



The Decline of Territory and the Rise of Civil War in Understanding MIDs

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- High Quality Negative Peace
 - Domestic Militarized Conflict
 - Territorial Disputes
- “Managing Internationalized Civil Conflict” (USIP)



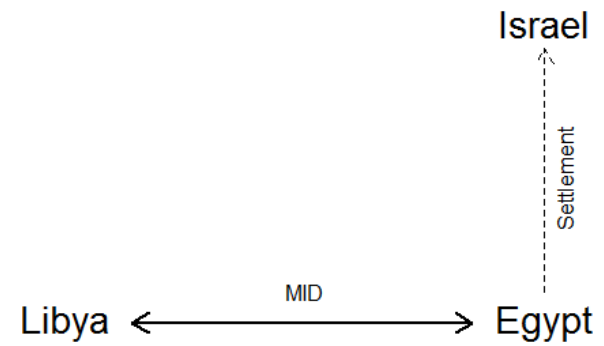
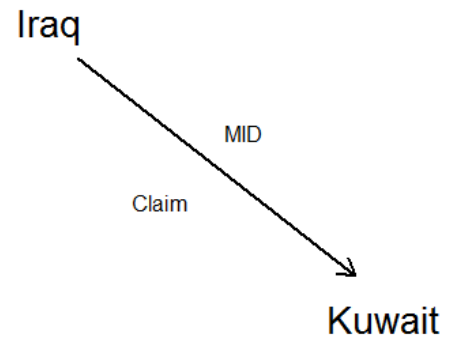
Connection to Civil Conflict Issues

- In my dissertation, I gather data on claims made by rebels against their government and examine how the issues they pursue affect civil conflict processes
- Specific claims being pursued by rebels (e.g., secession) should be more likely to be connected to MIDs
- These data will facilitate future research questions investigating the connection between civil and international conflict, particularly civil war MIDs

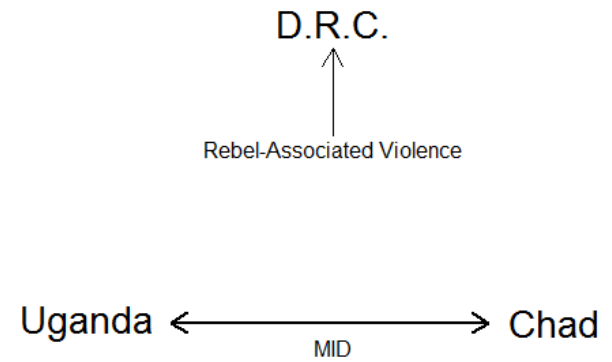
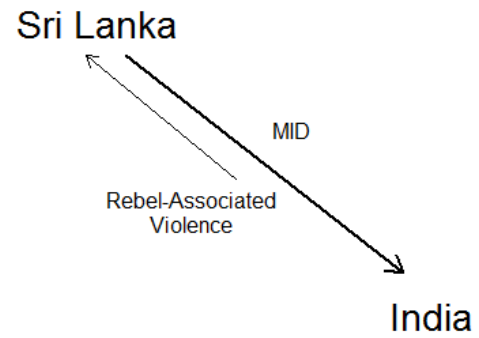
The Issues Approach to MIDs: International and Domestic Issues

- Territory
- Maritime
- Islands
- Civil war
- Coup

Territorial MIDs



Civil War MIDs



Coding Scheme Example: Tajikistan-Kyrgyzstan

From cm narrative: In 2005 the Tajik military was placed on high alert at the border with Kyrgyzstan to prevent **militarized rebels and criminals** from entering Tajikistan. A minor clash between Tajik troops and Kyrgyz civilians occurred. Coded civil war MID because this was connected to militarized rebels in Kyrgyzstan.

- This is a common way that civil conflict connects to international conflict. Territorial issues can also be a part of these civil war MIDs, such as the dispute over Irian Jaya (Indonesia vs. Papua New Guinea)

Conceptualizing and Coding Civil Conflict and Territorial Dimensions of MIDs

- Civil war MIDs must involve militarized, organized rebels
 - Smugglers and non-militarized domestic protest are not included
- These issues are not mutually exclusive, allowing us to capture all dimensions of the MID, such as how territorial issues often interact with civil conflict

The Increasing Importance of Civil Conflict Issues in Militarized Disputes

1. The proportion of MIDs which involve territorial issues will decrease over time
2. The proportion of MIDs which involve civil conflict will increase over time

Territorial and Civil War MIDs

	1900-WWII	Cold War	Post-Cold War	Total
Territorial	53.3% [196]	41.0% [522]	28.3% [191]	39.3% [925]
Civil War	26.1% [96]	33.9% [432]	50.5% [341]	37.5% [882]
Both	6.8% [25]	11.7% [149]	14.1% [95]	11.6% [272]
Neither	27.5% [101]	36.9% [470]	35.3% [238]	34.7% [817]

Conclusion

- Most MIDs involve either a territorial or civil conflict dimension, and this holds true since 1900 (possibly earlier)
 - Territorial MIDs are decreasing over time while civil conflict MIDs are becoming more prevalent
- International conflict scholars' heavy focus on territory is based on the observation that many MIDs are territorial. As these data show, civil conflict is equally important
- MIDs in the residual category (no territorial or civil conflict dimension) include maritime/island disputes, coups, and issues we don't capture such as occasional fishing boat seizures and smugglers crossing borders

Discrepancies between the MID Frequencies Increase over Time

