

Location of Armed Conflict Onset Dataset (LACOD) Codebook

Version 1.0

March 30, 2011

Helge Holtermann, Johan Dittrich Hallberg, and Halvard Buhaug

Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO)

Please refer to this codebook and the following article if you use these data:

Buhaug, Halvard, Kristian Skrede Gleditsch, Helge Holtermann, Gudrun Østby, and Andreas Forø Tollefsen (2011) "It's the local economy, stupid! Geographic wealth dispersion and conflict outbreak location." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 55 (5): 814-840.

Contents

Introduction	3
Variables	3
id	3
location	3
sidea	3
sideb	3
year	3
onsetprimregion	4
onsetlocation	4
locprec	4
latitude	4
longitude	4
sources	4
coder	4
startdate	5
startprec	5
startdate2	5
startprec2	5
epstartdate	5
epend	5
ependdate	5
ependprec	5
gwnoloc	5
region	5
version	5
int	5
cumint	5
type	5
incomp	5
terr	6

Introduction

The Location of Armed Conflict Onset Dataset provides information about where within a country internal armed conflicts erupt. The scope is internal armed conflicts in the UCDP-PRIO Armed Conflict Dataset (v. 4-2009) from 1946 to 2008. An armed conflict is defined by UCDP-PRIO as a contested incompatibility that concerns government and/or territory where the use of armed force between two parties, of which at least one is the government of a state, results in at least 25 battle-related deaths in one calendar year.

The onset location is defined as the place of the combat event which made the conflict first reach the threshold of 25 annual battle-related deaths. The date for this event was found in the UCDP conflict database. Subsequently, we searched various sources to identify the combat event(s) on that day related to the conflict. The main source was Keesing's Record of World Events. Other sources included various English-language newspapers, books, reports, research articles, and the UCDP conflict database.

More details on how each onset location was coded is available in the separate Coding Decision documents.

Variables

Note that variables marked "[UCDP/PRIO]" are from the UCDP/PRIO Armed Conflict Dataset: v4-2007 for the years 1946 to 2006, and v4-2009 for the years 2007 to 2008. For a more detailed description of these variables and their values, refer to the codebook for version 4-2007 of the UCDP/PRIO Armed Conflict Dataset, available from [the PRIO data website](#).

id

Conflict identifier [UCDP/PRIO]

NB! Newer versions of the UCDP/PRIO dataset have switched to using newer conflict ID codes, so the ID codes listed in this dataset are only guaranteed to work for version 4 of the UCDP/PRIO dataset and have to be looked up using [UCDP's ID translation tables](#).

location

Country name(s) [UCDP/PRIO]

sidea

Country name(s) [UCDP/PRIO]

sideb

Country name(s) or Opposition actors [UCDP/PRIO]

year

Year of observation

onsetprimregion

Primary subnational region or administrative unit in which the onset occurred.

onsetlocation

Specific point or location where the onset occurred.

locprec

Level of geographic precision for the onset location.

Values:

1 = Precise location and district given with high certainty

2 = District given with high certainty, precise location with lower certainty

3 = District given with high certainty, precise location not known

4 = District given with low certainty

5 = Province or larger region only known

6 = Simultaneous onset at several locations – the location with most reported killings or hardest fighting coded

7 = Armed conflict in large parts of the country – the entire country is coded (geographical coordinates for the centre)

8 = Onset in two or more bordering regions or nearby locations – coordinates given for the geographical center between the regions' center/locations

99 = No information

latitude

Latitude coordinate of the onset location.

longitude

Latitude coordinate of the onset location.

sources

Source(s) used to determine the onset location. Refers to the sources more fully listed and described in the Coding Decisions document for the conflict ID and year, found under the relevant country heading.

coder

Name of the person who coded this onset location.

startdate

Date of conflict initiation [UCDP/PRIO]

startprec

Precision of startdate [UCDP/PRIO]

startdate2

Date of fatality threshold [UCDP/PRIO]

startprec2

Precision of startdate2 [UCDP/PRIO]

epstartdate

Date of initiation of conflict episode [UCDP/PRIO]

epend

Episode ended [UCDP/PRIO]

ependdate

Date when conflict activity ended [UCDP/PRIO]

ependprec

Episode end precision [UCDP/PRIO]

gwnoloc

GW number of location [UCDP/PRIO]

region

Region of location [UCDP/PRIO]

version

Version number of the UCDP/PRIO Armed Conflict Dataset

int

Intensity level [UCDP/PRIO]

cumint

Cumulative intensity [UCDP/PRIO]

type

Conflict type [UCDP/PRIO]

incomp

Conflict Incompatibility [UCDP/PRIO]

terr

Name of territory [UCDP/PRIO]