OECD National Defence and Security Policy Documents

Codebook 2019-12-20

This dataset comprises information on the official national security and defence policy documents published by the members of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) between 1990 and 2019.[i] Security and defence policy documents are defined as authoritative government documents that present the main elements of a country's security and/or defence policy. They are published under different names, such as white papers, policy directives and strategic guidelines, among others.

The criterion for including a document in the database was that it had to address the topics of security and/or defence in general terms, meaning that the following documents were excluded: military doctrines, military strategies, reports from one government branch to another, laws, acquisition plans, as well as documents on defence industry, cybersecurity and other, narrowly defined sub-issues. We also excluded updates on specific documents when these are required by a country's legislation.

The dataset is structured in three parts: 1. General characteristics of the document, 2. Formal characteristics of the document, 3. Content.

It contains a total of 193 entries that each correspond to one policy document.

Variable Layout

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

country: The country that issued the document, coded according to the Correlates of War (COW) project's country code system [available at http://www.correlatesofwar.org/data-sets/cow-country-codes].

Australia	Finland	Italy	New Zealand	Switzerland
Austria	France	Japan	Norway	Turkey
Belgium	Germany	Korea	Poland	United Kingdom
Canada	Greece	Latvia	Portugal	United States
Chile	Hungary	Lithuania	Slovak Republic	
Czech Republic	Iceland	Luxembourg	Slovenia	
Denmark	Ireland	Mexico	Spain	
Estonia	Israel	Netherlands	Sweden	

year: The year the document was published.

Orientation family: Family of three variables: orientation_sec, orientation_defence, and orientation_sd. Each document was classified exclusively as belonging into only one of the three.

> **orientation_sec**: Binary variable to classify whether the document title defines the document exclusively as a security document or not. Assigns =1 if the document is exclusively oriented to security, according to its title, and =0 if not.
>
> **orientation_def:** Binary variable to classify whether the document title defines the document exclusively as a defence document or not. Assigns =1 if the document is exclusively oriented to defence, according to its title, and =0 if not.
>
> **orientation_sd:** Binary variable to classify whether the document title defines the document as both a security and defence document or not. Assigns =1 if the document is oriented to both security and defence, and =0 if not.

Type family: Family of four variables: type_strategy, type_policy, type_wp, and type_other. Each document was coded exclusively as belonging into only one of the four.

> **type_strategy**: Binary variable to classify whether the document title defines the document as a "strategy" or not. Assigns =1 if the document is a "strategy", according to its title, and =0 if not.
>
> **type_policy**: Binary variable to classify whether the document title defines the document as a "policy" or not. Assigns =1 if the document is a "policy", according to its title, and =0 if not.
>
> **type_wp**: Binary variable to classify whether the document title defines the document as a "white paper" or not. Assigns =1 if the document is a "white paper", according to its title, and =0 if not.
>
> **type_other**: Binary variable to classify the document as a document other than a "policy", "strategy" or "white paper". Assigns =1 if the document is anything but other than a "policy", "strategy" or "white paper", and =0 if not.

first: Binary variable that records if the document is the first of its kind. Assigns =1 if the document is the first of its kind and =0 otherwise.

FORMAL CHARACTERISTICS

extension: Numeric variable that indicates the total number of pages of the document.

status: Binary variable to classify the document as a primary document or a part of a set of documents. Assigns =1 if the document is primary; =2 if the document is part of a set of policy guidelines and documents which the document mentions. This variable helps to identify derivates such as a summary or addendum.

CONTENT

For each content item the dataset records the relevance that the topic is given within the document according to where it appears. The first level of subdivision represents the highest level of separation of the document. For example, in a document that contains chapters, sections and subsections, the chapter-level is the highest level, followed by the section level. In other words, we did not assign the name of the separation (for example, chapter) as first, second, third, or another level, but instead followed the hierarchical organisation of each document. To count as appearing on the first, second or third level of subdivision, the respective issues and topics had to appear either in the heading or had to be dealt with in the corresponding text.

