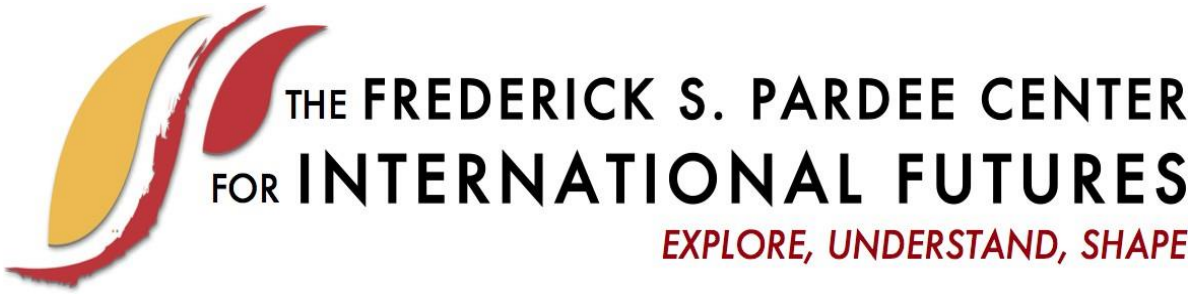

DIPLOMETRICS:
Diplomatic Representation Data Codebook

(Embassy Codebook)

Version number: 2023.08.30

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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

Cite as follows:

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Moyer, Jonathan D., Sara Turner, and Collin J. Meisel, "What are the drivers of diplomacy? Introducing and testing new annual dyadic measures of diplomatic exchange," *Journal of Peace Research* 58, no. 6 (2021): 1300–1310.

DATA COLLECTION PROCESS

SPATIAL-TEMPORAL DOMAIN

The Data collected span the years from 1960 to 2022 and utilize the Members of the Interstate System (developed elsewhere as part of this project) country list containing nearly 300 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 an embassy represents.

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 2.

Mid-Year Cut-off for Withdrawal Classification

In many cases the Europa Yearbooks record the month and year of the withdrawal, termination, or recall of an embassy. When the withdrawal date is specified, we code withdrawals as occurring for the year when it takes place before the middle of the year, June 30th. When a withdrawal in a given year is noted as occurring after the June 30th cutoff, we code the embassy as active for that year and mark the withdrawal in the following year.

Reporting Anomalies

Coding reflects the entries made in the *Europa* volumes, unless an extreme inconsistency was observed. (See notes section.) 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 format:

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

VARIABLES

Condensed Directed Dyad Year

1. *Destination/Receiving/Host*: Country name from the Diplometrics country list
    - *Includes destination region and subregion, as determined by the United Nations Statistical Division's M49 standard*.

2. *Sending*/*Guest*: Country name from the Diplometrics country list
    - *Includes destination region and subregion, as determined by the United Nations Statistical Division's M49 standard*.

3. *Year*: Year in which relationship was observed. Note that *Europa World Year Book* volume lag by one year, so, for example, data for 2022 are reported in the 63rd edition of the *Europa World Year Book*, which was published in 2023.

4. *Location:* Records the location of the embassy

5. *Simplified Embassy Code:* Ordinal variable describing the level at which representation is maintained.
    6-Ambassador, Nuncio, Secretary of the People's Bureau
    5-Minister/Envoy
    4-Charge d'affairs (note: we do not distinguish between *ad interim* and *en pied*)
    3-Interest Desk
    2-Interests Served by
    1-Unknown

6. *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

7. *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, Nuncio, or Secretary of the People's Bureau; singular focus

    0.75 - Unknown, charge d'affairs, or minister; singular focus

    0.5 - Ambassador, Nuncio, Secretary of the People's Bureau, multiple focus

    0.375 – Unknown, Charge d'affairs, minister, multiple focus

    0.125 – Interest desk

    0.1 – Interests served by

    0.0 – Expelled, Recalled, Withdrawn

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 of 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 shares a similar pattern in 1962.

