

Electronic Documentation of Economics Senior Thesis

“The Spanish Sovereign Debt Crisis: The Impact of Politics on Fiscal Outcomes in Subnational Governments”

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May 2013

This files that document this thesis are organized in three main folders: **Data**, **Do-files** and **Metadata**.

The Data folder contains two sub-folders: **Original Data** and **Importable Data**.

The **Original Data** folder contains 227 files in Excel's .xlsx format. These files are in exactly the format in which they were first obtained for this thesis, and they contain all the data used in the thesis.

The **Importable Data** folder contains reformatted versions of all 227 files in the **Original Data** folder. The versions in the **Importable Data** folder have been converted to .csv format so that they can be imported into Stata with the `insheet` command.

The **Metadata** folder contains 10 .pdf files that list the names and definitions of the variables contained in the data files.

The **Do-files** folder contains 3 do-files, named 1_Import.do, 2_Cleaning.do, and 3_Results.do. The do-files were written for Stata version 12.

The data files in the **Importable Data** folder and the do-files in the **Do-files** folder can be used to construct the final data set used for the analysis and to replicate the results presented in the thesis. The following instructions for constructing the final data set and replicating the results that follow are written for users of Stata working on a Mac or Windows platform.

To construct the final data set used for the analysis and to replicate the descriptive statistics and analytical results presented in the thesis:

Create a new folder and give it the name **Replication**.

Copy all the data files in the Importable **Data** folder into the **Replication** folder.

Copy all of the do-files in the **Do-files** folder into the **Replication** folder.

Launch Stata, and set the **Replication** folder as Stata's working directory.

Run the 1_Import.do do-file. This do-file imports the data from each of the 227.csv-formatted data files from the **Importable Data** folder, and then saves them as 227 new Stata-formatted .dta files. These new .dta files are saved in a new folder named **Datasets**, located in the **Replication** folder, which is created when you run 1_Import.do.

Run the 2_Cleaning.do do-file. This do-file merges the 227 .dta-formatted files in the **Datasets** folder, and executes all the steps of cleaning and processing necessary to prepare the data for analysis. The merged and processed data file is saved with the name final.dta. This new .dta file is saved in a new folder named **Final Data**, located in the **Replication** folder, which is created when you run 2_Cleaning.do.

The 3_Results.do do-file contains the commands necessary to reproduce all of the statistical tables and figures presented in the thesis, using the final.dta data file created by running 2_Cleaning.do.