Package 'PolarCAP'

July 21, 2025

Title Access the Polarization in Comparative Attitudes Project

Version 1.0.1

Description Distributes data from the Polarization in Comparative Attitudes Project. Helper functions enable data retrieval in wide and tidy formats for user-defined countries and years. Provides support for case-insensitive country names in many languages. Mehlhaff (2022) <https://imehlhaff.net/files/Polarization%20and%20Democracy.pdf>.

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Encoding UTF-8

RoxygenNote 7.2.0

URL https://github.com/imehlhaff/PolarCAP

BugReports https://github.com/imehlhaff/PolarCAP/issues

Depends R (>= 2.10)

Imports tidyr, countrycode

NeedsCompilation no

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Repository CRAN

Date/Publication 2023-07-10 16:10:12 UTC

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`get.PolarCAP` *Retrieve PolarCAP Data*

Description

Retrieves PolarCAP data for defined countries and years. Returns data in wide format. For tidy format, use `melt.PolarCAP()`.

Usage

```
get.PolarCAP(
  countries = NA,
  years = NA,
  type = c("ideology", "affect"),
  value.only = FALSE,
  include.se = FALSE
)
```

Arguments

`countries`	a character vector of countries to be retrieved. See Details.
`years`	a numeric vector of years to be retrieved.
`type`	a character vector indicating which polarization estimates should be returned. Must be `"ideology"`, `"affect"`, or both.
`value.only`	a logical indicating whether `get.PolarCAP()` should return a data frame of results (`FALSE`, the default) or a single estimate as a scalar (`TRUE`).
`include.se`	a logical indicating whether standard errors should be returned. Defaults to `FALSE`.

Details

Ideally, country names passed to `countries` would be ISO 3166-1 alpha-3 country codes (case-insensitive). However, `get.PolarCAP()` will accept country names in almost any language or format and attempt to convert them to ISO3 codes by calling `to.ISO3()`. `get.PolarCAP()` will alert the user to any country names still unrecognized after this conversion and return results only for those which are recognized.

Value

If `value.only = FALSE`, `get.PolarCAP()` returns a data frame with columns corresponding to country names, country ISO3 codes, years, polarization estimates for the polarization type(s) given in `type`, and associated standard errors (if `include.se = TRUE`). If `value.only = TRUE`, `get.PolarCAP()` returns a scalar polarization estimate for the polarization type given in `type`.

Examples

```
get.PolarCAP("USA", c(2018, 2019), "ideology", include.se = TRUE)
get.PolarCAP("USA", c(2018, 2019), c("ideology", "affect"), include.se = TRUE)

countries <- rep(c("MEX", "USA"), each = 2)
years <- rep(c(2018, 2019), 2)
data <- as.data.frame(cbind(countries, years))

data$ideology1 <- apply(data, 1, function(x) get.PolarCAP(x[1], x[2], type = "ideology",
value.only = TRUE))
data
```

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melt.PolarCAP *Retrieve Tidy PolarCAP Data*

Description

Retrieves PolarCAP data for defined countries and years. Returns data in tidy format. For wide format, or to return a polarization estimate as a scalar, use `get.PolarCAP()`.

Usage

```
melt.PolarCAP(
  countries = NA,
  years = NA,
  type = c("ideology", "affect"),
  include.se = FALSE
)
```

Arguments

`countries`	a character vector of countries to be retrieved. See Details.
`years`	a numeric vector of years to be retrieved.
`type`	a character vector indicating which polarization estimates should be returned. Must be `"ideology"`, `"affect"`, or both.
`include.se`	a logical indicating whether standard errors should be returned. Defaults to `FALSE`.

Details

Ideally, country names passed to `countries` would be ISO 3166-1 alpha-3 country codes (case-insensitive). However, `melt.PolarCAP()` will accept country names in almost any language or format and attempt to convert them to ISO3 codes by calling `to.ISO3()`. `melt.PolarCAP()` will alert the user to any country names still unrecognized after this conversion and return results only for those which are recognized.

Value

a data frame with columns corresponding to country names, country ISO3 codes, years, polarization types given in `type`, polarization estimates, and associated standard errors (if `include.se = TRUE`).

Examples

```
melt.PolarCAP("USA", c(2018, 2019), "ideology", include.se = TRUE)
melt.PolarCAP("USA", c(2018, 2019), c("ideology", "affect"), include.se = TRUE)
```

`to.ISO3` *Convert Country Names for PolarCAP Retrieval*

Description

Checks if requested countries are formatted correctly for PolarCAP and attempts to convert them to ISO 3166-1 alpha-3 country codes if not.

Usage

```
to.ISO3(countries)
```

Arguments

`countries`	a character vector of countries to be checked (case-insensitive).

Value

a character vector of length equal to that of `countries`.

Examples

```
to.ISO3(c("ALB", "aus", "united states"))
```

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