

Preface and Acknowledgements

This book examines media influence on general elections in the United Kingdom between 2015 and 2019, during which there were three elections. The book assesses media influence by exploring the interaction between different types of media in creating the media environment (that is, intermedia agenda-setting) before and after elections; investigating how media helps to set up and frame the political agenda; how it affects the coverage of candidates and political parties; and how it interacts with pre-existing attitudes and important features of the British political system, such as constituency competitiveness. These substantive analytical chapters are connected by their application of the ESRC-funded *Media in Context* and the UK Elections media data, namely, the British Election Longitudinal News Study 2015–2019 (BELNS). It is often linked with the campaign data from the British Election Study (BES) – that is, analysed using cutting-edge techniques in data linkage and quantitative text and statistical data analysis.

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