



The Impact of the Securitization of Children and Armed Conflict in the United Nations Security Council on the United Nations System

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Major: Political Science - International Relations

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Research Question

How has the expansion of the United Nations Security Council agenda changed the actions taken on thematic issue areas in the United Nations System over time?

Securitization as a Framing Theory

An exploration of the origins of securitization and how the theory influences actions taken on issues.

Human Security as an Extension of Security

The extension of the idea of “security” and how it emphasizes the importance of the individual when addressing CAAC.

CAAC and Securitization

CAAC as an area that has been securitized, and how this is argued, serves as both an exploration into the issue area as well as a transition into more CAAC and SC-focused literature.

LITERATURE REVIEW

The Security Council Agenda and Securitization

The SC agenda and the securitization in general of the SC are examined to determine what role securitization plays concerning the SC's thematic issues.

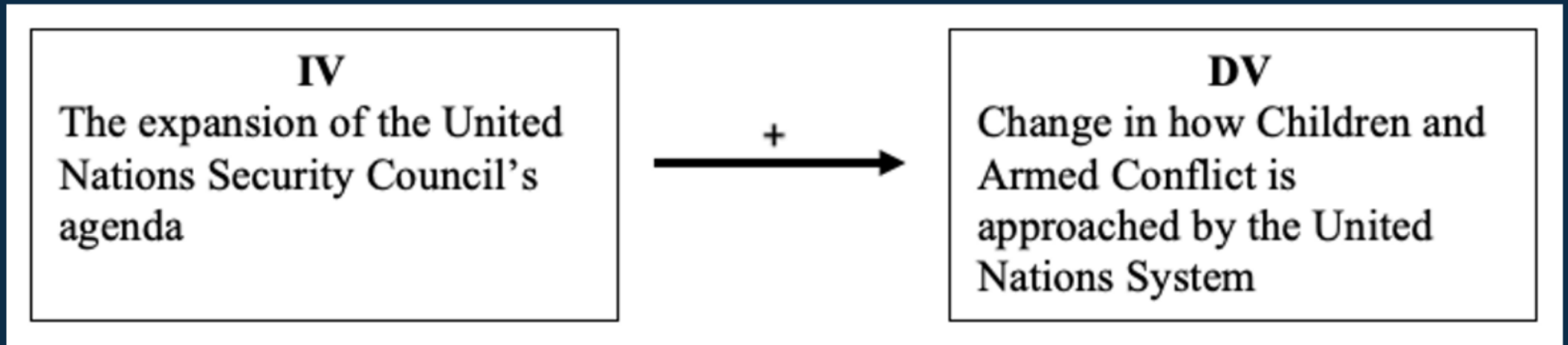
CAAC, The SC Agenda, & The Greater UN System

Ties together CAAC with the analyses of the SC and the UN System's interactions to create a framework for analysis.

LITERATURE REVIEW

HYPOTHESIS

If Children and Armed Conflict is designated a thematic issue in the United Nations Security Council, then it is securitized and results in increased actions taken on and prioritization of Children and Armed Conflict.



VARIABLES

Independent Variable

Measured by observing changes in the SC agenda, using CAAC as a case study to narrow the observations. The data used for measurement are several essential documents that elevated CAAC to the UN SC's agenda.

Dependent Variable

How CAAC changes in the documents produced, the structure of the issue area, and data collection practices in the UN SC and System when it becomes an issue within the SC. Studied from 1996-1999 and 2000-2005.



Data Collected: Documents Produced, Data Collection Practices, & Structure of the Issue Area

Table 3: Structure of the Issue Area 1996-1999

Structure of the Issue Area				
	1996	1997	1998	1999
Institution of the document				
GA				
OSRSG				
SC				
HRC				
Type of document				

Methodology: Process Tracing

Process Tracing Tests for Causal Inference

		SUFFICIENT FOR AFFIRMING CAUSAL INFERENCE	
		No	Yes
NECESSARY FOR AFFIRMING CAUSAL INFERENCE	No	1. Straw-in-the-Wind	3. Smoking-Gun
		a. Passing: Affirms relevance of hypothesis, but does not confirm it.	a. Passing: Confirms hypothesis.
		b. Failing: Hypothesis is not eliminated, but is slightly weakened.	b. Failing: Hypothesis is not eliminated, but is somewhat weakened.
	Yes	c. Implications for rival hypotheses: Passing <i>slightly</i> weakens them. Failing <i>slightly</i> strengthens them.	c. Implications for rival hypotheses: Passing <i>substantially</i> weakens them. Failing <i>somewhat</i> strengthens them.
		2. Hoop	4. Doubly Decisive
		a. Passing: Affirms relevance of hypothesis, but does not confirm it.	a. Passing: Confirms hypothesis and eliminates others.
	b. Failing: Eliminates hypothesis.	b. Failing: Eliminates hypothesis.	
	c. Implications for rival hypotheses: Passing <i>somewhat</i> weakens them. Failing <i>somewhat</i> strengthens them.	c. Implications for rival hypotheses: Passing <i>eliminates</i> them. Failing <i>substantially</i> strengthens them.	

