METHODS & DATA APPROACH

Aim of the research project is to develop a general theory of PYOs across countries and beyond party families, which is why a comparative, mixed-methods approach is used.

FIRST STEP: secondary analysis based on the Political Party Database (PPDB) data. This database includes a wide range of organisational details of 122 parties in 19 different countries with (semi-)parliamentary systems.

SECOND STEP: gathering additional data not included in the PPDB, e.g. about organisational details of the youth organisations.

THIRD STEP: case selection for a qualitative approach since it is not possible to answer all research questions otherwise.

FOURTH STEP: questioning/interviewing of key actors (to be identified) within the party organisation and within the party youth organisation.

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

- FUNCTIONS
  1. PYOs as a Linkage (Lawson 1980, and others)
  2. PYOs as part of ‘The Three Faces of Party Organisation’ (Katz/Mair 1993)
  3. PYOs as Peer Group

- GOALS
  Vote-Seeking
  Policy-Seeking
  Office-Seeking

- FOUNDATION
  Inside of the parent party
  Outside of the parent party

REFERENCE


