

Electoral Contention and Violence (ECAV) Codebook

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A. Electoral Contention and Violence (ECAV) definitions and variables

Introduction

The Electoral Contention and Violence (ECAV) dataset contains information on nonviolent and violent contention related to national elections. The database contains information on contentious events (such as demonstrations, protests, riots, interpersonal violence, or killings) in which elections were one of the issues around which events revolved. The dataset focuses on contestation and violence related to national elections.

The dataset includes all countries with unconsolidated regimes that held competitive national elections and consisted of populations larger than half a million. The data cover 1,208 national election rounds in 136 countries over the 1990-2012 period. For six of the countries (Estonia, Laos, North Korea, Oman, North Korea, Suriname), no election-related events were identified in news reports. We begin in 1990 because most countries adopted competitive elections in that time period. The data end in 2012 because NELDA election dates were available until 2012 at the time of coding.

Defining Competitive Elections

The dataset uses the National Elections Across Democracy and Autocracy (NELDA) dataset to identify elections (Hyde and Marinov 2012).¹ NELDA includes information on competitive elections, which are defined as follows:

“To be included, elections must be for a national executive figure, such as a president, or for a national legislative body, such as a parliament, legislature, constituent assembly, or other directly elected representative bodies. In order for an election to be included, voters must directly elect the person or persons appearing on the ballot to the national post in question. Voting must also be direct, or ‘by the people’ in the sense that mass voting takes place. That voting is ‘by the people’ does not imply anything about the extent of the franchise: some regimes may construe this to mean a small portion of the population” (NELDA codebook: 1-2).

This definition is well suited because it is highly inclusive yet excludes states in which no meaningful electoral competition, and thus no risk of electoral contention related to actual (rather than desired) elections existed. China, Eritrea, Somalia, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates and Qatar are the only states without competitive national elections. The data are limited to events related to national elections because data on subnational elections are sparsely available, making it difficult to identify the relevant subset of elections. Therefore, the data include events of subnational electoral contention only if subnational elections and national elections took place in close temporal proximity *and* if it is plausible to expect that subnational contentious events influenced national elections or responded to both local and national elections. For example, during the 1991 elections in India, Sikh militants killed

¹ Data are available at <http://hyde.research.yale.edu/nelda/>

dozens of candidates for the Punjab state legislature. Since elections for the state legislature took place on the same day as elections for Punjab's 13 seats in the national legislature, these events are included in the dataset. The campaign of violence arguably affected the electoral process for state and national elections.

Defining Unconsolidated Regimes

The dataset excludes countries with consolidated democratic regimes, which are defined as states that were OECD members in 1990 (the first of year coding).² ECAV therefore does not include events in Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, and the United States. Events in states joining the OECD after 1990 (Mexico, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, South Korea, Slovakia, Chile, Slovenia, Israel, and Estonia) are included.³ There is one exception to this rule: We code events in Turkey, despite it being a member of the OECD since 1961. Consolidated democracies are excluded because the dataset is primarily concerned with elections in which the occurrence of electoral contention and violence is feasible. While consolidated democracies experienced substantial electoral contention and violence when they democratized, the risk of violence in the post-Cold War period is marginal.

Defining Electoral Contention

Electoral contention is defined as *public acts of mobilization, contestation, or coercion by state or nonstate actors that are used to affect the electoral process or that arise in the context of electoral competition*. A contentious event involves at least two actors (1) who either disagree on an issue and are thus seen as being on opposite sides of this issue, or (2) where one of the actors threatens or uses violence against civilians. A rally or celebration *in support* of a political candidate would therefore not be coded as a contentious event, while an opposition party protest *expressing disagreement* with the government party would be coded.⁴ The above definition implies that events of electoral contention are publicly observable, are linked to an electoral process in timing and substance, and can be violent or nonviolent in nature.

² We compared OECD membership to a more substantively informed indicator of democratic consolidation following Schedler (2001). Using two indicators from V-Dem (Coppedge et al. 2018), we operationalize democratic consolidation as countries whose three most recent elections before 1990 (the first year of coding) were free and fair (v2elfrfair), and whose results were accepted by election losers (v2elaccept). This analysis shows that all OECD members except Turkey were consolidated in 1990, justifying the inclusion. Five additional countries were consolidated in 1990; these are Argentina, Botswana, Costa Rica, Ecuador, and Mauritius. We keep these countries in the dataset to preserve comprehensive regional coverage.

³ Like NELDA, ECAV also does not code events in states without competitive, direct elections and excludes micro-states (see NELDA codebook for a list).

⁴ Example of a rally not coded before the 2004 elections in India (750-2004-0420-L1, "Massive political rally sets off election campaign in southern India", AFP): "Hundreds of thousands of people choked the streets of a southern metropolis Sunday before assembling at a massive pre-election rally, held despite threats of attacks by Maoist rebels. Workers and supporters of Telugu Desam Party - which governs Andhra Pradesh state - joined the 7-kilometer (4.5-mile) march to the rally ground in Hyderabad, the state's capital, alongside folk dancers, singers and men, women and children from faraway villages. Example of a celebration that is not included after the Morocco 2011 elections (600-2011-1125-L1, AFP, title "Moderate Islamist party wins landmark Morocco election"): "Several hundred PJD supporters celebrated the election win at the party's headquarters in an upscale Rabat neighbourhood by singing and chapping."

Publicness

There is evidence of actual public contention in the form of arrests, arson, attacks, bombings, boycotts, clashes, killings, intimidation, protests, rioting, shootings, or strikes.⁵

Election-Related

We determine the relation to elections with *substantive* and *temporal* criteria. With regard to *substance*, contention must be linked to an ongoing electoral process, meaning that the election in question can be identified and articles explicitly mention the electoral process as an issue around which contestation occurs. Events relating to other issues are thus included only if it can be inferred that actors choose to carry them out in relation to elections. For example, a strike over payment delays by health care workers a month before elections would not be included in the data unless the article mentions that the proximity to elections was considered helpful for accomplishing the actors' goals. Consistent with this approach, events taking place in the proximity to elections in states experiencing civil conflict are not automatically included in the dataset. Rather, such events are included once the intent to affect electoral processes (or respond to them) can be established. Intent is established based on reporting in articles or statements by the actors involved.⁶

With regard to *time*, events occurring between six months before and three months after the election. A nine-month time frame is arguably arbitrary and will miss some relevant events, although we analyzed SCAD data to select this period before coding began (see appendix B). We decide to use a common time frame for all elections because the dataset includes all unconsolidated regimes and thus more than 1,000 election-rounds, making it practically impossible to research every single election to determine the most appropriate time frame for analysis. For elections with multiple rounds, events were coded from six months before the first round and three months after the last election round took place.⁷

Nature

Contention can be nonviolent or violent in nature. Events are coded as violent if they include the threat or actual use of force intended to inflict harm on people. Threats in which actors publicly and physically threaten violence, such as armed groups making the rounds to

⁵ Events aimed at preventing or preempting contention, in particular curfews, are not coded as contentious events. However, events contesting the imposition of a curfew, or targeting curfew violators would still be included. Verbal statements are not coded.

⁶ Because it can be challenging to substantively link elections to violence during ongoing armed conflict, section H of the appendix includes additional information on coding decisions for each country experiencing UCDP armed conflict between 1990 and 2012 (Gleditsch et al. 2002). We briefly illustrate this procedure with excerpts from articles before the 2005 elections in Iraq. The following statement establishes a connection between violence and elections, meaning that subsequent events involving these actors are coded: "U.S forces are aiming to clamp down on insurgents ahead of the Oct. 15 vote. Al-Qaida in Iraq and other groups in the Sunni-led insurgency have launched a wave of violence to wreck the vote, killing more than 200 people over the past week (AP Worldstream, 'U.S. offensive widens in western Iraq as military says 28 militants killed in new fighting', 2 October 2005)." In contrast, the subsequent statement simply notes the temporal proximity of violence to elections, which on its own is insufficient for inclusion in the dataset. "The violence came less than two weeks before a national referendum on a new constitution (AP Worldstream, 'U.S. offensive continues in Iraq; oil minister survives assassination attempt', 3 October 2005)."

⁷ Elections with multiple rounds tend to occur in close proximity to each other. For elections with multiple rounds, we code events from six months before the date of the first round until three months after the last round was held. Since the unit of analysis in the data is the event-day-location, events can still be attributed to the correct election-round. When elections of a different type (i.e., presidential and parliamentary elections, thus not rounds of the same election) are held within less than 9 months of each other, we split the time period in half. Regardless, coders are asked to attribute event-day-locations to the correct election.

threaten voters with violence if they participate in elections, are therefore included in the dataset. However, verbal statements threatening violent action are not coded unless they actually involve public displays of such threats.⁸

Unit of Analysis: Event-Day-Location

An event-day-location is an election-related contentious event reported in a media source on a single day in a particular location. This implies that events occurring in multiple locations and/or taking place over more than one day are coded separately.⁹ We provide start and end dates for multi-day events to facilitate temporal aggregation. While spatial aggregation may also be possible, we caution that it can be difficult to establish whether similar events in different locations are part of the same, larger event.

[Note:

1. If a single article mentions multiple events, they are coded separately as event-day-locations.
2. This means that events reported to last several days (e.g. five days of demonstrations in Dhaka) are coded as five separate event-day-locations. For events lasting longer than a single day, we provide two additional variables with start and end dates. Users can use these variables to aggregate multi-day events. For events lasting longer than a single day, we provide two additional variables with start and end dates. Users can use these variables to aggregate multi-day events.
3. Events happening on the same day in the same location are coded as separate events only if they clearly constitute a separate event-day-location, such as involving different actors, a different type of event, or different locations.
4. If an article discusses a national-level event in very general terms (e.g. multiple demonstrations held across Bangladesh) and then summarizes events that are part of this larger event with specific information, code the specific event-day-locations and omit the country-level event. Recall that events with imprecise location information do not imply events affected the entire country, but rather that we cannot identify the precise location.]

Sources

⁸ (1) Example of threat of force (coded): “Tension rose in six towns in the mainly Moslem province of Lanao del Sur early Monday when at least 400 separatist guerrillas made the rounds of precincts, preventing the start of balloting. “We do not want elections to take place,” lawyer Abdulgani Marohombsar, official of the watchdog National Citizens Movement for Free Elections, quoted the gunmen as telling poll clerks and voters.” (ID: 840_0074, Philippines, 840-1998-0511-LP1). (2) Example of a verbal threat (not coded): “Top opposition leader and Awami League President Sheikh Hasina Wajed has threatened to launch non-stop agitation if Begum Zia persisted with her refusal to accept the demand for poll under neutral caretaker government after the four-day opposition-sponsored general strike across the country from 16th October.” (Title: Opposition launches 32-hour strike in five cities, Bangladesh, (771-1996-0215-L1))

⁹ For events lasting several days, coders have to identify the beginning, continuation, and end dates of the event in newspaper sources. For example, if a newspaper article mentions a strike that has lasted two weeks, coders must find earlier articles that report the onset of the strike two weeks before.

Information on electoral contention comes from news media reports. The dataset uses Lexis-Nexis to get access to news reports and codes information from three newswire sources: Associated Press, Agence France Press, and BBC Monitoring.

Event Extraction Procedure

1. Using the power search interface in Lexis-Nexis, use the HLEAD option to search for the country name in the headline and lead paragraphs.
2. Use Boolean options to select additional terms. After selecting the country, search for “HLEAD(countryname) AND elections AND protest OR strike OR riot OR violence OR attack OR killing OR intimidation OR harassment OR unrest” as additional terms anywhere in the document.
3. Go to "Select Sources" window of the power search and “select "Find Sources". In the “Find Sources” field, select the "News" checkbox and locate “Agence France Presse–English”, “The Associated Press”, “Associated Press Online”, “Associated Press Worldstream”, and “BBC Monitoring”.
4. Select appropriate date ranges (six months before and after elections) based on election dates in the respective country.

[Note: The PIs used the above procedure to download all articles. Coders assigned to a country received a list of all articles for the relevant dates as a function of election dates from the PIs, rather than downloading articles on their own.]

Variables

Table E1 provides variable names and a brief description of all variables included in ECAV.

