An Event Database of the Turkish-Kurdish Conflict from 1984 to 2018

Release 0

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CONTENTS

What is The Turkish-Kurdish Event Database ?

The Turkish-Kurdish Event Database is an agnostic archive of the human rights abuses commited in Anatolia by any group or agent.

The documentation will present to you the first version of a paper written by Dr. Demet Mousseau and Justin Napolitano, both of the University of Central Florida.

It was presented at the Hague in 2019 at *The Peace Economics Conference.*

A follow up is currently in production which will migrate the data to a Graph DB that strictly adheres to the person, object, location, event (POLE) schema. It will also implement an NLP algorithm to parse event data in real time.

ONE

INTRODUCTION

Overview

This Section introduces the background of the Kurdish-Turkish Conflict and describes the intent of the research.

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1.1 The Kurdish Issue

The Kurdish issue has affected the Turkish state since the establishment of the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) in the late 1970's. Fighting for autonomy, the PKK has been the source of violence in southeastern Turkey, as terroristic events have taken the lives of countless Turkish civilians. The PKK has committed a range of human rights violations, including the utilization of child soldiers and the establishment of a comprehensive human trafficking network. The victims of these actions are not exclusively Turkish; in addition to these crimes leaking into the neighboring Syria and Iraq, PKK criminal activity has stretched into Europe, including Romania and Italy. In short, the PKK's actions have been broad and destructive.

1.2 The Turkish Issue

The Turkish state is not only a target, but also victim of the conflict. Despite being signatories to several human rights agreements – including the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights – Turkey has passed controversial government orders to restrict the basic rights of their Kurdish population. These include, but are not limited to, the manipulation of local elections, the implementation of state guards, and curfews in primarily Kurdish areas. As a consequence of the fighting between the two groups, human rights violations have been plentiful. Innocent civilians of all ethnicities are the true victims.

1.3 Intent of Research

The primary intent of our research is to provide evidence of the social impact of the ongoing Kurdish national movement. A special emphasis is placed upon events relating to women and to children. Secondarily, we strive to capture the human rights abuses committed by all parties involved.

1.4 The Data

1.4.1 Scope

The Turkish-Kurdish Database contains information on protests, riots, strikes, etc. . . in Turkey with regard to Kurdish national and political movements. There is no one Kurdish political party, nor is there one military arm. Thus, the objective of this dataset is to capture all events with respect to Kurdish action within the state of Turkey.

We do acknowledge that Kurdish factions within Turkey do no limit their range of action to the borders of the state. Thus, international events that can be directly tied to a Kurdish organization based within the state of Turkey will also be captured in this dataset.

1.4.2 Coding Procedure

Our coding procedures adopt the coding methodology of selected variables from the UCDP/Prio conflict dataset to maximize interoperability. Each variable selected from the dataset are labeled with a UCDP tag. As such, we have recoded a number of variables found in the UCDP/Prio Dataset to fit the methodology of our research.

We further enhance the dataset by adding a human rights component to record violations according to international treaties. These are reflected by the human_rights_1 and human_rights_2 variables. As we chose to focus on women and children dichotomous variables have been added to designate whether any given event effects women and another to designate the same for children. Also, variables have been added to account for deaths of women and of children.

EVENT QUERY PROCEDURE

Overview

This section explaines the search procedures used to query the Lexis-Nexis database. It can be used by research assistants to code events.

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2.1 Primary Search Procedure

1. Paste the following into the search bar on the Nexis Uni home page:
   - hlead(turkey) and women or rape or slavery or sexual or trafficking or child labor or child soldier or children or violence and publication(Agence France Presse - English or associated press international)
2. Select the filter results drop down menu.
3. Select appropriate date ranges

2.2 Query Result Sorting Procedure

1. Begin with the oldest listed resulted. Then proceed chronologically. For each story, determine if the information is relevant to the data project. If not, discard the story.
2. During periods of civil conflict, defined by the start and end dates in the Uppsala Armed Conflict Database, code violent events associated with the civil conflicts.
3. Group duplicate articles together as a single event. In the case of disputed information, cite the most common estimates, and/or the most recently cited.

