

German Longitudinal
Election Study



GLES 2017 Campaign Media Content Analysis, Print Media

ZA6809, Version 1.0.0

Methodology Report

Preliminary notes

Please note: Working with GLES-Data

This publication and the corresponding data set are data of the German Longitudinal Election Study (GLES), which are released by GESIS in cooperation with the German Society of Electoral Research (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Wahlforschung, DGfW). Despite thorough controlling and statistical processing of the data, GESIS and the DGfW cannot guarantee that this release will satisfy all demands. Mistakes will immediately be announced via the GLES mailing list and are documented in the data catalogue's errata list (www.gesis.org/dbk).

If you discover an error whilst working with GLES data, we would highly appreciate you informing us via e-mail (gles@gesis.org). Please send us the description of the error, the study number (ZA-number), as well as the version of the data set you are using.

We recommend using the latest version of GLES data at all times. They can be downloaded via the GESIS data catalogue. Links to the direct download can also be found on the GESIS website (www.gesis.org/gles).

Announcement of publications with GLES data

To gain an overview of the actual use of the data, we kindly request users of GLES data to inform us about publications that utilize those data (bibliographic notice, study no. of the used data set). Publications which are completely or partially based on GLES data will be listed in the official bibliography of GLES. In case of limited access to the publication (e.g. conference papers), we would highly appreciate it if you sent us a PDF-file or a print copy of your publication.

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Citation of GLES data

Please include following citation in your publication with GLES data:

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1 Research problem, conception and methods of the study

1.1 Context of the study

The analysis of TV news is part of the project “German Longitudinal Election Study (GLES). Dynamics of voting behaviour – A long-term study of change and stability in the German electoral process” which is steered by Prof. Dr. Rüdiger Schmitt-Beck at the University of Mannheim. The analysis of press articles aims at collecting media data concerning the campaign of the Federal election 2017, which can be systematically combined, with the survey data of the election study.

Period of observation

27 June to 23 September 2017 (90 days). In the period of observation each day was coded.

1.2 Case selection: Structure of the sample

The news stories, which are object of the coding, were selected in a multistep sampling procedure:

(1) Step: Choice of media genre and media products:

We chose the genre daily newspaper and in this media genre the five most important superregional quality newspapers in Germany as being typical for this genre: *Frankfurter Rundschau* (FR), *Süddeutsche Zeitung* (SZ), *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* (FAZ), *Die Welt* (Welt) and *Die Tageszeitung* (TAZ). Moreover, the *Bildzeitung* (BILD) was included into the analysis as it is the most widely read tabloid in Germany.

(2) Step: Choice of editorial departments within the media products:

For the newspapers enumerated above the following editorial departments have been chosen in order to select roughly the material relevant for this analysis:

Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung (FAZ):

- Front page (including all article continuations regardless of the page where the articles continue)

Die Welt (Welt):

- Front page (including all article continuations regardless of the page where the articles continue)

Die Bildzeitung (BILD):

- Front page (including all article continuations regardless of the page where the articles continue)
- Page 2

Süddeutsche Zeitung (SZ):

- Front page (including all article continuations regardless of the page where the articles continue)
- Opinion

Frankfurter Rundschau (FR):

- Front page (including all article continuations and all articles announced on the front page regardless of the editorial departments in which they are continued or published completely. Articles announced on the front page have only been subject to the preselection described in the selection step 3 if the criterion of inclusion outlined in point 3 corresponded yet to the article announcement)
- Opinion

Die Tageszeitung (TAZ):

- Front page (including all article continuations and all articles announced on the front page regardless of the editorial department in which they are continued or published completely. Articles announced on the front page have only been subject to the preselection described in the selection step 3 if the criterion of inclusion outlined in point 3 corresponded yet to the article announcement)
- Opinion and discussion (usually Monday to Friday), arguments (usually on Saturdays)

(3) Step: Choice of the articles relevant to the analysis within the editorial departments:

A preselection of the material to be analysed lead to all articles to be coded within the editorial departments which related to German federal politics (including all articles in which German federal political actors appeared). German federal politics was therefore the criterion of inclusion helping to decide whether an article was picked up for the sample or not.

Article (case on news story level, see 1.3 Case definition: The recording units) are defined as texts within the editorial departments included in the analysis with an own headline or source references or location information and not integrated as part of the layout in other articles; this means pictures (photographs or graphics) or boxes belong to an article if they build optically an entity with the text and have a connection of content with it. Detached pictures (i.e. photographs or graphics) are not considered as articles and are therefore principally not taken into account as part of the sample in the following selection process. If an article ran over several pages or was continued on a subsequent page, it is considered in its entity as one article and therefore was object of the preselection with its continuation in all newspapers. This was also the case if the page on which the article was continued was not part of the editorial department relevant for the study. For the newspapers FR and TAZ all news stories that are announced in the front page could be integrated in the preselection, regardless of the editorial department in which they appeared if the announcements of the articles on the front page fulfilled the criterion of inclusion of being relevant for German federal politics. If the criterion of inclusion did not apply the announcement of the article, the announced articles were not examined and excluded immediately of the sample. The announcement of the article was considered as an independent case. Short news within special sub-rubrics or special boxes were considered as being independent articles if they were formally structured: structuring by paragraphs, highlighting of first words of lines, own indication of source or place. So called „tapeworm articles“, i.e. news stories that are continued with new subheadings, are considered as one case.

The following types of articles are excluded from the preselection within the editorial departments relevant for the study and therefore from the sample:

- Table of contents in headline style („Today in the SZ“, „Today in the FAZ“, “Today in the TAZ”) and all headline boxes including pictures in the title bar or in the last line of the front page. Please note

that announcements of articles on the front pages of FR and TAZ were not considered as tables of content and are therefore included completely into the preselection.

- Detached pictures (= photographs, graphics)
- Information about contact or imprint as well as the telephone number of the editors
- Weather forecast/report/chart
- Lottery numbers
- Calendar sheets/motto
- Quotes of the day
- Share indices or charts and exchange rates (e.g. DAX, Dow Jones, Euro etc.) without further text
- Information of the price of the newspaper
- Advertisements
- Online links
- Reader's letters
- Media and press reviews/press commentaries
- TV tips
- „Zippert zappt“
- Detached caricatures

The systematic selection process described in the following was applied to all other articles within the editorial departments relevant to the study in order to identify the relevant articles.

In order to decide whether the criterion of inclusion applied on the respective article, the coder executing the preselection had in doubt to read the complete article. One time the criterion of inclusion was identified, the reading of the article could be stopped and the article could be integrated into the sample.

Criterion of inclusion

As German federal politics is defined every kind of politics on a federal level (normally but not necessarily the actions of one or several federal political actors as mentioned in list 2, codes 1000-1440, abstract presentations without concrete reference to an actor are however possible) in connection with ruling of (social, economic, political etc.) conditions within the Federal republic (internal politics, e.g. internal security, health care policy, labour market policy, family policy) or with relations of Germany to one or several other countries or international organisations (foreign affairs, e.g. visits of German federal politicians in abroad, international agreements, summits, deployments of the German armed forces abroad).

As German federal politics are therefore not considered the national politics of other countries (excepted foreign affairs with reference to Germany), the relations between other countries without reference to Germany and the politics of international organisations without reference to Germany whereas the reference to Germany could be given by the thematization of German federal political actors.

News stories referring to politics on subnational levels (state politics, local politics) were integrated into the sample if they had a clearly noticeable reference to federal politics. Exception: News stories about results and/ or consequences (particularly formation of government) of state elections in North Rhine-Westphalia, Schleswig-Holstein and Saarland are considered to have per se a reference to federal politics and therefore always considered to belong to German federal politics. This is also applicable for news stories about dissolutions of government or scandals in states or communities as well as the

shift of Elke Twesten from Bündnis 90/Die Grünen to CDU state parliamentary fraction in Lower Saxony and resignation of minister presidents which per definition belong to German federal politics.

Furthermore, the election of Manuela Schwesig as Mecklenburg Western Pomerania's new minister president was included.

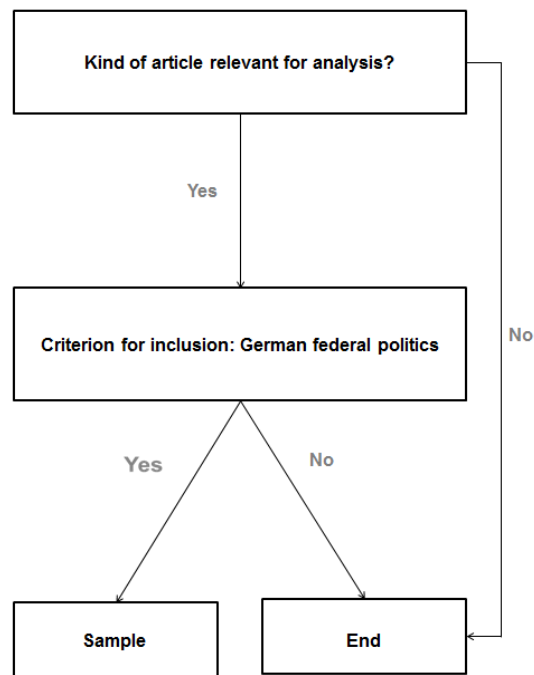
News stories without noticeable reference to German federal politics were not taken into account in the analysis as e.g. the reporting in the run-up to the state elections in Lower Saxony which are only integrated into the sample if they had an explicit federal reference.

News stories that were not strictly speaking political were also only integrated into the sample if a German federal political actor appeared so that their relevance with regard to the criterion of inclusion did not result from their topic but from their actors. (Example: A news story about the Bayreuth Festival was basically unpolitical; but the preselection revealed that Angela Merkel did attend this festival so that the news story was included into the sample even when it referred strictly speaking not to politics.)

Moreover the following special rules prevailed in order to determine the inclusion into the sample:

- Presence of the German armed forces → inclusion per se into the sample
- Presence of public administration, service facility of the Federal Government, of the federal prosecutor, of the federal Labour Office, of the Office for the Protection of the Constitution etc. → No inclusion into the sample, only if a reference to German federal politics (including German federal political actors) could be justified by other elements of the respective article
- Presence of terrorists (even in the past) including trials and investigations against terrorists → No inclusion into the sample, only if a reference to German federal politics (including German federal political actors) could be justified by other elements of the respective article
- (International) Statistics with regard to "Germany" as a whole (e.g. OECD education report) → No inclusion into the sample, only if a reference to German federal politics (including German federal political actors) could be justified by other elements of the respective article
- Demonstrations on political issues and decisions → inclusion per se into the sample

The following graphic illustrates the selection process:



C

From the sampling process described above resulted therefore a data set covering all news stories (and relevant announced news stories where appropriate) about German federal politics (including all German federal political actors) appearing between 27 June and 23 September 2017 on the front pages (and opinion pages where applicable) as well as their continuations within other editorial departments in the newspapers FR, SZ, FAZ, Welt, TAZ and BILD.

1.3 Case definition: Recording units

The analysis is carried out on the basis of press articles.

1.4 Number of cases of the study

Number of newspaper editions	461
Number of articles relevant to the analysis (related to German federal politics)	2.427

1.5 Execution of the coding

The preselection and the coding of the formal variables on the level of the newspaper edition were executed by one coder (coder 9). The coding of the variables of form and content on the level of the news stories were executed by eight other coders (coder 1-8). The news stories chosen within the preselection were distributed randomly to the eight coders of this level.

2 The reliability of the coding

2.1 Elucidations of the reliability tests

After reaching good intercoder reliability values in the pre-tests the training was finished. After the beginning of the coding reliability tests were carried out in three stages in order to control the coding permanently and to document it methodically: at the beginning of the coding, in the middle of the coding process and at the end of the coding phase.

The material that has to be coded in all three tests was selected half randomly half systematically. The systematic selection of half of the reliability material was necessary to ensure that there was a sufficient basis for comparison even for seldom variables in order to evaluate the test values. Overall about ten percent of the material under examination have been coded in the reliability tests. The three current tests are shown in the following tables: in test 1 and in test 2 81 articles have been coded, in test 3 79 news stories have been included.

The results of the single tests formed the basis for calculating the overall test. The following tables show the results of the reliability tests, first the overall values and then the values from the single test stages. In order to present the reliability of the coding in a differentiated way, specific variables were completed by the values of a simplified recoding.

For the tests made on the coding of the recording units two coefficients were indicated respectively: Krippendorff's Alpha and the Holsti index.¹

In order to interpret the values the number of cases in which the variable had to be coded is indicated for each variable and test. Krippendorff's Alpha leads to small coefficients because of the algorithm when the variables have a low variance. This is particularly the case with variables which show only rarely a value above zero and are therefore coded in the majority of the cases with zero (e.g. B19u). For this reason it is indicated in the column "Coding" how often a value was coded non-zero.

¹ For the characteristics of these coefficients cf. a.o. Krippendorff, Klaus (2004): Reliability in Content Analysis. Some Common Misconceptions and Recommendations. In: Human Communication Research, Vol. 30, No. 3, S. 411-433 and Lombard, Matthew/ Jennifer Snyder-Duch/ Cheryl Campanella Bracken (2004): A Call for Standardization in Content Analysis Reliability. In: Human Communication Research, Vol. 30, No. 3, pp. 434-437.

2.2 Results of the reliability tests – overall values

Coding of formal data at level of news stories

Var.	Name	Cases	Cod. ¹	a ²	Holsti
B05	Journalistic stylistic form	241	1928/1928	,89	,94
B07	Presentation: pictures	241	517/1928	,95	,97

1 Number of coding non-zero 0 / overall number of coding.

2 Krippendorff's Alpha.

Coding of the thematization analyses and coder rating at level of article

Var.	Name	Cases	Cod. ¹	α^2	Holsti
B09	German federal politics as main or secondary topic (or German political actors in main or secondary role)	241	1928/1928	,86	,96
B10	Main subject of the news story: politics, polity, policy issue?	241	1880/1928	,92	,96
B11	Reference to politics issues?	241	946/1928	,92	,95
	<i>Recode 0 = 0, 1 2 = 1</i>	241	946/1928	,94	,97
B12	If yes: politics issue	106	848/848	,85	,87
	<i>truncated</i>	106	848/848	,87	,93
B13	Reference to polity issues?	241	488/1928	,89	,96
	<i>Recode 0 = 0, 1 2 = 1</i>	241	488/1928	,91	,97
B14	If yes: polity issue	48	384/384	,88	,92
	<i>truncated</i>	48	384/384	,89	,93
B15	Reference to policy issues?	241	1573/1928	,90	,95
	<i>Recode 0 = 0, 1 2 = 1</i>	241	1573/1928	,94	,98
B16	If yes: policy issue	189	1512/1512	,89	,89
	<i>truncated</i>	189	1512/1512	,93	,94
B17a	Welfare-state services	241	175/1928	,85	,98
B17b	Fiscal policy	241	152/1928	,77	,97
B18a	Does the news story refer to the Federal election 2017?	241	918/1928	,90	,95
B18b	Explicit reference to the TV debate	241	125/1928	,93	,99
B18c	Explicit reference to survey results concerning the Federal election 2017	241	221/1928	,90	,98
B18d	Central event as cause of reporting	241	230/1928	,79	,95
B19a	Angela Merkel: chancellor	241	446/1928	,90	,96
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation concerning the order</i>	241	446/1928	,92	,97
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation sound bite/thematization</i>	241	446/1928	,92	,97
B19b	Angela Merkel: other roles	241	489/1928	,91	,96
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation concerning the order</i>	241	489/1928	,94	,98
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation sound bite/thematization</i>	241	489/1928	,92	,97
a/b	<i>Recoding: without differentiation of the role</i>	241	621/1928	,84	,99
B19c	Other politician or boards CDU: institutional (roles)	241	327/1928	,84	,95
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation concerning the order</i>	241	327/1928	,87	,96
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation sound bite/thematization</i>	241	327/1928	,86	,96
B19d	Other politicians or boards CDU, CDU in general: other (roles)	241	518/1928	,88	,95
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation concerning the order</i>	241	518/1928	,90	,96

