Protests and trust in the state: Evidence from African countries Online Appendix

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Table A1: Relationship between recent protests and the interview protocol.

	(1) Having demonstrated	(2) Interviewer sent by the govern.	(3) Number of calls	(4) Refuse interview	(5) Back-checked interview
Recent protests	0.012^{**} (0.006)	0.004 (0.009)	$0.001 \\ (0.006)$	$0.019 \\ (0.021)$	$0.006 \\ (0.014)$
Protests	$0.001 \\ (0.004)$	-0.006 (0.005)	$0.000 \\ (0.003)$	$0.001 \\ (0.012)$	-0.001 (0.009)
Observations	10,133	10,326	10,333	2,735	10,333

*** p<0.01, ** p<0.05, * p<0.1. Dependent variables in columns heading. Standard errors computed for a 100-km spatial adjustment following Conley (1999) are in parentheses. Each column displays the estimate of a separate OLS regression. All regressions include region × round fixed effects, a constant term, and all covariates included in the bottom panel of Table 2. *Recent protests* is the number of protests in a 20-km radius over the 60 days preceding the interview. *Protests* is the number of protests in a 20-km radius over the 60 days preceding the interview. *Protests* is the number of protests in a 20-km radius over the 60 days preceding the interview. In column 1, the dependent variable is a dummy variable equal to one if the respondent declares having participated in a demonstration over the past year. In column 2, the dependent variable is a dummy variable equal to one if the respondent thinks that the interviewer has been sent by any governmental body. In column 3, the dependent variable is a dummy variable equal to one if 2 calls where needed to complete the interview (rather than 1). In column 4, the sample is restricted to cases in which it was not possible for the interviewer to interview the first household he met. In this column, the dependent variable is a dummy equal to one if the reason of this failure was that the household head explicitly refused to answer to the interviewer. In column 5, the dependent variable is a dummy variable equal to one if the interview was back-checked by the field supervisor.

