

# APSI Hypotheses Reference

This document lists every hypothesis used by APSI to score political texts. Hypotheses are derived from established political science frameworks and expert survey codebooks. The tool uses Natural Language Inference to estimate the probability that each hypothesis is entailed by the input text. Scores run on a 0–10 scale. The weight (**w**) next to each hypothesis controls its relative influence on the final score.

**NOTE: Both hypotheses' wording and weights are subject to change to improve inference.**

## 1 Economic Left–Right

*Scale: 0 = Strong Left • 10 = Strong Right • Source file: `alternative.py`*

### Left-wing hypotheses

1. The text expresses that the state should own and control the means of production and major industries w = 1.5
2. The text expresses that market mechanisms should be replaced by central state planning and allocation w = 1.5
3. The text expresses that corporations should pay higher taxes w = 0.8
4. The text expresses that wealthy individuals should pay higher tax rates w = 0.85
5. The text expresses that government should increase spending on healthcare w = 0.7
6. The text expresses that government should increase spending on education w = 0.7
7. The text expresses that unemployment benefits should be expanded w = 0.8
8. The text expresses that government should provide universal healthcare w = 0.85
9. The text expresses that banks and financial institutions should be heavily regulated w = 0.85
10. The text expresses that environmental regulations on business are necessary w = 0.75
11. The text expresses that utilities should be publicly owned w = 1.0
12. The text expresses that government should break up large corporations w = 0.9
13. The text expresses that minimum wage laws should be strengthened w = 0.85
14. The text expresses that unions should have more power w = 0.9
15. The text expresses that government should reduce income inequality w = 0.8
16. The text expresses that public investment creates jobs w = 0.75
17. The text expresses that social safety nets should be expanded w = 0.7
18. The text expresses that government should have a very active role in the economy w = 0.95

### Right-wing hypotheses

1. The text expresses that the means of production and major industries should be privately owned and free from state control w = 1.5
2. The text expresses that free market mechanisms should replace state planning and allocation w = 1.5
3. The text expresses that corporate tax rates should be lowered w = 0.85

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| 4. The text expresses that income taxes should be reduced  | w = 0.75 |
| 5. The text expresses that government spending on social programs should be cut                            | w = 0.9  |
| 6. The text expresses that welfare programs should be reduced  | w = 0.95 |
| 7. The text expresses that healthcare should be privatized   | w = 1.0  |
| 8. The text expresses that education should be privatized  | w = 0.9  |
| 9. The text expresses that government must partner with businesses   | w = 0.5  |
| 10. The text expresses that financial regulations should be eliminated                                     | w = 0.95 |
| 11. The text expresses that environmental regulations hurt business competitiveness                        | w = 0.75 |
| 12. The text expresses that government services should be privatized                                       | w = 1.0  |
| 13. The text expresses that large corporations drive economic growth                                       | w = 0.65 |
| 14. The text expresses that minimum wage laws hurt employment  | w = 0.85 |
| 15. The text expresses that unions hurt economic competitiveness   | w = 0.9  |
| 16. The text expresses that government intervention in the economy should be focused on helping businesses | w = 0.9  |
| 17. The text expresses that income inequality reflects merit and effort                                    | w = 0.9  |
| 18. The text expresses that private investment is more efficient than public                               | w = 0.85 |
| 19. The text expresses that social programs create dependency  | w = 0.95 |
| 20. The text expresses that public assets and state-owned enterprises should be privatized                 | w = 1.0  |

## 2 Populism–Pluralism

*Scale: 0 = Strong Pluralist • 10 = Strong Populist • Source file: alternativePop.py*

### Populist hypotheses

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|---|----------|
| 1. The text argues that corrupt elites or establishment insiders have betrayed ordinary people.   | w = 1.0  |
| 2. The text claims that electoral or legislative processes are systematically manipulated by wealthy donors, corporations, or lobbyists at the expense of ordinary voters.          | w = 0.8  |
| 3. The text questions or dismisses the legitimacy of legislatures, political parties, or elected representatives, suggesting that direct popular participation should replace them. | w = 0.75 |
| 4. The text invokes ‘the people’ as a unified, virtuous whole whose collective will or welfare is being actively frustrated or betrayed by a corrupt or self-serving minority.      | w = 1.0  |
| 5. The text argues that ordinary people’s common sense is more trustworthy than experts or technocrats.   | w = 0.9  |
| 6. The text portrays civil servants, bureaucrats, or administrative agencies as self-interested obstructors of the popular will who should be removed or overridden.                | w = 0.95 |
| 7. The text claims mainstream media and establishment networks suppress ordinary people’s voices or coordinate against them.  | w = 1.0  |
| 8. The text calls for overriding, ignoring, or abolishing judicial review, constitutional courts, or legal constraints that limit what elected majorities can do.                   | w = 0.4  |
| 9. The text claims that established political parties, career politicians, or the governing class are incapable of solving the country’s core problems.                             | w = 0.8  |
| 10. The text argues that an outsider candidate or anti-establishment movement, positioned against the existing political class, is the only legitimate path to genuine change.      | w = 0.85 |
| 11. The text contrasts the economic interests of a wealthy or privileged minority against the interests of the majority of ordinary people.   | w = 0.5  |