Table E1: Variable Overview

Variable	Description
EventID	Unique event ID
Country	Country in which the election and event take place
Ccode	Numeric country code from Correlates of War
Isocode	ISO3 numeric code
Electiondate	Date of election
ElectionID1	Updated NELDA ID
ElectionID2	Second NELDA ID for events related to two election rounds
NeldaID	Original NELDA ID
Date	Event date
AggStartdate	Event start date for multi-day events
AggEnddate	Event end date for multi-day events
Location	Event location name
LocationPrecision	Location precision
Latitude	Latitude coordinates (6 decimals)
Longitude	Longitude coordinates (6 decimals)
Actor1Type	Identifies whether the actor is the state, civilian, party, armed group, other or unknown
Actor1Side	Identifies if actor is pro- or anti-government
Actor1Name	Name of the actor, as precise as possible
Actor2Type	Same coding as Actor1Type, required only if more than one actor is involved
Actor2Side	Same coding as Actor1Side, required only if more than one actor is involved
Actor2Name	Same coding as Actor1Name, required only if more than one actor is involved
Target1Type	Identifies whether the target is the state, civilian, party, armed group, other or unknown
Target1Side	Identifies if the target is pro- or anti-government
Target1Name	Name of the target, as precise as possible
Target2Type	Same coding as Target1Type, required only if more than one target is involved
Target2Side	Same coding as Target1Side, required only if more than one target is involved
Target2Name	Same coding as Target1Name, required only if more than one target is involved
ParticipantNumber	Number of event participants
EventName	Identifies the type of event with up to two event names (for events that escalate). See table 2 for list.
EventDirection	Indicates whether the event initiator and target can be established
EventViolence	Identifies whether an event is violent or non-violent
ViolenceInitiator	Identifies whether the violence initiator can be established and who initiated violence. Only required if event is violent
ParticipantDeaths	Identifies the total number of deaths. Only required if event is violent
OtherIssue	Identifies if a second issue was a source of disagreement
EventDescription	Brief description of event from the article
Source	Newswire source used to code the event
Title	Title of the newswire article
Notes	Additional information on event circumstances
Coder	Name of the coder

Identifier and Coordinate Variables

Event ID [required]

Unique event ID, country name, country ISO and COW code

Election date [required]

Date of the election

Election ID 1 [required]

Election IDs are identical to NELDA IDs except for concurrent elections, which we indicate with the postfix “LP” instead of the NELDA postfix “L” or “P”. It is generally not possible to establish whether an event pertained to a legislative or presidential election if those elections are held on the same day, which is why concurrent elections are not coded as separate elections in ECAV.

[Note:

1. Coders are provided with a list of all election dates and NELDA IDs at the beginning of coding.
2. Only event-day-locations related to national elections are coded unless events relating to subnational elections also affect national elections.
3. Only includes event-day-locations relating to general elections. Some countries hold direct elections for parliament and indirect ones for president (e.g. Pakistan). Since indirect elections are not included in NELDA, event-day-locations relating to them are not coded]

Election ID 2 [as applicable]

Election ID from NELDA for additional election round

[Note: Second NELDA ID included only if an event pertains to both rounds or if it cannot establish which one.]

Nelda ID [required]

Original NELDA election ID to facilitate merging.

Date [required]

Codes the actual event date of the main event discussed in an article (which may not coincide with the date of the article). Coding is restricted to the immediate event-day-location(s) in question, i.e. additional events far in the past or those planned for the future mentioned in an article. Coding does not proceed if the date cannot be identified.

AggStartdate [only for multi-day events]

Codes the start date of events that last more than one day.

AggEnddate [only for multi-day events]

Codes the end date of events that last more than one day.

Location **[required]**

Records the location of the event. Events are not coded if approximate location (see below) cannot be identified.

[Note:

1. To avoid misspellings, location names are copied and pasted from the article rather than typed manually.
2. An event day in Dakha is coded as Dakha. When newswire reports specify a more precise location (such as the neighborhood of a city, or a particular building such as parliament) and coordinates for this location can be identified, location refers to this precise location rather than the city or town name.
3. Events occurring in multiple locations are coded as multiple event-day-locations regardless of whether precise location information is available. For example, if an article mentions attacks in 10 constituencies in a particular state/province/country, 10 events are coded even when precise locations are not mentioned for each event.
4. Only events occurring within the territory of the state holding the election are included in the dataset. For example, Chinese acts of intimidation related to elections in Taiwan, but occurring outside of Taiwan's territory, are not included.]

Location Precision **[required]**

1=exact location is known (village, town, city, or more precise location within this location)

2=event is "near" an exact location

3=event can be related to a second order administrative unit (municipality, district)

4=event can be related to a first order administrative unit (province, state)

5=event can only be related to the whole country

[Note:

1. Administrative units of each country for the Location Precision categories are reviewed by the coder in advance. Coders prepare a document with the local terms for administrative units at different levels.
2. Events are coded as "near" location if the article uses words such as "near, close, outside of city X." If the article specifies a distance, code events as "near" if less than 50 kilometers from a specified location.
3. For example, in initial coding in Bangladesh, the following rules were used: Location Precision 4: Division/Location Precision 3: District (Zila), Subdistrict (Upazila and Thana), Union (Nine villages)/Location Precision 2: Near City, Town, Village/Location Precision 1: City, Town, Village, or more precise location within this location]

Longitude and Latitude **[required]**

Record longitude and latitude of the event-day location.

[Note:

1. Coordinates for exact locations or "near" exact locations (Location Precision=1 or 2) are assigned using the following procedure. Coders first use the Stata tool

opencagegeo to identify coordinates for exact locations. For locations not identified through this procedure, we identify locations using <https://itouchmap.com/latlong.html>, <https://www.latlong.net>, and Wikipedia. If exact location coordinates cannot be identified, we consult the event description and/or article to assign a higher precision level for the event based on the most disaggregated level that can be established (Location Precision 3, 4, or 5). Location names are changed accordingly.

2. Coordinates for locations with precision level 3, 4, or 5 (first-order admin units, second-order admin units, and country level) are assigned using the following procedure. The first step uses centroid coordinates for the respective administrative unit from Global Administrative Areas project GADM (<http://www.gadm.org/>). For locations that cannot be identified with GADM, we consult Wikipedia for centroid coordinates. If location coordinates cannot be identified, we consult the event description and/or article to assign a higher precision level for the event based on the most disaggregated level you can establish (Location Precision 4, or 5). Location names are changed accordingly.

Participant Variables

Actor 1 Type [required]

Record the actor in the event.

1=state actor

2=nonstate actor, citizens

3=nonstate actor, party

4=nonstate actor, armed group

5=other

-99=unknown

[Note:

1. A contentious event involves at least two actors on opposite sides of each other. The event direction variable below codes whether an event was directed or not (i.e., did one actor initiate the event). For directed events, put the initiator of an event as the actor (type, side, and name), and the targeted actor as the target (type, side, name). For undirected events, you can designate either actor as actor or target since no direction can be established.
2. Actors are coded as state actors if they are national or local government actors (including police and the military).
3. Actors are coded as citizens if the article mentions actors as “people, persons, citizens, party supporters, mob, or crowd.” Actors should also be coded as citizens if it is reasonable to infer that they were either actors or targets of an event. Event type may provide hints regarding identity, for example, protests and demonstrations usually involve citizens as actors. Similarly, a terrorist attack may not specifically mention that civilians were targeted, but it is reasonable to code them as targets if individuals were injured or killed in an attack.

4. Actors are coded as party actors if the article mentions individuals as “activists, members, or workers” of a party. If an article states mentions actors as “supporters” or “followers” of a party, they are coded as citizens. Individuals competing as independent candidates are coded as party actors. Party militias are coded as armed groups.
5. Actors are coded as armed group if events are carried out by nonstate actors engaged in violent campaigns against a government or on behalf of a government. We thus code events by rebel groups opposing the government, but also those by paramilitary or militia groups friendly to governments, as involving armed group actors. If an article identifies the group or mentions “insurgents, rebels, militias, or paramilitaries” as actors, they should be coded as armed group. We also code criminal groups as armed groups if the article highlights that criminal actors did in fact as part of a group. Whenever mentioned, we record the name of the armed group involved using UCDP group names. If the name of the group is not explicitly mentioned, coders try to narrow down the group’s name by looking at the location and further details provided by articles, such as references to ongoing conflicts in the respective area.
6. Actors are coded as other if we can infer the identity of the actor or target, but it does not fit into any of the existing categories. For example, international actors should be coded as other.
7. Actors are coded as unknown (-99) if the article contains no information on the identity of the actors, nor can we reasonably infer their identity. For example, events by “unidentified gunmen” or “unknown assailants” should be coded as unknown.]

Actor 1 Side **[required]**

0=progovernment

1=antigovernment

-99=unknown

[Note:

1. Actor Side codes whether an actor is acting in support or against the national government in an event.
2. If the incumbent or his/her party is ousted following an election, the actor side variable should be coded as -99, or unknown, from the time of the election until the swearing in of a new government.
3. Example of antigovernment actor: “Protesters exploded several bombs during the third day of a general strike against the government.” Example of progovernment actor: “Shots were fired at the motorcade of Bangladesh's main opposition leader”]

Actor 1 Name **[required]**

Records the name of the actor in the event (e.g. students, police, opposition party members, ...). If the article states the names of actors involved, they are recorded as such (e.g. BNP party).

Additional Actor Variables [as applicable]

Target 1 Type [required]

Records the target of an event. Note that coding an actor as target does not imply that the actor is the victim in an event, the direction of each event is coded separately in the variable Event direction.

1=state actor

2=nonstate actor, civilians

3=nonstate actor, party

4=nonstate actor, armed group

5=other

-99=unknown

[Note:

1. A contentious event involves at least two actors on opposite sides of each other. The event direction variable below codes whether an event was directed or not (i.e., did one actor initiate the event). For directed events, the initiator of an event is the actor (type, side, and name), and the targeted actor is the target (type, side, name). For undirected events, either actor is designated as actor or target since no direction can be established.
2. Targets are coded as state actors if they are national or local government actors (including police and the military).
3. Targets are coded as civilians if the article mentions actors as “people, persons, citizens, party supporters, mob, or crowd.” Targets should also be coded as civilians if it is reasonable to infer that they were either actors or targets of an event. Event type may provide hints regarding identity, for example, protests and demonstrations usually involve civilians as actors. Similarly, a terrorist attack may not specifically mention that civilians were targeted, but it is reasonable to code them as targets if individuals were injured or killed in an attack.
4. Targets are coded as party actors if the article mentions individuals as “activists, members, or workers” of a party. If an article states mentions actors as “supporters” or “followers” of a party, they are coded as citizens. Candidates competing as independent are coded as party actors.
5. Targets are coded as armed group if events are carried out by nonstate actors engaged in violent campaigns against a government or on behalf of a government. We thus code events by rebel groups opposing the government, but also those by paramilitary or militia groups friendly to governments, as involving armed group actors. If an article identifies the group or mentions “insurgents, rebels, militias, or paramilitaries” as actors, they should be coded as armed group.
6. Targets are coded as other if we can infer the identity of the actor or target, but it does not fit into any of the existing categories. For example, international actors should be coded as other.
7. Targets are coded as unknown (-99) if the article contains no information on the identity of the individuals involved, nor can we reasonably infer their identity. For example, events by “unidentified gunmen” or “unknown assailants” should be coded as unknown.]

Target 1 Side **[required]**

0=progovernment

1=antigovernment

-99=unknown

[Note:

1. Target Side codes whether an actor is acting in support or against the national government in an event.
2. If the incumbent or his/her party is ousted following an election, the target side variable should be coded as -99, or unknown, from the time of the election until the swearing in of a new government.
3. Example of antigovernment target: "Police used tear gas against opposition supporters on the third day of a general strike against the government." Example of progovernment target: "Opposition supporters tried to disrupt a pro-government rally held by the BNP"]

Target 1 Name **[required]**

Records the name of the target in the event (e.g. students, police, opposition party members, ...). If the article states the names of actors involved, they are coded them as such (e.g. BNP party).

