

Codebook for the Foundations of Rebel Group Emergence (FORGE) Dataset

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Version 1.0, 19 March 2019

Overview:

The Foundations of Rebel Group Emergence (FORGE) Dataset provides information on the origins of violent non-state actors engaged in armed conflict against their government resulting in 25+ yearly battle deaths, active between 1946 and 2011. The unit of observation in this dataset is the rebel group organization. We also include information on the dyad and conflict in which these groups are participants for ease of integration with various Uppsala Conflict Data Program (UCDP) datasets. We draw upon the population of groups included in the Non-State Actor database described in greater detail here:

<http://ksgleditsch.com/eacd.html>

and in the following articles:

Cunningham, David E.; Kristian Skrede Gleditsch, and Idean Salehyan. 2009. "It Takes Two: A Dyadic Analysis of Civil War Duration and Outcome." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 53(4): 570-597.

Cunningham, David E., Kristian Skrede Gleditsch, and Idean Salehyan. 2013. "Non-State Actors in Civil Wars: A New Dataset." *Conflict Management and Peace Science* 30(5): 516-531.

When using the FORGE data, please cite our data release paper:

Braithwaite, Jessica Maves and Kathleen Gallagher Cunningham. "When Organizations Rebel: Introducing the Foundations of Rebel Group Emergence Dataset"

conflict_id

Indicates conflict ID as reported by UCDP in the Dyadic Dataset v18.1.

dyadid

Indicates dyad ID as reported by UCDP in the Dyadic Dataset v18.1. We adopt their definition of dyads in order to maximize compatibility, and we refer users to the UCDP project at <http://www.pcr.uu.se/data/> for details on their identification of dyads.

NSAdyadid

Indicates dyad in the Non-State Actor Database. Use this variable (rather than *dyadid*) if merging with that resource as their dyad identifiers are different from the most recent UCDP dyad IDs.

actorid

Rebel group's ActorID according to the UCDP Actor List (as of January 2019). If you're merging with an old UCDP dataset, these IDs will be different. Please refer to the UCDP ID translation tables and the translation table guide here:
http://ucdp.uu.se/downloads/actor/translation_tables.pdf

gacronym

Acronym of group, or full name if that is what is used by UCDP

gname

Name(s) of group according to UCDP

ccode

Correlates of War country code

cname

Country name (government being challenged by rebel group of observation)

foundloc

Location of rebel group foundation (Country, region, and city wherever possible)

foundyear

Year of rebel group's formation

foundmo

Month of rebel group's formation

foundday

Day of rebel group's formation

fightyear

First year of incompatibility with government resulting in 25 or more battle deaths, according to UCDP Armed Conflict Dataset (ACD)

fightmo

First month of incompatibility with government resulting in 25 or more battle deaths, according to UCDP Armed Conflict Dataset (ACD)

fightday

First day of incompatibility with government resulting in 25 or more battle deaths, according to UCDP Armed Conflict Dataset (ACD)

goalnominal

Qualitative description of rebel group's initial stated goal(s)

goalindep

Indicator (0=no, 1=yes): was the group's initial goal the pursuit of an independent state?

goalauto

Indicator (0=no, 1=yes): was the group's initial goal the pursuit of (increased) autonomy for their region within the existing state?

goalrights

Indicator (0=no, 1=yes): was the group's initial goal the pursuit of increased/improved group rights (e.g. language, education)?

goalrep

Indicator (0=no, 1=yes): was the group's initial goal the pursuit of increased/improved political representation and/or participation?

goalchange

Indicator (0=no, 1=yes): was the group's initial goal to remove the current leader(s) of government? (not democratization)

goalDEM

Indicator (0=no, 1=yes): was the group's initial goal to democratize the political system?

goalother

Indicator (0=no, 1=yes): was the group's initial goal something other than the above categories?

goalnote

If *goalother*=1, this provides a qualitative description of "other" goal; may offer additional information about other goal categories as well.

ideology

Indicator (0=no, 1=yes): was the rebel group founded with a specific political ideology?

ideolcom

Indicator (0=no, 1=yes): did the group proclaim an explicitly Communist ideology (Maoist, Marxist, Marxist-Leninist, or other)?

ideolleft

Indicator (0=no, 1=yes): did the group proclaim some other left-leaning political ideology, not specifically Communist?

ideolright

Indicator (0=no, 1=yes): did the group proclaim a right-leaning political ideology?

ideolnat

Indicator (0=no, 1=yes): did the group proclaim a nationalist ideology?

ideolanti

Indicator (0=no, 1=yes): did the group proclaim an anti-system political ideology?

ideolrel

Indicator (0=no, 1=yes): did the group proclaim a religiously-oriented political ideology?

ideoloth

Indicator (0=no, 1=yes): did the group proclaim a political ideology not listed above?

ideolnote

If *ideoloth*=1, this provides a qualitative description of “other” ideology. May provide additional information about other ideology categories as well (e.g. Maoist Communist).

religious

Indicator (0=no, 1=yes): was the rebel group explicitly founded around a religious identity?

religion

If *religious* is coded 1, this variable indicates the religion motivating the group’s foundation:

- 0 = none
- 1 = Catholic
- 2 = Protestant
- 3 = Orthodox
- 4 = Other Christian
- 5 = Muslim (Sunni)
- 6 = Muslim (Shia)
- 7 = Muslim (undefined)
- 8 = Hindu
- 9 = Buddhist
- 10 = Other

ethnic

Indicator (0=no, 1=yes): was the rebel group explicitly founded around an ethnic identity?

ethnicity

If *ethnic*=1, this provides a qualitative description of the ethnic group(s) involved in the group’s foundation.

