

Franchino, Fabio, Mark A. Kayser, and Christopher Wratil (2021) 'Electoral Competitiveness and Responsiveness: Rational Anticipation in the EU Council' *Journal of European Public Policy*.

Guide to produce the variable *Expected duration*

These files produce the variable *Expected duration*, as explained in the main text and the appendix of the article, to be copied into the deu_positions (I-III) spreadsheet.

Different do files rely on different datasets and, sometimes, they run other do files. Please make sure to download all the replication files and save them in the same folder; then use this folder as your STATA working directory.

Outputs are datasets that are used for the next steps of the procedure. We recommend using STATA version 15 or above. If datasets are modified by the commands, do not save the changes before exiting.

Run step 1 and then step 2.

1. Production of the bootstrapped values of *Expected duration*

This step produces the bootstrapped means and standard deviations of the estimated duration of governments from the survival model of Chiba et al. (2015: 54, Table 3)

Run the do file FKW3 survival model bootstrap.do

File description:

Dataset final.dta: this dataset contains information on 673 governments formed in Europe since the late 1940s. To create the variable, we will only use governments formed after 1 January 1990.

Do file FKW3 survival model bootstrap.do and ancillary do file rename country_name.do: The first do file runs the survival model and produces the 1000 bootstrapped survival estimates for each government. Note that the bootstrapping procedure is run twice as many times to make sure that we have enough bootstrapped predictions for each government. The do file then calculates the expected duration mean and the standard deviation of the bootstrapped survival estimates. If the mean is greater than the maximum duration of a government, as determined by the constitutional inter-election period (CIEP), it is trimmed to such maximum duration. The ancillary do file is only for the purpose of renaming country names to be easily merged with the datasets in step 2.

Dataset iteration.dta: this output dataset contains the raw bootstrapped survival estimates

Dataset FKW3.dta: this output dataset contains the bootstrapped survival estimated means and standard deviations

2. Merging the variable *Expected duration* into the DEU dataset

This step produces the variable `FKW3expdurat` (*Expected duration*) linked to the variables `DEUIssueNumber`, `DEUProposalNumber`, `DateofProposal` of the Excel file `deu_positions (I-III)`.

Run the do file `merge deu_positions FKW3duration.do`

File description:

Do file `merge deu_positions FKW3duration.do`: this do file manipulates the data from `FKW3.dta` to be exported in the DEU excel dataset. It computes both the mean and the standard deviation of *Expected duration* with respect to the date a legislative proposal has been tabled.

The file also adds the data on government duration that could not (Poland, Malta) or should not (Cyprus) be estimated. It finally adds the government duration (equivalent to the time to the expiration of the CIEP) for a) caretaker governments which were omitted from the survival model b) governments whose duration was estimated from the survival model but became caretaker governments (e.g. during the post-election government formation period). Observations preceding the start of the DEU dataset are then deleted.

Ancillary files `add last election dates.do` and `add CIEP.do`: these ancillary do files add the last election dates at the end of our observation period and the CIEP.

Excel dataset `deu_positions (I-III).xlsx`: this dataset contains information on the DEU proposals.

Dataset `Cyprus Malta Poland.dta`: this dataset contains information for countries with governments whose expected duration could not be estimated because of missing data (Malta and Poland) and because the survival model is not applicable (Cyprus). The expected duration is set equal to maximum government duration as determined by the CIEP.