

KNOWING WHEN TO DO WRONG: EXPLORING THREAT TO A LEADER AND VIOLATIONS OF PHYSICAL INTEGRITY RIGHTS

RESEARCH QUESTION

DOES THE TYPE OF THREAT TO A LEADER'S POSITION
INFLUENCE THE LEVEL OF PHYSICAL INTEGRITY
VIOLATIONS?

TYPE OF THREAT

Institutional Threat: originating from within the
regime or government

Elites or Inner Circles
Military Leaders/Organizations
Political Parties

Popular Threat: originating from the people or the
governed

Popular Protests
Insurgent Groups

PHYSICAL INTEGRITY VIOLATIONS

The violation of one 'generation' of rights which
relates to respect for the physical body:

Arbitrary Detention/Imprisonment
Torture
Extrajudicial Execution
Disappearances

HYPOTHESES

*H₁: If a leader experiences an institutional threat to their
position in office, then the leader will respond with greater
levels of physical integrity rights abuses*

*H₂: If a leader experiences a popular threat to their position in
office, then the leader will respond with lesser levels of
physical integrity abuses*

METHODOLOGY

COMPARATIVE, LONGITUDINAL CASE STUDIES

Measuring type of threat and physical integrity violations
across two time periods within two different states, the study
sought to capture the relationship between two variables

INDEPENDENT VARIABLE: TYPE OF THREAT
DEPENDENT VARIABLE: PHYSICAL INTEGRITY VIOLATIONS

Using the CIRI Human Rights Database, which scores a state's
respect for physical integrity on a scale of 0 to 8, to measure
the dependent variable and in-depth case study to measure
the independent variable

CASES

ALGERIA 1981-1983 under President Chadli Benjedid
ALGERIA 1987-1989 under President Chadli Benjedid

ANGOLA 1995-1997 under President Jose Eduardo dos Santos
ANGOLA 203-2005 under President Jose Eduardo dos Santos

FINDINGS

Some support found for the second hypothesis (H₂), but
inconclusive evidence for the first hypothesis (H₁)

THREAT, REGARDLESS OF TYPE, LEADS TO INCREASES IN
PHYSICAL INTEGRITY VIOLATIONS

- Popular threats were observed in every case
excluding Algeria (1981-1983)
- Institutional threats observed in one case, Angola
(2003-2005), contrary to H₁
- Future research should explore the influences of the
type of popular threat to further develop the
relationship between the two variables, as well as the
relationship between threat and other generations of
human rights

THREAT TYPE AND OBSERVED PHYSICAL INTEGRITY OUTCOMES

INSTITUTIONAL THREAT	POPULAR THREAT	CIRI RATING (SCALE 0-8)	LEVEL OF PHYSICAL INTEGRITY VIOLATIONS	CASE AND TIME
<i>Absent</i>	<i>Absent</i>	<i>8-6</i>	<i>Low</i>	<i>Algeria 1981-1983</i>
<i>Absent</i>	<i>Present</i>	<i>5-4</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>Algeria 1987-1989</i>
<i>Present</i>	<i>Present</i>	<i>3-4</i>	<i>High</i>	<i>Angola 2003-2005</i>
<i>Absent</i>	<i>Present</i>	<i>0-2</i>	<i>Extreme</i>	<i>Angola 1995-1997</i>