**Research study**

**Prediction of violence for Kenyan elections 2017**

A national election is due to take place in Kenya on 8/8/2017.  Previous elections particularly the ones in 2013 have given rise to much violence (riots) in the country. And in the primaries for this election (in April 2017 two people died in the unrest that ensued).

This study seeks to predict violence in the upcoming elections with a computer model that takes as inputs publicly available sources such as news, social media, weather, socio-economic indicators, and other inputs proposed by the researcher.

Using historical data from 2013 (both the inputs and reports about violence) one might find correlations between sentiment in social media, particular themes used in the news, or the frequency of the mention of tribal names for instance with violence reported at particular times. That could provide a model for predictions in August 2017.

The model will remain valuable after this election and will be further developed for future elections in the country. Additional work might also be pursued to generalize the model for other countries as well.

**Expected deliverables:**

* A 1 page results summary including the actual predictions with a brief explanation of the methodology. The results might be expressed as a risk percentage over time (in the weeks prior and after the elections) and per region.
* Associated open source workbooks or computing programs.
* Any graphics, dashboards, maps etc. are encouraged but not required.

**Timeline:**

The predictions and models would be expected at the latest by **4 August 2017** (before the elections happen).

**Delivery of results and questions:**

Please email your deliverables or send questions to Jorge Martinez-Navarrete ([martinez-navarrete@un.org)](mailto:martinez-navarrete@un.org)) at the United Nations Office of Information and Communications Technology, Analytics, Partnerships and Innovation Section.

**Suggested datasets:**

It is not required to use these datasets but they might be useful to the researcher.

Global news media:

Gdelt project: <http://www.gdeltproject.org/>

Humanitarian reports: <http://reliefweb.int/help/api>

Violence:

Armed Conflict Location and Event Data Project: <https://www.strausscenter.org/acled.html>

Uppsala Conflict Data Program: <http://ucdp.uu.se/>

Socio-economic data:

ECA: <http://ecastats.uneca.org/data/>

World Bank: <http://data.worldbank.org/>

Environmental data:

UNEP: <http://geodata.grid.unep.ch/>