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UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTIONS, 1946-2014

(Version: 1.0, date extracted: 16 September 2015, final version generated: 21 September 2015)

Overview

The data set consists of all resolutions passed by the United Nations General Assembly in their regular sessions from 1946 to 2014 (some from the calendar year 2015 are also included). The data is based on the summary tables on the UN website (accessible via http://www.un.org/documents/resga.htm). The tables were retrieved on 16 September 2015 and the data was automatically extracted using a Python script. The data set consists of 17,359 observations.

A number of typos and missing pieces of information was added (see below). The date was transferred into a uniform format. Several checks for consistency were performed (see Python script for details). One resolution number was not assigned (A/RES/50/125), another bloc of numbers is also missing from the UN website (A/RES/56/500 – 300).

Please consult the following for more information regarding the original data:

http://research.un.org/en/docs/resolutions

http://www.unitar.org/ny/sites/unitar.org.ny/files/UN_PGA_Handbook.pdf

The data is available as a delimited text file (delimiter: semicolon) and as a Stata (14) data file (all variables are coded as strings). Missing values are denoted by "Missing".

Variables

res_id

ID number for resolutions. Starting with the 31st session this comes in the format A/RES/[session number]/[resolution number] with the resolution number starting new with each session. Prior to the 31st session the format is A/RES/[resolution number]([session number]) with the session number in Latin numerals.

location

Plenary or committee where the resolution was adopted

record_id

ID number of the meeting records

date

Date on which resolution was adopted in the format Day (1-2 digits) Month (spelled out) Year (4 digits).

Some entries are for several votes, only the first date is captured.

Year

Year of the date on which the resolution was adopted (see above)

recorded

Decision-making mode as described in the records. If there is no entry, but there is a vote tally, then it is coded as “Vote summary”

votes

Vote summary in the format [#yes]-[#no]-[#abstain].

yes

Number of ‘yes’ votes, taken from *votes* (see above).

no

Number of ‘no’ votes, taken from *votes* (see above).

abstain

Number of abstentions, taken from *votes* (see above).

draft

ID of draft resolution

topic

Description of the topic of the resolution

Dates added/corrected/changed into common format

A/RES/68/274: 5 June 2014

A/RES/35/102: 5 December 1980

A/RES/60/264: 28 June 2006

A/RES/34/2A-B: 21 September 1979

A/RES/34/65A-D: 29 November 1979

A/RES/34/9A-E: 1 November 1979

A/RES/34/7A-D: 25 October 1979

A/RES/32/4A-C: 25 October 1977

A/RES/32/21A-B : 28 November 1977

A/RES/31/6A-K: 26 October 1976

A/RES/31/16A-B: 23 November 1976

A/RES/3393(XXX)A-B: 20 November 1975

A/RES/3211(XXIX)A-B: 31 October 1974

A/RES/908(X)A-B: 17 November 1955

A/RES/33/60: 14 December 1978

A/RES/34/90A-C: 12 December 1979

A/RES/34/92A-E: 12 December 1979

A/RES/2262(XXII): 3 November 1967

A/RES/1126(XI): 22 February 1957

A/RES/33/13D: 8 December 1978

A/RES/42/230: 23 March 1988

A/RES/42/229A-B: 2 March 1988

A/RES/42/229A: 2 March 1988

A/RES/42/229B: 2 March 1988

Resolution ID corrected

A/RES/55/27

A/RES/64/105