

WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN HEALTH GOVERNANCE?

Evidence from 2,078 Resolutions (1946 - 2023)

Rennan Pastich Loureiro [rennan.loureiro@ufpe.br]

Abstract

This study combines network analysis and text mining to explore the citation network structure and thematic content of health-related resolutions issued by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) between 1946 and 2023. Utilizing structural topic modeling and keyword selection, 2,078 specific health resolutions were extracted from a total of 19,281 UNGA resolutions to identify relevant documents and map the main discussions on health. A cluster detection algorithm was then applied to analyze the thematic distribution. Finally, a qualitative analysis was conducted, enriched by techniques such as word clouds, with the aim of examining organization and composition. The findings revealed a predominance of themes such as the rights of people with disabilities, sustainable development, and humanitarian aid in Syria. It was also found that clusters with a larger volume of resolutions tend to address broader themes like sustainable development and human rights, while smaller clusters focus on more specific health issues, including the social impacts of disability and the effects of radiation on population health. The results of this research have broadened the understanding of the importance of network analysis approaches for a better grasp of priorities and trends in health-related discussions within international bodies in the 21st century. Additionally, the identification of thematic patterns in the UNGA can contribute to studies on agenda-setting, framing, and decision-making in international health regimes as a whole.

Keywords: UN; network analysis; health governance; text mining; sustainable development; people with disabilities; international regimes

