UCDP Conflict Termination Dataset Codebook[1]

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Please refer to the dataset as the UCDP Conflict Termination Dataset and always include the version number in analyses using the dataset.

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1. Introduction

This document describes the Armed Conflict Termination Dataset, a project within the Uppsala Conflict Data Program (UCDP) at the Department of Peace and Conflict Research, Uppsala University. The Termination Dataset builds on the UCDP/PRIO Armed Conflict Dataset, a joint collaboration between UCDP and the Centre for the Study of Civil War at the International Peace Research Institute, Oslo (PRIO).

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2. Definitions of conflict activity

The basis for the Conflict Termination Dataset is the UCDP/PRIO Armed Conflict Dataset. For information about definition of conflict, Sub conflict IDs, and variables from the main conflict table; see the Armed Conflict Dataset Codebook (version 3) http://www.prio.no/cwp/armedconflict/current/Codebook_v3-2005.pdf

For a summary of these variables, see Table 1 below:

No	Variable	Label	Description
1	Primkey	Primary key	The unique identifier of all observations
2	ID	Conflict identifier	The unique identifier of all conflicts
3	SubID	Sub-conflict identifier	Identifying sub-conflicts within a defined conflict
4	Location	Country name(s)	The name(s) of the country/countries whose government(s) have a primary claim to the object in dispute.
5	Side_A	Country name(s)	Identifying the country/countries of side A in a conflict. Always the government side in civil wars
6	Side_B	Country name(s) or Opposition actors	Identifying the names and/or country/countries of side B in a conflict. In a civil conflict, this includes military opposition organizations.
7	Incompatibility	Conflict incompatibility	A general coding of the conflict issue
8	Territory	Name of territory	The name of the territory over which the conflict is fought, provided that the incompatibility is territorial
9	Year	Year of observation	
10	Intensity	Intensity level	A two + one level assessment of the number of battle-related casualties per year in the conflict period covered by the observation, plus a special level indicating conflict history in low-intensity conflicts
11	Type	Conflict type	Four different types of conflict (interstate, extrastate, internal, internationalized internal)
12	Startdate	Date of conflict initiation	The date, as precise as possible, of the first violent action of the conflict resulting in death
13	Startprecision	Precision of Startdate	The level of precision for the initial date
14	Startdate2	Date of conflict initiation	Similar to Start_date, but truncated so that there are no dates earlier than the first year of 25 battle-related deaths
15	Startprecision2	Precision of Startdate2	The level of precision for the truncated initial date
16	COW_A[2]	COW numbers of Side A	COW numbers of all countries in Side A, separated by semicolons
17	COW_B	COW numbers of Side B	COW numbers of all countries in Side B, separated by semicolons
18	COW_location	COW numbers of Location	COW numbers of all location countries, separated by semicolons
19	Region	Region of Location	See Section 3.19 for the definition of the different regions.
20	Lat	Latitude of conflict centre	First component of the geographic coordinates of center of the conflict
21	Lon	Longitude of conflict center	Second component of the geographic coordinates of center of the conflict
22	Radius	Radius of conflict area	Assuming that all conflict areas are circles, the radius of the conflict area
23	Version	Version number	The current version of the dataset. See Section 2.4.

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[2] COW: Correlates of War project.

3. Conflict Termination Dataset

3.1 Termination Variables.

The concept of conflict termination in the dataset focuses on at least one year of non-activity, or more specifically, when the conflict seizes to be registered in the UCDP/PRIO Armed Conflict Dataset. Non-activity in this sense mean that the criteria with regards to incompatibility, level of organization, and 25 battle-related deaths are not met. Concerning the information about type of termination, the coding is based on observations about the relations between the parties in the last year of activity and the first year of non-activity that follows.

3.1.1 **Conflict terminated** is a dummy variable that records if the conflict the year coded was the last of activity. Since at least one year on non-activity is required, nothing is coded for on-going conflicts. The variable focuses specifically on the conflict level, i.e. fighting with regards to the listed incompatibility. It does not take into account any possible changes with regards to the identity of the belligerents, or periods of inactivity within the respective years. (0= no, 1= yes)

3.1.2 **Type of termination** consists of 6 different types of termination:

1 *Peace Agreement*: Agreement, *or* the first or last in a series of agreements, concerned with resolving or regulating the incompatibility – completely or a central part of – which is signed and/or accepted by all *or* the main parties active in last year of conflict. The agreement is signed either during the last year of active conflict or the first year of inactivity.

2 *Ceasefire Agreement with conflict regulation*: Agreement between all *or* the main parties' active in last year of conflict on the ending of military operations as well as some sort of mutual conflict regulatory steps. The agreement is signed and/or accepted either during the last year of active conflict or the first year of inactivity. In cases when a ceasefire agreement with conflict regulation is immediately followed by a more comprehensive agreement (peace agreement), the latter is considered the main cause of termination.

3 *Ceasefire Agreement*: Agreement between all *or* the main parties' active in last year of conflict on the ending of military operations. The agreement is signed and/or accepted either during the last year of active conflict or the first year of inactivity. In cases when a ceasefire is immediately followed by a more comprehensive agreement (peace agreement, or ceasefire with conflict regulation), the latter is considered the main cause of termination.

