Research Task : Literature on the Democratic Peace
Coding Project Supervised by Allan Dafoe
Coding Project Managed by Olga Vera Hänni
Coders: Lars Osterberg, Riho Palis, Olga Vera Hänni

Project Overview
This research task requires the coding of the political science scholarly literature with respect to the way they operationalized democracy while doing research on the democratic peace.

Selection rule:
"Democratic peace" (with quotes) was entered in Google Scholar and the 100 first published articles (thus not books, working papers, conference papers, ...) were selected. Those articles were then coded only if they were available online for the coders who had access through Uppsala University. Articles that were not available are indicated on the spreadsheet.

Variables

A. **Coder (initials)**
B. **Rank**
C. **Page**
D. **1st author**
E. **Title (at least 3 words)**
F. **Codes democracy? <u>If not, skip paper</u>**
G. **Journal initials**
H. **Journal name**
I. **How do they code democracy?**
J. **Other codings for democracy?**
K. **Other codings (2) for democracy?**
L. **Confidence**
M. **Is democracy a substantive variable?**
N. **Where?** (page number(s) that made you decide how to code it)
O. **Comment**

<u>Some of the rubrics more in detail:</u>

A. **Coders**

LO = Lars Osterberg <losterberg@gmail.com>
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OH = Olga Vera Hänni <olga.haenni@gmail.com>

I. **How do they code democracy?**

Code for:
In blue = simplified example for understanding where:
country A = score of democracy - 4
country B = score of democracy +9

(1) Monadic coding, where the democracy level of an individual country is entered

as a variable, probably in a country-year setup, or a dyad-year setup. Also if they enter components of polity in a monadic manner.

4 and +9 are entered individually for each country

(2) Dyadic coding, "weak link" (this is often also called “joint democracy”): this coding involves dyads as the unit of analysis, and involves creating two variables, DemocracyLow (which is the democracy score of the country with the lowest of the two scores) and DemocracyHigh (democracy score of the country with the higher of the two scores).

(creates a variable for the dyad by taking the level of the higher/lower democracy)

democracyLow = - 4

democracyHigh = +9

(3) Dyadic coding, "weak link" (often also called “joint democracy”), missing DemocracyHigh: this is as above, but where the second variable is omitted.

(creates a variable for the dyad by taking the level of the lower democracy)

democracyLow = - 4

(4) Dyadic coding, "regime difference": this is where there is a variable for DemocracyLow, and then another variable for "Regime Difference" which is typically measured as DemocracyHigh-DemocracyLow.

a measure for democracyLow = - 4

and one for regime difference = 13 (from - 4 to +9)

(5) Interaction monadic coding: DemocracyA, DemocracyB, and DemocracyA*DemocracyB

both individually (-4 and +9) plus the interaction of both

(6) Maoz's “Joinreg” variable

$$\text{JOINREG} = \frac{\text{REG}_h + \text{REG}_l}{\text{REG}_h - \text{REG}_l + 1},$$

(7) Dummy variable : 1 if joint democracy, 0 if not

This is usually defined as 1 when DemocracyLow >6, 0 otherwise.

NOTE!!

This list is not exhaustive and it should evolve once you see what's out there. The most important distinction is between dyadic weaklink (2) and dyadic regime difference (4). If you come across a way of operationalizing democracy that is not covered by the above mentioned categories you should **include it in the coding rubric** (so if you come across something new but that somebody else had already come across, you will find it in the coding rubric).

Codes 2, 3, and 7 are conceptually very similar.

L. Confidence

Type 1 if you are very confident (>90% of being correct) about your previous coding, 2 if you are somewhat confident (>70%), and 3 if you basically guessed (<70%).

M. Is democracy a substantive variable?
The article does not have to treat democracy as main subject, it might only be involved as a control variable. So as long as the author(s) operationalize democracy, you should code how. However you have to specify whether democracy is a substantive variable (code 1) or only a control variable (code 0).

N. Where?
The page number(s) that made you decide how to code the article.

O. Comment
If any uncertainty, note it.