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Trust in	(1)	(2) Ruling	(3) Opposit.	(4)	(5) Elect.	(6)	(7) Courts	(8) Local
	Presid.	party	party	Police	comm.	Parl.	of law	govern.
Recent protests	-0 082***	-0.060***	0.013	-0.051**	-0.056**	-0.054**	-0.050**	-0.019
recent protosts	(0.022)	(0.021)	(0.022)	(0.020)	(0.024)	(0.026)	(0.021)	(0.020)
Protests	0.009	0.005	0.004	0.019	-0.007	0.011	0.020^{*}	-0.008
	(0.017)	(0.015)	(0.012)	(0.013)	(0.014)	(0.015)	(0.010)	(0.013)
Age	0.004^{***}	0.004^{***}	-0.000	0.002^{**}	0.002^{***}	(0.002)	(0.001)	0.002^{*}
Gender	(0.001)	(0.001)	0.118***	(0.001)	-0.038*	(0.001) 0.015	(0.001)	(0.001)
Gender	(0.024)	(0.021)	(0.025)	(0.027)	(0.022)	(0.018)	(0.024)	(0.023)
Household head	0.016	-0.053**	-0.016	0.006	-0.012	-0.011	0.032	-0.075***
	(0.027)	(0.023)	(0.026)	(0.026)	(0.019)	(0.024)	(0.030)	(0.022)
White	-0.046	-0.105	0.185	-0.187	-0.238	-0.102	0.010	-0.259**
Minad	(0.229)	(0.169)	(0.240)	(0.203)	(0.199)	(0.160)	(0.191)	(0.123)
Mixed	-0.015	-0.124	(0.212^{+})	-0.087	-0.194°	(0.032)	-0.199	$-0.156^{\circ\circ}$
Other race	(0.141)	(0.127) 0.059	0 104	(0.100) 0.045	-0.143	-0.014	-0.017	0.082
	(0.244)	(0.280)	(0.196)	(0.226)	(0.168)	(0.202)	(0.233)	(0.200)
Islam	-0.043	-0.054	-0.038	-0.104*	-0.029	0.003	0.031	0.072
	(0.091)	(0.108)	(0.082)	(0.063)	(0.074)	(0.068)	(0.070)	(0.092)
Catholic / Protestant	0.062	0.045	-0.047	-0.046	0.054	0.048	0.024	0.052
The ditional valiation	(0.083)	(0.097)	(0.078)	(0.054)	(0.068)	(0.067)	(0.060)	(0.080)
Traditional religion	(0.026)	-0.141 (0.144)	(0.015)	-0.242^{++}	-0.018 (0.133)	(0.050)	-0.055 (0.146)	-0.043 (0.140)
Other religion	0.082	0.144	0.005	0.046	0.123	0.144	0.091	0.140)
	(0.111)	(0.120)	(0.124)	(0.089)	(0.113)	(0.103)	(0.083)	(0.121)
Rural housing	0.088***	0.146^{***}	-0.017	0.125^{***}	0.105^{***}	0.056	0.082**	0.096***
	(0.032)	(0.034)	(0.024)	(0.038)	(0.036)	(0.037)	(0.037)	(0.033)
Primary school	-0.029	-0.000	-0.079	-0.074*	-0.014	-0.043	-0.007	-0.075**
Casan dama saba al	(0.035)	(0.042)	(0.053)	(0.041)	(0.040)	(0.044)	(0.043)	(0.036)
Secondary school	-0.147^{+++}	-0.119^{++}	-0.075	$-0.217^{+1.1}$	-0.066	-0.138	-0.079	$-0.190^{-0.1}$
Post-secondary education	-0.207***	-0.148***	-0.051	-0.321***	-0.150***	-0.120^{**}	-0.059	-0.265***
	(0.050)	(0.054)	(0.067)	(0.052)	(0.052)	(0.057)	(0.060)	(0.051)
Unemployed	-0.094**	-0.070**	-0.047*	-0.021	-0.051 [*]	-0.051^{*}	-0.025	-0.053 [*]
	(0.039)	(0.030)	(0.029)	(0.027)	(0.030)	(0.031)	(0.029)	(0.028)
Par time	-0.069**	-0.086***	-0.014	0.016	-0.052	-0.040	-0.014	-0.033
Evil times	(0.032)	(0.032)	(0.041)	(0.036)	(0.033)	(0.039)	(0.030)	(0.030)
Full time	(0.004)	(0.037)	(0.010)	(0.034)	(0.037)	(0.025)	(0.003)	(0.022)
Main ethnic group (region)	-0.088*	-0.081**	0.063	-0.033	-0.044	-0.035	-0.051^{*}	-0.041
	(0.045)	(0.039)	(0.041)	(0.038)	(0.045)	(0.031)	(0.029)	(0.034)
Main ethnic group (country)	0.079	0.040	-0.068	0.014	0.016	0.017	0.039	0.009
	(0.057)	(0.052)	(0.048)	(0.040)	(0.052)	(0.043)	(0.040)	(0.043)
Second ethnic group (country)	0.039	0.094	-0.028	0.005	0.049	0.019	0.005	0.011
Second ethnic group (region)	(0.061)	(0.064)	(0.039)	(0.060)	(0.052)	(0.040)	(0.045)	(0.052)
Second ethnic group (region)	(0.022)	(0.029)	(0.008)	(0.018)	(0.013)	(0.001)	(0.007)	(0.029)
Distant past violent events	0.003***	0.002***	-0.001**	0.001***	0.002***	0.002***	0.000*	0.001**
I IIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIII	(0.001)	(0.000)	(0.000)	(0.000)	(0.000)	(0.000)	(0.000)	(0.000)
Distant past protests	0.002	0.000	-0.001	0.002	0.004	0.001	0.006^{**}	0.003
	(0.003)	(0.003)	(0.004)	(0.002)	(0.003)	(0.003)	(0.003)	(0.003)
Distant past repressed protests	-0.025	-0.013	0.007	-0.013**	-0.024^{**}	-0.019*	-0.032***	-0.019
Distance to the coast	(0.018)	(0.016)	(0.017)	(0.006)	(0.011)	(0.011)	(0.008)	(0.013)
Distance to the coast	(0.023)	(0.017)	(0.013)	(0.023)	(0.021)	(0.022)	(0.017)	(0.043)
Local population	0.002	-0.001	0.001	-0.001	0.001	-0.001	-0.004	-0.002
	(0.003)	(0.004)	(0.004)	(0.004)	(0.004)	(0.003)	(0.003)	(0.004)
Observations	10,043	9,999	9,803	10,159	9,688	9,899	9,937	9,837
Adjusted R-squared	0.769	0.712	0.623	0.696	0.709	0.744	0.771	0.714

