Financing Domestic Peace

Peace Agreement Texts and the Durable Resolution of Civil War

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Motivation

Civil wars the deadliest form of political violence

Several theories on how they can be resolved, many centered on peace agreement (PA) design

Third-party guarantees (Walter 1997)

Power-sharing (Hoddie/Hartzell 2003)

Cost-increasing/Fear-reducing (Mattes and Savun 2009)

Electoral participation/Int'l monitoring (Matanock 2017)

The kitchen sink – but only the finest china! (Fortna 2003)

Yet little attention to role of financial accounting

Theory

PA implementation costs money: rural dev., DDR, protecting vulnerable people, 'repairing' victims

Failure to pay for peace provisions hinders implementation: 'Where is what you promised?'

Flawed implementation reduces probability of peace consolidation: 'Life was better in the bush.'

Non-consolidation ↑ probability of war recurrence, ↓ peace duration

Theory

Detailed financial accounting in PA text may help resolve these issues

Three mechanisms may be at play. Specific text:

Makes it harder to shirk from peace deal commitments

Creates potential audience costs for belligerent/foreign supporters

Serves as focal point that induces discussion on the *how* of implementation

Research Question and Hypothesis

RQ: Does the extent of financial accounting in civil war PA text correlate with duration of peace in civil war-affected countries?

Hypothesis: ↑ specificity of financial accounting in PA texts, ↑ duration of peace in civil war-affected countries.

Plausibility Probe: Colombia

- Pillar 1 of landmark 2016 accord pledges comprehensive program of rural development: schools, roads, development

- Implementation has been slow: "Money is a major obstacle to meeting all the promises." (NYT)

- Aug. 29: FARC #2 announces 1-3k dissident combatants will take up arms and continue the war

- "The parties shouldn't have gotten up from the table until the plan was costed and specific sources of financing were matched to those costs." (Director of monitor group)

Methods

Independent Variable: Specificity of financial accounting in PA text. Count of indicators, e.g.:

Identification/Estimation of implementation costs

Specification of funding sources (gov't, donors)

Explication of fiscal source (budget line, new tax)

Dependent variable: Duration of post-PA peace

Whether or not PA held for at least five years

Number of months PA held

Methods

Collect all PA texts from 1975-2018 (N = 355)

Subset to civil war PAs (N = 324)

