# Activity 5: Switch

We can create crosswalks to map data generated with one metadata schema to another. We can also create crosswalks to map controlled vocabulary values.

Here, you’ll figure out how you can map the event types used in two different incident databases: SCAD (the Social Conflict Analysis Database created by the Climate Change and African Political Stability—CCAPS—research group) and ACLED (the Armed Conflict Location and Event Database).

## SCAD event types

The following table lists the event types used in SCAD.

| **Event Type Name** | **Definition** |
| --- | --- |
| Organized Demonstration | Distinct, continuous, and largely peaceful action directed toward members of a distinct “other” group or government authorities. In this event, clear leadership or can be identified. |
| Spontaneous Demonstration | Distinct, continuous, and largely peaceful action directed toward members of a distinct “other” group or government authorities. In this event, clear leadership or organization cannotbe identified. |
| Organized Violent Riot | Distinct, continuous and violent action directed toward members of a distinct “other” group or government authorities. The participants intend to cause physical injury and/or property damage. In this event, clear leadership or organization(s) can be identified. |
| Spontaneous Violent Riot | Distinct, continuous and violent action directed toward members of a distinct “other” group or government authorities. The participants intend to cause physical injury and/or property damage. In this event, clear leadership or organization(s) cannot be identified. |
| General Strike | Members of an organization or union engage in a total abandonment of workplaces and public facilities. |
| Limited Strike | Members of an organization or union engage in the abandonment of workplaces in limited sectors or industries. |
| Pro-Government Violence (Repression) | Distinct violent event waged primarily by government authorities, or by groups acting in explicit support of government authority, targeting individual, or “collective individual,” members of an alleged opposition group or movement. Note that this event is initiated by the government or pro-government actors. |
| Anti-Government Violence | Distinct violent event waged primarily by a nonstate group against government authorities or symbols of government authorities (e.g., transportation or other infrastructures). As distinguished from riots, the antigovernment actor must have a semi-permanent or permanent militant wing or organization. |
| Extra-government Violence | Distinct violent event waged primarily by a non-state group targeting individual, or “collective individual,”members of an alleged oppositional group or movement. As distinguished from riots, at least one actor must have a semi-permanent or permanent militant wing or organization. Government authorities are not listed as actors or targets. |
| Intra-government Violence | Distinct violent event between two armed factions associated with different elements within the government. These include violence between two legally constituted armed units (e.g. clashes between police and military) or between unofficial militias associated with particular governmental leaders. This code includes events such as military coups. |

## ACLED event types

The following table lists the event types used in ACLED.

| **Event Type Name** | **Definition** |
| --- | --- |
| Battle-No change of territory | A battle between two violent armed groups where control of the contested location does not change. This is the correct event type if the government controls an area, fights with rebels and wins; if rebels control a location and maintain control after fighting with government forces; or if two militia groups are fighting.These battles are the most common activity and take place across a range of actors, including rebels, militias, and government forces, communal groups |
| Battle-Non-state actor overtakes territory | A battle where non-state actors win control of location. If, after fighting with another force, a non- state group acquires control , or if two non-state groups fight and the group that did not begin with control acquires it, this is the correct code. There are few cases where opposition groups other than rebels acquire territory. |
| Battle-Government regains territory | A battle in which the government regains control of a location. This event type is used solely for government re-acquisition of control. A small number of events of this type include militias operating on behalf of the government to regain territory outside of areas of a government’s direct control (for example, proxy militias in Somalia which hold territory independently but are allied with the Federal Government). |
| Headquarters or base established | A non-state group establishes a base or headquarters. This event is non-violent, and coded when a permanent or semi-permanent base is established. |
| Non-violent activity by a conflict actor | This event records activity by rebel groups/militia/governments that does not involve active fighting but is within the context of the war/dispute. For example: recruitment drives, incursions or ralliesqualify for inclusion. It also records the location and date of peace talks and arrests of high-ranking officials. |
| Riots/Protests | A protest describes a non-violent, group public demonstration, often against a government institution. Rioting is a violent form of demonstration. |
| Violence against civilians | Violence against civilians occurs when any armed/violent group attacks civilians.By definition, civilians are unarmed and not engaged in political violence. Rebels, governments, militias, rioters can all commit violence against civilians. |
| Non-violent transfer of territory | This event describes situations in which rebels or governments acquire control of a location without engaging in a violent act. |
| Remote violence | Remote violence refers to events in which the tool for engaging in conflict did not require the physical presence of the perpetrator. Remote violence notes that the main characteristic of an event is that a spatially removed group determines the time, place and victims of the attack. These include bombings, IED attacks, mortar and missile attacks, etc. Remote violence can be waged on both armed agents (e.g. an active rebel group; a military garrison) andcivilians (e.g. a roadside bombing). |

