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DIPLOMETRICS:

Diplomatic Representation Data Codebook

(Embassy Codebook)

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THE GOALS OF THE PROJECT

The goal of this project was to collect data on diplomatic relations between states across time. This represents both an update and an extension of previous work done first by David Singer and Melvin Small as part of the Correlates of War Project, and most recently updates by Resat Bayer at Koc University (Singer and Small 1966; Singer and Small 1973; Resat Bayer 2006).

CITATION

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DATA COLLECTION PROCESS

SPATIAL-TEMPORAL DOMAIN

The Data collected span the years from 1960 to 2013 and utilize the Members of the Interstate System (developed elsewhere as part of this project) country list containing 279 state entities across time (Jonathan Moyer, David Bohl, and Sara Turner 2014). Although data were collected back to 1959, this year was not included in the final data set because it only contained entries for states in Europe, and did not represent a full collection of cases for the world.

IDENTIFYING CASES

The Europa Yearbooks were utilized to compile data on the number of embassies hosted in country. For years 1960, 1961, and 1962 the book reports representatives sent to other countries (See Appendix A for a full listing of Europa Yearbooks used). Those years were coded to match the format of the rest of the series. Each book, published by year, contains a chapter for each country and a list of diplomatic representatives in that country (or sent by that country, for 1960-1963). A case was defined as any instance in which the books gave an indication of some form of representation above the level of recognition even if this representation was not specifically identified.

Data collection occurred on a year-by-year basis using the Europa World Year Books and beginning in 2013 and moving backwards in time. The Europa yearbooks are structured so that each country has its own chapter in the book, within which exist sections covering different topics of interest. This project coded information from the 'Diplomatic Representation' section of each Country chapter. This section of the book contained information on embassies hosted within or accredited to the Country named in the Chapter. To distinguish the host country from the countries sending representation we use the term hosting or host country to describe the country in which the embassies being recorded are located, and the term sending or guest country to describe the country whose interests a particular embassy represents.

CODING SYSTEM

Coding was recorded in a series of Excel workbooks, each representing a single year and each containing a worksheet for every country in our country list. Worksheets were named for the Hosting Country and the first column of each worksheet contains a list of the same country names, which represent the potential range of representation from sending countries.

Coding system for each variable was as follows:

Host Country – a country name from the list of MIS countries

Guest – a country name from the list of MIS countries

Embassy – the most complex of the coding systems, embassy types were first broken down into three broad categories related to physical location: those inside the Hosting Country, those outside the Hosting Country, and 'diplomatic relationships' maintained by the Hosting Country. Embassies inside the Hosting Country were given a 1 digit code, those outside the Hosting Country received three digit codes, and those representing unreciprocated relationships were given negative codes.

Prior to 1983, embassy types were further distinguished by the numeric prefixes of their codes, which broadly broke diplomatic relations into three categories based on the type of delegation: those clearly marked as embassies were given a prefix of "2", and those recorded as legations received a prefix of "9".

The final digit in each embassy type code records the specific type/level of representative present. A total of eight representative types are available: Undefined, Ambassador/High Commissioner, Chargé d'Affaires, Minister/Consul/Envoy, Nuncio, Secretary of the People's Bureau, Interest Desk, and Interests Served By Third Party.

The result of this multi-tiered classification system is that very specific distinctions in embassy type can be conveyed using a maximum of three digits. A Table showing the full breakdown of all possible code combinations is available in the Variables section of the Datasets and Variables Chapter under the header for the Full Directed Dyad Year data.

Focus – the focus variable is a measure of the level of diplomatic attention being devoted to a given Hosting Country by a given Guesting Country. The following 4 focus codes existed in the original data:

> 0 – representative is located within the Hosting Country and appointed to only one country
>
> 1 – representative is located inside or outside the Hosting Country but is appointed to multiple countries
>
> 3 – representative has been expelled or recalled from the Hosting Country
>
> 4 – representative is located in the Hosting Country but listed as 'accredited to' another country

Leave Date – a series in the month/day/year format denoting the date in which relations were severed

Enter Date – a series in the month/day/year format denoting the date in which relations began

Year – the four digit year for which the diplomatic relationship is being recorded

Location – a country name from the list of 336 MIS countries.

