ERC research project *Political Apologies across Cultures*

Political Apologies Database – Codebook

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Data and Citation:

The Political Apology Database and this codebook can be found at http://www.politicalapologies.com/. Please cite this codebook when appropriate. When using the PAC data, please cite:

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Short description of the definition used for political apologies:

This database includes political apologies issued by a national state or state representative to a collective for human rights violations that happened in the recent or distant past. We relied on a broad definition of political apologies, as there is no consensus about which elements a political apology should include to be recognized as such by the intended recipients, and because this is also likely to vary as a function of the specific historical, political, and cultural context. For this reason, we have included all those statements or gestures by states or state representatives that contain words such as 'sorry', 'apologize', expressions of regret or remorse, or requests for forgiveness. We also included statements that contained expressions of guilt or shame for a human rights violation, if they also included an acknowledgement of responsibility or wrongdoing, or a recognition of the suffering and trauma among victim groups. In addition, we included non-verbal apologies. For further information, also about the methods used to create the database, please see Zoodsma, M. & Schaafsma, J. (2021) Examining the 'age of apology': Insights from the Political Apologies database. *Journal of Peace Research*, in press.

Codebook Database "Political Apologies across Cultures"

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Topic	Variable Name	Values	Label
Number	No	ID Number	Identifier number
Date	Apol_Date	Dd.mm.yy	Date of the apology
Date	Date_Sort	Dd.mm.yy	Date used to link apology with country indicators (e.g., GDP, Gini, WVS).
Year	Year_1	Year	Year in which apology was offered.
Year	Year_2	Year	Year used to link apology with country indicators (e.g., GDP, Gini, WVS).
	Year_Cat	0 = <1975 1 = 1975-1979 2 = 1980-1984 3 = 1985-1989 4 = 1990-1994 5 = 1995-1999 6 = 2000-2004 7 = 2005-2009 8 = 2010-2014 9 = 2015-2019 10 = 2020-2024	Year grouped into categories of 5 years.
Description	Description		Global description of apology (often based on media sources).
Sender	Count_S	Name of sender country	Name of sender country. In most cases, names refer to independent states.
	CheckCountry_S	Name country	Name country (sender) to check and link with country codes.

	Count_S_ISO_Alpha	Code sender country	ISO three letter sender country code (ISO 3166-1 alpha 3). https://www.iso.org/iso-3166-country-codes.html and for a listing of codes: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ISO_3166-1_alpha-3
	Count_S_ISO_Num	Code sender country	ISO three-digit country code (ISO 3166-1 numeric-3 or UN M49). WVS and the United Nations also uses this coding, however not all countries are covered by WVS. https://unstats.un.org/unsd/methodology/m49/
	Region_S_UN	Region code UN	UN regional code sender country (M49) https://unstats.un.org/unsd/methodology/m49/
	Region_S_OECD	eap – East Asia and Pacific eca – Europe and Central Asia lac – Latin America and Caribbean mena – Middle East and North Africa na – North America sa – South Asia ssa – Sub-Saharan Africa	OECD three letter region identifier code.
	Name_Send	Name sender	If applicable: name of person who offered the apology.
	Role_Send	1. King/queen/emperor 2. President 3. Prime minister 4. Minister 5. (Member of) parliament 6. Diplomat 7. No longer in office 8. Other official role	If applicable: Official role of person offering the apology.
	Role_Send_SpecifyOther		'Other official role' specified.
	Off_Send	0. No 1. Yes	Was person/party offering apology in office during HRV?

