share a common range, the quality indicators are aggregated into 'quality pillar'.

3.2.3 zimpartiality – Impartiality pillar

Impartiality pillar, country centered and z-score standardized. We aggregate the individual scores ('survey question') to the corresponding regional level, so that each of question assessing impartiality in the provision of public services is now a regional 'indicator'. After normalizing each of impartiality indicators (through z-score standardization) so that they share a common range, the impartiality indicators are aggregated into 'impartiality pillar'.

3.2.4 zcorruption – Corruption pillar

Corruption pillar, country centered and z-score standardized. We aggregate the individual scores ('survey question') to the corresponding regional level, so that each of question assessing corruption in the provision of public services is now a regional 'indicator'. After normalizing each of corruption

indicators (through z-score standardization) so that they share a common range, the corruption indicators are aggregated into two sub-pillars, called 'experience' and 'perceptions. They respectively represent question items reflecting personal experience with petty corruption versus perception of corruption in various other areas. These two sub-pillars are aggregated using equal weighting.

3.2.5 norm_eqi – Normalized EQI score

EQI index, min-max (0-100) standardized.

3.2.6 norm_qual – Normalized quality pillar

Quality pillar, country centered and min-max (0-100) standardized.

3.2.7 norm_impart – Normalized impartiality pillar

Impartiality pillar, country centered and min-max (0-100) standardized.

3.2.8 norm_corrupt – Normalized corruption pillar

Corruption pillar, country centered and min-max (0-100) standardized.

4 Bibliography

Charron, N., Dijkstra, L., & Lapuente, V. (2014). Regional governance matters: Quality of government within European Union member states. Regional Studies, 48(1), 68-90.

Charron, N., Dijkstra, L., & Lapuente, V. (2015). Mapping the regional divide in Europe: A measure for assessing quality of government in 206 European regions. Social Indicators Research, 122(2), 315-346.

Rothstein, B., Charron, N., & Lapuente, V. (2013). Quality of government and corruption from a European perspective: a comparative study on the quality of government in EU regions. Edward Elgar Publishing.

5 Appendix: Further political unit sample details

Tables 2 provides further information about the countries, nuts codes and regions, along with the survey code for each NUTS region in the sample.

Table 2: Country and Regional Sample, NUTS Codes and Regional Survey NUTS codes

NUTS country	Country name	NUTS region	Region name	nuts_c
AT	Austria	AT11	Burgenland	1111
AT	Austria	AT12	Niederösterreich	1112
AT	Austria	AT13	Wien	1113
AT	Austria	AT21	Kärnten	1121
AT	Austria	AT22	Steiermark	1122
AT	Austria	AT31	Oberösterreich	1131
AT	Austria	AT32	Salzburg	1132
AT	Austria	AT33	Tirol	1133
AT	Austria	AT34	Voralberg	1134
BE	Belgium	BE1	Brussels	121
BE	Belgium	BE2	Vlaams Gewest	122
BE	Belgium	BE3	Wallonie	123
BG	Bulgaria	BG31	Severozapaden	1331
BG	Bulgaria	BG32	Severen Tsentralen	1332
BG	Bulgaria	BG33	Severoiztochen	1333
BG	Bulgaria	BG34	Yugoiztochen	1334
BG	Bulgaria	BG41	Yugozapaden	1341
BG	Bulgaria	BG42	Yuzhen Tsentralen	1342
CZ	Czech Republic	CZ01	Praha	1501
CZ	Czech Republic	CZ02	Stredni Cechy	1502
CZ	Czech Republic	CZ03	Jihozapad	1503
CZ	Czech Republic	CZ04	Severozapad	1504
CZ	Czech Republic	CZ05	Severovychod	1505
CZ	Czech Republic	CZ06	Jihovychod	1506
CZ	Czech Republic	CZ07	Stedni Morava	1507
CZ	Czech Republic	CZ08	Moravskoslezsko	1508
DE	Germany	DE1	Baden Wuttemberg	161
DE	Germany	DE2	Bavaria	162
DE	Germany	DE3	Berlin	163
DE	Germany	DE4	Brandenburg	164
DE	Germany	DE5	Bremen	165
DE	Germany	DE6	Hamburg	166
DE	Germany	DE7	Hessen	167
DE	Germany	DE8	Mecklenburg-Vorpommen	168
DE	Germany	DE9	Lower Saxony	169
DE	Germany	DEA	North Rhine Westphalia	1611
DE	Germany	DEB	Rhineland-Palatinate	1612
DE	Germany	DEC	Saarland	1613
DE	Germany	DED	Saxony	1614
DE	Germany	DEE	Saxony-Anhalt	1615
DE	Germany	DEF	Schleswig-Holstein	1616
DE	Germany	DEG	Thuringia	1617
DK	Denmark	DK01	Hovedstaden	1701
DK	Denmark	DK02	Sjaelland	1702
DK	Denmark	DK03	Syddanmark	1703
DK	Denmark	DK04	Midtylland	1704
DK	Denmark	DK05	Nordjylland	1705
ES	Spain	ES11	Galicia	2011