National security family: Family of four variables: 1_natsec, 2_natsec, 3_natsec, and 0_natsec, each detailing at which level of subdivision of the document the issue area of national security / strategic environment is dealt with. Each document was classified exclusively as belonging into one of the four variables of the family.

> **1_natsec:** Binary variable that assigns =1 if the issue area of national security / strategic environment is dealt with at the first level of subdivision of the document. Assigns =0 if absent at the first level of subdivision.
>
> **2_natsec:** Binary variable that assigns =1 if the issue area of national security / strategic environment is dealt with at the second level of subdivision of the document. Assigns =0 if absent at the second level of subdivision.
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> **3_natsec:** Binary variable that assigns =1 if the issue area of national security / strategic environment is dealt with at the third level of subdivision of the document. Assigns =0 if absent at the third level of subdivision.
>
> **0_natsec:** Binary variable that assigns =1 if the issue area of national security / strategic environment is absent in the document. Assigns =0 if it is mentioned anywhere in the document except on the first, second and third level of subdivision.

Threat family: Family of four variables: 1_threat, 2_threat, 3_threat, and 0_threat, each detailing at which level of subdivision of the document the issue area of national risk assessment / threats is dealt with. Each document was classified exclusively as belonging into one of the four variables of the family.

> **1_threat:** Binary variable that assigns =1 if the issue area of national risk assessment / threats is dealt with at the first level of subdivision of the document. Assigns =0 if absent at the first level of subdivision.
>
> **2_threat:** Binary variable that assigns =1 if the issue area of national risk assessment / threats is dealt with at the second level of subdivision of the document. Assigns =0 if absent at the second level of subdivision.

3_threat: Binary variable that assigns =1 if the issue area of national risk assessment / threats is dealt with at the third level of subdivision of the document. Assigns =0 if absent at the third level of subdivision.

0_threat: Binary variable that assigns =1 if the issue area of national risk assessment / threats is absent in the document. Assigns =0 if it is mentioned anywhere in the document except on the first, second and third level of subdivision.

Resource family: Family of four variables: 1_resources, 2_resources, 3_resources, and 0_resources, each detailing at which level of subdivision of the document the issue area of resource provision / management / economic support / budget / cost-effectiveness is dealt with. Each document was classified exclusively as belonging into one of the four variables of the family.

1_resources: Binary variable that assigns =1 if the issue area of resource provision / management / economic support / budget / cost-effectiveness is dealt with at the first level of subdivision of the document. Assigns =0 if absent at the first level of subdivision.

2_resources: Binary variable that assigns =1 if the issue area of resource provision / management / economic support / budget / cost-effectiveness is dealt with at the second level of subdivision of the document. Assigns =0 if absent at the second level of subdivision.

3_resources: Binary variable that assigns =1 if the issue area of resource provision / management / economic support / budget / cost-effectiveness is dealt with at the third level of subdivision of the document. Assigns =0 if absent at the third level of subdivision.

0_resources: Binary variable that assigns =1 if the issue area of resource provision / management / economic support / budget / cost-effectiveness is absent in the document. Assigns =0 if it is mentioned anywhere in the document except on the first, second and third level of subdivision.

Resource_commit: Binary variable to codify if the resources mentioned are projected into a defined time horizon and serve as a viable indicator against which achievements can be measured. Assigns =1 if there is a clear resource commitment, and =0 otherwise.

Future family: Family of four variables: 1_future, 2_future, 3_future, and 0_future, each detailing at which level of subdivision of the document the issue area of future projection / improvement / development / long-term / modernization / reform is dealt with. Each document was classified exclusively as belonging into one of the four variables of the family.

1_future: Binary variable that assigns =1 if the issue area of future projection / improvement / development / long-term / modernization / reform is dealt with at the first level of subdivision of the document. Assigns =0 if absent at the first level of subdivision.

