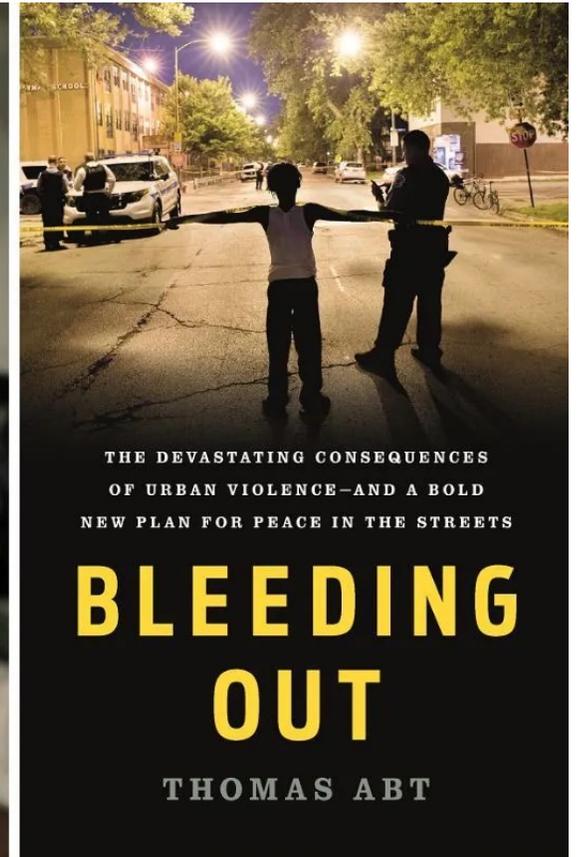
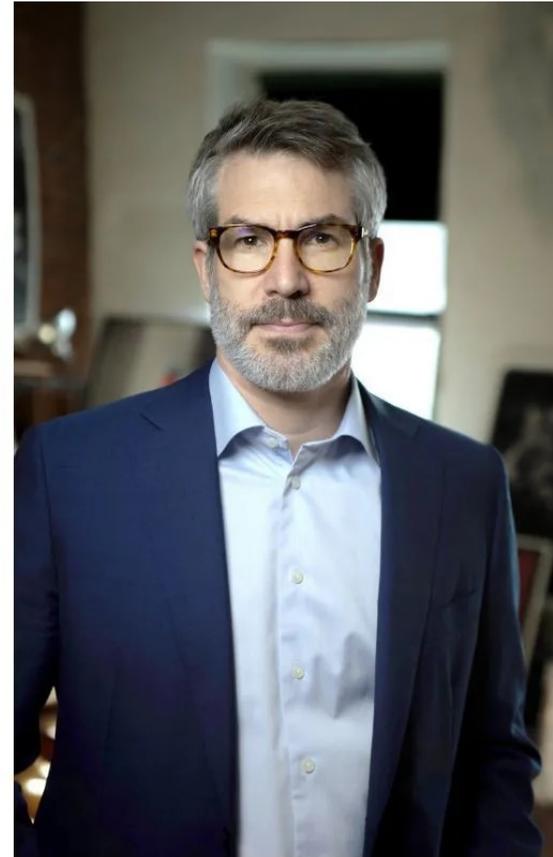
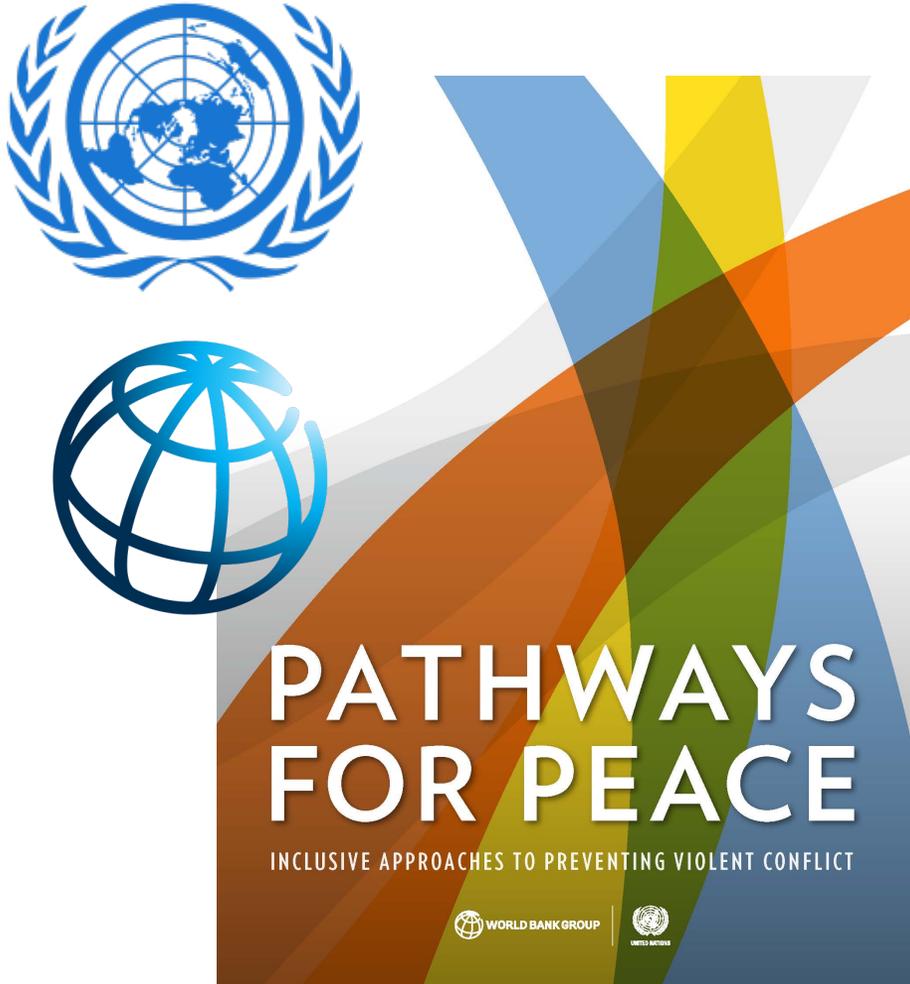


