

The Constitutional Court Database (CCDB)

Senate Decisions by the
German Federal Constitutional Court, 1972 - 2010

Codebook – Version CCDB_V22.01-Mar

“Was man vom Standpunkt einer *theoretisch* orientierten Betrachtung sagen kann, ist aber nur dies, daß die Funktion eines Verfassungsgerichts in viel weiterem Maße politischen Charakter hat als die Funktion anderer Gerichte – und niemals haben diejenigen, die für die Einrichtung eines Verfassungsgerichts eintreten, die eminent politische Bedeutung verkannt oder geleugnet, die den Urteilen eines Verfassungsgerichts zukommt“

Hans Kelsen (1931 [2008], 68)
Wer soll Hüter der Verfassung sein?

BUNDESVERFASSUNGSGERICHT

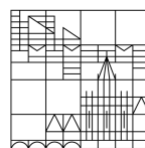
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Monitoring the German Federal Constitutional Court's role in the system of checks-and-balances

The German Federal Constitutional Court (GFCC) is a key actor in the German political system playing a crucial role in the system of checks and balances. However, we do not know much about how to characterize, analyze and monitor the role of the Court empirically. In order to stipulate respective research, we need to link information across different political institutions and account for contextual and societal factors within a political system. This leads to a number of theoretical and empirical challenges before being able to address the role of the GFCC — which is fundamentally important to understand and monitor how democracy works. The theoretical challenge is that we need to combine insights from different academic disciplines such as law and subfields of political science; especially from judicial politics, legislative research, and political sociology. Given that we need to evaluate both inner-court judicial action as well as intra-institutional interaction between the judiciary and other branches of government, the empirical challenge is that we need to create a database to empirically analyze the inner-workings of the Court and link it to further data to trace intra-institutional interactions between various political actors. To close this gap, [Thomas Gschwend](#) and [Christoph Hönnige](#) originally launched a project on *“The Federal Constitutional Court as a Veto Player”* initially funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG) and now together with [Benjamin G. Engst](#) continue to work on it. [Caroline E. Wittig](#) was also a key researcher originally involved in the project. The Constitutional Court Database (CCDB) is a major outcome of the project and enables scholars to conduct in depth as well as large-N analyses on the German Federal Constitutional Court using a wide array of variables. Even more, the database goes beyond the Court: statutes challenged in the Court are linked to data on the respective legislative process. In addition, the database includes information on the political and societal situation at the time of a decision such as party positions. As a result, the Court's behavior can be embedded in a broader context. The database covers thirty-eight years from 1972-2010.

The Comparative Aspect

In modern democracies, highest courts with constitutional review powers are commonly separated into two groups: courts designed following the Anglo-American supreme court model and courts designed following the Kelsenian Austrian-German constitutional court model. In countries that follow the former tradition, the supreme court is the highest appellate court in the regular legal hierarchy. The court reviews constitutional cases and decides on disputes between parties. On the contrary, in the Austrian-German constitutional court model, constitutional courts are empowered to exercise constitutional review only. They do not decide on substantial issues raised in petitioners' referrals and are positioned somewhat separate to the regular appellate courts. The GFCC is a prominent and strong, yet archetypal, constitutional court established as one of the first constitutional courts following the Kelsenian Austrian-German model of constitutional review. Analyzing this Court provides important insights into the system of constitutional review in contrast to the widely studied system of judicial review. Although archetypal, the GFCC is a rather typical case – representative of many constitutional courts in newly established democracies. Research on European constitutional courts lags behind research on the US Supreme Court with regard to theory, data, and methods. Scholarship focusing on the latter can rely on the Supreme Court Database. This database – albeit being designed as a dataset rather than as a database – is an established tool available to scholars and journalists alike to empirically evaluate the decision-making of the US Supreme Court and serves as a role model for comparable database projects; e.g., the Israeli Supreme Court Database. Nevertheless, similar sources to provide systematic data for in depth and large-N studies are rare for constitutional courts in Europe.

The Constitutional Court Database (CCDB)

The Constitutional Court Database (CCDB) is the major outcome of the research project and consists of four layers. It links (1) 2,006 senate decisions, (2) 3,284 different proceedings referred to the German Federal Constitutional Court (GFCC) between 1972 and 2010, (3) legislative data and information from the political environment, as well as (4) public opinion data. The relational structure of the multi-layered database is well suited to connect information across the four layers in flexible ways. This allows for taking different perspectives on the GFCC as a legal, political, or societal actor and as a representative case of a highest court exercising constitutional review.

How to use this codebook

This codebook outlines *the design of the Constitutional Court Database*. This outline summarizes the tables that are part of the CCDB and presented in this codebook. Each table summarizes a number of variables. Some variables are identifiers that allow to link across the different tables. The codebook is designed in interactive ways. You can click on table names and variable names shown in the overview and the list of tables, variables and links to receive further information on a respective table or variable. Moreover, *text written in green* links to information within this codebook while *text written in blue* links to information external to this codebook.

How to cite the database

Please cite the database as follows:

- Engst, Benjamin G. / Thomas Gschwend / Christoph Hönnige / Caroline E. Wittig. 2020. "The Constitutional Court Database. Conceptualizing a relational database." *Working Paper*.

Please note that sometimes variables included in the database processes external information. The codebook mentions respective situations. Please ensure that in addition to the CCDB you also credit external sources when using respective information as indicated in the codebook.











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Layer: Cases

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • casesId  • bverfgeld  ○ casesMerged ○ casesDate ○ casesDateOral ○ casesSenate ○ casesCap ○ casesType 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • bverfgeld  ○ bvergeNo ○ bvergeNjw ○ bvergeNameCC ○ bvergeNameBern ○ bvergeUrl 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • separateld  • casesId  ○ separateNo ○ separateJoint ○ separateResult
	Table: casesjudges	Table: separatesign
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • casesId  • judgesId  	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ separatesignId  • separateld  • judegsId 










Design of The Constitutional Court Database

Legend

-  Major identifier of a table
- Identifier allowing for links
-  Identifier allowing for links to external data
- Variable
-  Highlights links that can be drawn across tables with similar identifiers

Click on the word in this overview to navigate to a table or variable.

Layer: Proceedings

Table: Proceedings	Table: file	Table: judges
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • proceedingsId  • bverfgeld  • fileId  ○ proceedingsAdm ○ proceedingsMer ○ proceedingsType 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fileId  ○ fileNo 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • judgesId  ○ judgesSurname ○ judgesPrenome ○ judgesGender ○ judgesSenate ○ judgesRole ○ judgesDateElec ○ judgesBodyElec ○ judgesDateInaug ○ judgesDateResig
	Table: Issue	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • issueId  • proceedingsId  ○ issueDate ○ issueType 	
Table: Petitioners		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • petitionersId  • proceedingsId  ○ petitionersType 		

Layer: Context






Table: gesta	Table: con
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ gestaId  ○ gestaType • issueId  • gestaBurkhardt2008  • gestaStecker2020  ○ gestaLp ○ gestaNo ○ gestaTitle 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • conDate  ○ conPosClogrile ○ conPosClogrilese ○ conPosCmcscs ○ conPosCmcscssd ○ conSupC ○ conPosSlogrile ○ conPosSlogrilese ○ conPosSmcscs ○ conPosSmcscssd ○ conSupS ○ conPosFlogrile ○ conPosFlogrilese ○ conPosFmcscs ○ conPosFmcscssd ○ conSupF ○ conPosGlogrile ○ conPosGlogrilese ○ conPosGmcscs ○ conPosGmcscssd ○ conSupG ○ conPosLlogrile ○ conPosLlogrilese ○ conPosLmcscs ○ conPosLmcscssd ○ conSupL

Table: bverfge	Layer	cases
Main ID bverfgeld	N table	2006
Description		
<p>This table summarizes information on the official record of a decision made by the GFCC. The information allows to identify a decision as a whole.</p>		

Variable: <i>bverfgeld</i>				Parent Table <i>bverfge</i>	
Description					
<p>This variable is the main identifier of entries in the <i>bverfge table</i>. The id allows to connect information from the table with information in other tables that include the <i>bverfgeld</i>.</p>					
Values / Example		Label			
1 to <i>N</i>		Count variable			
Special Note					
<p>Each entry in the table has a fully unique identifier. However, the numbers assigned are not continuous. Due to corrections throughout computing the database, some entries had to be deleted and others were added. Hence, while there are 2006 unique <i>bverfgeld</i> entries, the highest numeric value is 2035. This does not affect the efficiency of the database or implies missing information.</p>					
See also					
<p>The identifier is included in the tables: <i>cases</i>; <i>proceedings</i></p>					
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type	Version
-	-	-	0	Numeric	04/16/2020

