

# UCDP Actor Dataset Codebook

Version 2.2-2014

Uppsala Conflict Data Program (UCDP)  
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*When using the data, please cite the UCDP Actor Dataset, and, when appropriate, this codebook. Always include the version number in analyses using the dataset.*

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# 1. Introduction

This document describes the UCDP Actor Dataset<sup>1</sup>, a project within the Uppsala Conflict Data Program (UCDP) at the Department of Peace and Conflict Research, Uppsala University.

The unit of analysis in the UCDP Actor Dataset is a unique actor. The dataset is constructed so as to be compatible with all UCDP's datasets on organized violence (the UCDP/PRIO Armed Conflict Dataset, the UCDP Dyadic Dataset, the UCDP One-sided Violence Dataset and the UCDP Non-state Conflict Dataset) and thus contains all actors – both state – and non-state ones – included in these datasets. As such, it functions as an inventory of actors in UCDP data, but its scope is broader than that. The UCDP Actor Dataset also ascribes new, unique actor IDs to all non-state actors and Gleditsch and Ward numbers to all state actors, identifies which types of organized violence the actor has been involved in (state-based, non-state and/or one-sided) and, more particularly, in *which* conflicts and dyads of state-based, non-state and/or one-sided violence. Furthermore, the dataset contains information about the name history of the actor, outlining the most current name (which is also the name used in the data), the original name (i.e. the name the group had when it entered UCDP data for the first time) and any possible name changes between the two. In addition, the dataset also includes information on the group's origins and alliances. First, information is given about whether the non-state actor was created by splintering off from another actor recorded in UCDP data, and, if so, which actor. Second, information is included on whether the actor is created by a temporary split in the original actor. Third, the dataset also includes data on whether the non-state actor ever entered into an alliance with another recorded non-state actor in UCDP data (which would beget a new non-state actor), as well as the name of said alliance. Finally, information is given about whether a non-state actor has joined a group already registered in UCDP data, not creating a new alliance but merely entering the other group. For non-state actors, information can also be found on temporary coalitions i.e. when non-state actors fight together in non-state conflict or one-sided violence without creating a formal alliance.

For all actors, the location of the actor is given, as is the region where the location is situated.

Version 2.2-2014 of the UCDP Actor Dataset corresponds to the UCDP/PRIO Armed Conflict Dataset v. 4-2014; the UCDP Dyadic Dataset v. 1-2014; UCDP Battle-related deaths Dataset v.5-2014; the UCDP Non-state Conflict Dataset v.2.5-2014; and the UCDP One-sided Violence Dataset v.1.4-2014. This means that all actors included in these datasets are included in the UCDP Actor Dataset.

The dataset is updated annually.

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<sup>1</sup> Between July and early October 2009 this code was entitled “UCDP Non-state Actor Dataset Codebook”.

## **2. UCDP's three categories of organized violence**

Below follows a brief introduction to the three types of organized violence that UCDP collects information on, and that make up the datasets to which the UCDP Actor dataset corresponds.

### ***2.1 Armed conflict***

An armed conflict is defined as a contested incompatibility that concerns government and/or territory where the use of armed force between two parties, of which at least one is the government of a state, results in at least 25 battle-related deaths.

Data on this category of organized violence is found in the UCDP/PRIO Armed Conflict Dataset (presently covering 1946-2013), in the UCDP Dyadic Dataset (1946-2013) and in the UCDP Battle-related deaths Dataset (1989-2013). For more information, see the codebooks for these datasets, at <http://www.pcr.uu.se/research/ucdp/datasets/>.

### ***2.2 One-sided violence***

One-sided violence is defined as the use of armed force by the government of a state or by a formally organized group against civilians which results in at least 25 deaths. Extrajudicial killings in custody are excluded.

Data on this category of organized violence is found in the UCDP One-sided Violence Dataset (1989-2013). For more information, see the codebook for the dataset, at <http://www.pcr.uu.se/research/ucdp/datasets/>.

### ***2.3 Non-state conflict***

A non-state conflict is defined as the use of armed force between two organized armed groups, neither of which is the government of a state, which results in at least 25 battle-related deaths in a year.

