

Shabad, Goldie and Kazimierz M. Slomczynski. 2011. "Voters' perceptions of government performance and attributions of responsibility: Electoral control in Poland." *Electoral Studies* 30(2):309-20.

Abstract:

We test the claim that elections function as a mechanism of accountability in the case of Poland, a new democracy with a fluid party system. We ask whether individuals' vote intentions are based on assessments of governing parties' performance. Taking into consideration attributions of responsibility for such performance, accountability exists if assessments of poor performance decrease the probability of voting for a ruling party. We use two criteria of performance: perceived change in unemployment rate and level of corruption between two consecutive elections. Using data from the Polish POLPAN panel survey, our results confirm the existence of a heterogeneous sanctioning model.