Var.	Name	Cases	Cod. ¹	α^2	Holsti
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation sound bite/thematization</i>	241	518/1928	,90	,96
c/d	<i>Recoding: without differentiation of the role</i>	241	659/1928	,90	,95
B19e	Other politicians or boards CSU: institutional (roles)	241	131/1928	,84	,98
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation concerning the order</i>	241	131/1928	,88	,98
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation sound bite/thematization</i>	241	131/1928	,86	,98
B19f	Other politicians or boards CSU, CSU in general: other (roles)	241	345/1928	,87	,96
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation concerning the order</i>	241	345/1928	,89	,97
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation sound bite/thematization</i>	241	345/1928	,88	,96
e/f	<i>Recoding: without differentiation of the role</i>	241	407/1928	,89	,96
B19g	CDU/CSU (Union parties resp.) in general	241	360/1928	,93	,98
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation concerning the order</i>	241	360/1928	,95	,99
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation sound bite/thematization</i>	241	360/1928	,94	,98
B19h	Martin Schulz: Institutional roles	241	0/1928	1	1
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation concerning the order</i>	241	0/1928	1	1
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation sound bite/thematization</i>	241	0/1928	1	1
B19i	Martin Schulz: other roles	241	309/1928	,95	,99
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation concerning the order</i>	241	309/1928	,98	,99
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation sound bite/thematization</i>	241	309/1928	,96	,99
h/i	<i>Recoding: without differentiation of the role</i>	241	309/1928	,95	,99
B19j	Other politicians or boards SPD: institutional (roles)	241	241/1928	,87	,95
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation concerning the order</i>	241	241/1928	,89	,97
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation sound bite/thematization</i>	241	241/1928	,91	,97
B19k	Other politicians or boards SPD, SPD in general: other (roles)	241	708/1928	,89	,94
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation concerning the order</i>	241	708/1928	,91	,95
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation sound bite/thematization</i>	241	708/1928	,91	,95
j/k	<i>Recoding: without differentiation of the role</i>	241	812/1928	,94	,96
B19l	Federal Government in general	241	574/1928	,91	,96
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation concerning the order</i>	241	574/1928	,93	,97
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation sound bite/thematization</i>	241	574/1928	,91	,96
B19m	Christian Lindner: Chairman of the state parliament fraction (North Rhine-Westphalia)	241	10/1928	,80	,99
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation concerning the order</i>	241	10/1928	,80	1
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation sound bite/thematization</i>	241	10/1928	,80	1
B19n	Christian Lindner: other roles	241	198/1928	,95	,99
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation concerning the order</i>	241	198/1928	,98	1

Var.	Name	Cases	Cod. ¹	α^2	Holsti
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation sound bite/thematization</i>	241	198/1928	,96	,99
m/n	<i>Recoding: without differentiation of the role</i>	241	208/1928	,94	,99
B19o	Other politicians or boards FDP: institutional (roles)	241	71/1928	,69	,98
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation concerning the order</i>	241	71/1928	,70	,98
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation sound bite/thematization</i>	241	71/1928	,71	,98
B19p	Other politicians or boards FDP, FDP in general: other (roles)	241	369/1928	,89	,96
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation concerning the order</i>	241	369/1928	,90	,97
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation sound bite/thematization</i>	241	369/1928	,90	,97
o/p	<i>Recoding: without differentiation of the role</i>	241	387/1928	,91	,97
B19q	Cem Özdemir: Member of the German Bundestag	241	0/1928	1	1
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation concerning the order</i>	241	0/1928	1	1
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation sound bite/thematization</i>	241	0/1928	1	1
B19r	Cem Özdemir: other roles	241	143/1928	,97	1
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation concerning the order</i>	241	143/1928	,98	1
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation sound bite/thematization</i>	241	143/1928	,98	1
q/r	<i>Recoding: without differentiation of the role</i>	241	143/1928	,97	1
B19s	Other politicians or boards Bündnis 90/ Die Grünen: institutional (roles)	241	218/1928	,83	,97
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation concerning the order</i>	241	218/1928	,84	,97
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation sound bite/thematization</i>	241	218/1928	,87	,97
B19t	Other politicians or boards Bündnis 90/ Die Grünen, Bündnis 90/ Die Grünen in general: other (roles)	241	541/1928	,92	,96
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation concerning the order</i>	241	541/1928	,92	,97
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation sound bite/thematization</i>	241	541/1928	,95	,98
s/t	<i>Recoding: without differentiation of the role</i>	241	591/1928	,94	,97
B19u	Sahra Wagenknecht: Leader of the parliamentary group	241	23/1928	,71	,99
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation concerning the order</i>	241	23/1928	,79	1
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation sound bite/thematization</i>	241	23/1928	,70	,99
B19v	Sahra Wagenknecht: other roles	241	85/1928	,95	1
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation concerning the order</i>	241	85/1928	,95	1
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation sound bite/thematization</i>	241	85/1928	,95	1
u/v	<i>Recoding: without differentiation of the role</i>	241	98/1928	,95	1
B19w	Other politicians or boards Die Linke: institutional (roles)	241	58/1928	,80	,99
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation concerning the order</i>	241	58/1928	,84	,99
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation sound bite/thematization</i>	241	58/1928	,80	,99
B19x	Other politicians or boards Die Linke, Die Linke in general: other (roles)	241	261/1928	,93	,98

Var.	Name	Cases	Cod. ¹	α^2	Holsti
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation concerning the order</i>	241	261/1928	,93	,98
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation sound bite/thematization</i>	241	261/1928	,94	,99
w/x	<i>Recoding: without differentiation of the role</i>	241	295/1928	,95	,99
B19y	<i>Frauke Petry: Chairwoman of the state parliamentary fraction (Saxony)</i>	241	8/1928	1	1
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation concerning the order</i>	241	8/1928	1	1
	<i>Recoding without differentiation sound bite/thematization</i>	241	8/1928	1	1
B19z	<i>Frauke Petry: Other roles</i>	241	70/1928	,89	,99
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation concerning the order</i>	241	70/1928	,93	1
	<i>Recoding without differentiation sound bite/thematization</i>	241	70/1928	,93	1
y/z	<i>Recoding: without differentiation of the role</i>	241	70/1928	,89	,99
B19ab	<i>Other politicians or boards AfD: Institutional roles</i>	241	13/1928	,72	1
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation concerning the order</i>	241	13/1928	,79	1
	<i>Recoding without differentiation sound bite/thematization</i>	241	13/1928	,72	1
B19ac	<i>Other politicians or boards AfD: Other roles</i>	241	324/1928	,94	,98
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation concerning the order</i>	241	324/1928	,96	,99
	<i>Recoding without differentiation sound bite/thematization</i>	241	324/1928	,95	,99
ab/ac	<i>Recoding: without differentiation of the role</i>	241	324/1928	,94	,98
B20a	Angela Merkel	241	299/1928	,99	,96
	<i>Recoding: three point scale</i>	241	299/1928	,99	,96
B20b	CDU	241	162/1928	,97	,97
	<i>Recoding: three point scale</i>	241	162/1928	,97	,97
B20c	CSU	241	126/1928	,97	,98
	<i>Recoding: three point scale</i>	241	126/1928	,97	,98
B20d	Martin Schulz	241	61/1928	,97	,99
	<i>Recoding: three point scale</i>	241	61/1928	,97	,99
B20e	SPD	241	167/1928	,95	,97
	<i>Recoding: three point scale</i>	241	167/1928	,96	,98
B20f	Christian Lindner	241	59/1928	,98	,99
	<i>Recoding: three point scale</i>	241	59/1928	,98	,99
B20g	FDP	241	63/1928	,98	,98
	<i>Recoding: three point scale</i>	241	63/1928	,98	,98
B20h	Cem Özdemir	241	22/1928	1	,99
	<i>Recoding: three point scale</i>	241	22/1928	1	,99

Var.	Name	Cases	Cod. ¹	α^2	Holsti
B20i	Bündnis 90/Die Grünen	241	123/1928	,97	,97
	<i>Recoding: three point scale</i>	241	123/1928	,97	,97
B20j	Sahra Wagenknecht	241	16/1928	1	1
	<i>Recoding: three point scale</i>	241	16/1928	1	1
B20k	Die Linke	241	57/1928	,98	,99
	<i>Recoding: three point scale</i>	241	57/1928	,98	,99
B20l	Frauke Petry	241	44/1928	,98	,99
	<i>Recoding: three point scale</i>	241	44/1928	,98	,99
B20m	AfD	241	103/1928	1	,99
	<i>Recoding: three point scale</i>	241	103/1928	1	,99
B20n	Grand coalition (CDU/CSU and SPD)	241	219/1928	,97	,95
	<i>Recoding: three point scale</i>	241	219/1928	,97	,95
B20o	Black-Yellow Coalition / „Tigerenten-koalition“ (CDU/CSU and FDP), federal government	241	44/1928	1	,99
	<i>Recoding: three point scale</i>	241	44/1928	1	,99
B20p	Coalition SPD and Bündnis 90/Die Grünen	241	65/1928	,92	,99
	<i>Recoding three point scale</i>	241	65/1928	,92	,99
B20q	Coalition CDU/CSU and Bündnis 90/Die Grünen	241	16/1928	,93	1
	<i>Recoding three point scale</i>	241	16/1928	,93	1
B20r	Coalition SPD, FDP and Bündnis 90/Die Grünen	241	8/1928	1	1
	<i>Recoding three point scale</i>	241	8/1928	1	1
B20s	Coalition CDU/CSU, FDP and Bündnis 90/Die Grünen	241	44/1928	,98	,99
	<i>Recoding three point scale</i>	241	44/1928	,98	,99
B20t	Coalition SPD, Bündnis 90/Die Grünen and Die Linke	241	36/1928	,92	1
	<i>Recoding three point scale</i>	241	36/1928	,92	1
B20u	Coalition with AfD participation	241	0/1928	1	1
	<i>Recoding three point scale</i>	241	0/1928	1	1

2.3 Results of the reliability tests – Values from the single tests

Coding of formal data at level of news stories

Var.	Name	Current test 1				Current test 2				Current test 3			
		Cases	Cod. ¹	a ²	Holsti	Cases	Cod. ¹	a ²	Holsti	Cases	Cod. ¹	a ²	Holsti
B05	Journalistic stylistic form	81	648/648	,81	,89	81	648/648	,94	,97	79	632/632	,92	,96
B07	Presentation: pictures	81	142/648	,96	,99	81	192/648	,95	,97	79	183/632	,94	,97

1 Number of coding non-zero 0 / overall number of coding.

2 Krippendorff's Alpha.

Codierung der Thematisierungsanalysen und des Coder-Ratings auf Beitragsebene

Var.	Name	Current test 1				Current test 2				Current test 3			
		Cases	Cod. ¹	a ²	Holsti	Cases	Cod. ¹	a ²	Holsti	Cases	Cod. ¹	a ²	Holsti
B09	German federal politics as main or secondary topic (or German political actors in main or secondary role)	81	648/648	,83	,95	81	648/648	,87	,96	79	632/632	,87	,97
B10	Main subject of the news story: politics, polity, policy issue?	81	615/648	,91	,96	81	633/648	,93	,96	79	632/632	,93	,96
B11	Reference to politics issues?	81	288/648	,91	,95	81	297/648	,92	,95	79	361/632	,92	,95
	<i>Recode 0 = 0, 1 2 = 1</i>	81	288/648	,93	,97	81	297/648	,94	,97	79	361/632	,96	,98
B12	If yes: politics issue	33	264/264	,84	,87	32	256/256	,83	,85	41	328/328	,88	,89
	<i>truncated</i>	33	264/264	,81	,90	32	256/256	,87	,92	41	328/328	,91	,98
B13	Reference to polity issues?	81	127/648	,87	,96	81	196/648	,94	,97	79	165/632	,85	,94
	<i>Recode 0 = 0, 1 2 = 1</i>	81	127/648	,93	,98	81	196/648	,95	,98	79	165/632	,88	,95
B14	If yes: polity issue	14	112/112	,93	,97	22	176/176	,90	,93	12	96/96	,80	,85
	<i>truncated</i>	14	112/112	,93	,97	22	176/176	,92	,94	12	96/96	,82	,88
B15	Reference to policy issues?	81	542/648	,88	,94	81	543/648	,92	,96	79	488/632	,91	,95
	<i>Recode 0 = 0, 1 2 = 1</i>	81	542/648	,91	,97	81	543/648	,97	,99	79	488/632	,95	,98
B16	If yes: policy issue	65	520/520	,88	,99	66	528/528	,88	,89	58	464/464	,90	,91
	<i>truncated</i>	65	520/520	,92	,94	66	528/528	,92	,93	58	464/464	,94	,95
B17a	Welfare-state services	81	56/648	,87	,98	81	54/648	,86	,98	79	65/632	,82	,97
B17b	Fiscal policy	81	50/648	,77	,97	81	56/648	,88	,98	79	46/632	,63	,96
B18a	Does the news story refer to the Federal election 2017?	81	283/648	,90	,95	81	286/648	,90	,95	79	349/632	,90	,95
B18b	Explicit reference to the TV debate	81	38/648	,95	1	81	40/648	,85	,98	79	47/632	,98	,99

Var.	Name	Current test 1				Current test 2				Current test 3			
		Cases	Cod. ¹	a ²	Holsti	Cases	Cod. ¹	a ²	Holsti	Cases	Cod. ¹	a ²	Holsti
B18c	Explicit reference to survey results concerning the Federal election 2017	81	51/648	,89	,99	81	81/648	,89	,98	79	89/632	,90	,98
B18d	Central event as cause of reporting	81	87/648	,78	,95	81	63/648	,75	,96	79	80/632	,83	,96
B19a	Angela Merkel: chancellor	81	140/648	,87	,95	81	170/648	,89	,95	79	136/632	,94	,98
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation concerning the order</i>	81	140/648	,88	,96	81	170/648	,91	,97	79	136/632	,96	,99
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation sound bite/thematization</i>	81	140/648	,90	,97	81	170/648	,93	,97	79	136/632	,95	,98
B19b	Angela Merkel: other roles	81	140/648	,88	,96	81	172/648	,92	,97	79	177/632	,94	,97
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation concerning the order</i>	81	140/648	,90	,97	81	172/648	,94	,97	79	177/632	,97	,99
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation sound bite/thematization</i>	81	140/648	,89	,96	81	172/648	,93	,97	79	177/632	,94	,98
a/b	<i>Recoding: without differentiation of the role</i>	81	196/648	,93	,99	81	209/648	,91	,99	79	216/632	,94	,98
B19c	Other politician or boards CDU: institutional (roles)	81	121/648	,77	,92	81	90/648	,88	,97	79	116/632	,88	,96
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation concerning the order</i>	81	121/648	,81	,94	81	90/648	,89	,97	79	116/632	,91	,97
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation sound bite/thematization</i>	81	121/648	,79	,93	81	90/648	,92	,98	79	116/632	,88	,96
B19d	Other politicians or boards CDU, CDU in general: other (roles)	81	164/648	,85	,94	81	136/648	,90	,96	79	218/632	,87	,93
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation concerning the order</i>	81	164/648	,87	,95	81	136/648	,92	,97	79	218/632	,91	,96
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation sound bite/thematization</i>	81	164/648	,90	,96	81	136/648	,93	,97	79	218/632	,86	,93
c/d	<i>Recoding: without differentiation of the role</i>	81	226/648	,86	,92	81	173/648	,92	,96	79	260/632	,91	,95
B19e	Other politicians or boards CSU: institutional (roles)	81	52/648	,78	,97	81	48/648	,92	,99	79	31/632	,80	,98
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation concerning the order</i>	81	52/648	,86	,98	81	48/648	,92	,99	79	31/632	,84	,99
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation sound bite/thematization</i>	81	52/648	,80	,97	81	48/648	,92	,99	79	31/632	,87	,99
B19f	Other politicians or boards CSU, CSU in general: other (roles)	81	126/648	,83	,94	81	105/648	,90	,97	79	114/632	,87	,96

Var.	Name	Current test 1				Current test 2				Current test 3			
		Cases	Cod. ¹	a ²	Holsti	Cases	Cod. ¹	a ²	Holsti	Cases	Cod. ¹	a ²	Holsti
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation concerning the order</i>	81	126/648	,88	,96	81	105/648	,90	,97	79	114/632	,49	,97
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation sound bite/thematization</i>	81	126/648	,85	,95	81	105/648	,93	,98	79	114/632	,88	,96
e/f	<i>Recodierung: ohne Differenzierung der Rolle</i>	81	148/648	,88	,95	81	128/648	,93	,98	79	131/632	,95	,95
B19g	CDU/CSU in general	81	88/648	,95	,99	81	125/648	,95	,98	79	147/632	,90	,96
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation concerning the order</i>	81	88/648	,97	,99	81	125/648	,96	,99	79	147/632	,93	,98
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation sound bite/thematization</i>	81	88/648	,98	,99	81	125/648	,96	,99	79	147/632	,91	,97
B19h	Martin Schulz: Institutional roles	81	0/648	1	1	81	0/648	1	,99	79	0/632	1	1
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation concerning the order</i>	81	0/648	1	1	81	0/648	1	,99	79	0/632	1	1
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation sound bite/thematization</i>	81	0/648	1	1	81	0/648	1	1	79	0/632	1	1
B19i	Martin Schulz: other roles	81	86/648	,90	,98	81	103/648	,96	,99	79	120/632	,98	,99
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation concerning the order</i>	81	86/648	,94	,99	81	103/648	,98	,99	79	120/632	1	1
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation sound bite/thematization</i>	81	86/648	,93	,98	81	103/648	,97	,99	79	120/632	,98	,99
h/i	<i>Recoding: without differentiation of the role</i>	81	86/648	,90	,98	81	103/648	,97	,99	79	120/632	,98	,99
B19j	Other politicians or boards SPD: institutional (roles)	81	140/648	,86	,95	81	103/648	,86	,96	79	146/632	,87	,95
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation concerning the order</i>	81	140/648	,90	,97	81	103/648	,86	,96	79	146/632	,91	,97
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation sound bite/thematization</i>	81	140/648	,90	,97	81	103/648	,91	,97	79	146/632	,92	,97
B19k	Other politicians or boards SPD, SPD in general: other (roles)	81	257/648	,87	,92	81	213/648	,93	,96	79	238/632	,88	,93
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation concerning the order</i>	81	257/648	,89	,94	81	213/648	,94	,97	79	238/632	,89	,94
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation sound bite/thematization</i>	81	257/648	,88	,94	81	213/648	,94	,97	79	238/632	,90	,95
j/k	<i>Recoding: without differentiation of the role</i>	81	281/648	,93	,96	81	254/648	,95	,96	79	277/632	,92	,95