Variable: bverfgeNo				Parent Table		bverfge	
Description							
<p>This variable summarizes the official citation of a decision by the GFCC. The citation refers to the published collection of all decisions. The citation begins with the abbreviation BVerfGE. This abbreviation translates into “decision by the constitutional court” (<i>Bundesverfassungsgerichtsentcheidung</i>). The abbreviation is followed by the number of the volume in which a decision is published. Finally, the number following the comma indicates the page on which a decision is published.</p>							
Values / Example				Label			
BVerfGE 111, 226				Decision by the constitutional court in volume 111 beginning on page 226.			
Special Note							
<p>In three instances two decisions begin on the same page. The <i>bverfgeNo</i> of a decision published first on a page ends on a dot. Hence, BVerfGE 87, 152. occurs on page 152 in volume 87, together with decision BVerfGE 87, 152; however, the former is printed on top of page 152. The other decisions that start on the same pages are BVerfGE 104, 42. with BVerfGE 104, 42 and BVerfGE 104, 357. with BVerfGE 104, 357</p>							
See also							
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type			Version
-	-	-	0	String			04/16/2020

Variable: bverfgeNjw				Parent Table		bverfge	
Description							
<p>This variable summarizes the citation of a decision as used in the law journal <i>Neue Juristische Wochenschrift</i>. The citation begins with the abbreviation NJW. This abbreviation translates into the journal's name. The abbreviation is followed by the year in which a decision is published in the journal. Finally, the number following the comma indicates the page on which a decision is published.</p>							
Values / Example				Label			
NJW 1976, 1629				Decision published in 1976 in the NJW on page 1629.			
Special Note							
<p>The information on the variable is extracted from an external source. We do not claim authorship or responsibility for the external source. Please also credit the German Federal Constitutional Court as external source when using the variable.</p>							
See also							
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type			Version
-	-	-	1092	String			05/13/2020

Variable: bverfgeNameCC				Parent Table	bverfge
Description					
The variable summarizes the names of decisions, officially provided by the German Federal Constitutional Court from the Court's internal record.					
Values / Example		Label			
Juniorprofessur		The name is given in German with special characters corrected (e.g. ö = oe).			
Special Note					
The information on the variable is extracted from an external source. We do not claim authorship or responsibility for the external source. Please also credit the German Federal Constitutional Court as external source when using the variable.					
See also					
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type	Version
-	-	-	760	String	05/13/2020

Variable: bverfgeNameBern				Parent Table bverfge	
Description					
The variable summarizes the names of decisions, as collected by https://www.servat.unibe.ch/dfr/dfr_bverfg.html .					
Values / Example		Label			
Juniorprofessur		The name is given in German with special characters corrected (e.g. ö = oe).			
Special Note					
The information on the variable is extracted from an external source. We do not claim authorship or responsibility for the external source. Please also credit the project as external source https://www.servat.unibe.ch/dfr/dfr_bverfg.html when using the variable.					
See also					
Names can vary when compared with bverfgeNameCC .					
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type	Version
-	-	-	1072	String	04/16/2020

Variable: bverfgeUrl				Parent Table		bverfge	
Description							
This variable summarizes URLs to find the publicly available full text of a decision.							
Value e.g.				Label			
https://www.servat.unibe.ch/dfr/bv071158.html				URL to a webpage with a full text of the decision.			
Special Note							
<p>URLs are extracted from the same source but the links provided may address different repositories.</p> <p>The information on the variable is extracted from an external source. We do not claim authorship or responsibility for the external source. Please also credit the project as external source https://www.servat.unibe.ch/dfr/dfr_bverfg.html when using the variable.</p>							
See also							
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type			Version
-	-	-	1072	String			04/16/2020

Table: cases		Layer	cases
Main ID	casesId	N table	2006
Description			
This table summarizes information on case characteristics specific to a whole decision made by the GFCC.			

Variable: casesId				Parent Table cases	
Description					
This variable is the main identifier of entries in the <i>cases table</i> . The id allows to connect information from the table with information in other tables that include the <i>cases/d</i> .					
Values / Example		Label			
1 to N		Count variable			
Special Note					
Each entry in the table has a fully unique identifier. However, the numbers assigned are not continuous. Due to corrections throughout computing the database some entries had to be deleted and others were added. Hence, while there are 2006 unique <i>cases/d</i> entries, the highest numeric value is 3024. This does not affect the efficiency of the database or implies missing information.					
See also					
The identifier is included in the tables: <i>casesjudges</i> ; <i>separate</i>					
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type	Version
-	-	-	0	Numeric	04/23/2021

Link: <i>bverfgeld</i>	Parent Table <i>bverfge</i>
See another table for description.	
The <i>bverfgeld</i> is introduced as part of the <i>bverfge table</i> .	
The identifier allows for a link with the table.	

Variable: casesMerged				Parent Table cases	
Description					
This variable indicates whether multiple proceedings referred to the Court are combined in one case. The GFCC frequently makes decisions combining multiple referrals.					
Values / Example		Label			
False		A case includes only one proceeding.			
True		Multiple proceedings are combined in one case.			
Special Note					
For the summary statistics below False is coded 0 and True is coded 1.					
See also					
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type	Version
0.259	0.438	0	0	String, binary	04/23/2021

Variable: casesDate				Parent Table cases		
Description						
This is the date a decision was made public by the GFCC, following the format YYYY-MM-DD.						
Values / Example				Label		
2007-07-13				Decision made public on July 17th, 2007.		
Special Note						
See also						
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type	Version	
-	-	-	0	String	04/23/2021	

Variable: casesDateOral				Parent Table cases		
Description						
This is the date an oral hearing took place, following the format YYYY-MM-DD. In case there was no hearing the variable is coded missing. If a hearing lasted more than one day, then only the first day is coded.						
Values / Example		Label				
2006-11-21		The (first) hearing took place on November 21st, 2006.				
Special Note						
You may transform this variable into an indicator variable for oral hearings, coding dates as 1 and missing data as 0. This was done for the summary statistics shown below.						
See also						
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type	Version	
0.119	0.324	0	1767	String	04/23/2021	

Variable: casesSenate				Parent Table cases	
Description					
<p>This variable indicates the senate who made a decision. The GFCC distributes work among two senates, each composed of eight judges. In rare instances all sixteen judges take a joint sitting as a plenum.</p>					
Values / Example		Label			
1		1st Senate made a decision.			
2		2st Senate made a decision.			
3		The plenum of all 16 judges made a decision.			
Special Note					
See also					
<p>On the institutional design of the GFCC see:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engst, B. G. 2021. <i>The Two Faces of Judicial Power</i>. Cham: Palgrave Macmillan. <p>especially, section 3.1.1 pages 81 to 83 with further references.</p>					
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type	Version
-	-	1	0	Numeric	04/23/2021

Variable: casesCap		Parent Table	cases
Description			
<p>This variable indicates the major topic addressed in a decision. The coding follows the classification established by the German Policy Agendas Project (GPA).</p>			
Values / Example	Label		
1	Macroeconomy		
2	Civil rights, fundamental rights, discrimination		
3	Healthcare		
4	Agriculture, fishing and forest management		
5	Labor		
6	Education		
7	Environment		
8	Energy		
9	Immigration		
10	Transportation		
12	Law and crime		
13	Social welfare		
14	Community development and housing issues		
15	Economic regulatory issues		
16	Defense		
17	Space, science, technology and communications		
18	Foreign trade		
19	International affairs and foreign aid		
20	Government operations		
21	Public land and water management		
23	Cultural policy		
24	State and local politics		
31	Church and religion		
Special Note			
<p>The content of decisions was reviewed by two coders in a double-blind process. The coders grouped decisions into GPA major topics based on the content of decisions. Non-existing overlap between the coders was discussed with a principal investigator.</p>			
See also			
<p>To classify decisions the German codebook from the German Policy Agendas Project from October 2009 was used. The GPA Project is part of the Comparative Agendas Project. On the project see:</p>			

- Bevan, S. 2019. "Gone Fishing: The Creation of the Comparative Agendas Project Master Codebook." In: F. R. Baumgartner / C. Breunig / E. Grossman. *Comparative Policy Agendas: Theory, Tools, Data*. Oxford University Press: Oxford: Ch. 2.
- Breunig, C. / B. Guinaudeau / T. Schnatterer (2021). "*Policy agendas in Germany – database and descriptive insights*." *Journal of Legislative Studies* [online first]: 1-13.

Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type	Version
-	-	10	0	Numeric	04/23/2021

Variable: casesType				Parent Table cases	
Description					
<p>This variable summarizes the type of a decision. Not every decision made by the GFCC is a main decision. Also, other types exist such as, reminders or provisional orders. The types are ordered from most frequent to least frequent in the list below.</p>					
Values / Example			Label		
Hauptentscheidung			Main decision		
einstweilige Anordnung			Provisional orders		
(Selbst-) Ablehnungsverfahren			(Self-) rejection of a judge		
Erinnerung			Reminder		
Auslagererstattung/ Festsetzung Gegenstandswert			Reimbursement of expenses/ Determination of object value		
Sonstige Vorentscheidungen			Other preliminary decisions		
Erledigung auf sonstige Weise			Settled by other means		
Widerspruchsverfahren			Proceeding objecting a decision		
nachtraegliche Ergaenzung			Subsequent addition		
Vollstreckungsanordnung			Enforcement order		
Ruecknahmeerlaubnis			Permission to withdraw a referral		
Plenumsvorentscheidung			Preliminary decision by the plenum		
Stellungnahme eines Senates			Opinion of a senate		
Special Note					
See also					
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type	Version
-	-	-	0	String	04/23/2021

Table: casesjudges	Layer	cases
Main ID casesId; judgesId	N table	15013
Description		
<p>This table connects each case from the <i>table cases</i> to the judges included in the <i>table judges</i>. Every decision has multiple judges signing on a case. Therefore, while each case exists once there are multiple judges assigned to one case.</p>		

Link: <i>casesId</i>	Parent Table <i>cases</i>
See another table for description.	
The <i>casesId</i> is introduced as part of the <i>cases table</i> .	
The identifier allows for a link with the table.	

