



THE QOG EXPERT-SURVEY 2015

CODEBOOK

Note: Those scholars who wish to use this dataset in their research are kindly requested to use the following citation: Dahlström, Carl, Jan Teorell, Stefan Dahlberg, Felix Hartmann, Annika Lindberg, and Marina Nistotskaya. 2015. *The QoG Expert Survey Dataset II.* University of Gothenburg: The Quality of Government Institute.

INTRODUCTION

The general purpose of the QoG-survey is to measure the structure and behaviour of public administration across countries. The survey covers a variety of topics which are seen as relevant to the structure and functioning of the public administration according to the literature, but on which we lack quantitative indicators for a large number of countries, such as meritocratic recruitment, internal promotion and career stability, salaries, impartiality, NPM reforms, effectiveness/efficiency, corruption & embezzlement, transparency & control, women in the public sector, replacement of public sector employees, and bureaucratic representation.

Included in the aggregated version of the QoG expert survey are three indexes (*Impartiality*, *Professionalism*, and *Closedness*), each based on a group of questions from the survey. For more information on the construction of the indices, see the descriptions at the end of this codebook.

Please note: The rule of only including data for countries with at least three experts in the aggregated dataset has been changed and strengthened further. In this version of the aggregated dataset three experts for a country is not enough anymore to include all data for that country. Instead we now check every single variable and only include the data where we have at least three valid answers per country and variable.

For a further description of the study, see:

Carl Dahlström, Jan Teorell, Stefan Dahlberg, Felix Hartman, Annika Lindberg & Marina Nistotskaya (2015). The Quality of Government Expert Survey II – A Report. University of Gothenburg: The Quality of Government Institute.

VARIABLES INCLUDED IN THE INDIVIDUAL DATASET

id

Respondent identification number.

date

Date and time when each answer was submitted.

ccode

Country codes are taken from the Quality of Government Dataset, version 2015. (see: Teorell, Jan, Stefan Dahlberg, Sören Holmberg, Bo Rothstein, Felix Hartmann & Richard Svensson. 2015. The Quality of Government Standard Dataset, version Jan15. University of Gothenburg: The Quality of Government Institute, http://www.qog.pol.gu.se).

cname

Country names are taken from the Quality of Government Dataset, version 2015. (see: Teorell, Jan, Stefan Dahlberg, Sören Holmberg, Bo Rothstein, Felix Hartmann & Richard Svensson. 2015. The Quality of Government Standard Dataset, version Jan15. University of Gothenburg: The Quality of Government Institute, http://www.qog.pol.gu.se).

wave

Wave (year) for which the answers are submitted.

VARIABLES INCLUDED IN THE AGGREGATED DATASET

wave

Wave (year) for which the answers are submitted.

ccode

Country codes are taken from the Quality of Government Dataset, version 2015. (see: Teorell, Jan, Stefan Dahlberg, Sören Holmberg, Bo Rothstein, Felix Hartmann & Richard Svensson. 2015. The Quality of Government Standard Dataset, version Jan15. University of Gothenburg: The Quality of Government Institute, http://www.qog.pol.gu.se).

ccodecow

Country codes from the Correlates of War.

ccodewb

Country codes from the World Bank.

cname

Country names are taken from the Quality of Government Dataset, version 2015. (see: Teorell, Jan, Stefan Dahlberg, Sören Holmberg, Bo Rothstein, Felix Hartmann & Richard Svensson. 2015. The Quality of Government Standard Dataset, version Jan15. University of Gothenburg: The Quality of Government Institute, http://www.qog.pol.gu.se).

ccodealp

Three-letter country name abbreviation.

oecd

Is the country a member of the OECD?

Code:		
0	No	
1	Yes	

eu28

Is the country a member of the EU?

