**DR Congo**

According to HRW: Over 100 armed groups are active in eastern Congo, and the imposition of martial law has facilitated abuses by government security forces. Armed groups and often abusive security forces continue to carry out massacres, abductions, rape and sexual violence, recruitment of children, and other attacks on civilians with near total impunity. (<https://www.hrw.org/africa/democratic-republic-congo>)

The vast country is rich in natural resources, a fact that has prolonged some of the conflicts. Since 1989, DR Congo (Zaire) has experienced the intrastate, non-state and one-sided categories of organized violence, as defined by UCDP. The violence in DR Congo (Zaire) leveled out in 2021, with a slight decline in the fatality numbers for state-based and non-state violence neutralized by a rise in the number of fatalities in one-sided violence. Most violence was reported in the **three provinces of Ituri, Nord Kivu and Sud Kivu**. All three provinces are found in the eastern parts of the country.

The persistent high level of state-based violence on Congolese territory continued in 2021. The country continued to be the battleground for both domestic opposition and opposition groups from neighbouring countries. Uganda and DR Congo launched a **joint offensive** against IS in November 2021. IS in DR Congo often referred to as the Ugandan rebel group ADF. The group had sworn allegiance to IS in 2019 and hence became part of the Central African wilayat under the Islamic State. The conflict with IS/ADF remained at a similar high level as in 2020, only 2014 had recorded a higher level of state-based violence with the group. The level of violence in main internal armed conflict, DR Congo (Zaire): Government continued to escalate in 2021. The conflict escalated in all dyads of the DR Congo (Zaire): Government conflict. In Nord Kivu province, the government mainly clashed with APCLS and CMC and the conflict with two more actors M23 and RNL were reactivated. Further south in Sud Kivu there was a slight rise in the CNPSC conflict. The two territorial conflicts DR Congo (Zaire): Katanga and DR Congo (Zaire): Kongo Kingdom terminated again in 2021. Similarly, the Rwanda: Government and Burundi: Government conflicts terminated on Congolese soil in the year (UCDP).

Information in the current UCDP datasets:

* Numbers of conflicts: 3169 in 2010-2020.
* Dates and lengths
* Both sides of actors (which rebel groups?)
* Sub-national locations (which provinces?)
* Numbers of deaths

Want to know more on :

* What are the rebel groups’ characteristics? – brief introduction on UCDP websites
* Local media:

**Reporters without Borders (RSF):**

**[https://rsf.org/en/country/democratic-republic-congo]**

Media Landscape: Media landscape

Sub-Saharan Africa’s largest country, the DRC has more than 7,000 professional journalists, 540 newspapers (of which only about 15 are published regularly), 177 TV channels, 61 radio stations and 36 online media. Only the state radio and TV broadcaster Radio Télévision nationale congolaise (RTNC) and the UN’s Radio Okapi reach the entire country. The print media are almost non-existent outside the capital, Kinshasa. News websites such as Actualité.cd and 7sur7.cd are developing fast.

Political context

The Congolese media landscape is marked by the presence of politicians who own or launch media outlets intended to promote their influence and rise to power. The national radio and TV broadcaster is a state media outlet that lacks independence. It is very common for local authorities to exert pressure on the journalists and media outlets present in their province.

**Media Landscapes:**

**News sources:**

Sources contained in **Lexis Nexis**:

* Agence congolaise de presse (French)
* Intellinews – DR Congo Today/Congo Today
* Digital Congo

**Radio Okapi website**:

Note that the articles in the categories (since year 2010) below have some overlaps:

* Articles from the category "News - Security" (pages 1- 1346) (https://www-radiookapi-net.translate.goog/securite?page=1345&\_x\_tr\_sl=fr&\_x\_tr\_tl=en&\_x\_tr\_hl=en&\_x\_tr\_pto=sc)
* Articles from the category “Conflict” (pages 1- 23) (<https://www-radiookapi-net.translate.goog/mot-cle/conflit?_x_tr_sl=fr&_x_tr_tl=en&_x_tr_hl=en&_x_tr_pto=sc>)
* Articles from the category “Politics” (pages 1 – 1309) (https://www-radiookapi-net.translate.goog/politique?\_x\_tr\_sl=fr&\_x\_tr\_tl=en&\_x\_tr\_hl=en&\_x\_tr\_pto=sc)