Var.	Name	Current test 1				Current test 2				Current test 3			
		Cases	Cod. ¹	a ²	Holsti	Cases	Cod. ¹	a ²	Holsti	Cases	Cod. ¹	a ²	Holsti
B19l	Federal Government in general	81	154/648	,91	,96	81	211/648	,90	,95	79	209/632	,93	,96
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation concerning the order</i>	81	154/648	,94	,98	81	211/648	,92	,96	79	209/632	,93	,97
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation sound bite/thematization</i>	81	154/648	,92	,97	81	211/648	,91	,96	79	209/632	,92	,96
B19m	Christian Lindner: Chairman of the state parliament fraction (North Rhine-Westphalia)	81	0/648	1	1	81	0/648	1	1	79	10/632	,80	,99
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation concerning the order</i>	81	0/648	1	1	81	0/648	1	1	79	10/632	,80	,99
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation sound bite/thematization</i>	81	0/648	1	1	81	0/648	1	1	79	10/632	,80	,99
B19n	Christian Lindner: other roles	81	47/648	,96	,99	81	72/648	,95	,99	79	79/632	,93	,98
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation concerning the order</i>	81	47/648	,95	,99	81	72/648	1	1	79	79/632	,97	,99
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation sound bite/thematization</i>	81	47/648	,98	,99	81	72/648	,95	,99	79	79/632	,94	,99
m/n	<i>Recoding: without differentiation of the role</i>	81	47/648	,96	,99	81	72/648	,95	,99	79	89/632	,92	,98
B19o	Other politicians or boards FDP: institutional (roles)	81	18/648	,47	,97	81	16/648	,82	,99	79	37/632	,74	,97
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation concerning the order</i>	81	18/648	,51	,97	81	16/648	,82	,99	79	37/632	,74	,97
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation sound bite/thematization</i>	81	18/648	,51	,97	81	16/648	,87	,99	79	37/632	,74	,97
B19p	Other politicians or boards FDP, FDP in general: other (roles)	81	116/648	,88	,96	81	112/648	,90	,97	79	141/632	,88	,96
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation concerning the order</i>	81	116/648	,88	,96	81	112/648	,91	,97	79	141/632	,92	,97
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation sound bite/thematization</i>	81	116/648	,91	,97	81	112/648	,92	,98	79	141/632	,89	,96
o/p	<i>Recoding: without differentiation of the role</i>	81	118/648	,89	,96	81	118/648	,94	,98	79	151/632	,92	,97
B19q	Cem Özdemir: Member of the German Bundestag	81	0/648	1	1	81	0/648	1	1	79	0/632	1	1
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation concerning the order</i>	81	0/648	1	1	81	0/648	1	1	79	0/632	1	1

Var.	Name	Current test 1				Current test 2				Current test 3			
		Cases	Cod. ¹	a ²	Holsti	Cases	Cod. ¹	a ²	Holsti	Cases	Cod. ¹	a ²	Holsti
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation sound bite/thematization</i>	81	0/648	1	1	81	0/648	1	1	79	0/632	1	1
B19r	Cem Özdemir: other roles	81	47/648	,95	,99	81	40/648	1	1	79	56/632	,96	,99
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation concerning the order</i>	81	47/648	,98	,99	81	40/648	1	1	79	56/632	,96	,99
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation sound bite/thematization</i>	81	47/648	,95	,99	81	40/648	1	1	79	56/632	1	1
q/r	<i>Recoding: without differentiation of the role</i>	81	47/648	,96	,99	81	40/648	1	1	79	56/632	,96	,99
B19s	Other politicians or boards Bündnis 90/ Die Grünen: institutional (roles)	81	96/648	,81	,95	81	43/648	,84	,98	79	79/632	,84	,97
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation concerning the order</i>	81	96/648	,83	,96	81	43/648	,84	,98	79	79/632	,86	,97
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation sound bite/thematization</i>	81	96/648	,85	,96	81	43/648	,88	,99	79	79/632	,87	,97
B19t	Other politicians or boards Bündnis 90/ Die Grünen, Bündnis 90/ Die Grünen in general: other (roles)	81	181/648	,90	,95	81	160/648	,91	,96	79	200/632	,94	,97
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation concerning the order</i>	81	181/648	,90	,96	81	160/648	,91	,97	79	200/632	,94	,97
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation sound bite/thematization</i>	81	181/648	,94	,97	81	160/648	,84	,98	79	200/632	,98	,99
s/t	<i>Recoding: without differentiation of the role</i>	81	206/648	,93	,97	81	169/648	,93	,97	79	216/632	,95	,97
B19u	Sahra Wagenknecht: Leader of the parliamentary group	81	15/648	,54	,98	81	0/648	1	1	79	8/632	1	1
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation concerning the order</i>	81	15/648	,68	,99	81	0/648	1	1	79	8/632	1	1
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation sound bite/thematization</i>	81	15/648	,55	,98	81	0/648	1	1	79	8/632	1	1
B19v	Sahra Wagenknecht: other roles	81	21/648	,81	,99	81	24/648	1	1	79	40/632	1	1
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation concerning the order</i>	81	21/648	,81	,99	81	24/648	1	1	79	40/632	1	1
	<i>Recoding: without differentiation sound bite/thematization</i>	81	21/648	,81	,99	81	24/648	1	1	79	40/632	1	1
u/v	<i>Recoding: without differentiation of the role</i>	81	34/648	,86	,99	81	24/648	1	1	79	40/632	1	1

[illegible]

Var.	Name	Current test 1				Current test 2				Current test 3			
		Cases	Cod. ¹	a ²	Holsti	Cases	Cod. ¹	a ²	Holsti	Cases	Cod. ¹	a ²	Holsti
		81	84/648	,92	,98	81	120/648	,97	1	79	120/632	,95	,98
ab/ac	<i>Recoding: without differentiation of the role</i>	81	84/648	,93	,98	81	120/648	,95	,98	79	120/632	,95	,98
B20a	Angela Merkel	81	56/648	1	,95	81	132/648	,98	,95	79	111/632	,99	,98
	<i>Recoding: three point scale</i>	81	56/648	1	,95	81	132/648	,98	,95	79	111/632	,99	,99
B20b	CDU	81	44/648	,93	,97	81	40/648	,97	,97	79	78/632	,99	,86
	<i>Recoding: three point scale</i>	81	44/648	,93	,97	81	40/648	,97	,97	79	78/632	,99	,97
B20c	CSU	81	24/648	,88	,97	81	39/648	,99	,99	79	63/632	,98	,98
	<i>Recoding: three point scale</i>	81	24/648	,88	,97	81	39/648	,99	,99	79	63/632	,98	,98
B20d	Martin Schulz	81	9/648	,89	,99	81	29/648	,96	,98	79	23/632	,99	,99
	<i>Recoding: three point scale</i>	81	9/648	,89	,99	81	29/648	,96	,99	79	23/632	,99	,99
B20e	SPD	81	68/648	,95	,95	81	46/648	,99	,98	79	53/632	,92	,98
	<i>Recoding: three point scale</i>	81	68/648	,95	,96	81	46/648	1	,99	79	53/632	,92	,98
B20f	Christian Lindner	81	8/648	1	1	81	21/648	,95	,99	79	30/632	,99	,99
	<i>Recoding: three point scale</i>	81	8/648	1	1	81	21/648	,95	,99	79	30/632	,99	,99
B20g	FDP	81	0/648	1	1	81	31/648	,99	,99	79	32/632	,99	,97
	<i>Recoding: three point scale</i>	81	0/648	1	1	81	31/648	,99	,99	79	32/632	,99	,97
B20h	Cem Özdemir	81	0/648	1	1	81	17/648	1	,99	79	5/632	1	,99
	<i>Recoding: three point scale</i>	81	0/648	1	1	81	17/648	1	,99	79	5/632	1	,99
B20i	Bündnis 90/Die Grünen	81	40/648	,92	,96	81	36/648	1	,99	79	47/632	,99	,96

Var.	Name	Current test 1				Current test 2				Current test 3			
		Cases	Cod. ¹	a ²	Holsti	Cases	Cod. ¹	a ²	Holsti	Cases	Cod. ¹	a ²	Holsti
	<i>Recoding: three point scale</i>	81	40/648	,92	,96	81	36/648	1	,99	79	47/632	,99	,97
B20j	Sahra Wagenknecht	81	8/648	1	1	81	8/648	1	1	79	0/632	1	1
	<i>Recoding: three point scale</i>	81	8/648	1	1	81	8/648	1	1	79	0/632	1	1
B20k	Die Linke	81	8/648	,87	,99	81	32/648	,99	,99	79	17/632	,99	,99
	<i>Recoding: three point scale</i>	81	8/648	,87	,99	81	32/648	,99	,99	79	17/632	,99	,99
B20l	Frauke Petry	81	7/648	,86	,99	81	21/648	,99	,99	79	16/632	1	,99
	<i>Recoding: three point scale</i>	81	7/648	,86	,99	81	21/648	,99	,99	79	16/632	1	,99
B20m	AfD	81	23/648	1	,99	81	23/648	,99	,99	79	57/632	1	,99
	<i>Recoding: three point scale</i>	81	23/648	1	,99	81	23/648	1	,99	79	57/632	1	,99
B20n	Grand coalition CDU/CSU and SPD	81	64/648	,98	,95	81	65/648	,99	,96	79	90/632	,94	,93
	<i>Recoding: three point scale</i>	81	64/648	,98	,95	81	65/648	,99	,96	79	90/632	,94	,93
B20o	Black-Yellow Coalition / „Tigerenten-koalition“ (CDU/CSU and FDP), federal government	81	24/648	,99	,99	81	8/648	,99	,99	79	12/632	,99	,99
	<i>Recoding: three point scale</i>	81	24/648	,99	,99	81	8/648	,99	,99	79	12/632	,99	,99
B20p	Coalition SPD and Bündnis 90/Die Grünen	81	24/648	,92	,99	81	9/648	1	,99	79	32/632	,90	,98
	<i>Recoding three point scale</i>	81	24/648	,92	,99	81	9/648	1	,99	79	32/632	,90	,98
B20q	Coalition CDU/CSU and Bündnis 90/Die Grünen	81	7/648	,86	,99	81	1/648	1	,99	79	8/632	1	1
	<i>Recoding three point scale</i>	81	7/648	,86	,99	81	1/648	1	,99	79	8/632	1	1

Var.	Name	Current test 1				Current test 2				Current test 3			
		Cases	Cod. ¹	a ²	Holsti	Cases	Cod. ¹	a ²	Holsti	Cases	Cod. ¹	a ²	Holsti
B20r	Coalition SPD, FDP and Bündnis 90/Die Grünen	81	8/648	1	,99	81	0/648	1	1	79	0/632	1	1
	Recoding three point scale	81	8/648	1	,99	81	0/648	1	1	79	0/632	1	1
B20s	Coalition CDU/CSU, FDP and Bündnis 90/Die Grünen	81	10/648	,90	,99	81	8/648	1	1	79	26/632	,99	,98
	Recoding three point scale	81	10/648	,90	,99	81	8/648	1	1	79	26/632	,99	,98
B20t	Coalition SPD, Bündnis 90/Die Grünen and Die Linke	81	15/648	1	,99	81	0/648	1	1	79	21/632	,87	,99
	Recoding three point scale	81	15/648	1	,99	81	0/648	1	1	79	21/632	,87	,99
B20u	Coalition with AfD participation	81	0/648	1	1	81	0/648	1	1	79	0/632	1	1
	Recoding three point scale	81	0/648	1	1	81	0/648	1	1	79	0/632	1	1

3 Plan of variables

1. Analysis of the newspaper editions

Formal data

ID_asg	ID of the edition
V01	Print title/numeric
V02	Print title/alphanumeric
V03	Year
V04	Month
V05	Day
Coder_asg	Coder-ID newspaper edition

2. Analysis of the news stories

Formal data

ID_bei	ID of the news story
Coder_bei	Coder-ID news story
B01	Page
B02	Current number of the news story per page
B03	Continuation of the article on following page(s)
B04	Editorial department
B05	Journalistic stylistic form
B06	Size
B07	Presentation: pictures
B08	Title of the news story/alphanumeric
B09	German federal politics as main or secondary topic (or German federal political actors as main or secondary role)?

Thematization analysis (1): Politics, polity and policy issues

B10	Main subject of the news story: politics, polity, policy issue?
B11	Reference to politics issues?
B12	If yes: politics issue
B13	Reference to polity issues?
B14	If yes: polity issue
B15	Reference to policy issues?
B16	If yes: policy issue

Thematization analysis (2): Policy positions

2a: Thematization of positions in the debate about welfare-state services

B17a	Welfare-state services
------	------------------------

2b: Thematization of positions in the debate about taxes and duties

B17b	Fiscal policy
------	---------------

Thematization analysis (3): Reference points of the news story

B18a	Does the news story refer to the Federal election 2017?
B18b	Explicit reference to the TV debate
B18c	Explicit reference to survey results concerning the Federal election 2017
B18d	Central event as cause of reporting

