

System membership case description list

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This document provides a brief outline of the coding rationale for cases in the list of independent states provided in Kristian Skrede Gleditsch and Michael D. Ward. (1999). "A Revised List of Independent States Since 1816," *International Interactions* 25:393-413. We refer to the companion paper for a more thorough discussion of problems in assessing effective independence and our general criteria.

We do not comment on all cases, but focus on those that might be considered contentious. This document will contain all future revisions to these data and the sources underlying the revised decision.

This document also outlines some of the controversial potential candidates that for various reasons have not been included in the current version of the list. We do not claim to have an exhaustive list of plausible candidates at this point. In particular, we recognize that there might be considerable omissions prior to 1875.

Where possible the case descriptions we used exact dates where possible. If the day and month are unavailable, we assumed 1 January 1; if the day is unavailable we assumed the first of the month. We have not sought to establish the exact or most appropriate dates of independence for the political entities that we did not include.

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A. Western Hemisphere

The sources for the Western Hemisphere sources include the CIA World Factbook (1998), Cambridge Encyclopedia of Latin America and the Caribbean (1992), Cambridge History of Latin America (Bethel 1984), Encyclopedia Britannica, Microsoft® Encarta® Encyclopedia 99, and Semo (1991) on Mexico.

A.I. States included in list

United States of America (002, USA): 1816-Present

Canada (020, CAN): 1867-Present

On 1 July 1867, the British Parliaments passes the British North America Act, where the provinces of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Ontario, and Québec were merged into a union called the Dominion of Canada. This is commonly regarded as the date of *de facto* Canadian Independence. However, significant aspects of its foreign policy continue to have strong guidance from England into the early 20th Century, and many use later dates to signify independence for Canada (1920 in COW, for example). *De facto* as well as *de jure* independence is problematic for many countries, and we use the earlier date of its *de facto* autonomy, recognizing the controversy.

Bahamas (31, BHM): 1973-Present

The Bahamas has a total estimated population of 279,833 in 1998 (Central Intelligence Agency 1998). Becomes independent on 10 July 1973.

Cuba (040, CUB): 1902-Present

The USA occupation of Cuba after the Spanish-American war is ended after authority is transferred to Cuban President Estrada, elected in 1901, on 20 May 1902. Following domestic political turmoil, the USA intervenes in Cuba at the request of Estrada and imposes an external governor between 1906 and 1908.

Haiti (041, HAI): 1816-1915, 1934-Present

Following decades of civil war known as the Haitian Slave Revolt where the insurgents effectively control much of the island, an independent republic is declared in 1804. The USA occupies Haiti from 5 July 1915 until 15 August 1934. [Revised on 10 October 2003.]

Dominican Republic (042, DOM): 1845-Present

The Dominican Republic first declares independence from Spain in 1821, but is invaded and annexed to Haiti in 1822. The Dominican Republic declares itself independent on 27 February 1844 following a coup in Haiti. Spain regains control between 1861 and 1863, followed by revolt and US intervention. A second republic is proclaimed in 1865. The USA occupies the Dominican Republic from 29 November 1916, but gradually transfers autonomy until full independence is restored on 24 March 1924. [Revised on 10 October 2003.]

Jamaica (051, JAM): 1962-Present

Becomes independent on 6 August 1962.

Trinidad and Tobago (052, TRI): 1962-Present

Becomes independent on 31 August 1962.

Barbados (53, BAR) 1966-Present

The total estimated population in 1998 is 259,025 (Central Intelligence Agency 1998).
Becomes independent on 30 November 1966. [Numeric code revised on 10 January 2003.]

Mexico (070, MEX): 1821-Present

After a series of revolt against Spanish rule, Mexico acquired independence in the wake of liberal Spanish revolution of 1820 when the Spanish Viceroy in Mexico is forced to accept various demands of the local elites in July 1821.

Belize (80, BLZ) 1981-Present

The total estimated population in 1998 is 230,160 (Central Intelligence Agency 1998).
Although this is somewhat below our population threshold criteria, we have none-the-less included Belize as population is quite close to 250,000. Belize becomes independent on 21 September 1981.

United Provinces of Central America (089, UPC): 1823-1839

Different regions in Central America disagreed on whether to join the new state of Mexico after independence in 1821. Following civil war and the fall of Iturbide (emperor of Mexico) in 1823, a congress on July 1, 1823 declares independence of the United Provinces of Central America encompassing contemporary Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Costa Rica. After a long period of civil war and domestic turmoil, the union effectively disintegrates in 1840 when the central government dissolves following the conquest of Guatemala City by rebel troops. Despite some efforts to restore the union, the individual states are effectively independent since 1840, although the various states do not declare independence until later.

Guatemala (090, GUA): 1840-Present

Although Guatemala does not formally become independent until 1847, Carrera effectively rules the country as a separate entity after the collapse of the United Provinces of Central America in 1840.

Honduras (091, HON): 1840-Present

Honduras first declares itself independent in 1838, but is effectively independent after the collapse of the United Provinces of Central America in 1840.

El Salvador (092, SAL): 1840-Present

El Salvador is effectively independent after the fall of the United Provinces of Central America in 1840. Independence is formally declared in 1856.

Nicaragua (093, NIC): 1840-Present

Nicaragua first declares itself independent in 1838, and effectively becomes indent when the United Provinces of Central America fall apart towards 1840.

Costa Rica (094, COS): 1840-Present

Costa Rica declares itself independent in 1838 and is effectively independent after the fall of the United Provinces of Central America in 1840.

Panama (095, PAN): 1904-Present

Panama becomes independent on 3 November 1903 following a US supported succession from Colombia.

Great Colombia (099, GCL): 1821-1830

Great Colombia is first proclaimed after the Battle of Boyacá in 1819, and is considered to have become effective after the liberation of Venezuela in 1821 and the Congress of Cúcuta approving a constitution for the new republic on 30 August 1821. The state falls apart when New Granada (present-day Colombia and Panama) declares itself independent in 1830. Following Polity 3d, we choose 22 September 1830 as the effective end date. [Revised on 15 August 2000, amended 13 October 1830.]

Colombia (100, COL): 1830-Present

New Granada (including present-day Panama) declares itself independent in 1830, thereby effectively terminating the republic of Great Colombia. Following Polity 3d, we use 23 September as the effective start date. A new constitution in 1863 adopts the name United States of Colombia. [Revised on 15 August 2000.]

Venezuela (101, VEN): 1829-Present

Venezuela declares itself an independent republic in 1929.

Guyana (110, GUY): 1966-Present

Guyana achieves independence from the United Kingdom on 26 May 1966.

Surinam (115, SUR): 1975-Present

Surinam achieves independence from the Netherlands on 25 November 1975
The total estimated population in 1998 is 427,980 (Central Intelligence Agency 1998).

Ecuador (130, ECU): 1830-Present

Ecuador becomes an independent republic after a war of independence from Great Colombia in 1830. Following Polity 3d, we use 13 May 1830 as the effective starting date. [Revised on 15 August 2000.]

Peru (135, PER): 1824-Present

Peru is first declared independent in 1821, and is commonly regarded as independent after the defeat of the Spanish forces in the Battle of Ayacucho on 9 December 1824.

Brazil (140, BRA): 1822-Present

After the royal family fled Portugal in to escaped from Napoleon in 1807, the Portuguese empire was ruled from Brazil for several years. Brazil was declared a kingdom on par with Portugal in 1815. Following local resistance to efforts to restore the colonial subordinate status, Brazil was declared an independent kingdom on 7 September 1822.

Bolivia (145, BOL): 1825-Present

Bolivia declared itself independent of Spain on 6 August 1825.

Paraguay (150, PAR): 1816-Present

Paraguay proclaimed itself independent of Argentina in 1811. Brazilian forces occupy the country after its defeat in the López war from 1870 until 1876.

