

What Kind of Electoral Outcome do People Think is Good for Democracy?

Online Appendix

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Appendix A. The data for the 15 Vignettes

Austria: 2017 election			
Party name	Vote share	Seat share	In government?
Party A	31.5	33.9	Yes
Party B	26.9	28.4	No
Party C	26.0	27.9	Yes
Party D	5.3	5.5	No
Party E	4.4	4.4	No
Party F	3.8	0	No
Party G	1.0	0	No
Belgium: 2014 election			
Party name	Vote share	Seat share	In government?
Party A	20.3	22.0	Yes
Party B	11.7	15.3	No
Party C	11.6	12.0	Yes
Party D	9.8	9.3	Yes
Party E	9.6	13.3	Yes
Party F	8.8	8.7	No
Party G	5.0	6.0	No
Party H	5.3	4.0	No
Party I	3.7	2.0	No
Party J	3.7	1.3	No
Party K	3.3	4.0	No
Party L	1.8	1.3	No
Party M	1.5	0.7	No
Denmark: 2011 election			
Party name	Vote share	Seat share	In government?
Party A	26.7	26.3	No
Party B	24.8	24.6	Yes
Party C	12.3	12.3	No
Party D	9.5	9.5	Yes
Party E	9.2	8.9	Yes
Party F	6.7	6.7	No
Party G	5.0	5.0	No
Party H	4.9	4.5	No
Finland: 2011 election			
Party name	Vote share	Seat share	In government?
Party A	20.4	22.0	Yes
Party B	19.1	21.0	Yes
Party C	19.1	19.5	No
Party D	15.8	17.5	No
Party E	8.1	7.0	Yes
Party F	7.3	5.0	Yes
Party G	4.3	4.5	Yes

Party H	4.0	3	Yes
France: 2012 election			
Party name	Vote share	Seat share	In government?
Party A	29.4	48.5	Yes
Party B	27.1	33.6	No
Party C	13.6	0.3	No
Party D	6.9	1.7	No
Party E	5.5	2.9	Yes
Party F	3.5	2.6	No
Party G	3.4	3.8	No
Party H	2.2	2.1	No
Party I	1.8	0.3	No
Party J	1.7	2.1	Yes
Party K	1.2	1.0	No
Germany: 2013 election			
Party name	Vote share	Seat share	In government?
Party A	34.1	40.4	Yes
Party B	7.4	8.9	No
Party C	25.7	30.6	Yes
Party D	8.6	10.1	No
Party E	8.4	10.0	No
Party F	4.8	0	No
Party G	4.7	0	No
Party H	2.2	0	No
Party I	1.3	0	No
Greece: 2015 election (Sep)			
Party name	Vote share	Seat share	In government?
Party A	35.5	48.3	Yes
Party B	28.1	25.0	No
Party C	7.0	6.0	No
Party D	6.3	5.7	No
Party E	5.6	5.0	No
Party F	4.1	3.7	No
Party G	3.7	3.3	Yes
Party H	3.4	3.0	No
Italy: 2013 election			
Party name	Vote share	Seat share	In government?
Party A	26.3	47.1	Yes
Party B	25.9	17.3	No
Party C	22.0	15.6	Yes
Party D	8.8	6.2	Yes
Party E	4.1	2.9	No
Party F	3.3	5.9	No
Party G	2.3	0	No
Party H	2.0	1.4	No

Party I	1.8	1.3	Yes
Party J	1.2	0	No
Ireland: 2002 election			
Party name	Vote share	Seat share	In government?
Party A	41.5	48.8	Yes
Party B	22.5	18.7	No
Party C	10.8	12.7	No
Party D	4.0	4.8	Yes
Party E	6.5	3	No
Party F	3.9	3.6	No
Netherlands: 2012 election			
Party name	Vote share	Seat share	In government?
Party A	26.6	27.3	Yes
Party B	24.8	25.3	Yes
Party C	10.1	10.0	No
Party D	9.7	10.0	No
Party E	8.5	8.7	No
Party F	8.0	8.0	No
Party G	3.1	3.3	No
Party H	2.3	2.7	No
Party I	2.1	2.0	No
Party J	1.9	1.3	No
Party K	1.9	1.3	No
Norway: 2005 election			
Party name	Vote share	Seat share	In government?
Party A	32.7	36.1	Yes
Party B	22.1	22.5	No
Party C	14.1	13.6	No
Party D	8.8	8.9	Yes
Party E	6.8	6.5	No
Party F	6.5	6.5	Yes
Party G	5.9	5.9	No
Party H	1.2	0	No
Portugal: 2015 election			
Party name	Vote share	Seat share	In government?
Party A	39.8	46.5	Yes
Party B	33.6	37.0	No
Party C	10.6	8.3	No
Party D	8.6	7.4	No
Party E	1.4	0.4	No
Party F	1.2	0	No
Party G	1.2	0	No
Spain: 2016 election			
Party name	Vote share	Seat share	In government?
Party A	33.0	39.1	Yes