Thematization analysis (4): German political actors

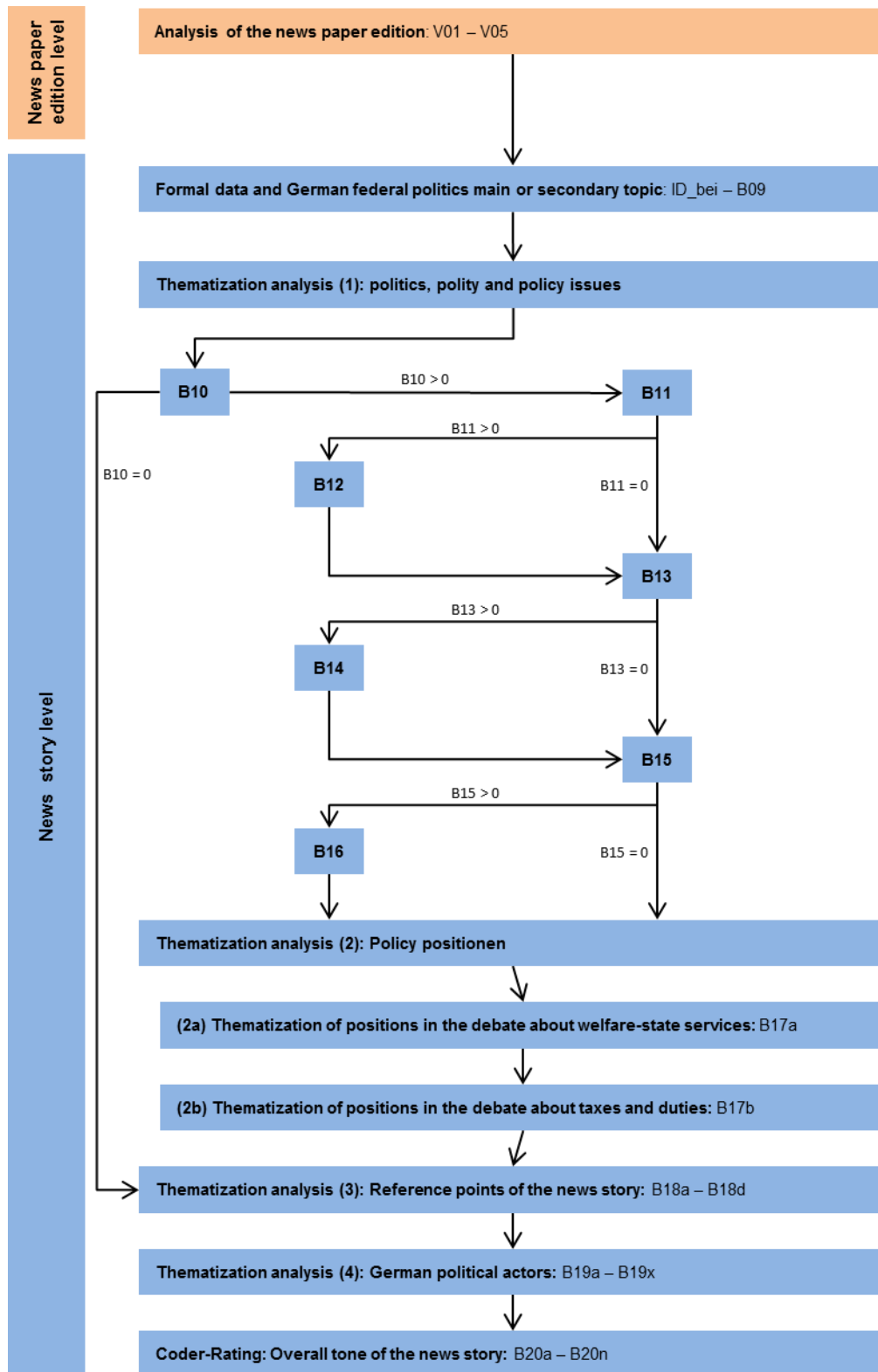
B19a	Angela Merkel: chancellor
B19b	Angela Merkel: other roles
B19c	Other politician or boards CDU: institutional (roles)
B19d	Other politicians or boards CDU, CDU in general: other (roles)
B19e	Other politicians or boards CSU: institutional (roles)
B19f	Other politicians or boards CSU, CSU in general: other (roles)
B19g	CDU/CSU in general
B19h	Martin Schulz: Institutional roles
B19i	Martin Schulz: Other roles
B19j	Other politicians or boards SPD: Institutional (roles)
B19k	Other politicians or boards SPD, SPD in general: Other (roles)
B19l	Federal government in general
B19m	Christian Lindner: Chairman of the state parliament fraction (North-Rhine Westphalia)
B19n	Christian Lindner: Other roles
B19o	Other politicians or boards FDP: Institutional (roles)
B19p	Other politicians or boards FDP, FDP in general: Other (roles)
B19q	Cem Özdemir: Member of the German Bundestag
B19r	Cem Özdemir: Other roles
B19s	Other politicians or boards Bündnis 90/Die Grünen: Institutional (roles)
B19t	Other politicians or boards Bündnis 90/Die Grünen, Bündnis 90/Die Grünen in general: Other (roles)
B19u	Sahra Wagenknecht: Leader of parliamentary party group
B19v	Sahra Wagenknecht: Other roles
B19w	Other politicians or boards Die Linke: Institutional roles
B19x	Other politicians or boards Die Linke, Die Linke in general: Other (roles)
B19y	Frauke Petry: Chairwoman of the state parliamentary fraction (Saxony)
B19z	Frauke Petry: Other roles
B19ab	Other politicians or boards AfD: Institutional roles
B19ac	Other politicians or boards AfD: Other roles

Coder rating: Overall tone of the news story

B20a	Angela Merkel
B20b	CDU
B20c	CSU
B20d	Martin Schulz
B20e	SPD
B20f	Christian Lindner
B20g	FDP
B20h	Cem Özdemir
B20i	Bündnis 90/Die Grünen
B20j	Sahra Wagenknecht
B20k	Die Linke
B20l	Frauke Petry
B20m	AfD

B20n	Grand coalition (CDU/CSU and SPD)
B20o	Coalition CDU/CSU and FDP
B20p	Coalition SPD and Bündnis 90/Die Grünen
B20q	Coalition CDU/CSU and Bündnis 90/Die Grünen
B20r	Coalition Coalition SPD, FDP and Bündnis 90/Die Grünen
B20s	Coalition CDU/CSU, FDP and Bündnis 90/Die Grünen
B20t	Coalition SPD, Bündnis 90/Die Grünen and Die Linke
B20u	Coalition with AfD participation

4 Overview of variables' structure and filtering



5 Code plan

1. Analysis of the newspaper editions

Formal data

ID_asg	ID of the edition
	= V01, V03, V04, V05
V01	Print title/numeric
11	Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung (FAZ)
21	Die Welt (Welt)
31	Die Bildzeitung (BILD)
41	Süddeutsche Zeitung (SZ)
51	Frankfurter Rundschau (FR)
61	Die Tageszeitung (TAZ)
V02	Print title/alphanumeric
V03	Year
17	2017
V04	Month
6	June
7	July
8	August
9	September
V05	Day
01	
...	
31	
Coder_asg	Coder-ID newspaper edition
09	David Paul Wirtz

2. Analysis of the news stories

Formal data

ID_bei **ID of the news story**
 = ID_asg + B01 + B02

Coder_bei **Coder-ID news story**

- | | |
|---|-------------------|
| 1 | Manon Bisdorf |
| 2 | Yannick De Santis |
| 3 | Maximilian Eidt |
| 4 | Rabia Ferahkaya |
| 5 | Niklas Hutz |
| 6 | Alena Mayer |
| 7 | Sophie Peter |
| 8 | Jasmin Rädler |

B01 **Page**

B02 **Current number of the news story per page**

B03 **Continuation of the article on following page(s)**

- | | |
|---|---|
| 0 | Trifft nicht zu – Artikel befindet sich vollständig auf der Seite |
| 1 | Artikel wird auf späterer Seite/späteren Seiten fortgesetzt |

B04 **Editorial department**

- | | |
|----|-------------------------------------|
| 11 | Front page: Lead story |
| 12 | Front page: Article |
| 13 | Front page: Announcement of article |
| 14 | Op-ed pages |

B05 **Journalistic stylistic form**

- | | |
|---|----------------|
| 1 | News format |
| 2 | Opinion format |
| 9 | Other format |

B06 **Size**

- | | |
|---|--------------|
| 1 | Very small |
| 2 | Small |
| 3 | Medium-sized |
| 4 | Large |
| 5 | Very large |

B07 **Presentation: pictures**

- | | |
|---|---|
| 0 | No picture being part of the news story |
| 1 | Large picture(s) |
| 2 | Medium-sized picture(s) |
| 3 | Small picture(s) |

B08 **Title of the news story/alphanumeric**

B09 **German federal politics as main or secondary topic (or German political actors as main or secondary role)?**

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 | German federal politics is main topic/German federal political actor in main role |
| 2 | German federal politics is secondary topic/German federal political actor in secondary role |

Thematization analysis (1): Politics, polity and policy issues

B10 Main subject of the news story: politics, polity, policy issue?

- | | | |
|---|--|----------------------|
| 0 | No politics, polity or policy issue or event | ⇒ Continue with B18a |
| 1 | Politics issue and event (cf. list 1: codes 1000) | ⇒ Continue with B11 |
| 2 | Polity issue and event (cf. list 1: codes 2000) | ⇒ Continue with B11 |
| 3 | Policy issue and event (cf. list 1: codes 3000/4000) | ⇒ Continue with B11 |

B11 Reference to politics issues?

- | | | |
|---|------------------|---------------------|
| 0 | No | ⇒ Continue with B13 |
| 1 | Main aspect | ⇒ Continue with B12 |
| 2 | Secondary aspect | ⇒ Continue with B12 |

B12 If yes: politics issue

1000-17000 politics issue according to list 1

B13 Reference to polity issues?

- | | | |
|---|------------------|---------------------|
| 0 | No | ⇒ Continue with B15 |
| 1 | Main aspect | ⇒ Continue with B14 |
| 2 | Secondary aspect | ⇒ Continue with B14 |

B14 If yes: polity issue

2000-2500 polity issue according to list 1

B15 Reference to policy issues?

- | | | |
|---|------------------|----------------------|
| 0 | No | ⇒ Continue with B17a |
| 1 | Main aspect | ⇒ Continue with B16 |
| 2 | Secondary aspect | ⇒ Continue with B16 |

B16 If yes: policy issue

3000-4500 policy issue according to list 1

Thematization analysis (2): Policy positions

(2a) Thematization of positions in the debate about welfare-state services

B17a Welfare-state services

- | | |
|---|--|
| 0 | No reference to welfare-state services |
| 1 | Neither extension nor cutting back of welfare-state services is thematized |
| 2 | Extension of welfare-state services is thematized |
| 3 | Cutting back of welfare-state services is thematized |
| 4 | Extension and cutting back of welfare-state services are thematized |

(2b) Thematization of positions in the debate about taxes and duties

B17b Fiscal policy

- | | |
|---|--|
| 0 | No reference to fiscal policy |
| 1 | Neither increase nor decrease of taxes and/or duties is thematized |
| 2 | Increase of taxes and/or duties is thematized |
| 3 | Decrease of taxes and/or duties is thematized |
| 4 | Increase and decrease of taxes and/or duties are thematized |

Thematization analysis (3): Reference points of the news story

B18a Does the news story refer to the Federal election 2017?

(Including the Federal election campaign, cf. list 1: codes 1200-1440)

- | | |
|---|-----|
| 0 | No |
| 1 | Yes |

B18b Explicit reference to the TV debate

0 No
1 Yes

B18c Explicit reference to survey results concerning the Federal election 2017

0 No
1 Yes

B18d Central event as cause of reporting

00 Event is not included in list 3
01-52 Event is included in list 3

Thematization analysis (4): German political actors

B19a Angela Merkel: Chancellor
B19b Angela Merkel: Other roles
B19c Other politicians or boards CDU: Institutional (roles)
B19d Other politicians or boards CDU, CDU in general: Other (roles)
B19e Other politicians or boards CSU: Institutional (roles)
B19f Other politicians or boards CSU, CSU in general: Other (roles)
B19g CDU/CSU (Union parties resp.) in general
B19h Martin Schulz: Institutional roles
B19i Martin Schulz: Other roles
B19j Other politicians or boards SPD: Institutional (roles)
B19k Other politicians or boards SPD, SPD in general: Other (roles)
B19l Federal government in general
B19m Christian Lindner: Chairman of the state parliament fraction (North-Rhine Westphalia)
B19n Christian Lindner: Other roles
B19o Other politicians or boards FDP: Institutional (roles)
B19p Other politicians or boards FDP, FDP in general: Other (roles)
B19q Cem Özdemir: Member of the German Bundestag
B19r Cem Özdemir: Other roles
B19s Other politicians or boards Bündnis 90/Die Grünen: Institutional (roles)
B19t Other politicians or boards Bündnis 90/Die Grünen, Bündnis 90/Die Grünen in general: Other (roles)
B19u Sahra Wagenknecht: Leader of parliamentary party group
B19v Sahra Wagenknecht: Other roles
B19w Other politicians or boards Die Linke: Institutional roles
B19x Other politicians or boards Die Linke, Die Linke in general: Other (roles)
B19y Frauke Petry: Chairwoman of the state parliamentary fraction (Saxony)
B19z Frauke Petry: Other roles
B19ab Other politicians or boards AfD: Institutional roles
B19ac Other politicians or boards AfD: Other roles

For the variables B19a-x the following codes are applicable:

0	Does not occur
11	Appears in the first place and in sound bite
12	Appears in the first place and is quoted/thematized
21	Appears in the second/third etc. place and in sound bite
22	Appears in the second/third etc. place and is quoted/thematized

Coder rating: Overall tone of the news story

B20a	Angela Merkel
B20b	CDU
B20c	CSU
B20d	Martin Schulz
B20e	SPD
B20f	Christian Lindner
B20g	FDP
B20h	Cem Özdemir
B20i	Bündnis 90/Die Grünen
B20j	Sahra Wagenknecht
B20k	Die Linke
B20l	Frauke Petry
B20m	AfD
B20n	Grand coalition (CDU/CSU and SPD)
B20o	Coalition CDU/CSU and FDP
B20p	Coalition SPD and Bündnis 90/Die Grünen
B20q	Coalition CDU/CSU and Bündnis 90/Die Grünen
B20r	Coalition SPD, FDP and Bündnis 90/Die Grünen
B20s	Coalition CDU/CSU, FDP and Bündnis 90/Die Grünen
B20t	Coalition SPD, Bündnis 90/Die Grünen and Die Linke
B20u	Coalition with AfD participation

For the variables B20a-n the following codes are applicable:

0	Actor is not thematized (as one of the first three actors)
1	Unambiguously positive
2	Rather positive
3	Ambivalent/positive as well as negative
4	Rather negative
5	Unambiguously negative
9	Neutral/no tendency

6 Elucidations of the codes

Hereafter the code plan is examined in-depth and, if necessary, the variable groups, variables and codes used in the news analysis are elucidated while elaborating practical working instructions for the coders.

1. Analysis of the newspaper editions

Formal data

ID_asg **ID of the edition**
 = V01, V03, V04, V05

The ID consists of eight characters: 1. Print title/numeric V01 (F2), 2. examination year V03 (F2), 3. examination month V04 (F2), 4. examination day V05 (F2)

V01	Print title/numeric
11	Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung (FAZ)
21	Die Welt (Welt)
31	Die Bildzeitung (BILD)
41	Süddeutsche Zeitung (SZ)
51	Frankfurter Rundschau (FR)
61	Die Tageszeitung (TAZ)

V02	Print tile/alphanumeric
------------	--------------------------------

V03	Year
17	2017

V04	Month
6	June
7	July
8	August
9	September

V05	Day
01	
...	
31	

Coder_asg	Coder-ID newspaper edition
9	David Paul Wirtz

2. Analysis of the news stories

Further information on selecting the news stories you find in chapter 1.2, on the definition of the recording units in chapter 1.3. A scheme how the filtering of the coding of news stories is carried out can be found in the plan of variables.

Formal data

ID_bei ID of the news story

$$= \text{ID_asg} + \text{B01} + \text{B02}$$

The ID consists of twelve characters: 1. Print title/numeric V01 (F2), 2. examination year V03 (F2), 3. examination month V04 (F2), 4. examination day V05 (F2) + 5. page B01 (F2) + 6. current number of the news story per page B02 (F2).

Coder_bei Coder-ID news story

1	Manon Bisdorf
2	Yannick De Santis
3	Maximilian Eidt
4	Rabia Ferahkaya
5	Niklas Hutz
6	Alena Mayer
7	Sophie Peter
8	Jasmin Rädler

B01 Page

The pagination of the page is noted². If an article extends over more than one page, the page on which the article begins is noted.

B02 Current number of the news story per page

Principles

In order to identify the news stories afterwards, a consecutive number is assigned to each news story. Numbering is consecutively, following a line logic from left to right. For each page a new numbering is to be started.

B03 Continuation of the article on following page(s)

0 Not applicable – Article is completely on one page

1 Article is continued on (a) later page(s)

A simple announcement of an article referring to a later news story is not to be considered as a continuation of the article but as independent cases (announcement of the article = one case, article(s) on which is referred = n other cases). In contrast a continued article means that the content of the article is placed on one page and is then continued seamlessly on another page.

² Seven articles, which are located in the local section of the Frankfurter Rundschau are paginated with combinations of letters and digits. For these seven articles other page numbers were registered, continuing from the last regularly paginated page, to enable the construction of the articles' IDs. In case anyone wants to access them, they can be found as follows:

511708294204: In the local section of the Frankfurter Rundschau dated from 29.08., page D1
 511709235001: In the local section of the Frankfurter Rundschau dated from 23.09., page D2
 511709235101: In the local section of the Frankfurter Rundschau dated from 23.09., page D3
 511709235102: In the local section of the Frankfurter Rundschau dated from 23.09., page D3
 511709235103: In the local section of the Frankfurter Rundschau dated from 23.09., page D3
 511709235104: In the local section of the Frankfurter Rundschau dated from 23.09., page D3
 511709235105: In the local section of the Frankfurter Rundschau dated from 23.09., page D3

B04 Editorial department

11 Front page: Lead story

A lead story is the most important article presented clearly emphasized on the front page (which is formally the first page of a newspaper). He is completely or at least with the headline set in large letters placed on the upper half of the sheet and often combined with a picture.

12 Front page: Article

The term „front page“ is to be considered in this study as an analytic construct so that not only articles which appear on the formally first page of a newspaper are to be coded with code 12. Instead in case of the newspapers FR and TAZ all articles on which an announcement on the formally first page refers to and which appear in any rubric of the newspaper are also coded in this category. The pagination page 1 is therefore not systematically identical with code 12 „Front page: Article“.

13 Front page: Announcement of the article

14 Op-ed pages

Editorial departments are understood as the different content-related parts of a newspaper. Thus the editorial department describes the placement of the article in a newspaper. Different journalistic stylistic forms can appear in one editorial department.

Articles on the front page, which are coded as B05 = opinion format, are assigned the code 12 „front page: article“ regarding the editorial department.

B05 Journalistic stylistic form

1 News format

Primarily there are head lines, short news, notes, news and news reports which inform in an objective way about actual events and are characterised by a strict formal structure that is completely different from literary texts, discussions or re-narrations. The most important things are placed at the beginning. They are fact-based and do not include (ideally) any personal evaluation of the journalist. In this study, journalistic stylistic forms like background reports, reportages and features/essays, which are characterised by an indirect, latent and only seldom visible tendency in opinion, are coded in this category.