Chile (155, CHL): 1818-Present

Chile declares its independence from Spain in February 1818. The royalist forces are expelled from most of the territory after the Battle of Maipú in April of 1818.

Argentina (160, ARG): 1816-Present

Argentina is considered independent after the declaration on 9 July 1816 of the United Provinces of South America (subsequently renamed United Provinces of the Río de la Plata and later the Argentine Confederation).

Uruguay (165, URU): 1829-Present

Brazil invades the Provinces of the Eastern Shore of the Uruguay River after the defeat of the Spanish in 1816, but eventually recognizes the independence of the province in 1828 after protracted insurgent conflict. The Republic of Uruguay is formally declared in 1830. Following Polity 3d, we use 26 May 1830 as the effective starting date. [Revised on 15 August 2000.]

A.II Cases not included in the Western Hemisphere

A.II.1 Contemporary Microstates

The below entities are states that are formally independent, but have not been included due to that total population size is substantially less than 250,000.

Anguilla

Anguilla is independent between 1967-1969, but later placed under direct British Rule.

Antigua & Barbuda (58, AAB)

The total estimated population in 1998 is 64,006 (Central Intelligence Agency 1998). COW dates of independence are 1981-1997. It achieves independence from the UK on 1 November 1981, and becomes a member of the UN on 11 November 1981.

Dominica (54, DMA)

The total estimated population in 1998 is 65,777 (Central Intelligence Agency 1998). COW dates of independence are 1978-1997. Dominica achieves independence on 3 November 1978, and becomes a member of the UN on 18 December 1978.

Grenada (55, GRN)

The total estimated population in 1998 is 96,217 (Central Intelligence Agency 1998). COW dates of independence are 1974-1997. Grenada achieves independence from the UK on 7 February 1974, and becomes a member of the UN on 17 September 1974.

St. Kitts-Nevis (60, SKN)

The total estimated population in 1998 is 42,291 (Central Intelligence Agency 1998). COW dates of independence are 1983-1997. It achieves independence from the UK on 19 September 1983, and becomes a member of the UN on 23 September 1983.

St. Lucia (56, SLU)

The total estimated population in 1998 is 152,335 (Central Intelligence Agency 1998). COW dates of independence are 1979-1997. St. Lucia achieves independence from the UK on 22 February 1979, and becomes a member of the UN on 18 September 1979.

St. Vincent & the Grenadines (57, SVG)

The total estimated population in 1998 is 119,818 (Central Intelligence Agency 1998). COW dates of independence are 1979-1997. It achieves independence from the UK on 27 October 1979, and becomes a member of the UN on 16 September 1980.

A.II.2 Semi-Autonomous entities

Puerto Rico

Puerto Rico is a commonwealth associated with the USA. Efforts to achieve full independence have been defeated in successive plebiscites. We do not consider Puerto Rico a sovereign state at the present, although it may become so in the future.

B. Europe

Sources: Microsoft® Encarta® Encyclopedia 99, the 1998 CIA World Factbook on-line edition (1998), Encyclopedia Britannica, and Lukic and Lynch (1996) on the Balkans and post-Soviet states.

B.I States included in the list

United Kingdom (200, UK): 1816-Present

Ireland (205, IRE): 1921-Present

Becomes independent on 6 December 1921

Netherlands (210, NTH): 1816-Present

Belgium (211, BEL): 1830-Present

Becomes independent on 4 October 1830. [Revised on 15 August 2000.]

Luxembourg (212, LUX): 1867-Present

Under German influence in the Zollverein, Luxembourg's independence was established under a treaty international conference held in London in May 1867, guaranteeing the independence of the grand duchy and providing for its neutrality in the event of conflict between France and Prussia. Following Polity 3d, we use 11 May 1867 as the effective starting date. [Revised on 15 August 2000.]

France (220, FRN): 1816-Present

Switzerland (225, SWZ): 1816-Present

Spain (230, SPN): 1816-Present

Portugal (235, POR): 1816-Present

Hanover (240, HAN): 1816-1871

Hanover becomes part of the German Empire on 18 January 1871.

Bavaria (245, BAV): 1816-1871

Bavaria becomes part of the German Empire on 18 January 1871.

Germany/Prussia (255, GMY): 1816-1945

We treat Germany as a successor to the original Prussia, since the other German states became incorporated into this Polity. The German High Command signs the capitulation agreement in Reims, France on 7 May 1945 is then placed under foreign administration until the establishment of the German Federal Republic (see below). [Revised on 13 October 2003.]

German Federal Republic (260, GFR): 1949-Present

The German Federal Republic is established on the territory held by the allied powers on 21 September 1949.

German Democratic Republic (265, GDR): 1949-1990

The GDR was established on 5 October 1949 in a direct response to the establishment of the GFR. It ceased to exist on 2 October 1990 with the official reunification with the Federal Republic of Germany on 3 October 1990. [Revised on 13 October 2003.]

Baden (267, BAD): 1816-1871

Baden becomes part of the German Empire on 18 January 1871.

Saxony (269, SAX): 1816-1871

Saxony sides with Austria in the Seven Week's War, and is later forced to join the North German Federation in 1867. It becomes part of the German Empire on 18 January 1871.

Württemberg (271, WRT): 1816-1871

Württemberg becomes part of the German Empire on 18 January 1871.

Hesse – Kassel (Electoral) (273, HSE)

Joins the German Empire on 18 January 1871.

Hesse – Darmstadt (Ducal) (275, HSD)

Joins the German Empire on 18 January 1871.

Mecklenburg-Schwerin (280, MEC): 1816-1867

The duchy of Mecklenburg-Schwerin joined the German Empire on 18 January 1871.

Poland (290, POL): 1918-Present

Poland declares independence on 11 November 1918. The independence of Poland is then reaffirmed under the Treaty of Versailles, signed on 28 June 1919.

Austria-Hungary (300, AUH): 1816-1918

Austria declares itself a republic in November 1918, following the declaration of Hungarian independence on 3 November 1918. Following Polity 3d, we use 13 November as the effective end day. [Revised 15 August 2000.]

Austria (305, AUS): 1919-Present

Germany annexes Austria in 1938. The allies agreed upon restoring the independence of Austria in a 1943 statement. Although full sovereignty was not restored until 1955, a June 1946 agreement transferred considerable authority to the Austrian government. We consider Austria a new entity following the independence of Hungary. Following Polity 3d, we use 14 November as the effective start day. [Revised 15 August 2000.]

Hungary (310, HUN): 1918-Present

The Hungarian government announces its separation on 3 November 1918.

Czechoslovakia (315, CZE): 1919-1992

Becomes independent in 1919, its independence is formalized after the Treaty of Versailles, signed on 28 June 1919. Czechoslovakia formally ceases to exist on 31 December 1992, when then federation is dissolved and the Czech and Slovak Republics emerge as new independent entities.

Czech Republic (316, CZR): 1993-Present

We treat the Czech Republic as a new entity, independent from 1 January 1993. A strong argument can be made for treating the Czech Republic as a continuation of the old state of Czechoslovakia, as this contains the bulk of the population of the former, retains the former flag, and inherited a 2:1 ratio of the assets of the former federal republic. We have chosen, however, to treat the Czech Republic as a new state rather than a continuation, since the Prime Minister explicitly chose to discontinue the federation of the two republics. [Text revised on 3 December 2008]

Slovakia (317, SLO): 1993-Present

Independent from 1 January 1993.

Italy/Sardinia (325, ITA): 1816-Present**Papal States (327, PAP): 1816-1871**

The Papal State is annexed to unified Italy by king Victor Emmanuel II in 1870. Italian forces moved on Rome after the French forces were withdrawn. Rome surrendered on 22 September 1870 and became the capital of Italy. [Revised on 13 October 2003.]

