

UN-voting

Zahid Asghar

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United Nations General Assembly Voting Data Analysis

Explore the data

You can download this data¹

```
library(ggplot2)
library(unvotes)
library(dplyr)
library(lubridate)
library(ggthemes)
library(tidyr)
library(kableExtra)
library(knitr)
library(DT)
```

There are three files. `un_votes`, `un_roll_calls` and `un-issues`. Details of these files can be obtained from the following command.

```
glimpse(un_votes)
```

```
## Rows: 869,937
## Columns: 4
## $ rcid      <dbl> 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, ~
## $ country   <chr> "United States", "Canada", "Cuba", "Haiti", "Dominican Re~
## $ country_code <chr> "US", "CA", "CU", "HT", "DO", "MX", "GT", "HN", "SV", "NI~
## $ vote      <fct> yes, no, yes, yes, yes, yes, yes, yes, yes, yes, yes, yes, yes~
```

```
glimpse(un_roll_calls)
```

```
## Rows: 6,202
## Columns: 9
## $ rcid      <int> 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18,~
## $ session   <dbl> 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1,~
## $ importantvote <int> 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,~
## $ date      <date> 1946-01-01, 1946-01-02, 1946-01-04, 1946-01-04, 1946-01~
## $ unres     <chr> "R/1/66", "R/1/79", "R/1/98", "R/1/107", "R/1/295", "R/1~
## $ amend     <int> 1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1,~
## $ para      <int> 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,~
## $ short     <chr> "AMENDMENTS, RULES OF PROCEDURE", "SECURITY COUNCIL ELEC~
## $ descr     <chr> "TO ADOPT A CUBAN AMENDMENT TO THE UK PROPOSAL REFERRING~
```

¹Erik Voeten “Data and Analyses of Voting in the UN General Assembly” Routledge Handbook of International Organization, edited by Bob Reinalda (published May 27, 2013)

rcid	country	country_code	vote
3	United States	US	yes
3	Canada	CA	no
3	Cuba	CU	yes
3	Haiti	HT	yes
3	Dominican Republic	DO	yes
3	Mexico	MX	yes
3	Guatemala	GT	yes
3	Honduras	HN	yes
3	El Salvador	SV	yes
3	Nicaragua	NI	yes

rcid	session	importantvote	date	unres	amend	para	short
3	1	0	1946-01-01	R/1/66	1	0	AMENDMENTS, RULES OF PROCEDURE
4	1	0	1946-01-02	R/1/79	0	0	SECURITY COUNCIL ELECTIONS
5	1	0	1946-01-04	R/1/98	0	0	VOTING PROCEDURE
6	1	0	1946-01-04	R/1/107	0	0	DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS
7	1	0	1946-01-02	R/1/295	1	0	GENERAL ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS
8	1	0	1946-01-05	R/1/297	1	0	ECOSOC POWERS
9	1	0	1946-02-05	R/1/329	0	0	POST-WAR RECONSTRUCTION
10	1	0	1946-02-05	R/1/361	1	1	U.N. MEMBERS, RELATIONS WITH SPAIN
11	1	0	1946-02-05	R/1/376	0	0	TRUSTEESHIP AMENDMENTS
12	1	0	1946-02-06	R/1/394	1	1	COUNCIL MEMBER TERM LENGTH

```
glimpse(un_roll_call_issues)
```

```
## Rows: 5,745
## Columns: 3
## $ rcid      <int> 77, 9001, 9002, 9003, 9004, 9005, 9006, 128, 129, 130, 131, ~
## $ short_name <chr> "me", "me", "me", "me", "me", "me", "me", "me", "me", "me", ~
## $ issue      <fct> Palestinian conflict, Palestinian conflict, Palestinian con~
```

The first file `un_vote` contains information on history of each country's vote. Second file is about each country roll call including date, un resolution and description. Finally, the third file about important issues for voting. Six main issues listed are :

“Palestinian conflict”, “Nuclear weapons and nuclear material”, “Arms control and disarmament”, “Human rights”, “Colonialism” and “Economic development”.