4 *Victory*: One side active in the last year of conflict is either defeated or eliminated, or otherwise succumbs to the power of the other through capitulation or public announcement.

5 *No or Low Activity*: The conflict is not reported as active, i.e. does not fulfil the UCDP criteria with regards to fatalities, level of organization, or incompatibility.

6 *Other*: Any other theoretically possible outcome.

The separate elements of the definitions of *peace* and *ceasefire agreements* are operationalized as follows:

Incompatibility**:** the stated generally incompatible positions. The incompatibility, as stated by the parties, must concern government and/or territory.
> *Incompatibility concerning government*: incompatibility concerning the type of political system, the replacement of the central government or the change of its composition.
> *Incompatibility concerning territory*: incompatibility concerning the status of a territory, e.g. the change of the state in control of a certain territory (interstate conflict), secession or autonomy (intrastate conflict).

Concerned with resolving or regulating the incompatibility: to resolve the incompatibility or explicitly suggest and create a specific process for the resolution of the incompatibility. This process must include clear visible steps and not consist of unspecific statements to "continue discussing issues in the future."

Signed and/or accepted by: The conflict parties must be signatories to the agreement or have made public commitments to accept the terms of the agreement.

Party: a government of a state or any opposition organization or alliance of opposition organizations.
> *Government*: the party controlling the capital of the state.
> *Opposition organization*: any non-governmental group of people having announced a name for their group and using armed force.

Mutual conflict regulatory steps: Practical steps with regards to the military forces of the parties intended to prevent the outbreak of renewed fighting. The steps could consist of measures such as the demobilization or withdrawal of forces, security guarantees, and/or acceptance of peace keeping forces, etc.

3.2 Conflict Episode Variables

A Conflict Episode consists of a continuous period of conflict activity. The concept focuses specifically on the conflict level, i.e. fighting with regards to the listed incompatibility. It does not take into account any possible changes with regards to the identity of the belligerents, or periods of inactivity within the respective years.

3.2.1 **Episode SubID** is a count variable which records how many times a conflict has recurred after at least one year of non-activity concerning the same incompatibility since 1946. It does not take into account any possible changes with regards to the identity of the belligerents.

3.2.2 **Episode Start date** is the date, as precise as possible, when the conflict for the first time after at least a year of non-activity reached the level of 25 battle-related deaths in a year. The first time a conflict becomes active; this corresponds to *Start date 2* in the Armed Conflict Data Set. If a conflict has terminated through no or low activity, and recurs with the same parties, this date is by default set to January 1 in the first year of next conflict episode.

3.2.3 **Episode End date** is the date, as precise as possible, of the termination of the use of armed force. For conflict episodes that terminate through no or low activity, this date is by default set to December 31 in the last year of activity.

3.3 Termination specific variables

Some specific information about certain types of termination is provided. These variables are only included for the last active year of conflict.

3.3.1 **Agreement Date** is the date, as precise as possible, when a peace or ceasefire agreement is signed or, if the agreement is unwritten, when publicly announced by the parties. In so-called peace process agreements, the date observed is, if possible, (a) the date of the concluding (last) agreement or (b) the date of the (first) agreement that establishes the process. The variable is coded for the observed terminations of type 1-3.

3.3.2 **Victory Side** is information about which side in the conflict has been victorious. The variable is coded for the observed terminations of type 4.
1. *Victory for Side A in the Conflict*
2. *Victory for Side B in the Conflict*
3. *Other*

3.4 Recurrence variables

This variable offers some information concerning the time period between different conflict episodes. These variables are only included for the last active year of conflict.

3.4.1 **Conflict Terminated 5 years** is a dummy variable recording whether the year of termination is followed by at least five years without activity. (0= no, 1=yes)

3.4.2 **Conflict Terminated 10 years** is a dummy variable recording whether the year of termination is followed by at least ten years without activity. (0= no, 1=yes)

3.4.3 **Recurrence Start date** records the date, as precise as possible, for the start of a new episode in the same conflict (see *3.2 Conflict Episode variables*). It does not take into account any possible changes with regards to the identity of the belligerents.

3.4.4 **Recurrence Dyad** is a dummy variable recording whether the specific parties in the last active year of the conflict episode are active in any later conflict episode. (0= no, 1=yes)

3.5 *Missing Data Problems*

The dataset does not include any missing data codes. This should not lead anyone to assume that there are no such problems. A number of conflicts have been recorded as possible in accordance with the criteria for inclusion. Similarly, additional years might have been listed for those conflicts that are included, although so far UCDP have failed to find sufficient evidence for inclusion. These observations are currently coded as absence of conflict.

The data coders have made a decision whether there was an active conflict according to the definition for all countries for all years they are independent after 1945. This does not mean there are no uncertainties regarding the coding. For a discussion of unclear cases in 2004, see Appendix 2 in Harbom, Lotta & Peter Wallensteen, 2005. "Armed Conflict and Its International Dimensions, 1946-2004." *Journal of Peace Research* 42(5): 623-635.