Two Sicilies (329, SIC): 1816-1861

Sicily is incorporated into Italy on 17 March 1861.

Modena (332, MOD): 1816-1861

Modena becomes part of Italy on 17 March 1861.

Parma (335, PMA): 1816-1861

Parma is united with Italy on 17 March 1861.

Tuscany (337, TUS): 1816-1861

Tuscany voted for union with Italy in a 1860 referendum, and the Duchy was subsequently united with Italy on 17 March 1861.

Malta (338, MLT): 1964-1997

The total estimated population in 1998 is 319,565 (Central Intelligence Agency 1998). Becomes independent on 21 September 1964.

Albania (339, ALB): 1913-Present

Albania declares independence following the defeat of the Ottoman Empire in the First Balkan War. At a 1913 international conference in London, the Central European powers recognized the independence of Albania, although much of the territory claimed was accorded to neighboring states. Albania was occupied by Austrian, French, Italian, Greek, Montenegrin, and Serb forces during WWI, and then by Italy and later Germany between 1939 and 1944.

Serbia (340, SER): 1878-1915, 2006-Present

The Berlin Conference recognizes Serbian Independence on 13 July 1878, following the defeat of the Ottoman Empire. Serbia is then invaded by Austria-Hungary in October 1915, and the central government flees to Greece in 1916. We treat Serbia as a new state

following the secession of Montenegro on 3 June 2006 and the dissolution of the State Union of Serbia and Montenegro on 5 June 2006, which we believe is the most appropriate date, given the explicit dissolution of the federation. [Revised (typos only) on 3 May 2013]

Montenegro (341, MNG): 1868-1918, 2006-Present

The kingdom of Montenegro is independent from 1868 to 1918. It is invaded by Austria-Hungary in late 1915, and subsequently becomes part of the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes on 1 December 1918. The Yugoslav Republic of Montenegro entered a controversial federation with Serbia/Yugoslavia in 1992, following a referendum that was boycotted by much of the opposition. Following a referendum on 21 May 2006, Montenegro declared independence from the State Union of Serbia and Montenegro on 3 June 2006. Montenegro was admitted to the United Nations on 28 June 2006. [Revised on 18 November 2008]

Macedonia (343, MAC): 1991-Present

Macedonia secedes from Yugoslavia on 20 November 1991, after a prior referendum on 7 September 1991. Following Greek protest over the name and flag, many countries do not acknowledge the new state until much later. Macedonia is admitted to the UN in 1993 under the name Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM).

Croatia (344, CRO): 1991-Present

Croatia declares independence on 25 June 1991. In the 7 July Brioni Agreement with Yugoslavia, Croatia (and Slovenia) agreed to not implement independence for 3 months in exchange for a ceasefire. A war broke out on 8 October 1991 with the Yugoslav National Army over Croatian independence, and effective control is difficult as a result of the fighting territorial control. Yugoslavia and Croatia entered a ceasefire 2 January 1992, but JNA troops remained in Croatia. Recognition by other states is a gradual process after the declaration, with Germany recognizing Croatia in December 1991 and the UN in June 1992. We set the effective date of independence to 27 April 1992 when the new Yugoslav constitution is adopted, stipulating a state only comprised by Serbia and Montenegro. [Revised on 10 March 2013.]

Yugoslavia (YUG, 345) 1918-2006

After WWI, the leaders of Serbia, Croatia, and Montenegro proclaimed the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes on 1 December 1918. This is later renamed the Kingdom of Yugoslavia in 1929. The specific end date of Yugoslavia is a somewhat difficult issue. The Federation of Yugoslavia continues to exist after the secession of Croatia, Macedonia, and Slovenia, although Serbia and Montenegro constitute only about slightly above 1/3 of the population of the former Yugoslavia in 1991. We have decided to treat the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia as a successor state after 1992, continued by the State Union of Serbia and Montenegro as a successor state in 2003, and then consider Serbia and Montenegro as separate states, following the dissolution of the State Union of Serbia and Montenegro on 5 June 2006. [Revised on 10 March 2013.]

Bosnia-Herzegovina (346, BOS): 1992-Present

The leaders of Bosnia and Herzegovina declared sovereignty in October 1991. This was followed by a declaration of independence from the former Yugoslavia on 3 March 1992 after a referendum completed on 1 March 1992. Although Yugoslavia does not contest

the secession of Bosnia by force to the same extent as in Croatia and Slovenia, territorial control was in flux and there was considerable Yugoslav support for Bosnian Serbs who boycotted the referendum and fought against independence. We set the effective date of independence to 27 April 1992 when the new Yugoslav constitution is adopted, stipulating a state only comprised by Serbia and Montenegro. [Revised on 10 March 2013.]

Kosovo (347, KOS): 2008-Present

We treat Kosovo as independent following the declaration of the parliament on 17 February 2008. The status of Kosovo has been in a limbo and under UN administration since the 1999 Kosovo war; Its sovereignty is disputed by Serbia and remains highly controversial. Although Kosovo was quickly recognized by many states, including permanent security council members USA, UK, and France, others including Russia and China have resisted recognition. However, the territory is clearly not under the control of Serbia. Kosovo was an autonomous area within Serbia within the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, but its autonomy was revoked by Milošević in 1989. A shadow independent republic was declared in 1990, led by Rugova, and recognized by Albania, but clearly not in control of its territory. [Revised on 18 November 2008]

Slovenia (349, SLV): 1991-Present

Slovenia declares independence on 25 June 1991. A war ensues on 27 June as the Yugoslav National Army contests the secession by force. In the 7 July Brioni Agreement with Yugoslavia, Slovenia (and Croatia) agrees to not implement independence for 3 months in exchange for a ceasefire. Recognition by other states is gradual (Germany recognizes Slovenia in December 1991 and the EU recognizes Slovenia on 15 January 1992). We set the effective date of independence to 27 April 1992 when the new Yugoslav constitution is adopted, stipulating a state only comprised by Serbia and Montenegro. [Revised on 10 March 2013.]

Greece (350, GRC): 1828-Present

During a protracted war of independence, a national assembly elects Ioánnis Antónios Kapodístrias as the first president of an independent Greek republic in 1827. However, Kapodístrias himself does not actually set foot in Greece until early January 1828, and we defer the starting date for Greek independence until the end of major combat of the Greek War of Independence on 24 April 1828, where the nascent Greek state controlled substantial territory on the inland. Western powers intervened to force a ceasefire, and later set up a protocol for the introduction of a Greek kingdom, subsequently formally recognized at an 1832 conference. Greece is occupied by Germany between 1941 and 1944. Following Polity 3d, we use 17 May 1827 as the effective start date. [Revised on 21 March 2013.]

Cyprus (352, CYP): 1960-Present

Becomes independent on 16 August 1960.

Bulgaria (355, BUL): 1878-Present

Bulgaria becomes an autonomous principality following the defeat of the Ottomans on 3 March 1878. The 1908 date in the COW list refers to the establishment of the Kingdom of Bulgaria.

Moldova (359, MLD): 1991-Present

Becomes independent on 27 August 1991.

Romania (360, RUM): 1878-Present

The Treaty of Paris in 1856 establishes Moldavia and Walachia as principalities that will pay tribute to the Ottoman Empire. These unite as Romania in 1857. The full independence of Romania is recognized by the Treaty of Berlin on 13 July 1878.

Russia (365, USR): 1816-Present**Estonia (366, EST): 1918-1940, 1991-Present**

Becomes independent when German forces withdraw on 11 November 1918. Estonia is then occupied by Soviet forces from June 1940 until declaring independence on 20 August 1991. This is recognized by the Soviet Union on 6 September 1991. [Revised 13 October 2003.]