First 10 rows of each three data sets are displayed as follows;

un_votes

```
un_votes[1:10,] %>%kable()%>%
  kable_styling(bootstrap_options = "striped", full_width = F)
```

un_roll_calls

```
un_roll_calls[1:10,] %>%kable()%>%
  kable_styling(bootstrap_options = "striped", full_width = F)
```

rcid	short_name	issue
77	me	Palestinian conflict
9001	me	Palestinian conflict
9002	me	Palestinian conflict
9003	me	Palestinian conflict
9004	me	Palestinian conflict
9005	me	Palestinian conflict
9006	me	Palestinian conflict
128	me	Palestinian conflict
129	me	Palestinian conflict
130	me	Palestinian conflict

issue	n
Arms control and disarmament	1092
Palestinian conflict	1061
Human rights	1015
Colonialism	957
Nuclear weapons and nuclear material	855
Economic development	765

un_roll_call_issues

```
un_roll_call_issues[1:10,] %>%kable()%>%
  kable_styling(bootstrap_options = "striped", full_width = F)
```

First, which issue(issues) have been voted the most?

```
un_roll_call_issues %>% count(issue, sort=TRUE)%>%kable()%>%
  kable_styling(bootstrap_options = "striped", full_width = F)
```

How often a country voted “yes” from 1946 to 2015?

```
by_country <- un_votes %>% group_by(country) %>% summarize(votes = n(),
  pct_yes = mean(vote == 'yes'))
by_country[1:10,]%>%kable()%>%
  kable_styling(bootstrap_options = "striped", full_width = F)
```

country	votes	pct_yes
Afghanistan	5604	0.8531406
Albania	4237	0.7097003
Algeria	5289	0.8822084
Andorra	2323	0.6625054
Angola	3739	0.9189623
Antigua & Barbuda	3344	0.9162679
Argentina	6132	0.7910959
Armenia	2361	0.7581533
Australia	6166	0.5619526
Austria	5709	0.6451217

Percentage yes vote high countries from 1946 to 2015

```
datatable(arrange(by_country, desc(pct_yes)))
```

Show entries Search:

	country	votes	pct_yes
1	Seychelles	2109	0.976766239924135
2	São Tomé & Príncipe	2686	0.962025316455696
3	Cape Verde	3941	0.954580055823395
4	Timor-Leste	1387	0.951694304253785
5	Guinea-Bissau	3595	0.951043115438108
6	Djibouti	4073	0.94009329732384
7	Mozambique	4152	0.937861271676301
8	Suriname	4049	0.9350456902939
9	Maldives	4644	0.932385874246339
10	Belize	3115	0.932263242375602

Showing 1 to 10 of 200 entries Previous 2 3 4 5 ... 20 Next

Percentage yes vote high countries and years

```
join1 <- un_votes %>% inner_join(un_roll_calls, by = 'rcid')
by_country_year <- join1 %>% group_by(country, year=year(date)) %>% summarise(votes=n(), pct_yes = mean(votes/total_votes))

## `summarise()` has grouped output by 'country'. You can override using the
## `.groups` argument.

datatable(arrange(by_country_year, desc(pct_yes)))
```

Show entries

Search:

	country	year	votes	pct_yes
1	Afghanistan	2002	52	1
2	Afghanistan	2004	67	1
3	Albania	1990	83	1
4	Angola	1976	4	1
5	Angola	1977	50	1
6	Antigua & Barbuda	2019	85	1
7	Azerbaijan	2013	56	1
8	Bahrain	1990	86	1
9	Bahrain	1991	73	1
10	Bahrain	1992	70	1

Showing 1 to 10 of 10,461 entries

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Percentage yes vote low countries and years

```
datatable(by_country_year[order(by_country_year$pct_yes),])
```

Show entries

Search:

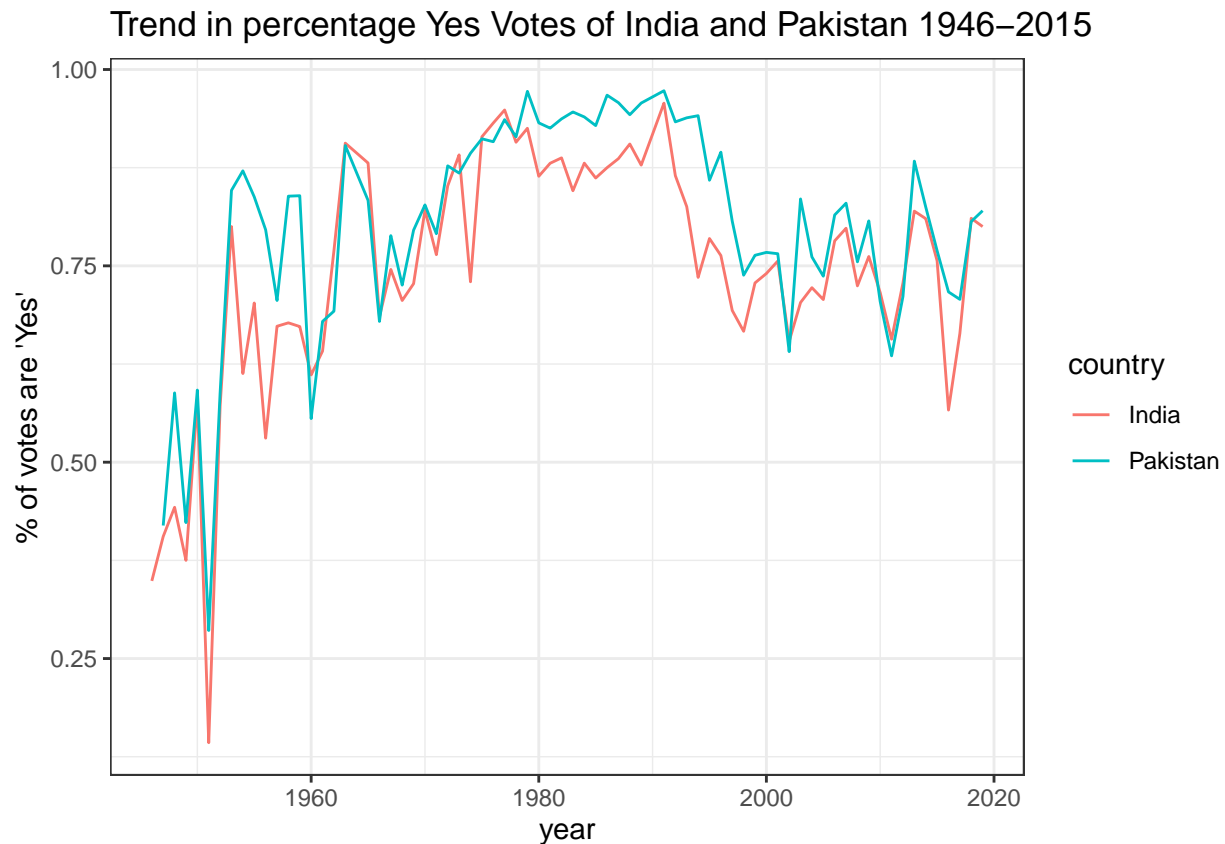
	country	year	votes	pct_yes
1	Jordan	1955	6	0
2	Liberia	1998	1	0
3	South Africa	1974	2	0
4	Spain	1955	5	0
5	Sri Lanka	1955	5	0
6	Yugoslavia	1992	2	0
7	Zanzibar	1963	2	0
8	United States	1989	115	0.0869565217391304
9	United States	1988	134	0.0970149253731343
10	Portugal	1969	41	0.0975609756097561

Showing 1 to 10 of 10,461 entries

Previous 2 3 4 5 ... 1,047 Next

Let's look at three countries – Pakistan and India's "Yes" vote trend in percent over year.

```
countries <- c( 'India', 'Pakistan')
by_country_year %>% filter(country %in% countries) %>%
  ggplot(aes(x=year, y=pct_yes, color=country)) + geom_line() +
  ylab("% of votes are 'Yes'") + ggtitle("Trend in percentage Yes Votes of India and Pakistan 1946-2015")
```

