

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-01742-9 - Inequality, Grievances, and Civil War

Lars-Erik Cederman, Kristian Skrede Gleditsch and Halvard Buhaug

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Inequality, Grievances, and Civil War

This book argues that political and economic inequalities following group lines generate grievances that can motivate civil war. The theoretical approach highlights ethnonationalism and how linkages between group identities and inequalities spur mobilization and resort to violence. Although contemporary research on civil war has largely dismissed grievances as irrelevant, emphasizing instead the role of opportunities, the authors show that many alleged nonresults for grievances stem from atheoretical measures, typically based on individualist data. The authors develop new indicators of political and economic exclusion at the group level and demonstrate how these exert strong effects on the risk of civil war. They provide new analyses of the effects of transnational ethnic links and the duration of civil wars and extended case discussions illustrating causal mechanisms.

Lars-Erik Cederman is Professor of International Conflict Research at the Center for Comparative and International Studies at ETH Zürich. He is the author of *Emergent Actors in World Politics* (1997), the editor of *Constructing Europe's Identity* (2001), and the co-editor of *New Systems Theories of World Politics* (2010). He is the winner of the 2012 and 2002 American Political Science Association's Heinz I. Eulau Awards, the 2000 Furniss Book Award, and the Horace H. Rackham Dissertation Award from the University of Michigan.

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32 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10013-2473, USA

Cambridge University Press is part of the University of Cambridge.

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www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781107603042

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First published 2013

Printed in the United States of America

A catalog record for this publication is available from the British Library.

Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication Data

Cederman, Lars-Erik, 1963–

Inequality, grievances, and civil war / Lars-Erik Cederman, Center for Comparative and International Studies, ETH Zürich; Kristian Skrede Gleditsch, University of Essex and Peace Research Institute Oslo; Halvard Buhaug, Peace Research Institute Oslo.

pages cm. – (Cambridge studies in contentious politics)

Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN 978-1-107-01742-9 (hardback) – ISBN 978-1-107-60304-2 (pbk.)

I. Civil war – Social aspects. 2. Equality. 3. Human rights. I. Gleditsch, Kristian Skrede, 1971– II. Buhaug, Halvard, 1972– III. Title.

JC49I.C374 2013

303.6'4–dc23 2013001656

ISBN 978-1-107-01742-9 Hardback

ISBN 978-1-107-60304-2 Paperback

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Preface

Apart from acquiring real estate, there are few things that make you more indebted than writing collaborative monographs. Indeed, this book is the product not only of our own efforts, but also those of our colleagues and students who made major contributions in terms of conceptual development, data collection, software development, and analysis. In this very respect, the book falls somewhere between a co-authored book and a co-edited volume.

More than anything else, this book is the fruit of several years of intense research collaboration involving a tight network of conflict researchers in Europe. These activities started as an informal network that we labeled Geographic Research On War Network (GROWnet), which originally included colleagues at the Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO) and the Norwegian University of Science and Technology in Norway, ETH Zürich and University of Geneva in Switzerland, and the University of Essex in the United Kingdom, and was subsequently extended to collaborators at Uppsala University in Sweden. Within this context, we have published a large amount of co-authored research, with an author list featuring every possible combination of the three authors of this book and beyond. Some of the research paving the way for the book was funded by an ECRP grant on “Disaggregating Civil War” (06ECRPF004) awarded by the European Science Foundation, 2007–10, through individual grants from the national research councils, that is, the Research Council of Norway (182399), Swiss National Science Foundation (105511–116795), and UK Economic and Social Research Council (RES-062–23–0259). Gleditsch also acknowledges support from the Research Council of Norway (180441/V10). As of the summer of 2012, the network received new funding from the European Union as a COST Action (IS 1102), which will allow it to expand its activities to many more partners in Europe under the heading of the European Network of Conflict Research (ENCoRe).