*** p<0.01, ** p<0.05, * p<0.1. Dependent variables in columns heading. Standard errors computed for a 100-km spatial adjustment following Conley (1999) are in parentheses. Each column displays the estimate of a separate OLS regression. Regressions are identical to those presented in the bottom panel of Table 2. All regressions include region × round fixed effects and a constant term. *Recent protests* is the number of protests in a 20-km radius over the 60 days preceding the interview. *Protests* is the number of protests in a 20-km radius over the 60 days following and preceding the interview. Except *age*, *distant past violent events*, *distant past protests*, *distant past repressed protests*, *distance to the coast*, and *local population*, all other variables are dummy variables. The reference category for white, mixed, and other race is "black". The reference category for education's levels is "no formal education". The reference category for employment status is "inactive". The reference category for religions is "none". Variables *distance to the coast*, and *local population* are used in logarithm. See the text for the definition of dependent variables.

Trust in	(1) Presid.	(2) Ruling party	(3) Opposit. party	(4) Police	(5) Elect. comm.	(6) Parl.	(7) Courts of law	(8) Local govern.
Recent protests	-0.086^{***}	-0.064^{***}	0.009	-0.055^{**}	-0.061^{**}	-0.056^{**}	-0.055^{***}	-0.024
(0–20 km)	(0.023)	(0.020)	(0.023)	(0.022)	(0.025)	(0.025)	(0.019)	(0.021)
Recent protests (20–40 km)	-0.067^{**} (0.027)	-0.021 (0.019)	$0.015 \\ (0.012)$	-0.012 (0.012)	-0.039^{***} (0.015)	-0.049^{***} (0.017)	$0.005 \\ (0.015)$	-0.053^{***} (0.014)
Recent protests	-0.032^{***}	-0.026^{**}	-0.018	-0.026^{*}	-0.032^{***}	-0.020^{**}	-0.024^{**}	-0.035^{***}
(40–80 km)	(0.010)	(0.012)	(0.012)	(0.015)	(0.009)	(0.008)	(0.009)	(0.009)

Table A3: Relationship between recent protests and trust in leaders and institutions: spatial propagation.

*** p<0.01, ** p<0.05, * p<0.1. Dependent variables in columns heading. Standard errors computed for a 100-km spatial adjustment following Conley (1999) are in parentheses. Each column displays the estimate of a separate OLS regression. All regressions include region × round fixed effects, a constant term, *protests* as defined in Table 2 and all covariates included in the bottom panel of Table 2. Recent protests (0–20 km) is the number of protests in a 20-km radius over the 60 days preceding the interview. Recent protests (20–40 km) is the number of protests in a ring defined by 20-km and 40-km radius circles over the 60 days preceding the interview. Recent protests (40–80 km) is the number of protests in a ring defined by 20-km and 40-km radius circles over the 60 days preceding the interview. See the text for the definition of dependent variables. For each regression, the number of observations is the same as for the corresponding dependent variable's regression displayed in the bottom panel of Table 2.

