CES✓EEC
Canadian Election Study | Étude électorale canadienne

Virtual Hackathon

October 27-31, 2025

Call for Proposals

The 2025 Canadian election defied expectations. The outcome – a very close two-way race between the Liberals and Conservatives – was surprising to many given the commanding Conservative lead just a short time before the election. What happened? Why did voters change their minds? Many have theories, but they need data to be tested. The CES Hackathon is a unique opportunity to do exactly that, with advance special access Canadian Election Study (CES) data.

We (the CES team) are inviting proposals for research papers from early career researchers (advanced graduate students, post-docs and faculty members within 5 years of their PhD) that would like to use the 2025 Canadian Election Study to better understand political behaviour in Canada in the current context. Our intent is to select a limited number of proposals to take part in a virtual hackathon – starting with a group meeting to present hypotheses and analysis plans to the CES investigators and C-Dem members (October 27), moving into 3 full days to work on projects with early access to the CES dataset, and culminating with a presentation session, where researchers can publicly present their findings to members of the C-Dem network (October 31). Our goal is to give early career researchers an edge in publishing their research on this exciting and unprecedented election. The CES team and C-Dem researchers will be available for virtual consultations throughout the week as you work on your analyses.

A selection of participants will be provided a travel grant to present a full paper in person at the C-Dem Forum in May, 2026.

The draft codebooks of the CES (campaign and post-election period) will be available here.

For more information, please email admin@c-dem.ca.

How to apply: Please respond to the questions below and return to admin@c-dem.ca no later than **September 5, 2025**. Applications can be accepted in English or French. Note that early career researchers (ECR) are defined for this call as PhD students, postdoctoral fellows, or any researcher within 5 years of PhD (with extensions for family or medical leaves). Note that co-authors do not need to be ECRs, but priority may be given to more junior teams.

1. Name of researcher:

   Affiliation of researcher:

   Current status of researcher:

2. Name, affiliation and status of any co-authors (if applicable):

3. Will any co-authors participate in the hackathon? If so, please indicate their names here:

4. Description of Research: In no more than 750 words, explain the research question that you are interested in exploring and how it contributes to existing knowledge. Please state *clearly* the hypothesis or hypotheses that will be tested, and use (author/date) citation style when referring to existing literature.

5. Works Cited:

6. Analysis Plan: Please indicate clearly the key variables that will be used for your analysis, any control variables you will use, and their justification, and your expected approach to the analysis. Please provide as much detail as possible in this section so we can evaluate your ability to complete the research analysis during the hackathon period.