2 Opinion format

These are all journalistic forms which are characterised intentionally by subjectivity as a stylistic feature and by an apparent tendency in opinion like commentaries, glosses and columns.

Commentary

This format is characterised by an apparent intentional tendency in opinion of the author. While there are different definitions of style and form of the commentary, all definitions have in common that the commentator indicates unambiguously the topic which he wants to comment. The author tries to convince the reader by arguments and logic argumentation. He speaks his mind and the reader can decide if he agrees or not. The commentator can juxtapose different opinions, consider the topic from different angles and explain the backgrounds. A special form of commentary is the editorial article.

Gloss

The gloss is also by an apparent intentional tendency in opinion of the author. In contrast to the commentary the gloss is an extremely short opinion format with a very pointed argumentation. The undertone is generally cheerful or ironical. The language of a gloss is

characterised by a particularly skilled style with metaphors and puns as stylistic means. It is possible to write it in local dialects.

Please note that articles with the title „Verboten“(taz) [forbidden] are glosses and are therefore coded with 2 „opinion format“.

Column

This is also an opinion article of a single, often famous publicist. Mostly columns are announced by an own indication of the newspaper and are published as a regular rubric in the respective medium.

9 Other format

There are e.g. interviews or documentations (replication of a foreign product, e.g. extracts of campaign programmes of the parties or of speeches/lectures).

If an article could not be clearly assigned to a news or opinion format or these formats are both equally part of the article, the code 9 „Other format“ is to be used.

Formats like FAQs are included in code 9 „Other format“ except if they can clearly be assigned to opinion format.

Portraits are coded with 9 „Other format“.

B06 Size

The size of the article compared with the rest of the whole page is written down.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 | Very small
FAZ, SZ, Welt, BILD < 1/16 page; FR, taz < 1/8 page |
| 2 | Small
FAZ, SZ, Welt, BILD ≥ 1/16 bis < 1/8 page; FR, taz ≥ 1/8 page bis < ¼ page |
| 3 | Medium-sized
FAZ, SZ, Welt, BILD ≥ 1/8 page bis < ¼ page; FR, taz ≥ ¼ page bis < ½ page |
| 4 | Large
FAZ, SZ, Welt, BILD ≥ ¼ page bis < ½ page; FR, taz ≥ ½ page bis < 1 page |
| 5 | Very large
FAZ, SZ, Welt, BILD ≥ ½ page; FR, taz ≥ 1 page |

B07 Presentation: pictures

Photos and graphics are considered as pictures. The size of the pictures is determined in relation to the size of the article.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 0 | No picture being part of the article |
| 1 | Large picture(s)
<i>Large pictures cover at least a quarter of the whole article.</i> |
| 2 | Medium-sized picture(s) |
| 3 | Small picture(s)
<i>Small pictures only cover a maximum of 1/16 of the whole article. Often they are typical portrait photos of political actors.</i> |

Principles

The size of pictures is only coded if the pictures are part of editorial pieces. Principally the coding is executed hierarchally, i.e. large prevails over medium size. If several pictures appear in one article, their size has to be accumulated.

In order to determine the size only the actual picture / graphic is taken into account. Headlines or subtitles are principally not considered as part of the picture / graphic.

Tables are not considered to be graphics / pictures; their content has to be coded regularly.

B08 Title of the news story/alphanumeric

Principles

The title of the news story is written down.

B09 German federal politics as main or secondary topic (or German political actors in main or secondary role)?

- 1 German federal politics as main topic/German political actor in main role
- 2 German federal politics as secondary topic/German political actor in secondary role

Definition

This variable indicates whether a news story refers to German federal politics as main or secondary topic. The term **German federal politics** means any kind of **politics on the federal level** (normally as actions of one or several federal political actors, cf. list 2 codes 1000-1400; abstract description without concrete reference to an actor are however possible) in connection with the administration of (social, economic, political etc.) circumstances in the Federal Republic of Germany (domestic policy, e.g. national security, health policy, labour market policy, family policy etc.) or in connection with the relations of Germany with one or several other countries or international organisations (foreign affairs, e.g. visits of federal politicians abroad, summit conferences, international treaties, out-of-area missions of the German Army etc.).

German federal politics do not include the national politics of other countries (except of foreign affairs referring to Germany), the relations between other countries without reference to Germany as well as political actions of international organizations without reference to Germany while the reference to Germany can be based on the thematization of German federal political actors.

If in a news story about international politics a German politician is mentioned or thematized only marginally, the news story is coded with the variable for federal politics as secondary topic (B6=2). Only if the focus of the news story lies on German federal politics, it is coded as a main topic (B6=1).

News stories referring to politics on subnational level (state or local politics) are coded with the variables of German federal politics if there is an explicit federal reference. Exception: news stories about results and/or consequences (particularly government formation) of state elections in North Rhine-Westphalia, Schleswig-Holstein and Saarland are considered to have per se a reference to federal politics and therefore always considered to belong to German federal politics. This is also applicable for news stories about dissolutions of government or scandals in states or communities as well as the shift of Elke Twesten from Bündnis 90/Die Grünen to CDU state parliamentary fraction in Lower Saxony and resignation of minister presidents which per definition belong to German federal politics.

Furthermore, the election of Manuela Schwesig as Mecklenburg Western Pommerania's new minister president will be included.

News stories about simple state or local politics without obvious reference to German federal politics do not belong to German federal politics in the sense of this study. This is also true for reporting about the campaign in the run up to the state elections in Lower Saxony; they are not considered to be federal politics.

News stories that are not strictly speaking political are also integrated into the sample if a German federal political actor appears so that their relevance with regard to the criterion of inclusion does not result from their topic but from their actors. (Example: a news story about the Bayreuth Festival is ba-

sically unpolitical; but the preselection reveals that Angela Merkel attends this festival so that the news story is included into the sample even if it refers strictly speaking not to politics.)

Moreover, the following special rules prevail in order to determine the inclusion of a news story into the sample:

Actions of the German Armed Forces are considered to be federal politics.

Actions of public administration bodies, service facility of the Federal Government, of the Federal Prosecutor, of the Federal Labour Office, of the Office for the Protection of the Constitution etc. are not per se considered to be federal politics. They are not included into the sample, only if a reference to German federal politics (including German federal political actors) could be justified by other elements of the respective news story

The presence of terrorists (even in the past), including trials and investigations against terrorists, are not included into the in-depth analysis. They can be included only if a reference to German federal politics can be justified by other parts of the respective news story. Actions of terrorists with a reference to Germany are political actions.

(International) Statistics with regard to "Germany" as a whole (e.g. the OECD education report) are not per se considered to be federal politics. They are not included into the in-depth analysis, only if a reference to German federal politics (including German federal political actors) could be justified by other elements of the respective news story

Demonstrations about political issues and decisions are political actions and included into the in-depth analysis.

Rules

In order to identify the main resp. secondary topic of a news story, the latter has to be seen in its entirety.

The focus of a news story determines the main topic which depends on the relative length that is dedicated to this topic.

Secondary topics can appear in two ways: (1) as subaspect of the main topic or (2) as replenishment which is thematically independent from the main topic.

In order to be coded as a federal political secondary topic (code 2), the topic has to be (at least briefly) discussed in terms of content. If topics are only mentioned/ enumerated they are to be ignored.

If German federal political actors appear (cf. *list 2: Actors, Codes 1000-1400*) in an article which does not deal with politics in narrower sense, it has to be identified whether these actors play a main role or a secondary role in it.

Thematization analysis (1): Politics, polity and policy issues

This analysis is based on the following three-fold dimensional framework. All topics thematized in news stories have to be assigned to one of these dimensions.

Politics: The political process which evolves as succession of actions of political actors.

Examples: votes in the Federal Parliament, election campaigns of the parties, negotiations between ministries, coalition negotiations and decisions of parties, forming of opinions and preferences of voters.

Polity: The structural dimension, concerning the overall institutional order of the political system as well as its institutions.

Examples: Institutions of the governmental system and their elements (e.g. the federal parliament Bundestag with committees, parliamentary party groups, MPs; the federal system of Germany with States and their governments as well as the Bundesrat).

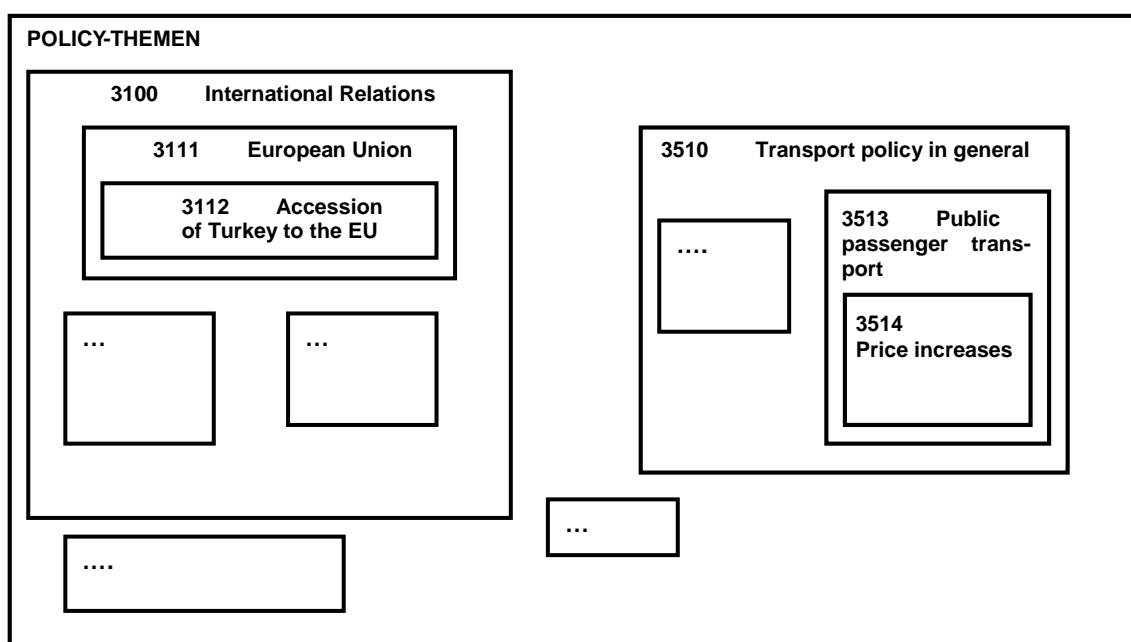
Policy: The content dimension, i.e. measures and programs developed, decided upon and implemented by political actors.

Examples: Different fields of politics as e.g. financial policy, economic policy, social policy and defense policy, but also single measures as e.g. financial or other support of determined companies.

Political issues are coded regardless of their temporal reference, i.e. thematic references to politics before the Grand Coalition have to be coded.

General principles for the coding of variables B12/politics, B14/polity and B16/policy

The coder must code an issue as specifically as possible. First he has to classify it under one of the thematics of the political dimensions (e.g. election campaign). If an issue can be assigned even more differentiated within these thematic blocs (e.g. election campaign strategies in general), the coder has to choose the respective code. If the issue can even be assigned to the next level of this code (e.g. campaign for secondary (party-list) votes in particular), the issue has to be coded respectively. This is the principle that the coder has to follow: he must work his way through the several levels of the codes in order to code the given issue as exactly as possible: i.e. special topic prevails over particular topic prevails over general topic. Although the thematic focus of the news story must not be neglected. If an issue cannot be classified under a more concrete level, the coder must verify if he can assign it to a category of the respective superordinate level.



Example I: A news story handles with the planned price increases in public passenger transport. In this case it has to be coded as 3515 “Special topic price increases” if the news story, however, treated only the “Deutsche Bahn” in general, it has to be coded as 3513 “Public passenger transport in particular”. If a news story treating the transport policy in general cannot be assigned to the subordinate categories “road transport in particular” (3511) or “public passenger transport in particular” (3513), it would correspondingly have been coded as 3510 “transport policy in general”. If a coder can only identify the topic infrastructure policy in a news story without further specification that would allow a

classification under category 3510 “transport policy in general”, 3520 “energy policy in general”, 3530 “Housing market in general”, 3540 “postal and telecommunications in general” or 3550 “internet in general”, the news story has to be coded with 3500 standing for the abstract field of infrastructure policy.

Example II: A news story dedicated to the accession of Turkey to the EU is coded with 3112 “Special topic accession of Turkey to the EU”. If the story treats however the German contribution payments to the EU, it has to be coded as 3111 “European Union/EU in particular” because the single topic “contributions” does not have a specific code in the code plan; it is only encodable on a superordinate level because it only can be unambiguously assigned to the topic EU.

B10 Main subject of the news story: politics, polity, policy issue?

In this phase of analysis it has to be identified to which field the main subject of German federal politics of this news story belongs; even if German federal politics is only a secondary topic (B09=2), the main subject of this secondary topic of the news story has to be identified.

Accordingly, the coder has to attribute the code 1 (main aspect) to one of the three following variables B11, B13 or B15. To the other two variables he can only attribute code 0 (no reference) or 2 (secondary aspect).

If, in an article that does not deal with politics in a narrower sense, German federal political actors appear in a main or secondary role while the reporting is unpolitical, code 0 has principally to be used.

0	No politics, polity or policy issue or event	⇒ Continue with B17a
1	Politics issue and event (cf. list 1: codes 1000)	
2	Polity issue and event (cf. list 1: codes 2000)	
3	Policy issue and event (cf. list 1: codes 3000/4000)	

B11 Reference to politics issues?

0	No	⇒ Continue with B13
1	Main aspect	⇒ Continue with B12
2	Secondary aspect	⇒ Continue with B12

Principles

If B10=1 is coded, necessarily B11=1. With regard to the other two dimensions the coder only has to verify if they also appear as secondary aspect. Therefore it is important by which dimension (politics or polity or policy) the existing political reference of the news story is primarily achieved and not whether politics/polity/policy is the main aspect of the news story.

Only one main aspect within the three political dimensions is possible!

Politics issues are only taken into account as federal political secondary topic (code 2), if they are (at least briefly) discussed in terms of content. If topics are only mentioned/enumerated they are to be ignored.

B12 If yes: politics issue

1000-1700 Politics issue according to list 1

Principles

Rather a **concrete code** than a superordinate code has to be attributed whenever possible.

Sequential coding: the order in mentioning the topics is crucial for the coding, i.e. the topic mentioned in the first place is to be registered and classified under a code as concrete as possible and not under a comprehensive, superordinate code which is only to be attributed if a more concrete code cannot be determined.

B13 Reference to polity issues?

- | | | |
|---|------------------|----------------------------|
| 0 | No | ⇒ Continue with B15 |
| 1 | Main aspect | ⇒ Continue with B14 |
| 2 | Secondary aspect | ⇒ Continue with B14 |

Principles

If B10=2 is coded, necessarily B13=1. With regard to the other two dimensions the coder only has to verify if they also appear as secondary aspect. Therefore it is important by which dimension (politics or polity or policy) the existing political reference of the news story is primarily achieved and not whether politics/polity/policy is the main aspect of the news story.

Only one main aspect within the three political dimensions is possible!

Polity issues are only taken into account as federal political secondary topic. if they are (at least briefly) discussed in terms of content. If topics are only mentioned/enumerated they are to be ignored.

B14 If yes: polity issue

2000-2500 Polity issue according to list 1

Principles

Rather a **concrete code** than a superordinate code has to be attributed whenever possible.

Sequential coding: the order in mentioning the topics is crucial for the coding, i.e. the topic mentioned in the first place is to be registered and classified under a code as concrete as possible and not under a comprehensive, superordinate code which is only to be attributed if a more concrete code cannot be determined.

B15 Reference to policy issues?

- | | | |
|---|------------------|-----------------------------|
| 0 | No | ⇒ Continue with B17a |
| 1 | Main aspect | ⇒ Continue with B16 |
| 2 | Secondary aspect | ⇒ Continue with B16 |

Principles

If B10=3 is coded, necessarily B15=1. With regard to the other two dimensions the coder only has to verify if they also appear as secondary aspect. Therefore it is important by which dimension (politics or polity or policy) the existing political reference of the news story is primarily achieved and not whether politics/polity/policy is the main aspect of the news story.

Only one main aspect within the three political dimensions is possible!

Policy issues are only taken into account as a federal political secondary topic (code 2), if they are (at least briefly) discussed in terms of content. If topics are only mentioned/enumerated they are to be ignored.

B16 If yes: policy issue

3000-4500 Policy issue according to list 1

Principles

Rather a concrete code than a superordinate code has to be attributed whenever possible.

Sequential coding: The order in mentioning the topics is crucial for the coding, i.e. the topic mentioned in the first place is to be registered and classified under a code as concrete as possible and not under a comprehensive, superordinate code which is only to be attributed if a more concrete code cannot be determined.