Order & Violence



Weeks 8 and 9

We will look at some policy reports through our new lens



Week 8 and 9

- Splitting up
 - Groups 1-4 will attend class Mondays Nov 15 and 29
 - Groups 5-6 will attend class Wednesdays Nov 17 and Dec 1

Discussion memos

- Mechanics
 - 500-1000 words
 - Double spaced, 12-point font, wide margins — Facilitates online reading and comments
- Content
 - Avoid simple summarization of the books/reports
 - One way to approach: What are three insights you would like to bring to class?
 - Distill the core insights in an original, insightful way
 - Try to isolate the underlying theory
 - Do the major recommendations fit with what we've been talking about?
 - Are there policies or recommendations that you think would be ineffective or counterproductive?
 - Do the reports or analysis suggest we have been missing something?

Final project due Dec 10

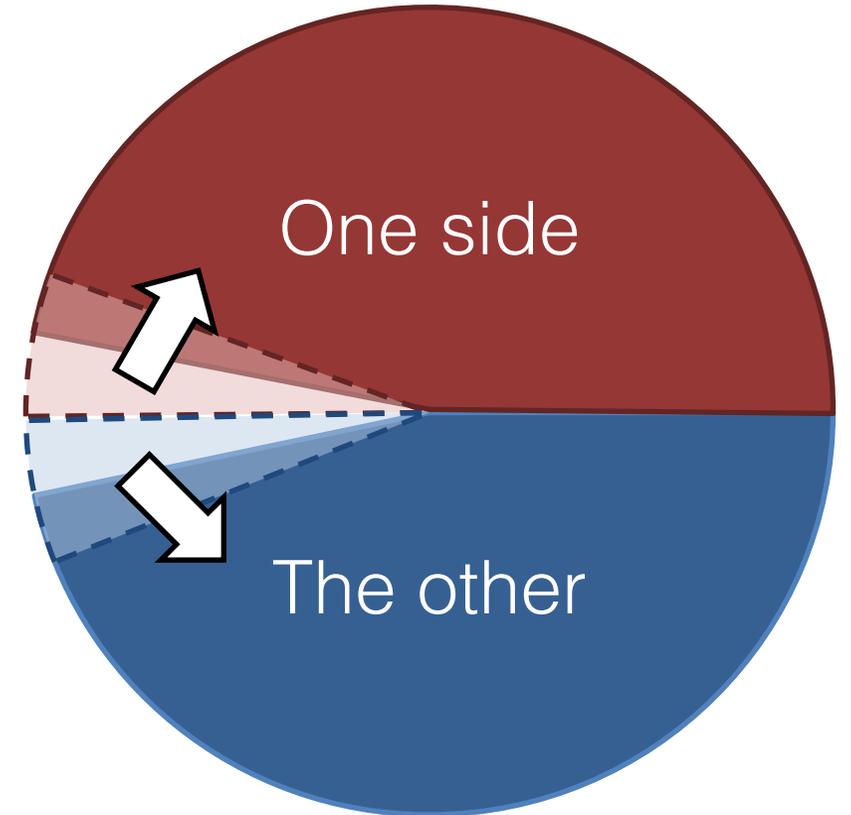
- Mechanics
 - 750-1500 words
 - Double spaced, 12-point font, wide margins — Facilitates online reading and comments
- Akin to a long discussion memo
 - Note that a lot of work can go into just 750-1500 words, if the ideas are deeply thought through, and the
- Relatively free form – An opportunity to explore a topic interesting to you
 1. A critical review of a current policy report or a recent book
 2. A discussion of a popular peace building strategy
 3. The roots of a specific war of your choice
 4. The reasons a political rivalry of your choice did not go to war

