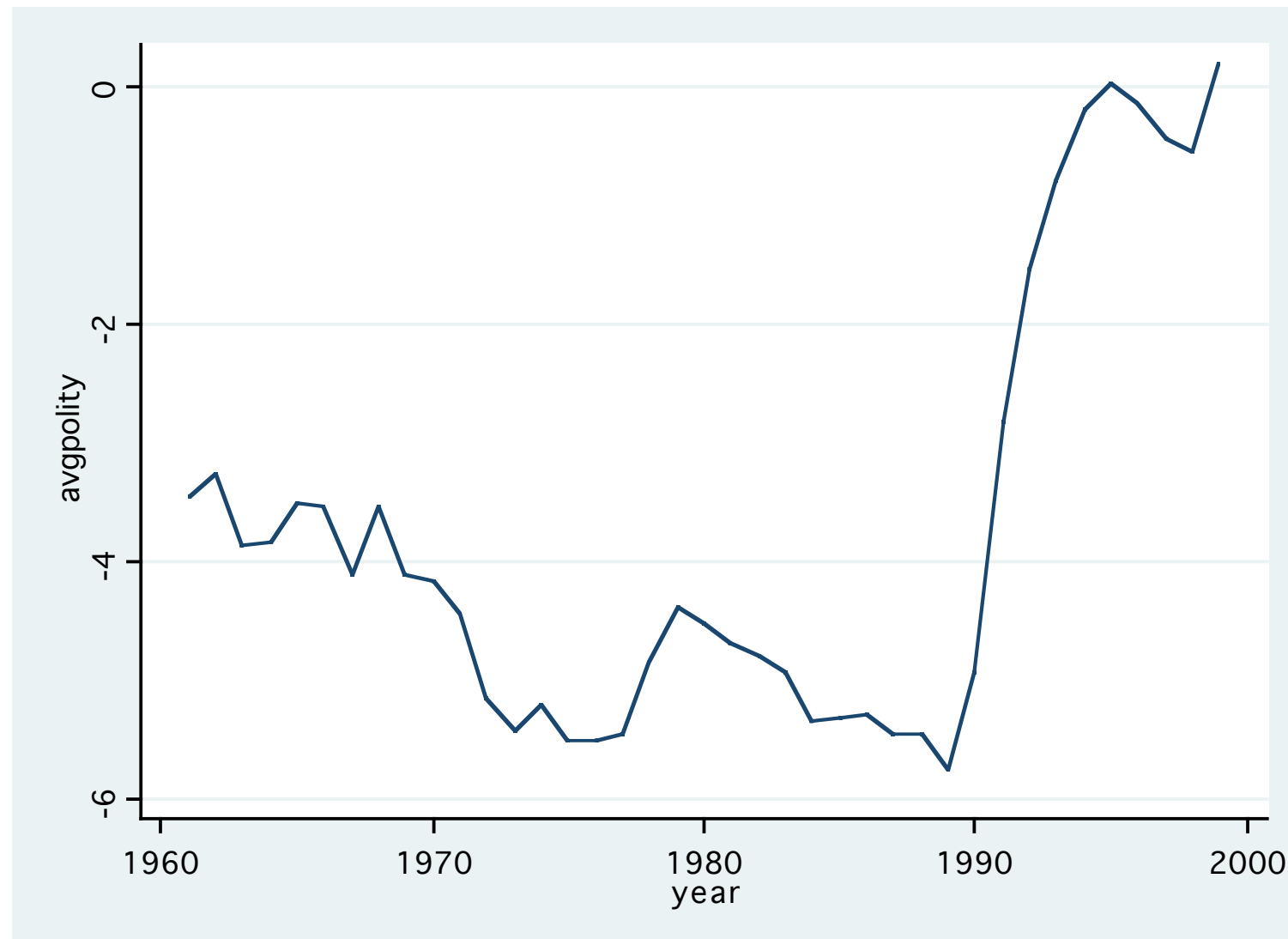


POLI 120N: Contention and Conflict in Africa

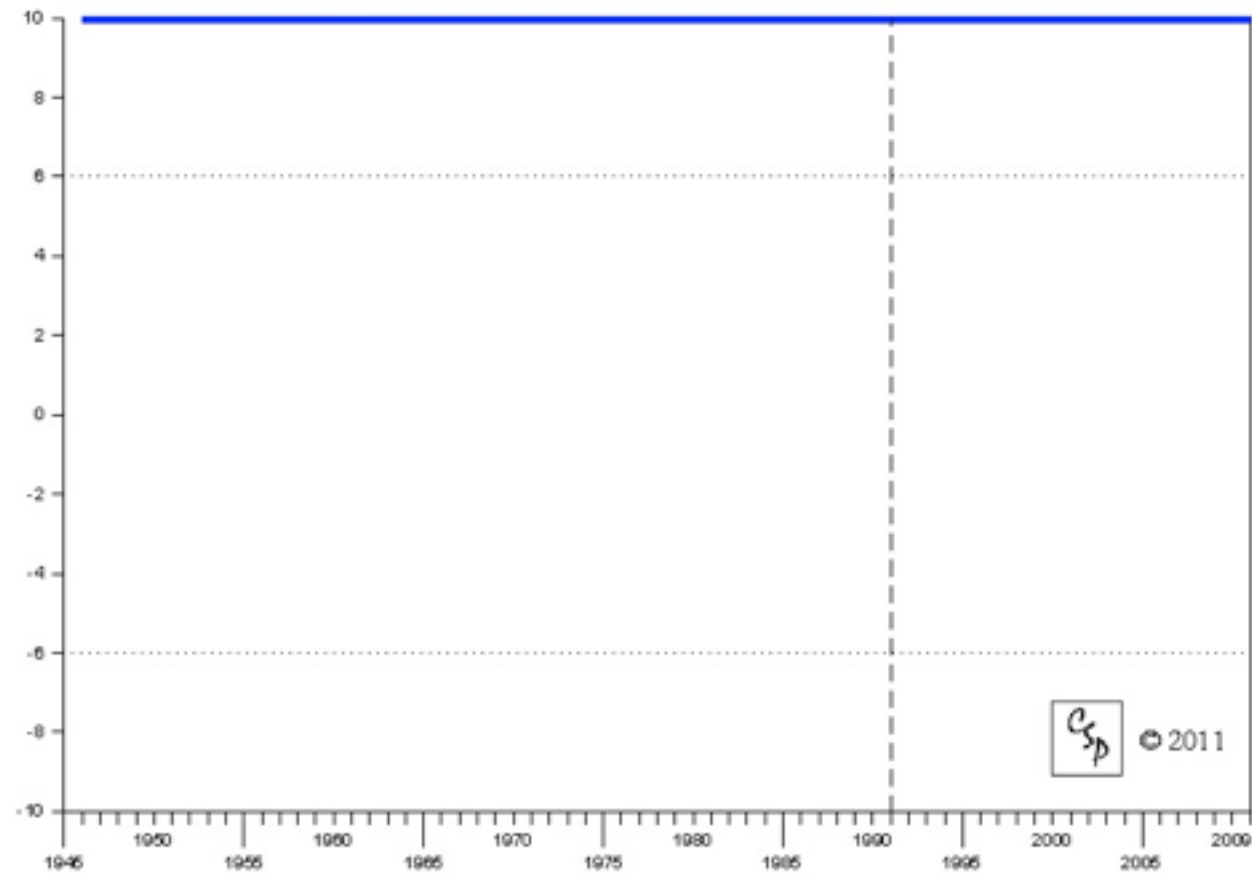
Professor Adida