Data on this category of organized violence is found in the UCDP Non-state Conflict Dataset (1989-2013). For more information, see the codebook for the dataset, at <http://www.pcr.uu.se/research/ucdp/datasets/>.

### 3. Definition of State actor

A state actor is always the government of a state.

A state is an internationally recognized sovereign government controlling a specific territory or an internationally unrecognized government controlling a specified territory whose sovereignty is not disputed by another internationally recognized sovereign government previously controlling the same territory. See Section 4 in the UCDP/PRIO Armed Conflict Codebook for details on the sample of countries covered by this definition.

When in doubt as to who is actually controlling the government of a state, the party controlling the capital of the state is regarded as the government.

In order to define the total population of states we use the Gleditsch & Ward (1999) systems membership definition, which is based on the Correlates of War project. Gleditsch & Ward include countries with a population of more than 250,000 that have 'a relatively autonomous administration over some territory', and is 'considered a distinct entity by local actors or the state it is dependent on' (Gleditsch & Ward, 1999: 398).

The Gleditsch & Ward definition differs from our original definition in two main ways. First, for Gleditsch & Ward a state is considered to be a new entity if it is 'considered a distinct entity by local actors' while the conflict definition only recognizes it as a new entity when the 'sovereignty is not disputed by another internationally recognized sovereign government previously controlling the same territory'. Second, the Gleditsch & Ward states all have a population of more than 250,000 while our conflict definition does not prescribe a specific size of the population. In a few cases, countries with less than 250,000 inhabitants experience conflict or are active as secondary parties in a conflict. In those cases we use the Gleditsch & Ward tentative list of microstates. For example, the microstate Tonga was part of the multinational coalition fighting in Iraq in 2004.

The UCDP/PRIO dataset includes one political entity that lacks a country code as it is excluded from both the Gleditsch & Ward system membership table and the tentative list of microstates: Hyderabad (Hyderabad vs. CPI and Hyderabad vs. India). In 1947 when England granted India independence, a cabinet memorandum declared that the Princely States were free to decide to either join India or Pakistan before August 1947 - or devise their own sovereign political system for self-governance. Hyderabad declared itself independent on 15 August 1947. The state was populated by approximately 15,000,000 inhabitants. The system membership ended when Hyderabad was annexed by India in September 1948, after Winston Churchill had proposed to the United Nations to consider it as an independent state. GWNoA is set at 751.

In a few cases, the dataset have a different sovereignty date for some countries that have experienced conflict:

#### Armenia:

Gleditsch & Ward: 23 September 1991 (becomes independent)

UCDP/PRIO: 21 December 1991 (USSR formally ceased to exist)

*Comment:* On 23 September Armenia declares independence, but there is no indication that the USSR ceased to lay claim to the territory at that time.

#### Azerbaijan:

Gleditsch & Ward: 30 August 1991 (becomes independent)

UCDP/PRIO: 21 December 1991 (USSR formally ceased to exist)

*Comment:* While Gleditsch & Ward state that Azerbaijan gained independence on 30 August 1991, there is no indication that the USSR actually ceased to lay claim to the territory at that time.

#### Bosnia-Herzegovina:

Gleditsch & Ward: 3 March 1992 (declares independence)

UCDP/PRIO: 27 April 1992 (the new constitution of Yugoslavia)

#### Croatia:

Gleditsch & Ward: 25 June 1991 (declares independence)

UCDP/PRIO: 27 April 1992 (the new constitution of Yugoslavia)

#### Georgia:

Gleditsch & Ward: 6 September 1991 (the USSR's recognition of Georgia's declaration of independence, on 9 April 1991)

UCDP/PRIO 21 December 1991 (USSR formally ceased to exist)

*Comment:* While Gleditsch & Ward claim that the USSR recognised Georgia's independence on 6 September, this seems to be incorrect. On 6 September the Soviet Union recognized the Baltic States' independence, but not Georgia's. Instead, the Soviet Union in early September 1991 refused to discuss recognition of the declaration of independence.