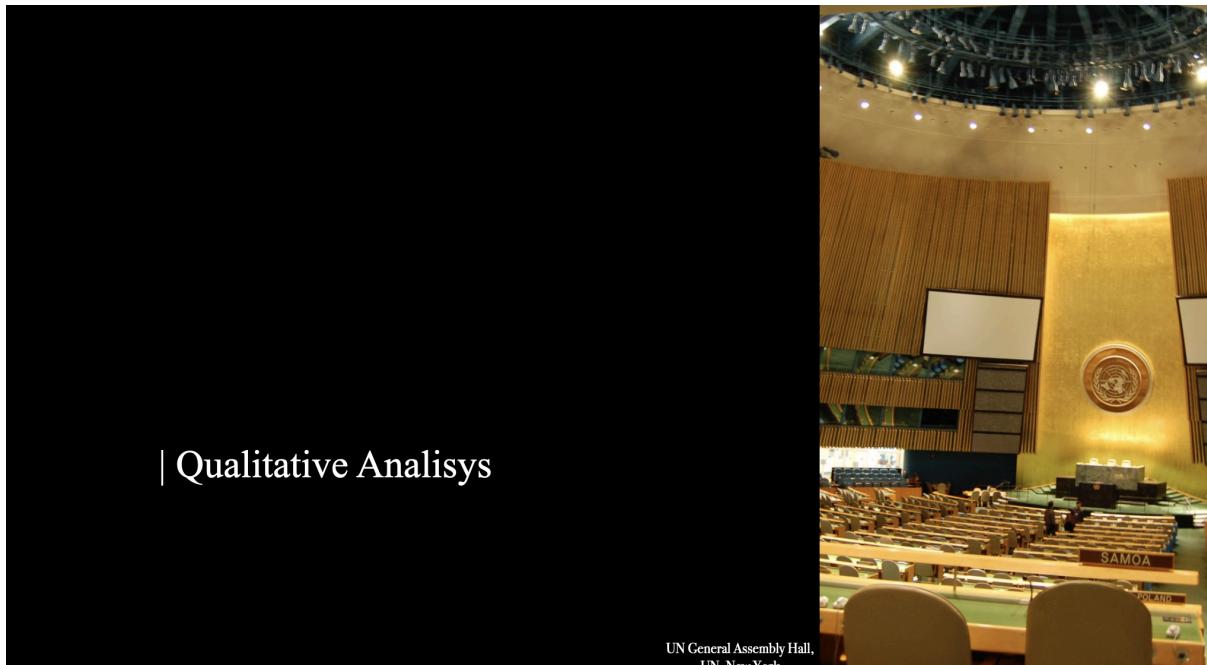
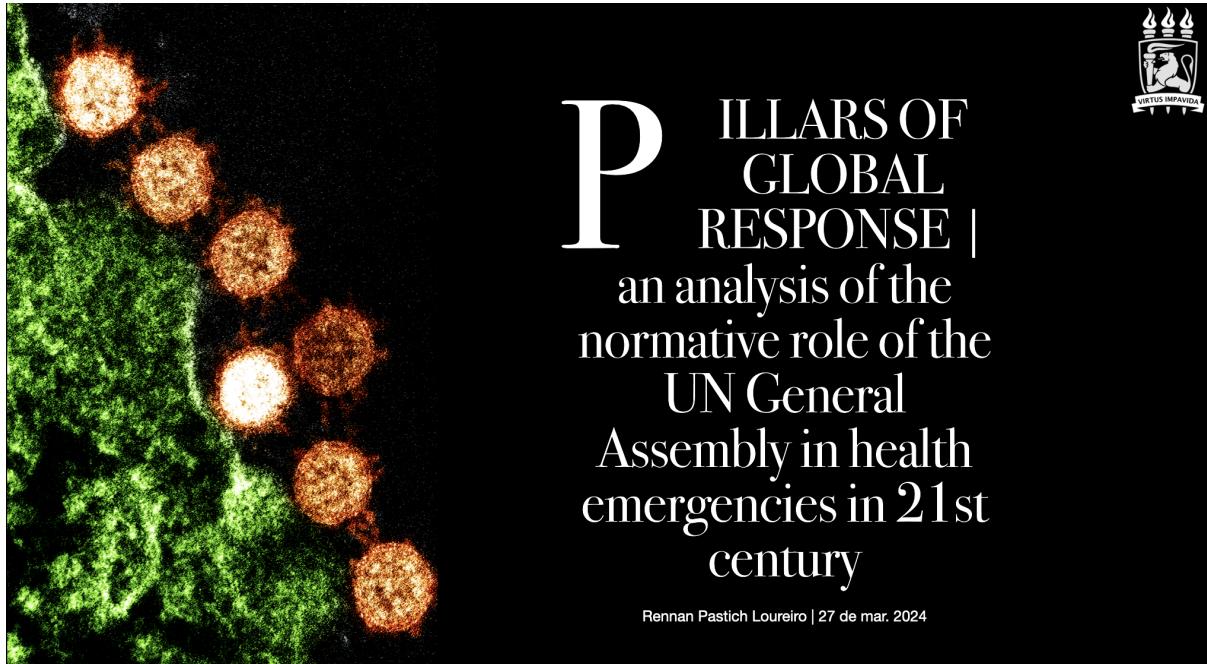
Shared OSF repository (i'm still working on it)

https://osf.io/k7z2m/?view_only=d1b19c7a940e4cb082ff5a2defb0d183

Link to the github repository

https://github.com/RennanPL/health_regimes_graph

Slides for presenting qualitative analysis to my professor advisor



"healthcare", "disease", "medicine", "epidemic", "pandemic", "world health organization",
"immunodeficiency", "pharmaceutical", "medical", "health insurance"

Avoid general keywords like "health"

| Chosen keywords

identificador	has_keyword	membresia_louvain	total_has_keyword
es-10/4	0	15	4
es-10/5	0	15	4
es-10/6	0	15	4
es-10/7	0	15	4
es-10/8	0	23	0
es-10/9	0	15	4
es-10/10	1	24	1
es-10/11	1	25	1
es-10/12	0	26	0
es-10/13	0	27	587
es-10/14	0	27	587
es-10/15	0	27	587
es-10/16	1	28	1
es-10/17	0	27	587
es-10/18	1	27	587

Relation resolution | presence of keyword | cluster | total resolutions with
has_keyword within the cluster

	membresia_louvain	count_has_keyword_1
	<dbl>	<int>
1	27	587
2	162	468
3	20	104
4	1502	69
5	31	63
6	81	57
7	90	55
8	1024	55
9	208	49
10	793	37
11	1394	34
12	151	33
13	141	24
14	604	22
15	1272	21
16	1579	21
17	30	20
18	1792	18
19	1346	16
20	10	15

