

**FSD2831**

**Corruption and Political Institutions in  
Botswana and Austria 2009-2012**

Dataset guide



FINNISH SOCIAL SCIENCE DATA ARCHIVE

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# To the reader

This dataset guide is part of the dataset FSD2831 archived at the FSD (Finnish Social Science Data Archive). The guide begins with information on data content, structure and collection. There is also a list of publications wholly or in part based on the data, according to publication information received by the FSD. The data guide may contain attached files, for instance, interview questions or themes, participation invitation, transcription guidelines, or stimulation material used in the study. In case of textual data, there is also a data example, demonstrating, for instance, the level of transcription.

If necessary, the documents mentioned above have been anonymised. When the dataset is downloaded for use, all the documents included in the guide are also delivered as separate files. The data and its creators shall be cited in all publications and presentations for which the data have been used. The bibliographic citation may be in the form suggested by the archive or in the form required by the publication

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Groop, Catharina (Åbo Akademi University): Corruption and Political Institutions in Botswana and Austria 2009-2012 [dataset]. Version 1.0 (2013-04-08). Finnish Social Science Data Archive [distributor]. <http://urn.fi/urn:nbn:fi:fsd:T-FSD2831>

The user shall notify the archive of all publications where she or he has used the data. The original data creators and the archive bear no responsibility for any results or interpretations arising from the reuse of the data.



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# Chapter 1

## Study description

### 1.1 Titles

**Titles and data version:** Corruption and Political Institutions in Botswana and Austria 2009-2012

**Titles and data version in Finnish:** Korruptio ja poliittiset instituutiot Botswanassa ja Itävallassa 2009-2012

The dataset guide is based on data version 1.0 (8.4.2013).

### 1.2 Subject description

#### **Authoring entity**

Groop, Catharina (Åbo Akademi University. Department of Political Science)

#### **Copyright statement for the data**

According to the agreement between FSD and the depositor.

#### **Depositor**

Groop, Catharina (Åbo Akademi University)

#### **Date of deposit**

5.4.2013

### **Keywords**

accountability; bureaucracy; corruption; crime; democracy; electoral systems; federalism; financial crimes; international organizations; parliamentary systems; party politics; political institutions; political parties; political power; politics; social influence; unitary state

### **Topic Classification**

**Fields of Science Classification:** social sciences

**CESSDA Classification:** crime and law enforcement; international politics and organisations

### **Series description**

The data belong to the series:

Individual datasets

Individual datasets that do not belong to any series.

### **Abstract**

The study investigated views on accountability and the connection between corruption and political institutions in Botswana and Austria. The data consist of transcriptions and notes of interviews conducted in English. The interviewees represented different influential political bodies and actors studying or monitoring such bodies. These bodies and actors include, for example, Transparency International, the UN, the Office of the President, the Office of the Ombudsman and universities.

The interview questions charted views on the prevailing government structure, power and division of powers, accountability, electoral system, bureaucracy and corruption. There was a separate set of questions tailored for each country, but the main themes were mostly the same.

Some of the interviews have been transcribed more precisely than the others and for some interviews only notes exist. The interviews conducted in Austria have mostly been transcribed verbatim from recordings. The interviews conducted in Botswana were not recorded and have therefore been transcribed non-verbatim from notes made during the interviews.

## **1.3 Structure and collection of the data**

**Country:** Botswana, Austria

**Geographic coverage:** Botswana, Austria

**Analysis or observation unit type:** Event/Process, Organization

**Universe:** Experts working in selected institutions in Austria and Botswana



**Collection date:** 1.9.2009 – 9.10.2012

**Data collector(s):** Groop, Catharina (Åbo Akademi University. Department of Political Science)

**Mode of data collection:** Face-to-face interview

**Type of research instrument:** Interview scheme and/or themes

**Time method of the data collection:** Cross-section

**Sampling procedure:** Non-probability: Purposive

Representatives of those institutions that were deemed interesting in the light of the original research question were selected as interviewees.

**Data Files:** Transcriptions or notes of 20 interviews and interview questions as RTF documents. Additionally, an HTML folder containing the transcriptions and notes.