Trust in	(1) Presid.	(2) Ruling party	(3) Opposit. party	(4) Police	(5) Elect. comm.	(6) Parl.	(7) Courts of law	(8) Local govern.
Recent protests	-0.081^{***} (0.027)	-0.061^{***} (0.022)	0.012 (0.022)	-0.048^{**} (0.021)	-0.055^{**} (0.025)	-0.048^{*} (0.026)	-0.045^{**} (0.022)	-0.013 (0.021)
Recent protests ×No education	-0.005 (0.021)	$0.003 \\ (0.025)$	$0.000 \\ (0.011)$	-0.015^{**} (0.007)	-0.007 (0.019)	-0.031^{**} (0.016)	-0.023 (0.019)	-0.030^{***} (0.011)
Trust in	(9) Presid.	(10) Ruling party	(11) Opposit. party	(12) Police	(13) Elect. comm.	(14) Parl.	(15) Courts of law	(16) Local govern.
Recent protests	-0.071^{**} (0.030)	-0.055^{**} (0.024)	0.039^{*} (0.024)	-0.055^{***} (0.019)	-0.046^{**} (0.023)	-0.050^{*} (0.027)	-0.042* (0.023)	-0.017 (0.024)
$\begin{array}{c} \text{Recent protests} \\ \times \text{Urban} \end{array}$	-0.015 (0.015)	-0.007 (0.018)	-0.037 (0.023)	$0.006 \\ (0.012)$	-0.014 (0.019)	-0.005 (0.013)	-0.012 (0.016)	-0.002 (0.018)
Trust in	(17) Presid.	(18) Ruling party	(19) Opposit. party	(20) Police	(21) Elect. comm.	(22) Parl.	(23) Courts of law	(24) Local govern.
Recent protests	-0.097^{***} (0.022)	-0.074^{***} (0.019)	0.028 (0.018)	-0.052^{**} (0.022)	-0.068^{***} (0.026)	-0.045^{*} (0.025)	-0.061^{***} (0.019)	-0.018 (0.019)
$\begin{array}{c} \text{Recent protests} \\ \times \text{Uninformed} \end{array}$	0.022^{*} (0.012)	0.021^{**} (0.010)	-0.024^{***} (0.008)	$0.002 \\ (0.009)$	$0.018 \\ (0.011)$	-0.013 (0.009)	0.016^{*} (0.009)	-0.001 (0.005)
Trust in	(25) Presid.	(26) Ruling party	(27) Opposit. party	(28) Police	(29) Elect. comm.	(30) Parl.	(31) Courts of law	(32) Local govern.
Recent protests	-0.078^{***} (0.027)	-0.062^{***} (0.022)	0.010 (0.021)	-0.049^{**} (0.021)	-0.056^{**} (0.025)	-0.053^{**} (0.026)	-0.051^{**} (0.022)	-0.023 (0.021)
Recent protests ×Main group	-0.019^{*} (0.011)	0.010 (0.011)	0.011 (0.009)	-0.010 (0.015)	-0.003 (0.012)	-0.003 (0.011)	0.004 (0.012)	0.019^{**} (0.009)

Table A4: Relationship between recent protests and trust in leaders and institutions: heterogenous effects.

*** p<0.01, ** p<0.05, * p<0.1. Dependent variables in columns heading. Standard errors computed for a 100-km spatial adjustment following Conley (1999) are in parentheses. Each column displays the estimate of a separate OLS regression. All regressions include region × round fixed effects, a constant term, *protests* as defined in Table 2 and all covariates included in the bottom panel of Table 2. *Recent protests* is the number of protests in a 20-km radius over the 60 days preceding the interview. *Uninformed* is a dummy variable equal to 1 if the respondent cannot identify her local representative at the parliament. "Main group" stands for "main ethnic group". See the text for the definition of dependent variables. For each regression, the number of observations is the same as for the corresponding dependent variable's regression displayed in the bottom panel of Table 2.