Based on this collected information we chose to release two forms of the data. The first is the complete data set with the codlings set out as above. The second is a condensed version of the data containing binary information if a formal relationship existed within the host country (excluding non-reciprocal and out of country relationships). This condensed form of the data also contains information on the level of representation that exists between the two states in the form of an index which incorporates information on the level of formal representation and the degree of focus which an embassy was able to devote to its host country. This condensed form represents the most reliable form of the data because it eliminates the effects of changes in the way the Europa Books represent information on embassies over time. For example, decreased reporting of multiple accreditations and reporting of embassies versus legations in addition to the level of the representative. We retain this information in the complete data set for researchers who may be interested in those relationships, which are well represented prior to 1983.

Decision-Making Rubric

A decision-making rubric was created to address a number of challenges facing this project due to historic shifts in sovereignty, unique relationships, and cases in which book information was self-contradicting or suggestive of error.

Historic Shifts in Sovereignty

Country births and deaths – In several cases Europa reporting lagged changes in membership in the interstate system. For example, instances of Yemen Arab republic and Yemen People's Republic were reported post-1991 the date, when reunification occurred in our members of the interstate system list. In these cases, we attributed the information to the successor state, Yemen.

Governments in Exile- We did not code governments in exile or challengers for control of state territories. For example, we did not code information on the Royalist Spanish Government in Exile, nor did we code relationships maintained with the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of south Viet Nam.

Judgment Calls in Code Classification

The Europa Yearbooks recorded information in a number of ways, and judgment calls were made to determine whether a variant form of phrasing represented a distinct type of diplomatic relationship, or was merely linguistic variation which represented the same level of representation. For example, where relationships were noted as being 'jointly with' another entity, but no address was given, we coded this as representing the same level of representation as 'interests served by' for countries where no address was given. 'Also accredited to' and 'Also serving' were both treated as multi-focus relationships and received a focus code of 4.

Book Phenomena:

Coding reflects the entries made in the *Europa* volumes, unless an extreme inconsistency was observed. (See Notes) The standard of proof used to justify amending the Yearbook data was 1) clear historic precedent suggesting the entry is incorrect AND 2) hard evidence in the text of the country for a specific year or across years suggesting the text in a particular year is wrong. Several examples have been recorded in the Notes section of this document.

VETTING PROCESS

First, anomalous or impossible combinations of country dyads were vet and corrected.

Second, the total number of embassies (hosts and guests) per country over time was visualized using Excel graphics as a means of highlighting general trends and/or anomalous years. Several cases were identified in which the number of embassies spiked or dipped for a single year. These were investigated and corrected if found to be in error with regards to what was reported in the *Europa*. Third, country hosts and guests were vet on a year by year basis. Year to year differences which exceeded a certain threshold were investigated on the basis of the severity of the identified discrepancy. If, upon investigation, a data point as found to have been left out or entered incorrectly the vetting team directly edited the individual year worksheet in question, correcting the error and ensuring that it accurately matched with the data contained in the *Europa* volumes.

Third, the dyadic diplomatic relationships were examined visually over time, and single-year inconsistencies were noted. These included: embassies appearing, embassies disappearing, or embassies coded as out-country or unreciprocated for a singular instance in contradiction to a historic trend. As data had been coded annually, with a unique coder working per year, data inconsistencies of more than a single year were assumed reflective of the Yearbook data, rather than human error in this first round of vetting.

These observed inconsistencies were recorded, and checked against the Yearbooks to ensure the coded data represents the Yearbook entry as closely as possible.

Finally, data were vet at the level of representation to identify major changes or anomalies in the level of representation, such as Libya switching between an ambassador and a Secretary of People's Bureau in a particular country over time, or sudden increases in the level of representation between Cuba and the United States.

DATASETS AND VARIABLES

AVAILABLE FORMATS

Data are being released in the following formats:

Directed Dyad Years: This data format contains data on original coding, simplified embassy coding, level of representation, and location and focus for directed dyads in each year.