4. In the case that one article covers multiple events determine if the main actor(s), target(s), and issue(s) are different, and if so, code these as distinct events.

5. Code a new event if the actor(s), target(s), and issue(s) are different or if there is substantial time that elapses between on event and another. If the actors, targets, and issues are the same, but there is a brief lull in activity, code it as the same event, so long as there is significant "momentum" linking the time periods.

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DATABASE SCHEMA

Overview

This section documents the schema of the DB.

You will find the *Schema Definitions* and the *Reference Tables* below.

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Contents

- *Database Schema*
    - *Schema Definitions*
    - *Reference Tables*

3.1 Schema Definitions

Overview

This section contains the definitions and descriptions for every variable recorded in the data set.

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3.1.1 Year

Definition

Records the Year an event occurs.

Data Type

Integer.

Reference Table

Overview Table.

3.1.2 Aggressor_ID

Definition

Records the ID of the aggressor of an event; the agent or group that commits a human right violation.

Data Type

Categorical Integer.

Reference Table

Aggressor Table .

3.1.3 Aggressor_Name

Definition

Records the name of the aggressor of an event; the agent or group that commits a human right violation.

Data Type

String.

Reference Table

Aggressor Table.

3.1.4 Victim_ID

Definition

Records the ID of the victim of an event; the agent or group that is victim to a human right violation commited by the aggressor.

Data Type

Categorical integer.

Reference Table

Victim Table.

3.1.5 Victim_Name

Definition

Records the name of the victim of an event; the agent or group that is victim to a human right violation commited by the aggressor.

Data Type

String.

Reference Table

Victim Table.

3.1.6 Source_Article

Definition

A record of the name, data, and title of the source from which information on an event is gathered.

Data Type

> String.

Reference Table

> *Overview Table*.

3.1.7 Source_Date

Definition

> The date the source material containing the information of an event record.

Data Type

> DateStamp.

Reference Table

> *Overview Table*.

3.1.8 Source_Headline

Definition

> The title of the source material containing the information of an event record.

Data Type

> String.

Reference Table

> *Overview Table*.

3.1.9 Region_Name

Defintion

> The name of the administrative region an event was recorded. Regions are defined according the offical provincial and administrative regions of the Turkish State.

Data Type

String.

Reference Table

Region Table.

3.1.10 Region_Code

Definition

The code of the administrative region an event was recorded. Regions are defined according the offical provincial and administrative regions of the Turkish State.

Data Type

Categorical Integer.

Reference Table

Region Table.

3.1.11 Kurdish_Region

Definition

A boolean variable that indicates whether a region is predominantly Kurdish by population.

Data Type

Boolean.

Reference Table

Overview Table.

3.1.12 Province_Name

Definition

The name of the provincial level administrative region an event was recorded. Provinces are defined according the offical provincial and administrative regions of the Turkish State.

Data Type

String.

Reference Table

Province Table.

3.1.13 Province_Code

Definition

The code of the provincial level administrative region an event was recorded. Provinces are defined according the offical provincial and administrative regions of the Turkish State.

Data Type

Categorical Integer.

Reference Table

Province Table.

3.1.14 Country

Definition

The state (country) where an event is recorded.

Data Type

Integer.

Reference Table

Overview Table.

3.1.15 Date_Start

Definition

A record of the day, month, and year in the DD/MM/YYYY format of when an event takes starts.

If the exact datastamp cannot be determined the best possible date is estimated.

Data Type

DateStamp DD/MM/YYYY.

Reference Table

Overview Table.

3.1.16 Date_End

Definition

A record of the day, month, and yearn in the DD/MM/YYYY format of when an event ends.

Data Type

DateStamp DD/MM/YYYY.

Reference Table

Overview Table.

3.1.17 Women_Killed

Definition

The best estimate of deaths of women recorded for an event.

Data Type

Integer.

Reference Table

Overview Table.

3.1.18 Children_Killed

Definition

The best estimate of the number of deaths of children recorded for an event.

