The Soviet Legacy and the Global South's Reactions to Russian Invasion of Ukraine in the UN General Assembly

Codebook

Qingjie Zeng
zqingjie@fudan.edu.cn

Shanghai, 07 January 2026

Note: This codebook provides variable names and descriptions for the dataset analyzed in the article and online appendix. There are two datasets required for replicating the results: *JCR Soviet legacy and UN vote dataset.dta* and *JCR Attitudes towards Russia.dta*. For how to use these files to replicate the results, see the replication do file. The data sources are specified in the main text of the article. I welcome the readers to download the datasets, replicate and findings, and scrutinize the results.

JCR Soviet legacy and UN vote dataset.dta

Variable Name	**Description**
soviet_aid	Annual Soviet economic aid received during the Cold War (log)
soviet_armshare	The TIV of arms transfer from the USSR as a percentage of a country's total arms imports, averaged across 1950-1991
soviet_treaty	Binary variable indicating states that signed treaties of friendship and cooperation with the USSR
support_russia	Binary variable indicating a vote against a UN resolution or abstention
support_ord	An ordinal variable that equals 2 for a vote against a resolution, 1 for abstention, and 0 for a vote for a resolution
coldwar_ideo	The percentage of years that each country was ruled by left-wing leaders from 1945 to 1991
lndiscapRUS	Distance to Moscow (log)
lndiscapUSA	Distance to Washington (log)
resourcegdp	Resource dependence, defined as fuel and metal revenues as a percentage of GDP, averaged from 1945 to 1991
NAM1961	Binary variable indicating founding members of the NAM
export_share_1021	Export partner share ("the percentage of exports going to Russia to total exports of a country (dollar value)", 2010-2021
import_share_1021	Import partner share ("the percentage of imports from Russia to total imports of a country (dollar value)", 2010-2021
russia_armshare_1021	The share of a country's arms imports that came from Russia, 2010-2021
faid_1115	Russia's foreign aid, 2011-2015
FDIGDP1021	Russia direct investment in a country as a percentage of its GDP, 2010-2021
lngdp21	GDP 2021 (log)
lngdppc21	GDP per capita 2021 (log)
absent	Binary variable indicating that a state is absent during the voting
statename	Name of the state
ccode	COW country code
region	Categorical variable indicating the region where a country is located. The regions are: Eastern Africa, Middle Africa, Northern Africa, Southern Africa, Western Africa, Caribbean, Eastern Asia, Southern Asia, South-eastern Asia, Western Asia, Central Asia, South America, and Melanesia
top30_recipient	Top 30 Recipients of Soviet economic aid
top30_armrecip	Top 30 Recipients of Soviet arm transfer
top25_recipient	Top 25 Recipients of Soviet economic aid
top35_recipient	Top 35 Recipients of Soviet economic aid
top35_armrecip	Top 35 Recipients of Soviet arm transfer

top5_recipient	Top 5 Recipients of Soviet economic aid
top5_armrecip	Top 5 Recipients of Soviet arm transfer
top3_recipient	Top 3 Recipients of Soviet economic aid
top3_armrecip	Top 3 Recipients of Soviet arm transfer

JCR Attitudes towards Russia.dta

Variable Name	**Description**
Russia_affinity	Binary variable indicating very positive attitudes towards Russia
majoraid	Binary variable indicating respondents from countries that were major Soviet aid recipients
age	Age
age2	Age squared
male	Binary variable indicating a male respondent
edu	Levels of education
poor	Status of poverty, measured by the frequency of going without cash income in the past year
urban	Binary variable indicating urban residence
older50	Binary variable indicating older than 50
older60	Binary variable indicating older than 60
college	Binary variable indicating college graduates
old_elite	Binary variable indicating respondents who are older than 50 and hold college degrees
radio	Radio consumption
tv	TV consumption
papers	Newspaper consumption
internet	Internet use
soc_media	Social Media use