## **4. Definition of Non-state actor**

The UCDP Actor Dataset contains information on all actors/ groups/organisations that appear in UCDP's three categories of organized violence. Both the terminology and the type of organisations included in the three categories vary to some degree. The UCDP/PRIO Armed Conflict Dataset and the UCDP Dyadic Dataset includes "opposition actors" and "opposition organisations", defined as any non-governmental group of people having announced a name for their group and using armed force to influence the outcome of the stated incompatibility. The UCDP One-sided Violence Dataset contains "formally organized groups", similarly defined, apart from the requirement of an incompatibility. Lastly, the Non-state Conflict category in the UCDP Actor Dataset includes both "formally organized groups" and "informally organized groups". While the former is the same category as the one used in the One-sided Violence data, the latter is defined as any

group without an announced name, but who uses armed force against another similarly organized group. To be included there has to be a clear pattern of violent incidents that are connected and in which both groups use armed force against the other.

The informally organized group are divided into two categories, members/supporters of political parties; and broader categories of identifications, such as ethnic groups and clans or religious groups. The formally organized group category encompasses actors such as unrecognized states and rebel groups.

As outlined above, the UCDP Actor Dataset thus contains information on a broad spectrum of non-state actors. The smallest common denominators are that the non-state actor is an entity comprised of several individuals and that it has some form of organisational structure (be it formal, as in e.g. rebel groups or more traditional, as in e.g. ethnic groupings). Non-state actors included in the dataset hence range from small, informal ones such as the Dizi ethnic group in Ethiopia, numbering some 20 000 individuals, to large, state-like formations such as the self-declared Republic of Croatia (before it was recognised as an independent state).

## 5. Rules guiding the differentiation between non-state actors

To differentiate between non-state actors is at times problematic.<sup>2</sup> When is a non-state actor completely new and when is it simply a continuation of an already registered non-state actor, only slightly altered? Some actors tend to be fractious, splitting into different sub-groups while others join larger coalitions or umbrella groups. UCDP follows four main rules:

- However many times a group changes its name, it still retains the same ActorID (for exceptions, see below).
- When an actor splits into two or more actors, the splinter group/groups is considered a completely new non-state actor.  
*Comment:* It is sometimes difficult to determine which of the actors should be viewed as the splinter and which should be seen as the original one, as both factions tend to claim to be the “original” actor. This is most typically the case concerning rebel groups. UCDP deals with this by tracing the main part (i.e. the most numerous) of the actor, which is then coded as the original one. Should this be problematic to determine, a second option is to trace the original leader of the non-state actor in order to identify which actor to code as the original one.
- When two or more already registered non-state actors join together under a new name in a tight coalition with joint military operations, the new alliance is regarded as a new actor.
- When an already registered non-state actor is joined by another actor that has previously not been coded as active in the dataset, the new alliance is simply

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<sup>2</sup> This problem is mainly associated with the formally organized non-state actors.

viewed as a continuation of the former, previously coded, actor. This applies even when the name of the actor is changed.

*Comment:* It should be noted that while this rule is applied in most cases in the datasets conventional logic made it necessary to make some exceptions. Whereas the rule works well in e.g. the case of NRA in Uganda, which was originally called PRA but changed its name when it was joined by the much smaller and militarily insignificant UFF, the logic is less clear in the case of e.g. the Independent Nasserist Organisation in Lebanon (a.k.a. al- Mourabitoun), which was active in fighting the government of Lebanon in 1958 and also resurfaced as part of the Lebanese National Movement in 1975. In this case it is intuitively and factually incorrect to characterise the LNM as being a simple continuation of al- Mourabitoun, and the actor is thus characterised as being an entirely new one.

