

Mediating Individuals (M-IND) Dataset Codebook v.1 (2023)

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1 Introduction

Users of the Mediating Individuals (M-IND) Dataset should cite

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The M-IND dataset consist of two files; the first containing information about the individuals that mediated in specific armed conflict dyads/lethal military dispute years (M-IND conflict), and the second containing biographical information about these individuals (M-IND individual). Information between the two data files can be merged using unique mediator ID and M-Ind ID.

The conflict data corresponds with the UCDP-PRIO Armed Conflict data v 20.1 at the conflict dyadic level (Gleditsch et al. 2002; Harbom, Melander and Wallensteen 2008; Pettersson and Öberg 2020) and Militarized Interstate Disputes (MID) version 4.3 (Jones, Bremer and Singer 1996). M-IND contain information about all UCDP-PRIO defined armed conflict dyads 1989-2019, and MID with at least one (1) fatality 1989-2014.

For questions of the data and information that can help us improve it in upcoming revisions, contact joakim.kreutz@statsvet.uu.se

2 Key definitions

Armed conflict is defined by Uppsala Conflict Data Program (UCDP) a contested incompatibility that concerns government and/or territory where the use of armed force between two parties, of which at least one is the government of a state, results in at least 25 battle-related deaths in a calendar-year (Gleditsch et al. 2002). M-IND contain information about conflicts at the *dyadic* level meaning that each observations involves the interaction of only two specific actors (as identified by UCDP) e.g. state-state, or government-rebel (Harbom, Melander and Wallensteen 2008).¹

Militarized intrastate dispute (MID) are defined as the threat, display, or use of military force short of war by one state explicitly directed towards the government, official representatives, official forces, property, or territory of another state (Jones, Bremer and Singer 1996). M-IND cover only those MID that lead to at least one (1) fatality.

Mediation M-IND use an inclusive definition of mediation as a process whereby a third party assists two or more parties, with their consent, to prevent, manage or resolve a conflict by helping them to develop mutually acceptable agreements. This broad definition allows the inclusion of a wide range of mediators including both from the outside and from the conflict-affected society. The latter include involvement by local civil society, individuals, and political activists that can participate in a peace process and introduce proposals for a future settlement.

Mediators do not need to be neutral, but they cannot be representatives of the primary parties to the conflict.

We focus on mediation that in some manner involve the warring parties, meaning that our data mainly cover so-called track 1 diplomacy. That does not mean that representatives of the warring sides need to meet face-to-face, as we include shuttle diplomacy and peace proposals presented to both sides. Further, we include both mediation involving the leadership of the belligerents and more lowly ranked representatives.

¹In some instances, the UCDP dataset does not identify a specific single organization in a conflict setting and instead refer to the opposition as "(xxx) insurgents", for example Patani insurgents. This aggregation is then presented as a singly dyad, and M-IND present its' data accordingly (see also Kreutz (2015)).

3 Variables: MINDconflict

3.1 mindobsid

The unique ID for the dyad in the M-IND dataset. For all observations taken from the UCDP/PRIO Armed Conflict Dyad dataset, this is identical with dyad_id. For observations taken only from the Militarized Interstate Disputes dataset, the mindobsid is constructed as mid_id*10.

3.2 dyad_id

The unique conflict dyad ID, as provided by the UCDP/PRIO Armed Conflict Dyad Dataset

3.3 conflict_id

The unique conflict ID, as provided by the UCDP/PRIO Armed Conflict Dataset.

3.4 mid_id

The unique MID ID, as provided by the Militarized Interstate Disputes Dataset.

3.5 mediationdum

Indicates whether mediation is reported in this conflict dyad-year or not.

0= No mediation

1= Mediation

3.6 side_a

The first primary party to the conflict, taken from the UCDP/PRIO Armed Conflict Dyad Dataset. Side A is by definition always a primary party to the conflict. In intrastate conflicts, side A is always the government side.

3.7 side_b

The second primary party to the conflict during the conflict episode, taken from the UCDP/PRIO Armed Conflict Dyad Dataset. Like Side A, Side B is by definition a primary party to the conflict. Side B is the opposition side in intrastate conflicts and the second side in an interstate conflict. Thus, side B include both states and non-state groups, depending on the type of conflict.

When the primary party listed on Side B is an opposition group, the column lists the group name in abbreviated form. Even if the group changes its name during the course of the conflict we record them under the same name for all years. See the UCDP Actor Dataset (www.ucdp.uu.se) for the full name and name history of opposition groups.

