

#50 – Varieties of Democracy project – 2023 Report

Short description

Type of object (dataset, report, etc.): Dataset

Source (organisation): V-Dem Institute (University of Gothenburg)

Issues: Provides a multidimensional and disaggregated dataset that reflects the complexity of the concept of democracy as a system of rule that goes beyond the simple presence of elections. They distinguish between five high-level principles of democracy: electoral, liberal, participatory, deliberative, and egalitarian, and collect data to measure these principles.

Time span: Ample, covers several decades. An important comparison is made about the last 10 years

Geographical coverage: Global

Link: <https://www.v-dem.net/data/the-v-dem-dataset/>

Note/Interpretations

The 2023 report shows in its first section “global levels of democracy sliding back and advances made over the past 35 years diminishing. Most of the drastic changes have taken place within the last ten years, while there are large regional variations in relation to the levels of democracy people experience” The second section presents “the geographies and population sizes of democratizing and autocratizing countries”. The third section focuses on “the countries undergoing autocratization, and on the indicators deteriorating the most, including in relation to media censorship, repression of civil society organizations, and academic freedom. While disinformation, polarization, and autocratization reinforce each other, democracies reduce the spread of disinformation”.

[Go back to the List](#)