Subset to full (N=67), partial (N=171), and process (N=85) agreements

Take initial, random sample of 15 of each type of PA

Hand code full PA sample to ensure variation on IV/DV

Random Sample of Full Civil War Peace Agreements: 1975-2018

Burundi 2008

Cambodia 1991

Comoros 2002

Cote d'Ivoire 2007

Croatia 1995

India 1993

Macedonia 2001

Mali 1992

Mauritania 1979

Philippines 2014

South Africa 1993

South Sudan 2014

Zimbabwe 1979
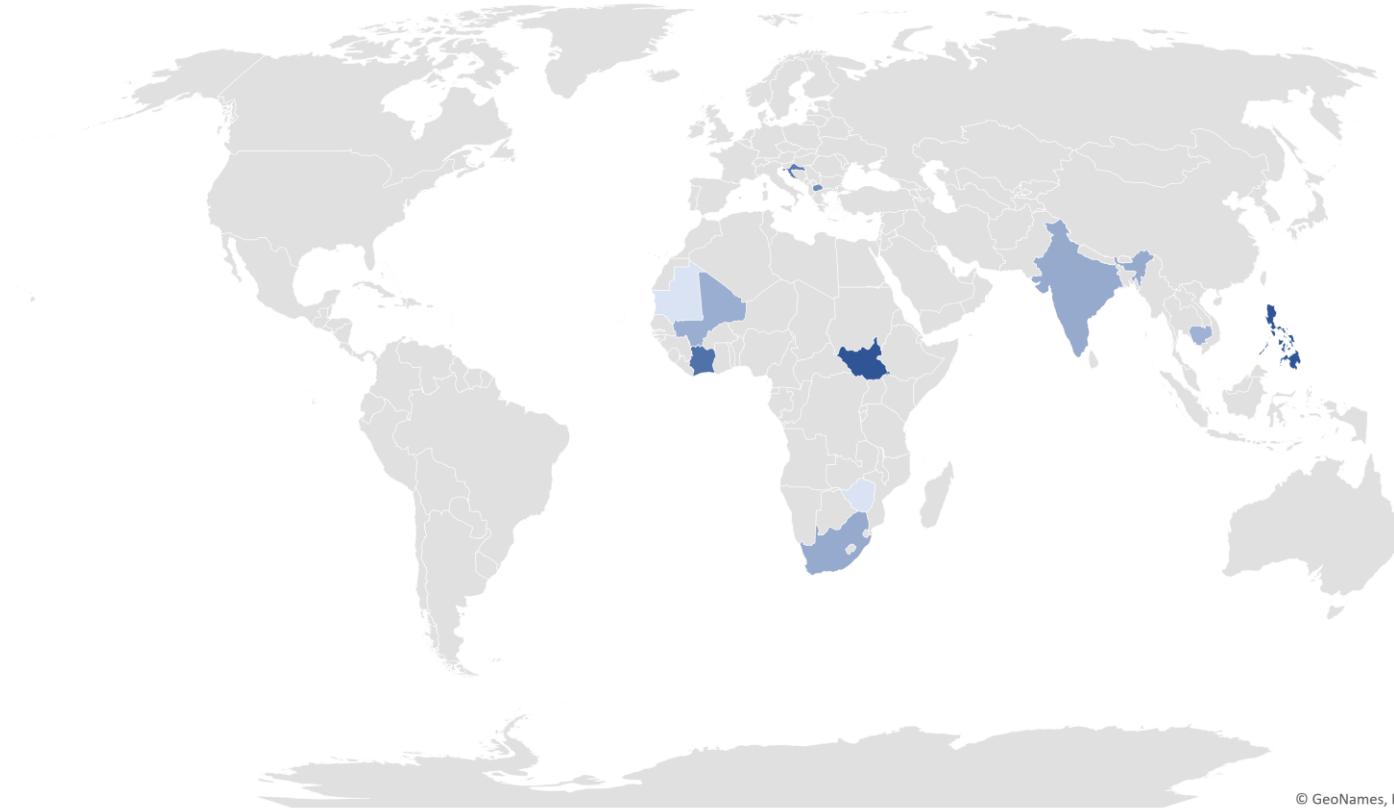
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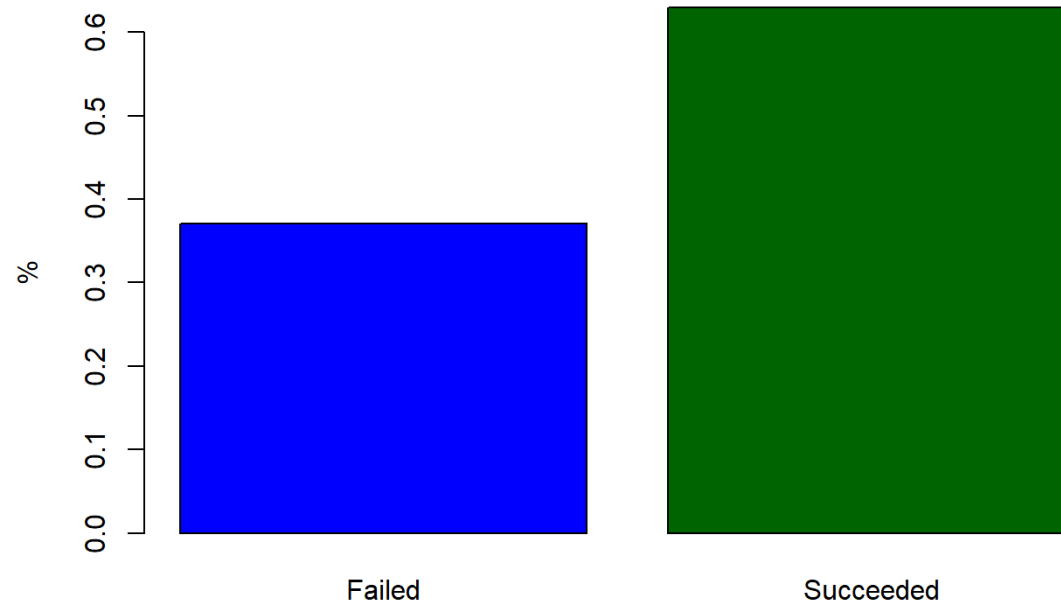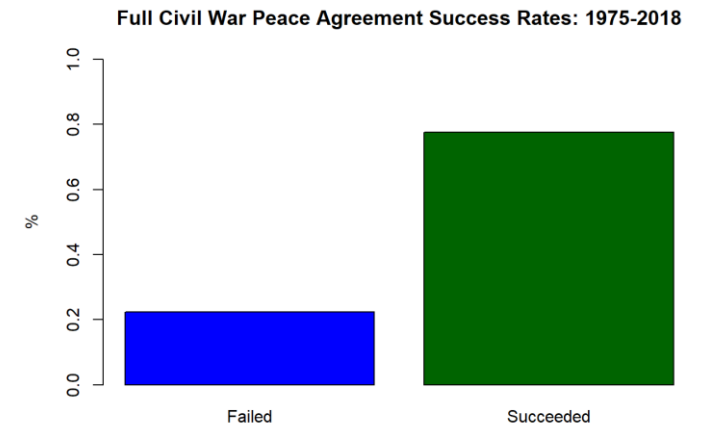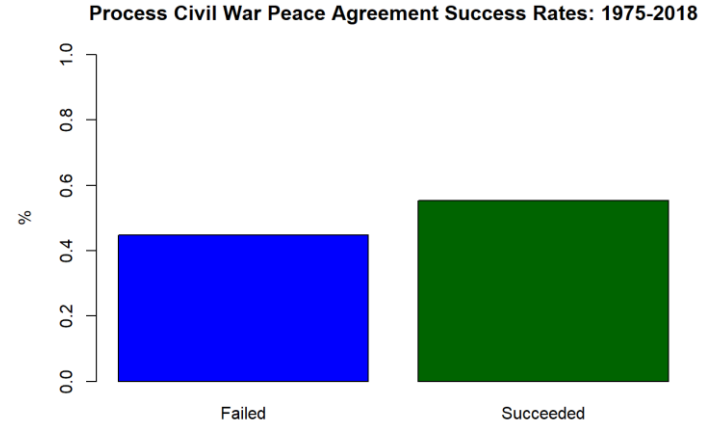
Descriptive Statistics: PA Types
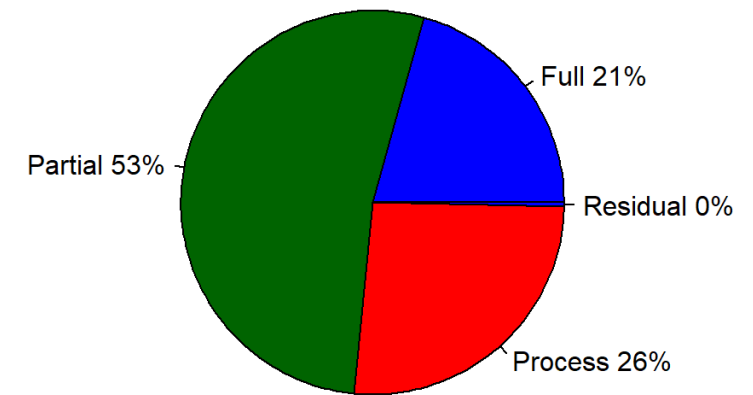
Descriptive Statistics: Civil War PA Success Rates