## 1.4 Use of data

### Data appraisal

The researcher has anonymized the names and initials in the data.

### Related publications

Groop, C. (2013) "Corruption and Accountability. Political Institutions as referees between principals and agents", Åbo: Åbo Akademis förlag

Updated list of publications in the study description at

[https://services.fsd.uta.fi/catalogue/FSD2831?lang=en&study\\_language=en](https://services.fsd.uta.fi/catalogue/FSD2831?lang=en&study_language=en)

### Location of the data collection

Finnish Social Science Data Archive

### Restrictions

The dataset is (D) available only by permission from the data depositor/creator.



# **Appendix A**

## **Interview questions\_A**

FSD2831 KORRUPTIO JA POLIITTISET INSTITUUTIOT BOTSWANASSA JA ITÄVALLASSA 2009-2012

FSD2831 CORRUPTION AND POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS IN BOTSWANA AND AUSTRIA 2009-2012

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# Interviews Austria

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## A. Interviewee

- Function and mandate?
- 

## B. Institutions

### (i) **Federalism** – country structured into federal government and Länder with own power

- Is a federal structure – in your opinion – good for your country? Why (not)?
  - ⊕ Do you think the Länder have genuine power and mandate?
  - ⊕ Or do you think **real** power resides with the federal government?
  - If federal government makes decisions “outside its mandate” – who can intervene and how?
  - If the Länder (ex. Landtag) make decisions “outside their mandate” – who (citizens, federal state...) can intervene and how?
  - Voters elect representatives at federal level (Nationalrat) and at the regional level (Landtag).  
These have different mandates and representatives.
  - ➔ Do you think it’s difficult for the voters to keep track of their representatives (and mandate) at different levels / in different fora and hold them accountable?
- 

### (ii) **Parliamentarism** – Government dependent on parliamentary confidence and Head of State (HOS) ≠ simultaneously Head of Government (HOG)

- Your country has a President elected by the people and a Chancellor usually selected from the party with parliamentary majority. Executive power resides with these two figures.
  - Is this a good structure for your country, do you think? If not, why? (Has power been divided between them in a suitable way?)
  - ⊕ Do you think the President should have more power? Why?
  - ⊕ The Chancellor is said to be a dominant figure in Austrian society. Do you feel the Chancellor has too much power? Why?
  - Do you feel that parliament has good enough insight into what the Chancellor (and government) is doing?
  - ⊕ Is the President involved in / consulted in decision making?
  - Are votes of no confidence common?
- 

**(iii) Party-centered electoral system** – candidacies determined by party & voters not voting directly for candidate

- Am I correctly informed that Austria has an electoral system with closed party lists i.e. on election day voters vote for the list put forward by a party, not individual candidates?
- How do Austrians feel about not being able to cast a vote directly for a person?
- If you wanted to run for the Nationalrat, who would make the decision about your candidacy?
- Do you feel party officials have too much power when it comes to nominations and rankings?

- ⊕ Could your supporters influence your access to the list or your ranking on the list? Or is it only the party officials?
  - Many Austrians are members of a political party. People are said to link party membership with personal benefits (such as employment), what do you think?
  - ⊕ Does it happen that friends of the party leadership are placed high on the list?
  - ⊕ How? When voting you cannot refrain from voting for a corrupt individual?
- 

**(iv) Large bureaucracy** – large funding envelope, power and work force

- Do you think bureaucrats have more power than politicians?
  - Advantages / disadvantages of this in your opinion?
  - Do you feel that parliamentarians are able to control what the bureaucracy does?
  - If you as a citizen are interested in decisions made by the bureaucracy (for instance why a certain building company was awarded a contract), would you be able to get information about the tendering/ contracting process?
- 

**C. Corruption**

- Does corruption – in your opinion – exist in your country?
- What kind of corruption? (Give examples) Where? Who's involved?
- Is corruption a problem in your line of work?
- ⊕ CPI (2005): low corruption but GCB (2009): 35% of respondents say political parties are corrupt. Contradiction?