Party B	22.7	24.3	No
Party C	13.4	12.9	No
Party D	13.1	9.1	No
Party E	3.6	3.4	No
Party F	2.7	2.6	No
Party G	1.4	1.4	No
Party H	2.6	2.6	No
Party I	2.0	2.3	No
Party J	1.2	1.4	No
Sweden: 2010 election			
Party name	Vote share	Seat share	In government?
Party A	30.7	32.1	No
Party B	30.1	30.7	Yes
Party C	7.3	7.2	No
Party D	7.1	6.9	Yes
Party E	6.6	6.6	Yes
Party F	5.7	5.7	No
Party G	5.6	5.4	No
Party H	5.6	5.4	Yes
United Kingdom: 2005 election			
Party name	Vote share	Seat share	In government?
Party A	35.2	55.0	Yes
Party B	32.4	30.7	No
Party C	22.0	9.6	No
Party D	0.9	1.4	No
Party E	1.5	0.9	No

Appendix B. Percentages of ‘don’t know’ and ‘refusal’ by vignette

Vignette	Don’t know	Refuse to answer
Austria	15.42 %	1.61 %
Belgium	17.26 %	1.58 %
Denmark	15.74 %	1.68 %
Finland	15.71 %	1.82 %
France	16.67 %	1.61 %
Germany	14.70 %	1.90 %
Greece	16.07 %	1.71 %
Italy	14.00 %	1.77 %
Ireland	15.85 %	1.52 %
Netherlands	14.65 %	1.79 %
Norway	16.47 %	1.02 %
Portugal	15.65 %	2.00 %
Spain	15.46 %	1.78 %
Sweden	16.64 %	1.69 %
United Kingdom	14,39 %	1.40 %
Mean	15.64 %	1.63 %

Appendix C. Balance test of ‘skippers’

	Skipper
Age (18-98)	1.01*** (0.01)
Gender (0-1)	0.52*** (0.56)
Education (0-1)	-0.34*** (0.08)
Feeling of income security (0-1)	-0.06 (0.99)
Urbanization (0-1)	0.08 (1.40)
Left-right ideology (0-1)	-0.01 (0.47)
Political interest (0-1)	-0.23*** (0.02)
Constant	0.02*** (0.01)
Country fixed effects	YES
Pseudo R ²	0.01
N	15,414.

Note: Entries are marginal effects from logit regression predicting probability to be a ‘skipper’ (i.e., refused to answer or responded don’t know to all five vignettes). Standard errors are in parentheses. * $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$. Weighted sample.

Appendix D. Descriptive statistics of independent variables

	Mean	Standard deviation	Min	Max	N
ENPP	4.23	1.40	2.46	7.82	77,070
Gallagher index	6.92	5.70	0.73	17.66	77,070
Number of parties in government	2.66	1.35	1.00	6.00	77,070
Majority government	0.73	0.44	0.00	1.00	77,070
Vote share of parties in government	0.47	0.09	0.33	0.63	77,070

Note: Weighted sample.

Appendix E. Robustness tests

	(1) No weight	(2) Count of parties	(3) No incorrect vignette	(4) Dummy coalition variable	(5) No 'constant-rater'	(6) Extra independent variables
ENPP	0.09** (0.03)		0.08** (0.03)	-0.04 (0.04)	0.08 ** (0.24)	0.05 (0.06)
Gallagher index	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.02** (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.03** (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)
Number of parties in government	-0.18** (0.05)	-0.20*** (0.03)	-0.19*** (0.04)		-0.23*** (0.04)	-0.22*** (0.06)
Vote share of parties in government	3.72*** (0.76)	3.08*** (0.52)	2.60*** (0.49)	1.74 (1.00)	3.38*** (0.61)	2.35 (1.76)
Majority government	0.37** (0.09)	0.36*** (0.70)	0.35*** (0.08)	0.55*** (0.11)	0.35** (0.08)	0.29** (0.09)
Coalition government				-0.26*** (0.12)		
Count of parties in parliament		0.05** (0.02)				
Vote share of parties in parliament						0.63 (0.55)
Largest party in government						-0.11 (0.12)
Manufactured governments						-0.18 (0.26)
Constant	2.80*** (0.33)	3.23*** (0.24)	3.39*** (0.25)	4.08*** (0.42)	3.16*** (0.29)	3.65** (1.12)
Country fixed effects	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
R ²	0,03	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02
N	63,705	63,705	58,307	63,705	56,392	63,705

