

Data on the Fragility-Grievances-Conflict Triangle

Codebook

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When citing this dataset, please always cite:

Timo Kivimäki 2021. “The Fragility-Grievances-Conflict Triangle in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA): An Introduction” *Social Sciences*

And

Timo Kivimäki 2021. *Data on the Fragility-Grievances-Conflict Triangle*. University of Bath Research Data Archive. <https://doi.org/10.15125/BATH-00951> (for the data itself)

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Data extracted on 2020-12-22

Nature of the Data

This dataset merges data on state fragility, developmental grievances and political violence into an annual country-specific format from 1995 to 2018. It is based on the following existing data sources:

1. Fatalities of political violence: UCDP Georeferenced data¹
https://ucdp.uu.se/downloads/index.html#ged_global
2. State fragility: State Fragility Index of Systemic Peace 2018:
<https://www.systemicpeace.org/inscrdata.html>²
3. Population data: World Bank's World Development Indicators
<https://databank.worldbank.org/reports.aspx?source=2&series=SP.POP.TOTL&country=#>³
4. Human development: UNDP Human Development Reports (various years): use
<http://hdr.undp.org/en/content/download-data>
5. Transparency International: Corruption Perceptions Index:
<https://www.transparency.org/en/cpi>⁴
6. US and other great power interventions: Kivimäki, Timo. *Coding of US Presidential Discourse on Protection*. University of Bath Research Data Archive, 2019.
[doi:10.15125/BATH-00535](https://doi.org/10.15125/BATH-00535).

The data is produced for an exploration of the associations between several indicators related to developmental grievances, state fragility and conflict. The definitions and operationalisations of the variables of each of the source variable can be found in the above sources, while the methodology of the development of the applied variables can be seen in the dofile of this data. Arguments for each of the applied variables can be found in

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¹ Pettersson, Therese & Magnus Öberg 2020. Organized violence, 1989-2019. *Journal of Peace Research* 57(4); Sundberg, Ralph and Erik Melander (2013) Introducing the UCDP Georeferenced Event Dataset. *Journal of Peace Research* 50(4).

² Monty G. Marshall and Gabrielle Elzinga-Marshall, *Global Report 2017. Conflict, Governance, and State Fragility*. (Vienna: Center for Systematic Peace, 2017).

³ Data source: (1) United Nations Population Division. World Population Prospects: 2019 Revision. (2) Census reports and other statistical publications from national statistical offices, (3) Eurostat: Demographic Statistics, (4) United Nations Statistical Division. Population and Vital Statistics Report (various years), (5) U.S. Census Bureau: International Database, and (6) Secretariat of the Pacific Community: Statistics and Demography Programme.

⁴ This index has a uniform methodology only from 2012, while corruption was measured slightly differently before that. Thus, while it is not possible to compare the transparency score before and after 2012, and since such comparison is vital for this study, I have used the anti-corruptiveness rank (corr-rank) of countries as an indicator of relative measure. This measure cannot capture global developments as it assumed that the absolute level of corruption does not change in the world (which is admittedly a simplifying assumption). Since there is variation in the capture of the data over year, the rank of each country is divided by the number of countries captured by the data each year. This way the indicator varies between 1 (the most corrupt country) and 1/n (n=number of countries in that year's data) and gives the highest value to the most corrupt country 1/n to the best country of the n countries of that year (relcorr-rank).

