Codebook

This is a description of the variables included in the two data files provided for the paper "High Stakes and Low Bars". The coding rules for each variable are described in the paper's footnotes. The full list of sources for each case that provided the information for the coding is in the Conflict Bibliography.

Unless otherwise indicated, bilateral recognitions refer to recognition extended by allies, as defined in the paper.

Wars.csv

conflict: identifies the conflict as listed in Appendix A

source: indicates the dataset in which the conflict was originally drawn from

- Fearon: James Fearon, "Why Do Some Civil Wars Last So Much Longer than Others?" *Journal of Peace Research* (2004).
- PRIO: UCDP/PRIO datasets (Armed Conflict, v. 4-2015; Termination, 2015; Battle Related Deaths, v.5-2015)

start_yr: year in which the conflict starts

end_yr: year in which the conflict ends

start_day: date on which the conflict starts

end_day: date on which the conflict ends

dur_days: duration of the conflict in days

extracon: count variable indicating number of extra-constitutional transfers of political authority during the conflict

recog_bilat: count variable indicating how many times bilateral recognitions of a rebel group occurred

recog_multi: count variable indicating how many times a rebel group received recognition at the UN

prem_bilat: count variable indicating how many times premature bilateral recognition occurred

prem_multi: count variable indicating how many times premature UN recognition occurred

nonrec_bilat: count variable indicating how many times a rebel government was deliberately not recognized in bilateral relations

nonrec_multi: count variable indicating how many times a rebel government was deliberately not recognized at the UN

res_conf: binary variable indicating whether the country had natural resources (discovered before or during conflict period)

res_rebc: binary variable indicating whether rebels controlled some or all of the country's natural resources at some point during the conflict. NA indicates Not Applicable (where res_conf=0) or indicates that the information was Not Available (where res_conf=1)

rebc_ally: count variable indicating instances when rebel groups controlled resources and had an ally

rebc_pr: count variable indicating whether rebels controlled resources, had an ally, and the ally extended premature recognition

cont_cap: binary variable indicating whether the capital city was contested violently in the course of the conflict

dest_cap: binary variable indicating whether secondary and primary sources suggest at least half of the built infrastructure of the capital was damaged or destroyed in the fighting

disp_cap: binary variable indicating whether secondary and primary sources suggest significant displacement of the capital city's population occurred as a result of the fighting

dd_cap: binary variable indicating either significant destruction or significant displacement occurred as a result of fighting in the capital

prior_cap: count variable coding instances of rebels prioritizing the capital over establishing other bases of territorial control

Notes: Comments on the coding choices

Recognitions.csv

conflict: identifies the conflict as listed in Appendix A

source: indicates the dataset in which the conflict was originally drawn from

- Fearon: James Fearon, "Why Do Some Civil Wars Last So Much Longer than Others?" *Journal of Peace Research* (2004).
- PRIO: UCDP/PRIO datasets (Armed Conflict, v. 4-2015; Termination, 2015; Battle Related Deaths, v.5-2015)

start_yr: year in which the conflict starts

end_yr: year in which the conflict ends

start_day: date on which the conflict starts

end_day: date on which the conflict ends

dur_days: duration of the conflict in days

entity: name of person or group receiving recognition

prem_bilat: binary variable indicating whether the entity was prematurely recognized in bilateral relations

prem_multi: binary variable indicating whether the entity was prematurely seated at the UN

coterm_bilat: binary variable indicating whether recognition coincided with war end

coterm_multi: binary variable indicating whether UN recognition coincided with war end

nonrec_bilat: binary variable indicating whether a third-party state deliberately chose not to extend bilateral recognition to the entity

nonrec_multi: binary variable indicating whether the UN seat was deliberately denied to the entity

cap_date: date on which capital was taken over (full seizure)

UN_yr: calendar year in which UN seat was taken

allies: major ally states

opponents: major opponent states

bilat1: identity of first bilateral recognizer

bilat1_date: date of first bilateral recognition

bilat1_wardays: number of days between first bilateral recognition and end of conflict

bilat1_capdays: number of days between first bilateral recognition and capital seizure