Latvia (367, LAT): 1918-1940, 1991-Present

Proclaims independence in November 1918. The country is then occupied by Soviet forces from June 1940 until achieving independence on 6 September 1991.

Lithuania (368, LIT): 1918-1940, 1991-Present

16 February 1918 is the date of independence from German, Austrian, Prussian, and Russian occupation. The country is then occupied by Soviet forces from June 1940 until independence on 6 September 1991. [Revised on 13 October 2003.]

Ukraine (369, UKR): 1991-Present

Becomes independent on 1 December 1991.

Belarus (370, BLR): 1991-Present

Becomes independent on 25 August 1991.

Armenia (371, ARM): 1991-Present

Armenia declares independence on 23 September 1991. The USSR does not appear to recognize the secession or cease to claim to the territory, and retains troops in Armenia. Since neither Armenia nor the USSR seems to have effective control until the fall of the Soviet Union we use 21 December 1991 as the effective date of independence. [Revised on 10 March 2013.]

Georgia (372, GRG): 1991-Present

The Georgian parliament passed a declaration of independence on 9 April 1991. Whereas the Soviet Union recognized the independence of the Baltic States on 6 September it refused to accept Georgia's declaration of independence. Since control is disputed until the end of the Soviet Union we use the date of the dissolution of the Soviet Union on 21 December 1991 as the effective date of independence. [Revised on 10 March 2013.]

Azerbaijan (373, AZE): 1991-Present

The Supreme Soviet of Azerbaijan SSR adopted a resolution on 22 January 1990 that the imposition of emergency rule by the USSR constituted an act of aggression. Subsequent

moves affirmed the aspiration for independence. On 18 October 1991 the Supreme Soviet of Azerbaijan SSR declared independence, later reaffirmed during a popular referendum. Although independence is a gradual process from 1990, we use an effective date of independence of 21 December corresponding to the fall of the Soviet Union [Revised on 10 March 2013.]

Finland (375, FIN): 1917-Present

Becomes independent on 6 December 1917.

Sweden (380, SWD): 1816-Present

Norway (385, NOR): 1905-Present

Becomes independent on 26 August 1905.

Denmark (390, DEN): 1816-Present

Iceland (395, ICE): 1944-Present

The total estimated population in 1998 is 271,033 (Central Intelligence Agency 1998).

Becomes independent on 17 June 1944.

B.I States not included in the list

B.I.1 Formally independent microstates

These formally independent states have not been included since population is substantially less than 250,000.

Andorra (232, AND)

The total estimated population in 1998 is 64,716 (Central Intelligence Agency 1998). COW dates of independence are 1993-1997. However, this starting date is probably inappropriate, since the country has been formally independent since 1278. Andorra becomes a member of the UN on 28 July 1993.

Liechtenstein (223, LIE)

The total estimated population in 1998 is 31,717 (Central Intelligence Agency 1998). Independent since 1719, although COW dates its independence based on UN membership to 1990.

Monaco (221, MNC)

The total estimated population in 1998 is 32,305 (Central Intelligence Agency 1998). Independent since 1419, although COW uses 1993 as year of independence. It becomes a member of the UN on 28 May 1993.

San Marino (331, SNM)

The total estimated population in 1998 is 24,894 (Central Intelligence Agency 1998). While COW dates are 1993-1997, San Marino is commonly recognized as the world's oldest existing republic and independent since 301 AD. It becomes a member of the UN on 2 March 1992.

Abkhazia (396, ABK): 2008-Present

By our criteria emphasizing external recognition and territorial control, South Ossetia would be independent following Russian recognition on 26 August 2008 (along with South Ossetia), and the country is subsequently recognized as an independent state by Nauru, Nicaragua, Tuvalu Vanuatu, and Venezuela. However, with an estimated population of 157,000 and 190,000, it falls short of the 250,000 it is a microstate and hence not included in the list of independent states. The independence of Abkhazia is a highly contentious issue as Georgia rejects the secession and a very large number of countries refuse to recognize its independence. However, Georgia is clearly not in control of the territory, and has not done so since the 1992 Abkhaz war. Abkhazia declared itself independent in 1990, and have resisted a reunion with Georgia since the 1994 UN peace agreement. [Revised on 10 March 2013].

South Ossetia (397 SOT): 2008-Present

By our criteria emphasizing external recognition and territorial control, South Ossetia would be independent following Russian recognition on 26 August 2008 (along with Abkhazia), and the country is subsequently recognized as an independent state by Nauru, Nicaragua, Tuvalu, and Venezuela. However, with an estimated population of 70,000, South Ossetia is a microstate and hence not included in the list of independent states. The

independence of South Ossetia is a highly contentious issue as Georgia rejects the secession and a very large number of countries refuse to recognize its independence. However, Georgia is clearly not in control of the territory, and the area has been *de facto* independent after declaring its independence in 1991. [Revised on 18 November 2008]

Vatican City/Holy See

The Vatican gains independence from Italy on 11 February 1929. Since its total population is substantially less than 250,000 — the estimated population in 1998 is less than 1,000 (cf. Central Intelligence Agency 1998) — it does not qualify as a state by our criteria. While not a member of the UN, it maintains a permanent observer mission at the UN head quarters. However, it seems no less independent than some of the other microstates in the UN such as Andorra, San Marino, and Monaco that have been included in the COW list.

B.II.2 De facto independent states without international recognition

Chechnya

Chechnya declared itself independent in 1991, and has been *de facto* independent during certain periods when Russian efforts to reclaim sovereignty have failed.

Nagorno-Karabakh

Declares itself independent from Azerbaijan in 1991. The territory is currently largely integrated in Armenia.

Republic of Herzeg-Bosnia (Croatian)

Serb Republic (Bosnia)

Serbian Republic of Krajina (Croatia)

This is effectively disbanded after the Croatian re-occupation of the territory in 1991.

Transdniestra

The Republic of Transdniestra is a *de facto* independent republic on the Eastern Shores of the Dniester river, which declared itself independent of Moldova in 1991.

Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus

Following protracted civil conflict, Turkey intervened on Cyprus on 1974 and established a *de facto* independent republic on Northern Cyprus. The Turkish Republic of North Cyprus declared itself independent in 1983, but has not been recognized by any countries other than Turkey.

B.II.3 Historical polities not included in list

German entities

Various independent German principalities, free states, and cities in the 19th century do not satisfy the 250,000 minimum population threshold. These include *Anhalt*, *Frankfurt am Main*, *Hamburg*, *Hoenzollern-Hechingen*, *Hoenzollern-Sigmaringen*, *Holstein*, *Lübeck*,

Nassau, Mecklenburg-Strelitz, North Rhine-Westphalia, Oldenburg, Palatinate, Reuss-Schliez-Gera, Schaumburg-Lippe, Schleswig, Schwarzburg-Sonderhausen, Waldeck, and Westphalia.

Puppet states under German control during WWII

Numerous nations were conceded some degree of independence by German forces during WWII. While these were not recognized by other states and often largely subordinate to the German Reich, some of these did none-the-less enjoy some degree of local control and legitimacy. These include *WWII Slovakia*, *WWII Croatia (Ustasha)*, and *WWII Serbia*. In addition, many countries under Germany occupation maintained some degree of independence during WWII, even if such local governments were not widely considered legitimate.

B.II.4 Other semi-autonomous states

British dependencies

Various British dependencies or regions have some degree of independence and autonomous institutions while formally part of United Kingdom. These include *The Channel Islands (Guernsey, Jersey, and Sark)*, *Isle of Man*, *Northern Ireland*, *Scotland*, and *Wales*. We do not consider these independent states, although some of these may become so in the future with the process of devolution.