Code:		
0	No	
_1	Yes	

ht_region

A tenfold politico-geographic classification of world regions, taken from The Quality of Government Dataset, version 2015 (see: Teorell et al. 2015). The categories are as follow:

Code:	
1	Eastern Europe and post-Soviet Union (including Central Asia)
2	Latin America (including Cuba, Haiti & the Dominican Republic)
3	North Africa & the Middle East (including Israel, Turkey & Cyprus)
4	Sub-Saharan Africa
5	Western Europe and North America (including Australia &New Zeeland)
6	East Asia (including Japan & Mongolia)
7	South-East Asia
8	South Asia
9	The Pacific (excluding Australia & New Zeeland)
10	The Caribbean (including Belize, Guyana & Suriname, but excluding
	Cuba, Haiti & the Dominican Republic)

SURVEY VARIABLES INCLUDED IN BOTH DATASETS

i			101	
	66 	Greece	131	Oman
	67 00	Grenada	132	Pakistan
	68	Guatemala	133	Palau
	69	Guinea	134	Panama
	70	Guinea-Bissau	135	Papua New Guinea
	71	Guyana	136	Paraguay
	72	Haiti	137	Peru
	73	Honduras	138	Philippines
	74	Hong Kong	139	Poland
	75	Hungary	140	Portugal
7	76	Iceland	141	Puerto Rico
7	77	India	142	Qatar
7	78	Indonesia	143	Romania
7	79	Iran	144	Russian Federation
8	30	Iraq	145	Rwanda
8	31	Ireland	146	Samoa
8	32	Israel	147	San Marino
3	33	Italy	148	Sao Tome and Principe
8	34	Jamaica	149	Saudi Arabia
8	35	Japan	150	Senegal
3	36	Jordan	151	Serbia
zegovina 8	37	Kazakhstan	152	Seychelles
3	38	Kenya	153	Sierra Leone
8	39	Kiribati	154	Singapore
lam 9	90	Korea, North	155	Slovakia
ę	91	Korea, South	156	Slovenia
Q	92	Kuwait	157	Solomon Islands
Q	93	Kyrgyzstan	158	Somalia
ę	94	Laos	159	South Africa
Q	95	Latvia	160	Spain
Q	96	Lebanon	161	Sri Lanka
Q	97	Lesotho	162	St Kitts and Nevis
Republic	98	Liberia	163 164	St Lucia St Vincent and the
Q	99	Libya		Grenadines
1	00	Liechtenstein	165	Sudan
1	01	Lithuania	166	Suriname
1	02	Luxembourg	167	Swaziland
		Macedonia	168	Sweden
atic			169	Switzerland
C		Ŭ		
а	ratic aville) 1 ic	aville) 104	ratic aville) 104 Madagascar ic	ratic aville) 104 Madagascar 169 ic

41	Costa Rica	106	Malaysia	171	Taiwan
42	Cote d'Ivoire	107	Maldives	172	Tajikistan
43	Croatia	108	Mali	173	Tanzania
44	Cuba	109 100	Malta Marshall	174	Thailand
45	Cyprus		Islands	175	Timor-Leste
46	Czech Republic	111	Mauritania	176	Togo
47	Denmark	112	Mauritius	177	Tonga
48	Djibouti	113	Mexico	178	Trinidad and Tobago
49	Dominica	114	Micronesia	179	Tunisia
50	Dominican Republic	115	Moldova	180	Turkey
51	Ecuador	116	Monaco	181	Turkmenistan
52	Egypt	117	Mongolia	182	Tuvalu
53	El Salvador	118	Montenegro	183	Uganda
54	Equatorial Guinea	119	Morocco	184	Ukraine
55	Eritrea	120	Mozambique	185	United Arab Emirates
56	Estonia	121	Myanmar	186	United Kingdom
57	Ethiopia	122	Namibia	187	United States
58	Fiji	123	Nauru	188	Uruguay
59	Finland	124	Nepal	189	Uzbekistan
60	France	125	Netherlands	190	Vanuatu
61	Gabon	126	New Zealand	191	Venezuela
62	Gambia	127	Nicaragua	192	Vietnam
63	Georgia	128	Niger	193	Yemen
64	Germany	129	Nigeria	194 195	Zambia Zimbabwe
65	Ghana	130	Norway	196	South Sudan