2_future: Binary variable that assigns =1 if the issue area of future projection / improvement / development / long-term / modernization / reform is dealt with at the second level of subdivision of the document. Assigns =0 if absent at the second level of subdivision.

3_future: Binary variable that assigns =1 if the issue area of future projection / improvement / development / long-term / modernization / reform is dealt with at the third level of subdivision of the document. Assigns =0 if absent at the third level of subdivision.

0_future: Binary variable that assigns =1 if the issue area of future projection / improvement / development / long-term / modernization / reform is absent in the document. Assigns =0 if it is mentioned anywhere in the document except on the first, second and third level of subdivision.

Warfare family: Family of four variables: 1_warfare, 2_warfare, 3_warfare, and 0_warfare, each detailing at which level of subdivision of the document the issue area of conventional warfare / military defence / arms control / military capabilities / armed forces / posture is dealt with. Each document was classified exclusively as belonging into one of the four variables of the family.

1_warfare: Binary variable that assigns =1 if the issue area of conventional warfare / military defence / arms control / military capabilities / armed forces / posture is dealt with at the first level of subdivision of the document. Assigns =0 if absent at the first level of subdivision.

2_warfare: Binary variable that assigns =1 if the issue area of conventional warfare / military defence / arms control / military capabilities / armed forces / posture is dealt with at the second level of subdivision of the document. Assigns =0 if absent at the second level of subdivision.

3_warfare: Binary variable that assigns =1 if the issue area of conventional warfare / military defence / arms control / military capabilities / armed forces / posture is dealt with at the third level of subdivision of the document. Assigns =0 if absent at the third level of subdivision.

0_warfare: Binary variable that assigns =1 if the issue area of conventional warfare / military defence / arms control / military capabilities / armed forces / posture is absent in the document. Assigns =0 if it is mentioned anywhere in the document except on the first, second and third level of subdivision.

Terrorism family: Family of 4 variables: 1_terrorism, 2_terrorism, 3_terrorism, and 0_terrorism, each detailing at which level of subdivision of the document the issue area of terrorism is dealt with. Each document was classified exclusively as belonging into one of the four variables of the family.

1_terrorism: Binary variable that assigns =1 if the issue area of terrorism is dealt with at the first level of subdivision of the document. Assigns =0 if absent at the first level of subdivision.

2_terrorism: Binary variable that assigns =1 if the issue area of terrorism is dealt with at the second level of subdivision of the document. Assigns =0 if absent at the second level of subdivision.

3_terrorism: Binary variable that assigns =1 if the issue area of terrorism is dealt with at the third level of subdivision of the document. Assigns =0 if absent at the third level of subdivision.

0_terrorism: Binary variable that assigns =1 if the issue area of terrorism is absent in the document. Assigns =0 if it is mentioned anywhere in the document except on the first, second and third level of subdivision.

Crime family: Family of 4 variables: 1_crime, 2_crime, 3_crime, and 0_crime, each detailing at which level of subdivision of the document the issue area of crime / illegal trafficking is dealt with. Each document was classified exclusively as belonging into one of the four variables of the family.

1_crime: Binary variable that assigns =1 if the issue area of crime / illegal trafficking is dealt with at the first level of subdivision of the document. Assigns =0 if absent at the first level of subdivision.

2_crime: Binary variable that assigns =1 if the issue area of crime / illegal trafficking is dealt with at the second level of subdivision of the document. Assigns =0 if absent at the second level of subdivision.

3_crime: Binary variable that assigns =1 if the issue area of crime / illegal trafficking is dealt with at the third level of subdivision of the document. Assigns =0 if absent at the third level of subdivision.

0_crime: Binary variable that assigns =1 if the issue area of crime / illegal trafficking is absent in the document. Assigns =0 if it is mentioned anywhere in the document except on the first, second and third level of subdivision.