Note: Entries are coefficient estimates from OLS regression predicting outcome rating (0-10). Standard errors clustered by outcome are in parentheses. * $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$. In column 3, we remove the outcomes with errors. Weighted sample in columns 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 Unweighted in column 1.

Appendix F. Moderating effect of socio-demographic and attitudinal variables

	(1) Education	(2) Left- right	(3) Size of supported party
ENPP	0.72* (0.03)	0.05 (0.06)	0.03 (0.05)
Gallagher index	0.01 (0.01)	-0.02 (0.01)	-0.02 (0.02)
Number of parties in government	-0.25*** (0.04)	-0.09 (0.10)	-0.06 (0.01)
Majority government	0.28** (0.70)	0.49* (0.18)	0.27 (0.19)
Vote share of parties in government	3.16** (0.67)	4.09** (1.09)	4.06*** (0.86)
Moderating variable	-0.41 (0.31)	2.21** (0.06)	4.41** (1.69)
Moderating variable * ENPP	0.02 (0.06)	0.06 (0.07)	0.20 (0.25)
Moderating variable * Gallagher index	-0.02 (0.01)	0.03 (0.02)	0.04 (0.07)
Moderating variable * Number of parties in government	0.03 (0.05)	0.27 (0.12)	-0.09 (0.44)
Moderating variable * Majority government	0.02 (0.10)	-0.25 (0.02)	0.42 (0.09)
Moderating variable * Vote share of parties in government	0.38 (0.42)	-1.65 (1.33)	-4.62 (3.05)
Constant	4.10*** (0.36)	2.91*** (0.58)	3.33*** (0.53)
Controls	YES	YES	YES
Country fixed effects	YES	YES	YES
R ²	0.05	0.05	0.04
N	62,664	62,664	53,512

Note: Entries are coefficient estimates from OLS regression predicting outcome rating (0-10). Standard errors clustered by outcome and respondent are in parentheses. * $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$. Moderating variables are: education level (0-1, Column 1), self-reported left-right ideology (0-1, Column 2), vote share of party for which the respondent voted at last election (0-0.43, Column 3). Control variables: age (18-98), gender (0-1), education (0-1), feeling of income security (0-1), and urbanization (0-1). 'Don't know' on these questions are excluded. Weighted sample.

Appendix G. Correlations in mean ratings between country pairs.

	AT	BE	DE	DK	ES	FI	FR	UK	GR	IE	IT	NL	NO	PT	SE
AT	1														
BE	0.83*	1													
DE	0.68*	0.81*	1												
DK	0.77*	0.81*	0.74*	1											
ES	0.56*	0.77*	0.58*	0.78*	1										
FI	0.76*	0.81*	0.57*	0.69*	0.46	1									
FR	0.73*	0.74*	0.69*	0.81*	0.51	0.75*	1								
UK	-0.03	0.19	0.15	0.34	0.59*	-0.22*	-0.01	1							
GR	0.65*	0.71*	0.54*	0.81*	0.62*	0.69*	0.63*	0.35	1						
IE	0.60*	0.81*	0.68*	0.76*	0.80*	0.50	0.63*	0.45	0.55*	1					
IT	0.23	0.52*	0.49	0.51	0.72*	0.03	0.22	0.80*	0.40	0.80*	1				
NL	0.77*	0.78*	0.52*	0.81*	0.76*	0.79*	0.74*	0.12	0.62*	0.74*	0.33	1			
NO	0.68*	0.75*	0.64*	0.86*	0.85*	0.50	0.69*	0.43	0.66*	0.62*	0.49	0.66*	1		
PT	0.70*	0.68*	0.28	0.73*	0.59*	0.79*	0.58*	0.09	0.78*	0.58*	0.23	0.85*	0.53*	1	
SE	0.74*	0.90*	0.73*	0.95*	0.85*	0.68*	0.75*	0.43	0.82*	0.80*	0.63*	0.79*	0.87*	0.72*	1

Note: Entries are correlations (r) of average ratings of the 15 electoral outcomes for each pair of country respondents. * $p < 0.05$. $N=15$. Unweighted sample. AT=Austria, BE=Belgium, DE=Germany, DK=Denmark, ES=Spain, FI=Finland, FR=France, UK=United Kingdom, GR=Greece, IE=Ireland, IT=Italy, NL=Netherlands, NO=Norway, PT=Portugal, SE=Sweden.

