1. **Supplementary File**

# Variables and Models Used

To measure how many human rights prosecutorial activities have been initiated in a given year we use data from the Transitional Justice Research Collaborative (TJRC). Our dataset covers 1436 country-years, covering information for 36 countries in the period 1970-2010, using the variables described in Table [1](#_bookmark0), below. It must be noted that given that the sources from which the TJRC coded do not always distinguish between civil action or private prosecution, the TJRC dataset is unable to distinguish between these two types of rights of victim participation in criminal proceedings. Civil action allows victims to seek restitution, whereas private prosecution allows victims to seek retribution. In the TJRC database victim participation is taken as a proxy of private prosecution.

Table 1: Summary Statistics of Variables

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Variable Name** | **Mean** | **SD** | **Min** | **Max** |
| *Prosecutions* | 0.69 | 1.63 | 0 | 13 |
| *Previous Prosecutions* | 10.53 | 23.08 | 0 | 156 |
| *Guilty Verdicts* | 0.33 | 0.94 | 0 | 8 |
| *Private Prosecution* | 0.56 | 0.50 | 0 | 1 |
| *Autonomous PM* | 0.30 | 0.44 | 0 | 1 |
| *Judicial Independence* | 55.06 | 27.93 | 7.41 | 123.26 |
| *Level of Democracy* | 4.14 | 7.14 | -9 | 10 |
| *Democratic Change* | 0.22 | 1.84 | -15 | 16 |
| *HRNGOs* | 38.73 | 36.75 | 0 | 154.69 |
| *GDP Growth* | 3.13 | 4.02 | -26.48 | 18.29 |
| *HR Protection (t-1)* | 0.41 | 1.49 | -2.65 | 4.01 |
| *High Repression* | 0.21 | 0.41 | 0 | 1 |
| *Momentum* | 6.39 | 9.74 | 0 | 36 |
| *World Time* | 2.97 | 2.52 | 0 | 7 |

# Negative Binomial Regression

A count model is appropriate when we have a variable that measures how many times an event happened. The outcome or dependent variables that we use here fit this character- istic, as they measure how many prosecutions/convictions happened in a given country in a given year. As assumed for a negative binomial model, our dependent variables (number of prosecutions and number of convictions per country-year) are count variables and the variance of these dependent variables is greater than their mean (see Table [1](#_bookmark0), Figure [1](#_bookmark1), and Figure [2](#_bookmark2)).

The histograms indicate that a count model is appropriate to use. They show a vast number of country-years having no prosecutorial activity initiated and no convictions, and some countries with some prosecutions/convictions. It is important to acknowledge, however, that there may be countries that do not have prosecutions for other reasons other by choice (e.g., there were no human rights violations or they were still ruled by an undemocratic regime). This means that the dependent variables (count of prosecutions and count of convictions) may have a number of zeros (no prosecutions initiated and no convictions) that cannot be explained in the same manner as other countries that may be capable of having prosecutions but choose not to.

[FIGURE HISTO1.PDF HERE] [FIGURE HISTO2.PDF HERE]

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# Main Findings

Table 2: Determinants of Prosecutions and Convictions

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | M1:HR Prosecutions  b/se | M2:Guilty Verdicts  b/se |
| Private Prosecution | 0.370*∗∗* | 0.345*∗∗* |
|  | (0.188) | (0.176) |
| Autonomous PM | 0.170 | -0.00379 |
|  | (0.180) | (0.227) |
| HR NGO | 0.0114*∗∗* | 0.00768 |
|  | (0.00580) | (0.00607) |
| Judicial Independence | -0.00981 | -0.000543 |
|  | (0.00906) | (0.00928) |
| GDP Growth | 0.0123 | 0.00772 |
|  | (0.0123) | (0.0140) |
| Level of Democracy | 0.112*∗∗∗* | 0.0822*∗∗* |
|  | (0.0312) | (0.0355) |
| Democratic Change | 0.0529 | 0.0211 |
|  | (0.0390) | (0.0494) |
| HR Protection | -0.679*∗∗∗* | -0.527*∗∗∗* |
|  | (0.101) | (0.0863) |
| World Time | 0.297*∗∗∗* | 0.195*∗∗* |
|  | (0.0950) | (0.0925) |
| Previous Prosecutions |  | 0.0165*∗∗∗* |
|  |  | (0.00380) |
| Constant | -2.349*∗∗∗* | -3.150*∗∗∗* |
|  | (0.465) | (0.496) |
| Observations | 1330 | 1330 |

\*\*\*p*<*.01 \*\*p*<*.05. Errors are clustered by country. Private Prosecution and Au- tonomous PM p-values are interpreted as one-tailed tests. HR Protection is lagged one year to account for potential reverse causality. Because prosecution counts and conviction counts are related data series, the lagged number of previous prosecutions is controlled for in Model 2.

# Summary Table

Table 3: List of Cases and Key Variables

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Country | Demo Trans | Auto PM | Right to PP | PP Year |
| Argentina | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1888 |
| Austria | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1975 |
| Belgium | 0 | 0 | 0 | – |
| Bolivia | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1972 |
| Brazil | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1832 |
| Bulgaria | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1974 |
| Chile | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1906 |
| Colombia | 0 | 1 | 0 | – |
| Costa Rica | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1998 |
| Denmark | 0 | 0 | 1 | – |
| Ecuador | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1971 |
| El Salvador | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1973 |
| France | 0 | 0 | 0 | – |
| Germany(West) | 0 | 0 | 0 | – |
| Germany | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1877 |
| Greece | 1 | 0 | 0 | – |
| Guatemala | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1973 |
| Honduras | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1984 |
| Hungary | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2003 |
| Italy | 0 | 0 | 0 | – |
| Mexico | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1994 |
| Netherlands | 0 | 0 | 0 | – |
| Nicaragua | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1879 |
| Norway | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1986 |
| Panama | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1987 |
| Paraguay | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1890 |
| Peru | 1 | 1 | 0 | – |
| Poland | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1997 |
| Portugal | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1929 |
| Romania | 1 | 0 | 0 | – |
| Russia | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1960 |
| Spain | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1882 |
| Sweden | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1942 |
| Switzerland | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1934 |
| Uruguay | 1 | 0 | 0 | – |
| Venezuela | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1926 |

\*PP means private prosecution; PP Year marks the year of the oldest CPC with PP rights

that could be found through research.