**RTNC** website:

* Cateogry Security: <https://rtnc.cd/category/securite/>
  + Problem: have to click “more posts”
  + Impossible to copy/paste
* Other relevant categories: Politique, Provinces

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Data sets on conflicts:

### **UCDP Georeferenced Event Dataset (GED) Global version 22.1**

This dataset is UCDP's most disaggregated dataset, covering individual events of organized violence (phenomena of lethal violence occurring at a given time and place). These events are sufficiently fine-grained to be geo-coded down to the level of individual villages, with temporal durations disaggregated to single, individual days. (https://ucdp.uu.se/downloads/index.html#ged\_global)

**3169 events in 2010-2020**

**Filter: dyad-name limited to Government of DR Congo (Zaire) -- -🡪 1055 events**

**Death threshold: >1 🡪 1055 events**

**Death threshold: > 25 (estimate, column best) 🡪 71 events**

### **UCDP/PRIO Armed Conflict Dataset version 22.1**

A conflict-year dataset with information on armed conflict where at least one party is the government of a state in the time period 1946-2021.

**24 events in 2010-2020 (also with other governments), but no geo-coded information**

**Test case:**

1. ID (339106) 2020-04-24: DRC – BDK, Kinshasa province
   1. No news report
2. ID (336336) 2020-03-24: DRC – IS, Nord Kivu province
   1. <https://www.radiookapi.net/2020/03/24/actualite/securite/beni-62-rebelles-des-adf-et-14-militaires-des-fardc-tues-en-4-jours>
   2. Beni : 62 rebelles des ADF et 14 militaires des FARDC tués en 4 jours
   3. 2020-03-24 reported
3. ID (2401166) 2017-08-07: DRC -- BDK, Kinshasa province
   1. https://www.radiookapi.net/2017/08/10/actualite/securite/violences-kinshasa-la-police-presente-une-trentaine-de-presumes
   2. Violence in Kinshasa: the police present around thirty alleged bandits
   3. 2017-08-09 reported
   4. Kinshasa: big city

Next Question: How to define contagious events?

Little code book:

1. By time? (within 1 month): death threshold set back to 0 (file/tab name: DRC events)
2. By province?
   * 1. Same or neighboring cities (cloest proximity): 1;
     2. other cities in the same province: 2;
     3. contagious province: 3;
     4. others/the whole country: 4
   1. Source 1 (city level): <https://www.researchgate.net/figure/Map-of-administrative-units-for-DRC_fig2_302959891>
   2. Source 2 (province level): https://ontheworldmap.com/democratic-republic-of-the-congo/
3. By actor?
   * 1. same identified actor/ethnic group: 1
     2. others: 0
4. By nature of the event?
   * 1. Related to the same issue: 1
     2. Not related: 0

If one source event (xxx) has many contagious events, add additional rows in filtered events. Change the id of the rows to “xxx-01”, “xxx-02”

Example coding:

c: 1; related to ID (2401166)

<https://www.radiookapi.net/2017/08/12/actualite/securite/nord-kivu-10-policiers-tues-par-des-miliciens-kitshanga-entre-2016-et>; North Kivu: 10 police officers killed by militiamen in Kitshanga between 2016 and 2017; 2017-08-12

Workflows:

1. Scrape: Articles from the category "News - Security" (pages 1- 1346) (<https://www-radiookapi-net.translate.goog/mot-cle/securite?_x_tr_sl=fr&_x_tr_tl=en&_x_tr_hl=en&_x_tr_pto=sc>)

We can tell from each article from their website “/actualite/securite/”

The results are in French.

1. Independent variable: 1/0 (news reporting)
2. Dependent variable: coding rule above

Next week:

Steps 1-2

1. Translate
2. Filter to get IV