

Agreement chapter

Andrew Owsiak <aowskiak@uga.edu>

Mon 6/1/2020 11:32 AM

To: George Watson Williford <Williford@uga.edu>

 1 attachments (6 MB)

agreementschapter.pdf;

George,

My comments for the agreement chapter are attached. A good first draft!

A few general comments:

- Considering organizing the theory around (i) attempt, then (ii) concessions, then (iii) settlements. This makes more logical sense, I think.
- The hypotheses might come at the end of the preceding section, unless there is new information. It seems like the hypothesis section repeats the previous section's discussion, though.
- Can the theoretical story be streamlined more, focused around the bargaining. Two rational states dispute a piece of territory. They have incentives to settle and incentives to not. Why would economic trade dominate?
- The domestic story gets muddled a bit. It seems like it could go either way – it either supports or hinders settlement. Can you pull these factors apart? If not, are there competing hypotheses?
- The theory sounds like economic trade increases settlement, etc. Settlement also promotes economics (Simmons 2005). It might be good to engage Simmons and perhaps defend against endogeneity here.
- The results need greater discussion. Reference table and figure values to facilitate reading, and highlight the most important findings. Are there alternative explanations that the paper considers, and if so, what evidence suggests your proposed argument performs better?
- Introduce the hazard and cure terminology much earlier, in the modeling section. This comes out of nowhere for readers, and it is not clear what the paper is doing.
- What are the implications of the study? Why does it matter? Engaging the debate of discrepant findings early on helps, but it will raise the question: does this study “get it right”? How do we know?
- Cut repetition where possible and add examples. The Chinese example helps a lot.

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Andrew Owsiak
Josiah Meigs Distinguished Teaching Professor
Associate Professor, Department of International Affairs
University of Georgia
p (706) 542-6705
w <https://www.andrewowsiak.org/>

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From: Andrew Owsiak <aowskiak@uga.edu>

Date: Monday, June 1, 2020 at 11:12 AM

To: Andrew Owsiak <aowskiak@uga.edu>

Subject: <no subject>

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Andrew Owsiak
Associate Professor, Department of International Affairs
University of Georgia
www.andrewowsiak.org