who gets the job.									
c. When recruiting public sector employees, the personal connections of the applicants (for example kinship or friendship) decide who gets the job.	_	0	0	0	0	0	_	_	
d. Public sector employees are hired via a formal examination system.					_			_	
e. The practice of hiring, firing, promoting and paying public sector employees follows the provisions of the laws and other legal documents regulating these processes.	_	0	_		_	0	_	_	
f) Vacant positions in the public sector are advertised in newspapers and websites of relevant organizations.	_	_	0	_	_	_	_	0	
g. The top political leadership hires and fires senior public officials.								0	
h. Senior public officials are recruited from within the ranks of the public sector.								0	
i. Entry to the public sector is open only at the lowest level of the hierarchy.	0	_	0	0	0			_	
j. Once one is recruited as a public sector employee, one remains a public sector employee for the rest of one's career.					_	_		_	

Replacement of public sector employees

q3. With a new central government in place (for example, after a national election), approximately how many public sector employees are exchanged?

This variable is not part of the dataset due to very different answers for the countries.

Preconditions and tasks for public employees	: _							
q4. Thinking about the country you have chosen, ho today?		ten	wou	ld yo	ou sa	ay th	e follo	wing occurs
	Hard	lly ev	er		Α	Imos	t always	No opinion
	_						_	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
a. Senior officials have salaries that are compara- ble with the salaries of private sector managers with roughly similar training and responsibilities.	0	_	0	_	_		_	0
b. Public sector employees are paid salaries on which they can sustain themselves.							0	
c. The salaries of public sector employees are linked to appraisals of their performance.			0	0				0
d. Retired public sector employees can sustain themselves on a public old-age pension.		0	0	_	0			0
e. Public employees are absent from work without permission.		_		_				_
f. The terms of employment for public sector employees are regulated by special laws that do not apply to private sector employees.	0							0
g. Key ethnic and religious groups in society are proportionally represented among public sector employees.							0	0

Policy making and implementation

q5. Thinking about the country you have chosen, how often would you say the following occurs today?

	Hardly ever			Almost always			No opinion	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	>	· .
a. When preparing policy proposals, both public sector employees and politicians are involved.		0	0	0		0		_
b. When implementing policies, both public sector employees and politicians are involved.	_					_		_
c. Policy making in the economic policy sector is characterized by highly complex issues to which there are no apparent solutions.	_	_				_	_	
d. Policy making in the social policy sector is characterized by highly complex issues to which there are no apparent solutions.	0	_	_	_	_	_	_	_
e. Policy making in the environmental policy sector is characterized by highly complex issues to which there are no apparent solutions.	0	_	_	_	_	_	_	
f. When deciding how to implement policies in individual cases, public sector employees treat some groups in society unfairly.	0	_	_	_	_	_	0	
g. When granting licenses to start up private firms, public sector employees favor applicants with whom they have strong personal contacts.	0	_	_	_	_	_	0	
h. The provision of public services is subject to competition from private sector companies, NGOs or other public agencies.	0	_	_	_	_	_	0	
i. The provision of public services is funded by user fees and/or private insurances rather than taxes.	_	_		_	_	_		0

j. Public services are provided by quasi- autonomous agencies.	0							_
k. Public sector employees strive to be efficient.		0				0		0
I. Public sector employees strive to help citizens.				_			_	_
m. Public sector employees strive to follow rules.		_	_	_	_	_		_
n. Public sector employees strive to fulfill the ide- ology of the party/parties in government.		_	0	_		_	_	_
o. Public sector employees strive to implement the policies decided upon by the top political leadership.								
Women in public sector q6. Thinking about the country for which you have ch	ocar	to	subr	oit v	our	ancv	vorc	what ic
the proportion of women among public sector emplo			Subi	iiit y	Oui	aiisv	vers,	WHAT IS
Fill in the percentages for each question in the right of	-							
		F	Percer	nt				
a) In the public sector, generally								
b) Among senior positions in central government								
c) Within the police force.								