NUTS country	Country name	NUTS region	Region name	nuts_c
ES	Spain	ES12	Principado de Asturias	2012
ES	Spain	ES13	Cantabria	2013
ES	Spain	ES21	Pais Vasco	2021
ES	Spain	ES22	Comunidad Foral de Navarra	2022
ES	Spain	ES23	La Rioja	2023
ES	Spain	ES24	Aragón	2024
ES	Spain	ES30	Comunidad de Madrid	2030
ES	Spain	ES41	Castilla y León	2041
ES	Spain	ES42	Castilla-La Mancha	2042
ES	Spain	ES43	Extremadura	2043
ES	Spain	ES51	Cataluña	2051
ES	Spain	ES52	Comunidad Valenciana	2052
ES	Spain	ES53	Illes Balears	2053
ES	Spain	ES61	Andalucia	2061
ES	Spain	ES62	Región de Murcia	2062
ES	Spain	ES70	Canarias (ES)	2070
FI	Finland	FI13	Itä-Suomi	2113
FI	Finland	FI18	Etelä-Suomi	2118
FI	Finland	FI19	Länsi-Suomi	2119
FI	Finland	FI1A	Pohjois-Suomi	21114
FI	Finland	FI20	Åland	2120
FR	France	FR10	Ile-de-France	2210
FR	France	FR21	Champagne-Ardenne	2221
FR	France	FR22	Picardie	2222
FR	France	FR23	Haute-Normandie	2223
FR	France	FR24	Centre	2224
FR	France	FR25	Basse-Normandie	2225
FR	France	FR26	Bourgogne	2226
FR	France	FR30	Nord - Pas-de-Calais	2230
FR	France	FR41	Lorraine	2241
FR	France	FR42	Alsace	2242
FR	France	FR43	Franche-Comte	2243
FR	France	FR51	Pays de la Loire	2251
FR	France	FR52	Bretagne	2252
FR	France	FR53	Poitou-Charentes	2253
FR	France	FR61	Aquitaine	2261
FR	France	FR62	Midi-Pyrenees	2262
FR	France	FR63	Limousin	2263
FR	France	FR71	Rhone-Alpes	2271
FR	France	FR72	Auvergne	2272
FR	France	FR81	Languedoc-Roussillon	2281
FR	France	FR82	Provence-Alpes-Cote d'Azur	2282
FR	France	FR83	Corse	2283
FR	France	FR91	Guadeloupe	2291
FR	France	FR92	Martinique	2292
FR	France	FR93	Guyane	2293
FR	France	FR94	Reunion	2294
GR	Greece	GR1	Voreia Ellada	191