Clusters with a greater number of keywords

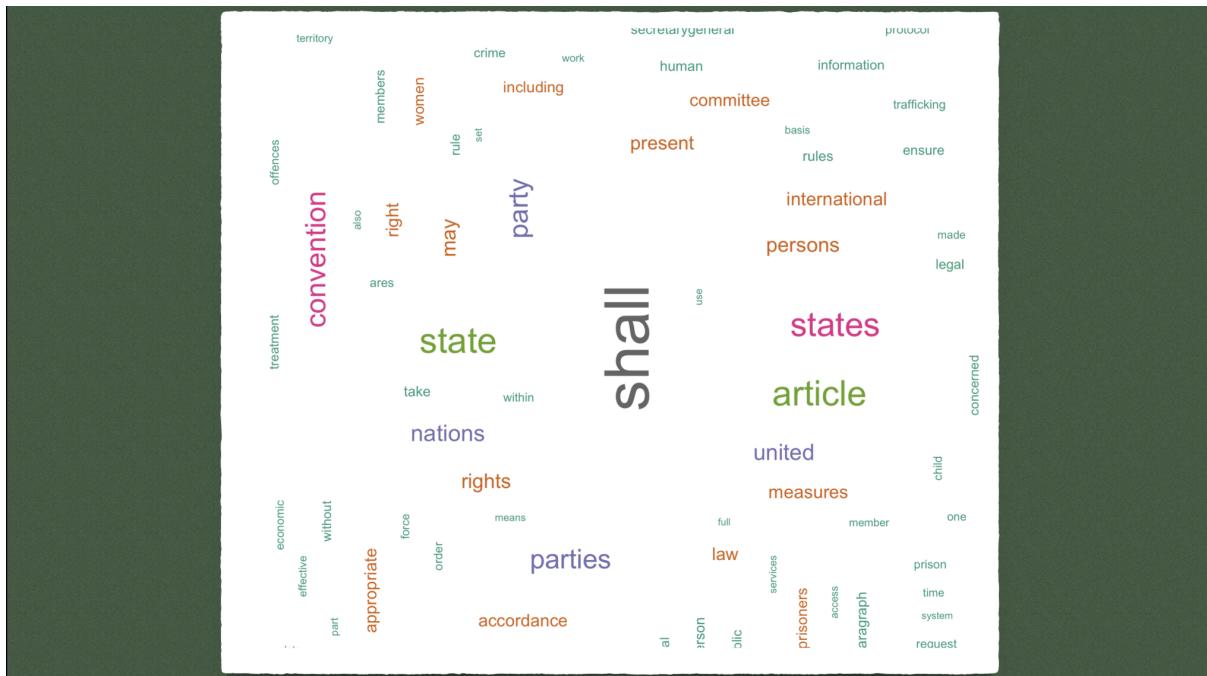
	identificador	centralidade
1	217 a (iii)	992
2	44/25	520
3	2200 a (xxi)	394
4	34/180	390
5	2106 a (xx)	255
6	55/25	234
7	2625 (xxv)	192
8	39/46	159
9	61/106	157
10	58/4	127
11	45/158	126
12	41/128	109
13	es-10/15	106
14	61/295	102
15	64/293	77
16	70/175	76
17	58/292	73
18	61/177	73
19	65/229	73
20	67/19	70

Top 20 most central resolutions in cluster 27

| The cluster 27

Cluster with the highest number of keywords
(587)

	identificador	centralidade
1	217 a (iii)	992
2	44/25	520
3	2200 a (xxi)	394
4	34/180	390
5	2106 a (xx)	255
6	55/25	234
7	2625 (xxv)	192
8	39/46	159
9	61/106	157
10	58/4	127
11	45/158	126
12	41/128	109
13	es-10/15	106
14	61/295	102
15	64/293	77
16	70/175	76
17	58/292	73
18	61/177	73
19	65/229	73
20	67/19	70



| O cluster 27

- ◆ The word cloud analysis suggests that the documents in cluster 27 are strongly linked to legal and institutional terms.
 - ◆ The word "convention" together with "rights", "human" and others may suggest a direct relationship with human rights
 - ◆ The presence of words like "law", "parties" and "measures" reinforces the idea that the content is related to legal agreements or measures.