If the sequentially first named topic refers to a not concrete superordinate code, the specification of this topic is made by using the more concrete topic mentioned in the second place (subordinated code). However, this is only possible if all the other topics of the political dimension (e.g. all topics of politics) appearing in the news story can be coded by this more concrete code. If several different subordinate codes of the respective superordinate code are addressed, the superordinate code must be retained.

Example: the sequentially first named topic is 1200 “election campaign” (superordinated code) and the topic mentioned in the second place is a more concrete topic with a 12xx/13xx coding (e.g. “TV debate of top candidates”, 1241), the news story is to be coded by 1241 instead of 1200, if all other topics of politics in this news story also refer to the TV debate. If apart from the TV debate another code is mentioned in the third place, e.g.. “Election programmes/government programmes of parties” (1210), the code 1200 must be used because the TV debate cannot be retained as specification as the news story refers to more than one code of election campaign.

This procedure is not only to be respected when defining the topic of politics but also when determining the polity issue or the policy issue.

If a picture is placed above the text, the subtitle of the picture is examined to define the sequentially first named topic. If a picture is placed under the text or is integrated into the text, the text is to be examined first to define the sequentially first named topic and the picture afterwards.

When defining the sequentially first named topic, the headings will be examined independently from the size of the text in the following order: 1. first-order headline, 2. second-order headline, 3. subheadline.

Thematization analysis (2): Policy positions

The coder has to concentrate on whether specific political positions are found in the news stories regardless their importance.

Principles

Every mention is coded no matter how small it is, regardless of order or of the news story's focus.

2a: Thematization of positions in the debate about welfare-state services

The positions coded in the context of the debate about welfare-state services range from cutting back the services to extending them.

B17a Welfare-state services

Basically, two groups of welfare-state services are classified and coded under this category:

1.) Welfare-state services on an insurance basis

These include all welfare-state services granted to the beneficiaries because of their contributions. This group contains statutory old age pension, pensions for civil servants, statutory casualty pensions, benefits of statutory health insurance, care and nursing services, unemployment benefits.

2.) Welfare-state services on an assistance basis

These include all welfare-state services granted to the beneficiaries because of their poverty. This group contains unemployment benefits II (synonymous: ALG II, Hartz IV, basic benefit for job-seeking persons), social benefits (synonymous: basic social benefits for permanently disabled persons), housing subsidy, social housing, education advancement grants (BAföG), education allowances (BAB, BAB for handicapped persons).

0 No reference to welfare-state services

1 Neither extension nor cut-back of welfare-state services is thematized.

2 Extension of welfare-state services is thematized:

Example: "Today the federal government has decided a pension increase of 3.3 percent for the year 2017.", "Sahra Wagenknecht explains that the black-red coalition has to raise immediately the standard rate of Hartz IV in the face of drastic raise of living costs."

3 Cut-back of welfare-state services is thematized:

e.g. "Andrea Nahles' plans to pay principally only 80% of unemployment benefits II to unemployed persons up to 25 years in order to ease the burden for the treasury", "Politicians of the SPD said that the FDP plans in the long-term to shift the financing of university studies completely to scholarships and credits so that the BAföG will be abolished."

4 Extension as well as cut-back of welfare-state services are thematized.

Principles

Attention: Welfare-state services must not be confused with social policy. The coder has to follow exclusively the definitions of welfare-state services mentioned above and not to take the codes for social policy in the code list into account.

Even the mere mentioning of terms like "public services" / "welfare-state services" / "cut-backs in the social system" is coded by B17a.

If the development of a social branch (in the sense of a labour market section) (cf. e.g., the Plan for Germany) is mentioned in the text, code B17a does not apply.

If the Hartz reforms in general but not explicitly Hartz IV is mentioned, code B17a does not apply.

Extension of welfare-state services is to be used if the citizens or specific population groups benefit of the respective measure.

The "pension guarantee" is to be considered as an extension of welfare-state services and coded respectively.

An increase of social expenditure is not necessarily equated to an extension of welfare-service because it can also result from an increase of the beneficiaries. It has to be explicitly noticeable that the beneficiaries receive more money in order to use the code “extension of welfare-state services”.

If the introduction of a new, not yet existing welfare service on an insurance or assistance basis is mentioned, the code 1 “Neither extension nor cut-back of welfare-state services is thematized.” is used because principally only existing services can be increased/reduced.

(2b) Thematization of positions in the debate about taxes and duties

The different positions in the context of the debate about taxes and duties are coded here and range from an increase of taxes and duties to a reduction of taxes and duties..

B17b Fiscal policy

If any fiscal policy is thematized resp. not thematized, this has to be coded with the variables below.

- 0 No reference to fiscal policy
- 1 Neither increase nor reduction of taxes and/or duties is thematized
- 2 Increase of taxes and/or duties is thematized
- 3 Reduction of taxes and/or duties is thematized
- 4 Increase as well as reduction of taxes and/or duties are thematized

Principles

The simple mention of the term “taxes” is to be registered as fiscal policy in the sense of B17b.

Custom duties are taxes in terms of the German general fiscal code.

“Tax gifts” are coded by 3 “Reduction of taxes and/or duties”.

“Tax reliefs” are coded by 3 “Reduction of taxes and/or duties”

The increase as well as the reduction of existing tax-free amounts has to be coded as increase/reduction of taxes.

If the reduction of the solidarity contribution is mentioned, this is to be considered as tax reduction and coded respectively

If the introduction of a new, not yet existing tax is mentioned, the code 1 “Neither increase nor reduction of taxes and/or duties” is used because principally only existing taxes can be increased/reduced.

Thematization analysis (3): Reference points of the news story

B18a Does the news story refer to the Federal election 2017?

(Including the federal election campaign, cf. list 1: codes 1200-1440)

- 0 No
- 1 Yes

Principles

The reference to the election can be achieved by words and/or images.

Keywords are for example candidate, party program or federal election.

Every still so small/casual mention is coded as reference.

B18b Explicit reference to the TV debate

- 0 No
1 Yes

Principles

Every reference to the German TV debates 2002, 2005, 2009, 2013 and 2017 is to be registered, no matter how small it is.

B18b only refers to the TV debate of the top candidates.

B18c Explicit reference to survey results of the Federal election 2017

- 0 No
1 Yes

Principles

Every mention of results of a German survey in the run-up to the federal election 2017 is to be registered, no matter how small it is. (This does not only apply to concrete figures but even to so called “trends”.)

By this point only opinion surveys are understood.

B18d Central event as cause of reporting

- 0 None of the events from list 3
01-52 Event from list 3

Principles

An event from list 3 is considered as cause of reporting if it is the point of departure for the news story. (Therefore, not every small mention is to be coded.)

An event can be coded as a central event as cause of reporting even if the reporting date does not correspond to the beginning of the event sequence mentioned in list 3, as the data in list 3 should only serve as a general orientation guide for the coders.

In identifying the cause of reporting, the coder has to answer the questions what has happened and why the broadcasting company has reported about it.

The aim of measurement, here, consists in analyzing if a certain event dominates the reporting of the day.

Not to be coded are eventual pegs/connecting passages in the introducing remarks (“The weeks after the party congress ...”).

Thematization analysis (4): German political actors

The appearance of political actors in different roles – institutional and other roles – is coded in this category.

Political actors include all politicians of all parties on all levels (from federal and state to local level).

By “**institutional role**” we understand the **role within the governmental system** (e.g. mayor, Federal Minister, Federal President, member of the parliamentary party group, member of the State Parliament, Member of the Federal Parliament, Minister President, President of the Bundesrat, municipal councilor etc.). By ‘**governmental system**’ we understand the political institutions at large and all political actors of the political system of Germany. We thus record constitutionally defined roles and those actors currently embodying these roles as ‘institutional roles’.

By “**other role**”, we understand **all roles beyond the governmental system** which are not legally defined, e.g. candidate, roles defined in statutes (of parties) such as executive board/presiding committee, party leader, youth association, etc.

In order to identify the role to be coded, the coders have to look at the explicit role attributions (e.g. Chancellor Angela Merkel). If there is no explicit role attribution the coder has to take the setting of the role into account (e.g. “Yesterday Angela Merkel said in the Chancellor's office” = Angela Merkel as Chancellor; if in reports from the Federal Parliament a specific party is mentioned, the parliamentary party group of the respective party is to be coded).

If no explicit role can be identified with an actor, the variable for “other roles” must be registered.

The identification of the respective role can be achieved by words and/or images.

Only actual roles have to be registered.

B19a	Angela Merkel: chancellor
B19b	Angela Merkel: other roles
B19c	Other politicians or boards of the CDU: institutional (roles)
B19d	Other politicians or boards of the CDU, CDU in general: other (roles)
B19e	Other politicians or boards of the CSU: institutional (roles)
B19f	Other politicians or boards of the CSU, CSU in general: other (roles)
B19g	CDU/CSU in general <i>I.e. institutional and other roles</i>
B19h	Martin Schulz: Institutional roles
B19i	Martin Schulz: Other roles
B19j	Other politicians or boards SPD: Institutional (roles)
B19k	Other politicians or boards SPD, SPD in general: Other (roles)
B19l	Federal government in general
B19m	Christian Lindner: Chairman of the state parliament fraction (North-Rhine Westphalia)
B19n	Christian Lindner: Other roles
B19o	Other politicians or boards FDP: Institutional (roles)
B19p	Other politicians or boards FDP, FDP in general: Other (roles)
B19q	Cem Özdemir: Member of the German Bundestag
B19r	Cem Özdemir: Other roles
B19s	Other politicians or boards Bündnis 90/Die Grünen: Institutional (roles)
B19t	Other politicians or boards Bündnis 90/Die Grünen, Bündnis 90/Die Grünen in general: Other (roles)
B19u	Sahra Wagenknecht: Leader of parliamentary party group
B19v	Sahra Wagenknecht: Other roles
B19w	Other politicians or boards Die Linke: Institutional roles

B19x	Other politicians or boards Die Linke, Die Linke in general: Other (roles)
B19y	Frauke Petry: Chairwoman of the state parliamentary fraction (Saxony)
B19z	Frauke Petry: Other roles
B19ab	Other politicians or boards AfD: Institutional roles
B19ac	Other politicians or boards AfD: Other roles

For the variables B21a-ac the following codes are applicable:

0	Does not occur
11	Appears in the first place and in sound bite
12	Appears in the first place and is quoted/thematized
21	Appears in the second/third etc. place and in sound bite
22	Appears in the second/third etc. place and is quoted/thematized

Principles

When identifying the order of the mentioning all political actors are taken into account so that a first-mentioned actor must not necessarily be registered. If there is a first-mentioned political actor who cannot be registered by the variables B19 (for example State Minister without mentioning the party, Federal Constitutional Court, Opposition), this could lead to the registration from the second person up.

If a picture is placed above the text, the subtitle of the picture is examined to define the sequentially first named topic. If a picture is placed under the text or is integrated into the text, the text is to be examined first to define the sequentially first named actor and the picture afterwards.

When defining the sequentially first named topic, the headings will be examined independently from the size of the text in the following order: 1. first-order headline, 2. second-order headline, 3. subheadline.

Political actors who are thematized in both roles within one news story are to be registered in their institutional as well as in their other role. Example: if Angela Merkel is introduced as election campaigner (B19b), but is subtitled with "Chancellor" during her campaign speech, this is coded by B19b as well as B19a.

If an actor appears within one news story in sound bite and quoted/thematized, this will be coded with the variable for unmediated speech, i.e. code 11 prevails over code 12, code 21 prevails over code 22. Example: If Gabriel, Minister of Foreign Affairs, is first mentioned in the introducing remarks of the newscaster (Code 12) and appears in sound bite in the respective news story after other actors (code 21), the variables for first-mentioning and unmediated speech will be combined so that variable 11 is coded, i.e. the codes even between the different groups codes are to be seen hierarchically. This applies even if there are different persons subsumed under the same code. Example: If CDU MP A is thematized as first person (code 12), CDU MP B appears afterwards in sound bite (code 21), this leads to a coding of B19c = 11.

Furthermore mentioning of party specific colors is to be coded, i.e. mentioning of black-red must be registered by CDU/CSU and SPD.

Prospective black-red coalitions are coded as CDU, CSU and SPD as long as there is no reference to the current governing black-red coalition. If a coalition explicitly composed of Union parties (CDU/CSU in general) and SPD is mentioned the Union parties (CDU/CSU

in general) are coded as an actor. If it is supposed that the black-red coalition will be continued the variable B19l "Federal Government" must be registered.

Other coalition models are coded by the respective participating party. If a prospective coalition (e.g. "black-green") is mentioned, CDU and CSU are coded as independent actors (other roles). This equally applies to past coalitions. For coalitions the codes 11/12 are attributed for both/several parties if they are named in connection (e.g. "black-green" = 12 CDU; 12 CSU, 12 FDP).

Attention with the term "black-red coalition": If it is to be considered as synonymous with Federal Government, it is coded only by B19l and not for CDU, CSU and SPD. If a black-red coalition in a State is thematized, the corresponding parties in accordance to the respective State are coded, but not by B19l.

Generally the coalition models must be unambiguously identifiable, otherwise they are not registered. A "left-left alliance" or the "left political camp" e.g. are not unambiguously assigned and are therefore not coded.

B19l Federal Government means only Government, black-red coalition, cabinet, "the" coalition, government spokesmen and p.r.n. Germany/Berlin. Government circles and government camp are coded by B19l as well.

In foreign political news stories "Berlin" and "Germany" are to be considered as synonymous with the Federal Government and therefore coded by B19l, if it is not only meant as geographic indication, but stands for actors in a foreign political context.

"The" governing parties, "the" coalition parties as well as "the" coalition partners are coded by Union parties (CDU/CSU in general) and SPD. This includes the government side in reports from the German Bundestag.

The "state" as such is not to be equated with the Federal Government and is therefore never coded as such.

The Chancellor's Office will not be coded as Federal Government or Federal Chancellor Merkel.

Ministries and their spokespersons are not coded as Federal Government.

Federal Ministers as well as Minister Presidents of the States were registered with the respective party (institutional), even if the party is not mentioned explicitly.

If cross-party institutional roles are assigned with an explicitly party specific attribute, this is to be registered. Example: If the "chancellor of CDU" is mentioned, it is coded as follows: B19a: Merkel as chancellor and B19b Merkel other roles, because she appears always as chancellor and as party political actor. The CDU is therefore to be seen as an attribute of Merkel (Merkel in a second role) and is not to be coded additionally as a party. It is the same case for "Minister of SPD XY" which is coded as B19j other politicians SPD institutional and B19k SPD others in general, since he appears on the one hand as Minister (institutional) and on the other hand as actor of the party. The SPD is therefore not to be seen as party as detailed before with the CDU. That means that with composite actors it is important to code the two different roles of an actor (others + institutional) and not party and actor. (But this is not the case if e.g. the SPD government is mentioned.)

A part of a party (e.g. the SPD part of the black-yellow coalition) is coded as party in other roles.

If the party is added after mentioning of politicians by name, e.g. Federal Chancellor Merkel (CDU), the parties are not coded as actors because in this context they are considered to be attributes of politicians.

If the chancellor candidates are mentioned without their explicit name in a news story codes B19b: Angela Merkel Other roles and B19i (Martin Schulz: Other roles) are used.

A "People's party" can be coded as the respective party if the context makes clear which party is meant. If the "people's parties" are mentioned, CDU and SPD are coded. (When defining the order of the three first named actors in the context of the coder rating they are however not taken into account as described below.)

Roles that are meant metaphorically and are attributed by journalists (or other actors), e.g. ordinary seaman (in the sense of lightweight) or shadow boxer are not taken into account when defining the order of the mentioning.

Sole mentions by name of actors are considered as other roles and are coded respectively. Mentions like "she" and "he" are not coded as other actors.

Partisans and voters of a certain party are not registered within the parties.

Former federal chancellors are coded as belonging to the respective party (other roles) provided that they are still member of this party.

Deceased actors are not registered, when they had been dead during the survey period.

The German Armed Forces are not registered in this category.

Established paraphrases of the German parties, e.g. social democrats/social democracy (SPD) or free democrats (FDP) are registered as the corresponding parties.

Coder-Rating: overall tendency of the news story

By overall tendency of the news story we understand the impression – positive or negative – of certain parties, politicians or coalition constellations in federal political reference system if they appear as one of the first three actors of the list of variables B20a-B20u below in a news story.

This impression can be the consequence of explicit evaluations of the actor as such made by journalists or other quoted sources, of explicit judgments of one or several of his acts as success or failure, or of rejection or support of the actor as such or one or several of his acts (e.g. political individual decisions and their results, acts of communications, political style, policies, survey results).

The overall tendency is to be coded for the first three actors of the list below appearing in a news story. An exception can only be made with the union parties: if the union is mentioned, besides for the two actors CDU and CSU an overall tendency for two other actors is to be coded, i.e. the thematization of the union parties leads to the exceptional coding of four actors instead of three. If in the news story less than three actors of the list below are thematized, the overall tendency is only coded for $n < 3$.