3.8 inc

The incompatibility for the conflict, taken from the UCDP/PRIO Armed Conflict Dyad Dataset. The stated incompatibility is what the parties claim to be fighting over.

1= Territory

2= Government

3= Government and Territory

3.9 territory_name

The specified contested territory for conflicts over territory, taken from the UCDP/PRIO Armed Conflict Dyad Dataset. In case the two sides use different names for the disputed territory, the name listed is the one used by the opposition organization.

3.10 year

The year of the observation.

3.11 international

Indicates whether the conflict/dispute is international or intrastate.

0= Intra-state

1= International

3.12 styear

The start year of the conflict episode defined as the first year of a consecutive period of years of active violence. For more information and discussion about the definition of conflict episodes, see Kreutz (2010).

3.13 medtotal

A count of the number of mediators involved during this conflict dyad-year.

3.14 medwomen

A count of the number of women mediators involved during this conflict dyad-year.

3.15 un

Indicates whether mediation involving the UN is reported in this conflict dyad-year.

0= No UN involvement.

1= UN involvement.

3.16 igo

Indicates whether mediation involving representatives of at least one Intergovernmental Organization (IGO) (not the UN) is reported in this conflict dyad-year.

0= No IGO involvement.

1= IGO involvement.

3.17 state

Indicates whether mediation involving representatives of at least the government of a state is reported in this conflict dyad-year.

0= No state involvement.
1= State involvement.

3.18 csoprivate

Indicates whether mediation involving representatives of civil society (CSO) or private individuals is reported in this conflict dyad-year.

0= No CSO or private individuals involved.
1= CSO or private individuals involved.

3.19 external

Indicates whether mediation involved individuals from outside the conflict country.

0= No external involvement.
1= External involvement.

3.20 internal

Indicates whether mediation involved individuals from the conflict country.

0= No internal involvement.
1= Internal involvement.

3.21 txt_morg

List of international organizations that sent representatives as part of the mediation effort this conflict dyad-year.

3.22 morg

ID of the international organizations that sent representatives as part of the mediation effort this conflict dyad-year. The organizational ID are constructed by adding 10000 to the ID in Correlates of War International Governmental Organizations Data Set v. 3 (Pevehouse et al. 2020) if possible. All organizational ID codes are listed in the document MINDstate-igo1.0 at mind-data.org.

3.23 txt_mstate

List of states that sent representatives as part of the mediation effort this conflict dyad-year.

3.24 mstate

ID of the states that sent representatives as part of the mediation effort this conflict dyad-year. The country ID is taken from Gleditsch and Ward (2007) if possible. All country ID codes are listed in the document MINDstate-igo1.0 at mind-data.org.

3.25 m1 – m74

ID (mindid) of every individual mediators involved in this conflict dyad-year. The mindid links the MINDconflict dataset with the MINDindividual dataset.

4 Variables: MINDindividual

4.1 mindid

ID (mindid) of every individual mediator. The mindid links the MINDconflict dataset with the MINDindividual dataset.

4.2 medeffort

Count and sorting variable for the different mediation efforts that an individual mediator has been involved in.

4.3 mediatorname

Name of the individual mediator.

4.4 gender

Gender of the individual mediator.
0= Man.
1= Woman.

4.5 nationality

Nationality of the individual mediator.

4.6 nationality_ccode

Country code of the nationality of the individual mediator. The country ID is taken from Gleditsch and Ward (2007) if possible. All country ID codes are listed in the document MINDstate-igo1.0 at mind-data.org.

4.7 bornyear

Year of birth of the individual mediator.

4.8 mindobsid

The unique ID for the dyad in the M-IND dataset. For all observations taken from the UCDP/PRIO Armed Conflict Dyad dataset, this is identical with dyad_id. For observations taken only from the Militarized Interstate Disputes dataset, the mindobsid is constructed as mid_id*10.

4.9 mind_side_a

The first primary party to the conflict, taken from the UCDP/PRIO Armed Conflict Dyad Dataset. Side A is by definition always a primary party to the conflict. In intrastate conflicts, side A is always the government side.

4.10 mind_side_b

The second primary party to the conflict during the conflict episode, taken from the UCDP/PRIO Armed Conflict Dyad Dataset. Like Side A, Side B is by definition a primary party to the conflict. Side B is the opposition side in intrastate conflicts and the second side in an interstate conflict. Thus, side B include both states and non-state groups, depending on the type of conflict. When the primary party listed on Side B is an opposition group, the column lists the group name in abbreviated form. Even if the group changes its name during the course of the conflict we record them under the same name for all years. See the UCDP Actor Dataset (www.ucdp.uu.se) for the full name and name history of opposition groups.

