

Supplemental Appendix

Dataset: Executive Decrees

Our sample includes eight presidents within four cases but these pairs do not always cover equal duration of time. In Argentina, Nestor Kirchner began his term in office on May 25, 2003 (Q3). Christina Fernández de Kirchner began her term in office on December 7, 2007 (Q1). All Brazilian presidents begin their terms in office on January 1 (Q1). All Chilean presidents begin their terms in office on March 11 (Q2). All Costa Rican presidents begin their terms in office on May 8 (Q3). First, two presidential pairs served administrations of different lengths: (1) early elections were held in Argentina in 2003 and so Kirchner's administration lasted two quarters beyond the typical 4 years served by Fernández de Kirchner, and (2) a constitutional amendment in Chile in 2005 changed the length of a presidential term from 6 to 4 years, so that Lagos' term was two years longer than that of Bachelet. Second, two presidents served two consecutive terms by the end of 2014 but their pair-mate did not: Fernández de Kirchner and Da Silva.¹ Thus, in Argentina, Brazil, and Chile the length of time in office differs across the pair.

Herein, we provide a table of descriptive statistics for all measures reported in Table 2 of the manuscript, as well as more detailed discussions of robustness checks and additional decree count data noted briefly in the manuscript. We present the results of those additional measures and robustness checks noted in the manuscript in the figure and tables below.

Table A1: Descriptive Statistics

	Mean	St. Dev.	N
Decrees Issued (quarterly)	30.917	56.855	169
Sex	0.473	0.501	169
Executive Approval _(t-1)	53.343	14.117	161
Presidential Coalition	50.85	10.33	169
Quarters in Office	11.929	7.384	169
Inflation _(t-1)	86.08	30	162

¹ Rousseff was elected to serve a second consecutive term that began in the first quarter of 2015 but only served as the president until the second quarter of 2016, first facing impeachment proceedings and then being impeached. This data does not include her decree issuance beginning with her second administration, though including these additional five quarters does not alter the substantive findings we report below.

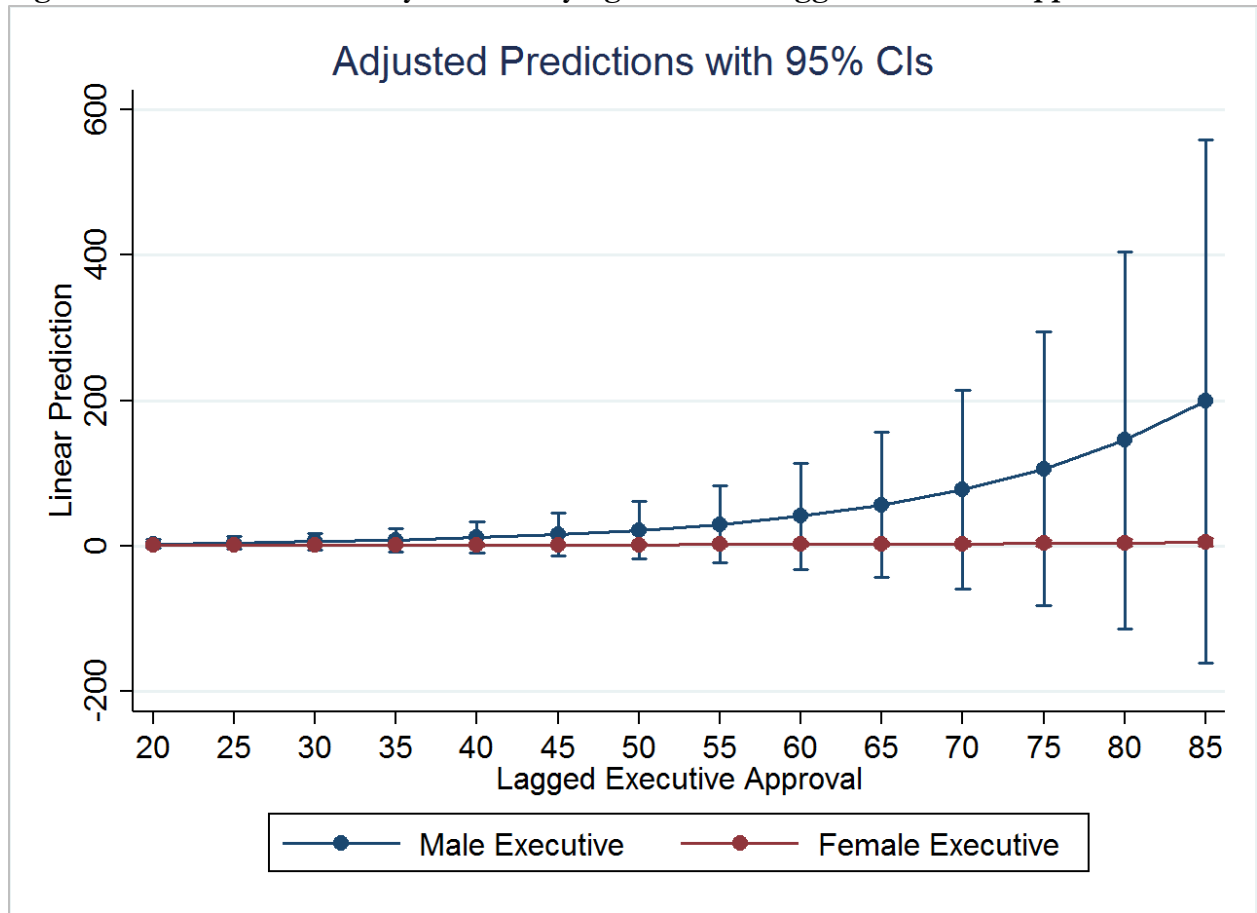
Robustness Checks: Estimating Predictors of Decree Issuance Only for Argentina and Brazil