NUTS country	Country name	NUTS region	Region name	nuts_c
GR	Greece	GR2	Kentriki Ellada	192
GR	Greece	GR3	Attica	193
GR	Greece	GR4	Nisia Aigaiou-Kriti	194
HR	Croatia	HR03	Jadranska Hrvatska	2403
HR	Croatia	HR04	Kontinentalna Hrvatska	2404
HU	Hungary	HUH	Közép-Magyarország	2511
HU	Hungary	HU21	Közép-Dunántúl	2521
HU	Hungary	HU22	Nyugat-Dunántúl	2522
HU	Hungary	HU23	Dél-Dunántúl	2523
HU	Hungary	HU31	Észak-Magyarország	2531
HU	Hungary	HU32	Észak-Alföld	2532
HU	Hungary	HU33	Dél-Alföld	2533
IE	Ireland	IE01	Border, Midland and Western	2601
IE	Ireland	IE02	Southern and Eastern	2602
IT	Italy	ITC1	Piemonte	27131
IT	Italy	ITC2	Valle d'Acosta	27132
IT	Italy	ITC3	Ligura	27133
IT	Italy	ITC4	Lombardia	27134
IT	Italy	ITD1	Bolzano	27181
IT	Italy	ITD2	Trento	27182
IT	Italy	ITD3	Veneto	27183
IT	Italy	ITD4	Friuli-Venezia Giulia	27184
IT	Italy	ITD5	Emilia-Romagna	27185
IT	Italy	ITE1	Toscana	27191
IT	Italy	ITE2	Umbria	27192
IT	Italy	ITE3	Marche	27193
IT	Italy	ITE4	Lazio	27194
IT	Italy	ITF1	Abruzzo	27161
IT	Italy	ITF2	Molise	27162
IT	Italy	ITF3	Campania	27163
IT	Italy	ITF4	Puglia	27164
IT	Italy	ITF5	Basilicata	27165
IT	Italy	ITF6	Calabria	27166
IT	Italy	ITG1	Sicilia	27171
IT	Italy	ITG2	Sardegna	27172
NL	Netherlands	NL1	Noord-Nederland	321
NL	Netherlands	NL11	Groningen	3211
NL	Netherlands	NL12	Friesland (NL)	3212
NL	Netherlands	NL13	Drenthe	3213
NL	Netherlands	NL2	Oost-Nederland	322
NL	Netherlands	NL21	Overijssel	3221
NL	Netherlands	NL22	Gelderland	3222
NL	Netherlands	NL23	Flevoland	3223
NL	Netherlands	NL3	West-Nederland	323
NL	Netherlands	NL31	Utrecht	3231
NL	Netherlands	NL32	Noord-Holland	3232
NL	Netherlands	NL33	Zuid-Holland	3233
NL	Netherlands	NL34	Zeeland	3234
NL	Netherlands	NL4	Zuid-Nederland	324
NL	Netherlands	NL41	Noord-Brabant	3241
NL	Netherlands	NL42	Limburg (NL)	3242
PL	Poland	PL11	Lodzkie	3311

NUTS country	Country name	NUTS region	Region name	nuts_c
PL	Poland	PL12	Mazowieckie	3312
PL	Poland	PL21	Malopolskie	3321
PL	Poland	PL22	Slaskie	3322
PL	Poland	PL31	Lubelskie	3331
PL	Poland	PL32	Podkarpackie	3332
PL	Poland	PL33	Swietokrzyskie	3333
PL	Poland	PL34	Podlaskie	3334
PL	Poland	PL41	Wielkopolskie	3341
PL	Poland	PL42	Zachodniopomorskie	3342
PL	Poland	PL43	Lubuskie	3343
PL	Poland	PL51	Dolnoslaskie	3351
PL	Poland	PL52	Opolskie	3352
PL	Poland	PL61	Kujawsko-Pomorskie	3361
PL	Poland	PL62	Warminsko-Mazurskie	3362
PL	Poland	PL63	Pomorskie	3363
PT	Portugal	PT11	Norte	3411
PT	Portugal	PT15	Algarve	3415
PT	Portugal	PT16	Centra	3416
PT	Portugal	PT17	Lisboa	3417
PT	Portugal	PT18	Alentejo	3418
PT	Portugal	PT20	Região Autónoma dos Açores	3420
PT	Portugal	PT30	Região Autónoma da Madeira	3430
RO	Romania	ROll	Nord-Vest	3511
RO	Romania	R012	Centru	3512
RO	Romania	R021	Nord-Est	3521
RO	Romania	R022	Sud-Est	3522
RO	Romania	R031	Sud-Muntenia	3531
RO	Romania	R032	Bucuresti-Ilfov	3532
RO	Romania	R041	Sud-Vest Oltenia	3541
RO	Romania	R042	Vest	3542
SE	Sweden	SE1	Östra Sverige	361
SE	Sweden	SE2	Södra Sverige	362
SE	Sweden	SE3	Nona Sverige	363
SK	Slovakia	SK01	Bratislavský kraj	3801
SK	Slovakia	SK02	Západné Slovensko	3802
SK	Slovakia	SK03	Stredné Slovensko	3803
SK	Slovakia	SK04	Východné Slovensko	3804
UK	United Kingdom	UKC	Northeast England	3913
UK	United Kingdom	UKD	Northwest England	3914
UK	United Kingdom	UKE	Yorkshire-Humberg	3915
UK	United Kingdom	UKF	East Midland England	3916
UK	United Kingdom	UKG	West Midland England	3917
UK	United Kingdom	UKH	East of England	3918
UK	United Kingdom	UKI	London	3919
UK	United Kingdom	UKJ	South East England	3920
UK	United Kingdom	UKK	South West England	3921
UK	United Kingdom	UKL	Wales	3922
UK	United Kingdom	UKM	Scotland	3923
UK	United Kingdom	UKN	N. Ireland	3924