Danish dependencies

The Danish dependencies of the *Faeroe Islands* and *Greenland* are set apart from the rest of Denmark, and have separate institutions that exercise substantial autonomy. We do not consider these independent states, although their future status is unclear.

Russian republics with semi sovereign status

Various autonomous republics maintain a semi-independent status within the Russian Federation. While this was largely non-existent during the Soviet Era, several of these have acquired considerable de fact autonomy after 1991. While only *Chechnya* (see discussion B.II.2) currently insist on full independence, their status within the Russian Federation is not clear. These include *Adygea*, *North Ossetia*, *Altay*, *Bashkortostan*, *Buryatia*, *Chuvashia*, *Dagestan*, *Ingushetia*, *Kabardino-Balkaria*, *Kalmykia*, *Karachay-Cherkessia*, *Karelia*, *Khakassia*, *Komi*, *Mari El*, *Mordovia*, *Sakha/Yakutia*, *Tatarstan*, *Tuva*, and *Udmurtia*.

Spanish Autonomous Provinces

Various regions in the State of Spain have been accorded some degree of political and cultural autonomy, namely *Euskadi/Basque Country*, *Catalonia*, and *Galicia*. Although there exists some forces demanding full independence, these are not independent states at the present.

C. Africa

Sources: Microsoft® Encarta® Encyclopedia 99, the 1998 CIA World Factbook on-line edition (1998), Encyclopedia Britannica, and Cambridge History of Africa (1970), The Economist (1995) on Somaliland, and de Klerk (1975) on the Afrikaaner republics.

C.I. States included

Cape Verde (402, CAP): 1975-1997

The total estimated population in 1998 is 399,857 (Central Intelligence Agency 1998). Becomes independent on 5 July 1975.

Guinea-Bissau (404, GNB): 1974-Present

Becomes independent on 10 September 1974.

Gambia (420, GAM): 1965-Present

Becomes independent on 18 February 1965.

Mali (432, MLI): 1960-Present

Becomes independent on 22 September 1960.

Senegal (433, SEN): 1960-Present

Becomes independent (from France) on 4 April 1960. [Revised 13 October 2003.]

Benin (434, BEN): 1960-Present

Becomes independent on 1 August 1960.

Mauritania (435, MAA): 1960-Present

Becomes independent on 28 November 1960.

Niger (436, NIR): 1960-Present

Becomes independent on 3 August 1960. [Numeric code revised on 5 January 2003.]

Côte D'Ivoire (Ivory Coast) (437, CDI): 1960-Present

Becomes independent on 7 August 1960.

Guinea (438, GUI): 1958-Present

Becomes independent on 2 October 1958.

Burkina Faso (Upper Volta) (439, BFO): 1960-Present

Becomes independent on 5 August 1960.

Liberia (450, LBR): 1847-Present

Liberia became an independent republic in July 1847. Britain recognized Liberia in 1848, France in 1852, and the United States in 1862. The 1920 independence date in COW seems a result of an arbitrary decision to discount the period before WWI. Following Polity 3d, we use 26 July as the effective start date. [Revised 15 August 2000.]

Sierra Leone (451, SIE): 1961-Present

Becomes independent on 27 April 1961.

Ghana (452, GHA): 1957-Present

Becomes independent on 6 March 1957.

Equatorial Guinea (411, EQG): 1968-Present

The total estimated population in 1998 is 454,001 (Central Intelligence Agency 1998).

Becomes independent on 12 October 1968. [Revised on 13 May 2003.]

Togo (461, TOG): 1960-Present

Becomes independent on 27 April 1960.

Cameroon (471, CAO): 1960-Present

Becomes independent on 1 January 1960.

Nigeria (475, NIC): 1960-Present

Becomes independent on 1 October 1960.

Gabon (481, GAB): 1960-Present

Becomes independent on 17 August 1960. [Revised 15 August 2000.]

Central African Republic (482, CEN): 1960-Present

Becomes independent on 13 August 1960.

Chad (483, CHA): 1960-Present

Becomes independent on 11 August 1960.

Congo (484, CON): 1960-Present

Becomes independent on 15 August 1960. [Revised in data on 3 May 2002].

Democratic Republic of Congo/Zaire (490, DRC): 1960-Present

Becomes independent on 30 June 1960. Note label change from ZAI to DRC to reflect the official name change after Laurence Kabila assumed power. [Revised 15 August 2000.]

Uganda (500, UGA): 1962-Present

Becomes independent on 9 October 1962.

Kenya (501, KEN): 1963-Present

Becomes independent on 12 December 1963.

Tanzania (510, TAZ): 1961-Present

We regard Tanganyika, independent on 9 December 1961, as a precursor to the Union of Tanzania, effective from 26 April 1964.

Zanzibar (511, ZAN): 1963-1964

Zanzibar is an independent state from 19 December 1963 before uniting with Tanganyika to form Tanzania in 26 April 1964.

Burundi (516, BUI): 1962-Present

Burundi becomes an independent kingdom on 1 July 1962.

Rwanda (517, RWA): 1962-Present

Belgium grants Rwanda independence on 7 January 1962.

Somalia (520, SOM): 1960-Present

Becomes independent on 1 July 1960.

Djibouti (522, DJI)

The total estimated population in 1998 is 440,727 (Central Intelligence Agency 1998).

Becomes independent on 27 June 1977. [Revised on 13 October 2003.]

Ethiopia (530, ETH): 1855-Present

While Ethiopia was never colonized by European powers, the country was largely fractured after the death of emperor Yiasus I in 1706 with the Ethiopian church as the only unifying institution. Kassa Haylu defeats many regional rulers with support of the church, and declares himself Emperor Theodore II in 1855. Following Polity 3d, we use 11 February 1855 as the starting date. Italy occupies Ethiopia between 1936 and 1941. [Revised 15 August 2000.]

Eritrea (531, ERI): 1993-Present

Eritrea is *de facto* independent since 29 May 1991. The Ethiopian government approves its independence was after a 23-25 April 1993 referendum. Independence day is 24 May 1993. [Revised 13 October 2003.]

Angola (540, ANG): 1975-Present

Becomes independent on 11 November 1975.

Mozambique (541, MZM): 1975-Present

Becomes independent on 25 June 1975.

Zambia (551, ZAM): 1964-Present

Becomes independent on 24 October 1964.

Zimbabwe/Rhodesia (552, ZIM): 1965-Present

Becomes independent with UDI (unilateral declaration of independence) on 11 November 1965.

Malawi (553, MAW): 1964-Present

Becomes independent on 6 July 1964.

Transvaal (563, TRA): 1852-1910

Rising resentment to British rule leads many Afrikaners to advocate “quitting the colony” and migrate to restore independent farming communities in the interior. This migration, known as “The Great Trek”, divides South Africa into British colonies, African tribal land, and various Boer republics vying for independence from British rule. Two of these develop governmental and administrative institutions, namely the Orange Free State, between the rivers Orange and the Vaal, and Transvaal, the area north of the Vaal river.

The British recognize the independence of the farmers north of the Vaal at the Sand River convention in January 1852. Transvaal and the Orange Free State merge with the British territories to form the Union of South Africa on 31 May 1910 as established under the South Africa Act passed by the British parliament.

Orange Free State (564, OFS): 1854-1910

Rising resentment to British rule leads many Afrikaners to advocate “quitting the colony”, and migrate to restore independent farming communities in the interior. This migration, known as “The Great Trek”, divides South Africa into British colonies, African tribal land, and various Boer republics vying for independence from British rule. Two of these develop governmental and administrative institutions, namely the Orange Free State, between the rivers Orange and the Vaal, and Transvaal, the area north of the Vaal river. The British withdraw from the Orange Free State after the Bloemfontein Convention signed on 28 March 1854. The Orange Free State is merged with Transvaal and the British territories to form the Union of South Africa on 31 May 1910.