d) Within the public health care system.								
e) Within public education.								
Impartiality								
By a common definition, impartiality implies that when implementing policies, public sector employees should not take anything about the citizen/case into consideration that is not stipulated in the policy.								
q7. Generally speaking, how often would you say that chosen country, act <i>impartially</i> when deciding how to case?	•							
Hardly ever Almost	always	s N	o opin	ion				
1 2 3 4 5 6	7							
Corruption and embezzlement								
q8. Thinking about the country you have chosen, how	ofte	אר מי	ould	VOL	COV	the	follo	owing
occurs today?	Oite	ZII VV	ouiu	you	Say	uic	TOTIC	ownig
occurs today:								
	Hardi	y ever	•		Alm	ost a	lways	No opinion
	<						;	>
	1	2	3	4	5	6	;	7.
a. Members of the executive (the head of state, the head of government and cabinet ministers), or			_	_			_	
their agents, grant favors in exchange for bribes, kickbacks or other material inducements.								
RECEDENCE OF OTHER HIGGERIAN INCIDENTS.								
b. Members of the executive (the head of state, the head of government and cabinet ministers), or						_		
their agents, steal, embezzle or misappropriate								

public funds or other state resources for personal or family use.								
c. Public sector employees grant favors in exchange for bribes, kickbacks or other material inducements.		_		_		_	_	
d. Public sector employees steal, embezzle or misappropriate public funds or other state resources for personal or family use.	_	_		_	_	_	0	_
e. Members of the legislature grant favors in exchange for bribes, kickbacks, or other material inducements.	_	_	_	_	_	_	0	_
f. Members of the judiciary grant favors in exchange for bribes, kickbacks or other material inducements.	_	_	_	_	_	_	0	
g. Firms that provide the most favorable kickbacks to senior officials are awarded public procurement contracts in favor of firms making the lowest bid.	_	_	_	_	_	_	0	_
q9. Hypothetically, let's say that a typical public sector tribute an amount equivalent to 1000 USD per capital According to your judgement, please state the percentages for each question in the riguestions together add to 100 percent.	to th	ne ne thai	eedy t wo	poo uld	or in reac	you h:	ır cou	untry.
		F	ercer	nt				
a) The needy poor.]			

b) People with kinship ties to the public employee	
c) Middlemen/consultants.	
d) The public employee's own pocket.	
e) The superiors of the public employee.	
f) Others.	
g) Total.	
**40	
q10 q10. For the answer <i>others*</i> : please specify whom	?
Transparency and control	
q11. To what extent would you say the following you have chosen to submit your answers?	applies today to the country for which
q11. To what extent would you say the following	applies today to the country for which Not at all To a very large extent No opinion
q11. To what extent would you say the following	

b. Government documents and records are open to public access.								
c. Abuses of power within the public sector are likely to be exposed in the media.				_	_		_	0
d. Citizens and media actors can track the flow of government revenues and expenditures.			0				0	
e. The National Audit Office is independent from the government.			0	0	0			0
f. Auditors at the National Audit Office have the appropriate education and qualifications.	_	0	0	0	0			0
g. The National Audit Office regularly communicates their results, including results that may be inconvenient for the government, to the general public.		0	0	0	_	0	_	
h. When found guilty of misconduct, public sector employees are reprimanded by proper bureaucratic mechanisms.							_	

INDEX VARIABLES INCLUDED IN THE AGGREGATED DATASET

INDEX OF IMPARTIALITY

impar

The index of impartiality (Impartial Public Administration) measures to what extent government institutions exercise their power impartially. The impartiality norm is defined as: "When implementing laws and policies, government officials shall not take into consideration anything about the citizen/case that is not beforehand stipulated in the policy or the law." (Rothstein and Teorell 2008, p. 170)

The impartiality index is built on the following five items from the survey, where the aggregation to the country level has been made by calculating the mean value of all experts per country:

Please note that the impartiality index in this dataset is calculated in a different way compared to the last version of the Expert Survey. The correlation between the impartiality index based on factor loadings and the impartiality index based on mean values are 0.999.

impar cih

Impartial Public Administration - Confidence Interval (High)

The higher limit of the 95% confidence interval.

impar_cil

Impartial Public Administration – Confidence Interval (Low)

The lower limit of the 95% confidence interval.

impar range

Impartial Public Administration - Range.