Link: <code>judgesId</code>	Parent Table <code>judges</code>
<p>See another table for description.</p> <p>The <code>judgesId</code> is introduced as part of the <code>judges table</code>.</p> <p>The identifier allows for a link with the table.</p>	

Table: file	Layer	proceedings
Main ID fileId	N table	3006
Description		
<p>This table summarizes information on the official record of a referral to the GFCC. The information allows to identify a proceeding as a whole. A decision consists of one case, which can combine multiple proceedings.</p>		

Variable: fileId				Parent Table		file
Description						
This variable is the main identifier of entries in the <i>file table</i> . The id allows to connect information from the table with information in other tables that include the <i>fileId</i> .						
Values / Example		Label				
1 to N		Count variable				
Special Note						
Each entry in the table has a fully unique identifier. However, the numbers assigned are not continuous. Due to corrections throughout computing the database some entries had to be deleted and others were added. Hence, while there are 3006 unique <i>fileId</i> entries, the highest numeric value is 3062. This does not affect the efficiency of the database or implies missing information.						
See also						
The identifier is included in the table: <i>proceedings</i>						
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type	Version	
-	-	-	0	Numeric	04/22/2020	

Variable: fileNo				Parent Table		file
Description						
<p>This variable summarizes the official citation of a proceeding referred to the GFCC. The citation is comparable to a docket number. The citation begins with a number indicating the senate in charge. The three characters following the number indicate the type of proceeding initiated by a petitioner. The number following the characters is a continuous count of referrals of the respective type in a given year. Finally, the numbers following the dash indicate the year when a referral was made.</p>						
Values / Example		Label				
1 BvR 638/90		638th constitutional complaint (BvR) referred in 1990, assigned to the 1 st senate.				
Special Note						
<p>There will not be all continuous numbers for each type of referral in a given year. The reason is that not all referrals are considered by a senate. Instead, some are considered by chambers (not coded in the CCDB).</p>						
See also						
<p>To learn more about the type of a referral see also the variable <i>proceedingsType</i>.</p>						
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type		
-	-	-	0	String		
					Version	
					04/22/2020	

Table: gesta	Layer	context
Main ID gestald	N table	3389
Description		
<p>This table summarizes information on federal laws as issues that were referred to the GFCC by petitioners. The table allows to link to the legislative proceedings in which those laws were passed. These proceedings are collected in the GESTA data set as an external source. For the GESTA dataset refer to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Burkhart, S. 2008. <i>Deutsche Bundesgesetzgebung 1972–2005</i>. <i>GESIS Datenarchiv, ZA4569</i> (Version 1.0.0), Köln. <p>and see for example the publication:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manow, P. / S. Burkhart. 2007. “<i>Legislative Self-Restraint Under Divided Government in Germany, 1976–2002.</i>” <i>Legislative Studies Quarterly</i>, 32(2), 167–191. 		

Variable: gestald				Parent Table gesta		
Description						
This variable is the main identifier of entries in the <i>gesta table</i> . The id is a continuous count and does not connect to other tables.						
Values / Example		Label				
1 to N		Count variable				
Special Note						
See also						
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type	Version	
-	-	-	0	Numeric	03/01/2022	

Variable: gestaType				Parent Table gesta	
Description					
<p>This variable summarizes information on the type of law that was referred as an issue to the GFCC. One may consider the variable as some form of indicator variable; e.g., separating federal from state laws. The latter are not included in the GESTA data set.</p>					
Values / Example		Label			
No. > 0; e.g., 482		Any number greater zero indicates a federal law referred to the Court and included in the GESTA data set. It is possible that the same law was referred to the Court multiple times. The number for the very same law is identical. Federal laws published from the 7th legislative period (from 1972) onward are linked to the GESTA data set whenever possible. Laws prior to the 7th legislative period are not included in the GESTA data set.			
0		A law referred to the Court that could not be linked to a legislative proceeding. These are mostly laws published in the 16 German states (<i>Landesgesetze</i>), federal laws published prior to the 7th legislative period (prior 1972), or laws that are considered in a category “other”, due to substantive reasons that do not allow for a link (e.g., a law published prior to the founding of the Federal Republic of Germany).			
-1		A law referred to the Court that could not be linked to a legislative proceeding. These are mostly laws published during the 7th legislative period (1972 to 1976). Thus, laws have no title in the GESTA data set, which is why identification was not possible.			
Special Note					
<p>The link to the GESTA dataset is based on the issues referred by petitioners. Referrals directly or indirectly opposing federal laws were linked. The latest amendment of a law that was explicitly cited with the referral was linked. In the case of "in connection with" (<i>in Verbindung mit</i>) constructions, the link was drawn over the law most recently enacted. The assumption is that the most recent law was the one that allowed for the “in connection with” construction. There were a number of cases where the version of a law was not apparent from the referral. In these cases, the first step was to assess whether the version could be determined from other parts of a decision. Where this was not possible, the history of amendments to a law was reviewed using the commercial German legal database <i>Juris</i>. Afterwards, a link was drawn in the GESTA data set to the law that had introduced the latest amendment to a referred law prior to the decision date in <i>casesDate</i>.</p>					
See also					
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type	Version
-	-	-	0	Numeric	05/21/2021

Link: <i>issued</i>	Parent Table	<i>issue</i>
See another table for description.		
The <i>issued</i> is introduced as part of the <i>issue table</i> .		
The identifier allows for a link with the table.		

Variable: gestaBurkhart2008				Parent Table gesta	
<p>Description</p> <p>This variable allows to link data from the CCDB to the GESTA data set by Simone Burkhart:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Burkhart, S. (2008). <i>Deutsche Bundesgesetzgebung 1972–2005</i>. <i>GESIS Datenarchiv, ZA4569</i> (Version 1.0.0), Köln. <p>The data set summarizes information on legislative proceedings with regard to federal laws occurring between the 7th (1972) to 15th (2005) legislative period in Germany. The value labels of this variable are equal to the value labels of the variable “nummer” in the GESTA data set.</p>					
Values / Example		Label			
41		An identifier that is equal to the id “nummer” in the GESTA data set. Note that such an id can also be negative.			
NA		No link to the GESTA data set was possible. Please refer to 0 and -1 of the variable <i>gestaType</i> for more information.			
<p>Special Note</p> <p>With the database we published a folder “mergeGesta” which includes “TABgesta.csv” and “mergeGesta.R”. The latter R script allows to link the data from the CCDB using the open source software R (which you can find here), to the GESTA data set which you can download here.</p> <p>The information on the variable links to an external source. We do not claim authorship or responsibility for the external source. Please also credit the GESTA data set as external source when using the variable.</p>					
<p>See also</p> <p>Some relevant publications on the GESTA data set are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manow, P. / S. Burkhart. 2007. “<i>Legislative Self-Restraint Under Divided Government in Germany, 1976–2002.</i>” <i>Legislative Studies Quarterly</i>, 32(2), 167–191. Manow, P. / S. Burkhart. 2008. “<i>Delay as a Political Technique under Divided Government?</i>” <i>German Politics</i> 17 (3): 353– 66. 					
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type	Version
-	-	-	1849	Numeric	05/21/2021

Variable: gestaStecker2010				Parent Table		gesta
Description						
<p>This variable allows to link data from the CCDB to the GESTA data set by Christian Stecker:</p> <p>The data set summarizes information on legislative proceedings with regard to federal laws occurring between the 7th (1972) to 16th (2009) legislative period in Germany. The value labels of this variable are equal to Stecker's identifier.</p>						
Values / Example		Label				
16-6084		An identifier that is equal to the id in the GESTA data set by Stecker. The first digits prior to the hyphen indicate the legislative period in which a federal law was discussed.				
NA		No link to the GESTA data set was possible. Please refer to 0 and -1 of the variable <i>gestaType</i> for more information.				
Special Note						
The data set by Stecker has not been published. The variable is provided for convenience considering a future publication of the data by Stecker.						
See also						
A relevant publication on the GESTA data set by Stecker is:						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stecker, C. 2016. "The Effects of Federalism Reform on the Legislative Process in Germany." <i>Regional and Federal Studies</i>, 26(5), 603–624. 						
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type		Version
-	-	-	1964	Numeric		05/21/2021

Variable: gestaLp				Parent Table gesta	
Description					
This variable summarizes the legislative periods in which laws referred to the Court were discussed in Germany's 1st Chamber, the <i>Bundestag</i> .					
Values / Example		Label			
7		A law was considered in the Bundestag during the 7th legislative period.			
8		8th legislative period			
9		9th legislative period			
10		10th legislative period			
11		11th legislative period			
12		12th legislative period			
13		13th legislative period			
14		14th legislative period			
15		15th legislative period			
16		16th legislative period			
NA		No information on the legislative period. Often when a link to the GESTA data set was not possible. Please refer to 0 and -1 of the variable <i>gestaType</i> for more information.			
Special Note					
See also					
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type	Version
-	-	11	1647	Numeric	04/23/2021