## 6. Variables in the dataset

Variable	Label	Brief description
ActorID	Actor identifier	The unique identifier of all actors
Name_Data	Name in data	The name that is used for the actor in UCDP datasets.
Name_Orig	Original name	The name of the actor when it was first included in a UCDP dataset.
Name_Orig_Full	Full original name, mother tongue	The full original name of the actor, in mother tongue.
Name_Orig_FullEng	Full original name, English	The full original name of the actor, in English
NameChange	Name change	Dummy listing whether non-state actors have changed their names.
NewName	New name	The new name of the non-state actor
NewName_Full_mt	Full new name, mother tongue	The full new name in mother tongue
NewName_FullEng	Full new name in English	The full new name in English
Org	Level of organization	Lists the actor's level of organization.
ConflictID	Conflict identifier	The unique identifier of all armed conflicts (i.e. conflicts included in the UCDP/PRIO Armed Conflict Dataset and the UCDP Dyadic Dataset) in which the actor has been recorded.
DyadID	Dyad identifier	The unique identifier of all dyads active in armed conflicts (i.e. dyads included in the UCDP Dyadic Dataset) in which the actor has been recorded.
Primary_party	Primary party	Dummy that relates solely to state actors active in state-based armed conflicts. Identifies which actors have been coded as primary parties in conflicts.
OSID	One-sided violence identifier	The unique identifier of all actors listed in the UCDP One-sided Violence Dataset. Corresponds to the ActorID of a given actor.



OSVCoalition	One-sided violence temporary coalition	Dummy listing whether the actor has been active in one-sided violence together with one or several other actors in the dataset.
OSVCoalitionID	One-sided violence temporary coalition identifier	The unique identifier of all temporary coalitions listed in the UCDP One-sided Violence Dataset.
NSID	Non-state conflict identifier	The unique identifier of all non-state conflicts (i.e. conflicts included in the UCDP Non-state Conflict Dataset) in which the actor has been recorded.
NSCoalition	Non-state conflict temporary coalition	Dummy listing whether the actor has been active in non-state conflict together with one or several other actors in the dataset.
NSCoalitionID	Non-state conflict temporary coalition identifier	The unique identifier of all temporary coalitions listed in the UCDP Non-state Conflict Dataset.
Splinter	Splinter	Dummy listing whether a non-state actor was created by breaking away from another actor listed in UCDP data
Name_Prev	Name of the previous actor	Name of the actor that a given non-state actor broke away from
ActorID_Prev	Actor identifier of previous actor	The unique identifier of the actor that a given group broke away from
Split_temp	Temporary split	Dummy listing whether a non-state actor was created by a temporary split in the original movement.
Name_Split_Temp	Name of the original group	Name of the actor that a given non-state actor temporarily broke away from.
ActorID_Split_Temp	Actor identifier of original group	The unique identifier of the actor that a given group temporarily broke away from.
Alliance	Alliance	Dummy listing whether a non-state actor entered into an alliance with another non-state actor, also registered in UCDP data, thus creating a new non-state actor.
Name_Alliance	Name of the alliance	Name of the alliance created by the merger of two or more non-state actors.
ActorID_Alliance	Actor identifier of the alliance	The unique actor identifier of the new non-state actor (alliance) created by the merger of two or more non-state actors
Join_group	Joined group	Dummy listing whether a non-state actor joined a group already registered in UCDP data.
Group_name	Name of group	Name of the non-state group that the given non-state actor joined.
ActorID_group	Actor identifies of group	The unique actor identifier of the group that a given non-state actor joined.
Location	Location	For actors registered in the UCDP/PRIO Armed Conflict Dataset and the UCDP Dyadic Dataset, this is the location of the incompatibility. For actors registered in non-state conflict and/or one-sided violence, regardless of whether they have also been registered in an armed conflict, the location is where the group's violent activity has been recorded.
GWNO_Loc	Gleditsch and Ward number(s) of the location(s)	Gleditsch and Ward numbers of all location countries, separated by a comma
Region	Region of location	Identifies the region of the location

### ***6.1 ActorID***

The identifier of the actor. Each actor in the dataset is ascribed a unique actor ID. For state actors, the Gleditsch and Ward number for the relevant state is given.

### ***6.2 Name\_Data***

The name used for an actor in UCDP data is either its current one or the last name it had when registered in a UCDP dataset. For instance, the Algerian rebel group that was called Groupe Salafiste pour la prédication et le combat (GSPC) when it was founded in 1998 changed its name to al-Qaida Organization in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM) in January 2007, a name that it still retains. As the group has been registered in the UCDP Dyadic Dataset and the UCDP One-sided Dataset for 2007 and 2008, the name listed under Name in data is thus AQIM. In contrast, if a non-state actor is registered in a UCDP dataset for some years and then, some years after its last entry, changes its name, the name listed under Name in data will still be the name that it had when it was active.