South Africa (560, SAF): 1910-Present

The British territories merge with the Orange Free State and Transvaal to form the Union of South Africa on 31 May 1910 as established under the South Africa Act passed by the British parliament.

Namibia (565, NAM): 1990-Present

Becomes independent on 21 March 1990.

Lesotho (570, LES): 1966-Present

Becomes independent on 4 October 1966.

Botswana (571, BOT): 1966-Present

Becomes independent on 30 September 1966.

Swaziland (572, SWA): 1968-Present

Becomes independent on 6 September 1968.

Madagascar (580, MAG): 1816-1896, 1960-Present

Madagascar existed an independent kingdom prior to European colonialization. King Andrianampoinimerina founded a state with a territorial administration and an army, and in the early 19th century Madagascar maintained relations with other states. France claimed Madagascar under Louis XVI, but never gained control over the country. Over the course of a war from 1882 to 1885, the French first occupied Diego Suarez and on 17 1885 a treaty was signed where France would represent Madagascar in all its external relations. Madagascar remained largely autonomous until France in 1895 decides to change its status to a colony. This was recognized by Britain and Germany in 1890. In 1894 the French claimed the island. After the suppression of popular resistance, a colony is proclaimed on 6 August 1896. The Queen was deposed in 1897. Contemporary Madagascar becomes independent on 26 June 1960. [Revised on 9 April 2001.]

Comoros Islands (581, COM): 1975-Present

Becomes independent on 6 July 1975.

Mauritius (590, MAS): 1968-Present
Becomes independent on 12 March 1968.

C.II. States not included

C.II.1 African microstates

São Tomé and Príncipe (403, STP)

The total estimated population in 1998 is 150,123 (Central Intelligence Agency 1998). COW dates of independence are 1975-1997. It achieves independence from Portugal on 12 July 1975, and becomes a member of the UN on 16 September 1975.

Seychelles (591, SEY)

The total estimated population in 1998 is 78,641 (Central Intelligence Agency 1998). COW dates of independence are 1976-1997. It achieves independence from the UK on 29 June 1976, and becomes a member of the UN on 21 September 1976.

C.II.2 South African Bantustans

South African Bantustans were designated homelands for the Black African population created during the Apartheid Area. While many were governed directly under the South Africa, some did declare full independence, although no other countries than South Africa recognized these states. Though most Bantustans were largely controlled by South Africa, their independence was not completely fictional. A military coup in Transkei in 1989, for example, brought into power a regime openly allied with the ANC. The Bantustans were officially reincorporated in South Africa in 1994. These include *Bophuthatswana*, *Ciskeia/Ciskei*, *Gazankulu*, *KaNgwanema*, *KwaNdebele*, *KwaZulu*, *Lebowa*, *Qwaqwa*, *Transkei*, and *Venda*.

C.II.3 Historical polities

Natal

The province of Natal is independent from 1872-1877. Its total population at the time was probably less than 10,000.

Pre-colonial kingdoms

Numerous African kingdoms in existence prior to colonialization such as Madagascar may have resembled effective independent states.

C.II.4 De facto independent states not recognized by other states

Somaliland (1991-Present)

In 1991, an independent republic was proclaimed on the territory of the former British protectorate of Somaliland.

D. Middle East

Sources: CIA World Factbook on-line edition (1998), Encyclopedia Britannica, Microsoft® Encarta® Encyclopedia 99, Library of Congress Country Studies on-line edition (1999), Blainey (1988), First (1974), Harris (1986), Valensi (1977), and Richmond (1977).

Morocco (600, MOR): 1816-1904, 1956-Present

Following years of intrusion from various European, Morocco is ultimately declared a French protectorate in 1904. France recognizes its independence on 2 March 1956.
[Revised on 13 October.]

Algeria (615, ALG): 1816-1830, 1962-Present

France invades and defeats the dey of Algiers on 5 July 1830, although much of the country is not fully subdued until much later. France recognizes its independence on 5 July 1962.

Tunisia (616, TUN): 1816-1881, 1956-Present

While formally under the Ottoman empire, Tunisia enjoys considerable autonomy and locally administered rule under the deys of Tunis. On 12 May 1881, the reigning bey accepts a treaty rendering Tunisia a French protectorate. France recognizes the independence of Tunisia in 1956.

Libya (620, LIB): 1816-1834, 1952-Present

Contemporary Libya was occupied by the Ottomans since 155, but remains a backwater in the empire. A local family (Kavamali) holds considerable effective local power from 1711. Following the defeat of Algeria, the Ottomans re-occupies Tripoli in 1835 and reinforce their control over the territory. France and Britain are largely content with keeping Libya a buffer zone between their colonies, and do not challenge Ottoman rule. Italy invades Ottoman Libya in 1911. France and Britain control the territory after Italy's defeat in WWII. The independence of the Kingdom of Libya is proclaimed on 24 December 1951, and approved by the United Nations beginning 1 January 1952.

Sudan (625, SUD): 1956-Present

The Republic of the Sudan is formally established on 1 January 1956

South Sudan (626, SSD): 2011-Present

South Sudan has a long history of armed resistance to rule by the North. It became an independent state on 9 July 2011, following a referendum. [Revised on 10 March 2013.]

Iran (Persia) (630, IRN): 1816-Present

Iran or Persia is never colonized.

Turkey (Ottoman Empire) (640, TUR): 1816-Present

Iraq (645, IRQ): 1932-Present

The Kingdom of Iraq is accepted as a sovereign state to the United Nations on 3 October 1932.

Egypt (651, EGY): 1827-1882, 1922-Present

Egypt is part of the Ottoman empire at the outset of 19th century. While local authorities initially largely obey Ottoman orders, Muhammad Ali begins to assert independence during the campaign in Greece when irritated by perceived mistreatment by the Ottomans. Under Muhammad Ali, Egypt attacks the Ottoman Empire twice. We have opted for 1827 as starting date for effective Egyptian independence. Egypt gradually falls under European influence after the death of Muhammed Ali in 1849. In 1882 the British occupy Egypt. United Kingdom declares Egypt an independent Monarchy on 28 February 1922. [Revised on 13 October 2003.]

Syria (652, SYR): 1946-Present

Syria gains independence after the withdrawal of British troop in 1946, ending attempts of French domination. It entered into a federation between with Egypt between 1958 and 1961, when independence was restored after an Army coup.

Lebanon (660, LEB): 1943-Present

The Republic of Lebanon becomes independent in 22 November 1943.

Jordan (663, JOR): 1946-Present

Becomes independent on 25 May 1946.

Israel (666, ISR): 1948-Present

Becomes independent on 14 May 1948.

Saudi Arabia (670, SAU): 1932-Present

Precursor states is independent beginning, but gradually loses territory from the fall of Mecca in 1802 until the Ottomans and various clans assume control of the region after a civil war in 1865. By about 1900 the Saudi family launches a new attack, retaking Riyadh by 1902 and progressively recaptures area over the next three decades. Abdul Aziz ibn Saud proclaims the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on 23 September 1932. We recognize the difficulties in establishing the initial date for effective independence, and have opted for the latter date as a conservative starting date.

Yemen/Yemen Arab Republic (678, YEM): 1918-Present

The Ottomans are forced to evacuate North Yemen after World War I on 30 October 1918. The (North) Arab and (South) People's Republic merged on 22 May 1990 to form the Republic of Yemen. South Yemen became increasingly wary of the union and tries to secede in 1994. A civil war breaks out, and Northern forces eventually seize control over Southern Yemen. We thus consider unified Yemen to be a continuation of the Yemen Arab Republic rather than a new polity. [Revised on 13 October 2003.]