Variable: gestaNo				Parent Table gesta	
Description					
<p>This variable summarizes the so called <i>GESTA-Ordnungsnummer</i>. The first chamber assigns each proceeding per legislative period an organizational number. The number helps to identify the unique legislative proceeding when connected to the legislative period.</p>					
Values / Example		Label			
C130		An organizational number starts with a letter followed by a three-digit number.			
NA		No organizational number. Often when a link to the GESTA data set was not possible. Please refer to 0 and -1 of the variable <i>gestaType</i> for more information.			
Special Note					
<p>The information on the variable is extracted from an external source. We do not claim authorship or responsibility for the external source. The GESTA data set by Stecker is not published yet. Please credit the external source when using the variable, as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stecker, C. 2016. "The Effects of Federalism Reform on the Legislative Process in Germany." <i>Regional and Federal Studies</i>, 26(5), 603–624. 					
See also					
<p>To search officially for a legislative proceeding the organizational number is of great use. Please refer to the public online database of the German <i>Bundestag</i> if you want to engage in an official search. The official online database by the <i>Bundestag</i> can be found here.</p>					
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type	Version
-	-	-	1674	String	04/23/2021

Variable: gestaTitle				Parent Table		gesta	
Description							
This variable summarizes the official title of the law referred to the GFCC as an issue.							
Values / Example				Label			
Zwoelftes Gesetz zur Aenderung des Bundesausbildungsfoerderungsgesetzes (12.BAfoeGAendG-E)				The name of a law reviewed by the Court in German with special characters corrected (e.g. ö = oe).			
NA				No title. Often when a link to the GESTA data set was not possible. Please refer to 0 and -1 of the variable <i>gestaType</i> for more information.			
Special Note							
The information on the variable is extracted from an external source. We do not claim authorship or responsibility for the external source. The GESTA data set by Stecker is not published yet. Please credit the external source when using the variable, as:							
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stecker, C. 2016. "<i>The Effects of Federalism Reform on the Legislative Process in Germany.</i>" <i>Regional and Federal Studies</i>, 26(5), 603–624. 							
See also							
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type			Version
-	-	-	1964	String			04/23/2021

Table: issue	Layer	proceedings
Main ID issueld	N table	6790
Description		
<p>This table summarizes information on the issues referred to the Court for review. A petitioner can refer multiple issues to the Court and a decision can combine multiple referred issues by different petitioners.</p>		

Variable: <i>issueld</i>				Parent Table	<i>issue</i>
Description					
This variable is the main identifier of entries in the <i>issue table</i> . The id allows to connect information from the table with information in other tables that include the <i>issueld</i> .					
Values / Example		Label			
1 to <i>N</i>		Count variable			
Special Note					
Each entry in the table has a fully unique identifier. However, the numbers assigned are not continuous. Due to corrections throughout computing the database some entries had to be deleted and others were added. Hence, while there are 6790 unique <i>issueld</i> entries, the highest numeric value is 9569. This does not affect the efficiency of the database or implies missing information.					
See also					
The identifier is included in the table: <i>gesta</i>					
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type	Version
-	-	-	0	Numeric	04/23/2021

Link: proceedingsId	Parent Table	proceedings
See another table for description.		
The <i>proceedingsId</i> is introduced as part of the <i>proceedings table</i> .		
The identifier allows for a link with the table.		

Variable: issueDate				Parent Table	issue
Description					
This is the date an issue challenged in Court was made, following the format YYYY-MM-DD; e.g. when a law or an administrative act was published. If a referred issue is based on several dates, the most recent date is coded.					
Values / Example		Label			
1994-10-20		Issue referred goes back to October 20th, 1994.			
NA		A date regarding the issue referred to the Court could not be identified.			
Special Note					
See also					
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type	Version
-	-	-	499	String	04/23/2021

Variable: issueType				Parent Table	issue
Description					
<p>This variable summarizes the type of an issue referred by a petitioner. Issues referred to the Court can be of different type such as laws or administrative acts. The types are ordered from most frequent to least frequent in the list below.</p>					
Values / Example				Label	
Rechtsnorm (unmittelbar)				Law (explicit)	
Urteil				Decision by a court	
Rechtsnorm (mittelbar)				Law (implicit)	
Verwaltungsakt				Administrative act	
Handlung eines Bundesorgans				Act of a federal authority	
Handlung eines Landesorgans				Act of a state authority	
sonstige Akte der Oeffentlichen Gewalt				Other acts by public authorities	
Wahlpruefung				Assessment concerning an election	
(Selbst-) Ablehnung				(Self-) refusal of a judge from a case	
Handlung eines Europaeischen oder Internationalen Organs				Act of a European or international authority	
Plebiszitaere Handlung				Direct democratic act	
Special Note					
See also					
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type	Version
-	-	-	0	String	04/23/2021

Table: petitioners	Layer	proceedings
Main ID petitionersId	N table	4088
Description		
This table summarizes information on a petitioner who turns to the Court. Petitioners can turn to the Court alone or multiple petitioners join one proceeding.		

Variable: petitionersId				Parent Table		petitioners	
Description							
This variable is the main identifier of entries in the <i>petitioners table</i> . The id does not connect to other tables.							
Values / Example				Label			
1 to N				Count variable			
Special Note							
Each entry in the table has a fully unique identifier. However, the numbers assigned are not continuous. Due to corrections throughout computing the database some entries had to be deleted and others were added. Hence, while there are 4088 unique <i>petitionersId</i> entries, the highest numeric value is 5089. This does not affect the efficiency of the database or implies missing information.							
See also							
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type			Version
-	-	-	0	Numeric			05/07/2021

Link: proceedingsId	Parent Table	proceedings
See another table for description.		
The <i>proceedingsId</i> is introduced as part of the <i>proceedings table</i> .		
The identifier allows for a link with the table.		

Variable: petitionersType				Parent Table	petitioners
Description					
<p>This variable summarizes the types of petitioners who refer an issue to the Court. Petitioners can be of different type, such as private individuals or lower courts. The types are ordered from most frequent to least frequent in the list below.</p>					
Values / Example				Label	
Privatperson(en)				Private individual(s)	
Gericht				Court	
Juristische Person				Legal entity	
Landesregierung				State government	
Mitglied(er) des Deutschen Bundestages				Member(s) of the first chamber [<i>Bundestag</i>]	
sonstige juristische Person des Oeffentlichen Rechts				Other legal entities under public law	
Partei				Political Party	
Gebietskoerperschaft				Territorial entity	
Fraktion des Bundestags				Parliamentary group in the first chamber	
Fraktion/Gruppe des Landtags				Parliamentary group of a state parliament	
Bundesregierung				Federal government	
Bundestag				First chamber [<i>Bundestag</i>]	
Richter des BVerfG				Judge of the Federal Constitutional Court	
Mitglied(er) eines Landtags				Member(s) of a state parliament	
Beteiligter Dritter				Involved third party	
Landtag				State parliament	
Bundesrat				Second chamber [<i>Bundesrat</i>]	
Kommunaler Mandatstraeger				Elected representative of a municipality	
Bundespraesident				Federal president	
NA				No information on the petitioner	
Special Note					
See also					
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type	Version
-	-	-	127	String	05/07/2021

Table: proceedings	Layer	proceedings
Main ID proceedingsId	N table	3284
Description		
<p>This table summarizes information on the proceedings initiated based upon a referral to the Court. A decision consists of a case but can combine multiple proceedings. Each proceeding can have its own outcome.</p>		

Variable: proceedingsId				Parent Table proceedings	
Description					
This variable is the main identifier of entries in the <i>proceedings table</i> . The id allows to connect information from the table with information in other tables that include the <i>proceedingsId</i> .					
Values / Example		Label			
1 to N		Count variable			
Special Note					
Each entry in the table has a fully unique identifier. However, the numbers assigned are not continuous. Due to corrections throughout computing the database some entries had to be deleted and others were added. Hence, while there are 3248 unique <i>proceedingsId</i> entries, the highest numeric value is 3498. This does not affect the efficiency of the database or implies missing information.					
See also					
The identifier is included in the tables: <i>issue, petitioners</i>					
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type	Version
-	-	-	0	Numeric	05/07/2021

Link: <i>bverfgeld</i>	Parent Table	<i>bverfge</i>
See another table for description.		
The <i>bverfgeld</i> is introduced as part of the <i>bverfge table</i> .		
The identifier allows for a link with the table.		