Trust in	(1) Presid.	(2) Ruling party	(3) Opposit. party	(4) Police	(5) Elect. comm.	(6) Parl.	(7) Courts of law	(8) Local govern.
Pocont protosts	0.082	0.060	0.013	0.051	0.056	0.054	0.050	0.010
White het.	(0.082)	(0.024)	(0.013)	(0.021)	(0.028)	(0.027)	(0.023)	(0.019)
20 km	(0.029)	(0.025)	(0.024)	(0.022)	(0.030)	(0.031)	(0.024)	(0.024)
50 km	(0.030)	(0.026)	(0.025)	(0.023)	(0.032)	(0.033)	(0.021)	(0.024)
$150 \mathrm{~km}$	(0.024)	(0.016)	(0.023)	(0.019)	(0.022)	(0.022)	(0.018)	(0.016)
200 km	(0.024)	(0.019)	(0.025)	(0.021)	(0.025)	(0.024)	(0.021)	(0.018)

Table A5: Sensitivity analysis with varying spatial correlation corrections.

Dependent variables in columns heading. Standard errors in parentheses. Each column displays the estimate of a separate OLS regression together with five different spatial adjustment for its standard errors. Standard errors displayed in these columns are computed for a 0-, 20-, 50-, 150- and 200-km spatial adjustment following Conley (1999). "White het." stands for "White heteroskedastic". All regressions include region \times round fixed effects, a constant term, *protests* as defined in Table 2 and all covariates included in the bottom panel of Table 2. *Recent protests* is the number of protests in a 20-km radius over the 60 days preceding the interview. See the text for the definition of dependent variables. For each regression, the number of observations is the same as for the corresponding dependent variable's regression displayed in the bottom panel of Table 2.

Trust in	(1) Presid.	(2) Ruling party	(3) Opposit. party	(4) Police	(5) Elect. comm.	(6) Parl.	(7) Courts of law	(8) Local govern.
Recent protests	-0.079^{***} (0.029)	-0.054^{**} (0.022)	$ \begin{array}{c} 0.019 \\ (0.019) \end{array} $	-0.048^{**} (0.021)	-0.044 (0.028)	-0.040 (0.026)	-0.040 (0.025)	-0.009 (0.021)
$\begin{array}{l} \text{Region} \times \text{round} \\ \text{Year} \times \text{quarter} \end{array}$	Yes Yes	Yes Yes	Yes Yes	Yes Yes	Yes Yes	Yes Yes	Yes Yes	Yes Yes
Trust in	(9) Presid.	(10) Ruling party	(11) Opposit. party	(12) Police	(13) Elect. comm.	(14) Parl.	(15) Courts of law	(16) Local govern.
Recent protests	-0.082^{***} (0.029)	-0.056^{***} (0.021)	0.027 (0.017)	-0.044^{**} (0.020)	-0.044 (0.028)	-0.044^{*} (0.026)	-0.038 (0.027)	-0.010 (0.021)
$\begin{array}{l} \text{Region} \times \text{round} \\ \text{Year} \times \text{month} \end{array}$	Yes Yes	Yes Yes	Yes Yes	Yes Yes	Yes Yes	Yes Yes	Yes Yes	Yes Yes
Trust in	(17) Presid.	(18) Ruling party	(19) Opposit. party	(20) Police	(21) Elect. comm.	(22) Parl.	(23) Courts of law	(24) Local govern.
Recent protests	-0.079^{***} (0.029)	-0.054^{**} (0.022)	$0.019 \\ (0.019)$	-0.048^{**} (0.021)	-0.044 (0.028)	-0.040 (0.026)	-0.040 (0.025)	-0.009 (0.021)
Reg. \times year \times quarter	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Trust in	(25) Presid.	(26) Ruling party	(27) Opposit. party	(28) Police	(29) Elect. comm.	(30) Parl.	(31) Courts of law	(32) Local govern.
Recent protests	-0.082^{***} (0.029)	-0.056^{***} (0.021)	0.027 (0.017)	-0.044^{**} (0.020)	-0.044 (0.028)	-0.044^{*} (0.026)	-0.038 (0.027)	-0.010 (0.021)
Reg. \times year \times month	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Table A6: Relationship between recent protests and trust in leaders and in institutions: sensitivity to different time fixed effects.

