

// This document provides supplementary information for the following paper: Visualizing belief in meritocracy, 1930-2010 doi:10.1177/2378023118811805>

// This stata do file produces the figure presented in this paper. The data are publicly available from the International Social Survey Programme website: <https://www.gesis.org/issp/modules/>.

// Merging cumulative file (1987-2009) with supplementary country files

```
use "ZA5890_v1-0-0.dta", clear
drop if V4==1999
sort V7 V3
merge m:1 V7 V3 using "ZA5891_v1-1-0.dta"
drop _merge
rename AGE age
gen year=V4
gen country=V5
gen countryyear=V7
recode countryyear (*=8261987) if year==1987 & country==826
recode countryyear (*=8261992) if year==1992 & country==826
recode countryyear (*=8262009) if year==2009 & country==826
recode countryyear (*=2761987) if year==1987 & country==276
recode countryyear (*=2761992) if year==1992 & country==276
recode countryyear (*=2762009) if year==2009 & country==276
save "temp cumulative.dta", replace
```

```
use "ZA5389_v1-0-0.dta", clear
gen countryyear=1242009
gen year=2009
drop V13
gen V13 = V10
rename AGE age
keep V13 country year countryyear age
save "temp canada.dta", replace
```

```
use "ZA5995_v1-0-0.dta", clear
gen country=V4
gen countryyear=5282009
gen year=2009
drop V13
gen V13 = V10
rename AGE age
keep V13 country year countryyear age
save "temp netherlands.dta", replace
```

```
use "ZA1306_v1-0-0.dta", clear
gen country=372
gen year=1987
gen countryyear=3721987
gen V13=v9
gen age=v82
keep V13 country year countryyear age
```

```
save "temp ireland.dta", replace
```

```
use "ZA2496_v1-0-0.dta.dta", clear
gen country=724
gen year=1992
gen countryyear=7241992
gen V13=v9
gen age=v100
keep V13 country countryyear year age
save "temp spain.dta", replace
```

```
use "temp cumulative.dta", clear
append using "temp canada.dta"
append using "temp netherlands.dta"
append using "temp ireland.dta"
append using "temp spain.dta"
gen merit = V13
keep if merit<.
recode merit (1 2=100)(3 4 5=0)
egen avmerit=mean(merit), by(countryyear)
keep year country countryyear merit age
label define countrylong 36 "Australia" 40 "Austria" 124 "Canada" ///
203 "Czech Republic" 250 "France" 276 "Germany" ///
348 "Hungary" 372 "Ireland" 376 "Iceland" ///
380 "Italy" 392 "Japan" 428 "Latvia" ///
554 "New Zealand" 578 "Norway" 616 "Poland" ///
620 "Portugal" 703 "Slovakia" 724 "Spain" ///
752 "Sweden" 756 "Switzerland" 826 "United Kingdom" ///
840 "United States" 528 "Netherlands"
```

```
label values countrylong
```

```
// Creating cohorts
```

```
gen cohort = 18 + (year-age)
gen cohortgroups=.
```

```
recode cohortgroups (* = 1935 ) if cohort>= 1930 & cohort<= 1934 & cohort!=.
recode cohortgroups (* = 1940 ) if cohort>= 1935 & cohort<= 1939 & cohort!=.
recode cohortgroups (* = 1945 ) if cohort>= 1940 & cohort<= 1944 & cohort!=.
recode cohortgroups (* = 1950 ) if cohort>= 1945 & cohort<= 1949 & cohort!=.
recode cohortgroups (* = 1955 ) if cohort>= 1950 & cohort<= 1954 & cohort!=.
recode cohortgroups (* = 1960 ) if cohort>= 1955 & cohort<= 1959 & cohort!=.
recode cohortgroups (* = 1965 ) if cohort>= 1960 & cohort<= 1964 & cohort!=.
recode cohortgroups (* = 1970 ) if cohort>= 1965 & cohort<= 1969 & cohort!=.
recode cohortgroups (* = 1975 ) if cohort>=1970 & cohort<= 1974 & cohort!=.
recode cohortgroups (* = 1980 ) if cohort>=1975 & cohort<= 1979 & cohort!=.
recode cohortgroups (* = 1985 ) if cohort>=1980 & cohort<= 1984 & cohort!=.
recode cohortgroups (* = 1990 ) if cohort>=1985 & cohort<= 1989 & cohort!=.
recode cohortgroups (* = 1995 ) if cohort>= 1990 & cohort<= 1994 & cohort!=.
recode cohortgroups (* = 2000 ) if cohort>= 1995 & cohort<= 1999 & cohort!=.
recode cohortgroups (* = 2005 ) if cohort>= 2000 & cohort<= 2004 & cohort!=.
```

```

recode cohortgroups (* = 2010 ) if cohort>= 2005 & cohort<= 2011 & cohort!=.

