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Governing for Revolution

Prevailing views suggest rebels govern to enhance their organizational capacity, but this book demonstrates that some rebels undertake costly governance projects that can imperil their cadres during war. The origins for this choice began with the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) during the Chinese Civil War. The CCP knowingly introduced challenging governance projects, but nevertheless propagated its strategy globally, creating a behavioural model readily available to later rebels. The likelihood of whether later rebels' will imitate this model is determined by the compatibility between their goals and the CCP's objectives; only rebels that share the CCP's revolutionary goals decide to mimic the CCP's governance fully. Over time, ideational and material pressures further encouraged (and occasionally rewarded) revolutionary rebels' conformity to the CCP's template. Using archival data from six countries, primary rebel sources, fieldwork and quantitative analysis, *Governing for Revolution* underscores the mimicry of and ultimate convergence in revolutionary rebels' governance, that persists even today, despite vast differences in ideology.

Megan A. Stewart, Ph.D., is an Assistant Professor at American University. Her research explores how and why political actors create new social, economic and political orders, and the enduring consequences of these endeavors. She incorporates quantitative, qualitative and experimental methods in her work. Her award-winning research has been published in numerous academic and public outlets.

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Governing for Revolution

Social Transformation in Civil War

Megan A. Stewart
American University, Washington DC

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To Alfredo. Always.

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978-1-108-84364-5 — Governing for Revolution
Megan A. Stewart
Frontmatter
More Information

Contents

List of Figures *page* viii
Map ix
List of Tables x
Acknowledgments xi
List of Abbreviations xiv

1 Introduction 1

2 Iron and Blood: The Global-Historical Context of Rebel Governance Strategies 27

3 Rebel Goals Determine Governance Strategies 43

4 Research Design and Alternative Explanations 78

5 The Eritrean Liberation Struggle: Varying Goals and Varying Governance 97

6 Changing Goals and Changing Governance: The Sudan People's Liberation Movement/Army 137

7 Modeling Revolutionary Governance in East Timor 167

8 Hezbollah: A Jihadist Adaptation of the Chinese Model 197

9 A Statistical Analysis of Rebel Goals and Rebel Governance 226

10 Conclusion: Looking Forward by Looking Back 258

References 280
Index 311

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CAMBRIDGE

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-84364-5 — Governing for Revolution
Megan A. Stewart
Frontmatter
More Information

Figures

1.1 Governance strategies *page* 12
3.1 A spectrum of the transformativity of rebel goals 49
3.2 Rebel goals and governance expectations 54
3.3 Causal chain for rebels with more transformative goals 62
3.4 Causal chain for rebels with moderately transformative goals 67
3.5 Causal chain for rebels with less transformative goals 69
5.1 Most common words in news documents produced by or about the EPLF 112
9.1 Rebel governance over time 233
9.2 Long-term goals and most extensive governance over time 243
9.3 Predicted effect of revolutionary goals on extensiveness of governance 247
9.4 Average diversity of rebel governance institutions by goals 256
10.1 Entrance to the Hezbollah museum 259

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Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-84364-5 — Governing for Revolution
Megan A. Stewart
Frontmatter
More Information

Map

4.1 Location of the ELF, EPLF, and SPLM/A *page* 87

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CAMBRIDGE

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978-1-108-84364-5 — Governing for Revolution
Megan A. Stewart
Frontmatter
More Information

Tables

1.1 Intensiveness of governance institutions *page* 9
2.1 Overview of Chinese model of wartime governance institutions 37
4.1 Comparing rebel governance portfolios 89
5.1 Similarities and differences between the ELF and EPLF 104
5.2 The CCP's, EPLF's, and ELF's contrasting governance 126
6.1 The SPLM/A's changing governance 157
7.1 FRETILIN's governance in comparison to the CCP 186
8.1 Hezbollah's interpretation of the Chinese model 218
9.1 Comparing revolutionary and non-revolutionary rebel groups 241
9.2 Where rebels with revolutionary goals operate 242
9.3 Most extensive rebel governance by rebel goals 244
9.4 Revolutionary goals predict more extensive governance 246
9.5 Extensive governance and rebel victory or settlement 254

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Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-84364-5 — Governing for Revolution
Megan A. Stewart
Frontmatter
More Information

Acknowledgments

I write these acknowledgements now as I approach the end of a more than decade-long path. In this opportunity to recollect how I reached this point, I think back to all the many, many people whose generosity and thoughtfulness has propelled me here. I am overwhelmed by it, and I will do my best to express my gratitude, though these words will almost certainly fall short.

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Frontmatter
More Information

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Frontmatter
More Information

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Abbreviations

CCP	Chinese Communist Party
ELF	Eritrean Liberation Front
ELM	Eritrean Liberation Movement
EPLF	Eritrean People's Liberation Front
EPRP	Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Party
FLN	Algerian National Liberation Front
FRELIMO	Mozambique Liberation Front
FRETILIN	Revolutionary Front for an Independent East Timor
PAIGC	Party for Independence of Guinea and Cape
SPLM/A	Sudan People's Liberation Movement/Army

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