Good memos are...

- Carefully thought out and written
 - This is not a stream of consciousness set of ideas
 - Thought should go into the arguments and organization
- Focus on your best ideas
 - Every idea you have after your best ideas probably lowers the average quality of the memo
- Persuasive
 - Criticisms and points should be clear and well developed
- Well organized
 - Reader always must know “how is this related to the overall argument?”
 - Consider use of
 - Paragraphs are about coherent ideas
 - Topic sentences – first sentences in the paragraph are the big idea, following sentences support it
 - Don't bury the lede
 - Sections and subheadings
 - If you want to make three big points, separate and label those paragraphs accordingly

This week: Theory and evidence suggests four broad paths to peace

- I. Interdependence
- II. Checks and balances
- III. Rules and enforcement
- IV. Interventions



Interdependence: Key insights

- The standard model presumed we are indifferent to losses from the rival side
- But there are ways in which losses to the other side can enter our calculus
 1. The size of the material pie is a function of interrelationships
 - e.g. Relationships of specialization, production, and trade
 2. We have other-regarding preferences for the rival
 - a) As a function of social interactions
 - b) As a function of a shared identity
- Our identities are malleable, shifting with...
 - Technology
 - Economic systems and incentives
 - Elite manipulation

Checks and balances: Key insights

- Recall, from a few weeks ago, how overcentralized power
 - Leads to agency problems
 - Can augment commitment problems (because power is hard to divide)
 - Can increase the influence of a small group's intangible incentives and misperceptions
- Democratization, in the form of elections, have not always been stabilizing
 - Meanwhile, many autocratic systems have remained stable
- Hypothesis: The important feature of power is that it is checked, divisible, with many centers of influence
 - Granted, the hard evidence here is mostly absent
- How have societies become more checked over time?
 - Changes in de jure rules
 - Widening of de facto power

Aside: Most of the time, regimes look like peaceful bargains between groups

- E.g. Africa and ethnic politics
- Francois et al show how the division of cabinets by ethnic group in Africa are nearly proportional to a proxy for political power: share of population

