# QOG

# THE EUROPEAN QUALITY OF GOVERNMENT INDEX 2017

## CODEBOOK

UNIVERSITY OF
GOTHENBURG

# 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 2017.

The EQI survey data was originally funded by the EU Commission (REGIO) and published in a report by Charron, Lapuente and Rothstein (2010) and later by Charron, Dijkstra and Lapuente (2014) in Regional Studies. In 2013, the survey was re-done; this time funded by the EU Commission via ANTICORRP, a large collaborative research group of scholars across Europe[1]. In 2017, the survey was once again launch during the summer/fall, funded by the DG REGIO at the EU Commission[2].

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.

### 1.3.1   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 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 individuals 18 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, while in 2017 it was between 400 and 450 per region.

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.

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[1] For more information on ANTICORRP and its research, see: http://anticorrp.eu/

[2] See the EQI homepage at the Commission website and more visual tools here: http://ec.europa.eu/regional_-policy/en/information/maps/quality_of_governance

[3] http://www.efficience3.com/en/accueil/index.html. 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 and Number of Respondents**

| Country | NUTS level sampled | no. NUTS regions | Sample per NUTS region | Sample | % total sample |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| France | 2 | 26 | 401 | 10422 | 13.4 |
| Belgium | 1 | 3 | 450 | 1350 | 1.7 |
| Bulgaria | 2 | 6 | 400 | 2400 | 3.1 |
| Czech Republic | 2 | 8 | 450 | 3600 | 4.6 |
| Slovakia | 2 | 4 | 450 | 1800 | 2.3 |
| Hungary | 2 | 7* | 400 | 2800 | 3.6 |
| Croatia | 2 | 2 | 450 | 900 | 1.2 |
| Romania | 2 | 8 | 450 | 3600 | 4.6 |
| Finland | 2 | 5 | 400 | 2000 | 2.6 |
| Italy | 2 | 21** | 400 | 8400 | 10.8 |
| Greece | 1 | 4 | 405 | 1620 | 2.1 |
| Portugal | 2 | 7 | 400 | 2800 | 3.6 |
| Denmark | 2 | 5 | 450 | 2250 | 2.9 |
| Sweden | 1 | 3 | 400 | 1200 | 1.5 |
| Germany | 1 | 16 | 450 | 7200 | 9.2 |
| UK | 1 | 12 | 450 | 5400 | 6.9 |
| Ireland | 2 | 2 | 450 | 900 | 1.2 |
| Austria | 2 | 9 | 450 | 4050 | 5.2 |
| Netherlands | 1 | 4*** | 460 | 1840 | 2.4 |
| Poland | 2 | 16 | 403 | 6442 | 8.3 |
| Spain | 2 | 17 | 411 | 6992 | 9.0 |
| Total | | 185 | | 77966 | 100.0 |

*Hungary was a NUTS 1 country in 2010 and 2013 and is now at NUTS 2.*
*** As per building the EQI index, microdata from Trento (ITD2) were used in both Trento and Bolzno (ITD1) as there were potentially problematic issues of unreliability with the Bolzano sample.*
**** Netherlands was a NUTS 1 and NUTS 2 country in 2010 and 2013 respectively and is now at NUTS 1, yet NUTS 2 regions are calculated so as to make comparisons with 2013 data.*

## 1.4 Further description on weights: Design, Population and Post-Stratification Weights of EQI Survey Data

To avoid extreme weighting values, all values are truncated at the $99^{th}$ percentile of the distribution of the originally calculated design and post-stratification weight values. This truncates the weights at the high end at about a value of '5', which effects on 144 cases in the 2017 data. 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  Individual weights (*Iweight*)

The EQI employs a random sampling technique that does not involve quotas (other than NUTS regions) or stratification on demographic categories across individuals, such as gender. The post-stratification weights thus help to adjust the sample to better match the population on general demographic characteristics. In this case, gender and age are included (see the variables **D1** and **D3**). Population data is taken from Eurostat for all countries. Cross-tabulations from the population data were then collected and put together for each country and region and were compared with that of the cross tabulations in the sample. The Iweights were calculated based on differences between the sample and population cells, such that demographic groups (older males for example) that were over (under) sampled relative to the population receive a lower (higher) weight.

### 1.4.4  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 IDfinal - Unique respondent ID

A unique identification number given each respondent for the 2017 survey.

### 2.1.2 TYPETEL - Type of interview

whether mobile or landline was used in the interview.

1. Landline
2. Mobil Phone

### 2.1.3 COUNTRY - Country of respondents

Unique country code, numeric.

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

### 2.1.4 D7_NUTS2 - NUTS 2 abbreviation Code

Abbreviation code of 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 2: basic regions for the application of regional policies.