In order to assess the strength of our argument using only law-like decrees – DNU in Argentina and MPs in Brazil – we run a series of robustness checks of the same models as those described in Table 2 of the text. We find similar results to those in the full models. From Model A1, estimating the predicted probabilities reveals that switching from a male to a female president results in a 95% decrease in decree issuance. This suggests that female presidents in these two cases are **far** less likely to use decree authority than their male counterparts. The variable *Executive Approval* also has a direct effect on decree issuance: a one standard deviation increase from the mean of *Executive Approval* leads to an 86% increase in decree issuance. Additionally, when plotting the marginal effects of the interaction term *Sex*Executive Approval* from Model A2 in Figure A1, the slopes of the male and female presidents’ propensity for decree issuance are roughly the same shape as in the full model from Figure 2 of the text. However, the confidence intervals now overlap across the range of values of *Executive Approval*, which is not surprising given the small number of observations in this subsample. The robustness checks show that despite the subsample’s small size, the same basic patterns emerge when examining just the two cases with law-like decree authority.

Table A2: Analysis of Executive Decree Count Data

	Model A1	Model A2
Sex	-3.041 *** (0.712)	-0.466 (1.244)
Executive Approval _(t-1)	0.043 *** (0.006)	0.063 *** (0.010)
Presidential Coalition	-0.014 (0.011)	-0.007 (0.011)
Quarters in Office	-0.127 *** (0.022)	-0.136 *** (0.021)
Inflation _(t-1)	0.107 *** (0.021)	0.098 *** (0.019)
Sex * Executive Approval		-0.038 * (0.015)
Constant	-3.872 *** (0.822)	-5.070 *** (0.961)
Wald Chi2	78.000	85.81
Prob > Chi2	0.0000	0.0000
N (groups)	2	2
n	90	90
Negative binomial regression of annual count data with conditional fixed effects. Coefficients with standard errors (two-tailed) in parentheses: *p≤0.05, **p≤0.01, ***p≤0.001.		

Figure A1: Decree Issuance by Sex at Varying Levels of Lagged Executive Approval



Additional Decree Count Data: Accounting for Longer Trends in Decree Issuance

In order to make certain that the decline in average decree issuance from male to female presidents is not purely a result of an over-time trend in declining decree issuance across Latin America, we look at annual decree counts across a 24-year window. This exercise helps us to assess whether the decreases in our male-female pairs simply reflect longer trends and pressures to reduce the reliance on decree issuance as a form of intervention in the legislative process. Where two executives split a calendar year in office, we separate out the decrees each executive issued (as indicated based on their months in office).

As can be seen below, the data do not reflect an over-time trend of decline, with early 2000s administrations such as those of Nestor Kirchner and Fernando Cardoso appearing among the most likely to wield decree authority in their respective cases. Though this does not provide definitive evidence against a general decline in decree issuance, the data does suggest that the male-female pairs do not just reflect a region-wide propensity for lower use of decree authority.