Humanitarian family: Family of 4 variables: 1_humanitarian, 2_humanitarian, 3_humanitarian, and 0_humanitarian, each detailing at which level of subdivision of the document the issue area of humanitarian assistance / disaster management / public benefits enhancement and protection of rights / civil defence / emergency preparedness / rescue (but not broader terms like social role) is dealt with. Each document was classified exclusively as belonging into one of the four variables of the family.

1_humanitarian: Binary variable that assigns =1 if the issue area of humanitarian assistance / disaster management / public benefits enhancement and protection of rights / civil defence / emergency preparedness / rescue is dealt with at the first level of subdivision of the document. Assigns =0 if absent at the first level of subdivision.

2_humanitarian: Binary variable that assigns =1 if the issue area of humanitarian assistance / disaster management / public benefits enhancement and protection of rights / civil defence / emergency preparedness / rescue is dealt with at the second level of subdivision of the document. Assigns =0 if absent at the second level of subdivision.

3_humanitarian: Binary variable that assigns =1 if the issue area of humanitarian assistance / disaster management / public benefits enhancement and protection of rights / civil defence / emergency preparedness / rescue is dealt with at the third level of subdivision of the document. Assigns =0 if absent at the third level of subdivision.

0_humanitarian: Binary variable that assigns =1 if the issue area of humanitarian assistance / disaster management / public benefits enhancement and protection of rights / civil defence / emergency preparedness / rescue is absent in the document. Assigns =0 if it is mentioned anywhere in the document except on the first, second and third level of subdivision.

Intelligence family: Family of 4 variables: 1_intelligence, 2_intelligence, 3_intelligence, and 0_intelligence, each detailing at which level of subdivision of the document the issue area of intelligence / early warning / foresight is dealt with. Each document was classified exclusively as belonging into one of the four variables of the family.

1_intelligence: Binary variable that assigns =1 if the issue area of intelligence / early warning / foresight is dealt with at the first level of subdivision of the document. Assigns =0 if absent at the first level of subdivision.

2_intelligence: Binary variable that assigns =1 if the issue area of intelligence / early warning / foresight is dealt with at the second level of subdivision of the document. Assigns =0 if absent at the second level of subdivision.

3_intelligence: Binary variable that assigns =1 if the issue area of intelligence / early warning / foresight is dealt with at the third level of subdivision of the document. Assigns =0 if absent at the third level of subdivision.

0_intelligence: Binary variable that assigns =1 if the issue area of intelligence / early warning / foresight is absent in the document. Assigns =0 if it is mentioned anywhere in the document except on the first, second and third level of subdivision.

International cooperation family: Family of 4 variables: 1_intl_cooperation, 2_intl_cooperation, 3_intl_cooperation, and 0_intl_cooperation, each detailing at which level of subdivision of the document the issue area of international cooperation / defence diplomacy / multinational sphere (not: regional integration, alliances, peace operations) is dealt with. Each document was classified exclusively as belonging into one of the four variables of the family.

1_intl_cooperation: Binary variable that assigns =1 if the issue area of international cooperation / defence diplomacy / multinational sphere is dealt with at the first level of subdivision of the document. Assigns =0 if absent at the first level of subdivision.

2_intl_cooperation: Binary variable that assigns =1 if the issue area of international cooperation / defence diplomacy / multinational sphere is dealt with at the second level of subdivision of the document. Assigns =0 if absent at the second level of subdivision.

3_intl_cooperation: Binary variable that assigns =1 if the issue area of international cooperation / defence diplomacy / multinational sphere is dealt with at the third level of subdivision of the document. Assigns =0 if absent at the third level of subdivision.

0_intl_cooperation: Binary variable that assigns =1 if the issue area of international cooperation / defence diplomacy / multinational sphere is absent in the document. Assigns =0 if it is mentioned anywhere in the document except on the first, second and third level of subdivision.

Climate family: Family of 4 variables: 1_climate, 2_climate, 3_climate, and 0_climate, each detailing at which level of subdivision of the document the issue area of climate change / environment / green policies (excluding strategic environment) is dealt with. Each document was classified exclusively as belonging into one of the four variables of the family.