Data Type

Integer.

Reference Table

Overview Table.

3.1.19 Total_Killed

Definition

The sum of Women_Killed, Children_Killed, and any other deaths recorded for an event.

Data Type

Integer.

Reference Table

Overview Table.

3.1.20 Women_Raped

Definition

The recorded number of women during an event.

Data Type

Integer.

Reference Table

Overview Table.

3.1.21 Illegal_Arrests

Definition

The recorded number of people illegally arrested during an event.

Data Type

Integer.

Reference Table

Overview Table.

3.1.22 Illegal_Detentions

Definition

The recorded number of people illegally detained by any non-governmental agent or organization during an event.

Data Type

Integer

Reference Table

Overview Table.

3.1.23 Illegal_Imprisonments

Definition

The recorded number of people illegally imprisoned by the Turkish State during an event.

Data Type

Integer.

Reference Table

Overview Table

3.1.24 Human_Rights_Category_Code

Definition

The code of the category of Human Rights violation as defined by Justin Napolitano and Demet Mousseau. Insert a reference here.

Data Type

Categorical Integer.

Reference Table

Human Rights Category Table.

3.1.25 Human_Rights_Category_Name

Definition

The name of the category of Human Rights violation as defined by Justin Napolitano and Demet Mousseau. Insert a reference here.

Data Type

String.

Reference Table

Human Rights Category Table

3.1.26 Human_Rights_Offense_Code

Definition

The code of the offence to Human Rights as defined by the United Nations or Comparable International Treaty Organization.

Data Type

Categorical Integer.

Reference Table

Human Rights Offense Table.

3.1.27 Human_Rights_Offense_Name

Definition

The name of the offence to Human Rights as defined by the United Nations or Comparable International Treaty Organization.

Data Type

> String.

Reference Table

> *Human Rights Offense Table*

3.1.28 Is_Women_Event

Definition

> A boolean variable that designates if an event primarily affects males or females.
>
> 0 designates an event as affecting males.
>
> 1 designates an event as affecting women.

Data Type

> Boolean.

Reference Table

> *Overview Table*.

3.1.29 Is_Children_Event

Definition

> A boolean variable that designates if an event primarily affects adults or children.
>
> 0 designates an event as affecting adults.
>
> 1 designates an event as affecting children.

Data Type

> Boolean.

Reference Table

> *Overview Table*

3.1.30 Description

Definition

A description of an event that may contain information that could not be relayed in the coding.

Data Type

String.

Reference Table

Overview Table.

3.1.31 ID

Definition

A unique identifier for a coded event

It is constructed by appending the values of:

1. year
2. Aggressor_ID
3. Victim_ID
4. Human_Rights_Category_Code
5. Human_Rights_Offense_Code

For instance, id 19981265 is an event that occurred in 1998 committed by the Turkish government against women. It is a broad violation of Collective Developmental rights. Specifically, the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association

Data Type

String.

Reference Table

Overview Table.

3.2 Reference Tables

Overview

This section contains reference tables for variables coded numerically in the Turkish-Kurdish Conflict Event Database

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- *Overview Table*
- *Aggressor Table*
- *Victim Table*
- *Human Rights Category Table*
- *Human Rights Offense Table*
- *Region Table*
- *Province Table*

3.2.1 Overview Table

Table 1: Overview Table

Variable Name	Data Type
Year	Integer
Aggressor_Id	Categorical Integer
Aggressor_Name	String
Victim_ID	Categorical Integer
Victim_Name	String
Source_Article	String
Source_Date	DateString
Source_Headline	String
Region_Name	String
Kurdish_Region	Boolean
Region_Code	Categorical
Province_Name	String
Province_Code	Categorical
Country	String
Date_Start	String
Date_End	String
Women_Killed	Integer
Children_Killed	Integer
Total_Killed	Integer
Women_Raped	Integer
Illegal_Imprisonments	Integer
Illegal_Arrests	Integer

