BOSNIA‘S CIVIL WAR: ORIGINS AND VIOLENCE DYNAMICS

by Stathis N. Kalyvas and Nicholas Sambanis
1. Background of the conflict
2. The COLLIER-HOEFFLER model „fit“ to the Bosnian Civil War
3. Dynamic of Violence in Bosnian Civil War
4. Conclusion(s)
PART 1: Collier, Hoeffler and Bosnian Civil War

- Collier-Hoeffler (CH) Model = econometric model which predicts the outbreak of civil conflict
- Author applies the CH Model to Bosnian Civil War and observes any discrepancies
PART 1: Collier, Hoeffler and Bosnian Civil War

CH Model variables:

- PRIMARY COMODITY EXPORTS
- GDP PER CAPITA
- DIASPORA
- GDP GROWTH
- MONTAINIOUS TERRAIN
- GEOGRAPHIC DISPERSION
- DEMOCRACY
- POPULATION SIZE
- SOCIAL FRACTIONALIZATION
- ETHNIC FRACTIONALIZATION
- RELIGIOUS FRACTINALIZATION
- ETHNIC DOMINANCE
- INCOME INEQUALITY
- PEACE DURATION
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Peacetime variable</th>
<th>Ethnic Fractionalization /Dominance</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Extend the impact of previous war</td>
<td>• &lt; Ethnic Polarization</td>
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<th>Diaspora</th>
<th>Income inequality</th>
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<td>• Not just financial help</td>
<td>• Switch to Interregional Inequality</td>
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<th>Level of Democracy</th>
<th>GDP Growth</th>
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<td>• Extend the impact of political institutions</td>
<td>• Woodward’s theory about rapid liberalization</td>
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PART 2: The Dynamic of Violence

Bosnian Civil War = Symmetric Nonconventional War
→ always generates greater levels of violence
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• Ethnic Cleansing
  Greater violence at the beginning of the conflict, Northern Bosnia

• Formation of vigilant groups and paramilitary forces
  However organized state forces were typically more restrained

• Negative influence of the international community
  Negotiation increased military activities, changes in the dynamics of the conflict
Figure 7.3 Temporal Variation in Reported Incidents of Human Rights Abuses
Figure 7.1 Spatial Variation of Reported Human Rights Abuse Incidents and Mass Grave Locations
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„Rather than translating deep divisions into violent conflict, the evidence suggests a situation of rapid „ethnification“ of violence once the war began.“ (Kalyvas and Sambanis, 2005)

- Soldiers who volunteered just for vengeance
- Evidence of violence with private motives
- Large number of conscripts
Conclusion

• CH model does not fit perfectly
• CH model itself changes after including data set from Bosnia
• If there’s ethnic polarization before the conflict, the war enlarges it significantly
Thank you for your attention.

Alžběta Bajerová