1_climate: Binary variable that assigns =1 if the issue area of climate change / environment / green policies is dealt with at the first level of subdivision of the document. Assigns =0 if absent at the first level of subdivision.

2_climate: Binary variable that assigns =1 if the issue area of climate change / environment / green policies is dealt with at the second level of subdivision of the document. Assigns =0 if absent at the second level of subdivision.

3_climate: Binary variable that assigns =1 if the issue area of climate change / environment / green policies is dealt with at the third level of subdivision of the document. Assigns =0 if absent at the third level of subdivision.

0_climate: Binary variable that assigns =1 if the issue area of climate change / environment / green policies is absent in the document. Assigns =0 if it is mentioned anywhere in the document except on the first, second and third level of subdivision.

Gender family: Family of 4 variables: 1_gender, 2_gender, 3_gender, and 0_gender, each detailing at which level of subdivision of the document the issue area of gender / women / LGBTQ+ is dealt with. Each document was classified exclusively as belonging into one of the four variables of the family.

1_gender: Binary variable that assigns =1 if the issue area of gender / women / LGBTQ+ is dealt with at the first level of subdivision of the document. Assigns =0 if absent at the first level of subdivision.

2_gender: Binary variable that assigns =1 if the issue area of gender / women / LGBTQ+ is dealt with at the second level of subdivision of the document. Assigns =0 if absent at the second level of subdivision.

3_gender: Binary variable that assigns =1 if the issue area of gender / women / LGBTQ+ is dealt with at the third level of subdivision of the document. Assigns =0 if absent at the third level of subdivision.

0_gender: Binary variable that assigns =1 if the issue area of gender / women / LGBTQ+ is absent in the document. Assigns =0 if it is mentioned anywhere in the document except on the first, second and third level of subdivision.

Cyber family: Family of 4 variables: 1_cyber, 2_cyber, 3_cyber, and 0_cyber, each detailing at which level of subdivision of the document the issue area of cyber security / digitalization / informatization / information systems is dealt with. Each document was classified exclusively as belonging into one of the four variables of the family.

1_cyber: Binary variable that assigns =1 if the issue area of cyber security / digitalization / informatization / information systems is dealt with at the first level of subdivision of the document. Assigns =0 if absent at the first level of subdivision.

2_cyber: Binary variable that assigns =1 if the issue area of cyber security / digitalization / informatization / information systems is dealt with at the second level of subdivision of the document. Assigns =0 if absent at the second level of subdivision.

3_cyber: Binary variable that assigns =1 if the issue area of cyber security / digitalization / informatization / information systems is dealt with at the third level of subdivision of the document. Assigns =0 if absent at the third level of subdivision.

0_cyber: Binary variable that assigns =1 if the issue area of cyber security / digitalization / informatization / information systems is absent in the document. Assigns =0 if it is mentioned anywhere in the document except on the first, second and third level of subdivision.

priority: Dichotomous variable that indicates whether the document identifies priorities in a systematic manner; either in terms of risks/threats or with regards to policies to be implemented in general or specific areas. Documents that merely mention that something continues to be a priority or is a priority concern without providing any frame of reference as to how many priorities there are in total, what other priorities there are, or what this means in practice are not counted. Assigns =1 if the document contains priorities, and =0 otherwise.

Sources

The documents in the dataset were identified based on the compilations by the EHT Zürich's Center for Security Studies[ii] and the European Defence Agency[iii] and complemented by consultation of the individual countries' government and defence ministry webpages.

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[i] This excludes Colombia and Costa Rica, which joined the OECD in 2020 and 2021, respectively.
[ii] Social and Political Sciences Department of Humanities, ETH Zürich, 'Defense White Papers and National Security Strategies' (https://css.ethz.ch/en/services/digital-library/series.html/154839).
[iii] European Defence Agency, 'National Policies and Strategies' (https://www.eda.europa.eu/industry-info/directories/national-directories/national-policies-and-strategies).