Proposed Inventory of CCS District-Level Module
(as of 01/30/07)

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CCS participants agreed in our Bad Dürkheim October 2006 conference that we would like to have some district- component that should be added to the micro-level survey data. Our porposed inventory includes variables that characterize each candidate's electoral environment in terms of the nature of electoral competition. In order to cover these features as fully as possible, some of the information to be coded is necessarily candidate- (or party-) rather than district-level (e.g. election results). Thus, we are exceeding our authorities to a certain extent. However, we are convinced that this information will be essential for many studies of campaigning and political competition, and that the collection of these data will substantially widen the analytical scope of the CCS.

At the same time, we have tried to build this module so that it will allow us to collect and provide detailed and complete information from the whole diversity of electoral systems presently existing among democracies. Consequently, the amount of information to be delivered by the national collaborators varies widely from system to system. For a closed list PR system with a single national electoral district (e.g. Israel), only limited information is required. For a mixed system with complex corrective mechanisms such as Hungary, the amount of information to be delivered will be substantially higher. In order to avoid a bulky and repetitive coding scheme, we have built in several 'loops', i.e. instructions to repeat the the coding for different legislative houses, for different segments, and for primary and secondary electoral districts. By cycling through the loops we generate variables instead of further observations. For many variables you will find that 'not applicable' will be the correct coding. Nevertheless, we have tried to be as precise as possible as to when these loops apply. However, we do not know each and every electoral system in sufficient detail, so comments from country experts will be more than welcome.

The generation of district level variables should be based on the official statistics for each candidate in the **sampling frame** of the study. Since for every candidate in the sampling frame that information is presumably already available in machine-readable form whatsoever, it would be virtually no reduction of data collection costs and, at the same time, a real loss of substantial information to exclude the candidates that did not participate in the study although they have been in the sampling frame. However, we anticipate that the availability of district-level data is limited by what is actually published by electoral commissions, and by the form in which these data are made available. We can hardly expect national collaborators to collect these data from many disparate sources.

The following variables should be included in the CCS data file:

>>> CHAMBER
Start LOOP 1: Same variables for each directly elected house of the legislature

>>> SEGMENT
Start LOOP 2: Same variables for each segment within each directly elected house of the legislature:

>>> LEVEL OF C's DISTRICT
Start LOOP 3: Please Same variables for each district level the candidate is standing for election:

>>> ID NUMBER OF C's DISTRICT
>>> NAME OF C's DISTRICT
>>> ELIGIBLE VOTERS IN C's DISTRICT
>>> VALID VOTERS IN C's DISTRICT
>>> INVALID VOTERS IN C's DISTRICT
>>> NUMBER OF SEATS IN C's DISTRICT
>>> NUMBER OF CANDIDATES IN C's DISTRICT
>>> NUMBER OF PARTY LISTS IN C's DISTRICT
>>> ID PARTY
>>> NUMBER OF SEATS WON BY C's PARTY IN C's DISTRICT
>>> PERCENT VOTE FOR C's PARTY IN C's DISTRICT
>>> PERCENT VOTE IN PREVIOUS ELECTION FOR C's PARTY IN C's DISTRICT
>>> ID CANDIDATE
>>> AGE
>>> GENDER
>>> RANK ON PARTY LIST
>>> PERCENT OF CANDIDATE VOTES
All three loops end here

>>> PERCENT OF CANDIDATE VOTES – 2.run
>>> PERCENT OF PREFERENCE VOTES

```
--------------------------------------------------------------------------
>>> CHAMBER
--------------------------------------------------------------------------
```

This variable reports the legislative house or CHAMBER for which the candidate is standing for election. If there is a single legislative house, this variable will be coded 9 NOT APPLICABLE.

In case a candidate is running for BOTH chambers that are surveyed in the CCS there are essentially two ways to deal with this: Duplicating observations or generating new variables to replicate the required information for every chamber. We opted here for the latter one. By cycling through the loops we generate new variables for every chamber instead of duplicating observations.