VARIABLES

Condensed Directed Dyad Year

1. *Receiving/Host*: Country name form the Diplometrics country list
2. *Sending/Guest*: Country name from the Diplometrics country list
3. *Year*: Year in which relationship was observed
4. *Original Embassy Code:*

Embassy Type				
Definition		**Codes**		
		Inside Country	**Outside Country**	**Unreciprocated**
Undefined	Undefined	1	101	-1
	Ambassador/HC	2	102	-2
	Chargé d'Affairs	3	103	-3
	Minister/Consul/Envoy	4	104	-4
	Nuncio	5	105	-5
	Sec. People's Bureau	6	106	-6
	Interest Desk	7	107	-7
	Interests served by..	8	108	-8
Embassy (E)	Undefined	21	121	-21
	Ambassador/HC	22	122	-22
	Chargé d'Affairs	23	123	-23
	Minister/Consul/Envoy	24	124	-24
	Nuncio	25	125	-25
	Sec. People's Bureau	26	126	-26
	Interest Desk	27	127	-27
	Interests served by..	28	128	-28
Legation (L)	Undefined	91	191	-91
	Ambassador/HC	92	192	-92
	Chargé d'Affairs	93	193	-93
	Minister/Consul/Envoy	94	194	-94
	Nuncio	95	195	-95
	Sec. People's Bureau	96	196	-96
	Interest Desk	97	197	-97
	Interests served by..	98	198	-98

4. *Original Focus Code:*

0 – Representative is located within the Hosting Country and appointed to only one country

1 – Representative is located inside or outside the Hosting Country but is appointed to multiple countries

3 – Representative has been expelled or recalled from the Hosting Country

4 – Representative is located in the Hosting Country but listed as 'accredited to' another country

5. *Simplified Embassy Code:* Ordinal variable describing the level at which representation is maintained. The category of Other (9) can be interpreted as having similar status to that of Ambassador.

* Note: this column contains nulls for Outside of Country and Unreciprocated codes

6-Ambassador, Nuncio, Secretary of the People's Bureau

5-Minister/Envoy

4-Charge d'affairs

3-Interest Desk

2-Interests Served by

1-Unknown

5. *Simplified Focus*: A categorical level variable describing the degree of focus a mission is able to devote to a relationship

1 Single focus

2 Multiple focus

3 Expulsion, severance, recall, withdrawal

6. *Level of Representation*: an index of values from 0 to 1 calculated to combine the formal level of accreditation with the focus devoted to that relationship

1 - Ambassador (embassy = 2), Nuncio (embassy = 5), or Secretary of the People's Bureau (embassy = 6), singular focus (focus = 0)

0.75 - Unknown (1), charge d'affairs (3), or minister (4), singular focus (focus = 0)

0.5 - Ambassador, Nuncio, Secretary of the People's Bureau, multiple focus (focus = 1 or 4)

0.375 – Unknown, Charge d'affairs, minister, multiple focus (focus = 1 or 4)

0.125 – Interest desk (embassy = 7), multiple focus (focus = 1 or 4)

0.1 – Interests served by (embassy = 8), multiple focus (focus 1 or 4)

0.0 Expelled, Recalled, Withdrawn (focus = 3): indicative of no relationship

6. *Location:* Records the location in which out of country embassies (codes >100) are found

COMPATIBILITY WITH OTHER DATASETS

The country name list used in this project is compatible with the CoW list. Though CoW codes are not included in the dataset itself, a concordance list is included in the MIS list for users who wish to use these data in conjunction with other data which utilize the CoW country list.

NOTES

BOOK PHENOMENA

In addition to the limitations of this decision-making rubric in dealing with historic shifts and unique cases, and the potential for human error during the data input process, the *Europa* books themselves contain internal inconsistencies. There are several places in the texts in which the number of embassies sent or received by a given country fluctuates widely between years and a significant number of these in which the information for the first and third years of a three-year series are identical with a great variation in the middle year. A basic knowledge of the ebb and flow of embassy relations over time leads one to suspect that these progressions are erroneous. Moreover, there were a number cases where the text of the books between one year and the next suggested an error within the books rather than a true change in representation. The coding team was unable to find any independent resources able to confirm or refute the *Europa* data, therefore in the absence of evidence within the texts to suggest an error, the data team recorded the data as reported in the books. It is therefore important for anyone using the data to recognize that while it is a reasonably sound representation of embassy relations as recorded by *Europa*, it is unlikely to be completely accurate from a historical standpoint. Below are descriptions and examples of cases where the coding team made judgment calls in order to try and provide the most reasonable reflection of embassy relationships overtime.