Link: <code>fileId</code>	Parent Table <code>file</code>
<p>See another table for description.</p> <p>The <code>fileId</code> is introduced as part of the <code>file table</code>.</p> <p>The identifier allows for a link with the table.</p>	

Variable: proceedingsAdm		Parent Table		proceedings	
Description					
<p>This variable summarizes the judges' decision on the admissibility of a referral by a petitioner. A decision by the Constitutional Court is of success to the petitioner if the issue rereferred to the Court is admissible and justified on the merits.</p> <p>The criteria that define the admissibility are mostly formal requirements. For a referral to be admissible a number of technical and legal aspects have to be met; e.g. the Court has to be the responsible legal entity, all other possible legal measures have to be exhausted by a petitioner, and the petitioner must have submitted a referral in a timely manner as defined by law.</p>					
Values / Example		Label			
0	A referral is not admissible.				
1	A referral is partially admissible.				
2	A referral is fully admissible.				
9	The admissibility was not assessed by the judges; e.g. because a decision did not require an assessment.				
88	Due to the type of the proceeding the admissibility was not assessed by the judges; e.g. when a self-refusal of a judge from a decision was discussed.				
99	The judges did not decide on admissibility; e.g. in cases were the judges say that a decision is evidently without merits (<i>offensichtlich unbegründet</i>).				
NA	Admissibility could not be determined from the text; e.g. when a decision was an announcement (<i>Ankündigung</i>) or a proceeding was discontinued (<i>Einstellung</i>).				
Special Note					
Coding admissibility was done in multiple, double blind rounds by trained coders, also involving coders with a background in law. Unclear situations were discussed among all coders with the project coordinators. Finally, a project coordinator with a background in law reviewed all coding.					
See also					
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type	Version
-	-	2	77	String	05/07/2021

Variable: proceedingsMer		Parent Table proceedings			
Description					
<p>This variable summarizes the judges' decision on the merits. A decision by the Constitutional Court is of success to the petitioner if the issue rereferred to the Court is admissible and justified on the merits.</p> <p>The decision on the merits involves substantive considerations by the judges with regard to an issue referred by a petitioner.</p>					
Values / Example		Label			
0	A referral is not justified on the merits.				
1	A referral is partially justified on the merits.				
2	A referral is justified on the merits.				
9	The judges did not decide on the merits, especially when no decision on the admissibility was made.				
NA	A decision on the merits could not be determined from the text; e.g. when a decision was an announcement (<i>Ankündigung</i>) or a proceeding was discontinued (<i>Einstellung</i>).				
Special Note					
<p>Coding merits was done in multiple, double blind rounds by trained coders, also involving coders with a background in law. Unclear situations were discussed among all coders with the project coordinators. Finally, a project coordinator with a background in law reviewed all coding.</p>					
See also					
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type	Version
-	-	2	131	String	05/07/2021

Variable: proceedingsType				Parent Table	proceedings
Description					
<p>This variable summarizes the types of proceeding initiated with a referral to the Court. Proceedings can be of different type, such as constitutional complaints or concrete judicial reviews. The three to four letters which are part of the variable <i>fileNo</i> in the <i>file table</i> are already an indication of the proceedings type. The types are ordered from most frequent to least frequent in the list below.</p>					
Values / Example				Label	
Verfassungsbeschwerde				Constitutional complaint (BvR)	
Normenkontrolle auf Vorlage der Gerichte				Concrete judicial review (BvL)	
Normenkontrolle auf Antrag von Verfassungsorganen				Abstract judicial review (BvF)	
Verfassungsstreitigkeiten zwischen Bundesorganen				Disputes between high federal organs (BvE)	
Einstweilige Anordnungen (§ 32 BVerfGG) und - bis 1970 - sonstige Verfahren				Provisional orders and other proceedings until 1970 (BvQ)	
Beschwerden im Wahlprüfungsverfahren				Review of election results (BvC)	
Oeffentlichrechtliche Streitigkeiten				Public law conflicts (BvH)	
Feststellung der Verfassungswidrigkeit von Parteien				Constitutionality of political parties (BvB)	
Verfassungsstreitigkeiten zwischen Bund und Laendern				Federal-state disputes (BvG)	
Voelkerrechtsregel als Teil des Bundesrechts				Public international law actions (BvM)	
Landesverfassungsstreitigkeiten kraft landesrechtlicher Zuweisung				Intrastate constitutional disputes (BvK)	
Verfahren in den sonst durch Bundesgesetz zugewiesenen Faellen				Other proceedings specified by federal law (BvP)	
Meinungsverschiedenheiten ueber das Fortgelten von Recht als Bundesrecht				Continuing applicability of law as federal law (BvO)	
Verwirkung von Grundrechten				Forfeiture of fundamental rights (BvA)	
Plenarentscheidungen (§ 16 BVerfGG)				Plenary decisions (BvU; BPvU)	
Auslegung des Grundgesetzes auf Vorlage eines Landesverfassungsgerichts				State constitutional court references (BvN)	
Special Note					
See also					
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type	Version
-	-	-	0	String	05/07/2021

Table: separatesign	Layer	cases
Main ID separatesignId	N table	251
Description		
<p>This table connects each judge from the table judges to a separate opinion included in the table separate. In general, separate opinions are not as frequent in Germany as, for example, at the US Supreme Court. Nevertheless, (multiple) judges can attach (multiple) separate opinions to a case.</p>		

Variable: <i>separatesignId</i>				Parent Table	<i>separatesign</i>
Description					
This variable is the main identifier of entries in the <i>separatesign table</i> . The id does not connect to other tables.					
Values / Example		Label			
1 to N		Count variable			
Special Note					
Each entry in the table has a fully unique identifier. However, the numbers assigned are not continuous. Due to corrections throughout computing the database some entries had to be deleted and others were added. Hence, while there are 251 unique <i>separatesignId</i> entries, the highest numeric value is 267. This does not affect the efficiency of the database or implies missing information.					
See also					
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type	Version
-	-	-	0	Numeric	05/07/2021

Link: <code>separateld</code>	Parent Table	<code>separate</code>
<p>See another table for description.</p> <p>The <code>separateld</code> is introduced as part of the <code>separate table</code>.</p> <p>The identifier allows for a link with the table.</p>		

Link: <i>judgesId</i>	Parent Table <i>judges</i>
See another table for description.	
The <i>judgesId</i> is introduced as part of the <i>judges table</i> .	
The identifier allows for a link with the table.	

Table: separate	Layer	cases
Main ID separateld	N table	177
Description		
<p>This table summarizes information on separate opinions filed by the judges. In general, separate opinions are not as frequent in Germany as, for example, at the US Supreme Court. For more information on the use of separate opinions in Germany refer to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wittig, C. E. 2016. <i>The Occurrence of Separate Opinions at the Federal Constitutional Court</i>. Berlin: Logos Verlag. 		

Variable: <i>separateld</i>				Parent Table	<i>separate</i>
Description					
<p>This variable is the main identifier of entries in the <i>separate table</i>. The id allows to connect information from the table with information in other tables that include the <i>separateld</i>.</p>					
Values / Example		Lable			
1 to <i>N</i>		Count variable			
Special Note					
<p>Each entry in the table has a fully unique identifier. However, the numbers assigned are not continuous. Due to corrections throughout computing the database some entries had to be deleted and others were added. Hence, while there are 177 unique <i>separateld</i> entries, the highest numeric value is 193. This does not affect the efficiency of the database or implies missing information.</p>					
See also					
<p>The identifier is included in the tables: <i>separatesign</i></p>					
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type	Version
-	-	-	0	Numeric	05/07/2021

Link: <code>casesId</code>	Parent Table <code>cases</code>
See another table for description.	
The <code>casesId</code> is introduced as part of the <code>cases table</code> .	
The identifier allows for a link with the table.	

Variable: <code>separateNo</code>				Parent Table	<code>separate</code>
Description					
<p>This variable summarizes the numbers and positions of a separate opinions attached to one case. If the judges filed one separate opinion, this opinion is counted as "1." If there were more than one, then the first separate opinion is <i>separateNo</i> = "1" and the second is <i>separateNo</i> = "2" etc. The maximum number of separate opinions attached to one case are 4.</p>					
Values / Example		Label			
1	First separate opinion attached to a case.				
2	Second separate opinion attached to a case.				
3	Third separate opinion attached to a case.				
4	Fourth separate opinion attached to a case.				
Special Note					
See also					
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type	Version
-	-	1	0	Numeric	05/07/2021

Variable: separateJoint				Parent Table		separate
Description						
This variable indicates whether a separate opinion was written by one judge alone or whether multiple judges delivered a joint separate opinion.						
Values / Example		Label				
0		Written by a single judge.				
1		Joint by multiple judges.				
Special Note						
Information on the judges that signed a separate opinion can be linked through the <i>separatesign table</i> using the <i>separateId</i> and the <i>judgesId</i> .						
See also						
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type	Version	
-	-	0	0	Numeric	05/07/2021	

Variable: separateResult				Parent Table		separate
Description						
This variable summarizes the judicial opinion expressed in a separate opinion.						
Values / Example		Label				
1		Concurring: The authoring judge(s) agrees with an outcome of a case but criticizes the legal reasoning often presenting an alternative rational.				
2		Partial dissent: The authoring judge(s) partially does not agree with an outcome of a case.				
3		Full dissent: The authoring judge(s) does not agree with an outcome of a case.				
Special Note						
See also						
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type	Version	
-	-	3	0	Numeric	05/07/2021	

Table: judges	Layer	cases
Main ID judgesId	N table	76
Description		
This table summarizes information on the judges that served on the GFCC.		