Table 1 – continued from previous page

Variable Name	Data Type
Illegal_Detentions	Integer
Human_Rights_Category_Code	Categorical
Human_Rights_Category_Name	String
Human_Rights_Offense_Code	Categorical
Human_Rights_Offense_Name	String
Is_Women_Event	Boolean
Is_Children_Event	Boolean
Description	String
ID	Integer

3.2.2 Aggressor Table

Table 2: Aggressor Table

ID	Aggressor
0	Unknown
1	Turkish Government
2	PKK

3.2.3 Victim Table

Table 3: Victim Table

ID	Victim
1	Children
2	Women
3	Civillian
4	Turkish Police
5	Turkish Soldiers

3.2.4 Human Rights Category Table

Table 4: Human Rights Category Table

ID	Category
1	Crimes Against Humanity
2	Women's Political Rights
3	Crimes Against Women
4	Crimes Against Children
5	Socioeconomic
6	Collective Developmental

3.2.5 Human Rights Offense Table

Table 5: Human Rights Offense Table

Category	Category Name	Categorical ID	Unique ID	Offense	Treaty Source
1	Crimes Against Humanity	1	1	Murder	International Labour Organization art.3 1999 & UN General Assembly art. 9, 2001
1	Crimes Against Humanity	2	2	Enslavement	International Labour Organization art.3 1999 & UN General Assembly art. 9, 2001
1	Crimes Against Humanity	3	3	Deportation / Forcible transportation	International Labour Organization art.3 1999 & UN General Assembly art. 9, 2001
1	Crimes Against Humanity	4	4	Illegal imprisonment (Political Imprisonment)	International Labour Organization art.3 1999 & UN General Assembly art. 9, 2001
1	Crimes Against Humanity	5	5	Torture	International Labour Organization art.3 1999 & UN General Assembly art. 9, 2001
1	Crimes Against Humanity	6	6	Targeted persecution	International Labour Organization art.3 1999 & UN General Assembly art. 9, 2001
1	Crimes Against Humanity	7	7	Apartheid	International Labour Organization art.3 1999 & UN General Assembly art. 9, 2001
1	Crimes Against Humanity	8	8	Genocide	UN General Assembly art. 6, 1998
2	Women Political Rights	1	9	Right to vote	UN General Assembly art 7, 1979
2	Women Political Rights	2	10	Right to run for political office	UN General Assembly art 7, 1979
2	Women Political Rights	3	11	Right to hold elected and appointed government positions	UN General Assembly art 7, 1979
2	Women Political Rights	4	12	The Right to participate in non-governmental organizations	UN General Assembly art 7, 1979
2	Women Political Rights	5	13	The right to participate in public and political associations	UN General Assembly art 7, 1979

Table 5 – continued from previous page

3	Crimes Against Women	1	14	Rape	ART. 7, S. g, 2187 U.N.T.S. 90; 37 I.L.M. 1002 (1998)
3	Crimes Against Women	2	15	Sexual slavery	UN General Assembly art 9, 2001
3	Crimes Against Women	3	16	Forced prostitution	UN General Assembly art 9, 2001
3	Crimes Against Women	4	17	Forced pregnancy	ART. 7, S. g, 2187 U.N.T.S. 90; 37 I.L.M. 1002 (1998)
3	Crimes Against Women	5	18	Forced sterilization	ART. 7, S. g, 2187 U.N.T.S. 90; 37 I.L.M. 1002 (1998)
3	Crimes Against Women	6	19	Other forms of sexual violence of comparable gravity	ART. 7, S. g, 2187 U.N.T.S. 90; 37 I.L.M. 1002 (1998)
3	Crimes Against Women	7	20	Trafficking	ART. 7, S. g, 2187 U.N.T.S. 90; 37 I.L.M. 1002 (1998)
4	Crimes Against Children	1	21	Child labor	UN General Assembly art 32, 1989
4	Crimes Against Children	2	22	Child soldiering	UN General Assembly art 38-39, 1989 & UN General Assembly art 1-5, 2000
4	Crimes Against Children	3	23	Sexual slavery	International Labour Organization art.3 1999 & UN General Assembly art. 9, 2001
4	Crimes Against Children	4	24	Trafficking	International Labour Organization art.3 1999 & UN General Assembly art. 9, 2001
4	Crimes Against Children	5	25	Trial as adults	UN General Assembly Art 2, Sec 11, A, 1990
5	Socioeconomic	1	26	Right to education	UN General Assembly Art 26, 1948
5	Socioeconomic	2	27	Right to housing	UN General Assembly Art 25, 1948
5	Socioeconomic	3	28	Right to fair work and wages	UN General Assembly Art 23, 1948
5	Socioeconomic	4	29	Right to adequate living standards	UN General Assembly Art 25, 1948
6	Collective Developmental	1	30	Right to self-determination	UN General Assembly Art 21, 1948
6	Collective Developmental	2	31	Right to freedom of expression	UN General Assembly Art 19, 1948
6	Collective Developmental	3	32	Right to freedom of thought and religion	UN General Assembly Art 18, 1948