Additional target variables [as applicable]

Participant Number **[required]**

Codes the total number of participants in the event

1=<10

2=10-99

3=100-999

4=1000-9999

5=>10,000

-99=unknown

[Note: Participant information is often unavailable.]

Event Variables

Event Name **[required]**

Records the name of target in the event (e.g. protest, demonstration, strike, arrests, detention, arrests, attacks, killing, riot, coup, ...). To the extent possible, event names from the left column in the table below are used. If the event involves escalation, coders can use up to two event names, separated by a semicolon. For example: Strike; shooting.

Table E2: List of ECAV event names

Event Name (preferred use)	Synonymous events/subtypes
Arrest	Detention
Arson	Burning, torching
Attack	Assault
Ban	Bans of parties and newspapers (do not code general protest bans)
Blockade	
Bombing	Suicide bombing, bombing attempt, bomb attack
Boycott (electoral)	
Coup	Coup attempt
Clash	Confrontation, fighting, scuffle
Intimidation	Intimidation of voters or candidates
Kidnapping	Abduction
Killing	Assassination
Protest	Demonstration, vigil, march, picket, sit-in, rally, elite protest (resignation, petition)
Occupation	
Raid	Seizure
Riot	Violent uprising, mob violence
Shooting	
Strike	Hunger strike

Event Direction [required]

Records whether information allows for establishing whether an event was directed (who initiated an event, and who was targeted in it can be established) or undirected (actor and target in an event cannot be established). If coded as directed, participants coded in “actor” fields are the initiators of an event.

0=Undirected (Actor and target in an event CANNOT be established)

1=Directed (Actor and target in an event CAN be established)

[Note: Example for undirected event: "Supporters of Ershad's Jatiya Party and members of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party clashed in Dhaka."]

Example of directed event: "Supporters of Ershad's Jatiya Party attacked members of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party during a meeting in Dhaka."]

Event Violence [required]

0=nonviolent contention

1=violent contention

[Note:

1. Events that involve the threat or actual use of force or violence are coded as violent. Violent events therefore involve the actual or threatened infliction of physical harm on people. For example, an act of intimidation involving a gun held to an opposition party candidate's head, is coded as a violent event. The coding of violence is event-specific, since some events can be violent or nonviolent. For example, an arrest without any mention of the threat or use of force should be coded as nonviolent, whereas those occurring in an atmosphere of violence, or mentioning police threatening or using force should be coded as violent.
2. For nonviolent events, the Violence Initiator and Deaths variables are left empty]

Violence Initiator [as applicable]

- 0.1 – The initiator is the actor in Actor1
- 0.2 – The initiator is the actor in Actor2
- 1.1 – The initiator is the actor in Target1
- 1.2 – The initiator is the actor in Target2
- 99 – It cannot be determined who is the initiator

[Note:

1. The initiator of violence in an event can be different from the initiator of an event. For example, students may initiate a protest against the government in which the government responds with force to dissolve the protests. In this event, students are the actors (=initiators) of a directed event, whereas the government is the initiator of the violence.
2. For events involving escalation of an initial event, they are recorded as the same event-day-location if actors and targets are the same, and if the escalatory action is compatible with the initial event.
 - a. Example for escalation coded as a single event-day-location: Awami League workers, hurling bricks, clashed with police in front of a cinema hall. Police rounded up five League supporters from the spot.
 - b. Example for escalation requiring separate event-day-locations: Gunmen shot and seriously wounded Jalaluddin Ahmed, (...) as he was campaigning for Awami League on the streets of Munshiganj town. Awami League supporters went on a rampage in the town.]

Deaths [as applicable]

Codes the total number of deaths in the event

- 0=none
- 1=<10
- 2=10-100
- 3=100 or more
- 99=unknown

[Note: If no deaths are mentioned for an event-day-location in the article, deaths is 0. If the article mentions uncertainty over whether (or how many) deaths occurred, it is coded as -99/unknown]

Other Issue [as applicable]

If the article identifies a second issue as a source of disagreement, they are recorded as one of the following:

1=economy, jobs

2=territory

3=ethnicity

4=religion

5=foreign affairs

6=environment

7= national security

8=other

Event description [required]

a description of the event.

[Note: Coders copy and paste sentences from the article that accurately capture what the event was about and note the connection to elections.]

Other Variables

Title [required]

Title of the article

[Note: If article is missing a title, title notes the date, byline and dateline]

Source [required]

Records the article title, date, and source (AP, AF, BBC)

Notes [as applicable]

Notes any irregularities or difficulties encountered. For example, if it was difficult to establish whether an event was related to elections, or to highlight other challenges.

Coder [required]

Name of coder

B. List of Countries included in ECAV

Country	Election rounds	ECAV events	Newswire articles
Afghanistan	4	665	8911
Albania	18	254	1550
Algeria	9	578	2538
Angola	3	46	319
Argentina	14	5	1073
Armenia	13	107	911
Azerbaijan	14	180	1708
Bahrain	5	21	273
Bangladesh	5	876	1890
Belarus	14	139	2541
Benin	16	22	291
Bhutan	2	9	34
Bolivia	7	45	673
Bosnia and Herzegovina	6	78	2127
Botswana	4	5	100
Brazil	9	32	889
Bulgaria	18	279	1146
Burkina Faso	10	4	154
Burundi	5	104	395
Cambodia	4	219	2154
Cameroon	8	27	301
Cape Verde	3	-	27
Central African Republic	10	72	214
Chad	10	16	367
Chile	9	3	431
Colombia	17	132	1895
Comoros	17	57	184
Costa Rica	7	1	136
Croatia	17	31	908
Cuba	4	2	559
Czech Republic	23	1	792
Democratic Republic of the Congo	3	122	632
Djibouti	8	19	123
Dominican Republic	12	46	348
Ecuador	15	19	464
Egypt	21	1045	8081
El Salvador	12	74	293
Equatorial Guinea	7	12	126
Estonia	7	-	181
Ethiopia	6	69	758

Country	Election rounds	ECAV events	Newswire articles
Fiji	5	8	221
Gabon	15	75	464
Gambia	9	16	126
Georgia	11	183	2768
Ghana	9	33	738
Guatemala	13	23	491
Guinea	7	79	1115
Guinea-Bissau	11	36	559
Guyana	5	65	389
Haiti	14	225	2913
Honduras	5	116	744
Hungary	12	29	605
India	6	843	4821
Indonesia	8	321	3231
Iran	19	341	14176
Iraq	6	1357	16755
Israel	7	244	14074
Ivory Coast	10	170	2631
Jamaica	5	93	303
Jordan	5	33	661
Kazakhstan	13	50	625
Kenya	5	644	3918
Kuwait	10	59	837
Kyrgyzstan	14	390	1922
Laos	5	-	55
Latvia	7	6	295
Lebanon	5	84	2678
Lesotho	5	12	217
Liberia	5	13	516
Libya	1	20	576
Lithuania	19	6	367
Macedonia	17	73	1332
Madagascar	10	110	589
Malawi	5	33	288
Malaysia	5	44	912
Mali	15	34	143
Mauritania	14	20	216
Mauritius	5	4	74
Mexico	8	249	2846
Moldova	10	23	650
Mongolia	12	24	370
Montenegro	3	2	77

Country	Election rounds	ECAV events	Newswire articles
Morocco	5	88	387
Mozambique	4	37	357
Myanmar	2	39	603
Namibia	4	7	189
Nepal	4	335	993
Nicaragua	5	26	482
Niger	13	52	605
Nigeria	10	487	3714
North Korea	4	-	555
Oman	3	-	29
Pakistan	5	274	7290
Panama	5	-	94
Papua New Guinea	5	75	308
Paraguay	6	11	188
Peru	12	170	2047
Philippines	7	269	3275
Poland	16	24	1488
Republic of Congo	15	72	765
Romania	15	148	1050
Russia	14	706	11636
Rwanda	4	32	367
Senegal	11	65	814
Serbia	18	250	3808
Sierra Leone	6	29	545
Singapore	7	2	271
Slovakia	11	10	652
Slovenia	13	2	336
Solomon Islands	1	2	10
South Africa	4	214	2152
South Korea	11	55	1967
Sri Lanka	10	318	2682
Sudan	3	113	882
Suriname	1	-	31
Swaziland	5	9	97
Syria	10	21	2386
Taiwan	13	108	4535
Tajikistan	11	22	332
Tanzania	6	97	597
Thailand	12	245	2459
Timor-Leste	6	36	1147
Togo	12	130	1292
Trinidad and Tobago	7	15	154

Country	Election rounds	ECAV events	Newswire articles
Tunisia	5	42	604
Turkey	6	149	2277
Turkmenistan	9	2	154
Uganda	7	176	1118
Ukraine	21	562	5700
Uruguay	6	3	100
Uzbekistan	11	10	323
Venezuela	10	106	2277
Vietnam	5	6	338
Yemen	6	180	908
Zambia	8	65	603
Zimbabwe	8	701	8613
Total	1,209	18,203	220,371

C. Country notes for special cases

Indonesia

Events related to Indonesian elections occurring in Timor-Leste are only coded prior to the states' independence in 2002.

Iran

In Iran, a lot of contention takes place between the conservative and reformist factions of the government and their close allies, complicating the coding of actor and target sides. In all events, both the conservative and the reformist faction are coded as state actors, meaning that a state actor coding usually refers to a government faction that is in competition with another government faction. But additional coding rules are necessary for the actor/target side coding in events in which one government faction targets a nonstate actor that supports the opposite government faction. In such events, the nonstate actor target supports one government faction, and is thus coded as pro-government (target side=0), whereas the state actor targeting the nonstate actor is coded as anti-government (actor side=1). This rule produces coding in which both the conservative or the reformist faction could be coded an anti-government depending on which faction is performing the action in an event. Instead of generating inconsistency, this coding actually reflects what is taking place, an internal struggle within the government.

Examples:

1. "A close ally of Iran's moderate president was indicted on charges of religious and political dissent Monday in the latest effort by hard-liners to derail presidential reforms. The attack against Nouri is the latest salvo in a power struggle between hard-liners and reformists ahead of February's elections for the Majlis, or parliament."
Actor type=state, Actor name=hardliners, Actor side=anti-government
Target type=2, Target name=Nouri, Target side=pro-government
2. "Iranian police arrested dozens of people amid two days of unrest following the decision of a conservative council to overturn the election of several reformists, state television said Saturday."
Actor type=state, Actor name=police, Actor side=anti-government
Target type=2, Target name=people, Target side=pro-government
3. "The Iranian president's press adviser has been arrested on charges of 'publishing materials contrary to Islamic norms'. Ali Akbar Javanfekr is just the latest of dozens of President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad's political backers to be targeted by hard-line opponents. Though Ahmadinejad himself is a hardliner, he and some of his allies have come under attack over political disputes in recent months from the same conservatives who brought him to power. This appears to be part of an internal power struggle over influencing upcoming elections for parliament and for president in 2013."
Actor type=state, Actor name=police, Actor side=anti-government
Target type=2, Target name=press advisor, Target Side=pro-government

Ivory Coast

For Ivory Coast, coders were provided with news reports based on searches using “Ivory Coast” and “Cote D’Ivoire” as country names in LexisNexis.

Kenya

Provinces no longer in existence after reform in 2013 are coded as precision level=4

Serbia

From 1992-2006, Serbia was formally the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and consisted of Serbia and Montenegro, location coding for federal states Serbia and Montenegro is location precision=4, smaller units in Serbia and Montenegro (districts and municipalities) are consequently coded as location precision=3. Events related to Serbian elections occurring in Montenegro are only coded prior to the states’ independence in 2006 and events in Kosovo are coded prior to the partially recognized independence in 2008.

Sri Lanka

Both districts and divisional secretariats are coded as location precision=3.

Sudan

Events related to Sudanese elections occurring in South Soudan are only coded prior to the states’ independence in 2011.

