The Correlates of War Diplomatic Exchange Data Set

Version 2006.1

(Documentation updated May 18, 2007)

Data host: Reşat Bayer (Koç University)

The Correlates of War Diplomatic Exchange data set captures diplomatic representation at the level of chargé d'affaires, minister, and ambassador between members of the Correlates of War interstate system. Information is available for the following years: 1817, 1824, 1827, 1832, 1836, 1840, every five years between 1844 and 1914, every five years between 1920 and 1940, and every five years between 1950 and 2005. J.D. Singer and Melvin Small conducted the original data collections.

Variables:

The data set (Diplomatic_Exchange_2006v1.csv) is in ascii text (comma-delimited) form. It is in directed dyad setup. The six variables in order are as follows:

ccode1 - Correlates of War state number of country 1
ccode2 - Correlates of War state number of country 2
year - Year of observation
DR_at_1 - Diplomatic representation level of side 2 at side 1 (see below)
DR_at_2 - Diplomatic representation level of side 1 at side 2 (see below)
DE - Any diplomatic exchange between side 1 and side 2 (see below)
version - Current version of the data set

<u>DR_at_1 and DR_at_2 variables:</u>

Following Singer and Small's 1966 article and past data collection efforts, the diplomatic exchange variables (DR_at_1 and DR_at_2) have five possible codings:

0=no evidence of diplomatic exchange
1=chargé d'affaires
2=minister
3=ambassador
9=other

The coding rules are as follows:

All of the following statuses result in a coding of 1: chargé d'affairs, counselor, and ambassador expelled, recalled, or withdrawn.

All of the following statuses result in a coding of 2: minister, minister plenipotentiary, minister resident, and envoy.

All of the following statuses result in a coding of 3: ambassador, high commissioner, secretary of Libyan People's bureau and similar labels, high commissioner or ambassador resident elsewhere, and ambassador, high commissioner or secretary vacant.

All of the following statuses result in a coding of 9: interest sections, interests served by another country, address only (without indication whether there was any diplomatic staff occupying it), temporary embassy closings, and consulate-generals. This coding was made when sufficient information was not available to place it in the first three classes following the reglèment of Vienna (1815) and Aix-la-Chapelle (1818) but the available information indicated that there potentially was diplomatic presence.

Note: There is an important difference for the years between 1950 and 1965 as **all** diplomatic exchanges are coded as a 9 (see Small and Singer 1973) and information on the level of representation is not reported. Thus, particular attention needs to be made when studying representation levels over time.

Note 2: The data values for pre-1980 have important differences from the data for 1985 and ensuing years. After 1980, the main consulted sources do not report side (or multiple) accreditations, but only resident accreditations. A side accreditation occurs when the head of a mission or embassy serves as a diplomatic representative in more than the host state. In order words, an ambassador from country A is accredited to both countries B and C but resident in country B. For example, Austria was represented at ambassadorial level at both Singapore and Thailand in 1980 and the Austrian ambassador resident in Thailand was the ambassador to both countries. Also in that year, the ambassador of Iceland to Federal Republic of Germany was the ambassador to Iran but resident in Bonn. The data set does not include these forms of side representations for 1985 and beyond. Thus, for the pre-1980 era, the data report a much more inclusive form of accreditations. This results in some countries having fewer accreditations in 1985 than in 1980. For example, Luxembourg experiences a considerable drop in the amount of ambassadors because in 1980, the data set also included all the non-resident ambassadors that were accredited to it but resident in nearby countries, primarily Belgium. Examination of the data has indicated that this has particularly affected the accreditations between countries that have limited interaction in the first place. However, the repercussions of this situation are likely to be based on the research question. We hope to address this issue in a forthcoming release of the data.

All of the following statuses result in a coding of 0: no source suggesting any representation or a source specifically mentioning that there was no representation. Please note that lack of representation does not automatically denote bad relations or lack of concern. Countries recognize each other and have diplomatic relations without actually setting up any sort of representation.

For interpolation purposes, it is necessary to point out that most of the intervals are about five years long. However, between 1940 and 1950, due to the turmoil of post-World War II era, the gap is 10 years.

Information on the Correlates of War interstate membership can be obtained from http://correlatesofwar.org.

DE variable:

This variable captures whether either side had representation. It has two codings:

0=neither side was represented in the other side
1=at least one side was represented in the other side

Following Singer and Small (1973), most scholars are likely to be primarily interested in whether diplomatic representation existed between the two sides rather than at what level. This binary variable captures whether either country had representation at levels 1, 2, or 3 in the other country at a given time point. An exception is made for 1950 to 1965 (as the level of representation is not recorded) where a coding of 9 is taken to indicate the presence of diplomatic representation as well.

Citation and contact information:

Bayer, Reşat. 2006. "Diplomatic Exchange Data set, v2006.1." Online: http://correlatesofwar.org

This citation will be updated.

Version 2006.v1 of the diplomatic exchange data set is hosted by Reşat Bayer (Koç University) under the COW Data Set Hosting Program.

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Sources:

This update gathered data for the following years: 1990, 1995, 2000 and 2005. The main source for these years was the *Europa World Year Book* series. It has been a major source in the past for collecting data on diplomatic exchanges as well. Information from the ministry of foreign affairs of various countries was also obtained. Specific information for each coding can be obtained from the data host for the years mentioned above.

Almanach de Gotha was relied for the pre-1945 era. For the post-World War II era, *Europa World Year Book*, *Statesman's Year-Book*, and the *Code Diplomatique* were used (see Singer and Small 1966, 242; Small and Singer 1973, 589-590).

Relevant articles:

Singer, J. David and Melvin Small. 1966. "The Composition and Status Ordering of the International System: 1815-1940" *World Politics* 18:236-282.

Small, Melvin and J. David Singer. 1973. "The Diplomatic Importance of States, 1816-1970: an Extension and Refinement of the Indicator" *World Politics* 25:577-599.

Small, Melvin. 1977. "Doing Diplomatic History by the Numbers: a Rejoinder" *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 21:23-34.