Specific Instances of Book Inconsistencies:

Uruguay and Greece: In 1972 and 1973, the Greek embassy serving Uruguay is listed with the following entry: Missiones1481 Buenos Aires (E). However, the entry in 1971 and 1974 list the same address but specify Montevideo, and there was no historic trend to suggest that the embassy was located in Brazil. Therefore, we assumed the books to be in error and coded this relationship as an in country embassy.

Republic of Viet Nam and Poland: The book entry in 1960 for the Polish representative in Viet Nam reads: "Viet-Nam, Republic of: [individual's name] Hanoi (CA). As Poland very consistently maintained a representative to the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, and because Hanoi is in North Viet Nam, we interpreted this as an error in the books and coded the relationship as existing between the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and Poland rather than the republic of Viet Nam.

Egypt and Bangladesh 1962: All entries for Egypt in 1962 were entered in a paragraph describing diplomatic relations with no location listed for the representative. For this reason, all relations in Egypt in this year are given a negative code although entries for 1961 and 1963 do not share this pattern and are coded normally. Bangladesh share a similar pattern in 1962.

Other codings associated with inconsistencies:

When vetting, it was noted that the following codes were associated with a larger number of anomalous appearances and disappearances across time: Ambassador (Vacant), Only the country name given, Only the level of representation given (E) or (L) given and no location identified. The question of whether they are correctly coded or represent cases that should be deleted has not been extensively studied. Future updates will address this issue.

HISTORIC SHIFTS IN SOVEREIGNTY

Yemen – Yemen was two separate countries until 1990, at which time the Yemen Arab Republic and Yemen People's Republic united to become "Yemen". In certain cases, Europa continued to report relations with both entities after unification. We elected to code these instances as a unified Yemen. Other pre-1990 entries may use the terms "North Yemen" or "Yemen Sanaa" in reference to the Yemen Arab Republic and "South Yemen" or "Yemen Aiden" to refer to the Yemen People's Republic. Additionally, in the 1960s, entries for The Kingdom of Yemen were coded as the Yemen Arab Republic.

Yugoslavia/Serbia & Montenegro/Serbia – The state of Yugoslavia existed between 1918 and 1992, at which point it broke into a collection of smaller states. The largest of these was "Serbia & Montenegro", which existed until 2006, when Montenegro became an independent state and the remaining country became simply "Serbia". Confusion may arise from the fact that "Serbia & Montenegro" is sometimes referred to in the *Europa* volumes as the "Federal Republic of Yugoslavia".

Viet Nam – Like Yemen, the modern state of Viet Nam was two separate countries between 1954 and 1975: the "Viet Nam, Republic of" (also called "South Viet Nam") and "Viet Nam, Democratic Republic of" (also called "North Viet Nam"). From 1975 onward, *Europa* entries may continue under either name but were all coded for the unified "Viet Nam" listing. Between 1968 and 1975 a number of communist countries were listed in the *Europa* series as maintaining relations with the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam (which was associated with North Viet Nam). By 1975

this entity effectively became the ruling party in South Viet Nam, and oversaw the reunification of the country. The decision was made to not code this entity as a legitimate government.

Cambodia – During the decade of the 1980s, a series of rival governments claimed authority in Cambodia, including the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea (CGDK). Various states granted recognition to these rival factions, resulting in some confusion in regards to which countries had legitimate diplomatic presence in Cambodia at the time. During the period of reunification (1991-1993) countries that recognized the entity known as the Supreme National Council transferred their recognition to the unified country of Cambodia once it came into existence. Likewise, the countries recognizing the Government of Cambodia also continued to do so once a unity government was formed. This differentiates this case from that of Viet Nam in which the war signaled a shift in the diplomatic alignment of the country. As this represented a case of reunification, we elected to code recognition of both entities as legitimate during the years in which they existed.

Unique Relationships

Libya – Representatives frequently listed as "Secretary of People's Bureau" or similar term not seen elsewhere. Coding was done accordingly, with the distinct "06" based code (including 106, 26, 126 variations). In practice, however, these representatives are considered functionally equivalent to ambassadors.

