Employing proxies in interstate warfare: a principle analysis

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Interstate conflict under the microscope

- Interstate conflict declining
- ➤Liberalism
- ≻Rise of a unipolar world

- Proxy warfare
- Method of confrontation
- >Avoids normative constraints and costs



Regime type and warfare

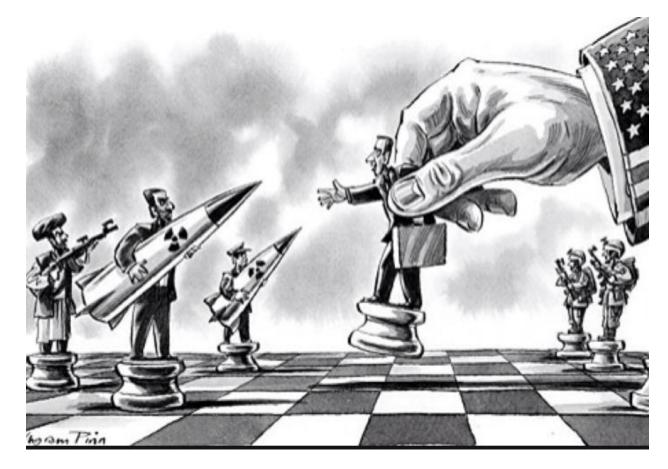


- Public goods
- Democracy's High Audience Costs vs. Autocracy's Lower Audience Costs
- Leaders' political survival is affected by the regime type and conflict outcome

Democracies and proxy war

- Cost-saving device militarily, economically and politically
- Ambiguity
- Secrecy

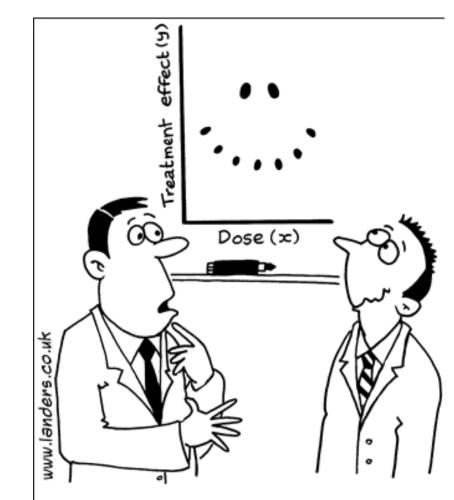
H: Democracies are more likely to employ rebel forces on the ground rather than use their own forces



Data and Variables

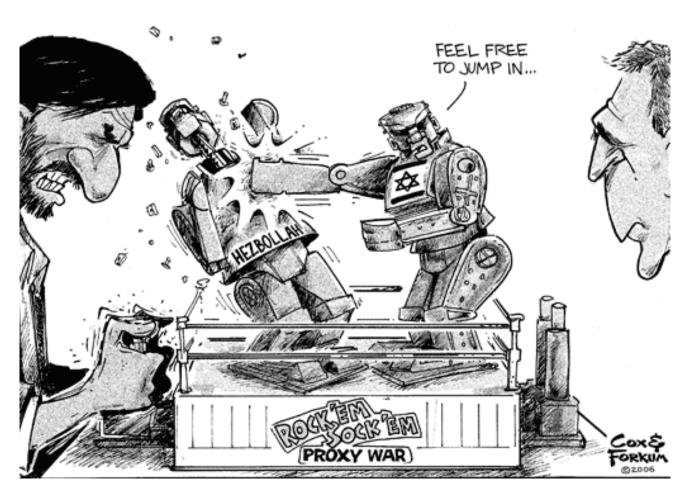
- Non-State Actors (NSA) database (Gleditch, Cunningham and Salehyan (2013))
- Missing data- omitted variable bias
- No variation in the variable

Delegation	Regime type
1= yes	1=democracy/ 0=autocracy
0= no	NA



"It's a non-linear pattern with outliers.....but for some reason I'm very happy with the data."

Regime type and proxy warfare revised

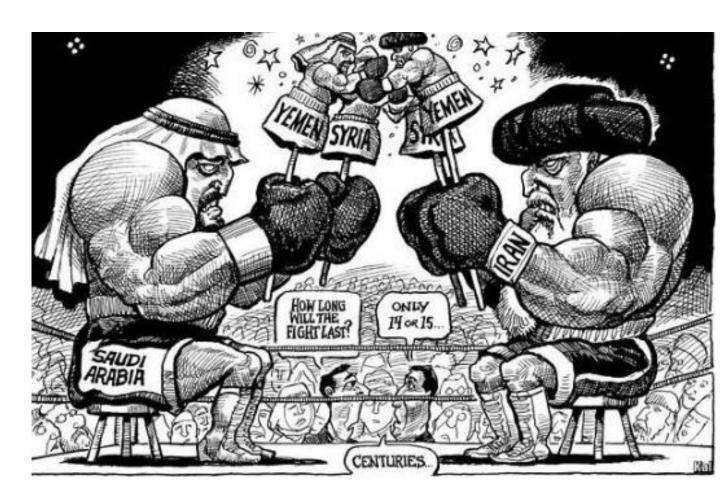


Of the 180 rebels groups recorded by the NSA being active between 1946-2010:

- 128 rebel groups sponsored by autocracies
- 52 rebel groups sponsored by democracies
- 76 military assistance
- 24 non-military assistance
- 17 received troops
- 63 not known

Conclusions

- Autocracies are more likely to support rebel forces than democracies
- Delegation mostly happens in the form of military support
- Causality vs Correlation



Thank you!