```

```

// Creating cohort-country groups

```

```

gen cohortcountry = .

```

```

recode cohortcountry (*= 3635 ) if country== 36 & cohortgroup== 1935
recode cohortcountry (*= 3640 ) if country== 36 & cohortgroup== 1940
recode cohortcountry (*= 3645 ) if country== 36 & cohortgroup== 1945
recode cohortcountry (*= 3650 ) if country== 36 & cohortgroup== 1950
recode cohortcountry (*= 3655 ) if country== 36 & cohortgroup== 1955
recode cohortcountry (*= 3660 ) if country== 36 & cohortgroup== 1960
recode cohortcountry (*= 3665 ) if country== 36 & cohortgroup== 1965
recode cohortcountry (*= 3670 ) if country== 36 & cohortgroup== 1970
recode cohortcountry (*= 3675 ) if country== 36 & cohortgroup== 1975
recode cohortcountry (*= 3680 ) if country== 36 & cohortgroup== 1980
recode cohortcountry (*= 3685 ) if country== 36 & cohortgroup== 1985
recode cohortcountry (*= 3690 ) if country== 36 & cohortgroup== 1990
recode cohortcountry (*= 3695 ) if country== 36 & cohortgroup== 1995
recode cohortcountry (*= 3700 ) if country== 36 & cohortgroup== 2000
recode cohortcountry (*= 3705 ) if country== 36 & cohortgroup== 2005
recode cohortcountry (*= 3710 ) if country== 36 & cohortgroup== 2010
recode cohortcountry (*= 4035 ) if country== 40 & cohortgroup== 1935
recode cohortcountry (*= 4040 ) if country== 40 & cohortgroup== 1940
recode cohortcountry (*= 4045 ) if country== 40 & cohortgroup== 1945
recode cohortcountry (*= 4050 ) if country== 40 & cohortgroup== 1950
recode cohortcountry (*= 4055 ) if country== 40 & cohortgroup== 1955
recode cohortcountry (*= 4060 ) if country== 40 & cohortgroup== 1960
recode cohortcountry (*= 4065 ) if country== 40 & cohortgroup== 1965
recode cohortcountry (*= 4070 ) if country== 40 & cohortgroup== 1970
recode cohortcountry (*= 4075 ) if country== 40 & cohortgroup== 1975
recode cohortcountry (*= 4080 ) if country== 40 & cohortgroup== 1980
recode cohortcountry (*= 4085 ) if country== 40 & cohortgroup== 1985
recode cohortcountry (*= 4090 ) if country== 40 & cohortgroup== 1990
recode cohortcountry (*= 4095 ) if country== 40 & cohortgroup== 1995
recode cohortcountry (*= 4100 ) if country== 40 & cohortgroup== 2000
recode cohortcountry (*= 4105 ) if country== 40 & cohortgroup== 2005
recode cohortcountry (*= 4110 ) if country== 40 & cohortgroup== 2010
recode cohortcountry (*= 12435 ) if country== 124 & cohortgroup== 1935
recode cohortcountry (*= 12440 ) if country== 124 & cohortgroup== 1940
recode cohortcountry (*= 12445 ) if country== 124 & cohortgroup== 1945
recode cohortcountry (*= 12450 ) if country== 124 & cohortgroup== 1950
recode cohortcountry (*= 12455 ) if country== 124 & cohortgroup== 1955
recode cohortcountry (*= 12460 ) if country== 124 & cohortgroup== 1960
recode cohortcountry (*= 12465 ) if country== 124 & cohortgroup== 1965
recode cohortcountry (*= 12470 ) if country== 124 & cohortgroup== 1970
recode cohortcountry (*= 12475 ) if country== 124 & cohortgroup== 1975
recode cohortcountry (*= 12480 ) if country== 124 & cohortgroup== 1980
recode cohortcountry (*= 12485 ) if country== 124 & cohortgroup== 1985
recode cohortcountry (*= 12490 ) if country== 124 & cohortgroup== 1990
recode cohortcountry (*= 12495 ) if country== 124 & cohortgroup== 1995