	Political_Party	Name of party	Name of the political party of the person who offered apology. Do not code if apology is offered by King/Queen/Emperor, by parliament or 'other official role'.
	Political_Color	1. Far left 2. Left-wing to far left 3. Left-wing 4. Centre-left to left-wing 5. Centre-left 6. Centre to centre-right 7. Centre 8. Centre to centre-right 9. Centre-right 10. Centre-right to right-wing 11. Right-wing 12. Right-wing to far right 13. Far right 20. Independent 50. Catch all	Position on political spectrum of the party that the apologizing person belongs to. Only very rough indication, based solely on information found on Wikipedia: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Political_spectrum
Receiver	Count_Rec	Name of country	Country where the apology was received (blank if the apology is transnational).
	CheckCount_Rec	Name of country	Name receiver country to check and link with country codes.
	Count_R_ISO_Alpha	Code country	ISO three letter receiver country code (ISO 3166-1 alpha 3) https://www.iso.org/iso-3166-country-codes.html and for a listing of codes: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ISO_3166-1_alpha-3
	Count_R_ISO_Num	Code country	ISO three-digit country code (ISO 3166-1 numeric-3 or UN M49). WVS and the United Nations also uses this coding. Not all countries are, however, covered by WVS. https://unstats.un.org/unsd/methodology/m49/
	Region_R_UN	Region code	UN regional code receiver country (M49) https://unstats.un.org/unsd/methodology/m49/
	Region_R_OECD	eap – East Asia and Pacific	OECD three letter region identifier code receiver.

		eca – Europe and Central Asia lac – Latin America and Caribbean mena – Middle East and North Africa na – North America sa – South Asia ssa – Sub-Saharan Africa	
	Group_Rec_ID_1 Group_Rec_ID_2 Group_Rec_ID_3	1. Nation/ citizenship 2. Sex 3. Race and/or ethnicity 4. - 5. Religion/ Spiritual faith 6. Tribal or indigenous affiliation 7. Social class 8. Occupation 9. (Dis)ability 10. Political preference 11. Sexual orientation 12. Geographical location 50. Other	Victim or receiving group identity, prior to (and possibly reason of) HRV. Listing of identities is not in hierarchical order. If identity was unclear or in case of doubt, this was coded as 'other'.
	Group_Rec_ID_SpecifyOther		'Other' Group_Rec_ID specified.
	Group_Rec_1	1. Within-country 2. Between-country 3. Transnational	Is the apology receiving group within the sending country, from another country, or a transnational group (e.g., Roma, Sinti, Jewish community or people in multiple countries)?
HRV	Context_1 Context_2 Context_3		The broader context that led to or within which the human rights violation(s) took place.
	Context_Cat_1 Context_Cat_2 Context_Cat_3	Civil unrest Civil war Colonial rule Insurgency Invasion/ Annexation/ Occupation	The broader context that led to or within which the human rights violation(s) took place (broader categorization).

		Military rule/ One-party rule/ Dictatorship Protracted conflict Settler colonialism Slavery Treatment of indigenous population Treatment of LBTQ Treatment of minority group Treatment of sick/disabled Treatment of women War Other	
	HRV_1 HRV_2 HRV_3	1. Genocide 2. War crimes 3. Murder/execution/ massacre 4. Forced labor/slavery 5. Crimes of aggression (invasion, military occupation, annexation) 6. Colonization 7. Forced assimilation 8. Racism and discrimination 9. Sexual slavery/sexual violence 10. Child maltreatment 11. State terrorism (authoritarian regime, dictatorship) 12. State-sponsored terrorism 13. Disrespecting or endangering individual or public health 14. Extrajudicial punishment or unjust imprisonment and internment 15. Inaction during HRV 16. Ethnic cleansing 17. Forced removal 18. Torture or inhuman treatment 19. Dispossession of land 20. Not specified 50. Other	The human rights violation(s) as mentioned in the apology, based upon the UN classification of human rights violations (with some categories added, e.g., 'disrespecting or endangering individual or public health' and 'dispossession of land'). Coded 'not specified' if the apology did not contain any references to the HRVs. Left blank for non-verbal apologies or if there was no text available.