Variable: <i>judgesId</i>				Parent Table <i>judges</i>	
Description					
This variable is the main identifier of entries in the <i>judges table</i> . The id allows to connect information from the table with information in other tables that include the <i>judged</i> .					
Values / Example		Lable			
1 to <i>N</i>		Count variable			
Special Note					
Each entry in the table has a fully unique identifier. However, the numbers assigned are not continuous. Due to corrections throughout compiling the database some entries had to be deleted and others were added. Hence, while there are 76 unique <i>judgesId</i> entries, the highest numeric value is 131. This does not affect the efficiency of the database or implies missing information.					
See also					
The identifier is included in the tables: <i>casesjudges</i> , <i>separtesign</i>					
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type	Version
-	-	-	0	Numeric	07/20/2020

Variable: judgesSurname				Parent Table judges	
Description					
This variable specifies the last name of the judge that served on the GFCC.					
Values / Example		Label			
Kuehling		The name is written in German with special characters corrected (e.g. ü = ue).			
Special Note					
See also					
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type	Version
-	-	-	0	String	07/20/2020

Variable: judgesPrenome				Parent Table judges		
Description						
This variable specifies the first name of the judge that served on the GFCC.						
Values / Example		Label				
Juergen		The name is written in German with special characters corrected (e.g. ü = ue).				
Special Note						
See also						
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type	Version	
-	-	-	0	String	07/20/2020	

Variable: judgesGender				Parent Table judges		
Description						
This variable indicates the gender of a judges that served on the GFCC (derived from the name of the judge).						
Values / Example		Label				
0		Male				
1		Female				
Special Note						
See also						
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type	Version	
-	-	0	0	Numeric	07/20/2020	

Variable: judgesSenate				Parent Table judges	
Description					
This variable indicates the senate on which a judge served. The GFCC distributes work among two senates, each composed of eight judges.					
Values / Example		Label			
1		Judge served on the 1st Senate.			
2		Judge served on the 2nd Senate.			
Special Note					
See also					
On the institutional design of the GFCC see:					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engst, B. G. 2021. <i>The Two Faces of Judicial Power</i>. Cham: Palgrave Macmillan. 					
especially, section 3.1.1 pages 81 to 83 with further references.					
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type	Version
-	-	-	0	Numeric	07/20/2020

Variable: judgesRole				Parent Table judges	
Description					
<p>This variable indicates the role of a judge. Judges can serve different roles, either as ordinary judges or as (vice-)president. The position of vice president and president is assigned to two judges not serving on the same senate.</p>					
Values / Example		Label			
0		Judge served as ordinary judge			
1		Judge served as vice president			
2		Judge served as president			
3		Judge served as vice president first and as president later on			
Special Note					
See also					
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type	Version
-	-	0	0	Numeric	07/20/2020

Variable: judgesDateElec				Parent Table judges	
Description					
This is the date a judge was elected to the GFCC by one of the legislative chambers. The date follows the format YYYY-MM-DD.					
Values / Example		Label			
1989-06-23		The judge was elected on June 23rd, 1989.			
Special Note					
See also					
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type	Version
-	-	-	0	String	07/20/2020

Variable: judgesBodyElec				Parent Table judges	
Description					
This variable indicates the legislative chamber who had elected a judge to the GFCC.					
Values / Example		Label			
1		First legislative chamber (German <i>Bundestag</i>)			
2		Second legislative chamber (German <i>Bundesrat</i>)			
Special Note					
See also					
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type	Version
-	-	-	0	Numeric	07/20/2020

Variable: judgesDateInaug				Parent Table judges		
Description						
This is the date a judge was inaugurated, following the format YYYY-MM-DD.						
Values / Example				Label		
1989-07-12				The judge was inaugurated on July 12th, 1989.		
Special Note						
See also						
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type	Version	
-	-	-	0	String	07/20/2020	

Variable: judgesDateResig				Parent Table judges	
Description					
This is the date a judge resigned from the GFCC, following the format YYYY-MM-DD.					
Values / Example		Label			
2001-01-23		The judge resigned on January 23rd, 2001.			
Special Note					
<p>Judges can serve on the Court for twelve years nowadays without the option to be reelected or until the end of the month that a judge turns 68 years old. Dates after 2020 are expected dates and were calculated adding twelve years to the inauguration and subtracting one day.</p> <p>In early years it was possible for judges to be reelected. We took the inauguration days from "Badura / Dreier. 2001. Festschrift: 50 Jahre Bundesverfassungsgericht. 2. Band. Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck." but the resignation days of reelected judges are not always known. For the judges who were reelected without any information on the resignation of in-between periods, we assume that the day before the re-election was the end of their previous term. This assumption applies to: Leibholz (IV); Mueller (II); Ritterspach (III); Rupp-v. Bruenneck (I-II); Simon (I-II); Wand (I-II). Zeidler (I-II) had a gap prior to his re-election (see also: https://www.wikiwand.com/de/Liste_der_Richter_des_Bundesverfassungsgerichts).</p>					
See also					
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type	Version
-	-	-	0	String	07/20/2020

Table: con	Layer	context
Main ID conDate	N table	13922
Description		
<p>This table summarizes information on the political context in Germany on a daily basis. Namely, latent policy positions of German political parties represented in the German <i>Bundestag</i> and a measure of public support for these parties.</p>		

Variable: conDate				Parent Table con	
Description					
<p>This variable summarizes all days from November 19th, 1972, to December 31st, 2010, following the format YYYY-MM-DD. The federal election to the 7th legislative period took place on November 19th, 1972, which is why this is the initial date.</p>					
Values / Example		Label			
1989-06-23		June 23rd, 1989.			
Special Note					
<p>The date is a unique, continuous identifier of the table. The date allows to connect information from the table with information in other tables that include a variable in a date format.</p>					
See also					
<p>Dates in other tables are: <i>casesDate</i>, <i>casesDateOral</i>, <i>issueDate</i>, <i>judgesDateElec</i>, <i>judgesDateInaug</i>, <i>judgesDateResig</i></p>					
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type	Version
-	-	-	0	String	04/26/2018

Variable: conPosClogrile				Parent Table con	
Description					
<p>This variable summarizes the latent policy position of the Christian Democrats (CDU) as computed from party manifestos by Lowe et al. 2011. Positions can take negative or positive values, with lower values indicating “leftish” positions, while higher values indicate “rightish” positions. Consider positions as relative estimates which are meaningful when comparing multiple parties on the scale.</p>					
Values / Example		Label			
0.1920777		Position of the CDU (from election 11/1972 onward to 10/1976).			
Special Note					
<p>Party positions are based upon topics published in manifestos. Therefore, these positions only change when federal elections occur. Thus, the manifesto scores are constant within a legislative period.</p> <p>The information on the variable is extracted from an external source. We do not claim authorship or responsibility for the external source. Please also credit Lowe et al. 2011 as external source when using the variable.</p>					
See also					
<p>For detailed information on the scaling approach refer to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lowe, W. / K. Benoit / S. Mikhaylov / M. Laver. “Scaling Policy Preferences from Coded Political Text.” <i>Legislative Studies Quarterly</i> 36 (1): 123-55. 					
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type	Version
0.665	0.478	0.736	0	Numeric	04/26/2018

Variable: conPosClogrilese				Parent Table con	
Description					
<p>Standard error for the estimated average party position of the CDU in <i>conPosClogrile</i>.</p>					
Values / Example		Label			
0.21022521		Standard error of the CDU (from election 11/1972 onward to 10/1976).			
Special Note					
See also					
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type	Version
-	-	-	0	Numeric	04/26/2018

Variable: conPosCmcscs				Parent Table con	
Description					
<p>This variable summarizes the latent policy position of the Christian Democrats (CDU) as computed from party manifestos and expert surveys by König et al. 2013. Positions can take negative or positive values, with lower values indicating “leftish” positions, while higher values indicate “rightish” positions. Consider positions as relative estimates which are meaningful when comparing multiple parties on the scale.</p>					
Values / Example		Label			
0.6235742		Position of the CDU (from election 11/1972 onward to 10/1976).			
Special Note					
<p>Party positions are based upon topics published in manifestos. Therefore, these positions only change when federal elections occur. Thus, the manifesto scores are constant within a legislative period. The information on the variable is extracted from an external source. We do not claim authorship or responsibility for the external source. Please also credit König et al. 2013 as external source when using the variable.</p>					
See also					
<p>For detailed information on the scaling approach refer to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • König, T. / M. Marbach / M. Osnabrügge. 2013. <i>“Estimating Party Positions across Countries and Time.”</i> <i>Political Analysis</i> 21 (4): 468-91. 					
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type	Version
2.382	0.712	2.297	0	Numeric	04/26/2018

Variable: conPosCmcscssd				Parent Table con	
Description					
<p>Standard deviation for the estimated average party position of the CDU in <i>conPosCmcscs</i>.</p>					
Values / Example		Label			
0.9084045		Standard deviation of the CDU (from election 11/1972 onward to 10/1976).			
Special Note					
See also					
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type	Version
-	-	-	0	Numeric	04/26/2018