```

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

```

recode cohortcountry (*= 82650 ) if country== 826 & cohortgroup== 1950
recode cohortcountry (*= 82655 ) if country== 826 & cohortgroup== 1955
recode cohortcountry (*= 82660 ) if country== 826 & cohortgroup== 1960
recode cohortcountry (*= 82665 ) if country== 826 & cohortgroup== 1965
recode cohortcountry (*= 82670 ) if country== 826 & cohortgroup== 1970
recode cohortcountry (*= 82675 ) if country== 826 & cohortgroup== 1975
recode cohortcountry (*= 82680 ) if country== 826 & cohortgroup== 1980
recode cohortcountry (*= 82685 ) if country== 826 & cohortgroup== 1985
recode cohortcountry (*= 82690 ) if country== 826 & cohortgroup== 1990
recode cohortcountry (*= 82695 ) if country== 826 & cohortgroup== 1995
recode cohortcountry (*= 82700 ) if country== 826 & cohortgroup== 2000
recode cohortcountry (*= 82705 ) if country== 826 & cohortgroup== 2005
recode cohortcountry (*= 82710 ) if country== 826 & cohortgroup== 2010
recode cohortcountry (*= 84035 ) if country== 840 & cohortgroup== 1935
recode cohortcountry (*= 84040 ) if country== 840 & cohortgroup== 1940
recode cohortcountry (*= 84045 ) if country== 840 & cohortgroup== 1945
recode cohortcountry (*= 84050 ) if country== 840 & cohortgroup== 1950
recode cohortcountry (*= 84055 ) if country== 840 & cohortgroup== 1955
recode cohortcountry (*= 84060 ) if country== 840 & cohortgroup== 1960
recode cohortcountry (*= 84065 ) if country== 840 & cohortgroup== 1965
recode cohortcountry (*= 84070 ) if country== 840 & cohortgroup== 1970
recode cohortcountry (*= 84075 ) if country== 840 & cohortgroup== 1975
recode cohortcountry (*= 84080 ) if country== 840 & cohortgroup== 1980
recode cohortcountry (*= 84085 ) if country== 840 & cohortgroup== 1985
recode cohortcountry (*= 84090 ) if country== 840 & cohortgroup== 1990
recode cohortcountry (*= 84095 ) if country== 840 & cohortgroup== 1995
recode cohortcountry (*= 84100 ) if country== 840 & cohortgroup== 2000
recode cohortcountry (*= 84105 ) if country== 840 & cohortgroup== 2005
recode cohortcountry (*= 84110 ) if country== 840 & cohortgroup== 2010

```

```

// Dropping cohorts with fewer than 50 cases
bysort country cohortgroup: gen n=_N
drop if n<=49

```

```

// Defining depvars
gen merit = V13
keep if merit<.
recode merit (1 2=100)(3 4 5=0)
egen avmerit=mean(merit), by(countryyear)
egen avmerit2=mean(merit), by(cohortcountry)

```

```

// Clean-up
keep year country countryyear cohortgroups cohortcountry countrygroups avmerit avmerit2

```

```

// Graphing trend in meritocracy beliefs
gen countrygroups=.
recode countrygroups (*=1) if country==36
recode countrygroups (*=1) if country==372
recode countrygroups (*=1) if country==554

```

```

recode countrygroups (*=1) if country==620
recode countrygroups (*=1) if country==826
recode countrygroups (*=1) if country==840
recode countrygroups (*=2) if country==124
recode countrygroups (*=2) if country==203
recode countrygroups (*=2) if country==428
recode countrygroups (*=2) if country==616
recode countrygroups (*=2) if country==578
recode countrygroups (*=2) if country==703
recode countrygroups (*=3) if country==40
recode countrygroups (*=3) if country==376
recode countrygroups (*=3) if country==392
recode countrygroups (*=3) if country==724
recode countrygroups (*=3) if country==752
recode countrygroups (*=3) if country==756
recode countrygroups (*=4) if country==250
recode countrygroups (*=4) if country==276
recode countrygroups (*=4) if country==348
recode countrygroups (*=4) if country==380
recode countrygroups (*=4) if country==528
recode avmerit (*=49.5) if year==1987 & country==616