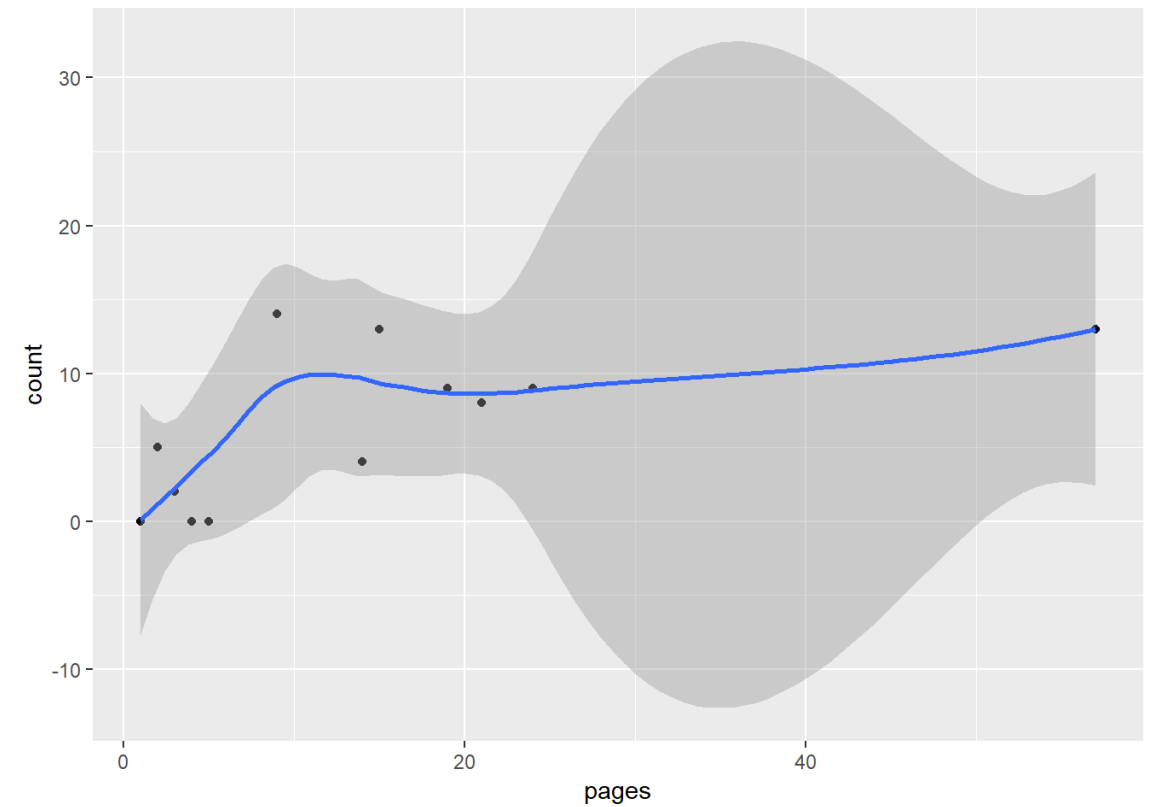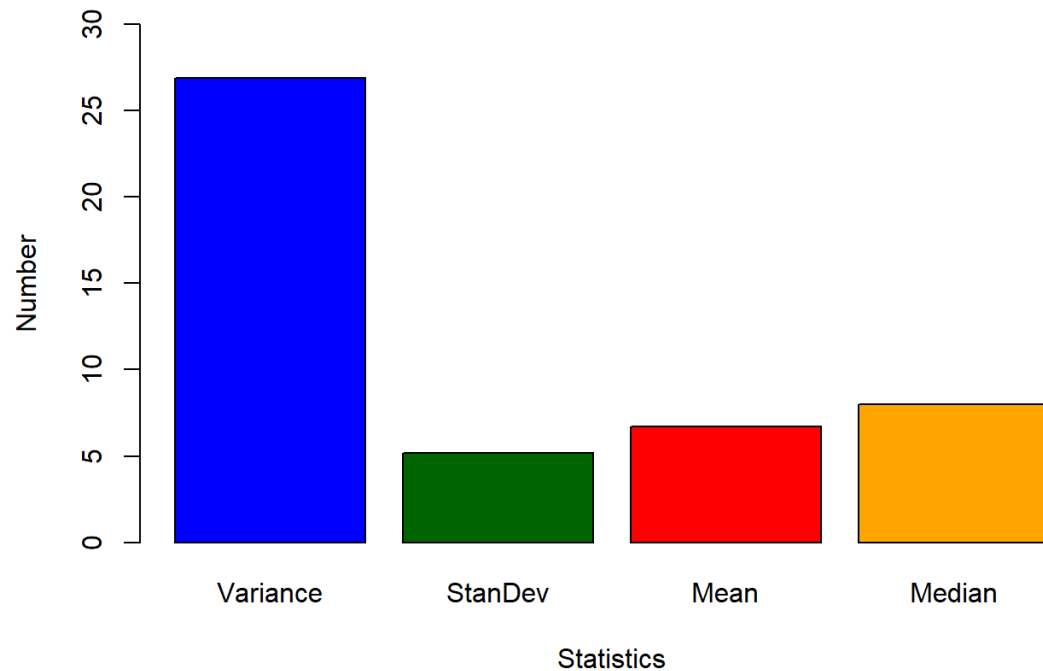Civil War Peace Agreement Success Rates: 1975-2018
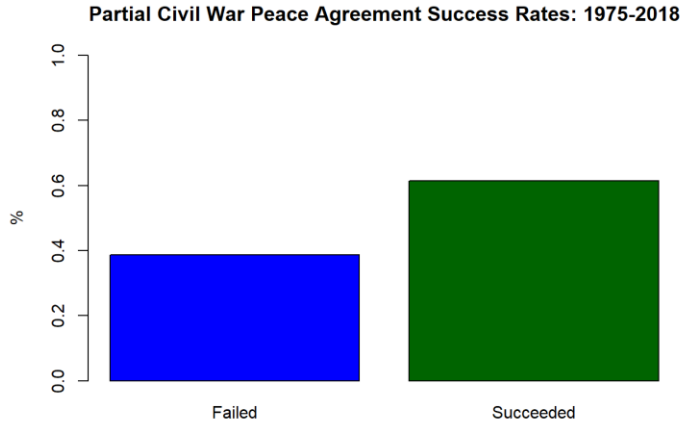
Descriptive Statistics: Civil War PA Success Rates by Type

Descriptive Statistics: Variation on the IV

Descriptive Statistics: Full Civil War PA Sample

Next Steps

Sharpen theory and mechanisms: any good lit?

Hand code remainder of civil war full PA subset

Reign in indicator variables: 16 is too many!

Develop more robust coding rules: less nuance?

Code sample of partial and/or process PA?