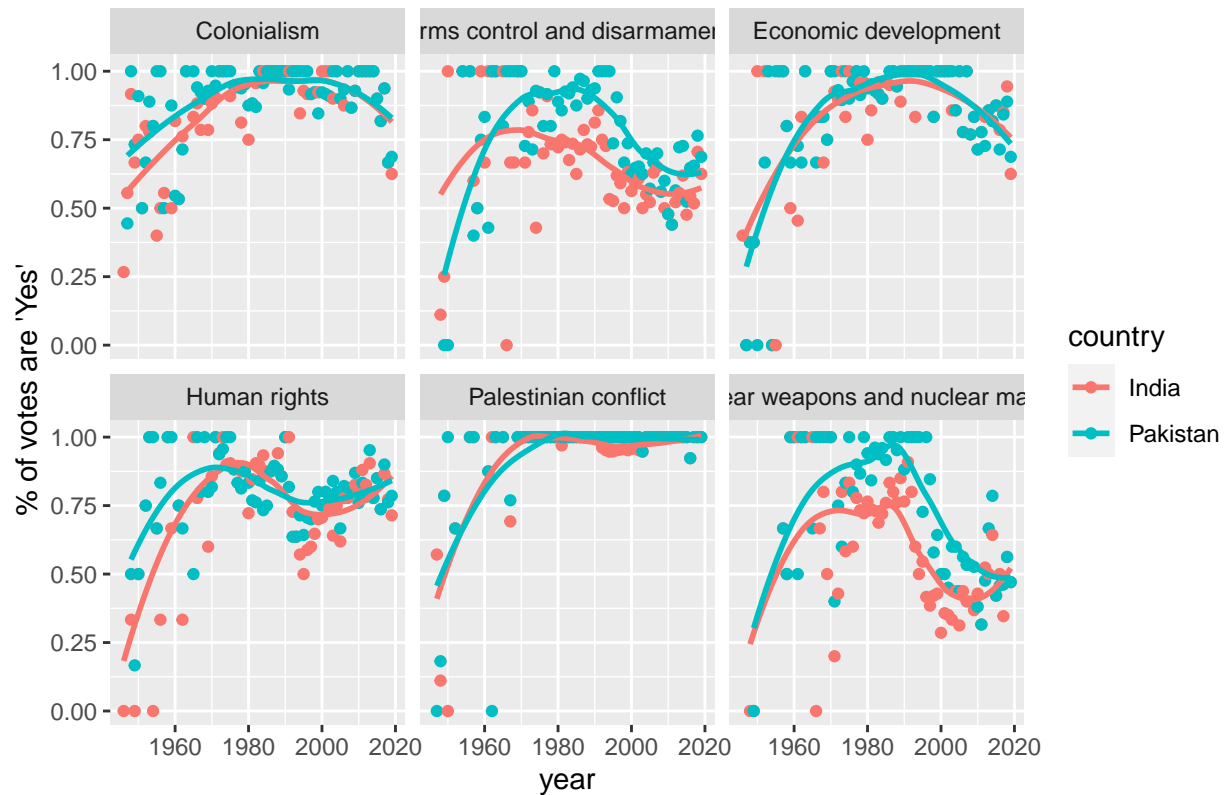


```
## Voting pattern overtime by the above three countries on 6 issues?
```

```
## Warning in inner_join(., un_roll_call_issues, by = "rcid"): Each row in `x` is expected to match at most one row in `y`.
## i Row 9 of `x` matches multiple rows.
## i If multiple matches are expected, set `multiple = "all"` to silence this warning.

## `summarise()` has grouped output by 'year', 'country'. You can override using the `.groups` argument.
## `geom_smooth()` using method = 'loess' and formula = 'y ~ x'
```

Trend in Percentage Yes Votes by Issues for India and Pakistan



```
join2 <- join1 %>% filter(country %in% countries) %>%
  inner_join(un_roll_call_issues, by='rcid') %>%
  group_by(country, issue) %>%
  summarise(votes=n(), pct_yes=mean(vote=='yes'))
```

```
## Warning in inner_join(., un_roll_call_issues, by = "rcid"): Each row in `x` is expected to match at most one row in `y`.
## i Row 9 of `x` matches multiple rows.
## i If multiple matches are expected, set `multiple = "all"` to silence this warning.
```

```
## `summarise()` has grouped output by 'country'. You can override using the `.groups` argument.
```

```
ggplot(aes(x=country, y=pct_yes, fill = issue), data = join2) + geom_bar(stat = 'identity', position = 'dodge')
```