Yemen People's Republic (680, YPR): 1967-1989

Becomes independent in November 1967. It merges with the (North) Arab Republic on 22 May 1990 to form the Republic of Yemen. Following Polity 3d, we use 30 November 1967 as the effective starting date. South Yemen became increasingly wary of the union and tries to secede in 1994. A civil war breaks out, and Northern forces eventually seize control over Southern Yemen. We thus consider unified Yemen to be a continuation of the Yemen Arab Republic rather than a new polity. [Revised 15 August 2000.]

Kuwait (690, KUW): 1961-Present

Becomes independent on 19 June 1961. Kuwait is occupied by Iraq from 1990 to 1991.

Bahrain (692, BAH): 1971-Present

Becomes independent on 15 August 1971.

Qatar (694, QAT): 1971-Present

The total estimated population in 1998 is 697,126, but 516,508 are non-nationals (Central Intelligence Agency 1998). Becomes independent on 3 September 1971.

United Arab Emirates (696, UAE): 1971-Present

Becomes independent on 2 December 1971.

Oman (698, OMA): 1816-Present

Oman is independent since the defeat of the Portuguese in the mid 17th century, although Great Britain has exerted considerable influence over its foreign policy. The COW 1971 independence date refers to Oman joining the League of Arab States.

D.II. States not included in the Middle East**D.II.1 Semi-autonomous entities****Individual Arab Emirates**

The United Arab Emirates is a very loose federation of thirteen independent kingdom. However, we consider this a single state, and do not include the individual emirates of *Abu Dhabi*, *Ajman*, *Dubai*, *Al Fujayrah*, *Ra's al Khaymah*, *Ash Shâriqah*, and *Umm al Qaywayn*.

Palestine

While an independent state might eventually grow out of the self-governing areas on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, the Palestinian authorities have not yet declared such an independent state.

E. Asia

Sources: Sources: CIA World Factbook on-line edition (1998), Encyclopedia Britannica, Cambridge History of China (1977), Cambridge History of Japan (1988), Cambridge History of South East Asia (1992), Furnivall (1948) on Burma, Microsoft® Encarta® Encyclopedia 99, and Library of Congress Country Studies on-line edition (1999).

Afghanistan (700, AFG): 1816-1880, 1919-Present

Britain seizes control over Afghanistan's foreign relations after the second Anglo-Afghan War in 1880, and the country is essentially used as a buffer between the Russian and British Empires. The peace treaty after the Third Afghan War in 1919 recognizes the independence of Afghanistan. According to COW, this war ends on 1 May 1919. [Date revised on 15 August 2000].

Turkmenistan (701, TKM): 1991-Present

Becomes independent on 27 October 1991 following the dissolution of the Soviet Union after the failed coup. [Revised on 13 October 2003.]

Tajikistan (702, TAJ): 1991-Present

Becomes independent on 9 September 1991.

Kyrgyz Republic (703, KYR): 1991-Present

Becomes independent on 31 August 1991.

Uzbekistan (704, UZB): 1991-Present

Becomes independent on 31 August 1991.

Kazakhstan (705, KZK): 1991-Present

Becomes independent on 16 December 1991.

China (710, CHN): 1816-Present

China is never colonized by the West, although it was forced to make various concessions to the West after its defeat in the First Opium War.

Tibet (711, TBT): 1913-1950

Following the overthrow of China's Qing dynasty in 1911, Tibetans reassert their independence in 1912 and expel all Chinese officials and troops from the region. The Chinese are effectively ousted by 1913, and representatives of Britain, China, and Tibet meet in Simla in January to discuss Tibet's status and borders. The representatives reach a tentative agreement providing for Inner Tibet to become part of China proper as well as an autonomous Outer Tibet. The Chinese government does not ratify the Chinese government and refuse to abandon its claim to all of Tibet. In 1918 China and Tibet clash in eastern Tibet, and the British help negotiate a truce. In October 1950, Communist troops invade and occupy Tibet. We use 1 January 1913 as the effective start date of independence, corresponding to the end of the Tibetan war of independence [revised on 21 March 2013.]

Mongolia (712, MON): 1921-Present

Becomes independent on 13 March 1921.

Taiwan (Republic of China) (713, TAW): 1949-Present

The Kuomintang government led by general Chiang-Kai-shek moved its capital to Taipei on 8 December 1949 when losing their hold on the mainland to the communists. This effectively marks the origins of a new independent state, although many states to this date only recognize one of the two Chinas.

Korea (730, KOR): 1816-1910

Japan annexes Korea on 22 August 1910 and is occupied until 15 August 1945. The USA and the USSR established separate governments north and south of the 38th parallel, following the defeat of Japan in World War II.

North Korea (731, PRK): 1948-Present

The Democratic Republic of Korea is proclaimed on 9 September 1948, in a direct response to the new republic in the south. [Revised on 13 October.]

South Korea (732, ROK): 1948-Present

The Republic of Korea is founded on 15 August 1948.

Japan (740, JPN): 1816-Present

Japan is occupied by the USA in the wake of its defeat in World War II. Full independence is restored in 1952 following the 1951 Peace Treaty.

India (750, IND): 1947-Present

Becomes independent on 15 August 1947.

Bhutan (760, BHU): 1949-Present

Previously under British Domination, the independence of Bhutan is recognized in a 1949 Peace and Friendship Treaty between Bhutan and India.

Pakistan (770, PAK): 1947-Present

Becomes independent on 14 August 1947.

Bangladesh (771, BNG): 1971-Present

Becomes formally independent on 16 December 1971. Note that although 26 March 1971 is known as the day of independence from West Pakistan, the state of Bangladesh was officially created on 16 December 1971 (a.k.a. Victory Day). [Revised on 13 October 2003.]

Myanmar/Burma (775, MYA): 1816-1885, 1948-Present

Burmese emerged as an independent kingdom about 900 BC. During the 19th century, the British fought several wars with Burma from their colonial bases in India. After the first war (1824-1826), Burma surrendered Arakan and Tenasserim to the British. After the second war in 1852, the lower Burma region came under British control and was governed as a province of British India. Britain moves to annex upper Burma following commercial treaties between Burma and France in 1885. The Burmese king surrenders following a British ultimatum on 1 January 1886. Burma became an autonomous colony separate from India in 1937. During the second world war, Japan invaded Burma with considerable help from local organizations and the army. After Japan's defeat in 1945, the

British re-established control of Burma. Contemporary Myanmar/Burma becomes independent on 4 January 1948. [Revised on 9 April 2001.]

Sri Lanka (780, SRI): 1948-Present

Becomes independent on 4 February 1948.

Maldives Islands (781, MAD): 1965-Present

The total estimated population in 1998 is 290,211 (Central Intelligence Agency 1998). Becomes independent on 26 May 1965.

Nepal (790, NEP): 1816-Present

Nepal maintained close contact and military collaboration with the UK, but was never colonized. A 1923 treaty with Britain reaffirms the independence of Nepal.

Thailand (800, THI): 1816-Present

Thailand is never colonized by Western powers.

Cambodia (811, CAM): 1954-Present

Cambodia acquires full independence from France in 1954.

Laos (812, LAO): 1954-Present

Laos after 1713 is split into the three states of Louangphrabang, Vientiane, and Champasak. These are ruled by Thailand (Siam) until French occupation in 1893. Contemporary Laos is independent after the Geneva conference in May 1954.

Vietnam (Annam/Cochin China/Tonkin) (815, VNM): 1816-1893

The Nguyen dynasty based in Hue maintains control over most of the country from 1802. France launches an invasion in 1858, and emperor Tu Duc grants several provinces to France known as "Cochin China" in 1862. Military hostilities are renewed in 1880, and the Vietnamese court accepts French sovereignty over the remaining territories (Annam and Tonkin) in 1893.

