Codebook

V1 (Dec. 2023)

The UN General Assembly Resolutions Text is a corpus containing the original text of all resolutions adopted by the UN General Assembly (UNGA) from 1946 to 2019. Besides the text, it contains metadata on each resolution and relational data indicating citations between UN General Assembly resolutions.

The creators of the dataset acknowledge and are grateful to research assistants Maria Clara Lage and Darling Lima Santos, as well as to the UN Library.

Users interested in retrieving each resolution as an individual text file can access the folder **ga_res_txt.7z**, which contains 17,913 TXT files (unzip it with 7-Zip).

Users interested in accessing, besides the text, the metadata and citation information can access the following files:

- **ga_resolutions_1946_2019.csv**: Spreadsheet with one row per resolution and the following columns:
    - **res_id2**: UN Document Symbol uniquely identifying the resolution, short format, letters included (ex.: “1863 b (xvii)”, “es-10/4”, “71/38”);
    - **res_id3**: UN Document Symbol, long format with date of adoption (“65/287 of 29 june 2011”, “2775 b (xxvi) of 29 november 1971”);
    - **res_id2_unlet**: same as res_id2, without letters for lettered resolutions;
    - **alt_id_dic**: dummy indicating whether the search for citations to this resolution also considered titles, as in the case of declarations;
    - **session_type**: type of UNGA session in which the resolution was adopted (regular, emergency, special);
    - **session_reg, session_sp, session_es** : number of the regular (or special, or emergency) session in which the resolution;
    - **resn** : resolution number, extracted from res_id2;
    - **res_letter**: resolution letter, for lettered resolutions only, extracted from res_id2;
    - **date_p**: date of adoption, in YYYY-MM-DD Date format (“1956-11-16”);
    - **date_c**: date of adoption, written in long format, as character string (“16 november 1956”);
    - **filename**: name of the TXT file containing the resolution text;
    - **content**: text of the resolution;
    - **location**: committee of origin of the resolution;
    - **record**: identifier of the meeting record of its adoption, as reported by the UN Digital Library;
    - **draft**: identifier of the document or report containing draft proposal, as reported by the UN Digital Library;
    - **topic**: title or summary of the resolution, as reported by the UN Digital Library;
    - **n_inc_cit:** number of incoming citations to this resolution (from other UNGA resolutions, as of 2019).

- **ga_citations_1946_2019.csv**: Spreadsheet in which each row corresponds to a citation. Columns contain the identifier, metadata and content for the resolution that is giving the citation and the one that is receiving the citation. The suffix "_giv" and "_recv" differentiate between both types. In the language of network analysis, ga_resolutions_1946_2019 is a "node list" and ga_citations_1946_2019 is an "edge list". Column names and their type of content are the same as in ga_resolutions_1946_2019. The following columns have information exclusive to this spreadsheet:
    - **cited_res**: long form of the UN Document Symbol (see res_id3 above) of the resolutions that were mentioned inside the content of the resolution that is giving citations. Resolution symbols are concatenated by comma and white space ("3062 (xxviii) of 9 november 1973, 31/5 c of 22 december 1976");
    - **cited_res_conv**: same as cited_res, but if the cited resolution is considered a Declaration or a similar high-profile document that tends to be cited by title more than by symbol;
    - **n_outg_cit**: number of outgoing citations that the resolution has given.
- **ga_res_cit_1946_2019.RData**: RData file containing ga_resolutions_1946_2019 (as object "res") and ga_citations_1946_2019 (as "cit"). This compilation is offered as a convenience since the importation of large csv files with abundant text and punctuation inside the cells can sometimes lead to import errors. When importing csv files individually, we recommend using the "readr" package.

For more detailed information on the corpus, consult the methodological annex to the article "The references of the nations: introducing a corpus of UN General Assembly resolutions since 1946 and their citation network", published at the *Journal of Peace Research*.