The Exclusion/Violent Conflict Nexus

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Ethnic exclusion in recent and current civil wars

South Sudan

Israel, Gaza, West Bank

Isis

Ukraine
Greed/Opportunities or Grievances?

Paul Collier, Oxford Univ.
Inequality irrelevant!
Profits & opportunity costs

Frances Stewart, Oxford Univ.
Horizontal Inequalities cause conflict
Our research

- Focus on how ethnic inequality along political and economic lines may trigger civil war

**Inequality, Grievances and Civil War**
- Lars-Erik Cederman, ETH Zürich
- Kristian Skrede Gleditsch Univ. of Essex
- Halvard Buhaug, PRIO

Cambridge University Press, 2013

From ethnic exclusion to civil war

Horizontal inequality

Grievances

Group identification
Intergroup comparison
Evaluation of injustice
Framing and blaming

Macro link

Repression
Mobilization

Civil war
Ethnic Power Relations Dataset

- Ethnic groups’ power access and settlement areas worldwide 1946-2013

Vogt et. al. 2015. *Journal of Conflict Resolution*
http://growup.ethz.ch
Ethno-political inequality and civil war

See Cederman, Wimmer & Min (2010)
Source: Ethnic Power Relations (EPR-ETH) Dataset, [http://growup.ethz.ch](http://growup.ethz.ch)
Ethno-economic inequality and civil war

Measuring inequality

Yugoslavia: GECON and GeoEPR (1990)

Effect of inequality

Conflict prob.

See Cederman, Weidmann & Gleditsch (2011)
Responses to ethnic diversity

- Predominance
- Partition
- Power-Sharing
Power sharing & reverse causation
Explaining postcolonial conflict

Colonial Strategy → Initial Exclusion → Conflict

Initial Inclusion

Distance from coast

Predicted Probability

French

British


Change in predicted probability of conflict for included groups

Density

with reverse causation

naïve

British vs. French Initial Inclusion

log Distance to Coast

Change in predicted probability of conflict for included groups

density

Model 3

Model 4
Trends in ethno-political inequality: Excluded population in world regions
Ethno-economic inequality over time

Conclusions

- Political HI ➔ Conflict
- Economic HI ➔ Conflict
- Power sharing usually effective
- Political HI decreasing except in the Middle East
- Economic HI decreasing except in Sub-Saharan Africa

Home page:
www.icr.ethz.ch/

Ethnic power relations in fragile states:
http://www.r4d.epr.ethz.ch/