Democratic Republic of Vietnam (816, DRV): 1954-Present

Effectively independent after the Geneva conference in May 1954. Although the Geneva conference intended the two parts to be reunited after two years, the North and the South remained separate. We code South Vietnam as merging with the republic of Vietnam on 30 April 1975. Its leader Thieu resigned on April 21 and the capital Saigon fell on the 30th. [Revised on 3 May 2002.]

Republic of Vietnam (817, RVN): 1954-1975

Effectively independent after the Geneva conference in May 1954. It is defeated by North Vietnam 30 April 1975. A provisional revolutionary government assumed control, and the North and the South formally merge in 1976.

Malaysia (820, MAL): 1957-Present

Malaysia is a federation between the Republic of Malaya, Sarawak, Sabah, and (until 1963) Singapore. We consider Malaya subsequent to Independence on 31 August 1957 as the precursor of Malaysia. Sarawak and Sabah were not independent prior to 1963.

Singapore (830, SIN): 1959-Present

Singapore is independent since 9 August 1959, but was part of Malaysia between 1963 and 1965.

Brunei (835, BRU)

The total estimated population in 1998 is 315,292 (Central Intelligence Agency 1998). Becomes independent on 1 January 1984.

Philippines (840, PHI): 1946-Present

Becomes independent on 4 July 1946.

Indonesia (850, INS): 1945-Present

Indonesia declares itself an independent republic on 17 August 1945. Britain withdraws troops and encourages the Dutch to sign a treaty providing for Indonesian Independence. The Netherlands, however, claims the Indonesians violate the agreement, and make some efforts to reestablish control over territory held by the republic, but is eventually persuaded by international pressure to recognize Indonesian Independence.

East Timor (860, ETM) 2002-Present

East Timor is formally granted independence from Indonesia on 20 May 2002 by after a period of transition rule by the United Nations. It is adopted as a member of the United Nations on 27 September 2002. Formerly a Portuguese colony, East Timor is invaded and annexed by Indonesia shortly after the retreat of Portugal in 1975. The UN intervenes in response to massive violence following a 1999 referendum on independence. [Revised on 14 May 2003].

E.II Asian States not included**Hong Kong**

Hong Kong came under British control following the Opium Wars and was a British crown colony until it was transferred to China on 1 July 1997. Although Hong Kong has a history of autonomous institutions and is often included as a separate entity in international statistics, we do not consider Hong Kong to be an independent state. [Revised 9 April 2001.]

E.II.1 Historical Asian polities**Hyderabadh (751, HYD)**

At the time of the partition of India, the Nizam of Hyderabadh decided to join neither India nor Pakistan, choosing instead to remain independent. The country is clearly not under the effective control of either the former colonial power (UK) or the country contesting its independence (India). However, we have not included Hyderabadh as a state as we are unable to find evidence of any states recognizing Hyderabadh. India invaded and annexed the enclave of Hyderabad State into the Indian Union in 1948. [Revised 10 March 2013.]

Japanese puppet states during WWII

These include Cambodia, Indonesia, and Manchukuo

Kazakh hordes

Various Kazakh hordes exist in Central Asia prior to final Russian conquest in 1848. However, it is unclear whether these would qualify as states. Note that they also pay tribute to Russia from the mid-18th century.

Sikkim

The current Indian province has exercised considerable independence prior to full incorporation in India in 1975

Turkmen khanates

Several Turkmen khanates (Bukhoro, Khiva, and Qûqon) maintain control over much of Central Asia prior to the Russian conquest of Central Asia in 1876. We have not included these, although we recognize that further information may suggest that these qualify as independent states.

E.II.2 De Facto Independent entities**Bougainville**

An area of Papua New Guinea that declares itself independent in 1990. Bougainville is not recognized by any other state.

Karen

A territory controlled by the rebel Karen National Union in Myanmar/Burma.

Shan

A territory controlled by the rebel Shan State Army in Myanmar/Burma.

F. Oceania

Sources: Sources: Microsoft® Encarta® Encyclopedia 99, the 1998 CIA World Factbook on-line edition (1998), Encyclopedia Britannica, Cambridge History of the Pacific Islanders (1997)

F.I States included in Oceania

Australia (900, AUL): 1901-Present

The creation of the Commonwealth of Australia is accepted by the British parliament on 1 January 1901.

Papua New Guinea (910, PNG): 1975-Present

Becomes independent on 16 September 1975.

New Zealand (920, NEW): 1907-Present

New Zealand is officially designated a dominion by the UK in September 1907.

Solomon Islands (940, SOL): 1978-Present

The total estimated population in 1998 is 441,039 (Central Intelligence Agency 1998). Becomes independent on 7 July 1978.

Fiji (950, FIJ): 1970-Present

Becomes independent on 10 October 1970. (Note that whereas COW's system membership list uses FIJ, the label FJI is used in the most new data released by the project, such as the MID data set.) [Revised on 13 October].

F.II States not included in Oceania

F.II.1 Formally independent microstates

Federated States of Micronesia (987, FSM)

The total estimated population in 1998 is 129,658 (Central Intelligence Agency 1998). Formerly a US-administered UN Trusteeship, it achieves independence on 3 November 1986. The COW dates of independence are 1991-1997. It becomes a member of the UN on 17 September 1991.

Kiribati (970, KBI)

The total estimated population in 1998 is 83,976 (Central Intelligence Agency 1998). Kiribati achieves independence from the UK on 12 July 1979. It becomes a member of the UN on 14 September 1999.

Marshall Islands (983, MSI)

The total estimated population in 1998 is 63,031 (Central Intelligence Agency 1998). Formerly a US-administered UN Trusteeship, it achieves independence on 21 October 1986. The COW dates of independence are 1991-1997.

Nauru (971, NAU)

The total estimated population in 1998 is 10,501 (Central Intelligence Agency 1998). Formerly a UN trusteeship administered by Australia, New Zealand, and the UK, Nauru achieves independence on 31 January 1968. It becomes a member of the UN on 14 September 1999.

Palau (986, PAL)

The total estimated population in 1998 is 18,100 (Central Intelligence Agency 1998). Formerly a US-administered UN Trusteeship Independent, Palau achieves independence on 1 October 1994. COW dates of independence are 1994-1997.

Samoa/Western Samoa (990, WSM)

The total estimated population in 1998 is 224,713, but some estimates are as low as 160,000 (Central Intelligence Agency 1998). Formerly a UN trusteeship administered by New Zealand, it becomes independent on 1 January 1962. The COW dates of independence are 1976-1997. Samoa becomes a member of the UN on 15 December 1976.

Tonga (972, TON)

The total estimated population in 1998 is 108,207 (Central Intelligence Agency 1998). Tonga is independent since 4 June 1970, and becomes a member of the UN on 14 September 1999.

Tuvalu (973, TUV)

The total estimated population in 1998 is 10,444 (Central Intelligence Agency 1998). Tuvalu becomes independent of the UK on 1 October 1978.

Vanuatu (935, VAN)

The total estimated population in 1998 is 185,204 (Central Intelligence Agency 1998). COW dates of independence are 1981-1997. Vanuatu becomes independent on 30 July 1980 from France and the UK. It becomes a member of the UN on 15 September 1981.

C.II.2 Semi-sovereign entities**Cook Islands**

The total estimated population in 1998 is 19,989 (Central Intelligence Agency 1998). Self-governing in free association with New Zealand since 1965. Fully autonomous in internal affairs, but New Zealand retains control over external affairs.

Niue

The total estimated population in 1998 is 1,647 (Central Intelligence Agency 1998). Self-governing in free association with New Zealand since 1974. Fully autonomous in internal affairs, but New Zealand retains control over external affairs.

Northern Mariana Islands

The total estimated population in 1998 is 66,561 (Central Intelligence Agency 1998). Commonwealth in political union with the USA.

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