 $\frac{\text{Reg. } \times \text{ ycat } \times \text{ monon}}{\text{*** } p<0.05, \text{* } p<0.1. \text{ Dependent variables in columns heading. Standard errors computed for a 100-km spatial adjustment following Conley (1999) are in parentheses. "Reg." stands for "region". Each column displays the estimate of a separate OLS regression. All regressions include a constant term,$ *protests*as defined in Table 2 and all covariates included in the bottom panel of Table 2.*Recent protests*is the number of riots and protests in a 20 kilometers radius over the 60 days preceding the interview. See the text for the definition of dependent variables. For each regression, the number of observations is the same as for the corresponding dependent variable's regression displayed in the bottom panel of Table 2.

Figure A1: Location of respondents interviewed in rounds 3 and 4 of the Afrobarometer, and location of ACLED protests (1997-2009).



Notes: This map displays the localization of Afrobarometer interviews (rounds 3 and 4) and protests recorded in the ACLED database (1997-2009). Interviewees are displayed as small blue dots, while protests are displayed as larger red dots. In the empirical analysis, we restrict the sample of Afrobarometer respondents to countries in which protests are recorded. See the text for details about the localization of the Afrobarometer respondents.

Geo-location of Afrobarometer respondents

This section presents procedures used to geo-locate respondents interviewed in rounds 3 and 4 of the Afrobarometer.

Relevant information in the Afrobarometer

Rounds 3 and 4 of the Afrobarometer survey give names of the country and the region in which respondents are living, but also the name of the "district".¹ The precise definition of the latter information varies across countries and do not always match with official administrative areas. All in all, the two rounds of the Afrobarometer list 2, 377 different locations (in 20 countries) where 53, 110 respondents have been interviewed. The procedures presented below allow to locate all places and respondents.

Geo-location procedure

Following Nunn and Wantchekon (2011), we use the website GeoNames.org to find geographical coordinates of locations listed in the Afrobarometer. This website allows users to send precise requests using names of places, but makes also publicly available background data. These data contain the latitude and the longitude of a large number of places around the world. Documentation attached to each place also include variations of its name. We first used an algorithm to search for Afrobarometer's places that can be located using names or variations of names proposed by GeoNames.org. We then changed the name of some places reported with obvious accents errors or typos in the Afrobarometer and ran again the algorithm.² This first step allowed to get the geographical coordinates of more than 80% of places.

The second method we used for places not yet located is simply made of individual hand requests to retrieve information on Geonames.org taken over from Wikipedia.org. Still un-matched places where located using hand-requests on other websites: MapAtlas.org, iTouchMap.com, and Fallingrain.com. Among places located using one of the latter websites, around one third were located using the centroid of the first-level administrative region as it proved impossible to determine the location of the district within the administrative region. Finally, we used a geographic information system to look for potential mismatches. We found out that the longitude and the latitude of 16 places located them in wrong countries. This

¹Respondents interviewed in Lesotho during round 4 represent an exception. Only the name of the region is available for these observations.

²For example, "Abeïbara" in Mali does not match whereas "Abeibara" does. Similarly, the suffixes "urban" or "municipal" are added to the name of some cities.

was mostly the case for places very close to a boundary. We manually change geographical coordinates of these places using the same websites as above.

Table A7 summarizes the number of places located using one of the above described matching procedures, and provides the distribution of successful matching procedures by country and the equivalent number of respondents interviewed in the Afrobarometer.

