Bilateral Labor Agreements Dataset

Version: 2.0
Release: July 25, 2022

Codebook for "BLAs_Corpus.tar.gz"

BLA Corpus Dataset Overview

This document describes the contents of the file "BLAs_Corpus.tar.gz." This corpus includes copies of 818 BLAs. It also includes evidence of the existence of 248 additional BLAs. For more information on the project, please first read "BLAs_Version2_ReadMe.pdf."

File Type

This corpus of pdfs is saved as a "tar" file. A tar file is a kind of archived file that can store all the documents in the corpus in a single file. To open the file, you may have to google how to open tar files for pc of mac. For example, see: https://www.cisdem.com/resource/create-and-open-tar-file-in-os-x.html#create.

File Naming

The file names for the documents in this corpus are all standardized. For example, the first document is named:

ID1 United States Canada 1947.pdf

This file name includes three elements: (1) the treaty ID number; (2) the names of the countries that signed the BLA, and (3) the year the BLA was signed.

(1) The treatyID is a value we made up for this project; the numbers correspond to the "treatyID" variables in the datasets "BLA_Formation_Data.dta" and "BLA_Cording_Data.dta".

(2) This is the name of the two countries that signed the agreement. They correspond to the names of the countries in the variables CountryA CountryB in the datasets "BLA_Formation_Data.dta" and "BLA_Cording_Data.dta".

(3) This is the year the treaty was signed. This year corresponds to the "year" variables in the datasets "BLA_Formation_Data.dta" and "BLA_Cording_Data.dta".

For files that provide evidence of a BLA, but not a copy of that BLA, the file name will then add "eX" to indicate that it is providing a piece of evidence. We use "e1" for the first piece of evidence, and then e2, e3, etc. for treaties where we have multiple pieces of evidence.

Citation

We ask all researchers using these datasets to cite two papers:

- Adam Chilton and Bartosz Woda. 2022. "The Expanding Universe of Bilateral Labor Agreements." *Theoretical Inquires in Law* 23(2): 1-64 (available at the journal website and as a working paper on SSRN).
- Adam S. Chilton and Eric A. Posner. 2018. "Why Countries Sign Bilateral Labor Agreements." *Journal of Legal Studies* 47(S1): 45-88 (available at the journal website and as a working paper on SSRN).

Since the second version of the datasets also builds on work by Margaret Peters, please also considering citing:

- Margaret E. Peters. 2019. "Immigration and International Law." *International Studies Quarterly* 63(2): 281-295 (available at the journal website and as a working paper on SSRN).