4.11 rep_un

Indicates whether the individual represented the UN in this mindobsid.

0= No.

1= Yes.

4.12 rep_igo

Indicates whether the individual represented an intergovernmental organization (IGO) (not the UN) in this mindobsid.

0= No.

1= Yes.

4.13 txt_igo

Name of the international organizations that the individual represented in this mindobsid.

4.14 rep_state

Indicates whether the individual represented the government of a state in this mindobsid.

0= No.

1= Yes.

4.15 txt_state

Name of the state that the individual represented in this mindobsid.

4.16 rep_cso

Indicates whether the individual represented a civil society organization in this mindobsid.

0= No.

1= Yes.

4.17 txt_cso

Name of the civil society organization that the individual represented in this mindobsid.

4.18 internal

Indicates whether the individual is from the conflict country in this mindobsid.
0= Not internal.
1= Internal.

4.19 external

Indicates whether the individual is from outside the conflict country in this mindobsid.
0= Not external.
1= External.

4.20 localcso

Indicates whether the individual represented a civil society organization from the conflict country in this mindobsid.
0= No.
1= Yes.

4.21 internationalcso

Indicates whether the individual represented an international civil society organization in this mindobsid.
0= No.
1= Yes.

4.22 morg

ID of the international organizations that the mediator represented. The organizational ID are constructed by adding 10000 to the ID in Correlates of War International Governmental Organizations Data Set v. 3 (Pevehouse et al. 2020) if possible. All organizational ID codes are listed in the document MINDstate-igo1.0 at mind-data.org.

4.23 mstate

ID of the state that the mediator represented. The country ID is taken from Gleditsch and Ward (2007) if possible. All country ID codes are listed in the document MINDstate-igo1.0 at mind-data.org.

5 Missing Data

The M-IND dataset does not include any missing data codes. This should not lead anyone to assume that there are no such problems. Access to information is uneven and mediation incidence is rarely reported when efforts fails to impact on the conflict. Further, in some cases it is difficult to verify the size of a mediation effort. Therefore, M-IND include several instances of reports of involvement by mediation but where it has not been possible to identify the individual. A brief analysis of such "unclear" mediators can give an indication of the type of cases that may be most at risk for under-reporting.

5.1 The distribution of "unclear" mediators

The M-IND dataset provide information about individuals that have mediated armed conflicts around the world 1989-2019. During the data collection, we also identified mediation but were unable to pinpoint who was the representative in a given mediation effort. The ambition is to continuously revise the dataset to identify as many as possible of these "unclear" individuals, but the distribution of these may provide information about possible biases in the data. Overall, among the 571 cases of mediation in the dataset, at least one "unclear" mediator is identified in 86 (15% of cases), with at most 6 "unclear" mediators active in a given dyad-year. Table 3 show the results of probit (Model 1) and OLS (Model 2) regressions on the correlations between conflict type and whether any (Model 1) or how many (Model 2) instances of unclear mediators are identified in a dyad-year.

No variables correlate with unclear data in these pooled analyses, but bivariate estimations indicate that more violent conflicts and longer conflicts both have a higher probability to have "unclear" mediators, while the probability is lower for more democratic countries, at the 95% confidence level.

Looking at the distribution of reports of "unclear" mediators over time, there does not seem to be a clear temporal bias. The top panel of Figure 1 present the share of conflicts over time with any unclear mediator, indicating that this consistently affects between 5-10% of yearly dyads. The lower panel of Figure 1 focuses only on the cases when there is at least 1 unclear mediator to investigate potential trends with regards to how many unclear mediators are found. Again, there is no clear pattern emerging over time even though there is a correlation between the number of mediators in total in the conflict (the size of the plots) and the probability that many of these are "unclear".

The spatial distribution of where "unclear" mediation is more prevalent is presented in Figure 2. Although the difference across regions are relatively