Table A3. Annual Decree Counts: 1990-2014

President	Year	Country	Annual Decree Issuance
Carlos Menem	1990	Argentina	17
Carlos Menem	1991	Argentina	30
Carlos Menem	1992	Argentina	18
Carlos Menem	1993	Argentina	8
Carlos Menem	1994	Argentina	5
Carlos Menem	1995	Argentina	7
Carlos Menem	1996	Argentina	11
Carlos Menem	1997	Argentina	23
Carlos Menem	1998	Argentina	22
Carlos Menem	1999	Argentina	37
Fernando De la Rúa	2000	Argentina	21
Fernando De la Rúa	2001 ²	Argentina	33
Eduardo Duhalde	2002	Argentina	95
Eduardo Duhalde	2003 (Jan-Jul)	Argentina	50
Nestor Kirchner	2003 (Aug-Dec)	Argentina	32
Nestor Kirchner	2004	Argentina	49
Nestor Kirchner	2005	Argentina	40
Nestor Kirchner	2006	Argentina	45
Nestor Kirchner	2007	Argentina	16
Cristina Fernández de Kirchner	2008	Argentina	3
Cristina Fernández de Kirchner	2009	Argentina	6
Cristina Fernández de Kirchner	2010	Argentina	6
Cristina Fernández de Kirchner	2011	Argentina	9
Cristina Fernández de Kirchner	2012	Argentina	6
Cristina Fernández de Kirchner	2013	Argentina	10
Cristina Fernández de Kirchner	2014	Argentina	3

² We do not code the week-long December 2001 administration of Adolfo Rodríguez Saá.

President	Year	Country	Annual Decree Issuance
Fernando Collor de Mello	1990 (Mar-Dec)	Brazil	50
Fernando Collor de Mello	1991	Brazil	10
Fernando Collor de Mello	1992	Brazil	11
Itamar Franco	1993	Brazil	27
Itamar Franco	1994	Brazil	48
Fernando Henrique Cardoso	1995	Brazil	49
Fernando Henrique Cardoso	1996	Brazil	19
Fernando Henrique Cardoso	1997	Brazil	33
Fernando Henrique Cardoso	1998	Brazil	46
Fernando Henrique Cardoso	1999	Brazil	37
Fernando Henrique Cardoso	2000	Brazil	23
Fernando Henrique Cardoso	2001	Brazil	105
Fernando Henrique Cardoso	2002	Brazil	17
Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva	2003	Brazil	7
Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva	2004	Brazil	9
Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva	2005	Brazil	8
Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva	2006	Brazil	10
Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva	2007	Brazil	9
Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva	2008	Brazil	8
Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva	2009	Brazil	11
Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva	2010	Brazil	34
Dilma Rousseff	2011	Brazil	35
Dilma Rousseff	2012	Brazil	43
Dilma Rousseff	2013	Brazil	33
Dilma Rousseff	2014	Brazil	29
Patricio Aylwin	1990 (Mar-Dec)	Chile	211
Patricio Aylwin	1991	Chile	86
Patricio Aylwin	1992	Chile	16
Patricio Aylwin	1993	Chile	47
Patricio Aylwin	1994 (Jan-Feb)	Chile	0
Eduardo Frei	1994 (Mar-Dec)	Chile	338
Eduardo Frei	1995	Chile	36
Eduardo Frei	1996	Chile	10
Eduardo Frei	1997	Chile	8
Eduardo Frei	1998	Chile	9
Eduardo Frei	1999	Chile	4
Eduardo Frei	2000 (Jan-Feb)	Chile	2
Ricardo Lagos	2000 (Mar-Dec)	Chile	31
Ricardo Lagos	2001	Chile	8
Ricardo Lagos	2002	Chile	4
Ricardo Lagos	2003	Chile	73
Ricardo Lagos	2004	Chile	56
Ricardo Lagos	2005	Chile	14

President	Year	Country	Annual Decree Issuance
Ricardo Lagos	2006 (Jan-Feb)	Chile	2
Michelle Bachelet	2006 (Mar-Dec)	Chile	7
Michelle Bachelet	2007	Chile	40
Michelle Bachelet	2008	Chile	45
Michelle Bachelet	2009	Chile	29
Michelle Bachelet	2010 (Jan-Feb)	Chile	10
Sebastián Piñera	2010 (Mar-Dec)	Chile	19
Sebastián Piñera	2011	Chile	10
Sebastián Piñera	2012	Chile	6
Sebastián Piñera	2013	Chile	2
Sebastián Piñera	2014 (Jan-Feb)	Chile	1
Michelle Bachelet	2014 (Mar-Dec)	Chile	2
Óscar Arias Sánchez	2006 (May-Dec)	Costa Rica	301
Óscar Arias Sánchez	2007	Costa Rica	639
Óscar Arias Sánchez	2008	Costa Rica	778
Óscar Arias Sánchez	2009	Costa Rica	666
Óscar Arias Sánchez	2010 (Jan-Apr)	Costa Rica	186
Laura Chinchilla	2010 (May-Dec)	Costa Rica	328
Laura Chinchilla	2011	Costa Rica	510
Laura Chinchilla	2012	Costa Rica	367
Laura Chinchilla	2013	Costa Rica	461
Laura Chinchilla	2014 (Jan-Apr)	Costa Rica	157