

# **The value of sub-national data: The dynamics of contentious politics in Nepal**

## **Appendix**

### **A1 Survey on peer-reviewed journals on publications analyzing contentious politics**

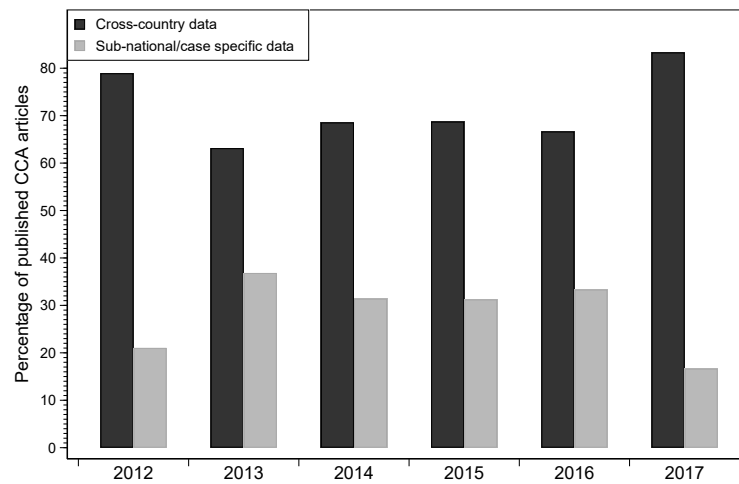
We conducted a survey of the six most representative political science journals for the period of six years between 2012 and 2017. We included in the survey sample four generic political science journals and two conflict-specific journals. The journals included in the sample are: the American Political Science Journal (AJPS), the American Political Science Review (APSR), the Journal of Politics (JoP), Comparative Political Studies (CPS), the Journal of Conflict Resolution (JCR), and the Journal of Peace Research (JPR).

For each issue published by these journals we collected information on the number of articles studying contentious politics, their research question, method of choice to analyze the question, the nature of the data—whether cross-national or sub-national—and the main dependent and independent variables. In this research note we focus on articles that use quantitative methods (cross-national or sub-national datasets). We also collected information, but not report here, on conceptual and theoretical publications on contentious politics as well as articles that use qualitative methods. In total we recorded 162 quantitative studies on CCA published in these six peer-reviewed journals during this period.

Figure A1.1 shows the percentage of published articles on contentious politics that use either cross-country data or sub-national data over time. This visualization of the survey data does not distinguish between journal outlets. When it comes to articles on contentious politics, there is a clear predominance to use cross-country information. This pattern holds for all years between 2012 and 2017.

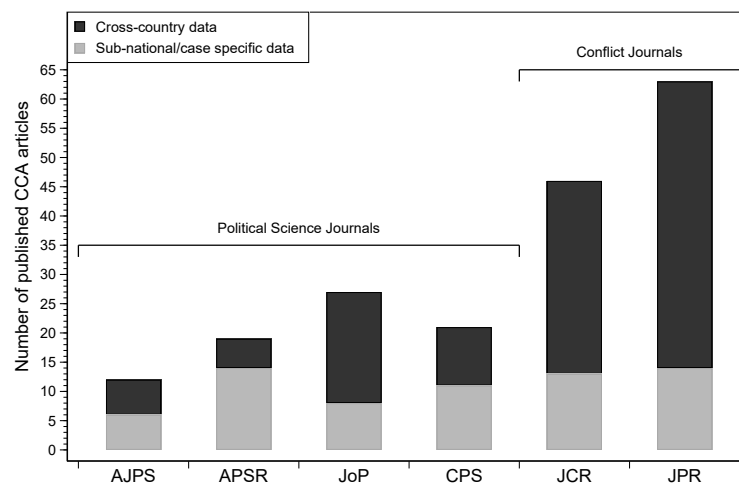
Figure A1.2 shows the count of articles studying contentious politics by distinguishing between those that use cross-national from those who analyzed sub-national data. This figure focuses on each individual journals for the entire five year period. The first four journals are consider to be general outlets for political science (AJPS, APSR, JoP and CPS), while the last two journals publish on the topic of conflict and peace research (JCR and JPR). As expected, political science journals published fewer articles on contentious politics than their specialized counterparts. When it comes to the share of cross-national vs. sub-national data analysis, AJPS and CPS published articles on contentious politics are evenly distributed between both types of data, while APSR and JoP show opposite trends. Articles published on this topic at APSR focus predominantly on analyzing sub-national data. Instead, JoP shows a preference for cross-national analyzes as they also do the conflict specific journals JCR and JPR.