Did the candidate stand for election at the lower chamber, the upper chamber or in both chambers?
....

    1. LOWER CHAMBER

    2. UPPER CHAMBER

    3. BOTH.

    9. NOT APPLICABLE

LOOP 1: Please answer the following questions (SPECIFY!) for each directly elected house of the legislature:

Definitions: An **electoral district** is defined as a geographic area within which votes are counted and seats allocated. If a district cannot be partitioned into smaller districts within which votes are counted and seats allocated, it is called **primary**. If it can be partitioned into primary districts, and during the counting process there is some transfer of votes and/or seats from the primary districts to the larger district, then the larger district is called **secondary**. If a district can be partitioned into secondary districts (again with some transfer of votes and/or seats), it is called **tertiary**.

In some electoral systems, there are electoral districts that are geographically nested but not otherwise related for purposes of seat allocation. In Lithuania, for example, there are 71 single-member districts that operate under a majority runoff system, and also a single nationwide district that operates under proportional representation (the largest remainders method with the Hare quota). Neither votes nor seats from the single-member districts transfer to the nationwide district, however. The two processes are entirely independent (with voters having one vote in each district). In this case, the nationwide district, although it contains the 71 single-member districts, is not considered to be secondary. It is primary. One might say that there are two **segments** to the electoral system in such cases.

```
------------------------------------------------------------------------
>>> SEGMENT
------------------------------------------------------------------------
```

        In which segment did the candidate stand for election?

        ....

        1. FIRST SEGMENT

        2. SECOND SEGMENT

        3. HIGHER SEGMENT

        4. MORE THAN ONE SEGMENT

LOOP 2: Please answer the following questions (SPECIFY!) for each segment within each directly elected house of the legislature:

```
------------------------------------------------------------------------
>>> LEVEL OF C's DISTRICT
------------------------------------------------------------------------
```

        Within a single segment, there may be primary, secondary, and
        tertiary electoral districts. Please indicate all the district
        levels the candidate is standing for election.
        ....

        1. PRIMARY DISTRICT

        2. SECONDARY DISTRICT

        3. TERTIARY DISTRICT

LOOP 3: Please answer the following questions (SPECIFY!) for each district level the candidate is standing for election:

```
------------------------------------------------------------------------
>>> ID NUMBER OF C's DISTRICT
------------------------------------------------------------------------
```

        Identifier of C's DISTRICT. Note the candidates district can be a
        PRIMARY SECONDARY or a TERTIARY DISTRICT.

```
------------------------------------------------------------------------
>>> NAME OF C's DISTRICT
------------------------------------------------------------------------
```

        NAME OF C's DISTRICT

```
------------------------------------------------------------------------
>>> ELIGIBLE VOTERS IN C's DISTRICT
```

           This variable reports the official number of eligible voters
           in the candidate's electoral district.
           ....

                    TOTAL NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE VOTERS In C's DISTRICT

>>> VALID VOTES IN C's DISTRICT

           This variable reports the official total number of valid votes
           cast in the candidate's electoral district.
           ....

                    TOTAL NUMBER OF VALID VOTES CAST In C's DISTRICT

>>> VALID VOTES IN C's DISTRICT

           This variable reports the official total number of invalid votes
           cast in the candidate's electoral district.
           ....

                    TOTAL NUMBER OF INVALID VOTES CAST In C's DISTRICT

>>> NUMBER OF SEATS IN C's DISTRICT

           This variable reports the number of seats contested in C's
           district.
           ....

             001-900. NUMBER OF SEATS CONTESTED IN C's ELECTORAL DISTRICT

>>> NUMBER OF CANDIDATES IN C's DISTRICT

           This variable reports the total number of candidates who contested
           seats in C's district. These data are reported for systems
           in which electors vote for candidates directly as well as for
           systems in which electors may cast a preference ballot (i.e.,
           where a voter can indicate a candidate from a party list, in
           addition to casting a ballot for a party list).
           ....