Variable: conSupC				Parent Table	con
Description					
This variable summarizes the public support in percentage for the Christian Democrats (CDU) as reported by the German Politbarometer.					
Values / Example		Label			
45.51201		Public support for the CDU in percent (March 1st, 1977).			
Special Note					
<p>The support is estimated as monthly average across respondents answering to the questions: "If there were federal elections held next Sunday, would you vote?" (Item v4 in the Politbarometer) "And which party would you vote for?" (Item v5 in the Politbarometer). Respondents who would not vote were excluded. There were 29 months for which data was missing. These months are assigned the value from the preceding month. Data from the Politbarometer is available from March 1977.</p> <p>The information on the variable is extracted from an external source. We do not claim authorship or responsibility for the external source. Please also credit the Politbarometer (ZA2391_v12-0-0.dta) as external when using the variable.</p>					
See also					
For the raw data refer to:					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Politbarometer. 2013. "Partielle Kumulation (1977-2011).“ <i>GESIS Datenarchiv</i>, ZA2391 (Version 12.0.0), Köln. 					
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type	Version
40.57	5.682	40.44	1563	Numeric	05/28/2021

Variable: conPosSlogrile					Parent Table con	
Description						
<p>This variable summarizes the latent policy position of the Social Democrats (SPD) as computed from party manifestos by Lowe et al. 2011. Positions can take negative or positive values, with lower values indicating “leftish” positions, while higher values indicate “rightish” positions. Consider positions as relative estimates which are meaningful when comparing multiple parties on the scale.</p>						
Values / Example					Label	
-0.54950446					Position of the SPD (from election 11/1972 onward to 10/1976).	
Special Note						
<p>Party positions are based upon topics published in manifestos. Therefore, these positions only change when federal elections occur. Thus, the manifesto scores are constant within a legislative period.</p> <p>The information on the variable is extracted from an external source. We do not claim authorship or responsibility for the external source. Please also credit Lowe et al. 2011 as external source when using the variable.</p>						
See also						
<p>For detailed information on the scaling approach refer to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lowe, W. / K. Benoit / S. Mikhaylov / M. Laver. “Scaling Policy Preferences from Coded Political Text.” <i>Legislative Studies Quarterly</i> 36 (1): 123-55. 						
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type	Version	
-0.616	0.512	-0.581	0	Numeric	04/26/2018	

Variable: conPosSlogrilese					Parent Table con	
Description						
<p>Standard error for the estimated average party position of the SPD in <i>conPosSlogrile</i>.</p>						
Values / Example					Label	
0.20494282					Standard error of the SPD (from election 11/1972 onward to 10/1976).	
Special Note						
See also						
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type	Version	
-	-	-	0	Numeric	04/26/2018	

Variable: conPosSmcss					Parent Table con	
Description						
<p>This variable summarizes the latent policy position of the Social Democrats (SPD) as computed from party manifestos and expert surveys by König et al. 2013. Positions can take negative or positive values, with lower values indicating “leftish” positions, while higher values indicate “rightish” positions. Consider positions as relative estimates which are meaningful when comparing multiple parties on the scale.</p>						
Values / Example		Label				
-1.5600463		Position of the SPD (from election 11/1972 onward to 10/1976).				
Special Note						
<p>Party positions are based upon topics published in manifestos. Therefore, these positions only change when federal elections occur. Thus, the manifesto scores are constant within a legislative period. The information on the variable is extracted from an external source. We do not claim authorship or responsibility for the external source. Please also credit König et al. 2013 as external source when using the variable.</p>						
See also						
<p>For detailed information on the scaling approach refer to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • König, T. / M. Marbach / M. Osnabrügge. 2013. “Estimating Party Positions across Countries and Time.“ <i>Political Analysis</i> 21 (4): 468-91. 						
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type	Version	
-1.094	0.339	-1.082	0	Numeric	04/26/2018	

Variable: conPosSmcsssd					Parent Table con	
Description						
<p>Standard deviation for the estimated average party position of the SPD in <i>conPosSmcss</i>.</p>						
Values / Example		Label				
0.6963168		Standard deviation of the SPD (from election 11/1972 onward to 10/1976).				
Special Note						
See also						
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type	Version	
-	-	-	0	Numeric	04/26/2018	

Variable: conSupS				Parent Table con	
Description					
This variable summarizes the public support in percentage for the Social Democrats (SPD) as reported by the German Politbarometer.					
Values / Example		Label			
44.62705		Public support for the SPD in percent (March 1st, 1977).			
Special Note					
<p>The support is estimated as monthly average across respondents answering to the questions: “If there were federal elections held next Sunday, would you vote?” (Item v4 in the Politbarometer) “And which party would you vote for?” (Item v5 in the Politbarometer). Respondents who would not vote were excluded. There were 29 months for which data was missing. These months are assigned the value from the preceding month. Data from the Politbarometer is available from March 1977.</p> <p>The information on the variable is extracted from an external source. We do not claim authorship or responsibility for the external source. Please also credit the Politbarometer (ZA2391_v12-0-0.dta) as external when using the variable.</p>					
See also					
For the raw data refer to:					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Politbarometer. 2013. “Partielle Kumulation (1977-2011).“ <i>GESIS Datenarchiv</i>, ZA2391 (Version 12.0.0), Köln. 					
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type	Version
39.43	7.969	41.03	1563	Numeric	05/28/2021

Variable: conPosFlogrile				Parent Table		con	
Description							
<p>This variable summarizes the latent policy position of the Liberal Democrats (FDP) as computed from party manifestos by Lowe et al. 2011. Positions can take negative or positive values, with lower values indicating “leftish” positions, while higher values indicate “rightish” positions. Consider positions as relative estimates which are meaningful when comparing multiple parties on the scale.</p>							
Values / Example				Label			
0.73088753				Position of the FDP (from election 11/1972 onward to 10/1976).			
Special Note							
<p>Party positions are based upon topics published in manifestos. Therefore, these positions only change when federal elections occur. Thus, the manifesto scores are constant within a legislative period.</p> <p>The information on the variable is extracted from an external source. We do not claim authorship or responsibility for the external source. Please also credit Lowe et al. 2011 as external source when using the variable.</p>							
See also							
<p>For detailed information on the scaling approach refer to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lowe, W. / K. Benoit / S. Mikhaylov / M. Laver. “Scaling Policy Preferences from Coded Political Text.” <i>Legislative Studies Quarterly</i> 36 (1): 123-55. 							
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type			Version
0.191	0.333	0.161	0	Numeric			04/26/2018

Variable: conPosFlogrilese				Parent Table		con	
Description							
<p>Standard error for the estimated average party position of the FDP in <i>conPosFlogrile</i>.</p>							
Values / Example				Label			
0.50612001				Standard error of the FDP (from election 11/1972 onward to 10/1976).			
Special Note							
See also							
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type			Version
-	-	-	0	Numeric			04/26/2018

Variable: conPosFmcscs					Parent Table con	
Description						
<p>This variable summarizes the latent policy position of the Liberal Democrats (FDP) as computed from party manifestos and expert surveys by König et al. 2013. Positions can take negative or positive values, with lower values indicating “leftish” positions, while higher values indicate “rightish” positions. Consider positions as relative estimates which are meaningful when comparing multiple parties on the scale.</p>						
Values / Example		Label				
0.7683763		Position of the FDP (from election 11/1972 onward to 10/1976).				
Special Note						
<p>Party positions are based upon topics published in manifestos. Therefore, these positions only change when federal elections occur. Thus, the manifesto scores are constant within a legislative period. The information on the variable is extracted from an external source. We do not claim authorship or responsibility for the external source. Please also credit König et al. 2013 as external source when using the variable.</p>						
See also						
<p>For detailed information on the scaling approach refer to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • König, T. / M. Marbach / M. Osnabrügge. 2013. “Estimating Party Positions across Countries and Time.“ <i>Political Analysis</i> 21 (4): 468-91. 						
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type	Version	
0.982	0.709	1.018	0	Numeric	04/26/2018	

Variable: conPosFmcscssd					Parent Table con	
Description						
<p>Standard deviation for the estimated average party position of the FDP in <i>conPosFmcscs</i>.</p>						
Values / Example		Label				
0.6543778		Standard deviation of the FDP (from election 11/1972 onward to 10/1976).				
Special Note						
See also						
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type	Version	
-	-	-	0	Numeric	04/26/2018	

Variable: conSupF				Parent Table	con
Description					
This variable summarizes the public support in percentage for the Liberal Democrats (FDP) as reported by the German Politbarometer.					
Values / Example		Label			
9.860936		Public support for the FDP in percent (March 1st, 1977).			
Special Note					
<p>The support is estimated as monthly average across respondents answering to the questions: “If there were federal elections held next Sunday, would you vote?” (Item v4 in the Politbarometer) “And which party would you vote for?” (Item v5 in the Politbarometer). Respondents who would not vote were excluded. There were 29 months for which data was missing. These months are assigned the value from the prescinding month. Data from the Politbarometer is available from March 1977.</p> <p>The information on the variable is extracted from an external source. We do not claim authorship or responsibility for the external source. Please also credit the Politbarometer (ZA2391_v12-0-0.dta) as external when using the variable.</p>					
See also					
For the raw data refer to:					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Politbarometer. 2013. “Partielle Kumulation (1977-2011).“ <i>GESIS Datenarchiv</i>, ZA2391 (Version 12.0.0), Köln. 					
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type	Version
6.467	2.676	6.188	1563	Numeric	05/28/2021