Appendix H. Multi-level regression.

	(1) ENPP	(2) Gallagher	(3) Number of parties in government	(4) Majority governments	(5) Vote share of parties in government
ENPP	-0.07 (0.06)	0.08*** (0.01)	0.08*** (0.01)	0.09*** (0.01)	0.09*** (0.01)
Gallagher index	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.02* (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)
Number of parties in government	-0.19*** (0.04)	-0.19*** (0.04)	-0.24** (0.07)	-0.19*** (0.04)	-0.19*** (0.04)
Majority government	0.35*** (0.05)	0.35*** (0.05)	0.35*** (0.34)	0.25 (0.15)	0.35*** (0.05)
Vote share of parties in government	3.50*** (0.34)	3.50*** (0.34)	3.50*** (0.34)	3.50*** (0.34)	-0.70 (2.57)
Moderating variable	-0.19* (0.08)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.12 (0.73)	-0.06 (0.05)	-0.05 (0.03)
Interaction	0.04 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	0.02 (0.21)	0.03 (0.05)	0.09 (0.06)
Constant	4.04*** (0.41)	3.29*** (0.27)	3.63*** (0.31)	3.46*** (0.26)	5.69*** (1.36)
R ²	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02
N	63,705	63,705	63,705	63,705	63,705

Note: Entries are coefficient estimates from OLS regression predicting outcome rating (0-10). Standard errors clustered by outcome and country are in parentheses. * $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$. Moderating variables are: average ENPP in respondent's country over last 5 elections (2.44-8.17, Column 1), average Gallagher index (0.97-18.4, Column 2), average number of parties in government (1-8, Column 3), average number of majority governments (0-5, Column 4), average vote share of parties in government (33-58.8). The interaction is between the moderating variable and the main variable: ENPP for Column 1, Gallagher index for Column 2, Number of parties in government in Column 3, Majority government in Column 4, and Vote share of parties in government in Column 5. Weighted sample.

Appendix I. Moderating effect of respondents' country (satisfied respondents only)

	(1) ENPP	(2) Gallagher	(3) Number of parties in government	(4) Majority governments	(5) Vote share of parties in government
ENPP	-0.15 (0.11)	0.10*** (0.01)	0.10*** (0.13)	0.10*** (0.01)	0.10 *** (0.15)
Gallagher index	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)
Number of parties in government	-0.25*** (0.05)	-0.25*** (0.05)	-0.34*** (0.10)	-0.25*** (0.05)	-0.25*** (0.04)
Majority government	0.38*** (0.07)	0.38** (0.09)	0.38*** (0.08)	0.21*** (0.12)	0.38*** (0.05)
Vote share of parties in government	3.33*** (0.38)	3.33*** (0.38)	3.33*** (0.41)	3.35*** (0.46)	-2.62 (2.90)
Moderating variable	-0.36* (0.17)	0.01 (0.01)	-0.16 (0.11)	-0.05 (0.05)	-0.07* (0.03)
Interaction	0.07 (0.03)	-0.01 (0.01)	0.03 (0.01)	0.04 (0.20)	0.13 (0.06)
Constant	5.30*** (0.72)	3.51*** (0.28)	4.34*** (0.48)	4.11*** (0.20)	7.26 *** (1.65)
R ²	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02
N	35.214	35.214	35.214	35.214	35.214

Note: Entries are coefficient estimates from OLS regression predicting outcome rating (0-10). Standard errors clustered by outcome and country are in parentheses. * $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$. Moderating variables are: average ENPP in respondent's country over last 5 elections (2.44-8.17, Column 1), average Gallagher index (0.97-18.4, Column 2), average number of parties in government (1-8, Column 3), average number of majority governments (0-5, Column 4), average vote share of parties in government (33-58.8). The interaction is between the moderating variable and the main variable: ENPP for Column 1, Gallagher index for Column 2, Number of parties in government in Column 3, Majority government in Column 4, and Vote share of parties in government in Column 5. Weighted sample.