D. Coding decisions in countries with UCDP intrastate conflicts in ECAV

This document explains individual coding decisions for all elections held in countries with UCDP armed intrastate conflicts included in the ECAV dataset (Gleditsch et al. 2002). ECAV includes electoral contention during armed conflict, as long as a substantive connection between violent events and elections can be established. This connection could be demonstrated by explicit statements from armed groups calling for violence and boycotts to influence elections; articles suggesting a substantive link based on actors' increasing reliance on violence before elections; or based on counter-insurgency activities by security forces to guarantee safe elections. The document lists UCDP conflict IDs for each country. In the ECAV data, events involving armed groups use the official UCDP actor name of the group whenever the group name could be established. In other cases, general terms such as "rebels" or "militants" are used. In some instances, actors involved in election violence are coded as unknown because no information about the perpetrators was provided, but armed groups may have been involved. The document occasionally mentions violent events unrelated to elections to highlight how coders proceeded.

Afghanistan

UCDP ID: 333 (1975–) Government of Afghanistan–Hizb-i Islami-yi Afghanistan, Hizb-i Islami-yi Afghanistan–Khalis faction, Hizb-i Wahdat, Jam'iyat-i Islami-yi Afghanistan

All four Afghan elections coded in ECAV were held during an intrastate conflict between the government and different armed groups (UCDP ID: 333). This conflict has been going on since 1975. Of particular importance for the coded period are the US-led multinational force intervention in 2001, and the subsequent fighting between the Afghan government and the US-led troops on the one side and the Taliban on the other. The first presidential election after the intervention was held in 2004 (700-2004-1009-P1), followed by the parliamentary election in 2005 (700-2005-0918-L1). The Taliban, which controlled most of the country before 2001, explicitly opposed both elections and sought to disrupt the polls. In the run-up to the elections, armed groups attacked election workers and candidates, clearly establishing a substantive link between violence and elections. In February 2004, the Taliban was already warning citizens not to vote in the presidential election, then scheduled for June and eventually postponed until October. Soon after the elections, in November 2004, the Taliban leader Mullah Muhammad Omar stated that they would aim to topple the newly elected government. The parliamentary election in 2005 had a low turnout because people feared further attacks. Like the first two elections, the 2009 presidential election (700-2009-0820-P1) and the 2010 parliamentary election (700-2010-0918-L1) saw much violence. The Taliban sought to disrupt the polls again by attacking elections workers and candidates and warned citizens not to participate in either election. Just four days before the 2009 election, the Taliban attacked the NATO headquarters in Afghanistan in an effort to disrupt the elections.

Algeria

UCDP ID: 386 (1985–) Government of Algeria–GIA

Since 1985, Algeria has seen intrastate violence involving a variety of actors and peaking during the civil war between 1991 and 2002. The 1991 parliamentary election (615-1991-

1226-L1) was the starting point for the civil war, hence all violence occurring in the wake of this election should be regarded as election-related. In December 1991, after the first round, the elections were cancelled by the Algerian army, as the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) received many votes and seemed likely to secure a majority in the second round in the beginning of 1992. Unlike other Algerian Islamist groups, the FIS initially sought to establish an Islamic state by democratic means. Taking the Armed Islamic Movement's (MIA) armed struggle as of 1990 as a blueprint, however, the FIS set up its own armed wing called the Islamic Salvation Army (AIS) in 1993. A further important armed group is the Armed Islamic Group (GIA), which emerged in 1992. Due to increasing attacks on the civil population, GIA dominated the armed struggle from the mid-1990s. The first peak of violence can be observed in 1995, the year the presidential election was held (615-1995-1116-P1). FIS/AIS and GIA urged Algerians to boycott the elections, in which army-backed candidate Liamine Zeroual secured a majority. Similarly, FIS/AIS campaigned for a boycott of the 1997 parliamentary election (615-1997-0605-L1). Following increasing attacks on civilians by the GIA, the FIS/AIS declared a unilateral ceasefire in 1997 and entered into negotiations with the Algerian government. These resulted in an amnesty in 1999. A splinter-group of the GIA, the Salafist Group for Call and Combat (GSPC), was established in 1998. Unlike the GIA, GSPC did not approve violence against civilians. GSPC was renamed the al-Qaida Organization in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM) in 2007. In September 1998, President Zeroual announced new elections (615-1997-0605-L1) in which he would not participate. A sharp increase in insurgent violence followed this announcement. Consequently, violence involving active armed groups was included in ECAV. A similar rise in violence can be seen for the 2002 election (615-2002-0530-L1). Following the announcement of the election date on 25 February by President Abdelaziz Bouteflika, fighting between the insurgents and the army rose sharply. As of this announcement, therefore, insurgent violence was included in ECAV. Likewise, for the 2004 election (615-2004-0408-P1), the military stepped up attacks against insurgents just before the election in April in an effort to guarantee safe polls. The last two elections involving armed groups were the 2007 parliamentary (615-2007-0517-L1) and the 2009 presidential elections (615-2009-0409-P1). The only active group at that time was AQIM. Three days before the 2007 election, AQIM called for a boycott from voters. Three days before the 2009, AQIM also published an audio message calling for a boycott. In both cases, therefore, events as of the boycott were included.

Angola

UCDP ID: 327 (1975-2002) Government of Angola–UNITA

The Bicesse Accords, a peace agreement signed on 31 May 1991, led to the first-ever elections in 1992 (540-1992-0929-LP1), aiming to end the 17-year-long civil war between the ruling People's Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) and the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA). José Eduardo dos Santos, the incumbent since 1979, won the presidential elections with 49% of the votes, running against Jonas Savimbi (UNITA) (who received 40%). MPLA also secured a parliamentary majority. UNITA did not accept the results. Even though neither candidate received more than 50%, a second election round was not held, as Savimbi refused to participate. In the aftermath of the elections, the so-called 'Halloween Massacre' took place between 30 October and 1

November 1992. The violence was triggered by the election results, showing a clear substantive link between the elections and violence. The 1992 elections are the only elections that took place during the civil war.

Azerbaijan

UCDP ID: 388 (1991–2016) Government of Azerbaijan–Republic of Nagorno-Karabakh
The Nagorno-Karabakh War between the majority ethnic Armenians of Nagorno-Karabakh, backed by the Republic of Armenia, and the Republic of Azerbaijan took place 1988–1994. The conflict escalated in 1991 and peaked in 1992, but media reports did not report election-related events for the presidential elections in 1991 (373-1991-0908-P1), 1992 (373-1992-0607-P1) and 1993 (373-1993-1003-P1). It is worth noting that the Azerbaijani government's military losses in the conflict decreased public acclaim and led to the election in 1993.

Bangladesh

UCDP ID: 322 (1975–1991) Government of Bangladesh–JSS/SB

It is striking that the major political parties in Bangladesh are key actors in election violence. Supporters of the different parties are often armed. Groups active in civil conflict, in comparison, play a minor role in election-related events coded in ECAV. Two Bangladeshi intrastate conflicts fall within the coded period. The first, an armed territorial conflict between the Bangladeshi government and the Chittagong Hill Tracts People's Coordination Association/Peace Force (JSS/SB), took place 1972–1992. The 1991 parliamentary election (771-1991-0227-L1) enabled peace negotiations with the JSS/SB, leading to a successful peace agreement in 1997. Following the start of the negotiations, violence decreased remarkably. Media reports did not report election-related events involving the JSS/SB. The second conflict was an armed conflict between the Bangladeshi government and the Purbo Banglar Communist Party-Janajuddha Faction (PBCP-J) 1994–2006. As in the previous conflict, no election-related events involving PBCP-J were reported in newswires. The only election-related event identified involving an armed group was a killing conducted by an outlawed Marxist group in the course of the 2001 parliamentary election (771-2001-1001-L1).

Burundi

UCDP ID: 287 (1965–2006) Government of Burundi–Palipehutu-FNL

The Burundian Civil War began in the wake of the 1993 elections (516-1993-0601-P1; 516-1993-0629-L1), in which Melchior Ndadaye, belonging to the ethnic group of the Hutu, secured a majority and became the first democratically-elected Burundian president. Ndadaye was assassinated on 21 October 1993. Subsequently, violence between Hutu and Tutsi broke out and led to civil war 1993–2006. This violence, however, is not coded because it occurred more than three months after the 1993 election. The first election during the civil war (516-2005-0704-L1) saw little violence. The National Liberation Forces (FNL) was the only actor that rejected the UN brokered deal, entailing, *inter alia*, the conduct of democratic elections. FNL explicitly sought to disrupt the polls, and violent events committed by this group are therefore coded.

Cambodia

UCDP ID: 300 (1967–1998) Government of Cambodia (Kampuchea)–KR

Between 1967 and 1998, the Cambodian government fought an intrastate conflict against the Khmer Rouge (KR), which seized power 1975–1979. As an outcome of the Paris Peace Accords in October 1991, the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) was established. UNTAC organized and monitored the first general elections (811-1993-0523-A1). Although the Khmer Rouge were removed from power in 1979, they did not have to disarm and still controlled some parts of the country. They opposed the UN peacekeeping mission and aimed to disrupt the 1993 elections. The two main competing parties in these elections were FUNCINPEC with their candidate Norodom Ranariddh, and the Cambodian's People's Party (CPP) with their candidate Hun Sen. Both parties coalesced with two prime ministers from the respective parties. They subsequently included former KR rebels in their parties. At the same time, however, the rivalry between both parties intensified, leading to violent clashes in 1996 and 1997 and the eventual ousting of Ranariddh by Sen. Following the death of KR leader Pol Pot in April 1998, and prior to the 1998 general elections (811-1998-0726-L1), the rest of the KR leaders surrendered.

Cameroon

UCDP ID: 353 (1960–2016) Government of Cameroon–Jama'atu Ahlis Sunna Lidda'awati wal-Jihad

Between 1960 and 2016, the Cameroonian government fought an intrastate conflict against Jama'atu Ahlis Sunna Lidda'awati wal-Jihad. The conflict was, however, inactive during the coded period.

Central African Republic

UCDP ID: 416 (2001–2013) Government of Central African Republic–Seleka

Two elections took place during the armed conflict in the Central African Republic between the government and different armed groups (2001–2013). Newswires did not report election-related events involving armed groups.

Chad

UCDP ID: 288 (1966–2003) Government of Chad–CNR, CSNPD, FNT, MDD

Most of the Chadian elections coded in ECAV were held during different intrastate conflicts with a variety of actors. The 2002 parliamentary election (483-2002-0421-L1) was held during an intrastate conflict between the government and the Movement for Democracy and Justice in Chad (MDJT), which took place 1999–2003. A peace treaty was signed in January 2002. For the 2002 election, one election-related event involving MDJT was identified. MDJT hardliners kidnapped the MDJT rebel leader, Adoum Togoï, who signed the peace agreement. The 2006 presidential election (483-2006-0503-P1) was held during the intrastate conflict between the government and the United Front for Democratic Change (FUC), which was allegedly backed by the Sudanese government. The FUC and the rebel group Platform for Change, Unity and Democracy (SCUD) opposed the election and sought to disrupt it. The latter was involved in an attempted coup prior to the election.

Colombia

UCDP ID: 289 (1964–2016) Government of Colombia–FARC

All Colombian elections coded in ECAV took place during the Colombian Civil War (1964–2016). The main actors were the Colombian government and paramilitaries on the one side, and the insurgent groups Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) and National Liberation Army (ELN) on the other. The conflict peaked in 2002. Most election-related events in Colombia coded in ECAV involve one of these armed groups. FARC (but also ELN) explicitly targeted candidates and election officials and campaigned for election boycotts, clearly establishing a substantive connection between elections and violence. Organized crime cartels were also involved in isolated election-related events, such as the killing of a politician in the context of the 1990 election (100-1990-0527-P1).

Republic of the Congo

UCDP ID: 408 (1993–1999) Government of Congo–Cocoyes, Ninjas, Ntsiloulous

The Republic of Congo saw much violence directly related to elections and the struggle for political power. In the 1992 (484-1992-0624-L1; 484-1992-0624-L2; 484-1992-0802-P1; 484-1992-0802-P2) and 1993 elections (484-1993-0502-L1; 484-1993-0502-L2; 484-1993-0502-L3), Pascal Lissouba and his Pan-African Union for Social Democracy (UPADS) party secured a majority. Following the second round for the 1993 parliamentary election on 6 June, violence between rivalry parties increased, as the opposition did not accept the results, clearly establishing a substantive linkage between violence and the election. Due to the rising tensions, the three major parties (UPADS, Mouvement congolais pour la démocratie et le développement intégral (MCDDI), and Parti Congolais du Travail (PCT)) established militias, namely the Coyotes (UPADS), Ninjas (MCDDI) and Cobras (PCT). The conflict remained low intensity for three years, but violence peaked dramatically in 1997. Prior to the scheduled presidential elections in 1997, which eventually did not take place, Lissouba was ousted in a coup by former president Denis Sassou-Nguessou (1979–1992) and his PCT party, which had been in power since the coup. Given that these elections were not held, these events were not coded. The 2002 elections (484-2002-0310-P1; 484-2002-0526-L1; 484-2002-0526-L2) consolidated his power. The rebel group, Ninjas, remained active, and sought to disrupt the polls.