Parent Organization variables:

preorg

Did the rebel group derive its initial membership from at least one identifiable, named pre-existing organization? If so, what type(s)?

- 0 = no pre-existing organization, group began as the rebel organization of observation
- 1 = group evolved/splintered from a pre-existing rebel group included in UCDP
- 2 = group evolved/splintered from a pre-existing armed non-state group that did not cause 25 or more battle deaths (e.g. terrorist organization, private militia)
- 3 = group developed from a political party
- 4 = group developed from a non-party political movement
- 5 = group developed from a student/youth group
- 6 = group developed from a labor/trade union
- 7 = group splintered/emerged from the government's armed forces
- 8 = group emerged from a non-military faction within the government
- 9 = group emerged from the country's former armed forces
- 10 = group developed from a religious organization
- 11 = group developed from foreign fighters/mercenaries
- 12 = group emerged from a refugee/exiled community (but not a formal organization)
- 13 = group emerged from an ethnic group (but not a formal organization)
- 14 = group emerged from another type of organization

preorgno

Indicator (0=no, 1=yes): did the rebel group not evolve out of a pre-existing organization – instead beginning its existence as an armed organization causing at least 25 battle deaths in conflict with the government?

preorgreb

Indicator (0=no, 1=yes): did the rebel group splinter from an existing rebel group that already caused at least 25 battle deaths in conflict with the government (and thus is included in the UCDP/NSA databases)?

preorgter

Indicator (0=no, 1=yes): did the rebel group splinter from an existing armed non-state group that did not yet cause 25 or more battle deaths (and thus is not included in the UCDP/NSA databases)?

preorgpar

Indicator (0=no, 1=yes): did the rebel group develop from a political party? These are organizations that express a desire to contest elections and/or hold political office. They may or may not have participated in elections and/or held office previously, but have organized for this purpose (as compared to groups with political agendas but no explicit goal/organization to run candidates for office and challenge the government that way).

preorgmt

Indicator (0=no, 1=yes): did the rebel group develop from an informal political movement? These are organizations that have expressed primarily political demands and may pursue them in a variety of ways, but they have NOT organized as parties with the intention to contest elections and/or field candidates for political office.

preorgyou

Indicator (0=no, 1=yes): did the rebel group develop from a student/youth group?

preorglab

Indicator (0=no, 1=yes): did the rebel group develop from labor/trade union?

preorgrel

Indicator (0=no, 1=yes): did the rebel group develop from a religious organization (movement or institution)?

preorgmil

Indicator (0=no, 1=yes): did the rebel group develop from the government's current armed forces?

preorgfmr

Indicator (0=no, 1=yes): did the rebel group develop from a former government's armed forces that were disbanded for some reason, often after leadership transitions?

preorggov

Indicator (0=no, 1=yes): did the rebel group develop from a non-military faction of the current government? This might include members of the cabinet, the ruling party, or a regional government that is/had been organized and operating with approval from the central government.

preorgfor

Indicator (0=no, 1=yes): did the rebel group develop from a group of foreign fighters/mercenaries/troops of another government's armed forces?

preorgref

Indicator (0=no, 1=yes): did the rebel group develop from an identifiable refugee community or other exiled population?

preorgeth

Indicator (0=no, 1=yes): did the rebel group develop from an identifiable ethnic group, but not from an identifiable (named) organization within that community?

preorgoth

Indicator (0=no, 1=yes): did the rebel group develop from some other organization type not listed above?

preorgname

Provides name(s) of parent organization(s) or community/ies. Also, if *preorgoth*=1, this provides a qualitative description of “other” parent organization type not captured by existing categories.

merger

Indicator (0=no, 1=yes): was the rebel group the result of a merger of more than one parent organization, either within or across categories of parent organization type?

splinter

Indicator (0=no, 1=yes): if *preorgreb*=1 or *preorgter*=1, was parent armed non-state actor organization still active in conflict in the year the rebel group of observation emerged? Can be coded 1 if parent organization’s ongoing violence wasn’t severe enough to be included in UCDP Armed Conflict Database, as long as other evidence indicates that the parent organization was still engaging in violent activities.

splinterUCDP

Indicator (0=no, 1=yes): if *preorgreb*=1, was parent rebel group still active in combat at a severity threshold that qualifies its violence for inclusion in UCDP dataset in the year the rebel group of observation emerged? This is only coded 1 for rebel group parent organizations included in the UCDP as active in the year of formation (*foundyear*).