For the coding a five-point-scale is used³: from "unambiguously positive" (=1) to "unambiguously negative" (=5). A news story is to be coded for an actor as "unambiguously positive" (=1) resp. "unambiguously negative" (=5).

3 If the overall reliability of this scale turns out to be bad, this is a priori no problem. When testing their reliability of these variables, two reliabilities are always to be calculated: (a) The reliability of the overall scale, (b) the reliability of a three-point-scale in which the attributes "unambiguously positive" and "rather positive" on the one hand and the attributes "unambiguously negative" and "rather negative" on the other hand are summarized. The distinct differentiation between positive/ambivalent/negative is more important than the one between "unambiguously" and "rather" positive or negative respectively.

ously negative" (=5), if it contains exclusively positive resp. negative evaluations on this actor and/or his actions (this does not imply that the news story deals exclusively or mainly with this actor). Neutral contents can also be included but none pointing in the opposite direction. If a news story contains positive as well as negative evaluations, it has to be coded "rather positive" (=2) resp. "rather negative" (=4) depending on the direction in which the tendency of the news story goes. If positive and negative evaluations are evenly balanced, i.e. are represented in more or less equal parts, the news story is to be coded "ambivalent/positive as well as negative" (=3). If a tendency is not clearly visible, the news story is to be coded "neutral/no tendency" (=9).

In assessing the news story equal weight is attributed to all evaluations on actors regardless of the actor's category, i.e. e.g. journalistic evaluations are equally important than evaluations expressed by other politicians; even self-evaluations are integrated into the rating.

Each actor is to be coded exclusively for himself. His overall tendency has no impact on other actors (e.g. a negative evaluation of Martin Schulz does not imply that the news story is automatically positive for Angela Merkel).

B20a	Angela Merkel
B20b	CDU
B20c	CSU
B20d	Martin Schulz
B20e	SPD
B20f	Christian Lindner
B20g	FDP
B20h	Cem Özdemir
B20i	Bündnis 90/Die Grünen
B20j	Sahra Wagenknecht
B20k	Die Linke
B20l	Frauke Petry
B20m	AfD
B20n	Grand coalition (CDU/CSU and SPD)
B20o	Coalition CDU/CSU and FDP
B20p	Coalition SPD and Bündnis 90/Die Grünen
B20q	Coalition CDU/CSU and Bündnis 90/Die Grünen
B20r	Coalition Coalition SPD, FDP and Bündnis 90/Die Grünen
B20s	Coalition CDU/CSU, FDP and Bündnis 90/Die Grünen
B20t	Coalition SPD, Bündnis 90/Die Grünen and Die Linke
B20u	Coalition with AfD participation

For the variables B22a-u the following codes are applicable:

0	Actor is not thematized (as one of the first three actors)
1	Unambiguously positive
2	Rather positive
3	Ambivalent/positive as well as negative
4	Rather negative
5	Unambiguously negative
9	Neutral/no tendency

Principles of registration

Basically the rating objects are only coded if they appear in a federal political context, i.e. politicians and parties on a state/communal/local level are not coded in this category (with the exception below).

However it is important to note that chancellor candidates are always to be considered as federal political actors and an overall tendency is always to be registered for those actors if they appear as one of the first three actors in a news story. They are to be coded regardless of their role, i.e. e.g. even if Angela Merkel is named as chancellor, the overall tendency is to be coded for her.

If parties are thematized as one of the first three actors in connection with results of State elections of North Rhine-Westphalia, Schleswig-Holstein and Saarland and their consequences (particularly processes of formation of government) as well as with scandals in the state or local policy or with dissolutions of government as well as Elke Twestens shift from Bündnis 90/Die Grünen to CDU in the state parliamentary fraction in Lower Saxony and resignations of minister presidents. They are coded exceptionally in a subnational context (state or local policy). If they appear in a context of pure state policy without visible connection with federal policy, they are never coded.

Moreover an overall tendency can only be coded for parties and coalitions if they are thematized explicitly as a whole. It is not enough that actors of the respective parties are thematized in the news story. The appearance of the general secretary Peter Tauber for example cannot be equated with an occurrence of the CDU, but the CDU must be thematized in a news story in order to retain the occurrence of the CDU and to code eventually an overall tendency. The tendency to be registered should only refer to the part of the news story in which the party is thematized in its entirety. The tendency for a SPD actor appearing in the same news story should not influence the tendency for the SPD.

In order to code the overall tendency of a coalition, it is not sufficient that actors of the parties forming this coalition or the parties themselves are represented in a news story by words or images. The respective coalition must be thematized as a whole.

With red-green-coalition only a coalition of SPD and Bündnis90/Die Grünen is to be coded, but not a coalition of SPD, Bündnis90/Die Grünen and Die Linke.

The federal government (B20n) is only registered if it is named explicitly as government. Single ministers are not registered in this category. Government's spokespersons (contents) are taken into account when registering the evaluations for the federal government.

If CDU/CSU resp. the Union parties are named as one of the first three actors, B20b as well as B20c are coded. This naming is to be considered as a single actor, i.e. two others can be registered.

If the "people's parties" are mentioned, CDU and SPD were not taken into account when defining the order of the three first named actors because it is not clear which party is mentioned in the first place.

"The" governing parties, "the" coalition parties as well as "the" coalition partners are registered as Union parties (CDU/CSU in general) and SPD. The same procedure applies for the "government side" in reports from the German Bundestag. In this case the Union parties (CDU/CSU in general) are registered first.]

If a sound bite is the concretion/repetition/illustration of a speech act of a quoting anchorman/journalist, which was spoken directly before the sound bite, only the sound bite is included in the rating but not the additional journalistic speech act.

Principles of tendency

In order to identify the overall tendency of a news story three sorts of indicators have to be taken into account:

(1) Evaluations:

This includes explicit judgments of journalists or sources quoted in the news story (e.g. other political actors) about the actor or one or several of his actions.

Example for a positive explicit judgment: Martin Schulz⁴ is portrayed as a pleasant politician in a news story about his appearance in the Hall Meeting. Sahra Wagenknecht is characterised as humorous in a news story about the general debate in the German Bundestag. Example for a negative explicit judgment: Angela Merkel was supposed to have no interest in fighting the unemployment. In a news story the Union parties are described as estranged.

(2) Support/rejection:

This includes explicit rejection or support of an actor or one or several of his actions.

Example for support (positive): In a news story positive reactions of CDU partisans on a campaign appearance of Angela Merkel are witnessed. A news story reports that the CDU/CSU and the FDP enjoy the greatest support of voters. News story are about Angela Merkel extending her lead in the chancellor's candidature and enjoying a high ranking in election surveys. A news story comments that the initiative of the SPD to introduce a minimum wage meets widespread approval in the population.

Examples for rejection (negative): It is reported that the trade unions do not agree with the fiscal political suggestions of the FDP in its election manifesto. A news story suggests that a coalition between SPD and the Greens would actually not obtain the majority of the population.

Campaign contributions are not coded as support.

(3) Success/failure:

This includes explicit statements of journalists or sources quoted in the news story about one or several actions of the actor considered as success or failure.

A simple acceptance resp. rejection of an application in the Federal parliament does not represent success resp. failure and is therefore not registered in this category. This is also valid for the acceptance of party manifestos.

Example for success (positive): It is reported that Angela Merkel succeeded in convincing the French of the German position in the context of the European summit. It is reported that the black-red coalition has completed an enormous work load by adopting legislative packages and reforms.

⁴ The direction of the tendency refers to the underlined actor respectively.

Example for failure (negative): A news story claims that the family policy of the CDU could not stop the dropping of the birth rate or even encouraged it.

7 Lists

List 1: Issues⁵

POLITICS ISSUES (Political Processes)

1000	POLITICAL PROCESSES (POLITICS ISSUES)
1100	Field of political conflicts and scandals
1110	Political conflicts <u>in general</u>
	<i>Refers only to politics. Other conflicts, e.g. between industry and politics, are not registered in this category.</i>
1111	Conflicts in the Federal Government <u>in particular</u>
1112	Inner party conflicts (incl. conflicts between CDU and CSU) <u>in particular</u>
1120	Conflicts between parties <u>in particular</u>
1130	Political scandals <u>in general</u>
1131	Scandals in state politics <u>in particular</u>
1132	Scandals in federal politics <u>in particular</u>
1137	<u>Special topic</u> Elke Twesten's shift from Bündnis 90/Die Grünen to CDU state parliamentary fraction in Lower Saxony / Dissolution state parliament
1138	<u>Special topic</u> Agreement between VW group and the government of Lower Saxony concerning a governmental speech
1139	<u>Special topic</u> Accusation of Alice Weidel having illegally employed a Syrian refugee cleaner
1140	<u>Special topic</u> Election of Manuela Schwesig as Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania's new minister president after Erwin Sellering resigned due to illness
1200	Field of federal election campaign
	<i>This is the superordinated code for unspecific campaign reporting. Includes general forecasts for the election results if there is no reference to surveys (cf. 1290)</i> <i>Here are coded also campaign and pre-election promises and if they are not mentioned within a specific context (e.g. election programme)</i>
1210	Election programs/government programs of parties <u>in general</u>
	<i>Election programmes are only coded if they are called explicitly or clearly identifiable as such. Including CSU's "Plan for Bavaria"</i>
1220	Election campaigns of parties <u>in general</u>
	<i>All reports about election campaigns are coded by 1220 to start with. Codes 1221-1224 are</i>

⁵ The coding scheme is based on Roller, Edeltraud (1991): Ein analytisches Schema zur Klassifikation von Politikinhalt (FS III 91-201). Berlin: Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin für Sozialforschung. It has been adjusted and up-dated to meet the special aims of this study.

	<i>only applicable with explicit mention of the respective terms.</i>
1221	Canvassing of parties <u>in particular</u>
1222	Campaign style of parties <u>in particular</u>
	<i>Thematization of the political culture, e.g. “negative Campaigning”, attack vs. evasion etc.</i>
1223	Campaign organization <u>in particular</u> (e.g. war-rooms, agencies involved in campaigns, portraits of spin-doctors)
	<i>“Man of action portraits” are articles about spin-doctors/campaign managers.</i>
1224	Campaign costs/expenses <u>in particular</u>
1225	Online campaigning of the parties (websites, blogs, support platforms, social networking sites etc.)
1230	Campaign events <u>in general</u>
	<i>All reports about election campaign events are coded by 1230 to start with. Codes 1231-1235 are only applicable with explicit mention of the respective terms. (“mass rally”, “electoral party convention”, “final rally” etc.).</i>
1231	Official kick-off dates fixed by the parties <u>in particular</u>
1232	Large rally of top candidates <u>in particular</u>
1233	Electoral/Special party conferences <u>in particular</u>
1234	Final rallies of parties <u>in particular</u>
1235	Protest/flash mobs at campaign events <u>in particular</u>
1240	TV campaign <u>in general</u>
1241	TV debate of top candidates <u>in particular</u>
	Incl. pre-/post-coverage
1242	Party leaders' TV debate (“elephant round”) <u>in particular</u>
1243	TV debate of the opposition parties <u>in particular</u>
1250	Coalitions <u>in general</u>
1251	Coalition statements <u>in particular</u>
	<i>Coalition statements must be uttered by political party actors in order to be coded in this category. In case of coalition speculations (e.g. by journalists) the superordinated code 1250 Coalitions is to be used.</i>
1252	<u>Special topic</u> cooperation between SPD and Die Linke/SPD, Grüne and die Linke
1253	<u>Special topic</u> cooperation between CDU/CSU and AfD resp. CDU/CSU, FDP, and AfD
1254	<u>Special topic</u> cooperation between CDU/CSU and Grüne resp. CDU/CSU, FDP, Grüne
1255	Meetings of parties with possible coalition partners <u>in particular</u>
1260	Associations and campaign <u>in general</u>
1261	Meetings of parties with alliance partners (trade unions, employers' associations) <u>in particular</u>
1262	Statements of associations (e.g. trade unions, employers' associations) <u>in particular</u>
1270	Goals of the parties in the election (with regards to election results) <u>in general</u>
1280	Election campaign strategies <u>in general</u>
1281	Campaign for secondary (party-list) votes <u>in particular</u>

1290	Surveys <u>in general</u>
1300	Personnel proposals for ministerial posts <u>in general</u>
	<i>"Government team" is understood in the sense of shadow cabinet and therefore coded under this category in general.</i>
1400	Field of Federal election
	<i>Includes election results of previous federal elections and reports on the Wahl-O-Mat.</i>
1410	Voter turnout <u>in general</u>
1420	Suffrage <u>in general</u>
1421	Direct mandates <u>in general</u>
1430	Admission of parties to elections <u>in general</u>
1440	Observation of the election through OSZE <u>in general</u>
1500	Field of state or local elections and campaign
1510	State elections and campaign in lower Saxony <u>in general</u>
1530	Impact of the state-and/or local elections on federal politics <u>in general</u>
1540	Results and consequences of state elections on federal politics <u>in general</u>
1610	Last debate in the Bundestag/last government declaration <u>in general</u> (05.09.)
1700	Other specific topic with references to political processes
	<i>Includes resolutions of the Bundestag / Bundesrat in general, i.e. not thematic, also acts of state Parliamentary committees of inquiry are also coded in this category. The Parliamentary Control Panel and the Petitions Committee are also registered in this category</i>

POLITY ISSUES (Political structure/system dimension)

2000	POLITICAL STRUCTURES (POLITY ISSUES)
2010	Bureaucracy, civil service <u>in general</u>
2020	Politicians' parliamentary allowance <u>in general</u>
2030	Lobbyism <u>in general</u>
2040	Media trustworthiness in general

2100	Field of form of government
2110	Democracy <u>in general</u>
2111	Discontent with bureaucracy <u>in particular</u>
2112	Greater say of citizens <u>in particular</u>
2113	<u>Special topic</u> direct democracy/plebiscites
2200	Field of formal institutions
	<i>Includes: Open Day of the Federal Government</i>
2210	Say of the Bundestag/Bundesrat in policy-making of the EU <u>in general</u>
2300	Field of national principles of organisation
	<i>E.g. Rule of law/constitutional state</i>
2310	Federalism <u>in general</u>
2400	Field of normative order
	<i>Unspecific comments on the political culture in Germany are coded in this category.</i>
2410	Deterioration of values/moral standards <u>in general</u>
2411	Radicalisation, extremism <u>in particular</u>
2420	Disenchantment with politics <u>in general</u>
2422	Criticism on parties as such <u>in particular</u>
2423	Criticism on politicians as such <u>in particular</u>
2425	Criticism on federal bodies as such <u>in particular</u>
2426	Criticism on political structures as such <u>in particular</u> (e.g. inertia)
2470	Criticism on society <u>in general</u>
2471	Lack of perspectives <u>in particular</u>
2472	Envy <u>in particular</u>
2473	Rapacity <u>in particular</u>
2474	Lack of social cohesion/solidarity <u>in particular</u>
	<i>Including social harmony</i>
2475	No equality of chances <u>in particular</u>
2480	National pride <u>in general</u>
2490	Populism <u>in general</u>
2500	Other specific topic with reference to political structures
	<i>Includes: Nuclear Regulatory Commission</i>

POLICY-ISSUES (Political contents/content dimension)

3000	POLITICAL CONTENTS (POLICY ISSUES)

3100	Field of foreign affairs
3110	Europe <u>in general</u> <i>Includes: European banking union</i>
3111	European Union/EU (as organisation) <u>in particular</u>
3112	<u>Special topic</u> accession of Turkey to the EU
3120	International organisations <u>in general</u>
3121	NATO <u>in particular</u>
3122	United Nations <u>in particular</u>
3130	State visits <u>in general</u> <i>Not for state visits of German actors or in Germany, if the relations of Germany to the respective countries are thematized (cf. codes 3170-3176).</i>
3140	Summit conferences <u>in general</u> <i>Including reports on the G20 Hamburg summit</i>
3150	Bilateral and multilateral agreements <u>in general</u>
3160	International aid <u>in general</u> (does <u>not</u> include financial assistance granted to members of the eurozone)
3161	Development aid <u>in particular</u>
3170	Germany's role/position in the world <u>in general</u>
3171	Relations of Germany to other countries <u>in particular</u> <i>Here relations of Germany to all countries except from the United States, Russia, Turkey and in Europe, even in occasion of state visits (cf. code 3130)</i>
3172	<u>Special topic</u> relations of Germany to the United States <i>Even in occasion of state visits (cf. code 3130)</i>
3173	<u>Special topic</u> relations of Germany to European countries <i>Even in occasion of state visits (cf. code 3130)</i>
3174	<u>Special topic</u> relations of Germany to Russia <i>Even in occasion of state visits (cf. code 3130)</i>
3177	Special topic occupation of Crimea
3178	Special topic relations of Germany and Turkey <i>Even in occasion of state visits (cf. code 3130)</i>
3175	Globalisation <u>in particular</u>
3176	<u>Special topic</u> global justice
3179	<u>Special topic</u> Trump
3180	International conflicts/wars <u>in general</u> <i>Includes: Middle East conflict and the conflict between Iran and Israel</i>
3181	Terrorism as an international problem/terrorist attacks outside of Germany <u>in particular</u>
3182	<u>Special topic</u> nuclear conflict with Iran
3185	<u>Special topic</u> Nuclear dispute between North Korea and the United States