```

```

twoway      (scatter avmerit2 cohortgroups, msymbol(Dh) mcolor(bluishgray) ///
by(country, note("")) subtitle(, color(gs2) margin(0 0 0 0))) ///
(lowess avmerit2 cohortgroups, lpattern(solid) lwidth(.5) lcolor(ltblue) ///
by(country)) (connected avmerit year, sort msymbol(Oh) mcolor(dknavy) lcolor(edkblue) ///
lwidth(.5) lpattern(solid) msize(large) by(country, rows(1) legend(off) note(""))) ///
if countrygroups==1, xtitle("") ytitle("") ///
yla(50(20)90, labsize(small) grid) ymtick(50(10)90, grid) ///
xla(1930(40)2010, nogrid) xmtick(1930(20)2010) scheme(plotplainblind) ///
scale(1.5) saving(meritcohortgr1, replace)

twoway (scatter avmerit2 cohortgroups, msymbol(Dh) mcolor(bluishgray) ///
by(country, note(""))) subtitle(, color(gs2) margin(0 0 -5 0))) ///
(lowess avmerit2 cohortgroups, lpattern(solid) lwidth(.5) lcolor(ltblue) ///
by(country)) (connected avmerit year, sort msymbol(Oh) mcolor(dknavy) lcolor(edkblue) ///
lwidth(.5) lpattern(solid) msize(large) by(country, rows(1) legend(off) note(""))) ///
if countrygroups==2, xtitle("") ytitle("") ///
yla(50(20)90, labsize(small) grid nogmax) ymtick(50(10)90, grid) ///
xla(1930(40)2010, nogrid) xmtick(1930(20)2010) scheme(plotplainblind) ///
scale(1.5) saving(meritcohortgr2, replace)

twoway (scatter avmerit2 cohortgroups, msymbol(Dh) mcolor(bluishgray) ///
by(country, note(""))) subtitle(, color(gs2) margin(0 0 -6 0))) ///
(lowess avmerit2 cohortgroups, lpattern(solid) lwidth(.5) lcolor(ltblue) ///
by(country)) (connected avmerit year, sort msymbol(Oh) mcolor(dknavy) lcolor(edkblue) ///
lwidth(.5) lpattern(solid) msize(large) by(country, rows(1) legend(off) note(""))) ///
if countrygroups==3, xtitle("") ytitle("") yla(50(20)90, labsize(small) grid nogmax) ///
ymtick(50(10)90, grid) xla(1930(40)2010, nogrid) ///
xmtick(1930(20)2010) scheme(plotplainblind) ///
scale(1.5) saving(meritcohortgr3, replace)

```

```

twoway (scatter avmerit2 cohortgroups, msymbol(Dh) mcolor(bluishgray) ///
        by(country, rows(1) legend(off) note(""))) ///
        (lowess avmerit2 cohortgroups, lpattern(solid) lwidth(.5) lcolor(ltblue) ///
        subtitle(, color(gs2) margin(0 0 -6.4 0)) by(country)) ///
        (connected avmerit year, sort msymbol(Oh) mcolor(dknavy) lcolor(edkblue) ///
        lwidth(.5) lpattern(solid) msize(large) ) ///
        if countrygroups==4, xtitle("") ytitle("") ///
        yla(50(20)90,labsize(small) grid) ymtick(50(10)90, grid) ///
        xla(1930(40)2010, nogrid) xmtick(1930(20)2010) scheme(plotplainblind) ///
        scale(1.5) saving(meritcohortgr4, replace)
gr combine meritcohortgr1.gph meritcohortgr2.gph ///
        meritcohortgr3.gph meritcohortgr4.gph, ///
        scheme(plotplainblind) cols(1) imargin(zero) ///
        l1title("Belief in meritocracy", size(vlarge) margin(0 3 0 0)) ///
        b1title("Year", size(vlarge) margin(0 0 -1 2))

```