

The Plan

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Abstract

A plan for how to restart after parental leave and eventually finish the PhD.

‘Plans are worthless, but planning is everything.’ — Dwight D. Eisenhower.

Keywords— Productivity, goals, plan

1 Main Paper on HSE's and conflict

1.1 Literature

- ☐ The State and violence. General theories. Along the lines of Pinker (2012) and Tilly (1990). With increasing state penetration comes an increasing monopoly on violence (Tilly 1990) and with this, certain cultural/psychosocial effects that translate into a generally more peaceful citizenry.
- ☐ Internal organized (as opposed to communal) violence.
- ☐ How old institutions affect current institutions (formal and non-formal or networks).

1.2 Theory

- ☐ As predicted by the literature.
- ☐ Old institutions represent a measure of "governing capacity" that has hitherto been modestly explored. The more historical state presence the more people are used to and accept state intervention.

The state monopoly on violence should also be more consolidated. The degree of consolidation would probably vary with the degree of continuity between the historical state and the present state, but it should be a positive relationship in both cases.

The more historical state presence, the more time the cultural or psychosocial effects that Pinker (2012) hypothesize have to affect the people in the area.

1.3 Hypothesis

H_1 : *Grid cells with higher levels of historical state presence experience less conflict.*

1.4 Variables

- ☐ Theoretical and/or methodological grounding.
- ☐ Finding measures (data).
- ☐ Incorporate with the Geo-ISD data.
- ☐ Geography
 - ☐ "Ruggedness", mountains or elevation.

Provides shelter for rebels and prevents "exit-options" for subjects, to the benefit of stationary bandits (states).

What is more, ruggedness could affect (negatively) the chances that cartographers and (to a lesser extent) historians have place a state there.
 - ☐ Rivers. Provide natural boundaries useful for state building. Navigable rivers bind cities together (again useful for state building). Rivers could often be navigated by explorers, thus increasing the likelihood that maps include a state there.
 - ☐ Jungle.
- ☐ Distance from X.
 - ☐ Capital.
 - ☐ Coast.
 - ☐ Europe.
- ☐ Exposure to slave trade.
- ☐ Population.
- ☐ Resources.
 - ☐ Gold.
 - ☐ Silver.

- ☐ Copper.
- ☐ Iron.
- ☐ Spatial interdependence.
- ☐ Past Conflict.
- ☐ Regional and country-fixed effects.

1.5 Data

- ☐ How the old maps were made.
- ☐ Compare old maps to new. Do they agree on the core areas?
- ☐ Benefits of the Geo-ISD.
- ☐ Drawbacks.
- ☐ Alternative measures.

1.6 Analysis

- ☐ Cross section to avoid post-treatment bias.
- ☐ Alternative models.

2 Communal violence

- ☐ Talk to Ole Magnus.

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References

Pinker, S. (2012), *The better angels of our nature: Why violence has declined*, Penguin UK, London.

Tilly, C. (1990), *Coercion, Capital, and European States, A.D. 990-1990*, Studies in Social Discontinuity, Basil Blackwell, Cambridge, Mass.

5 Appendix