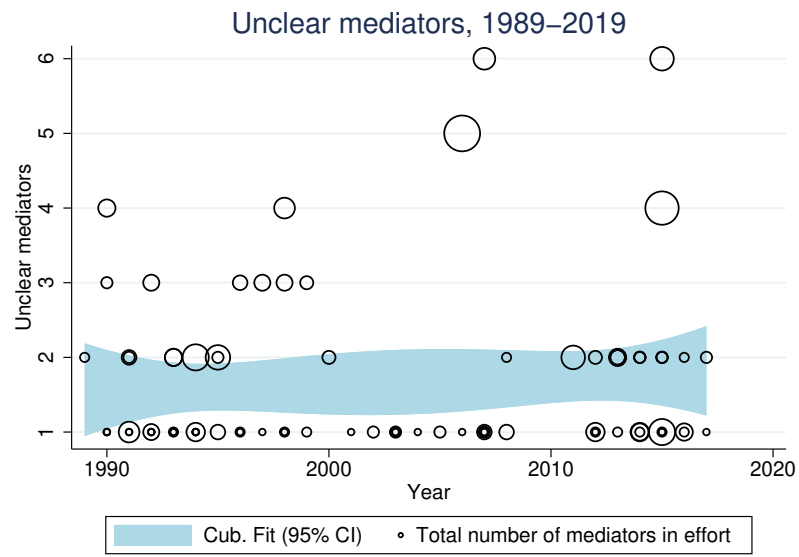
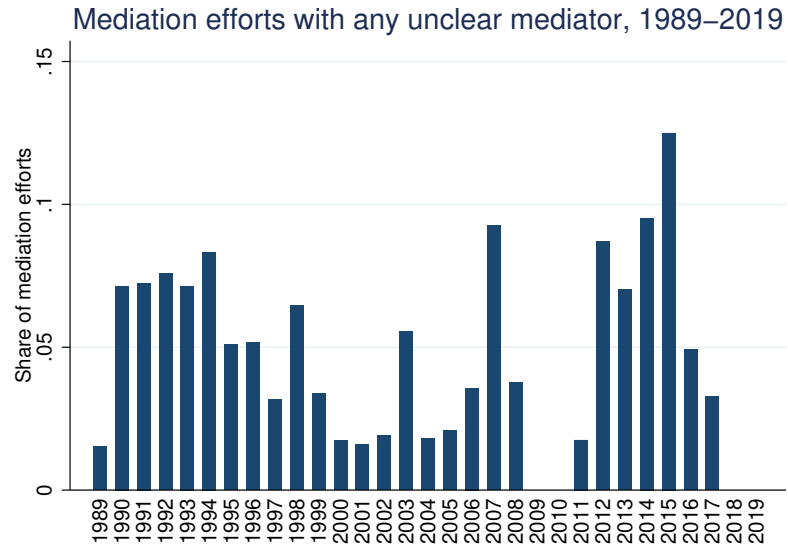


Figure 1: Temporal trends for unclear mediator prevalence

Table 1: Conflict characteristics of cases with unclear mediators

DV	Unclear dummy	No of unclear
	1	2
Battle death (ln)	0.066 (0.07)	0.006 (0.01)
Conflict duration	0.021 (0.01)	0.002 (0.00)
Separatist conflict	0.081 (0.18)	0.006 (0.02)
Democracy	-0.289 (0.50)	-0.023 (0.04)
GDP/capita	-0.135 (0.08)	-0.011 (0.01)
Year	0.005 (0.01)	0.000 (0.00)
Constant	-10.923 (21.49)	-0.845 (2.11)
N	1238	1238

modest, it indicates that future steps of improving the quality of the M-IND data may benefit from a greater focus on mediation efforts in sub-Saharan Africa.

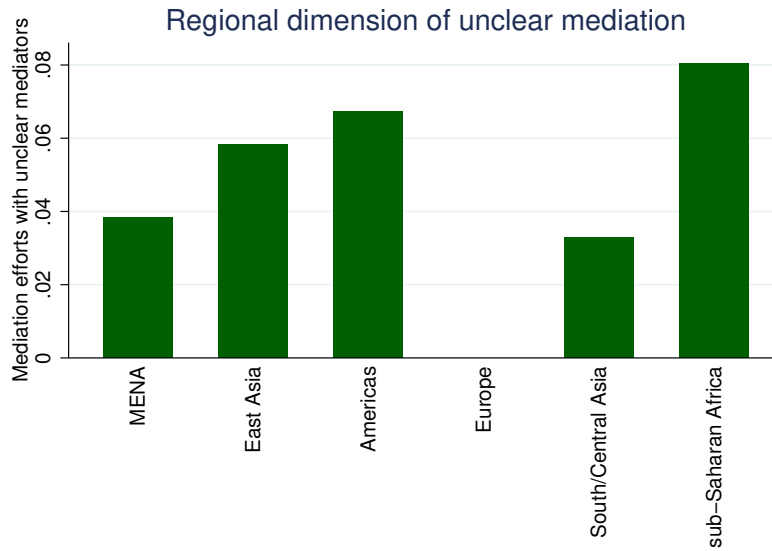


Figure 2: Spatial trends for unclear mediator prevalence

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