Cote d'Ivoire

UCDP ID: 419 (2002–2011) Government of Ivory Coast–MPCI, MPIGO

After losing the second round of the presidential election in November 2010 (437-2010-1031-P1; 437-2010-1031-P2), President Laurent Gbagbo refused to step down, leading to tensions between his supporters and those of newly elected president Alassane Ouattara. On 16 December, Ouattara supporters marched towards the RTI television station and Gbagbo's security forces responded with violent suppression. Violent clashes between forces loyal to Gbagbo and to Ouattara followed. These events were mentioned in detail in newswire reports and were therefore coded; however, much of the violence between 18 and 26 December could not be coded because articles did not provide sufficient details on the timing and location of events. They refer to UN reports, which merely mention the overall death toll. Looking at other English sources, one can see that this period is not examined in detail, as the

focus lies on the escalation on 16 December, the intensifying armed conflict between February and mid-March, and the full-scale civil war between mid-March and May. Because ECAV takes event days as units of analysis, only reports mentioning precise event days were coded.

Croatia

UCDP ID: 390 (1992–1995) Government of Croatia–Serbian irregulars, Serbian Republic of Krajina

The first three Croatian elections ever taking place after independence, namely in 1992 (344-1992-0802-P1), 1993 (344-1993-0207-L1; 344-1993-0207-L2) and 1995 (344-1995-1029-L1; 344-1995-1029-L2) were held during an intrastate conflict between the Croatian government on the one side, and Serbian irregulars and the Republic of Serbian Krajina on the other. The latter was established in the Eastern parts of newly independent Croatia in 1991 and lasted until 1995. Violence started in 1992 and peaked in 1995 (the year the war ended). Media reports did not mention election-related events involving the conflict parties.

Djibouti

UCDP ID: 379 (1991–1999) Government of Djibouti–FRUD

In 1991, a conflict broke out between the governing People's Rally for Progress (RPP), mainly Issa-dominated, and the Front for the Restoration of Unity and Democracy (FRUD), mainly Afar-dominated. The latter demanded more political participation and an end to the RPP's one-party rule. The 1992 election (522-1992-1218-L1) was the first in which more parties could participate, but FRUD was not allowed. The number of fatalities peaked in the same year. Media reports did not report election-related events involving FRUD. Likewise, for the 1993 (522-1993-0507-P1) and the 1997 elections (522-1997-1219-L1), newswires did not report election-related events involving FRUD. In 1994, FRUD and the government under President Hassan Gouled Aptidon negotiated a peace agreement giving FRUD leaders government positions. However, a FRUD faction under the leadership of Ahmed Dini continued fighting. In 2000, this faction signed a peace agreement with the government led by Gouled Aptidon's nephew, Ismail Omar Gelleh. The only election-related events reported by newswires involving the belligerents were attacks conducted by the FRUD faction close to the 1999 presidential election (522-1999-0409-P1).

Democratic Republic of Congo

UCDP ID: 265 (1961–2014) Government of DR Congo (Zaire)–Kata Katanga

UCDP ID: 283 (1964–2008) Government of DR Congo (Zaire)–CNDP

UCDP ID: 429 (1998–2008) Government of DR Congo (Zaire)–BDK

Both elections taking place in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) that were coded in ECAV were held during intrastate conflicts. The 2006 general elections (490-2006-0730-LP1; 490-2006-0730-P2) were the first elections held in 41 years. There were three conflicts between the government and armed groups during this period: the conflicts against Kata Katanga (1961–2014), against the National Congress for the Defence of the People (CNDP) (1964–2008) and against Bundu-dia-Kongo (BDK) (1998–2008). The first conflict was inactive during the election period. Belligerents in the second conflict, however, were

involved in isolated election-related events. In August 2005, former Rally for Congolese Democracy (RCD) rebel Laurent Nkunda (who belongs to the Tutsi ethnic group) established the armed group Military Counsel for the Peoples Defense (CMDP), which was subsequently renamed the CNDP. Prior to the elections, the CNDP succeeded in controlling some territory in the province of North Kivu. In September 2006, Nkunda stated that his armed group would not disrupt the second round of the polls in October, but he emphasized that he would not accept any deployment of Congolese armed forces in the territory he controlled. Following the death of a Tutsi civilian in Sake, Nkunda's troops seized Sake on 25 November. The CNDP fought against UN peacekeepers deployed in this area. This event is included in ECAV. The last conflict, against BDK, escalated at the end of January and beginning of February 2007 following provincial elections. Because these events took place more than three months after the 2006 elections, they are not included in ECAV. The 2011 general elections (490-2011-1128-LP1) saw the involvement of Kata Katanga, an armed group fighting for the separation of the state of Katanga. According to Kata Katanga sources, the attacks (including one targeting election workers) were carried out to call for an independence referendum instead of a general election.

Egypt

UCDP ID: 391(1981–1998) Government of Egypt–al-Gama'a al-Islamiyya

Between 1993 and 1998, the armed group al-Gamaa al-Islamiyya fought against the Egyptian government, aiming to topple it. Two elections fell within this period. Prior to the 1993 election (651-1993-1004-P1), the government used violence to combat insurgent activities. As these activities were aimed at securing the conduct of the election, election-related events involving al-Gamaa al-Islamiyya are included. Prior to the 1995 elections (651-1995-1129-L1; 651-1995-1129-L2), al-Gamaa al-Islamiyya urged citizens to disrupt the polls and to reject elections in general, meaning that events by the group are included in ECAV.

El Salvador

UCDP ID: 316 (1972–1991) Government of El Salvador–FMLN

Only one election coded in ECAV (092-1991-0310-L1) was held during the Salvadoran Civil War which took place between 1979 and 1992. Main belligerents were the Salvadoran government and the Farabundo Marti Front for National Liberation (FMLN). Although FLMN leaders announced a truce between 9 and 11 March and urged its members and supporters not to disrupt the polls, the 1991 elections saw sporadic election-related violence involving the FLMN during the election. FLMN combatants occupied several towns and prevented the installation of polling stations.

Ethiopia

UCDP ID: 329(1964–1996) Government of Ethiopia–ONLF

UCDP ID: 363 (1975-1996) Government of Ethiopia–ARDUF

UCDP ID: 413 (1974-2013) Government of Ethiopia–OLF

All Ethiopian elections coded in ECAV took place during different intrastate conflicts, but news reports did not contain conflict events related to elections. For the 2010 election (530-

2010-0523-L1), there was one election-related event involving an armed group, but the article merely mentions a pro-government local militia without specific details.

Georgia

UCDP ID: 380 (1991–1993) Government of Georgia–Zviadists

UCDP ID: 392 (1992–1993) Government of Georgia–Republic of Abkhazia

UCDP ID: 393 (1992–2004) Government of Georgia–Republic of South Ossetia

Following independence in 1991, the Georgian government was involved in different intrastate conflicts as part of the Georgian Civil War (1991–1993). Between December 1991 and November 1992, the government fought an intrastate conflict against Zviadists, a term used for both the supporters of and the armed forces loyal to the first democratically elected president Zviad Gamskhurdia (toppled in December 1991). Zviadists were active during the 1992 general election (372-1992-1011-LP1) and were involved in election-related events, as they still regarded Gamskhurdia as the legitimate president. Zviadist supporters and militants protested against the government and targeted the Georgian armed forces. Following Gamskhurdia's death in December 1993, the group was dissolved. Between 1992 and 2004, the government fought an intrastate conflict against the Republic of South Ossetia. Newswire reports did not mention election-related events involving the conflict actors. The territorial conflict between the Georgian government and the Republic of Abkhazia in 1992 and 1992, however, saw the involvement of Abkhazian separatists in the 1992 election, which were boycotted by Abkhazian and Ossetian parties. The Battle of Gagra between both belligerents took place close to the election, and this was seen as an attack aiming to disrupt proceedings.

Guatemala

UCDP ID: 233 (1949–1995) Government of Guatemala–URNG

Between 1949 and 1995, the Guatemalan government fought an intrastate conflict against different armed groups, which merged into the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity (URNG) in 1982. Prior to the 1990/1991 elections (090-1990-1111-LP1; 090-1990-1111-P2), URNG published newspaper ads which urged citizens to boycott the elections. This intimidation was coded and is the only media report on an election-related event involving URNG. The 1994 election (090-1994-0814-L1) and 1995/1996 general elections (090-1995-1112-LP1) saw no involvement by the URNG, as they were held amidst peace negotiations between both conflict parties. These negotiations resulted in a peace agreement in 1996.

Guinea-Bissau

UCDP ID: 410 (1998–1999) Government of Guinea-Bissau–Military Junta for the Consolidation of Democracy, Peace and Justice

Between June 1998 and May 1999, the government of Guinea-Bissau was involved in an intrastate conflict against the military junta established by General Ansumane Manè. This intrastate war resulted in the ousting of President João Bernardo Viera, who signed an unconditional surrender on 10 May. The 1999/2000 general elections (404-1999-1128-LP1; 404-1999-1128-P2) were held six months after the termination of the conflict; the previous violence was therefore not coded.

Haiti

UCDP ID: 381 (1989–2004) Government of Haiti–FLRN, OP Lavalas (Chimères)

Between 1989 and 2004, the government of Haiti was involved in an intrastate conflict with a variety of actors. The conflict peaked in 1992 and 2004 and was inactive the interim. In 1991, merely eight months after the first democratic elections (041-1990-1216-LP1; 041-1990-1216-L2), in which Jean-Bertrand Aristide was elected as president, he was overthrown by the army and forced into exile. Following his return to Haiti in 1994, Aristide completed his term in office until parliamentary and presidential elections in 1995 (041-1995-0625-L1; 041-1995-0625-L2; 041-1995-0625-L3; 041-1995-1217-P1). As an outcome of these elections, René Préval became the new president and remained in office until the 2000 elections (041-2000-0521-L1; 041-2000-0521-L2; 041-2000-0521-P1L3) in which Aristide was elected as president again. He stayed in power until second military coup in 2004 which marks the end of the conflict. Newswires reported isolated election-related events involving armed groups in the 1995 and 2000 elections, such as attacks targeting candidates and election officials, clearly establishing a connection between violence and the elections. Moreover, for the 2006 election (041-2006-0207-LP1), election-related events involving gang members in Port-au-Prince were reported. These were included, as they led to insecurity which did not allow for setting up voting stations in the affected area.