| The cluster 27

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217 (III). International Bill of Human Rights

A

UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

PREAMBLE

Whereas recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world;

Whereas disregard and contempt for human rights have resulted in barbarous acts which have outraged the conscience of mankind, and the advent of a world in which man may live with greater freedom, may now be no more than a dream;

Whereas disregard and contempt for human rights have resulted in barbarous acts which have outraged the conscience of mankind, and the advent of a world in which man may live with greater freedom, may now be no more than a dream;

Whereas it is essential to have recourse to international law to protect the individual against the abuse of power by those who hold public office;

Whereas it is essential to have recourse to international law to protect the individual against the abuse of power by those who hold public office;

2200 (XXI). International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

A

The General Assembly,
Considering that one of the purposes of the United Nations, as stated in Articles 1 and 55 of the Charter, is to promote universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion;

Considering that in Article 56 of the Charter all Members of the United Nations have pledged themselves to take joint and separate action in co-operation with the Organization for the achievement of that purpose;

Recalling the proclamation by the General Assembly on 10 December 1948 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as a common standard of achievement for all peoples and all nations;

Having considered since its ninth session the draft International Covenants on Human Rights prepared by the Commission on Human Rights and transmitted to it by Economic and Social Council resolution 545 B (XVIII) of 20 July 1954, and having consulted the

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61/295. United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

The General Assembly,
Taking note of the recommendation of the Human Rights Council contained in its resolution 1/2 of 29 June 2006,⁶ by which the Council adopted the text of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,

Recalling its resolution 61/178 of 20 December 2006, by which it decided to defer consideration of and action on the Declaration to allow time for further consultations thereon, and also decided to conclude its consideration before the end of the sixty-first session of the General Assembly;

Adopts the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as contained in the annex to the present resolution.

*107th plenary meeting
13 September 2007*

1. Indigenous individuals and peoples have the right to enjoy fully all rights established under applicable international and domestic labour law.

2. States shall in consultation and cooperation with indigenous peoples take specific measures to protect indigenous children from economic exploitation and from performing any work that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with the child's education, or to be harmful to the child's health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development, taking into account their special vulnerability and the importance of education for their empowerment.

3. Indigenous individuals have the right not to be subjected to any discriminatory conditions of labour and, inter alia, employment or salary.

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◆ New cluster analysis

◆ Now, instead of returning the clusters with the highest absolute numbers of resolutions with the keywords, I asked them to return those with the highest proportion of resolutions with keywords in relation to the total number of resolutions.

```
# AJUSTE NO CÓDIGO PARA QUE ELE ME DEVOLVA OS CLUSTERS QUE POSSUEM UMA QUANTIDADE RELATIVA MAIOR DE RESOLUÇÕES DE SAÚDE
# Adicionando uma coluna com a contagem total de vértices por cluster
total_vertices_per_cluster <- vertices_df %>%
  group_by(membresia_louvain) %>%
  summarise(total_vertices = n(), .groups = 'drop')

# Calculando a proporção de vértices com hss_keyword=1 por cluster
proporcões_keyword_por_cluster <- top_clusters_keyword_count %>%
  left_join(total_vertices_per_cluster, by = "membresia_louvain") %>%
  mutate(proportion = count.hss_keyword_1 / total_vertices) %>%
  arrange(desc(proportion)) %>%
  select(membresia_louvain, proportion)
```

$$\text{proporção de palavras-chave} = \frac{\text{Total de vértices com hss_keyword=1 no cluster}}{\text{Total de vértices no cluster}}$$