Table 5 – continued from previous page

| 6 | Collective Developmental | 4 | 33 | Rights of ethnic and religious minorities | UN General Assembly Art 2, 1948 |
| 6 | Collective Developmental | 5 | 34 | Right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association | UN General Assembly Art 20, 1948 |

3.2.6 Region Table

Table 6: Region Table

ID	Name
1	Istanbul
2	West Marmara
3	Aegean
4	East Marmara
5	West Anatolia
6	Mediterranean
7	Central Anatolio
8	West Black Sea
9	East Black Sea
10	Northeast Anatolio
11	Central East Anatolia
12	Southeast Anatolia

3.2.7 Province Table

Table 7: Province Table

id	Name
1	Adana
2	Adıyaman
3	Afyonkarahisar
4	Ağrı
5	Amasya
6	Ankara
7	Antalya
8	Artvin
9	Aydın
10	Balıkesir
11	Bilecik
12	Bingöl
13	Bitlis
14	Bolu
15	Burdur
16	Bursa
17	Çanakkale
18	Çankırı
19	Çorum

Table 7 – continued from previous page

id	Name
20	Denizli
21	Diyarbakır
22	Edirne
23	Elâzığ
24	Erzincan
25	Erzurum
26	Eskişehir
27	Gaziantep
28	Giresun
29	Gümüşhane
30	Hakkâri
31	Hatay
32	Isparta
33	Mersin
34	Istanbul
35	İzmir
36	Kars
37	Kastamonu
38	Kayseri
39	Kırklareli
40	Kırşehir
41	Kocaeli
42	Konya
43	Kütahya
44	Malatya
45	Manisa
46	Kahramanmaraş
47	Mardin
48	Muğla
49	Muş
50	Nevşehir
51	Niğde
52	Ordu
53	Rize
54	Sakarya
55	Samsun
56	Siirt
57	Sinop
58	Sivas
59	Tekirdağ
60	Tokat
61	Trabzon
62	Tunceli
63	Şanlıurfa
64	Uşak
65	Van
66	Yozgat
67	Zonguldak
68	Aksaray

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id	Name
69	Bayburt
70	Karaman
71	Kırıkkale
72	Batman
73	Şırnak
74	Bartın
75	Ardahan
76	Iğdır
77	Yalova
78	Karabük
79	Kilis
80	Osmaniye
81	Düzce

FOUR

PDF

Overview

This section contains links to download the PDF of this Documentation.

> **Date** Oct 20, 2021
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> **Author** Justin Napolitano

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4.1 Current Manual

> **PDF Download Link:** https://github.com/justin-napolitano/turkish-kurdish-conflict/blob/main/turkish-kurdish-conflict-event-database-manual.pdf

4.2 Archived Data

DATA

Overview

This section contains a links to download collected data.

The Excel Document also contains some analysis.

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5.1 Current Data

Excel Download Link: https://github.com/justin-napolitano/turkish-kurdish-conflict/blob/main/FinalDataAugust21.xlsm

5.2 Archived Data

5.2.1 2019

Excel Download Link: https://github.com/justin-napolitano/turkish-kurdish-conflict/blob/main/FinalDataAugust21.xlsm