



LEGITIMULT

WP 1 – Dataset and Quantitative Analysis

Lead beneficiary: UiB

Participants: Eurac; ULEI; IES; UAnt; UNED; FUBe; FPZG; IDEA; UNIFR; TalTech

Start month: M1; **End month:** M36

Goal: Development of a database and indicators of multilevel governance institutions and intergovernmental relations during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Subnational governments have formulated and implemented a wide range of measures during the Covid-19 pandemic. WP 1 develops a dataset that assesses how subnational levels in both decision-making and implementation of Covid-19 measures have been involved in 31 European countries (the 27 EU countries + Switzerland, Norway, Iceland, and the UK). On the one hand, this dataset allows to analyze the relationship between multilevel governance institutions and relations and Covid-19 measures. On the other hand, the dataset can be used to assess whether and how multilevel governance institutions and relations influenced the democratic quality of crisis governance.

Objectives

Objective 1: Deliver a database on multilevel governance institutions, multilevel governance, and various dimensions of democratic governance during the Covid-19 pandemic

Objective 2: Identify the impacts of multilevel governance institutions, multilevel governance intergovernmental relations, and Covid-19 measures on democratic governance during the Covid-19 crisis through statistical analysis

Description of work and methodology

WP 1 collects decisions taken by national and subnational governments in 31 European countries in relation to the Covid-19 crisis. The main objective of building a novel dataset on Covid-19 measures is to be able to assess the moderating impact of intergovernmental institutions (MLG institutions) and intergovernmental collaboration (MLG IGR) on the impact of Covid-19 measures on democratic governance during a crisis. Our dataset enables us to analyse the following research questions:

- How do multilevel governance institutions impact the Covid-19 measures?
- How have the Covid-19 measures affected intergovernmental relations and collaborations?
- How do multilevel governance intergovernmental relations and collaborations moderate



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Covid-19 measures' impact on democratic governance?

Exploring these research questions allows to identify and estimate several causal relationships. For example, we can assess the relationship between subnational authority (MLG institutions) on the adoption and implementation of Covid-19 measures and evaluate whether it takes more time to reach and implement decisions. We can also explore the impact of Covid-19 measures on various dimensions of democratic governance and gauge in how far this impact is moderated by intergovernmental relations and collaborations.

Deliverables of WP 1

D1.1 Working paper: coding criteria

D1.2 Dataset including robust, valid and reliable indicators on MLG institutions, MLG IGR and various dimensions of democratic governance

D1.3 Working paper on the development of the coding scheme on MLG governance in Covid-19 measures

D1.4 Submission of draft book chapter for edited volume



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