

The first step was to code the dependent variable: the end of terrorist groups. To compile the list of terrorist groups, we used the RAND-MIPT Terrorism Incident database, which has extensive coverage of terrorist groups beginning in the late 1960s. Consequently, our study started with 1968. Coding the ending of terrorist groups poses a methodological challenge, since it is never entirely clear when a terrorist group begins or ends. The start year of a terrorist group was assigned based on the first indication that the group existed and was dedicated to the use of violence. The end year of a terrorist group was assigned based on the earliest evidence that the group no longer existed or that the group no longer used terrorism to achieve its goals. This may be because security forces captured or killed most of its members, the group reached a peace agreement with the government, its members shifted to nonviolent means to achieve their goals, or its members splintered to join other groups or start new ones. Regardless of the reason, the group did not commit further terrorist attacks under its name.

The second step was to code each of the explanatory variables. We used the RAND-MIPT Terrorism Incident database as the starting point for many of the variables. For the breadth of goals, we provided a qualitative assessment of the group's goals, based on its statements and actions. For ideological motivation, we assessed whether groups were primarily religious, nationalist, right-wing, or left-wing. In such cases as Hamas, whose ideology is a combination of nationalism and religion, we assessed the primary motivation. We coded Hamas, for example, as primarily nationalist because its fundamental objective is the liberation of Palestine.<sup>10</sup> For regime type, we used data from Freedom House to code the regime type in states where terror groups had their base of support. We coded states as free, partly free, or not free.<sup>11</sup> For economic conditions, we used data from the World Bank, which

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<sup>10</sup> On Hamas' goals, see Shaul Mishal and Avraham Sela, *The Palestinian Hamas: Vision, Violence, and Coexistence*, New York: Columbia University Press, 2000; and Khalid Harub, *Hamas: Political Thought and Practice*, Washington, D.C.: Institute for Palestine Studies, 2000.

<sup>11</sup> On the Freedom House codings, see Freedom House, *Freedom in the World 2007: The Annual Survey of Political Rights and Civil Liberties*, New York: Freedom House, 2007.