For formally organized non-state actors, such as militias or rebel groups, the names listed in this field are by default acronyms when applicable.

The name of state actors is always ‘Government of...’

### ***6.3 Name\_Orig***

The name of the actor at the point in time that it entered a UCDP dataset for the first time.

For formally organized non-state actors, such as militias or rebel groups, the names listed in this field are by default acronyms when applicable.

### ***6.4 Name\_Orig\_Full***

This variable is only applicable to non-state actors. It codes the full original name, in mother tongue.

### ***6.5 Name\_Orig\_FullEng***

The full original name in English.

For state actors this is always ‘Government of...’

## ***6.6 NameChange***

NameChange is a dummy variable that indicates whether an actor has changed its name during the time period that it is listed in UCDP data.

1 Indicates that it has, while 0 indicates that it has not.

## ***6.7 NewName***

If the dummy variable NameChange is given the value 1, the new acronym for the group is listed under NewName.

## ***6.8 NewName\_Full\_mt***

This variable contains the full name, in mother tongue, of the actor listed under NewName.

## ***6.9 NewName\_FullEng***

This variable contains the full name, in English, of the actor listed under NewName.

## ***6.10 Org***

This field indicates the level of organization of an actor. As expanded upon in section 3, the dataset includes a wide range of different types of actors, both state- and non-state ones. The level of organization is determined according to the following categories:

*Organizational level 1 (formally organized groups):* Rebel groups, as well as other organized groups that have a high enough level of organization so as to be possible to include in the state-based armed conflict category. These include rebel groups with an announced name.<sup>3</sup> This level of organization captures fighting between highly organized

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<sup>3</sup> It should be noted that there are two notable exceptions to the general rule that formally organized groups have to have announced a name for themselves. All military factions are listed as formally organized actors without having fulfilled this criterion under the logic that these actors, if any, are formally organized, but that circumstances require them to work in silence and to not announce neither intentions nor names. Similarly, the actor “Hutu rebels”, registered in the One-sided dataset, is also listed as formally organized without having a specific name. In this case it is because “Hutu rebels” is used as an inclusive term that encompasses more than one formally organized actor (such as Palipehutu and Palipehutu-FNL). It has been difficult, given the chaotic environment of Burundi in the late 1990s to clearly identify the rebel perpetrators of one-sided violence when a large number of rebel movements existed simultaneously. Since this violence was carried out by organized movements -but it has not been possible to establish specifically what group did what- violence perpetrated against civilians by Hutu groups opposing the Tutsi-dominated government has been clustered onto this actor.

rebel groups and fatalities are recorded according to the criteria set for battle-related deaths in the state-based conflict category.

*Organizational level 2 (informally organized groups):* Groups composed of supporters and affiliates to political parties and candidates. These are commonly not groups that are permanently organized for combat, but who at times use their organizational structures for such purposes. In addition to supporters of political parties and candidates, included in this category is also fighting between groups composed of supporters of other organizations such as the supporters of al-Ahly football team fighting against the supporters of al-Masry football team in Egypt 2012.

*Organizational level 3 (informally organized groups):* Groups that share a common identification along ethnic, clan, religious, national or tribal lines. These are commonly not groups that are permanently organized for combat, but who at times organize themselves along said lines to engage in fighting. This level of organization captures one aspect of what is commonly referred to as ‘communal conflicts’, in that conflict stands along lines of communal identity.

*Organizational level 4 (states):* All governments of states have been coded as organizational level 4.

### **6.11 ConflictID**

If an actor is part of one or more of the conflicts included in the UCDP/PRIO Armed Conflict Dataset, the ConflictID (conflict identifier) of that conflict is listed in this field.

ConflictID is a string variable, where the numbers are separated by a comma (‘,’).

### **6.12 DyadID**

If the actor is part of one or more of the dyads included in the UCDP Dyadic Dataset, the DyadID (dyad identifier) of that dyad is listed in this field.