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Sidney Tarrow played an instrumental role at a pivotal moment by suggesting that we publish our book project with Cambridge University Press, where Lewis Bateman has supported our work with both patience and professionalism. All in all, we held three book workshops at ETH Zürich on 10 November 2011, at Yale on 24 February 2012, and at PRIO on 10 March 2012. We received excellent feedback from the participants at those workshops, including Keith Darden, Hanne Fjelde, Scott Gates, Jack Goldstone, Håvard Hegre, Helge Holtermann, Simon Hug, Stathis Kalyvas, Janet Lewis, Nicholas Sambanis, Frances Stewart, Andres Vargas, Nils Weidmann, and Tore Wig. We also benefited from comments from participants at seminar presentations at Koç University on 16 April 2012 and the London School of Economics and Political Science on 9 May 2012, including Belgin San Akça, Ali Çarkoğlu, Emre Hatipoğlu, Bill Kissane, Omar McDoom, Michael Mousseau, and Jameson Lee Ungerer. In addition, Carles Boix, Michael Hechter, Erik Melander, and Camber Warren commented on parts of the manuscript.

Current and past PhD students and researchers of the International Conflict Research Groups at ETH Zürich have selflessly sacrificed large chunks of their valuable research time to provide public goods in the shape of data projects and analysis. Nils Weidmann and Christa Deiwiks volunteered their skills in terms of data management and computational and spatial analysis. Julian Wucherpfennig and Philipp Hunziker played an instrumental role in project management and econometric analysis. Luc Girardin, with the help of Sebastian Schutte and Philipp Hunziker, created the computational infrastructure that made the project possible, including the data portal GROW^{UP}. Manuel Vogt, Nils-Christian Bormann, and Seraina Rüegger managed the coding and updating of large data structures, all related to the Ethnic Power Relations (EPR) data set. Indeed, this book project revolves around this data resource, which originates from research collaboration involving Andreas Wimmer and Brian Min, both then at UCLA. We are grateful to a long list of experts who offered their advice regarding, the coding of countless country cases; see Chapter 4, footnote 7, and <http://www.icr.ethz.ch/data>. In particular, we would like to acknowledge the expert input by James Scarritt and Manuel Vogt, who helped us update the coding of Sub-Saharan Africa. Our data collection efforts were generously supported by the National Center of Competence in Research, “Challenges to democracy in the 21st century,” and funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) and the Swiss Network for International Studies (SNIS).

At the University of Essex, we have benefited from comments and suggestions from current and former colleagues Tobias Böhmelt, Han Dorussen, Ismene Gizelis, Steve Pickering, and Ulrich Pilster. Nils Metternich and Andrea Ruggeri served as research officers on our ESF project and have become valued collaborators who have influenced the research reported in this book in numerous ways.

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Research underpinning this book has also benefited greatly from brown-bag seminars and informal discussions with colleagues at PRIO under the auspices of the Centre for the Study of Civil War (CSCW). Being associated with the GROWnet, Scott Gates, Nils Petter Gleditsch, Johan Dittrich Hallberg, Håvard Hegre, Helge Holtermann, and Gudrun Østby have followed the development of this project and generously offered insightful and constructive comments and suggestions along the way. Likewise, we have benefited tremendously from input on GIS, data, and statistical methods from Jan Ketil Rød, Håvard Strand, and Andreas Forø Tollefsen. External CSCW affiliates such as Sabine Carey, David Cunningham, Kathleen Cunningham, Magnus Öberg, Idean Salehyan, and Gerald Schneider have also provided valuable comments. Finally, we would like to thank Andrew John Feltham for his excellent help managing our activities through CSCW.

It should be stressed that a lot of crucial steps were taken in connection with collaborative publications that preceded this book. Andreas Wimmer and Brian Min co-authored an article that inspired Chapter 4 (see Cederman, Wimmer, and Min 2010). Nils Weidmann co-authored the article that constitutes the initial basis of Chapter 5 (see Cederman, Weidmann, and Gleditsch 2011). Chapter 6 draws heavily on an article co-authored with Idean Salehyan and Julian Wucherpfennig (see Cederman, Gleditsch, Salehyan, and Wucherpfennig 2013), Chapter 7 builds on some of our other joint work (see Buhaug, Cederman, and Gleditsch Forthcoming), and Chapter 8 relies on material from articles that we co-authored with David Cunningham and Idean Salehyan (Cunningham, Gleditsch, and Salehyan 2009) as well as Julian Wucherpfennig and Nils Metternich (Wucherpfennig, Metternich, Cederman, and Gleditsch 2012). We are also grateful for the publishers' permission to use material from these publications.

Last but not least, we would like to acknowledge the continuous support from our partners and families who provided both intellectual inspiration and a healthy counterweight to the "workaholic" tendencies of academic life. Without their boundless patience and generous willingness to bear the burden of often-absent spouses and fathers, this book could not have been written.