Variable: conPosGlogrile				Parent Table con	
Description					
<p>This variable summarizes the latent policy position of the Greens (Bündnis 90/Grüne) as computed from party manifestos by Lowe et al. 2011. Positions can take negative or positive values, with lower values indicating “leftish” positions, while higher values indicate “rightish” positions. Consider positions as relative estimates which are meaningful when comparing multiple parties on the scale.</p>					
Values / Example		Label			
-0.9433717		Position of the Bündnis 90/Grüne (from election 03/1983 onward to 01/1987).			
Special Note					
<p>Party positions are based upon topics published in manifestos. Therefore, these positions only change when federal elections occur. Thus, the manifesto scores are constant within a legislative period.</p> <p>Bündnis 90/Grüne was elected to the Bundestag first in March 1983 and first positions are available then.</p> <p>The information on the variable is extracted from an external source. We do not claim authorship or responsibility for the external source. Please also credit Lowe et al. 2011 as external source when using the variable.</p>					
See also					
<p>For detailed information on the scaling approach refer to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lowe, W. / K. Benoit / S. Mikhaylov / M. Laver. “Scaling Policy Preferences from Coded Political Text.” <i>Legislative Studies Quarterly</i> 36 (1): 123-55. 					
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type	Version
-0.856	0.226	-0.943	3759	Numeric	04/26/2018

Variable: conPosGlogrilese				Parent Table con	
Description					
<p>Standard error for the estimated average party position of the Bündnis 90/Grüne in <i>conPosGlogrile</i>.</p>					
Values / Example		Label			
0.23712441		Standard error of the Bündnis 90/Grüne (from election 03/1983 onward to 01/1987).			
Special Note					
See also					
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type	Version
-	-	-	3759	Numeric	04/26/2018

Variable: conPosGmcscs					Parent Table		con
Description							
<p>This variable summarizes the latent policy position of the Greens (Bündnis 90/Grüne) as computed from party manifestos and expert surveys by König et al. 2013. Positions can take negative or positive values, with lower values indicating “leftish” positions, while higher values indicate “rightish” positions. Consider positions as relative estimates which are meaningful when comparing multiple parties on the scale.</p>							
Values / Example		Label					
-3.728357		Bündnis 90/Grüne (from election 03/1983 onward to 01/1987).					
Special Note							
<p>Party positions are based upon topics published in manifestos. Therefore, these positions only change when federal elections occur. Thus, the manifesto scores are constant within a legislative period. Bündnis 90/Grüne was elected to the Bundestag first in March 1983 and first positions are available then.</p> <p>The information on the variable is extracted from an external source. We do not claim authorship or responsibility for the external source. Please also credit König et al. 2013 as external source when using the variable.</p>							
See also							
<p>For detailed information on the scaling approach refer to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> König, T. / M. Marbach / M. Osnabrügge. 2013. “Estimating Party Positions across Countries and Time.” <i>Political Analysis</i> 21 (4): 468-91. 							
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type			Version
-3.192	0.981	-2.893	3759	Numeric			04/26/2018

Variable: conPosGmcscssd					Parent Table		con
Description							
<p>Standard deviation for the estimated average party position of the Bündnis 90/Grüne in <i>conPosGmcscs</i>.</p>							
Values / Example		Label					
1.3838805		Standard deviation of the Bündnis 90/Grüne (from election 03/1983 onward to 01/1987).					
Special Note							
See also							
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type			Version
-	-	-	3759	Numeric			04/26/2018

Variable: conSupG				Parent Table con	
Description					
This variable summarizes the public support in percentage for the Greens (Bündnis 90/Grüne) as reported by the German Politbarometer.					
Values / Example		Label			
6.785317		Public support for the Bündnis 90/Grüne in percent (April 1st, 1983).			
Special Note					
<p>The support is estimated as monthly average across respondents answering to the questions: “If there were federal elections held next Sunday, would you vote?” (Item v4 in the Politbarometer) “And which party would you vote for?” (Item v5 in the Politbarometer). Respondents who would not vote were excluded. There were 29 months for which data was missing. These months are assigned the value from the preceding month. Data from the Politbarometer is available from March 1977.</p> <p>Bündnis 90/Grüne was elected to the Bundestag first in March 1983 and first public support data is available for July 1979.</p> <p>The information on the variable is extracted from an external source. We do not claim authorship or responsibility for the external source. Please also credit the Politbarometer (ZA2391_v12-0-0.dta) as external when using the variable.</p>					
See also					
For the raw data refer to:					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Politbarometer. 2013. “Partielle Kumulation (1977-2011).“ <i>GESIS Datenarchiv</i>, ZA2391 (Version 12.0.0), Köln. 					
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type	Version
9.312	3.512	8.997	2415	Numeric	05/28/2021

Variable: conPosLlogrile				Parent Table con	
Description					
<p>This variable summarizes the latent policy position of the Socialist Party (Linke) as computed from party manifestos by Lowe et al. 2011. Positions can take negative or positive values, with lower values indicating “leftish” positions, while higher values indicate “rightish” positions. Consider positions as relative estimates which are meaningful when comparing multiple parties on the scale.</p>					
Values / Example		Label			
-1.320952		Position of the Linke (from election 12/1990 onward to 10/1994).			
Special Note					
<p>Party positions are based upon topics published in manifestos. Therefore, these positions only change when federal elections occur. Thus, the manifesto scores are constant within a legislative period.</p> <p>Die Linke was elected to the Bundestag first in December 1990 and first positions are available then.</p> <p>The information on the variable is extracted from an external source. We do not claim authorship or responsibility for the external source. Please also credit Lowe et al. 2011 as external source when using the variable.</p>					
See also					
<p>For detailed information on the scaling approach refer to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lowe, W. / K. Benoit / S. Mikhaylov / M. Laver. “Scaling Policy Preferences from Coded Political Text.” <i>Legislative Studies Quarterly</i> 36 (1): 123-55. 					
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type	Version
-1.363	0.199	-1.321	6587	Numeric	04/26/2018

Variable: conPosLlogrilese				Parent Table con	
Description					
<p>Standard error for the estimated average party position of the Linke in <i>conPosLlogrile</i>.</p>					
Values / Example		Label			
0.1685963		Standard error of the Linke (from election 12/1990 onward to 10/1994).			
Special Note					
See also					
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type	Version
-	-	-	6587	Numeric	04/26/2018

Variable: conPosLmcscs				Parent Table		con	
Description							
<p>This variable summarizes the latent policy position of the Socialist Party (Linke) as computed from party manifestos and expert surveys by König et al. 2013. Positions can take negative or positive values, with lower values indicating “leftish” positions, while higher values indicate “rightish” positions. Consider positions as relative estimates which are meaningful when comparing multiple parties on the scale.</p>							
Values / Example				Label			
-3.857453				Position of the Linke (from election 12/1990 onward to 10/1994).			
Special Note							
<p>Party positions are based upon topics published in manifestos. Therefore, these positions only change when federal elections occur. Thus, the manifesto scores are constant within a legislative period.</p> <p>Die Linke was elected to the Bundestag first in December 1990 and first positions are available then.</p> <p>The information on the variable is extracted from an external source. We do not claim authorship or responsibility for the external source. Please also credit König et al. 2013 as external source when using the variable.</p>							
See also							
<p>For detailed information on the scaling approach refer to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • König, T. / M. Marbach / M. Osnabrügge. 2013. “Estimating Party Positions across Countries and Time.” <i>Political Analysis</i> 21 (4): 468-91. 							
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type			Version
-5.261	1.717	-4.343	6587	Numeric			04/26/2018

Variable: conPosLmcscssd				Parent Table		con	
Description							
<p>Standard deviation for the estimated average party position of the Linke in <i>conPosLmcscs</i>.</p>							
Values / Example				Label			
1.4324521				Standard deviation of the Linke (from election 12/1990 onward to 10/1994).			
Special Note							
See also							
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type			Version
-	-	-	6587	Numeric			04/26/2018

Variable: conSupL				Parent Table		con	
Description							
This variable summarizes the public support in percentage for the Socialist Party (Linke) as reported by the German Politbarometer.							
Values / Example				Label			
4.154645				Public support for the Linke in percent (January 1st, 1991).			
Special Note							
<p>The support is estimated as monthly average across respondents answering to the questions: “If there were federal elections held next Sunday, would you vote?” (Item v4 in the Politbarometer) “And which party would you vote for?” (Item v5 in the Politbarometer). Respondents who would not vote were excluded. There were 29 months for which data was missing. These months are assigned the value from the prescinding month. Data from the Politbarometer is available from March 1977.</p> <p>Die Linke was elected to the Bundestag first in December 1990 and first public support data is available for April 1990.</p> <p>The information on the variable is extracted from an external source. We do not claim authorship or responsibility for the external source. Please also credit the Politbarometer (ZA2391_v12-0-0.dta) as external when using the variable.</p>							
See also							
For the raw data refer to:							
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Politbarometer. 2013. “Partielle Kumulation (1977-2011).“ <i>GESIS Datenarchiv</i>, ZA2391 (Version 12.0.0), Köln. 							
Mean	SD	Median	Missing	Type			Version
7.934	3.564	7.797	1563	Numeric			05/28/2021