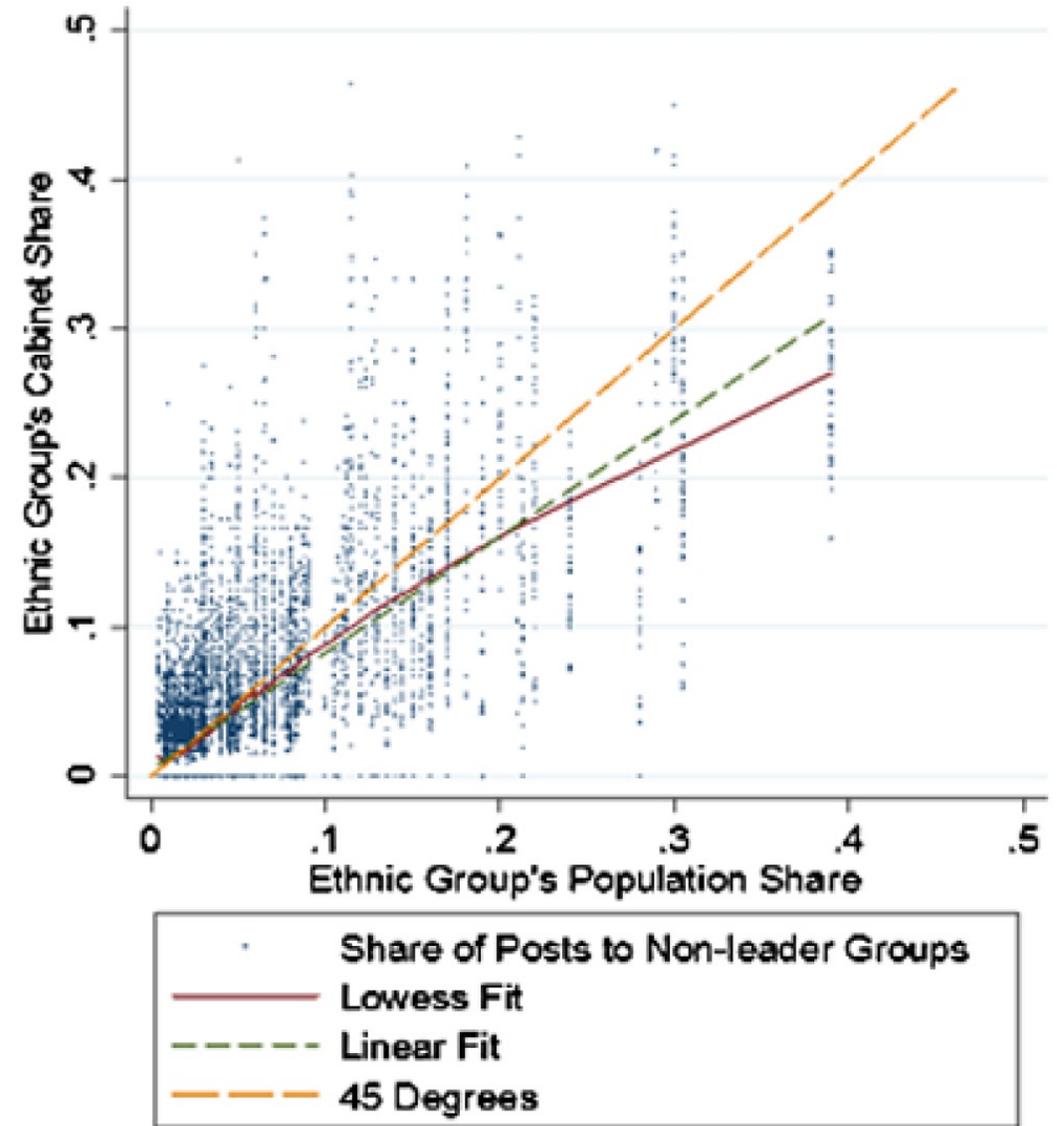


FIGURE 2.—Allocation of cabinet shares and population shares, full sample, 1960–2004.

Rules and enforcement: Key insights

- States are among the most common form of institution that set rules and enforce them
 - Facilitate exchange of information
 - Provide commitment to deals
 - Provide carrots and sticks to minimize those who would commit violence due to material incentives, intangible incentives, or misperceptions
- But human societies in anarchy find numerous ways to accomplish similar objectives
 - Informal social norms
 - Feuding norms, cultures of honor
 - Hierarchical alliances, headed by hegemons
 - Gangs, states

Interventions: Key insights

- Interventions tend to work best when they address the causes of bargaining breakdown
 - Addressing potential causes of breakdown not the same as the causes of breakdown in that instance
- Often the root of the breakdown is uncertain, and requires trial and error
- During this trial and error, success will be inherently difficult to evaluate
 - Difficult to identify a comparison group
 - Hard-to-assess spillovers
 - Difficult to measure outcomes of interest
- Typically, we underestimate the effectiveness of peacebuilding interventions if we:
 - Focus on the failures
 - Overlook the selection problem in who receives assistance

Next class: Please com prepared to think about what peacebuilding strategies could be applied to these cases

- China—Taiwan
- Post-US Afghanistan
- India—Pakistan
- Israelis—Palestinians

Today: Breakout & discussion

What are the conceptual strengths and weaknesses of the following peace-building efforts?

1. Broad-based job creation program for violence-prone areas of a big city
2. UN-administered elections within a few years of a civil war peace agreement
3. Social contact programs to promote interaction between youths from different ethnic/religious groups
4. Including more women in peace processes
5. A post-war truth and reconciliation commission
6. A national firearm buyback program, plus a ban on private ownership of weapons

Some general tips for evaluating purported paths to peace

- What is the problem to which this path is the solution?
 - What's the theoretical basis for the change or intervention?
- What is this path affecting?
 - Relative bargaining power?
 - The size of the pie?
 - The width of the bargaining range?
- How effective is this likely to be on the margin?