SPEC Lab R
Resources: Merging & Reshaping Data Group Practice

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In this assignment, you will continue to work with the powersharing data. In our last assignment, we used an excel that had already merged a dataset from 1975 through 2010 *and* the new data from 2010 to present. The goal for this assignment is to walk through some of the steps we used to get from individual coder sheets which each covered a single country, to a merged country-year dataset.

You will need the following files:

1. LATVIA_NJ_fortraining
2. FINLAND_JC_fortraining

Steps 1-5: Write a detailed header for your new R script, clear old objects out of your environment, set your working directory, load the appropriate packages (e.g. tidyverse), and then load each spreadsheet.

Exercise 1: Pivot the data in each spreadsheet to make years our observations rather than a variable and ensure that our different variables are columns.

Exercise 2: Use as.numeric to make the values that should be numeric (like years) are numeric.

Exercise 3: Merge these two spreadsheets together.

Exercise 4: Identify a subset of six variables you find most interesting and rename those variables to simple, descriptive names. Remember to keep everything() else! We don't want to subset the data in this exercise.

Exercise 5: Save your merged dataset as a .RData file in the "0 Training Data/training output" folder.