India

UCDP ID: 227(1948–2016) Government of India–CPI-Maoist

UCDP ID: 251 (1955-2000) Government of India–NSCN-IM

UCDP ID: 335 (1979-1997) Government of India–NLFT

UCDP ID: 347 (1979-1996) Government of India–PLA

UCDP ID: 351 (1981-1993) Government of India–Sikh insurgents

UCDP ID: 364 (1984-2016) Government of India–Kashmir insurgents

UCDP ID: 365 (1983-2010) Government of India–ULFA

UCDP ID: 421 (1989-2014) Government of India–NDFB

UCDP ID: 434 (2000-2008) Government of India–PULF

UCDP ID: 438 (1993-1997) Government of India–KNF

All Indian elections coded in ECAV took place during a variety of intrastate conflicts with different actors, most of which involved fighting the government for independence of different territories. All elections also included events involving conflict belligerents. The 1991 election (750-1991-0520-L1) saw many events involving Sikh insurgents, an umbrella term for a variety of armed groups fighting for a separate Sikh state in Indian Punjab. This conflict peaked in 1991. Voting in Punjab was supposed to take place on 22 June 1991, but the massive increase in attacks conducted by Sikh militants seeking to disrupt the polls (such as a train attack with several deaths a week before the election) led to the postponement of the election in Punjab, first to 15 September 1991 and eventually to 15 February 1992. The violence leading up to the postponement was coded, because a clear substantive connection between the violence and election is visible. The February 1992 election in Punjab was not included. This is related to the fact that it is not listed in NELDA, which does not change election dates based on the postponement in a single state. Besides the insurgency in Punjab, Kashmir insurgents (likewise an umbrella term for armed groups fighting for the separation

of the Indian state of Jammu and Kashmir) also sought to disrupt the polls. No elections were held in Jammu and Kashmir because it was placed under president's rule as of 1987. The 1996 parliamentary election (750-1996-0427-L1) saw the involvement of a variety of armed groups. Particularly in Kashmir, insurgents were involved in a number of election-related events, opposing the first elections in Jammu and Kashmir since 1989. Once the prime minister, P.V. Narasimha Rao, had decided to hold elections in the state, a violent campaign by the insurgents began and continued throughout the election. The Naxalite Movement, a coalition of different armed Marxist groups (including the People's War Group (PWG) and the Maoist Communist Centre (MCC), which were active between 1948 and 2016) were involved in violence against the government. The PWG and MCC merged into the CPI-Maoist (CPI-M) in 2004. The Naxalite Movement was particularly active in the states of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, and Jharkhand, and campaigned for a boycott of the election. The United Liberation Front of Assam (ULFA), which sought to achieve the independence of Assam between 1983 and 2010, was also involved in election-related events.

Within a short period in 1998 (750-1998-0216-L1) and 1999 (750-1999-0905-L1), two parliamentary elections were held. Like the previous two elections, both elections were again particularly characterized by the involvement of Kashmir insurgents. In the 1998 election, Kashmir insurgents and the Naxalite Movement called for an electoral boycott, attacking party members, election officials and polling stations. Similarly, ULFA was involved in election-related attacks, targeting party members and a candidate. It is striking that insurgent activities increased massively around election day, entailing the involvement of various insurgent groups in election-related events, such as Tripura insurgents, Bodo Liberation Tiger Force and the Sri Lankan Liberation Tigers; they also attacked party officials and soldiers on poll duty. These events are, therefore, also included. The 1999 election took place following the Bharatiya Janata Party's (BJP) loss of a vote of no confidence in April 1999 and the dissolution of parliament. This election took place soon after an interstate war between India and Pakistan over the disputed Kashmir region, which lasted between May and June. The 1999 election again saw the involvement of Kashmir insurgents and the Naxalite Movement, who likewise called for an electoral boycott. They were involved in election-related attacks on candidates, party supporters and members and election officials. The election also witnessed isolated ULFA and Tripura insurgent events targeting polling stations and voters. Consequently, events involving these armed groups were coded. In the 2004 election, both main armed groups (Kashmir insurgents and the Naxalite Movement) followed the same strategy of attacking party and election officials, establishing a substantive connection between the election and violence. The final election in 2009 (750-2009-0416-L1) was mostly characterized by the involvement of the Naxalite Movement. Violence in the Kashmir conflict has been decreasing since 2009. The Naxalite Movement called for an electoral boycott and attacked party and election officials; these events are therefore included. Furthermore, isolated election-related events involving ULFA were coded.

Indonesia

UCDP ID: 330 (1975–1999) Government of Indonesia–Fretilin

UCDP ID: 366 (1989–2005) Government of Indonesia–GAM

Two intrastate conflicts are relevant for the coded elections in Indonesia. Between 1975 and 1999, the Indonesian government fought an intrastate conflict against the Revolutionary Front for an Independent East Timor (FRETILIN). Following East Timor's declaration of independence in 1975, the Indonesian government occupied the territory. For the 1992 election (850-1992-0609-L1), no election-related events involving FRETILIN were reported in newswires. The 1997 election (850-1997-0529-L1) saw an increase of violent activities by FRETILIN around election day, establishing a link between the conflict and violence. This election also saw an involvement of the Free Aceh Movement (GAM) which fought against the Indonesian government between 1989 and 2005. GAM sought to separate the region of Aceh from Indonesia as a result of the marginalization of the Muslim population. The conflict emerged in the mid-1990s and peaked in 2003 and 2004. The 1997 (850-1997-0529-L1) and 2004 parliamentary elections (850-2004-0405-L1) saw isolated election-related events involving GAM. In particular, the first democratic election (850-1999-0607-L1) saw several violent election-related events around election day, such as GAM attacks targeting election officials. GAM stepped up insurgent activities before the election, and these events are therefore included.

Iran

UCDP ID: 338 (1972–1997) Government of Iran–MEK

Between the 1970s and the beginning of the 2000s, the Iranian government fought an intrastate conflict against the People's Mujahedin of Iran (MEK). The elections in 2000 (630-2000-0218-L1; 630-2000-0218-L2) and in 2001 (630-2001-0608-P1) saw election-related events with the MEK's involvement. In both elections, the MEK explicitly stated that they were using violence to contest the elections.

Iraq

No events were reported for the 1995 (645-1995-1015-P1), 1996 (645-1996-0324-L1) and 2000 (645-2000-0327-L1) elections. The three other elections, however, saw much violence. The 2005 assembly election (645-2005-0130-A1) was the first election held after the US-led invasion in 2003 and the toppling of president Saddam Hussein. The assembly elected in this election was to draft a new constitution. In particular, Sunni armed groups (most notably al-Qaeda) and adherents of the banned Ba'ath Party sought to disrupt the polls by attacking the US-led forces and Iraqi security forces, establishing a clear connection between violence and elections. At the same time, US troops conducted several military operations in Arab Sunni-dominated regions to enable security for the voting procedure. A low turnout among Arab Sunnis was observed, particularly relating to the threat of violence by armed groups. Most major Arab Sunni parties boycotted the elections due to the lack of security. As an outcome of the boycott, therefore, the assembly effectively saw no Sunni representation; yet, once the transitional government was formed in April, Sunni politicians successfully demanded to be included in the constitution writing process. Sunni politicians urged voters to participate in the referendum to approve a new constitution on 15 October and in the 2005 parliamentary election (645-2005-1215-L1). While the constitutional referendum is not included in NELDA, events relating to the referendum were coded in ECAV for two reasons. First, the referendum was integral to the conduct of elections; and second, the referendum was held

less than six months before the elections. This election was characterized by less violence, although Sunni insurgent groups, such as al-Qaeda and Ansar al-Sunna, urged people not to participate. Contrary to the constant, full-scale violence during the January election, however, armed groups selectively attacked Shia candidates and Sunni candidate who promoted electoral participation. The last Iraqi parliamentary election coded in ECAV was held in March 2010 (645-2010-0307-L1). This election was likewise characterized by the involvement of armed groups. The start of the election campaign in February saw several attacks conducted by insurgent groups. Al-Qaeda explicitly stated that it sought to disrupt the polls, establishing a clear substantive connection between the violence and elections.

Israel

UCDP ID: 234 (1948–2012) Government of Israel– Hamas, PIJ

UCDP ID: 426 (1986–1999) Government of Israel–Hezbollah

All Israeli elections coded in ECAV took place during different intrastate conflicts. The two main armed groups fighting against the Israeli government were the Palestinian Hamas and the Lebanese Hezbollah. The 1992 election (666-1992-0623-L1) saw isolated election-related violence. The 1996 election in particular (666-1996-0529-L1) was characterized by the conflict between Israel and Palestine. Between February and March 1996, Palestinian armed groups conducted several attacks to destabilize the prime minister, Shimon Peres, including Hamas' bombings of Israeli buses and the Islamic Jihad's bombing of a shopping center. As a consequence of these violent activities, the government closed the West Bank and Gaza Strip to avoid infiltration by further combatants. Peres, who was leading the polls prior to the election and the exit polls, was surprisingly beaten by Benjamin Netanyahu, the candidate of the politically right-wing Likud party. The elections in 2001 (666-2001-0206-P1), 2003 (666-2003-0206-L1) and 2006 (666-2006-0328-L1) saw isolated election-related events involving armed groups.

Lesotho

UCDP ID: 411 (September 1998) Government of Lesotho–Military faction

The dispute over the 1998 election results (570-1998-0523-L1) led to a mutiny in the army. This conflict took place in September 1998. This violence is not coded because it occurred more than three months after the election.

Libya

UCDP ID: 11346 (2011–2015) Government of Libya–Forces of the House of Representatives, Zintan Brigades

The only election coded in Libya (620-2012-0707-L1) was held amidst an intrastate conflict between the Libyan government and different armed groups between 2011 and 2015. Protests against Muammar Gaddafi in the beginning of 2011 rapidly evolved into a civil war. This civil war led to the ousting of Gaddafi by insurgent groups that were supported by the UN and NATO forces in October 2011. After the toppling of Gaddafi, factional violence between competing tribes occurred. This conflict escalated in 2014 and resulted in another civil war. For the 2012 election, several election-related events involving armed groups were reported, such as attacks targeting a candidate or the headquarter of the electoral commission,

establishing a substantive connection between election and violence. Among these armed groups were different tribes who opposed the election and engaged in intensified fighting prior to the election. Thus, these events are also included.

Mauritania

UCDP ID: 442 (2008–2011) Government of Mauritania–AQIM

Between 2008 and 2011, the Mauritanian government fought an intrastate conflict against Al-Qaida in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM). The only election taking place during this period was the 2009 presidential election (435-2009-0718-P1). News reports only reported a single event involving AQIM, a shooting with the police on the eve of the election. No connection, however, between the election and the event could be established, and this event was therefore not coded.

Example:

Title: France condemns suicide bombing in Mauritania

The event happened three days after the election. The attack was conducted by AQIM, but no connection with the election is evident.

‘France on Sunday condemned a suicide bombing near its embassy in the Mauritanian capital Nouakchott in which three people, two of them French gendarmes, were slightly injured.’

Mexico

UCDP ID: 400 (1994–1996) Government of Mexico–EPR

The Mexican government fought an intrastate conflict against Zapatista National Liberation Army (EZLN), composed of indigenous peasants, between 1994 and 1996. The 1994 general elections (070-1994-0821-LP1) were held during this conflict, but newswire reports did not report election-related events involving the EZLN. This may be connected to the fact that the government and the EZLN were engaged in peace talks between February and October 1994. In June 1996, another armed group came into play: the Popular Revolutionary Army (EPR). News reports mentioned a few election-related events involving the EPR during the 1997 parliamentary election (070-1997-0706-L1). The relatively unknown armed group Revolutionary Armed Forces of the People (FARP) was also involved in a single election-related event during the 2000 general election (070-2000-0702-LP1).

Mozambique

UCDP ID: 332 (1977–2013) Government of Mozambique–Renamo

Between 1977 and 2013, an intrastate conflict between the government of Mozambique and Mozambican National Resistance (Renamo). The conflict peaked in 1990, declined remarkably after 1992 and was inactive in the following period. Fighting was reignited in 2013. All elections coded in Mozambique, namely in 1994 (541-1994-1027-LP1), 1999 (541-1999-1203-LP1), 2004 (541-2004-1201-LP1) and 2009 (541-2009-1028-LP1) were held during the inactive period of the conflict. Thus, newswires did not report election-related events.

Myanmar

UCDP ID: 221 (1948–2013) Government of Myanmar (Burma)–KNU

UCDP ID: 222 (1948–1994) Government of Myanmar (Burma)–ABSDF

UCDP ID:223 (1948–1994) Government of Myanmar (Burma)–RSO

UCDP ID: 224(1948–1996) Government of Myanmar (Burma)–BMA

UCDP ID: 231 (1949–2016) Government of Myanmar (Burma)–KIO

UCDP ID: 253 (1957–2005) Government of Myanmar (Burma)–KNPP

UCDP ID: 264 (1959–2011) Government of Myanmar (Burma)–RCSS

UCDP ID: 13349 (1994–2015) Government of Myanmar (Burma)–PSLF

Since 1948, the government of Myanmar has been involved in a variety of intrastate conflicts with different armed groups. Both elections coded in ECAV took place during these conflicts. The 1990 parliamentary election (775-1990-0527-L1) was the first multi-party election since 1960. The election results secured a great majority for the National League for Democracy (NLD), but were not accepted by the military-dominated State Peace and Development Council. During this election, newswires did not report election-related events involving armed groups. The council remained in power until 2011, followed by a transition period after the 2010 parliamentary election (775-2010-1107-L1). This election saw the involvement of the Democratic Karen Buddhist Army (DKBA) in election-related events. In 1994, the DKBA splintered from the main insurgent group, the Karen National Liberation Army (KNLA), and continued fighting the KNLA and other insurgent groups on the side of the government. During the 2010 election, however, this alliance fell apart. The alleged intimidation of citizens to vote for pro-military parties by the military government led to clashes between the DKBA and the government. In some areas where the clashes occurred, citizens abstained from voting; events involving the DKBA are thus included.