List of names and shortnames of the variables

year: Year of the observation

country: Country of observation

annualBD: Sum of fatalities of political violence in each country in each year, compiled from the best estimate of fatalities in UCDP GED data.

annualCivilian: Sum of civilian fatalities of political violence in each country in each year, compiled from the estimate of civilian fatalities in UCDP GED data.

country_id: Number given for each state in the data, in order to allow statistical operations that require numerical variables.

sfi: State Fragility Index, i.e. indicator of the overall fragility of the state for a particular year.

effect: Indicator of lack of effectiveness of the state from the Systemic Peace SFI data.

legit: Indicator of lack of legitimacy of the state in a particular year from the Systemic Peace SFI data.

seceff: Indicator of lack of effectiveness of the security function of the state in a particular year from the Systemic Peace SFI data.

secleg: Indicator of lack of legitimacy of the security function of the state in a particular year from the Systemic Peace SFI data.

poleff: Indicator of lack of effectiveness of the political function of the state in a particular year from the Systemic Peace SFI data.

polleg: Indicator of lack of legitimacy of the political function of the state in a particular year from the Systemic Peace SFI data. More specifically, this indicator indicates the degree of factionalism, political discrimination, political salience of elite ethnicity, fragmentation and exclusionary ideology of the ruling elite.

ecoeff: Indicator of lack of effectiveness of the economic function of the state in a particular year from the Systemic Peace SFI data.

ecoleg: Indicator of lack of legitimacy of the economic function of the state in a particular year from the Systemic Peace SFI data. More specifically, this indicator indicates the level of economic dependence of the national economy on the export of primary commodities.

soceff: Indicator of lack of effectiveness of the social function of the state in a particular year from the Systemic Peace SFI data.

socleg: Indicator of lack of legitimacy of the social function of the state in a particular year from the Systemic Peace SFI data.

MENA: dummy variable indicating if a country is in the region of the Middle East and North Africa (MENA).

population: Population of the country in a particular year.

fatalPop: Number of annual fatalities of political violence (fatalPop) per population of the country.

civilFatPop: Number of annual fatalities of political violence (annualCivilian) per population of the country.

lagfatalPop: Number of fatalities of political violence (fatalPop) per population of the country in the previous year.

leadfatalPop: Number of fatalities of political violence (fatalPop) per population of the country in the following year.

lagcivilFatPop: Number of civilian fatalities of political violence (fatalPop) per population of the country in the previous year.

leadcivilFatPop: Number of civilian fatalities of political violence (annualCivilian) per population of the country in the following year.

nwfragility: Indicator of overall state fragility based on Systemic Peace SFI that only considers elements of fragility that are not analytically associated with conflict data.

nwlegit: Indicator of the legitimacy side of state fragility based on Systemic Peace SFI that only considers elements of fragility that are not analytically associated with conflict data.

nweffic: Indicator of the efficiency side of state fragility based on Systemic Peace SFI that only considers elements of fragility that are not analytically associated with conflict data.

hdi: Human Development Index: i.e. indicator of the overall level in a country of human development based on UNDP Human Development Index data.

laghdi: indicator of overall level in a country of human development in the previous year.

leadhdi: indicator of overall level in a country of human development in the next year

sfihd: Indicator of overall state fragility based on Systemic Peace SFI that only considers elements of fragility that are not analytically associated with human development.

effecthdi: Indicator of the effectiveness side of state fragility based on Systemic Peace SFI that only considers elements of fragility that are not analytically associated with human development.

cpi: Corruption perceptions index based on Transparency International data.

corrrank: Indicator, based on Transparency International's data, that shows country's rank order in a list that places the least corrupt country in the world on top and the most corrupt at the bottom.

relcorrrank: Indicator, based on Transparency International's data, that shows country's rank order divided by the number of countries in the list, in a list that places the least corrupt country in the world on top and the most corrupt at the bottom.

usinterv: Dummy variable indicating whether (1) or not (0) US intervenes militarily in the country's conflict at the year in question.

intervention: Dummy variable indicating whether (1) or not (0) any of the UN Security Council permanent nations intervenes militarily in the country's conflict at the year in question.

warstate: Dummy variable indicating whether (1) or not (0) the country at the year in question, has fatalities of political violence.

fragstate: Dummy variable indicating whether (1) or not (0) the country at the year in question, is fragile. State fragility here means a nwfragility value above 6.

fatpopchange: variable showing how many more fatalities per population (fatalPop) the country has this year compared to the previous year.