Palestine – A unique case in the world system, Palestine enjoys limited autonomy without full diplomatic recognition as a sovereign state. Many of the *Europa* volumes include entries for Palestine (both as a sending and receiving state) but it was the decision of the data team not to code any information in regards to Palestine. It will be incorporated in the next update of the data.

Vatican City / Holy See – The Vatican represents a unique case in terms of diplomatic relations. Firstly, the great majority of its representatives bear the title of "nuncio" (often with one of several prefixes). While the coding team's research indicates that these individuals are functionally identical to ambassadors, it was decided to record them under a unique code based on the supposition that they could always be consolidated at a later point if desired. The other unique aspect regarding the Vatican is that embassies to the Holy See are nearly always physically located *outside* the boundaries of the country but nonetheless *inside* the same city – Rome. Originally the coding team was treating these missions like any other, recording them as outside of the hosting country, but it was realized that this was a rather misleading manner of representing what is in fact very close proximity. Therefore it was decided that for the purposes of the Vatican, embassies in Rome were considered to be "in-country."

SUMMARY STATISTICS

The following table presents frequency tables for the variables used in the simplified embassy and focus codes. Frequencies for the original coding system are available in Appendix B.

Embassy Code

Code	Frequency	Percent
6	297,800	85.94
5	21,646	6.25
4	2,506	0.72
3	211	0.06
2	324	0.09
1	24,025	6.93