             0001-9000. NUMBER OF CANDIDATES WHO CONTESTED THE
                    ELECTION IN C's ELECTORAL DISTRICT

             0000. NOT APPLICABLE

>>> NUMBER OF PARTY LISTS IN C's DISTRICT

This variable reports the number of parties that presented
lists and, thereby, contested seats in the C's district. These
data are reported for those systems in which electors cast
ballots for party lists.
....

   001-900. NUMBER OF PARTIES THAT PRESENTED A LIST OF
             CANDIDATES IN THE ELECTION IN C's ELECTORAL
             DISTRICT

   000.   NOT APPLICABLE

>>> ID Party

Candidate's party affiliation.
....

>>> NUMBER OF SEATS WON BY C's PARTY IN C's DISTRICT

This variable reports the number of seats won by C's party in C's
district.
....

   001-900. NUMBER OF SEATS WON BY C's PARTY IN C's ELECTORAL
             DISTRICT

>>> PERCENT VOTE FOR C's PARTY IN C's DISTRICT

This variable reports the proportion of votes cast in favor
of C's party in C's electoral district. In majoritarian
systems, in which more than one round of elections are held,
this variable reports of votes cast in favor of C's party in C's
electoral district in the FIRST round.
....

   000.00-100.00. PERCENT (0.00% TO 100.00%) OF THE VALID
               BALLOTS CAST IN C's DISTRICT THAT WERE
               CAST IN FAVOR OF C's PARTY.

   9999.00.   NOT APPLICABLE

>>> PERCENT VOTE IN PRECEDING ELECTION FOR C's PARTY IN C's DISTRICT

This variable reports the proportion of votes cast in favor
of C's party in C's electoral district in the previous election.
....

   000.00-100.00. PERCENT (0.00% TO 100.00%) OF THE VALID
               BALLOTS CAST IN C's DISTRICT THAT WERE

CAST IN FAVOR OF C's PARTY IN THE PRECEDING
                    ELECTION:

>>> ID CANDIDATE

        Identifier of CANDIDATE

>>> AGE OF CANDIDATE

        Age of candidate (in years).
        ....

            010-150. AGE OF CANDIDATE, IN YEARS

>>> GENDER OF CANDIDATE

        Gender of candidate.
        ....

                1. MALE
                2. FEMALE

>>> RANK ON PARTY LIST

        Candidate's Rank on party list

>>> PERCENT OF CANDIDATE VOTES

> This variable reports the proportion of votes cast in favor of
> the candidate. In run-off system this variable reports the results
> of the first run. Candidate votes are not applicable in closed
> list systems. In open list systems this variable reports the
> proportion of votes cast in favor of the candidate including his
> or her preferential votes. In Alternative Vote and STV systems
> this variable reports the proportion of first preferences cast in
> the first run.
> ....

> 000.00-100.00. PERCENT (0.00% TO 100.00%) VALID CANDIDATE
> VOTES CAST IN FAVOR OF THE CANDIDATE, 1st RUN.

> 9999.00.   NOT APPLICABLE

***All loops end here. This way we make sure we comprehensively map the
incentives that are provided by candidacies in different chambers, segments
or districts.***

>>> PERCENT OF CANDIDATE VOTES – 2.run

> This variable reports the proportion of votes cast in favor of
> the candidate of the second run in run-off.
> ....

> 000.00-100.00. PERCENT (0.00% TO 100.00%) VALID CANDIDATE
> VOTES CAST IN FAVOR OF THE CANDIDATE, 2nd RUN.

> 9999.00.   NOT APPLICABLE

>>> PERCENT OF PREFERENCE VOTES

> This variable reports the proportion of preference votes cast in
> favor of the candidate. This variable is only applicable to open
> list systems?
> ....

> 000.00-100.00. PERCENT (0.00% TO 100.00%) VALID PREFERENCE
> VOTES CAST IN FAVOR OF THE CANDIDATE.

> 9999.00.   NOT APPLICABLE