3184	<u>Special topic</u> civil war in Syria
3190	Arms exports <u>in general</u>
3200	Treatment of human rights <u>in general</u>
3210	Free trade <u>in general</u>
3300	Field of defence
3310	Armament, disarmament <u>in general</u>
3311	Drones of the German Armed Forces <u>in general</u>
3320	(World) peace <u>in general</u>
3330	German Armed Forces <u>in general</u>
3331	International missions/missions abroad <u>in particular</u>
3332	<u>Special topic</u> deployment of the German Armed Forces in Afghanistan
3400	Field of intern security/jurisdiction
3410	Criminality/violence <u>in general</u>
3411	Criminality of immigrants <u>in particular</u>
3412	Terrorism in Germany/danger of terrorist attacks in Germany <u>in particular</u>
	<i>Includes: RAF (Red Army Faction)</i>
3413	Islamism <u>in particular</u>
	<i>even IS returnees</i>
3414	Right-wing extremism <u>in particular</u>
	<i>including racism</i>
3415	<u>Special topic</u> NSU (right-wing terrorist group National Socialist Underground)
3416	Left-wing extremism <u>in particular</u>
3417	Corruption <u>in particular</u>
3418	<u>Special topic</u> politicians' corruption
3419	<u>Special topic</u> industrial corruption
3420	Rampages <u>in particular</u>
3421	Child abuse <u>in particular</u>
3430	Justice <u>in general</u>
	<i>Here: several and elder sentences</i>
3431	Jurisdiction <u>in particular</u>
	<i>Here: a concrete, actual sentence</i>
3433	Civil rights <u>in particular</u>
3434	Data protection <u>in particular</u>
3435	<u>Special topic</u> government surveillance
3437	Gun laws <u>in particular</u>

3500	Field of infrastructure
3510	Transport policy <u>in general</u>
3511	Road traffic <u>in particular</u>
3514	Special topic driving ban for diesel-powered cars
3513	Public passenger transport <u>in particular</u>
3515	Special topic price increases
3516	Special topic privatisations (e.g. German railway <i>Deutsche Bahn</i>)
3520	Energy policy <u>in general</u>
3521	Energy prices (for electricity/diesel/gas/oil/gasoline etc.) <u>in particular</u>
3522	Energy supply (e.g. dependency of Germany's energy supply from abroad) <u>in particular</u>
3523	Nuclear energy <u>in particular</u>
3524	Special topic phasing-out of nuclear energy
3525	Special topic energy transition
3526	Special topic final disposal
3527	Alternative/regenerative forms of energy (renewable) <u>in particular</u>
3528	Subsidies on carbon/open-cast mining <u>in particular</u>
3529	Fracking <u>in particular</u>
3530	E-cars <u>in particular</u>
3540	Housing market <u>in general</u>
3541	House building <u>in particular</u>
3542	Rental prices <u>in particular</u>
3543	Special topic rent control
3550	Postal and telecommunications <u>in general</u>
3560	Internet <u>in general</u>
	<i>Includes: cybercrime</i>
3561	Locking of web sites <u>in particular</u>
3562	Digitalization <u>in particular</u>
3570	City-country-difference/"rural areas" <u>in general</u>
3600	Field of environmental policy
3610	Environmental protection <u>in general</u>
3611	Environmental damages/pollution <u>in particular</u>
3612	Eco-tax <u>in particular</u>
3620	Protection of the climate <u>in general</u>
3621	Climate change <u>in particular</u>
3630	Nature conservation <u>in general</u>
3631	Natural disasters <u>in particular</u>

3640	<u>Animal welfare in general</u>
3650	<u>Special topic emissions rigging/emissions scandal</u>
3700	Field of social policy
	<i>Here also public benefits/benefits of the welfare state if they are only mentioned in general.</i>
3710	<u>Family policy in general</u>
3711	<u>Marriages/families/civil partnerships in particular</u>
3712	<u>Special topic same-sex marriage</u>
3718	<u>Special topic adoptions by same-sex couples</u>
3713	<u>Children in particular</u>
3714	<u>Special topic child care</u>
3715	<u>Special topic childcare subsidy</u>
3717	<u>Special topic single parents</u>
3720	<u>Distributive justice in general</u> (includes: social justice)
3721	<u>Poverty in particular</u>
3722	<u>Special topic poverty of children</u>
3723	<u>Special topic poverty of older people</u>
3724	<u>Special topic income gap</u>
3725	<u>Social security in particular</u>
3730	<u>Equal treatment in general</u> <i>Includes: Discrimination in general</i>
3731	<u>Women/equality in particular</u> <i>Including unequal pay for women compared to men</i>
3732	<u>Disabled persons in particular</u>
3740	<u>Seniors in general</u>
3741	<u>Pension in particular</u>
3742	<u>Special topic pension level</u>
3743	<u>Special topic pension guarantee</u>
3744	<u>Special topic taxation of pensions</u>
3745	<u>Special topic extension of working life/pension</u>
3746	<u>Special topic pension for mothers</u>
3750	<u>Immigration in general</u> <i>Includes: naturalisation test</i>
3751	<u>Integration in particular</u>
3756	<u>Special topic integration of Muslims/Islam</u>
3752	<u>Limitation of immigration in particular</u> <i>Including "Obergrenze"</i>
3753	<u>Asylum in particular</u> <i>Including refugee crisis</i> <i>Including the process of asylum applications and deportation of asylum seekers</i>

3757	<u>Special topic immigration of „economic refugees“</u>
3760	<u>Health policy in general</u>
3761	<u>Nursing care (for older people) in particular</u>
3762	<u>Special topic long-term care insurance</u>
3763	<u>Reform of health care system in particular</u>
3764	<u>Costs' explosion in health care system in particular</u>
3765	<u>Special topic contributions to the health insurance companies</u>
3766	<u>Benefits of health insurance companies in particular</u>
3767	<u>Special topic differences in benefits from a statutory or a private health insurance (“two class medical system”)</u>
3768	<u>Doctors' income in particular</u>
3769	<u>Epidemics in particular</u>
3770	<u>Diet in particular</u>
3771	<u>Organ transplant in particular</u>
3780	<u>Demographic change in general</u>
3781	<u>Intergenerational justice in particular</u>
3800	Field of labour market policy
3810	<u>Unemployment, unemployment rate in general</u>
3811	<u>Youth unemployment in particular</u>
3812	<u>Special topic shortage of training places</u>
3813	<u>Special topic job training pact</u>
3820	<u>Federal Labour Office (as organisation) in general</u>
3830	<u>Agenda 2010/Hartz IV (<i>labour market reforms</i>) in general</u>
3840	<u>Wage policy in general</u>
3841	<u>Wage level in particular</u>
3842	<u>Incidental wage costs in particular</u>
3843	<u>Short-time work in particular</u>
3844	<u>Reduction of wages in particular</u>
3845	<u>Minimum wage in particular</u>
3850	<u>Precarious working conditions (e.g. temporary work, fixed term contracts, internships, contracts for work and services) in general</u>
3851	<u>Marginal part time jobs (“mini-jobs”) in particular</u>
3852	<u>Protection against dismissal in particular</u>
3860	<u>Industrial actions (strike actions)/collective bargaining/collective agreements in general</u>
3870	<u>Workplaces in general</u>
3871	<u>Downsizing in particular</u>

3880	Shortage of highly skilled workers <u>in general</u>
3881	Emigration of qualified employees ("brain-drain") <u>in particular</u>
3900	Field of economic policy
3910	Economic situation <u>in general</u>
3911	Economic/financial and bank crisis <u>in particular</u>
3912	Special topic recession/economic downturn
3913	Special topic price level/inflation/deflation
3914	Special topic nationalization of banks
3915	Special topic government aid for banks
3916	Special topic banking supervision
3917	Special topic manager salaries and incentives
3918	Special topic responsibility of managers
3919	Special topic economic stimulus packages/boosts
3930	SME <u>in general</u>
3940	Insolvencies/bankruptcies <u>in general</u>
3941	Government aid/granting of credit/ guarantees for enterprises <u>in particular</u>
3950	Competition and anti-trust law <u>in general</u>
3951	Special topic Cartel among German automobile manufacturers
3960	Power of the industry in influencing politics <u>in general</u>
3970	Disposals/merger and acquisitions <u>in general</u>
3980	Subsidies <u>in general</u>
3990	Foreign trade/exports <u>in general</u>
4000	Consumers' protection <u>in general</u>
	<i>Including fipronil/egg contamination scandal</i>
4010	Agricultural and forestry policy <u>in general</u>

4100	Field of educational policy <i>Includes: apprenticeship in general as well as German educational federalism and the ban on cooperation</i>
4110	Preschool education <u>in general</u>
4120	School policy <u>in general</u> <i>Including scarcity of teachers</i>
4121	All-day schools <u>in particular</u>
4122	PISA study <u>in particular</u>
4123	Inclusion <u>in particular</u>
4130	Higher education policy <u>in general</u>
4131	Teaching and study conditions/equipment of the universities <u>in particular</u>
4132	Tuition fees <u>in particular</u>
4140	Research policy <u>in general</u>
4150	Lifelong learning <u>in general</u>
4200	Field of cultural policy and leisure policy
4210	Cultural policy <u>in general</u>
4211	Media policy <u>in particular</u>
4220	Sports and leisure activities <u>in general</u>
4221	State sponsored doping <u>in particular</u>
4300	Field of financial policy
4310	Budgetary policy/national budget <u>in general</u>
4311	Restructuring and consolidating the budget <u>in particular</u>
4312	National deficit <u>in particular</u>
4313	New indebtedness <u>in particular</u>
4314	Privatization <u>in particular</u>
4320	Fiscal policy <u>in general</u> <i>Includes: all about tax havens, tax evasion, tax avoidance</i>
4321	Fiscal regime <u>in particular</u>
4322	Fiscal concepts/models/reform proposals <u>in particular</u>
4323	Special topic global financial transactions tax or Tobin tax)
4324	Tax burden <u>in particular</u>
4325	Waste of tax money <u>in particular</u>
4326	Tax increases <u>in particular</u>
4328	Tax cuts/"tax gifts" <u>in particular</u>
4329	Tax equity <u>in particular</u>

4330	Currency <u>in general</u>
4331	Euro <u>in particular</u> <i>References to the European debt crisis are registered in this category.</i>
4332	<u>Special topic</u> financial assistance for Greece
4333	<u>Special topic</u> financial assistance for other countries in the eurozone
4400	Field of East Germany
4410	Situation in East Germany <u>in general</u>
4420	Equalization of living standards/reconstruction East <u>in general</u>
4421	Solidarity supplement (Soli) <u>in particular</u>
4430	Westward migration <u>in general</u>
4440	Relics from GDR times/Stasi files <u>in general</u>
	<i>Includes: ex-Stasi collaborators</i>
4500	Other <u>specific topic</u> with reference to political contents

List 3: Events

Code B18d	Beginning of event sequence	Event (sequence)
1	22.-23.04.	Party convention of AfD, Cologne
2	09.-11.06.	Party convention of Die Linke, Hanover
3	16.-18.06.	Party Convention of Bündnis 90/Die Grünen, Berlin
4	25.06.	Party convention of SPD, Dortmund
5	27.06.	Armin Laschet gets elected as North Rhine-Westphalia's minister president/Black-yellow coalition in office
6	28.06.	Daniel Günther gets elected as minister president in Schleswig Holstein/ Jamaica coalition in office
7	30.06.	German Bundestag votes for legalization of same-sex marriage
8	02.07.	ARD summer interview with Katrin Göring-Eckardt (Bündnis 90/Die Grünen)
9	07.-08.07.	G20 Hamburg summit (the summit itself as well as related discussions and demonstrations have to be captured)
10	09.07.	ARD summer interview with Bernd Riexinger (Die Linke)
11	10.07.	Kick-off event/CSU starts hot phase of election campaign, Kloster Banz in Upper Franconia (Bavaria)
12	14.-15.07.	Tour CDU: Merkel's summertour
13	15.07.	Kick-off event/Start of the hot phase of the election campaign AfD, Schwerin
14	16.07.	ARD summer interview with Angela Merkel (CDU)
15	23.07.	ZDF summer interview with Frank-Walter Steinmeier (Federal president)
16	30.07.	ZDF summer interview with Horst Seehofer (CSU)
17	04.08.	Elke Twesten's shift from Bündnis 90/Die Grünen to CDU fraction in Lower Saxony
18	06.08.	ZDF summer interview with Cem Özdemir (Bündnis 90/Die Grünen)
19	12.08.	Kick-off event/Start of the hot phase of the election campaign CDU, Dortmund
20	13.08.	ZDF summer interview with Martin Schulz (SPD)
21	13.08.	Released: Alice Weidel illegally hired a refugee woman
22	14.08.	Kick-off event/Start of the hot phase of election campaign Bündnis 90/Die Grünen, Berlin
23	14.08.-23.09.	Start tour Bündnis 90/Die Grünen "The future is made of courage"
24	17.08.-21.09.	Tour AfD: Start of campaign trail
25	18.08.	Turkey: Erdogan's appeal to boycott CDU, SPD and Bündnis 90/Die Grünen
26	20.08..	ZDF summer interview with Sahra Wagenknecht (Die Linke)
27	20.08..	ARD summer interview with Horst Seehofer (CSU)
28	21.08.	Kick-off event/Start of the hot phase of the election campaign SPD, Bremen
29	21.08.-23.09.	Tour SPD: Tour "Martin Schulz live"

30	21.08.	Reconciliation on dissolution of Lower Saxony's state parliament/Announcement of new elections
31	22.08.-23.09.	Tour FDP: Campaign trail Christian Linder
32	24.08.-22.09.	Tour CSU: Campaign trail
33	26.08.-23.09.	Tour Die Linke: Truck tour
34	27.08.	ARD summer interview with Martin Schulz (SPD)
35	27.08.	ZDF summer interview with Angela Merkel (CDU)
36	27.08.	Gauland (AfD) expression about disposal of Özoguz in Anatolia
37	30.08.	SAT1 – "Election 2017 – "10 most important questions for Germans" (Katja Kipping (Die Linke), Katrin Göring-Eckardt (Bündnis 90/Die Grünen), Christian Lindner (FDP), Alice Weidel (AfD)), moderation: Claus Strunz
38	01.09.	Kick-off event/Start of the hot phase of the election campaign Die Linke, Hamburg
39	03.09.	ARD, ZDF, RTL & SAT1: TV debate chancellor candidates (Angela Merkel (CDU), Martin Schulz (SPD))
40	04.09.	ARD: „Pentathlon after TV debate“ (Sahra Wagenknecht (Die Linke), Cem Özdemir (Bündnis 90/Die Grünen), Joachim Herrmann (CSU), Christian Lindner (FDP), Alice Weidel (AfD), moderation: Sonja Seymour Mikich, Christian Nitsche
41	04.09.	ZDF: „Sulgfest - Three-way fight between Die Linke, Bündnis 90/Die Grünen and CSU“ (Alexander Dobrindt (CDU), Katrin Göring-Eckardt (Bündnis 90/Die Grünen), Dietmar Bartsch (Die Linke)), moderation: Matthias Fornoff
42	04.09.	Diesel summit, Berlin
43	05.09.	ZDF – Election 2017: „How are you, Germany?“ – (Alice Weidel leaves the studio) (Alice Weidel (AfD), Heiko Maas (SPD), Ursula von der Leyen (CDU), Katja Suding (FDP), Katja Kipping (Die Linke), Andreas Scheuer (CSU), Jürgen Trittin (Bündnis 90/Die Grünen), moderation: Marietta Slomka Both the programme and Alice Weidel leaving are captured as events
44	08.09.	Kick-off event/ Start of the hot phase of the election campaign FDP, Hamburg
45	17.09.	Party convention of FDP, Cologne
46	21.09.	Closing event AfD, Pirna
47	22.09.	ARD & ZDF: "Election 2017: The last round" (Alexander Gauland (AfD), Joachim Herrmann (CSU), Christian Lindner (FDP), Ursula von der Leyen (CDU), Manuela Schwesig (SPD), Katrin Göring-Eckardt (Bündnis 90/Die Grünen), Sahra Wagenknecht (Die Linke)), moderation: Tina Hassel, Bettina Schausten
48	22.09.	Closing event CDU/CSU, Munich
49	22.09.	Closing event Die Linke, Berlin
50	22.09.	Closing event Bündnis 90/Die Grünen, Berlin
51	23.09.	Closing event SPD, Aachen
52	23.09.	Closing event FDP, Dusseldorf