DyadID is a string variable, where the numbers are separated by a comma (‘,’).

### **6.13 OSID**

If the actor is listed in the UCDP One-sided Violence Dataset, the OSID (one-sided identifier) is listed in this field.

#### ***6.14 OSVCoalition***

The variable OSVCoalition is only applicable to non-state actors. It is a dummy variable that indicates whether a non-state actor has been active in one-sided violence together with one or several other actors also listed in UCDP data.

1 Indicates that it has, while 0 indicates that it has not.

#### ***6.15 OSVCoalitionID***

If the dummy variable OSVCoalition is given the value 1, the one-sided violence temporary coalition ID(s) that the group has been active in are listed under OSVCoalitionID. The temporary coalition ID corresponds to the ID given in the variable 'Actor ID' in the UCDP One-sided Violence Dataset.

OSVCoalitionID is a string variable, where the numbers are separated by a comma (',').

#### ***6.16 NSID***

If the non-state actor is part of one or more of the dyads included in the UCDP Non-state Conflict Dataset, the NSID (non-state identifier) of that dyad is listed.

NSID is a string variable, where the numbers are separated by a comma (',').

#### ***6.17 NSCoalition***

The variable NSCoalition is only applicable to non-state actors. It is a dummy variable that indicates whether a non-state actor has been active in non-state conflict together with one or several other actors also listed in UCDP data.

1 Indicates that it has, while 0 indicates that it has not.

#### ***6.18 NSCoalitionID***

If the dummy variable NSCoalition is given the value 1, the non-state conflict temporary coalition ID(s) that the group has been active in are listed under NSCoalitionID. The temporary coalition ID corresponds to the ID given in the variable 'Conflict ID' in the UCDP Non-state Conflict Dataset.

NSCoalitionID is a string variable, where the numbers are separated by a comma (',').

### ***6.19 Splinter***

The variable Splinter is only applicable to non-state actors. It is a dummy variable that indicates whether a non-state actor was formed by breaking away from an actor that has also been registered in UCDP data.

1 Indicates that it was, while 0 indicates that it was not.

### ***6.20 Name\_Prev***

If the dummy variable Splinter is given the value 1, the acronym for the group from which a given non-state actor broke away is listed under Name\_prev.

### ***6.21 ActorID\_Prev***

The ActorID (actor identifier) of the group, from which a given non-state actor broke away, is listed under ActorID\_prev.

### ***6.22 Split\_temp***

The variable Split temp is only applicable to non-state actors. It is a dummy variable that identifies actors created by temporary divisions or splits within actors already registered in UCDP data. Unlike the actors coded as created in the variable Splinter, those formed in Split\_temp are of a temporary nature. Often they may still view themselves as being part of the original group, but divisions within it has caused fighting between different factions or groupings. An example of this can be seen in the case of fighting within the Taleban movement in Afghanistan. In 1996, two Taleban commanders and their followers fought each other over control of territory. The two factions, Taleban - Ali Dad faction and Taleban - Mola Khel faction, are registered in the UCDP Actor Dataset as separate actors created from a temporary split from the Taleban. The split is considered temporary as the commanders, after the fighting had ceased, continued to be part of the Taleban movement.

1 indicates that a given non-state actor was created by a temporary split, while 0 indicates that it was not.

### ***6.23 Name\_Split\_temp***

If the dummy variable Split\_temp was given the value 1, the name of the actor that suffered a temporary split is listed in Name\_Split\_temp. In the case of the Taleban-factions mentioned above, Taleban is the information given in the field Name\_Split\_temp.

#### ***6.24 ActorID\_Split\_temp***

If the dummy variable Split\_temp is given the value 1, the ActorID (actor identifier) of the group that suffered a temporary split is listed under ActorID\_Split\_temp.

#### ***6.25 Alliance***

The Alliance variable is only applicable to non-state actors. It is a dummy variable that indicates whether a non-state actor has entered into an alliance with another non-state actor, also registered in UCDP data, and thus created a new non-state actor (see section 4).

1 indicates that it has, while 0 indicates that it has not.

#### ***6.26 Name\_Alliance***

If the dummy variable Alliance is given the value 1, the name of said alliance in acronymic form, is listed under Name\_alliance.