### 2.1.5 D7_NUTS1 - NUTS 1 abbreviation code

Abbreviation code of NUTS1-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.

### 2.1.6 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.

### 2.1.7 language - Language of interview

The language in which the interview was conducted.

| Language | Language Code | Language | Language Code | Language | Language Code |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| French | 1 | Romanian | 8 | German | 15 |
| Flemish | 2 | Finnish | 9 | English | 16 |
| Bulgarian | 3 | Italian | 10 | Irish | 17 |
| Czech | 4 | Greek | 11 | Austrian | 18 |
| Slovak | 5 | Portuguese | 12 | Dutch | 19 |
| Hungarian | 6 | Danish | 13 | Polish | 20 |
| Croatian | 7 | Swedish | 14 | Spanish | 21 |

## 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 or anyone in your immediate family used public health care services in your area?

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

### 2.2.3 q3 - Have you or anyone in your immediate family 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 q16a - People in my area must use some form of corruption to just to get some basic public services.

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

### 2.2.17 q16b - Corruption in my area is used to get access to special unfair privileges and wealth.

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

### 2.2.18 q17_1 - In the last 12 months, have you or anyone in your family been asked by a public official to give an informal gift or bribe in education services?

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

### 2.2.19 q17_2 - In the last 12 months, have you or anyone in your family been asked by a public official to give an informal gift or bribe in health or medical services?

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

### 2.2.20 q17_3 - In the last 12 months, have you or anyone in your family been asked by a public official to give an informal gift or bribe in police?

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

### 2.2.21 q17_4 - In the last 12 months, have you or anyone in your family been asked by a public official to give an informal gift or bribe in any other government-run agency?

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

### 2.2.22 q18_1 - In the last 12 months, have you or anyone in your family given an informal gift or bribe to education services?

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

### 2.2.23 q18_2 - In the last 12 months, have you or anyone in your family given an informal gift or bribe to health or medical services?

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

### 2.2.24 q18_3 - In the last 12 months, have you or anyone in your family given an informal gift or bribe to police?

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

### 2.2.25 q18_4 - In the last 12 months, have you or anyone in your family given an informal gift or bribe to any other government-run agency?

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

### 2.2.26 q19 - Corruption is NOT present in elections in my area.

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

### 2.2.27 q20 - The tax authorities in my area treat all people equally.

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

### 2.2.28 q21- From which of the following do you most often get your news?

Randomize order, single choice, read out.

(1) In a print or online newspaper
(2) On the radio
(3) On television
(4) An online social networking site (such as Facebook, Twitter or Youtube) or any other website (blogs..)

### 2.2.29 q22_1 - On a 1-10 scale, with '1' being 'don't trust at all', and '10' being 'complete trust', how much do you personally trust other people in your area?

| Don't trust at all | | | | | | | | | Complete trust |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |

### 2.2.30  q22_2 - On a 1-10 scale, with '1' being 'don't trust at all', and '10' being 'complete trust', how much do you personally trust (COUNTRY's) parliament?

| Don't trust at all | | | | | | | | | Complete trust |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |

### 2.2.31  q22_3 - On a 1-10 scale, with '1' being 'don't trust at all', and '10' being 'complete trust', how much do you personally trust the European Union?

| Don't trust at all | | | | | | | | | Complete trust |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |

### 2.2.32  q22_4 - On a 1-10 scale, with '1' being 'don't trust at all', and '10' being 'complete trust', how much do you personally trust your regional/local parliament?

| Don't trust at all | | | | | | | | | Complete trust |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |

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**Question 23**: We would like to ask you about your views on some issues in the next few questions. Please rate how strongly you agree with the following statements, with '1' being strongly disagree, and '10' being strongly agree. (99 - Don't know/Refused)

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### 2.2.33  q23_1 - "You prefer private ownership of business and industry over state ownership in most cases".

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

### 2.2.34  q23_2 - "The government in COUNTRY should take measures to reduce differences in peoples' income".

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

### 2.2.35  q23_3 - "Protecting the environment should always take priority, even at the cost of economic growth".

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

### 2.2.36 q23_4 - "Immigrants contribute a lot to COUNTRY".

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

### 2.2.37 q23_5 - "We need a strong leader with the willingness to punish those who don't behave properly".

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

### 2.2.38 q24 - 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

### 2.2.39 q25 - What political party would you vote for if the national parliamentary election were today?

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

## 2.3 Randomized Experimental Questions

### 2.3.1 q26a1 – 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?

(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

### 2.3.2 q26a2 - Now imagine that your preferred party was involved in a corruption scandal where party leaders had been caught with public funds in their personal bank accounts, which of the following would be most likely?

(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

### 2.3.3 q26a3 - Now imagine that your preferred party was involved in a corruption scandal where party leaders had been caught taking bribes in exchange for public contracts, which of the following would be most likely?

