

Codebook UCDP External Support in Non-state Conflict Dataset¹

Version 1.0.

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A dyad-year dataset containing information on external support to actors in non-state conflict. The data builds on and extends the UCDP Non-State Conflict Dataset and the UCDP External Support Dataset. The dataset covers non-state conflicts in Africa, 1989-2011, and is compatible with the UCDP Non-State Conflict Dataset v. 2.5-2016.

This data collection is part of a larger effort to code additional information on actors and issues in non-state conflict. A description of the scope of the data collection and descriptive statistics can be found in: von Uexkull, Nina, and Therese Pettersson. 2018. "Issues and Actors in African Nonstate Conflicts: A New Data Set." *International Interactions*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/03050629.2018.1493478>. (open access)

Non-state Conflict

A non-state conflict is defined by the Uppsala Conflict Data Program (UCDP) as "the use of armed force between two organized armed groups, neither of which is the government of a state, which results in at least 25 battle-related deaths in a year."

The separate elements of the definition are operationalized as follows:

- (1) Use of armed force: the use of arms, resulting in deaths.
 - (1.1) Arms: any material means, e.g. manufactured weapons but also sticks, stones, fire, water, etc.
- (2) 25 deaths: a minimum of 25 battle-related deaths per year
 - (2.1) battle-related deaths: deaths directly related to the use of armed force between the warring groups
- (3) Organized groups: consists of either
 - (3.1) formally organized groups: any non-governmental group of people having announced a name for their group and using armed force against another similarly formally organized group, or
 - (3.2) informally organized groups: any group without an announced name, but who uses armed force against another similarly organized group, where the violent activity meets the following requirement:
 - (3.2.a.) there is a clear pattern of violent incidents that are connected and in which both groups use armed force against the other
- (4) State: a state is
 - (4.1) an internationally recognized sovereign government controlling a specified territory, or
 - (4.2) an internationally unrecognized government controlling a specified territory whose sovereignty is not disputed by another internationally recognized sovereign government previously controlling the same territory.

(5) Government: the party controlling the capital of the state

More detailed information on the coding of non-state conflict can be found in Sundberg, Ralph, Kristine Eck, and Joakim Kreutz. 2012. Introducing the UCDP Non-State Conflict Dataset. *Journal of Peace Research* 49(2):351–362. doi:10.1177/0022343311431598.

External Support

The definition of External support in this dataset builds on the UCDP External Support Dataset (Högbladh et al, 2011; <http://ucdp.uu.se/downloads/>).

External support is defined as ‘support to a non-state warring party that is given to assist it in an ongoing conflict’. The data are restricted to non-warring support, meaning that the externally supporting actor is not involved with own troops, but provides other forms of support to the warring party.

The non-warring support can take a variety of forms, including the provision of sanctuary, financial assistance, logistics and military support short of troops. Actors providing external support to a warring party can be governments, either the national government or foreign governments, as well as groups residing in or outside the country in which the non-state conflict is taking place. The party providing the support should be a state or an organization (in the widest sense of the term) and not an individual.

The different types of support included in the definition are:

Access to Territory, Access to military or intelligence infrastructure, Weapons, Materiel/Logistics, Training/Expertise, Funding/Economic Support, Intelligence material, Other forms of support. For more detailed information on what each category contains, please consult the UCDP External Support Dataset Codebook (<http://ucdp.uu.se/downloads/>)

Information on specific sources used for specific coding decision is available upon request.

Variables in the External Support in Non-state Conflict Dataset

Variable name	Content	Type
dyad_id	The identifier of the Non-state conflict.	Integer
	This version of the External Support in Non-state	

Conflict Dataset is compatible with the UCDP Non-state Conflict Dataset v.2.5-2016. In 2017 the ID system for conflicts, actors and dyads was changed in order to make it unique across all UCDP core datasets and all UCDP types of violence. This variable corresponds to the Dyad ID reported in the v.2.5-2016 Dataset. For the Dyad ID according to the new ID system, please consult the dyadid_new variable.

dyadid_new

The unique identifier of the Non-state conflict.

Integer

This version of the External Support in Non-state Conflict Dataset is compatible with the UCDP Non-state Conflict Dataset v.2.5-2016. In 2017 the ID system for conflicts, actors and dyads was changed in order to make it unique across all UCDP core datasets and all UCDP types of violence. This variable contains information on the Dyad ID according to the new ID system. To download a conversion table containing new and old IDs, visit <http://ucdp.uu.se/downloads/>.

org

This variable indicates the organizational level of the warring sides. The level of organization is determined according to the following categories:

Integer

Organizational level 1 (formally organized groups): Rebel groups and other organized groups that have a high enough level of organization so as to be possible to include in the state-based armed conflict category. These include rebel groups with an announced name, as well as military factions (Forces of...). This level of organization captures fighting between highly organized rebel groups and fatalities are recorded according to the criteria set for battle-related deaths in the state-based conflict category.