- **Why** do you think corruption exists / doesn't exist in Austria? (causes)





# **Appendix B**

## **Interview questions\_B**

FSD2831 KORRUPTIO JA POLIITTISET INSTITUUTIOT BOTSWANASSA JA ITÄVALLASSA 2009-2012

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# Interviews Bostwana

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## A. Interviewee

- Function and mandate?
- 

## B. Institutions

### (i) Unitarism

- Is a unitary structure – in your opinion – good for your country? Why (not)?
  - ⊕ How do you see the power of the Regions and their mandate?
  - ⊕ Where do you think **real** power resides?
  - If central government makes decisions “outside its mandate” – who can intervene and how?
  - If the Regions (ex. Actors within councils) make decisions “outside their mandate” – who (citizens, central government...) can intervene and how?
  - Voters elect representatives at central level (National Assembly) and at the regional level (elected councillors). These have different mandates and representatives.  
  
➔ Do you think it's difficult for the voters to keep track of their representatives (and mandate) at different levels / in different fora and hold them accountable?
- 

- ### (ii) **Parliamentarism and Presidentialism** Government dependent on parliamentary confidence but Head of State (HOS) also simultaneously being Head of Government (HOG)

- Your country has a President elected by Parliament. How do you see this procedure, what are the advantages and disadvantages?
  - ⊕ The President is said to be a dominant figure in Botswana society. Do you feel the Pres. has too much power? Why?
  - If yes, how should power be divided, who should be empowered?
  - Do you feel that parliament has good enough insight into the doings of the President (and government)?
  - What are the mechanisms through which the President is held accountable? Are this mechanisms accessible and efficient?
  - Are votes of no confidence common? Why / not?
- 

**(iii) Candidate-centered electoral system**

- Describe the electoral system
- Who has the final say with regards to ballot access?
- Do you feel party officials have too much power when it comes to nominations and rankings? Do they hold candidates / representatives to account?
- Do voters see elections as a tool for holding representatives accountable?
- Who can sanction representatives in between elections?
- Many Austrians are members of a political party. People are said to link party membership with personal benefits (such as employment), what do you think?
- ⊕ Does it happen that friends of the party leadership are placed high on the list?

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**(iv) Small bureaucracy** – smaller funding envelope, power and work force

- Do you think bureaucrats have more power than politicians?
- Advantages / disadvantages of this in your opinion?
- Do you feel that parliamentarians / ministers are able to control what the bureaucracy does?
- If you as a citizen are interested in decisions made by the bureaucracy (for instance why a certain building company was awarded a contract), would you be able to get information about the tendering/ contracting process?
- What sanctions can be applied with regards to wrong-doers?

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**C. Corruption**

- Does corruption – in your opinion – exist in your country?
  - What kind of corruption? (Give examples) Where? Who's involved?
  - Is corruption a problem in your line of work?
  - How do you see the scores for Botswana on the CPI and the WGI?
  - **Why** do you think corruption exists / doesn't exist in Botswana? (causes)
  - **Is enough being done by the state? What more could be done? Is there political will?**
-



# **Appendix C**

## **Data example**

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IER:

- Is corruption common in Austria and how does it manifest itself?

IEE:

- it's not very common; have come across only few cases during my professional life
- But; it does exist, e.g. Jumping the treatment queue in hospitals, or to be awarded contracts. Also for instance in building industry in relation to safety inspections
- Austrian TI reports are not accurate at the moment due to particular way of defining corruption. This should be taken care of by latest 2010
- I'm surprised that the Global Corruption Barometer (GCB) states that 11% of Austrian citizens say they have bribed legal personnel / judges. judges, the police etc. are regarded as trustworthy in Austria
- corruption also exists in the private sector and cooperation between public sector and private sector to hide corruption
- party financing is a grey zone. Parties get finances from state and privates (individuals / companies) but do not want to report on these.

IER:

- Do Austrians protest if corruption is detected?

IEE:

- "Austrians can bear much but when the limit is reached, there's a loud cry" (the country has "no history of revolution" though)