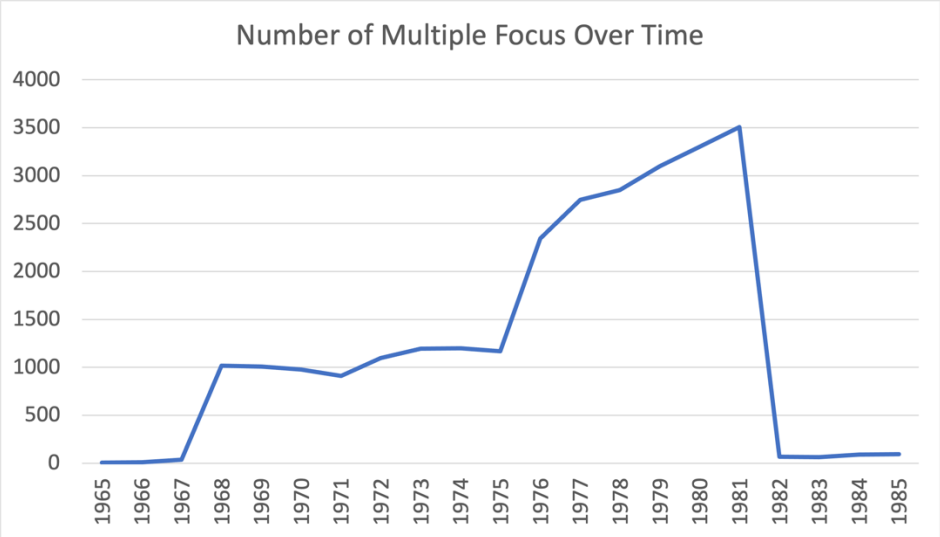
Other coding associated with inconsistencies:

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.

***Europa* Multiple Focus Reporting:**

In addition to erroneously reported location of embassies and level of representation/omittance of representation, the *Europa* books changed the language used to report the degree of focus for some embassies between 1968 and 1981. During this period there was an increased number of embassies labeled as "also accredited to", resulting in a Focus code of 2; however, this label was dropped for a significant number of embassies starting in 1982, altering the Focus code to 1. The team found more than 50 instances in 1981 and 1982 in which embassies had the same Ambassador (by name) and same physical location (by address) yet differed in the label of "also accredited to." The coding team made the judgement call to maintain consistency with *Europa* reporting and to note the inconsistency here. One example follows, and the graph illustrating the number of multiple focus (2) entries over time can be found below.

U.S.S.R-Benin: In 1981, according to *Europa*, the Benin embassy in the U.S.S.R. was headed by Ambassador Armand Monteiro at Leninsky pr. 148, kv. 121-124 and also accredited to the German Democratic Republic and Poland. In 1982, according to *Europa*, the Benin embassy in the U.S.S.R. was headed by Ambassador Armand Monteiro at Leninsky pr. 148, kv. 121-124 but not accredited to any other countries.



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 as of 2013.