Organizational level 2 (informally organized groups): Groups composed of supporters and affiliates to political parties and candidates. These are commonly not groups that are permanently organized for combat, but who at times use their organizational structures for such purposes. Battle-related deaths are recorded according to section 3.2.a of the definition of non-state conflict.

Organizational level 3 (informally organized groups): Groups that share a common identification along ethnic, clan, religious, national or tribal lines. These are not groups that are permanently organized for combat,

	<p>but who at times organize themselves along said lines to engage in fighting. This level of organization captures aspects of what is commonly referred to as 'communal conflicts', in that conflict stands along lines of communal identity. Battle-related deaths are recorded according to section 3.2.a of the definition of non-state conflict.</p>	
side_a_name	The party that constitute Side A in the conflict. For each conflict the parties are listed in alphabetical order, using the latest known names of the parties involved.	Integer
side_a_id	<p>The ID of the groups that make up Side A. For conflicts with multiple actors fighting together a temporary coalition ID has been assigned.</p> <p>This version of the External Support in Non-state Conflict Dataset is compatible with the UCDP Non-state Conflict Dataset v.2.5-2016. In 2017 the ID system for conflicts, actors and dyads was changed in order to make it unique across all UCDP core datasets and all UCDP types of violence. This variable corresponds to the Side A ID reported in the v.2.5-2016 Dataset. To download a conversion table containing new and old IDs, visit http://ucdp.uu.se/downloads/.</p>	Integer
side_a_components	For conflicts with multiple actors fighting together, the actors' separate Actor IDs are listed in this variable and separated by a comma.	String
support_a	support_a is a binary variable that codes whether the actor listed in Side A received support from an external actor during the year. The variable takes the value of 1 if Side A received any form of clearly established external support from one or more external supporter(s) in a given year. If not, a 0 is coded.	Integer
support_a_alleged	support_a_alleged is a binary variable that codes whether there are only allegations that the actor listed in Side A received support from an external actor during the year. The variable takes the value of 1 if only alleged support has been found for Side A in a given year. If not, a 0 is coded. If there is clearly established external support (shown in the variable support_a), this variable takes the value of 0.	Integer
side_b_name	The party that constitute Side B in the conflict. For each conflict the parties are listed in alphabetical order, using	Integer

	the latest known names of the parties involved.	
side_b_id	<p>The ID of the groups that make up Side B. For conflicts with multiple actors fighting together a temporary coalition ID has been assigned.</p> <p>This version of the External Support in Non-state Conflict Dataset is compatible with the UCDP Non-state Conflict Dataset v.2.5-2016. In 2017 the ID system for conflicts, actors and dyads was changed in order to make it unique across all UCDP core datasets and all UCDP types of violence. This variable corresponds to the Side B ID reported in the v.2.5-2016 Dataset. To download a conversion table containing new and old IDs, visit http://ucdp.uu.se/downloads/.</p>	Integer
side_b_components	For conflicts with multiple actors fighting together, the actors' separate Actor IDs, are listed in this variable and separated by a comma.	string
support_b	support_b is a binary variable that codes whether the actor listed in Side B received support from an external actor during the year. The variable takes the value of 1 if Side B received any form of clearly established external support from one or more external supporter(s) in a given year. If not, a 0 is coded.	Integer
support_b_alleged	support_b_alleged is a binary variable that codes whether there are only allegations that the actor listed in Side B received support from an external actor during the year. The variable takes the value of 1 if only alleged support has been found for Side B in a given year. If not, a 0 is coded. If there is clearly established external support (shown in the variable support_b), this variable takes the value of 0.	Integer
year	The year of observation.	Integer
location	The countries where fighting took place in the dyad-year. Comma-separated if multiple.	string
support_confirmed	support_confirmed is a binary variable that codes whether any support from an external actor was confirmed in a given dyad in a given year, The variable takes the value of 1 if Side A, Side B, or both, received any form of clearly established external support from one or more external supporter(s) in a given year. If not, a 0 is coded.	Integer
support_any	support_any is a binary variable that codes whether any support from an external actor, confirmed or	Integer

alleged, was registered in a given dyad in a given year, The variable takes the value of 1 if Side A, Side B, or both, received any form of clearly established external support, or alleged support, from one or more external supporter(s) in a given year. If not, a 0 is coded.

References:

Högbladh, Stina, Therese Pettersson, and Lotta Themner. (2011) External Support in Armed Conflict 1975–2009. Presenting new data. Paper presented at the International Studies Association Annual Conference, Montreal, March 16–19