INDEX OF PROFESSIONALISM

proff

The index of professionalism (Professional Public Administration) measures to what extent the public administration is professional rather than politicized. Higher values indicate a more professionalized public administration. The index is based on the following four questions in the survey:

q2_a, q2_b, q2_g, q2_h

The index is constructed by first taking the mean for each responding expert of the four questions above. The value for each country is then calculated as the mean of all the experts' means. (If one or more answers are missing, these questions are ignored when calculating the mean value for each expert. The scale of the second and third questions is reversed so that higher values indicate more professionalism).

proff cih

Professional Public Administration - Confidence Interval (High)

The higher limit of the 95% confidence interval.

proff_cil

Professional Public Administration – Confidence Interval (Low)

The lower limit of the 95% confidence interval.

proff_range

Professional Public Administration - Range.

INDEX OF CLOSEDNESS

closed

The index of closedness (Closed Public Administration) measures to what extent the public administration is more closed or public-like, rather than open or private-like. Higher values indicate a more closed public administration. It is based on three questions from the survey:

q2_d, q2_j, q4_f

The index is constructed by first taking the mean for each responding expert of the three questions above. The value for each country is then calculated as the mean of all the experts' means. (If one or more answers are missing, these questions are ignored when calculating the mean value for each expert.)

closed cih

Closed Public Administration – Confidence Interval (High)

The higher limit of the 95% confidence interval.

closed_cil

Closed Public Administration - Confidence Interval (Low)

The lower limit of the 95% confidence interval.

closed range

Closed Public Administration – Range.

EXPERT VARIABLES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

language			
Indicates for in which language	the survey wa	as taken	
	Code:		
	1	english	
	2	spanish	
	3	french	
	4	russian	

naire?					
not finished					
finished					
	finished	finished	finished	finished	finished

gender (Only in the inc	dividual dataset)		
	Code:		
	1	Man	
	2	Woman	

education (Only in the individual dataset)

The experts highest educational level:

Code:	
1	None
2	Incomplete primary
3	Primary completed
4	Incompleted secondary
5	Secondary Completed
6	Post-secondary trade/vocational school
7	University undergraduate degree incomplete
8	University undergraduate degree complete
9	Master
10	PhD

birthyear

The experts year of birth.

country_born

The experts country of birth, for country codes see variable country.

country_live

The experts country of residence, for country codes see variable country.

employer

Is your current employer located in your country:

Code:	
1	Yes
2	No
3	Unemployed/Retired

Types of employer	s:
Code:	
1	The current executive (presidential administration/cabinet)
2	A ministry, board or agency within the central government A ministry, board or agency within the regional/local govern-
3	ment A state-owned enterprise or another branch of the public ad-
4	min.
5	A public university
6	A private university
7	A private sector company
8	A NGO or a non-profit private organization
9	Other

contact	
Code:	
1	Directly from the QoG Institute
2	From an organization of scholar of which I am a member
3 4	From someone else whom I know personally From someone whom I do not know

REFERENCES

Teorell, Jan, Stefan Dahlberg, Sören Holmberg, Bo Rothstein, Felix Hartmann & Richard Svensson. 2015. The Quality of Government Standard Dataset, version Jan15. University of Gothenburg: The Quality of Government Institute, http://www.qog.pol.gu.se.

Rothstein, Bo, and Jan Teorell. "What is quality of government? A theory of impartial government institutions." Governance 21.2 (2008): 165-190.

Carl Dahlström, Jan Teorell, Stefan Dahlberg, Felix Hartman & Annika Lindberg (2015). The Quality of Government Expert Survey 2015 – A Report. University of Gothenburg: The Quality of Government Institute.