

BOSNIA'S CIVIL WAR: ORIGINS AND VIOLENCE DYNAMICS

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Structure of the Text

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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PART 1: Collier, Hoeffler and Bosnian Civil War

Peacetime variable

- Extend the impact of previous war

Diaspora

- Not just financial help

Level of Democracy

- Extend the impact of political institutions

Ethnic Fractionalization /Dominance

- < Ethnic Polarization

Income inequality

- Switch to Interregional Inequality

GDP Growth

- Woodward's theory about rapid liberalization

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

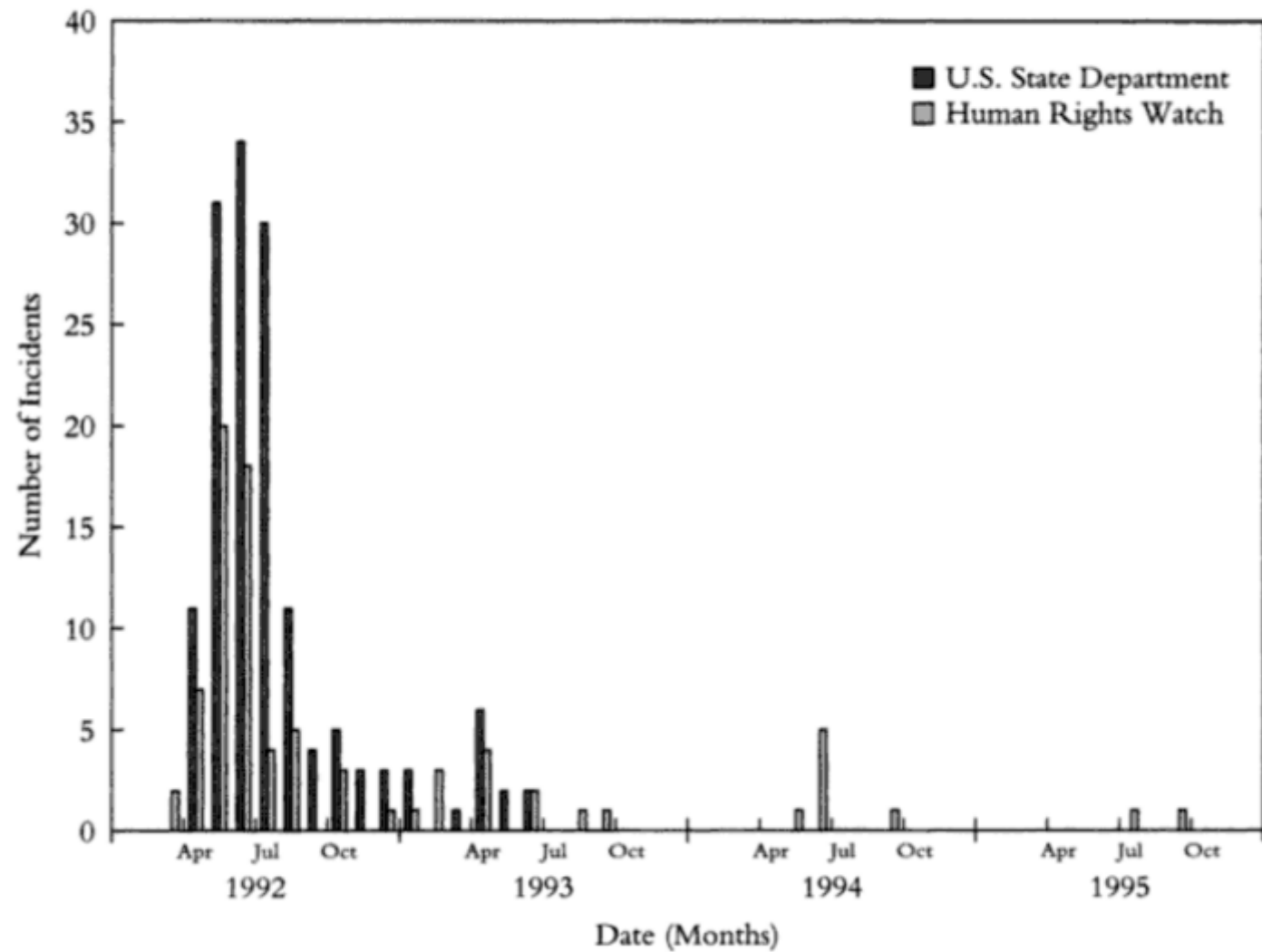
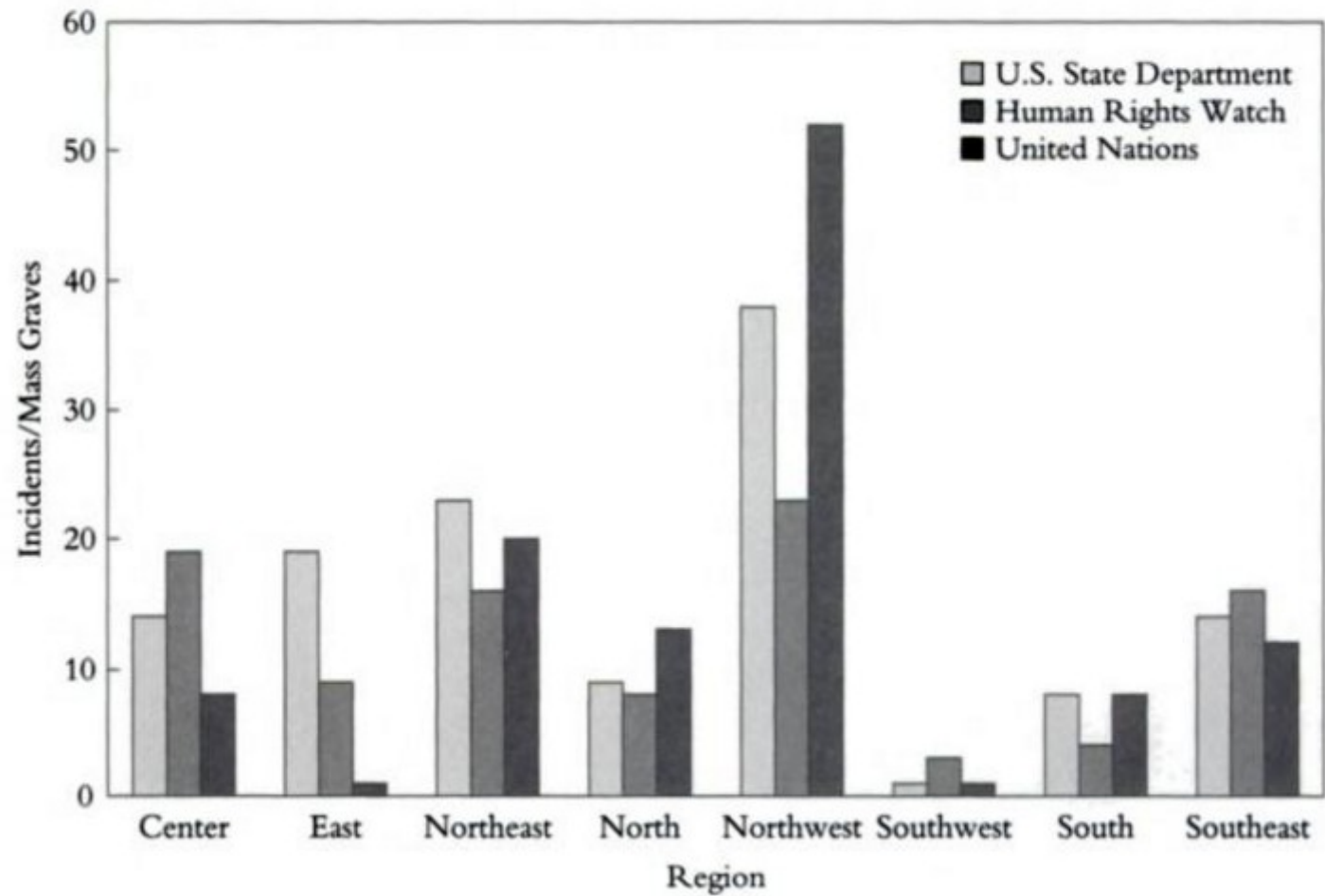


Figure 7.1 Spatial Variation of Reported Human Rights Abuse Incidents and Mass Grave Locations



PART 2: The Dynamic of Violence

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PART 2: The Dynamic of Violence



„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