## Mapping ACLED types to SCAD types

Use the following table to create a crosswalk for the ACLED and SCAD event type vocabularies.

Map ACLED types to their closest SCAD equivalent, and vice versa.

If an ACLED event type *cannot* be mapped to a SCAD type, indicate that the type should be blank.

| **ACLED Event Type Name** | **SCAD Type** |
| --- | --- |
| Battle-No change of territory |  |
| Battle-Non-state actor overtakes territory |  |
| Battle-Government regains territory |  |
| Headquarters or base established |  |
| Non-violent activity by a conflict actor |  |
| Riots/Protests |  |
| Violence against civilians |  |
| Non-violent transfer of territory |  |
| Remote violence |  |

| **SCAD Event Type Name** | **ACLED Type** |
| --- | --- |
| Organized Demonstration |  |
| Spontaneous Demonstration |  |
| Organized Violent Riot |  |
| Spontaneous Violent Riot |  |
| General Strike |  |
| Limited Strike |  |
| Pro-Government Violence (Repression) |  |
| Anti-Government Violence |  |
| Extra-government Violence |  |
| Intra-government Violence |  |

## Use the crosswalk to map from one vocabulary to another

Use the following table to apply your crosswalk to these incidents.

How does your crosswalk work? Are your results satisfactory?

| **Incident Description** | **Originating Database** | **ACLED Event Type** | **SCAD Event Type** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Four armed militants were arrested after a fire exchange with an armed group entrenched in a house in the Ennasim district in Borj Louzir, the governorate of Ariana. | ACLED | Battle no change of territory. |  |
| One is dead and several others injured in a clash between student protesters of a security guards at their university. The clash began after the demonstrators had gathered to protest an alleged assault of a fellow students at the hands of security personnel the previous day. The school was later closed indefinitely due to the violence. | ACLED | Riots/protests |  |
| A bomb exploded outside a police station in Raml wounding one civilian. | ACLED | Remote violence |  |
| Suspected al Shabaab fighters attacked Habar Gidir militias in Ceel-Wareegow Village (17km SW of Marka) in the morning of 18/09. The suspected al Shabaab fighters took over control of the village after a brief clash but vacated later. Two combatants were reportedly killed and three others injured in the clash. | ACLED | Battle-Non-state actor overtakes territory |  |
| African nationals expelled from Spain violently protest their detention conditions. | SCAD |  | Spontaneous violent riot. |
| Demonstrators show support for military coup, claiming the military is the sole protector of democracy. | SCAD |  | Spontaneous demonstration. |
| Rival factions of the separatist Casamance movement of Senegal fight inside the border of Guinea-Bissau. Rebel factions accuse Guinea- Bissau military of supporting rivals. | SCAD |  | Intra-government violence. |
| Members of Ansar Dine continued to attack and destroy historic Islamic tombs, this time destroying three in the neighborhood of Kabara. | SCAD |  | Organized violent riot. |
| Teachers strike demanding back pay, food incentives, better working conditions and transportation allowances. | SCAD |  | Limited strike. |