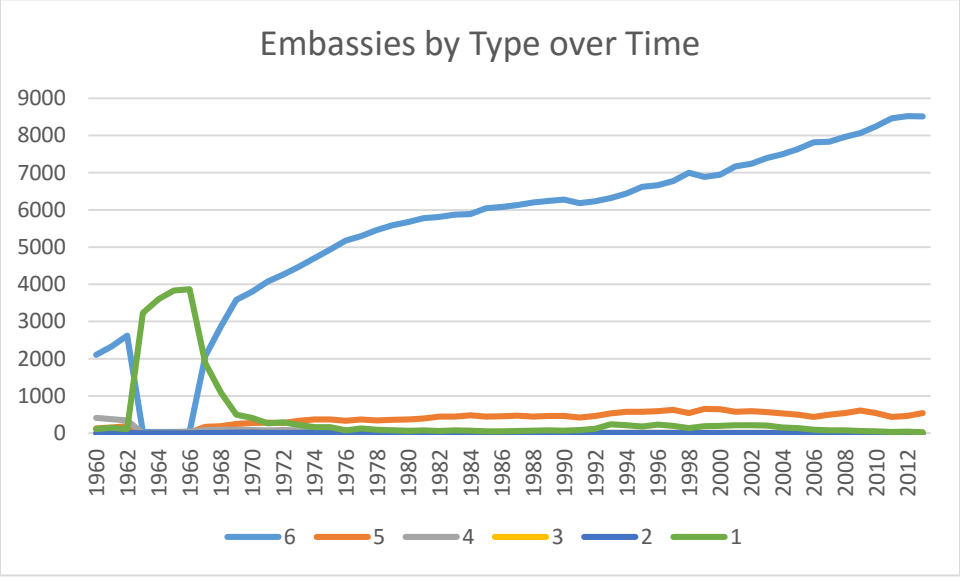
Focus Code

Code	Frequency	Percent
1	330,291	95.32
2	15,160	4.38
3	1,061	0.31

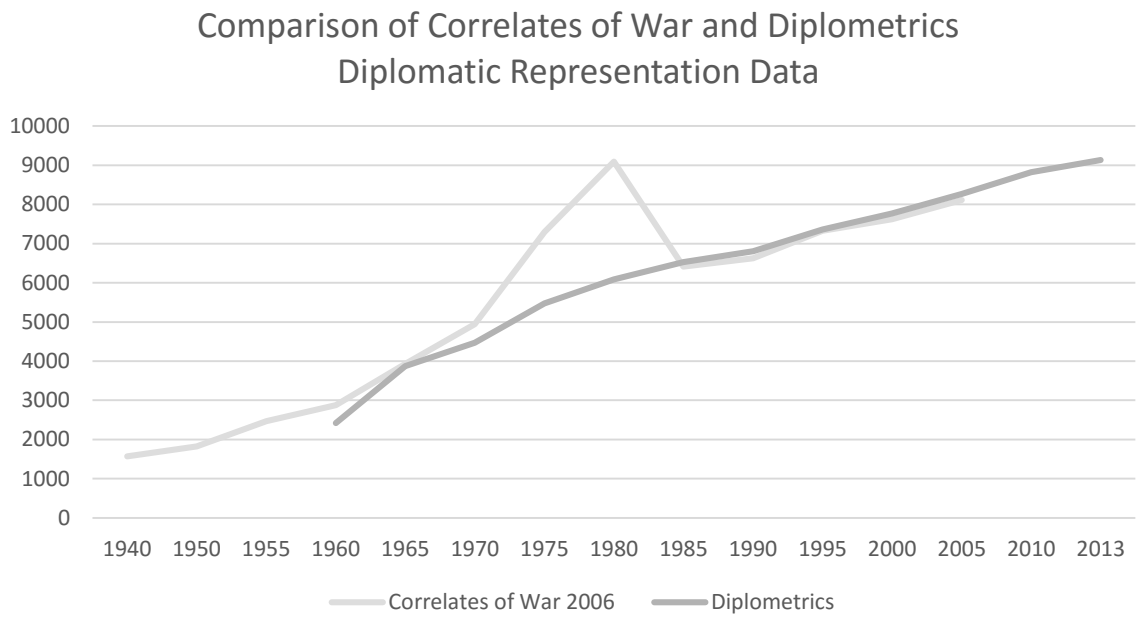
Level of Representation

Code	Frequency	Percent
1	283,422	81.79
0.75	46,766	13.5
0.5	13,778	3.98
0.375	959	0.28
0.125	207	0.06
0.1	319	0.09
0	1,061	0.31

Figure 1: Embassies by Type over Time



CONCLUDING REMARKS



Above, we have included a visual comparison of our condensed form data with the data released in the most recent update of the work completed by Singer and Small in 5 year increments. Because our data differentiate ambassadorial relationships with regards to location or the head of mission rather than simply the building, the significant increase in the number of embassies observed in their data does not exist in the most recently collected data.

Singer and Small's original effort to record patterns of diplomatic representation globally marked an important effort to identify patterns in diplomatic relationships over time. By building on that effort, collecting data at a yearly level, disaggregating to capture as much representational variety as possible, and extending the data set to 2013, we have built upon these foundations to provide researchers with access to data which represents trends in diplomatic representation over time up to the current date. We have also created a new measure of level of representation which will enable researchers to better consider level of representation in their analyses. Work in this area is ongoing and we hope to update and improve upon this measure in future iterations.

WORKS CITED IN CODEBOOK

Jonathan Moyer, David Bohl, and Sara Turner. 2014. “Members of the Interstate System Codebook.”

Resat Bayer. 2006. “Diplomatic Exchange Dataset 2006 v.1.” http://www.correlatesofwar.org/COW2%20Data/Diplomatic/Diplomatic_Exchange_2006v1_codebook.pdf.

Singer, David J., and Melvin Small. 1966. “The Composition and Status Ordering of the International System, 1815-1940.” *World Politics* 18 (2): 236–82.

———. 1973. “The Diplomatic Importance of States, 1816-1970: An Extension and Refinement of the Indicator.” *World Politics* 25 (4): 577–99.

APPENDICES:

APPENDIX A: SOURCEBOOKS

Year	Title	Number of Volumes	Edition	Publisher	Location
2013	The Europa world year book	2	55th	Europa Publications	London
2012	The Europa world year book	2	54th	Europa Publications	London
2011	The Europa world year book	2	53rd	Europa Publications	London
2010	The Europa world year book	2	52nd	Europa Publications	London
2009	The Europa world year book	2	51st	Europa Publications	London
2008	The Europa world year book	2	50th	Europa Publications	London
2007	The Europa world year book	2	49th	Europa Publications	London
2006	The Europa world year book	2	48th	Europa Publications	London
2005	The Europa world year book	2	47th	Europa Publications	London
2004	The Europa world year book	2	46th	Europa Publications	London
2003	The Europa world year book	2	45th	Europa Publications	London
2002	The Europa world year book	2	44th	Europa Publications	London
2001	The Europa world year book	2	43rd	Europa Publications	London
2000	The Europa world year book	2	42nd	Europa Publications	London
1999	The Europa world year book	2	41st	Europa Publications	London
1998	The Europa world year book	2	40th	Europa Publications	London
1997	The Europa world year book	2	39th	Europa Publications	London
1996	The Europa world year book	2	38th	Europa Publications	London
1995	The Europa world year book	2	37th	Europa Publications	London
1994	The Europa world year book	2	36th	Europa Publications	London
1993	The Europa world year book	2	35th	Europa Publications	London
1992	The Europa world year book	2	34th	Europa Publications	London
1991	The Europa world year book	2	33rd	Europa Publications	London
1990	The Europa world year book	2	32nd	Europa Publications	London
1989	The Europa world year book	2	31st	Europa Publications	London
1988	The Europa world year book	2	30th	Europa Publications	London
1987	The Europa world year book	2	29th	Europa Publications	London
1986	The Europa world year book	2	28th	Europa Publications	London
1985	The Europa world year book	2	27th	Europa Publications	London
1984	The Europa world year book	2	26th	Europa Publications	London
1983	The Europa world year book	2	25th	Europa Publications	London
1982	The Europa world year book	2	24th	Europa Publications	London
1981	The Europa world year book	2	23rd	Europa Publications	London
1980	The Europa world year book	2	22nd	Europa Publications	London
1979	The Europa world year book	2	21st	Europa Publications	London
1978	The Europa world year book	2	20th	Europa Publications	London
1977	The Europa world year book	2	19th	Europa Publications	London
1976	The Europa world year book	2	18th	Europa Publications	London
1975	The Europa world year book	2	17th	Europa Publications	London

1974	The Europa world year book	2	16th	Europa Publications	London
1973	The Europa world year book	2	15th	Europa Publications	London
1972	The Europa world year book	2	14th	Europa Publications	London
1971	The Europa world year book	2	13th	Europa Publications	London
1970	The Europa world year book	2	12th	Europa Publications	London
1969	The Europa world year book	2	11th	Europa Publications	London
1968	The Europa world year book	2	10th	Europa Publications	London
1967	The Europa world year book	2	9th	Europa Publications	London
1966	The Europa world year book	2	8th	Europa Publications	London
1965	The Europa world year book	2	7th	Europa Publications	London
1964	The Europa world year book	2	6th	Europa Publications	London
1963	The Europa world year book	2	5th	Europa Publications	London
1962	The Europa world year book	2	4th	Europa Publications	London
1961	The Europa world year book	2	3rd	Europa Publications	London
1960	The Europa world year book	2	2nd	Europa Publications	London

APPENDIX B: FREQUENCIES FOR FULL DATA

Embassy frequencies

	In Country			Out of Country			'Diplomatic Relations'		
	Code	**Frequency**	**Percent**	**Code**	**Frequency**	**Percent**	**Code**	**Frequency**	**Percent**
Undefined	**1**	7,608	1.79	**101**	18,449	4.35	**-1**	31676	7.46
	2	248,228	58.49	**102**	2,289	0.54	**-2**	493	0.12
	3	18,675	4.4	**103**	64	0.02			
	4	2,095	0.49	**104**	327	0.08	**-4**	367	0.09
	5	3,991	0.94	**105**	102	0.02	**-5**	1	0
	6	1,104	0.26						
	7	211	0.05						
	8	300	0.07						
Embassy (E)	**21**	14,746	3.47	**121**	22,147	5.22	**-21**	7	0
	22	44,429	10.47	**122**	781	0.18			
	23	2,699	0.64	**123**	56	0.01			
	24	28	0.01	**124**	1	0			
	28	24	0.01	**128**	8	0			
Legation (L)	**91**	1,671	0.39	**191**	1,026	0.24	**-91**	4	0
	92	48	0.01	**192**	6	0			
	93	272	0.06	**193**	12	0			
	94	383	0.09	**194**	43	0.01			

Focus Frequencies

Code	Frequency	Percent
Null	32,548	7.67
0	330,340	77.84
1	46,850	11.04
3	1,072	0.25
4	13,561	3.20