#### ***6.27 ActorID\_Alliance***

If the dummy variable Alliance is given the value 1, the ActorID (actor identifier) of said alliance, is listed under ActorID\_alliance.

#### ***6.28 Join\_group***

The Join\_group variable is only applicable to non-state actors. It is a dummy variable that indicates whether a non-state actor has exited UCDP data due to it joining another, already registered non-state actor, and thus ceasing to exist as an own unique actor. The decision for a non-state actor to join can be either voluntary or forced.

While this variable is closely related to the Alliance variable, there is a fundamental difference between the two. When an actor is coded in Alliance, it ceases to exist on its own, as it together with another registered actor creates a new organisation. An example of this is when the Ivorian rebel groups MPCI, MPIGO and MJP together created the umbrella group Forces Nouvelles, which was then coded as a new non-state actor.

When an actor is coded in `Join_group` on the other hand, it ceases to exist because it joins, or is overtaken by another already existing group. An example of this is the case of the two Congolese rebel groups Ninjas and Ntsiloulous. In October 1997 Denis Sassou-Nguessou's Cobra militia, together with Angolan support, managed to oust the sitting president Pascal Lissouba (supported by the Cocoyes) and his Prime Minister Bernard Koleleas (supported by the Ninjas). With a new regime in place a majority of the Ninjas, hid and regrouped in the Pool region. In a parallel development, a new group surfaced in Pool; the Ntsiloulous. While the group started out as a peaceful messianic movement, this came to change during the course of 1998. The Ntsiloulou leader Pasteur Ntumi was able to attract a large following amongst the Ninjas who thought that by following Ntumi's orders they were carrying out the will of God, and subsequently began increasing his military force. Over time more and more Ninjas joined the Ntsiloulous – some by their own free will and others under the threat of force – until, eventually, the Ninjas had ceased to exist.

1 indicates that a non-state actor has joined another group, while 0 indicates that it has not.

### ***6.29 Group\_name***

If the dummy variable `Join_group` is given the value 1, the name of the group that a non-state actor joined, is given under `Group_name`.

### ***6.30 ActorID\_group***

If the dummy variable `Join_group` is given the value 1, the `actorID` (actor identifies) of the group that a non-state actor joined, is given under `ActorID_group`.

### ***6.31 Location***

For actors registered in UCDP data on armed conflict (i.e. in the UCDP/PRIO Armed Conflict Dataset or in the UCDP Dyadic Dataset), the location is set to the location of the incompatibility. Hence, if a conflict is fought over governmental power in country A, the location of the non-state actor challenging the government is set to country A, even if most of the fighting is taking place in country B and C. The location variable for actors active in state-based conflicts should thus not be interpreted as the geographical location of the fighting.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> In future versions of this dataset the location of the fighting will also be included.



For actors active in non-state conflict and/or one-sided violence, regardless of whether the actor has also been registered in an active state-based conflict, the location variable captures the country or countries in which the violent activity has been recorded.

### **6.32 GWNoLoc**

This field contains the country code(s) for the state(s) listed in the Location variable.

GWNoLoc is a string variable, where the numbers are separated by a comma (',').

### **6.33 Region**

Region of Location. This variable groups the various conflicts into five geographical categories, dependent on the location of the conflict. Table 2 summarizes these categories:

Region	Name	StartGWNo	EndGWNo
1	Europe	200	395
2	Middle East	630	698
3	Asia	700	990
4	Africa	400	625
5	Americas	2	165

Region is a string variable, where the numbers are separated by a comma (',').

## **7. UCDP datasets compatible with the UCDP Actor Dataset**

- UCDP/PRIO Armed Conflict Dataset v. 4-2014
- UCDP Dyadic Dataset v. 1-2014
- UCDP Battle-related deaths Dataset v.5-2014
- UCDP Non-state Conflict Dataset v.2.5-2014
- UCDP One-sided Violence Dataset v.1.4-2014

All of the above datasets, and their respective codebooks, can be downloaded from the UCDP's webpage at:

<http://www.pcr.uu.se/research/ucdp/datasets/>