	Geonames.org	Geonames.org (2)	Hand requests on Geonames.org	Hand requests on different websites	Hand requests on different websites (2)	Hand corrections	Total by country
# of locations (pct.)	1,615 (67.94)	467 (19.65)	87 (3.66)	126 (5.30)	66 (2.78)	16 (0.67)	2,377 (100.00)
# of respondents (pct.)	40,962 (77.13)	8,837 (16.64)	892 (1.68)	1,558 (2.93)	561 (1.06)	300 (0.56)	53,110 (100.00)
# of locations by c Banin	ountry 76	ĸ	c				83
Botswana	73	27	10	19	6	2	140
Burkina Faso	61	6		33			73
Cape Verde	18	6					27
Ghana	65	63		2			130
Kenya Lazatha	62	9		÷		က	21 12
Liberia	71 73	16	6	11	ç		01 F
Madagascar	22	21	1		4		10
Malawi	27	i		1			28
Mali	119	57	33	7	17	1	234
Mozambique	91	25		2	1		119
Namibia	68	28	1	9	2	3	108
Nigeria	273	85	4	21	22	1	406
Senegal	35	8				1	44
South Africa	288	52	34	42	11	က	430
Tanzania	73	31		8	2		114
Uganda	58	1					59
\mathbf{Zambia}	73	1		1		1	76
Zimbabwe	44	23	1	2		1	71
Geonames.org refe after names correct Hand requests on	ions. Hand request ions. Hand request different websites r	I using data from Geo s on Geonames.org re efers to places located	names.org. <i>Geonames</i> fers to places located l using MapAtlas.org,	s.org (2) refers to pusing information of iTouchMap.com, a	naces located usin n Geonames.org ta nd Fallingrain.con	g data from the aken over from ¹ n. <i>Hand reques</i>	same website Nikipedia.org. ts on different
of proximity from (countries' boundari	es. See the text for mo	the details.	TOTO COLLECCION TOTO	r nearth a constrained on a	TOCO COM TION OF	יברובת הברממנים.

Table A7: Distribution of successful matching processes.

Narrative approach for ACLED events

This section presents the narrative approach we used to classify riots and protests in *rooted* protests regarding government policy and *non-rooted* protests directed at other actors (e.g., international issues).

The ACLED (Armed Conflict Location and Event Data Project) data is constructed through a careful analysis of secondary sources of information. Practically, researchers study news reports from large foreign agencies or independent media and code information by date, location, event type, the two main actors (e.g., rioters and Police Forces of South Africa), the source (e.g., Reuters, Agence France Presse, IRIN Africa), and a quick note which summarizes the content of the original news item.

Protests and riots include demonstrations against a national political entity, such as a government institution, but also demonstrations against international political entities, businesses or other private institutions. One difficulty of an automatized approach relying on a text analysis of ACLED notes is that the actual protest target is often omitted or implicitly evoked through the protest motive.

We thus proceed as follows for each of the 372 protests within +/-60 days of an Afrobarometer respondent in the same region:

- We first analyze the ACLED *notes* and classify, when possible, protests into 2 main categories and 13 sub-categories:
 - Rooted protests are primarily directed toward national policy. We identify the following 6 sub-categories: Riots against Executive/Law (e.g., "protests over proposed constitutional amendments"); Election (e.g., "protest against Seif Said Hamad not being allowed to register as a Zanzibari presidential candidate"); Civil Servant Strikes; Students Strikes (e.g., "students peacefully demonstrating against the hike in tuition fees"); Lobbies (e.g., "minibus drivers protest"); Police Intimidation (e.g., "market traders gather to protest against police harassment").
 - Non-rooted protests are primarily directed toward other entities. We identify the following 7 sub-categories: Clash between Parties (not involving the party in power, e.g., "rival factions clashed at Coalition 2005 event"); Commemoration (e.g., "march in commemoration of World Refugee Day"); Company (e.g., "dismissed workers protest at Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation "); World Prices (following rises in the international prices of fuel or food); Ethnic, Values, Religion and Refugees (e.g., "rioters attack women wearing trousers"); International (e.g., "protest against American desecration of the Koran"); Sacking.

- When the ACLED notes are insufficient to classify the event, as in about 100 events, we refer to the date and news source to retrieve the original publication.
- When the original publication is not available, we search for the event using the precise location and date of the protest, and look for entries on websites that are already used as sources by ACLED.
- This process leaves us with a dozen of unclassified riots, and, in such cases, we use actors as reported by ACLED to classify the protest. For instance, one such protest involves the National Constitutional Assembly against the Police Forces of Zimbabwe. The NCA is a typical grassroots movement willing to change the Constitution, and we classify the protest as "Riots against Executive/Law".

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