UNIVERSITÄT MANNHEIM

mzes

DFG research project

Mediated Contestation in Comparative Perspective

CODEBOOK (version 7.7)

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Content

6. CODING STEP: CHARACTERISTICS OF THE POSITIONS

Preliminary note: in turn code the characteristics of all positions previously identified in the article.

1. Make sure to use the entire article, or rather the **entire presentation of the position in the article** as a basis for your coding decisions (but not, for example, the presentation of the position only at its first mention in the article)!
2. Strictly code **one position after the other**, i.e. never code more than one position at the same time! When coding a position, hide all other positions in the text completely.
3. Separate strictly between positions on the one hand and actors on the other hand. Consider positions and actors as completely independent units: for example, a single actor can represent multiple positions (or one or none), and a single position can be represented by multiple actors (or one or none). Your coding of the position should not be influenced by the actors in the text in any way - **it is only about the position as such**!

6.1 POSITION: NAME OF THE POSITION [POS_POSITION_NAME]

In the provided text box, enter the name of the position as agreed upon in the first consensus discussion (max. 20 words).

6.2 POSITION: REPRESENTATIVE OF THE POSITION [POS_REP_POSITION_ID]

From the actor list for the respective article, select all actors who represent the position to be coded. If a position is represented by several actors mentioned in the article, code all representatives of the position on the actor list.

Important: when deciding whether an actor represents a position, refer (a) **strictly to the text of the article** and (b) only to the **prior knowledge the reader requires** to fully understand the article. Ignore the prior knowledge you might have about the positions of individual actors as well as any information about positions of actors mentioned in the text that are not clear and unambiguous.

For actors who do not meet the criteria of **identifiability and potential discourse participation**, used for the creation of the actor list (see coding step 2), select the option 'Unlisted actor' (e.g. 'Christians', 'Many people', 'Some'). Caution: select this option only if it is clear from the text that someone represents a position, but that this someone does not meet the criteria for being listed as an actor in coding step 2. If it is not clear from the text that someone represents the position, no representative should be chosen.

Note: actors taking over **leadership positions** in organizations (e.g. leaders, chairpersons, board members) should not automatically be coded as representatives of the same positions as those of their organization (and vice versa). This means that representatives of an organization can also distance themselves from the position of their organization and/or take a different position.

Speakers of organizations as a whole (for example, spokespersons) who are clearly recognisable as such are coded as representatives of the position of the organization they speak for.