Nepal

UCDP ID: 269 (1960–2006) Government of Nepal–CPN-M

The Nepalese Civil war took place between 1996 and 2006. The Nepalese government fought the Communist Party of Nepal-Maoist (CPN-M), founded in 1994 and divided into an armed wing (the People’s Liberation Army) and a political wing (the United People’s Front). The only election held during the war took place in 1999 (790-1999-0503-L1). The CPN-M did not run, but called for a boycott and disrupted the polls, meaning that events involving the group were coded in ECAV. Violence peaked in 2002. After the termination of the civil war in 2006, the CPN-M secured the most votes in the 2008 election (790-2008-0410-A1).

Niger

UCDP ID: 373 (January–September 1994) Government of Niger–CRA

UCDP ID: 406 (March–July 1995) Government of Niger–FDR

UCDP ID: 430 (1991–1992) Government of Niger–FLAA

The government of Niger fought an intrastate conflict against different armed Tuareg groups between 1991 and 1995. Besides the most active groups, the Air and Azawad Liberation Front (FLAA), the Revolutionary Army for the Liberation of North Niger (ARLN), and the Tamoust Liberation Front (FLT) were also involved. These groups merged into the Coordination of the Armed Resistance (CRA) in September 1993. The 2010 parliamentary election (436-1993-0214-L1) was the first multi-party election since 1960, but news reports did not document election-related events involving the conflict actors. The exception was a

single event close to the parliamentary election, in which the FLAA targeted the former governmental party, the National Movement of the Development Society (MNSD).

Nigeria

UCDP ID: 297 (1966–2009) Government of Nigeria–Jama’atu Ahlis Sunna Lidda’awati wal-Jihad

Nigeria has experienced several intrastate conflicts. For the elections in 1999 (475-1999-0227-P1), 2007 (475-2007-0421-LP1) and 2011 (475-2011-0409-L1; 475-2011-0416-P1), election-related events involving armed groups and linked to intrastate conflicts were identified. For the 1999 election, election-related events involving the armed group Odudua (which seeks a separate homeland for the ethnic group of the Yoruba) were identified. The group explicitly threatened violence if Olusegun Obasanjo would win the election, which he did. During the 2007 general elections, held during the territorial conflict over the Niger Delta, armed groups were involved in many election-related events. To provide context, the conflict emerged in July 2004 when fighting between the Niger Delta Peoples Volunteer Force (NDPVF) and the government broke out due to the marginalization of the Ijaw population in the oil-rich Niger Delta. At the end of September of the same year, a truce was reached between the NDPVF under Mujahid Dokubo-Asari and the government. Following the arrest of Asari in September 2005, many NDPVF members joined the newly-established insurgent group, Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND). The MEND conflict is not included in UCDP because the group’s incompatibility with the government is unclear. In the 2003 Rivers State election, thugs were hired by governor Peter Odili; however, after his victory, Odili distanced himself from their activities. MEND was subsequently established in 2004 composed of these marginalized men. During the 2007 election, MEND attacked foreign oil companies, sabotaged pipelines, and kidnapped oil workers before increasing violence against state authorities. Despite this, the intentions of MEND are uncertain. There are allegations that it is a criminal group seeking economic profit in the oil-rich region; other allegations imply they were used by local politicians seeking to destabilize president Olusegun Obasanjo’s government ahead of the April 2007 elections. MEND itself states that it does not have any political affiliation. Due to the increase of MEND activities prior to the election, however, and the alleged involvement of local politicians, ECAV includes events involving this group. MEND was also involved in isolated election-related events in the 2011 presidential election. The second armed conflict took place between the government and Jama’atu Ahlis Sunna Lidda’awati wal-Jihad, also known as Boko Haram. The 2011 parliamentary and presidential elections saw the involvement of this group. The presidential election was particularly characterized by rising tensions between the predominantly Muslim North and the predominantly Christian South, related to the fact that Christian candidate Goodluck Jonathan ran for elections despite a power sharing agreement between both groups. According to this agreement, a Muslim candidate should have filled the position. Jonathan won all but one of the Southern states in the election, whereas the Muslim candidate, Muhammadu Buhari, won all the Northern states. Considering the salience of the election for the North, Boko Haram (originally established as a Northern insurgent group) conducted a few election-related attacks. Boko Haram attacked

party members and was involved in the killing of a police officer deployed for protecting a polling station.

Pakistan

UCDP ID: 325 (1973–2004) Government of Pakistan–BLA

UCDP ID: 404 (1990–1996) Government of Pakistan–TTP

Two intrastate conflicts fall within the coded period in Pakistan. Since 2004, the government has been fighting an intrastate conflict against Baloch insurgent groups, particularly the Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA), the Baloch Republican Army (BRA), and the Baloch Ittehad. Media reports did not report election-related events involving Baloch insurgent groups, but newswires reported election-related events linked to the second conflict between the government and Islamist insurgent groups, often part of the umbrella organization the Taleban Movement of Pakistan (TTP). During the 2008 election (770-2008-0218-L1) alone, newswires reported election-related events involving armed groups. This election was characterized by a lot of violence, which escalated following former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto's return from self-imposed exile in October 2007. Hours after Bhutto's arrival, her motorcade was attacked by alleged Taliban militants and two bombs went off, killing at least 180 people. This attack was the first election-related event identified involving an armed group, and was followed by several attacks conducted by Islamist militants aiming to disrupt the polls and targeting candidates, government officials and state buildings. Perhaps the most prominent event was the assassination of Bhutto on 27 December 2007. Although al-Qaeda claimed responsibility, intelligence services believed the TTP was the perpetrator. These factors led to the decision to include events involving the TTP and other Islamist groups.

Peru

UCDP ID: 292 (1963–1999) Government of Peru–Sendero Luminoso

The Peruvian government fought an intrastate conflict against the armed group Shining Path between 1980 and 1999. The armed group Túpac Amaru Revolutionary Movement was also involved in this civil war, although it played a minor role. The 1990 general elections (135-1990-0408-LP1; 135-1990-0408-P2) and the 1992 parliamentary election (135-1992-1122-L1) particularly saw many attacks conducted by Shining Path. Following the 1992 capture of its leader, Abimael Guzman, Shining Path's strength and capacities decreased massively. By calling strikes, Shining Path regularly campaigned for election boycotts and sought to intimidate citizens in its strongholds to force them not to vote. The elections in 2000 (135-2000-0409-LP1), 2001 (135-2001-0408-P2) and 2011 (135-2011-0410-P2) saw isolated events involving the conflict parties, targeting election buildings and intimidating voters. These events are thus also coded.

Philippines

UCDP ID: 209 (1946–2016) Government of Philippines–CPP

UCDP ID: 308 (1970–2016) Government of Philippines–ASG

All Philippine elections coded in ECAV took place during two intrastate conflicts, and all elections saw events involving the belligerents. The Philippine government fought an intrastate conflict against the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) between 1946 and

2016, or more precisely against the CPP's armed wing, the New People's Army (NPA) (established 1969). This conflict peaked in 1991. The 2004 (840-2004-0510-LP1), 2007 (840-2007-0514-L1) and 2010 (840-2010-0510-LP1) elections particularly saw the involvement of the NPA in election-related events. In the context of these elections, the NPA demanded extortion money from politicians; events involving the NPA are therefore included. The second conflict was an intrastate conflict between the Philippian government and Islamist separatist groups, particularly the Moro Islamic Liberation Front and Abu Sayyaf. Because no explicit election-related statements were found, events involving one of these groups are included only when a clear election-related connection is visible, such as attacks targeting election officials or soldiers deployed to enable a safe election process.

Russia

UCDP ID: 376 (1990–1991) Government of Russia (Soviet Union)–Republic of Armenia

UCDP ID: 377 (January 1990) Government of Russia (Soviet Union)–APF

UCDP ID: 399 (September–October 1993) Government of Russia (Soviet Union)–Parliamentary Forces

UCDP ID: 401 (1994–2007) Government of Russia (Soviet Union)–Chechen Republic of Ichkeria

UCDP ID: 414 (August-September 1999) Government of Russia (Soviet Union)–Wahhabi movement of the Buinaksk district

UCDP ID: 432 (2007-2015) Government of Russia (Soviet Union)–Forces of the Caucasus Emirate

All Russian elections coded in ECAV were held during different intrastate conflicts. Two intrastate conflicts took place during the 1990 parliamentary election (365-1990-0304-L1). In January 1990, the then Soviet government fought an intrastate conflict against the Azerbaijani Popular Front (APF), which sought to achieve the independence of the Soviet Republic of Azerbaijan. This conflict took place less than two months before the election, but newswires did not report election-related events linked to this conflict. Between January 1990 and December 1991, the Soviet government fought an intrastate conflict against the Soviet Republic of Armenia. The main dispute was the status of the Nagorno-Karabakh region, claimed by both the Republic of Armenia and the Republic of Azerbaijan. Similarly, no events were reported involving the belligerents related to the 1990 election or the 1991 presidential election (365-1991-0612-P1). The next intrastate conflict took place in September and October 1993 between the Soviet government and the Parliamentary Forces. Following the announcement of new parliamentary elections in 1993 (365-1993-1212-L1) and the dissolution of parliament in September, fighting broke out between the Soviet government and the Parliamentary Forces. The conflict resulted in the latter's surrender. Another conflict emerged after the dissolution of the Soviet Union. Between 1994 and 2007, the Russian government fought an intrastate conflict against the Chechen Republic of Ichkeria. This armed group fought for a separate Chechnya, and the conflict peaked in 1999. It was the only rebel group involved in election-related violence. From the mid-2000s, the Chechen Republic of Ichkeria witnessed an increase in Islamist influence. This development led to the replacement of the Chechen Republic of Ichkeria with the Caucasus Emirate in 2007, encompassing most of Russia's Caucasus areas. This conflict, however, did not reach

the intensity of the Chechen conflict. Beginning with the 1995 election (365-1995-1217-L1) and for all subsequent elections except those in 2007 (365-2007-1202-L1), 2008 (365-2008-0302-P1) and 2011 (365-2011-1204-L1), newswires reported election-related events involving Chechen rebels. The 1995 and 1996 elections (365-1996-0616-P1; 365-1996-0616-P2) were held against the backdrop of the First Chechen War 1994–1996. During the 1995 election, both regional leaders and deputies for the parliament were elected. In mid-November, Chechen rebel leader, Dzhokhar Dudayev, stated that participating in the elections would be regarded as treason and that those participating would be punished, establishing a clear substantive election-related connection. Although Chechen rebels stepped up attacks before the election, the Russian government decided to proceed. The 1996 election was characterized by massive fighting between the insurgents and the government, which stepped up its military activities to produce a military success prior to the election. These events are therefore also included. The Russian army also stepped up activities against Chechen rebels prior to the elections in 1999 (365-1999-1219-L1) and 2000 (365-2000-0326-P1), and these events are also coded. Although violence increased remarkably after 2000, the following two elections saw the involvement of Chechen rebels in isolated election-related events. These included the bombing of a train in the town of Essentuki (killing 42 people) two days before the 2003 election (365-2003-1207-L1), and the bombing of a subway in Moscow (killing 41 people) prior to the 2004 election (365-2004-0314-P1). The final election in 2012 (365-2012-0304-P1) saw an upsurge in violence less than three weeks before the polls. These events are also included.