Embassy Code

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

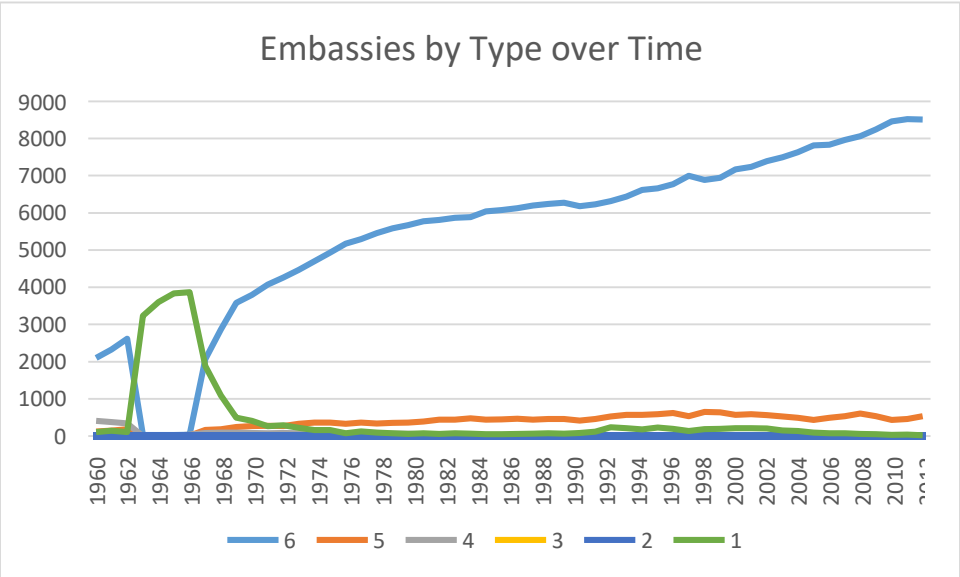
Focus Code

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

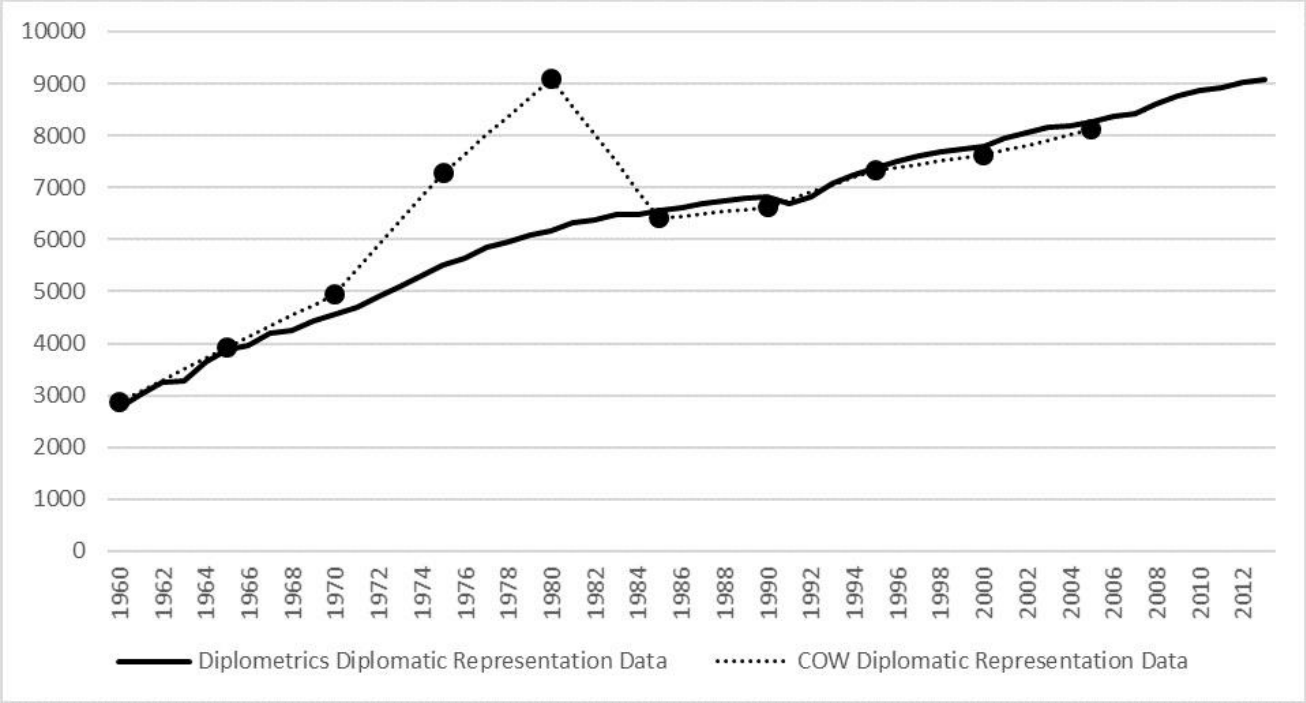
Level of Representation

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



Comparison with Correlates of War Data



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.

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APPENDICES:

APPENDIX A: SOURCEBOOKS

Year	Title	Number of Volumes	Edition	Publisher	Location
2022	The Europa world year book	3	64th	Europa Publications	London
2021	The Europa world year book	3	63rd	Europa Publications	London
2020	The Europa world year book	3	62nd	Europa Publications	London
2019	The Europa world year book	3	61st	Europa Publications	London
2018	The Europa world year book	3	60th	Europa Publications	London
2017	The Europa world year book	3	59th	Europa Publications	London
2016	The Europa world year book	3	58th	Europa Publications	London
2015	The Europa world year book	3	57th	Europa Publications	London
2014	The Europa world year book	3	56th	Europa Publications	London
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
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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