## Pluralist hypotheses

1. The text argues that representative institutions and elected officials can legitimately govern on behalf of citizens without requiring direct popular mandates on every issue. w = 0.6
2. The text defends institutional checks, oversight mechanisms, or procedural rules as necessary safeguards against corruption or abuse of power. w = 0.85
3. The text argues that political decisions must go through formal institutional procedures, such as parliamentary debate, judicial review, or constitutional process. w = 0.65
4. The text acknowledges that society contains diverse groups with legitimately different interests that must be negotiated through political compromise. w = 0.9
5. The text argues that expert knowledge, evidence-based policy, or specialized institutions contribute valuable input to political decision-making. w = 0.75
6. The text argues that professional civil servants and administrative processes provide continuity and competence in governance. w = 0.8
7. The text supports freedom of the press, diverse media, or institutionalized public debate as essential to democratic accountability. w = 0.85
8. The text argues that courts and constitutional protections should defend minority rights against majority overreach. w = 1.0
9. The text warns against or rejects sudden, revolutionary, or disruptive political change, arguing instead for gradual and negotiated reform. w = 0.7
10. The text defends the application of legal norms, international treaties, or constitutional rules against attempts by officials or governments to circumvent them. w = 0.9
11. The text states that corruption, bribery, or abuse of office should be prosecuted through existing legal institutions, not addressed by removing the entire political class. w = 0.65

## 3 Support for Liberal Democracy

Scale: 0 = No Support • 10 = Strong Support • Source file: *alternativeLib.py*

### Support hypotheses

1. The text states that every adult citizen has an equal and unconditional right to vote. w = 1.0
2. The text argues that electoral defeat must be accepted and power transferred peacefully. w = 1.0
3. The text defends freedom of speech as a right the state may not restrict. w = 1.0
4. The text defends independent media free from state control. w = 1.0
5. The text defends the right to peaceful assembly and protest. w = 1.0
6. The text defends the right to form or join independent political parties and civic organizations. w = 1.0
7. The text argues that expanding voting rights to more citizens strengthens democracy. w = 1.0
8. The text argues that political opposition parties are a necessary and legitimate part of democracy. w = 0.8
9. The text argues that citizens must be free to criticize the government without facing repression. w = 0.8
10. The text argues that the rule of law binds the government equally with ordinary citizens. w = 0.8
11. The text argues that courts and democratic institutions must be protected from executive interference. w = 0.8
12. The text expresses that minority or dissenting political views deserve legal protection. w = 0.4

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| 13. | The text expresses that political change must occur through legal and electoral processes, not force. | w = 0.4 |
| 14. | The text expresses that political competition among multiple parties produces better governance.      | w = 0.4 |

## Opposition hypotheses

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|-----|---|----------|
| 1.  | The text rejects representative free and fair elections as necessary or desirable for governance.                                   | w = 1.0  |
| 2.  | The text supports single-party rule or one-party political dominance.   | w = 1.0  |
| 3.  | The text justifies restricting freedom of speech.   | w = 1.0  |
| 4.  | The text supports state control or censorship of the media.   | w = 1.0  |
| 5.  | The text rejects freedom of peaceful assembly or protest.   | w = 1.0  |
| 6.  | The text opposes independent civic or political organizations.  | w = 1.0  |
| 7.  | The text expresses that political legitimacy derives from ideology, religion, or divine authority rather than elections.            | w = 1.0  |
| 8.  | The text supports theocratic governance or religious law as the supreme political authority.  | w = 1.0  |
| 9.  | The text conditions the right to vote or political participation on literacy, education, property, or other qualifying criteria.    | w = 1.0  |
| 10. | The text expresses that voting rights should be restricted to those who meet an educational or literacy standard.                   | w = 1.0  |
| 11. | The text expresses that one party or leader should govern without challenge from political opponents.                               | w = 0.95 |
| 12. | The text frames suffrage restrictions as beneficial for the quality of democratic representation.                                   | w = 0.85 |
| 13. | The text expresses refusal to accept defeat in competitive elections.   | w = 0.85 |
| 14. | The text expresses that political criticism or dissent is illegitimate, dangerous, or should be suppressed.                         | w = 0.85 |
| 15. | The text justifies suppressing dissent to maintain order, stability, or national unity.   | w = 0.85 |
| 16. | The text expresses that political rights are conditional on loyalty to the regime, party, or ideology.                              | w = 0.85 |
| 17. | The text portrays political opponents as enemies, traitors, or existential threats rather than legitimate actors.                   | w = 0.65 |
| 18. | The text expresses preference for revolutionary or extra-legal seizure of power over electoral competition.                         | w = 0.65 |
| 19. | The text depicts democracy or democratic institutions as inherently corrupt, weak, or irreparably broken.                           | w = 0.65 |
| 20. | The text argues that political participation or rights should be conditional on education, ethnicity, religion, or social standing. | w = 0.65 |
| 21. | The text instrumentally invokes democratic values while simultaneously arguing for their restriction or elimination.                | w = 0.6  |
| 22. | The text argues that liberal elites suppress or dismiss opinions that differ from their own.  | w = 0.55 |