Source: Adapted from Bennett (2010, 210), who builds on categories formulated by Van Evera (1997, 31–32).

RESULTS AND ANALYSIS

1996-1999

Table 11: Data Collection Practices 1996-1999

		Data Collection Practices			
		1996	1997	1998	1999
Institu	Was data collected?	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
	Data collection method used	Thematic papers and case studies	N/A	Field missions, country initiatives, and consultative processes	Field missions, country initiatives, and consultative processes
	Type of data collected	Amounts and types of child soldiers, refugees and internally displaced children, sexual exploitation and gender-based violence, landmines and unexploded ordnance, sanctions, health and nutrition, psychological recovery and reintegration, and education	N/A	The current and past states and estimations of the number of children affected by armed conflict globally and the current efforts taking place to mitigate the number of children affected by armed conflict	Estimations of the number of children affected by armed conflict, the impact of sanctions on children, and the key actors and push factors associated with children affected by armed conflict
Type o	Amount of data collected	25 thematic papers and field-based case studies	N/A	6 field missions and country initiatives and coordination with dozens of actors	8 field missions and country initiatives and coordination with dozens of actors

RESULTS AND ANALYSIS

2000-2005

Table 12: Data Collection Practices 2000-2005

		Data Collection Practices					
		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Ins doc	Was data collected?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Data collection method used	Consultative processes and country visits	Consultative processes and personnel deployment	Consultative processes, country visits, and personnel deployments	Consultative processes and personnel deployments	Consultative processes, document analysis, and personnel deployments	Consultative processes, personnel deployments, and the MRM
	Type of data collected	Input from key actors on CAAC, estimations of the number of CAAC violations	Input from key actors on CAAC, data on CACC violations collected by child protection advisers on peacekeeping operations, and estimations of the number of CAAC violations	Input from key actors on CAAC, data on CACC violations collected by child protection advisers on peacekeeping operations, estimations of the number of CAAC violations, and first-person accounts of the violations	Input from key actors on CAAC, data on CACC violations collected by child protection advisers on peacekeeping operations, and increasingly detailed recordings of the number of CAAC violations	Input from key actors on CAAC, analyses of past reports of resolutions, data on CACC violations collected by child protection advisers on peacekeeping operations, detailed recordings of the number of CAAC violations	Input from key actors on CAAC, data on CACC violations collected by child protection advisers on peacekeeping operations, and recordings of and information on every CAAC violation from 2004
Ty	Amount of data collected	9 regional organizations, 10 UN entities across the System, 4 country visits, dozens of NGOs, "opinion-makers," regional and international organizations, and civil society members, and tens of thousands of data points of CAAC violations	4 UN entities across the System, 4 progress reports on countries of concern, 1 deployed child protection adviser, dozens of NGOs, "opinion-makers," regional and international organizations, and civil society members, tens of thousands of data points of CAAC violations, and development of a research agenda on CAAC	12 country visits, 6 partners in the UN System, 3 deployed child protection advisers, dozens of UN entities across the System, regional and international organizations, NGOs, and civil society members, tens of thousands of data points of CAAC violations, and management of the research agenda (now a consortium) on CAAC	14 deployed child protection advisers, dozens of UN entities across the System, regional and international organizations, NGOs, civil society members, and tens of thousands of data points of CAAC violations, and management of the research consortium on CAAC	151 reports and resolutions referring to CAAC, 17 deployed child protection advisers, dozens of UN entities across the System, regional and international organizations, NGOs, and civil society members, tens of thousands of data points on CAAC violations, and management of the research consortium on CAAC	~17 deployed child protection advisers, dozens of UN entities across the System, regional and international organizations, NGOs, and civil society members, and tens of thousands of data points on CAAC violations, and management of the research consortium on CAAC

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Conclusions

Hypothesis

**Research
Question**

Limitations

Implications

**Further
Research**



Thank you!