Senegal

UCDP ID: 375 (1988–1998) Government of Senegal–MFDC

The Senegalese government fought an intrastate conflict against the Mouvement des forces démocratiques de Casamance (MFDC) between 1988 and 1998. This separatist movement sought to achieve the independence of the Casamance region. The conflict peaked in 1997 and continued at a low intensity after 1999. The MFDC campaigned for a boycott of the 1993 presidential election (433-1993-0221-P1) and increased its activities prior to the this. In the wake of the 1998 parliamentary election (433-1998-0525-L1), the MFDC stated it would resist any attempts by the Senegalese army to make people vote. For both elections, therefore, events involving the MFDC are included. After 1998, the conflict continued at a low intensity. For the elections in 2000 (433-2000-0227-P1; 433-2000-0227-P2) and 2001 (433-2001-0429-L1), isolated election-related events involving the MFDC around election day were coded, such attacks targeting soldiers on election duty and voters. These events are also included.

Serbia

UCDP ID: 384 (June–July 1991) Government of Serbia (Yugoslavia)–Republic of Slovenia

UCDP ID: 385 (1991–1992) Government of Serbia (Yugoslavia)–Croatian irregulars, Republic of Croatia

UCDP ID: 412 (1996–1999) Government of Serbia (Yugoslavia)–UCK

Two conflicts took place in Yugoslavia and Serbia during the coded period. Between 1991 and 1992, the Yugoslavian government fought an intrastate conflict against Croatian

irregulars and the Republic of Croatia, which seceded from Yugoslavia in June 1991. Croatia became independent in 1992, leading to the Croatian War of Independence (a conflict that continued in its own territory). Between 1996 and 1999, the Yugoslavian government fought an intrastate war against the Kosovo Liberation Army (UCK), which sought to establish an independent Kosovo. Three elections coded in ECAV were held during one of these conflicts: May 1992 (345-1992-0531-L1 345-1992-0531-L2), December 1992 (345-1992-1220-L1), and 1996 (345-1996-1103-L1). There are, however, no reports of election-related events involving one of the armed groups. It is worth noting that the conflict against the UCK peaked in 1998 and 1999, more than three months after the November 1996 parliamentary election.

Sierra Leone

UCDP ID: 382 (1991–2001) Government of Sierra Leone–RUF

Between 1991 and 2002, the Sierra Leone Civil War took place between the government and the Revolutionary United Front (RUF). The 1996 general elections (451-1996-0226-LP1) were held during this intrastate war. The RUF boycotted the elections and conducted attacks around election day.

Sri Lanka

UCDP ID: 352 (1975–2009) Government of Sri Lanka–LTTE

Starting in 1975, the Sri Lankan government fought an intrastate conflict against the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE). This turned into the Sri Lankan Civil War between 1983 and 2009. The LTTE sought to establish a separate Tamil state. All but one Sri Lankan election coded in ECAV took place during the civil war. For each, election-related events involving the LTTE were identified. Prior to the 1994 parliamentary election (780-1994-0816-L1) and the 1994 presidential election (780-1994-1109-P1), the LTTE stated that they would step up violence against military targets ahead of the polls, clearly establishing a substantive connection between the violence and elections. Similarly, the group intensified its violent campaign prior to the 1999 presidential election (780-1999-1221-P1). The conflict against the LTTE was one of the key issues of the election campaign. The incumbent, Chandrika Kumaratunga, promoted a continuation of attacks against the LTTE, whereas her opponent, Ranil Wickramasinghe, campaigned for direct negotiations. Only three days before the election, several government officials were killed in an attack by LTTE militia, targeting Kumaratunga. She survived and was re-elected president. LTTE violence is therefore included for this election. The conflict was also present during the 2000 parliamentary election (780-2000-1010-L1), which saw a low turnout in LTTE-dominated regions, demonstrating the impact of the conflict on the election process in affected regions. The election was held amid a state of emergency, imposed in May 2000 due to increased fighting between both conflict parties. LTTE events were thus included for this election. The 2001 parliamentary election (780-2001-1205-L1) likewise witnessed the involvement of the LTTE in election-related events, most notably a bombing targeting the prime minister, Wickramasinghe, and killing several people. In the 2004 parliamentary election (780-2004-0402-L1), the LTTE carried out attacks against moderate Tamils and electoral candidates; LTTE events are thus included. This year was also characterized by internal fighting within

the LTTE, as former high ranking combatant Vinayagamoorthy Muralitharan established the breakaway fraction of the Tamil Makkal Viduthalai Pulikal (TMVP), which became a party in 2007. The 2005 presidential election (780-2005-1117-P1) was the last election with LTTE involvement. They also targeted moderate Tamils and candidates, establishing a substantive connection between election and violence. These events are thus also included.

Sudan

UCDP ID: 309 (1971–2016) Government of Sudan–SRF

Between 1971 and 2016, the Sudanese government was involved in an intrastate conflict with a variety of actors, among them the most active group, the Sudan Peoples Liberation Movement/Army (SPLM/A), the National Islamic Front (NIF) and the Sudan Revolutionary Front (SRF). The elections in 1996 (625-1996-0306-LP1) and 2000 (625-2000-1213-LP1) saw isolated election-related events involving armed groups. Most election-related events with an armed group involvement were coded for the 2010 elections (625-2010-0411-LP1). Insurgent activities increased ahead of the elections and thus, are included. Furthermore, following the announcement of the election results, some SLPA officers contested the election outcome, accusing the ruling party of vote rigging.

Syria

UCDP ID: 299 (1966–2016) Government of Syria–Syrian insurgents

UCDP ID: 13042 (2011–2013) Government of Syria–PYD

Most election-related events identified in Syria in ECAV were coded for the 2012 election (652-2012-0507-L1). This election was supposed to take place in May 2011, but it was postponed to February 2012 due to rising protests against President Bashar al-Assad in March 2011, marking the start of the ongoing Syrian civil war. Following a referendum on a new constitution on 26 February 2012, al-Assad announced on 13 March that the election would be held in May. Newswires only reported one election-related event: an attack by paramilitary regimes forces targeting shop owners who participated in a general strike to boycott the election.

Tajikistan

UCDP ID: 395 (1992–1998) Government of Tajikistan–UTO

Following independence from the Soviet Union in 1991 and the country's first ever democratic election on 24 November 1991, fighting broke out in May 1992 between the ruling Communist Party of Tajikistan (CPT) under President Rahmon Nabiyev and the opposition. This marks the beginning of the Tajiki Civil War, which ended in 1998. In August 1992, Nabiyev resigned, followed by Akbarsho Iskandarov in November. Iskandarov was succeeded by Emomali Rahmon, who was elected president in November 1994 (702-1994-1106-P1) and has served as president ever since. In 1993, the opposition formed an alliance called the United Tajik Opposition (UTO). This also consisted of armed groups, particularly Islamist groups. During the elections in 1994 and 1995 (702-1995-0226-L1; 702-1995-0226-L2), newswires reported a few election-related events involving armed groups, most notably the killing of the deputy prime minister before the 1994 election.

Thailand

UCDP ID: 423(1965–2016) Government of Thailand–Pattani insurgents

Since 1948, the Thai government has been involved in intrastate conflict against Pattani insurgents, an umbrella term for different armed groups fighting for an independent Pattani in Southern Thailand (a predominantly Muslim region). The conflict was maintained at low intensity for decades, but reignited into a full-scale conflict in 2003. ECAV identified election-related events involving armed groups (all Pattani insurgents) in four Thai elections. The September 1992 election (800-1992-0913-L1) saw one election-related event linked to the insurgency: a deadly attack at a train station on members of the Palang Dharma Party conducted by the Pattani United Liberation Organization. The parliamentary elections in 2005 (800-2005-0206-L1), 2006 (800-2006-0402-L1; 800-2006-0419-L2) and 2007 (800-2007-1223-L1) particularly saw election-related events involving Pattani insurgents. Violence increased sharply in the wake of the 2005 election following the re-election of the prime minister, Thaksin Shinawatra, who continued his violent campaign against the Southern insurgents. These events are thus also included. Pattani insurgents were also involved in events with an explicit connection with the elections, such as attacks targeting election officials and party officials.

Turkey

UCDP ID: 354 (1983–2016) Government of Turkey–PKK

UCDP ID: 383 (1987–1992) Government of Turkey–Devrimci

Two intrastate conflicts in Turkey fall within the coded period in ECAV. Between 1987 and 1992, the Turkish government fought an intrastate conflict against Devrimci Sol, which was involved in isolated election-related events in the election in 1991 (640-1991-1020-L1) and 1995 (640-1995-1224-L1), targeting party campaign offices and thus establishing an election-related connection. A conflict which has been much more present in election-related events is the struggle between the Turkish government and the Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK), which has been going on since 1983. The PKK has been particularly active in Eastern Turkey. The first insurgency took place between 1983 and 1999. The 1991 election was the first election held during this phase. Conflict played a major role in the electoral campaign, as the opposition criticized the governing Motherland Party for not halting the activities of the insurgents. No election-related events involving the PKK were reported during the 1995 election. The election in 1999 (640-1999-0418-L1), however, saw PKK involvement in isolated election-related events. After the 1999 election and the arrest of the PKK leader, Abdullah Öcalan, the group declared a unilateral ceasefire, which lasted until 2004. During the election of 2002 (640-2002-1103-L1), newswires did not report election-related events involving PKK, as the election was held amidst the ceasefire declared by the PKK. Prior to the 2007 election (640-2007-0722-L1), an upsurge of PKK violence could be seen, and therefore, these events are included. It is worth noting that the Justice and Development Party (AKP) won many votes among the Kurdish population, which was regarded as a sign of discontent with the PKK's activities among the Kurdish population. In the wake of the 2011 election (640-2011-0612-L1), violence between the government and PKK increased again, because six elected Kurdish party members were arrested after they had been elected to parliament, establishing a substantive connection between the election and violence.

Uganda

UCDP ID: 314 (1971–2011) Government of Uganda–LRA, UPA

All Ugandan elections coded in ECAV were held during the intrastate conflict between the Ugandan government and the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA). Yet merely for the 1996 parliamentary election (500-1996-0627-L1), newswires reported election-related events involving LRA. The LRA increased its attacks after the presidential election in May of the same year and explicitly threatened to attack citizens seeking to vote. For the presidential election on 12 March 2001, one election-related event was reported involving an armed group (the Allied Democratic Forces).

Uzbekistan

UCDP ID: 415 (1999–2000) Government of Uzbekistan–IMU

The 1999 parliamentary election (704-1999-1205-L1; 704-1999-1205-L2) and the 2000 presidential election (704-2000-0109-P1) were held during the armed conflict between the Uzbek government and the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan (IMU). For both elections, newswires did not report election-related events involving the IMU.

Yemen

UCDP ID: 230 (1948–2016) Government of Yemen (North Yemen)–Ansarallah, AQAP

All elections coded in Yemen fell within the period of intrastate conflicts between the government and different armed groups, most notably al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) and the Southern Movement. The 2006 election (678-2006-0920-P1) saw the involvement of AQAP in two election-related events, attacking two oil facilities only five days before the polls. Because these attacks were allegedly related to the election, they were coded in ECAV. The 2012 election (678-2012-0221-P1) was particularly characterized by violence conducted by armed groups. Following protests against President Ali Abdullah Saleh after January 2011, the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) brokered an agreement on 23 November entailing a power transfer to Vice-President Abd Rabbuh Mansur Hadi, who was elected president in an election without any opponents in February 2012. Saleh refused to sign previous power transfer agreements and returned to Yemen from Saudi Arabia in mid-September 2011 after receiving medical treatment following an assassination attempt in August. Violence increased remarkably after his return, with the involvement of armed tribesmen. These groups demanded the president's resignation and sided with the protestors, who demanded new elections. These events are therefore included. The negotiation of the November agreement, however, led to the involvement of another group, the Southern Movement, composed of activists and combatants. This group demanded the separation of the South and opposed the power transfer agreement. They occupied polling stations and attacked politicians, demanding an independence referendum instead of the election. Events involving the Southern Movement are also included. AQAP was also involved in isolated election-related events, such as an attack targeting election officials and the bombing of the presidential palace during Hadi's inauguration.

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