FIGURE A1.1 Published articles on contentious politics between 2012-2017



*Note:* Information displayed in the graph includes published articles on contentious politics in the following peer-reviewed journals: the American Political Science Journal (AJPS), the American Political Science Review (APSR), Journal of Politics (JoP), Comparative Political Studies (CPS), the Journal of Conflict Resolution (JCR), and the Journal of Peace Research (JPR).

FIGURE A1.2 Published articles on contentious politics across selected peer-reviewed journals (2012-2017)



## A2 Cross-country datasets on contentious collective actions

Our overview of the cross-country datasets covers the following datasets:

- MMDP: Mass Mobilization Data Project by Klein, Graig and Patrick M. Regan (2018). "Dynamics of Political Protests". In: *International Organization* 72.2, pp. 485-521.

- NAVCO: Nonviolent & Violent Campaigns and Outcomes Data Project by Chenoweth, Erica and Orion Lewis (2013). “Unpacking nonviolent campaigns: Introducing the NAVCO 2.0 dataset”. In: *Journal of Peace Research* 50.3, pp. 415-423.
- ACLED: Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project by Raleigh, Clionadh et al. (2010). “Introducing ACLED: An Armed Conflict Location and Event Dataset”. *Journal of Peace Research* 47.5, pp. 651-660.
- SCAD: Social Conflict Analysis Database by Salehyan, Idean et al. (2012). “Social Conflict in Africa: A new Database”. *International Interactions* 33.1, pp. 503-511.
- SoR: Strategies of Resistance by Cunningham, Kathleen G., Marianne Dahl, and Anne Frugré (2017). “Strategies of Resistance: Diversifications and Diffusion.” *American Journal of Political Science* 61.3, pp. 591-605.
- MAROB: Minority at Risks Organizational Behavior by Wilkenfeld, Jonathan, Victor Asal, and Amy Pate (2011). “Minorities at Risk Organizational Behavior (MAROB) Middle East, 1980-2004”. <https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/STGELW/LZYKTG>, Harvard Dataverse, V1
- NAVCO 3.0: Erica Chenoweth, Jonathan Pinckney and Orion A. Lewis. (2017). “Nonviolent and Violent Campaigns and Outcomes Dataset, v. 3.0”. University of Denver.
- xSub: Zhukov, Yuri M, Christian Davenport, and Nadiya Kostyuk (2020). “Introducing xSub: A New Portal for Cross-National Data on Subnational Violence”. xSub Portal, Available at <http://cross-sub.org/>

## A3 NPCED: Data structure and data sources

We collected information on all individual CCA events between 2007 and 2010 at the Village Development Committees (VDC) level, the second-lowest administrative unit in Nepal.<sup>1</sup>

The coding is based on the Himalayan Times and the Rising Nepal, two of the leading private Nepalese daily newspapers. The original sources are daily digitalized newspaper provided the Nepal Press Council. Given the difficulties of having access to local sources, the data coverage has some temporal gaps. A field-interview with the archival source highlights that the missing scanned copies are random, and therefore should not induce a systematic bias in the NPCED.

The inclusion criteria for events in the dataset was any actual, observable and public event for which the mobilization intended to generate policy change. This criteria does not impose restriction based on pre-listed actors, goals, or tactics as compared to other data collection efforts in the field. Using the raw event information as starting point, we

---

<sup>1</sup>Nepal is divided into 75 districts and over 3,980 VDCs. The contentious events are coded at the VDC level to facilitate the use of controls from census data in future causal analyses.

are able to get a comprehensive overview of contentious politics before we systematize and identify the three main CCA dimensions: actors, goals and tactics (Adcock and Collier 2001, p. 531). By doing this, we allow these main three concepts to travel to the Nepalese context.

## A4 NPCED Descriptive Overview

Table A4.1 provides an overview of the total number of groups and events that relate to each activist group type in the NPCED data. The percentages in the first two columns relate to all observations in the dataset, for example 3% of all groups are political parties. The column “Groups active multiple events” records the number of groups that have been active in more than one event in NPCED. The percentages, thus, are based on the row, for example 46.5% of all political parties have been active in more than one event.

TABLE A4.1 NPCED: Descriptive Overview

Group type	Number of groups	Number of events	Groups active multiple events
(Percentage)	(Column %)	(Column %)	(Row %)
Political Parties	43 (3%)	971 (21.5%)	20 (46.5%)
Economic Interest Groups	153 (10%)	712 (16%)	51 (33.5%)
Ethnic Groups	88 (5.5%)	1,021 (22.5%)	40 (45.5%)
Local Organizations	120 (8%)	217 (5%)	36 (30%)
Societal Groups	1,141 (74%)	1,574 (35%)	180 (16%)
Total	1,545 (100 %)	4,495 (100 %)	327 (21.15 %)