	HRV_Date_Start	Year	Very rough estimate of starting year HRV(s).
	HRV_Date_End	Year	Very rough estimate of end year HRV(s).
	Time_HRV_Start	#Yy	Time passed since start HRV and the apology (in years).
	Time_HRV_End	#Yy	Time passed since end HRV and the apology (in years).
Where	Apol_Set	1. Public speech 2. Parliament 3. Public letter/statement 4. Resolution/ law 5. Commemoration 6. Court 7. (Diplomatic) visit 8. Interview 9. Within country visit 10. Diplomatic) reception 50. Other	Apology setting.
How	Apol_Med	1. Verbal 2. Written 3. Gesture/nonverbal	Medium through which apology was expressed.
	Apol_Lang_1 Apol_Lang_2	Language	Language in which apology was offered. See ISO 639-2/T three-letter codes : https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_ISO_639-1_codes
	Apol_Text	0. No text 1. Partial text 2. Full text	Is full text or partial text of apology available in database?
	Apol_Trans	0. No translation 1. Original English 2. Official translation 3. PAC translation 4. Translation found online	(How) has apology text been translated?

	Apol_Light	0. Completer apology 1. Light apology 2. Non-verbal apology	Coded as 'light' apology if statement did not include an IFID (e.g., apologize, sorry), request for forgiveness, or an expression of guilt, shame or regret.
Country Indicators	GINI	Gini Index	Income inequality based on Gini Index, if available for a country (World Bank Estimate). Scores aggregated across 5-year periods (see: Year_Cat). Source: https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SI.POV.GINI
	WVS_Y003 WVS_A189 WVS_A190 WVS_A191 WVS_A192 WVS_A193 WVS_A194 WVS_A195 WVS_A196 WVS_A197 WVS_A198 WVS_A199 WVS_A079 WVS_D080 WVS_G006	Y003 = Autonomy index A189 = Schwartz: It is important to this person to think up new ideas and be creative A190 = Schwartz: It is important to this person to be rich A191 = It is important to this person living in secure surroundings A192 = Schwartz: It is important to this person to have a good time A193 = Schwartz: It is important to this person to help the people nearby A194 = Schwartz: It is important to this person being very successful A195 = Schwartz: It is important to this person adventure and taking risks A196 = Schwartz: It is important to this person to always behave properly A197 = Schwartz: It is important to this person looking after the environment A198 = Schwartz: It is important to this person tradition	Items from World Values Survey (if available for a country). Scores aggregated across 5-year periods (see: Year_Cat). Source: https://www.worldvaluessurvey.org/wvs.jsp

	A199 = Schwartz: It is important to this person to do something for the good of society D079 = I seek to be myself rather than to follow others D080 = I decide my goals in life by myself G006 = How proud of nationality?	
	WWGI_VAC WWGI_PST WWGI_GEF WWGI_RQ WWGI_RoL WWGI_CC	VAC = Voice and accountability PST = Political stability and absence of violence GEF = Government effectiveness RQ = Regulatory quality RoL = Rule of law CC = Control of corruption	Worldwide Governance Indicators, (if available for a country). Scores aggregated across 5-year periods (see: Year_Cat). Source: https://info.worldbank.org/governance/wgi/.
	PTS_A PTS_H PTS_S	PTS_A = Amnesty International PTS_H = Human rights Watch PTS_S = State Department	Political Terror Scale (if available for a country). Scores aggregated across 5-year periods (see: Year_Cat). Source: Gibney, Mark, Linda Cornett, Reed Wood, Peter Haschke, Daniel Arnon, Attilio Pisanò, and Gray Barrett. 2019. The Political Terror Scale 1976-2018. Date Retrieved, from the Political Terror Scale website: 21-10-2020. http://www.politicalterrorscale.org/.
	HOF_pdi HOF_idv HOF_mas HOF_uai HOF_ltowvs HOF_ivr	HOF_pdi = Power distance HOF_idv = Individualism HOF_mas = Masculinity HOF_uai = Uncertainty avoidance HOF_ltowvs = Long-term orientation HOF_ivr = Indulgence	Hofstede dimensions of national culture (if available for a country). Scores aggregated across 5-year periods (see: Year_Cat). Source: https://www.hofstede-insights.com/product/compare-countries/
	GDP		Gross Domestic Product (if available for a country). Scores aggregated across 5 year periods (see Year_Cat). Source: https://databank.worldbank.org/source/world-development-indicators