(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

### 2.3.4 q26a4 - Now imagine that that party was involved in a corruption scandal, which of the following would be most likely?

(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

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**Follow up questions ONLY if '1' on 26a :**
Could you just tell me if you 'totally agree', 'rather agree','rather disagree' or 'totally disagree' with the following as to why your choice is to still vote for your preferred party?

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### 2.3.5 q26b_1 - "No other party comes as close to reflecting your political preferences".

| Totally agree | Rather agree | Rather disagree | Totally disagree |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |

### 2.3.6 q26b_2 - "The other parties are probably involved in corruption as well".

| Totally agree | Rather agree | Rather disagree | Totally disagree |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |

### 2.3.7 q26b_3 - "Corruption as an issue is just not as important as other things, like the economy or jobs".

| Totally agree | Rather agree | Rather disagree | Totally disagree |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |

### 2.3.8 q26b_4 - "Your party would most likely deal with the scandal internally and punish those involved".

| Totally agree | Rather agree | Rather disagree | Totally disagree |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |

## 2.4 Demographic Variables and Weights

### 2.4.1 d1 - Gender of respondent

(1) Male
(2) Female

### 2.4.2 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

### 2.4.3 d3 - Age of respondent (recoded categories)

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

### 2.4.4 d4 - Household income

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

### 2.4.5 d4b - 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.

### 2.4.6 recoded 4 – categorical re-code of rd4 income, country specific

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

### 2.4.7 d5a - 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

### 2.4.8 d5b - Occupation

| **If d5a=1** | |
| --- | --- |
| (1) | Military, soldier |
| (2) | Law enforcement, police, fire-fighter |
| (3) | Healthcare worker, doctor |
| (4) | Teacher, academic, researcher |
| (5) | Other government agency |
| (99) | Don't know/Refused |

| **If d5a=2** | |
| --- | --- |
| (6) | Self-employed, small business owner, freelancer |
| (7) | Other private sector employee |
| (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 |

### 2.4.9 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

### 2.4.10 Iweight – Individual weights

Based on gender and age compared with region's actual population.

### 2.4.11 Dweight – The design weight

### 2.4.12 PSweight – The post-stratification weight

### 2.4.13 Pweight – The population weight

# 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[4].

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.
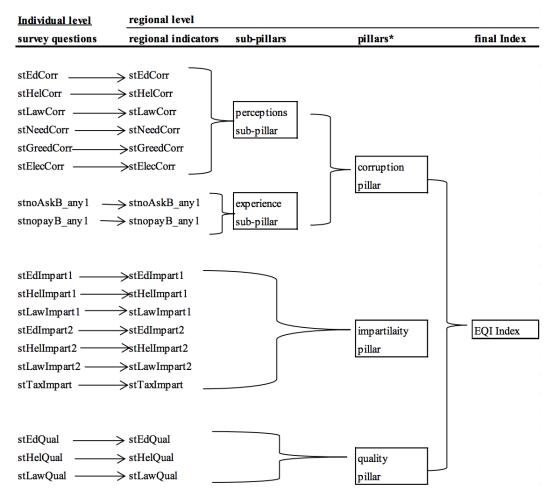
For data for the regional pillars' score for each of the countries included in the 2017 regional survey, weighting each region's score by their share of the national population. This figure is thus used to explain regional variation only within each country included (not absolute levels of QoG). We then 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.

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[4]For a closer look at the sensitivity tests and results for the EU sample of countries see Rothstein, Bo, Victor Lapuente, and Nicholas Charron, 2019. "Measuring the quality of Government at the subnational level and comparing results with previous studies". European Commission.

**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 zcorruptionPer – Corruption Perception

Corruption perceptions index, z-score standardized. It constitutes one of the sub-pillars of corruption pillar.

### 3.2.6 zcorruptionExp – Corruption Experience

Corruption experiences index, z-score standardized. It constitutes one of the sub-pillars of corruption pillar.

### 3.2.7 norm_eqi – Normalized EQI score

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

### 3.2.8 norm_qual – Normalized quality pillar

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

### 3.2.9 norm_impart – Normalized impartiality pillar

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

### 3.2.10 norm_corrupt – Normalized corruption pillar

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

### 3.2.11 norm_corruptPer – Normalized corruption perceptions index

Corruption perceptions index (corruption sub-pillar) min-max (0-100).

### 3.2.12 norm_corruptExp – Normalized corruption experience index

Corruption experiences index (corruption sub-pillar) min-max (0-100).

# 4 Bibliography

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Charron, N., Lapuente, V., & Rothstein, B.(2019). *Measuring the quality of Government at the subnational level and comparing results with previous studies*, European Commission.

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 |