

Bicameralism Index Coding Scheme

Country

This is the identification variable for the unit of analysis. The dataset includes world states classified as bicameral systems in 2011 by PARLINE (see <http://www.ipu.org/parline/parlinesearch.asp>).

Oman and Yemen are not included in the dataset even though PARLINE classifies them as bicameral for 2011. Our decision to not include these countries was based on the nature of their upper chambers, which in effect appear to be the equivalent of advisory councils.

LowChamb = the name of the lower chamber.

UppChamb = the name of the upper chamber

PureV = Does the upper chamber of the legislature have a pure veto on legislation?

1 - if yes (includes ability to veto all legislation; systems in which conference committees composed of representatives from both chambers have the final say in case of disagreement between the chambers)

0 - if no

PartialV = Does the upper chamber of the legislature have only a partial veto on legislation?

1 - if yes (includes cases where the upper chamber can veto some legislation, but not all; for example this applies to systems where the final say on financial laws or the budget belongs only to the lower chamber)

0 - if no

Delay = Does the upper chamber of the legislature have the ability to delay legislation?

1 - if yes

0 - if no

DelayTime = By what amount of time can the upper chamber delay legislation (in days)?

OverridableV = Is the veto of the upper chamber overridable?

1 - if yes

0 - if no

OverridableDiff = How hard is it to override the upper chamber veto? Here we code the rule for overriding the veto (ex. 2/3 majority in the lower chamber)

Bicameralism Index:

$$= \text{PureV} + (\text{PartialV} * 0.5 + (\text{Delay} * 0.5 * (1 - (1 / (1 + \text{Delay} * \text{DelayTime})))))) - (\text{OverridableV} - \text{OverridableV} / (1 + \text{OverridableDiff}))$$