Electoral Violence

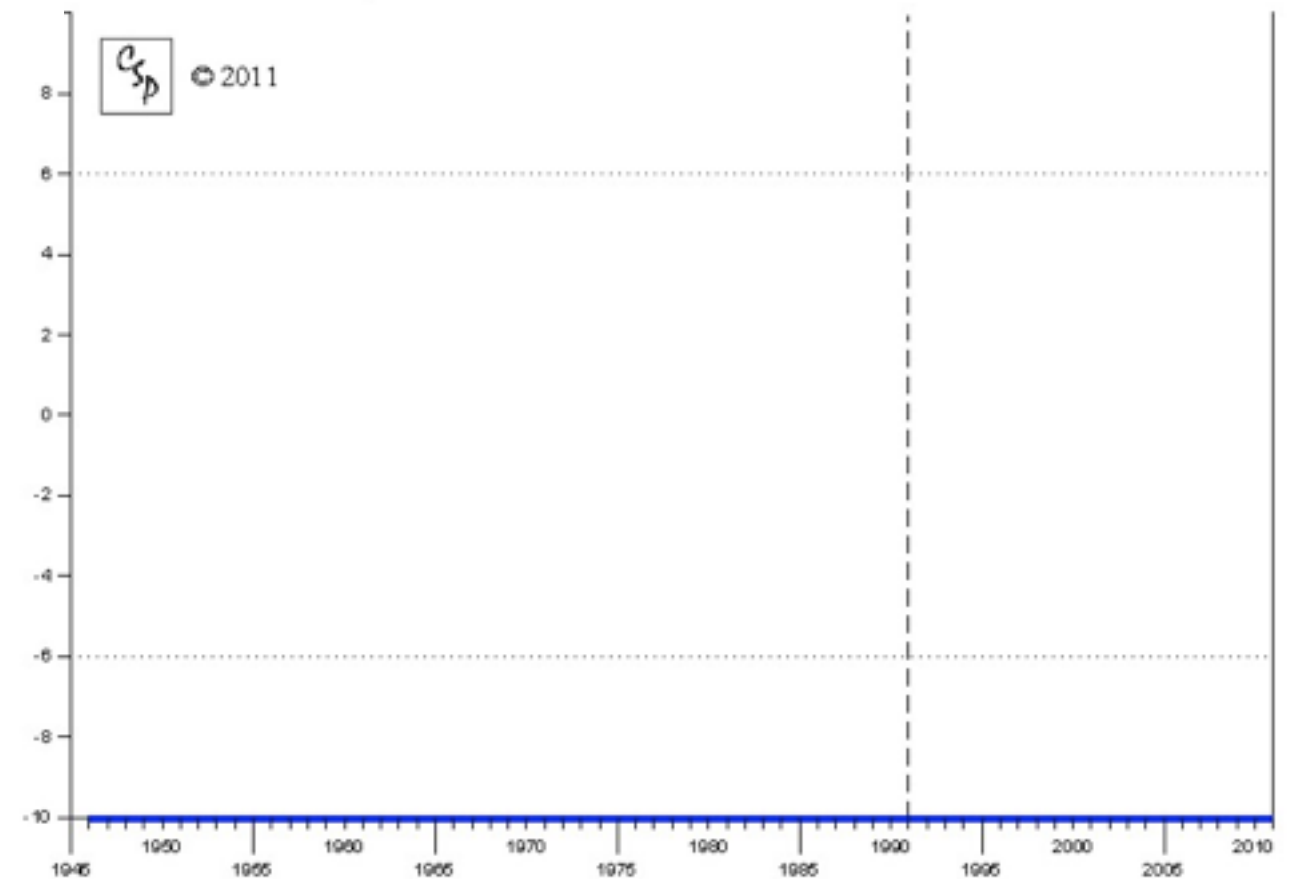
Democratization in Africa



Authority Trends, 1946-2010: United States

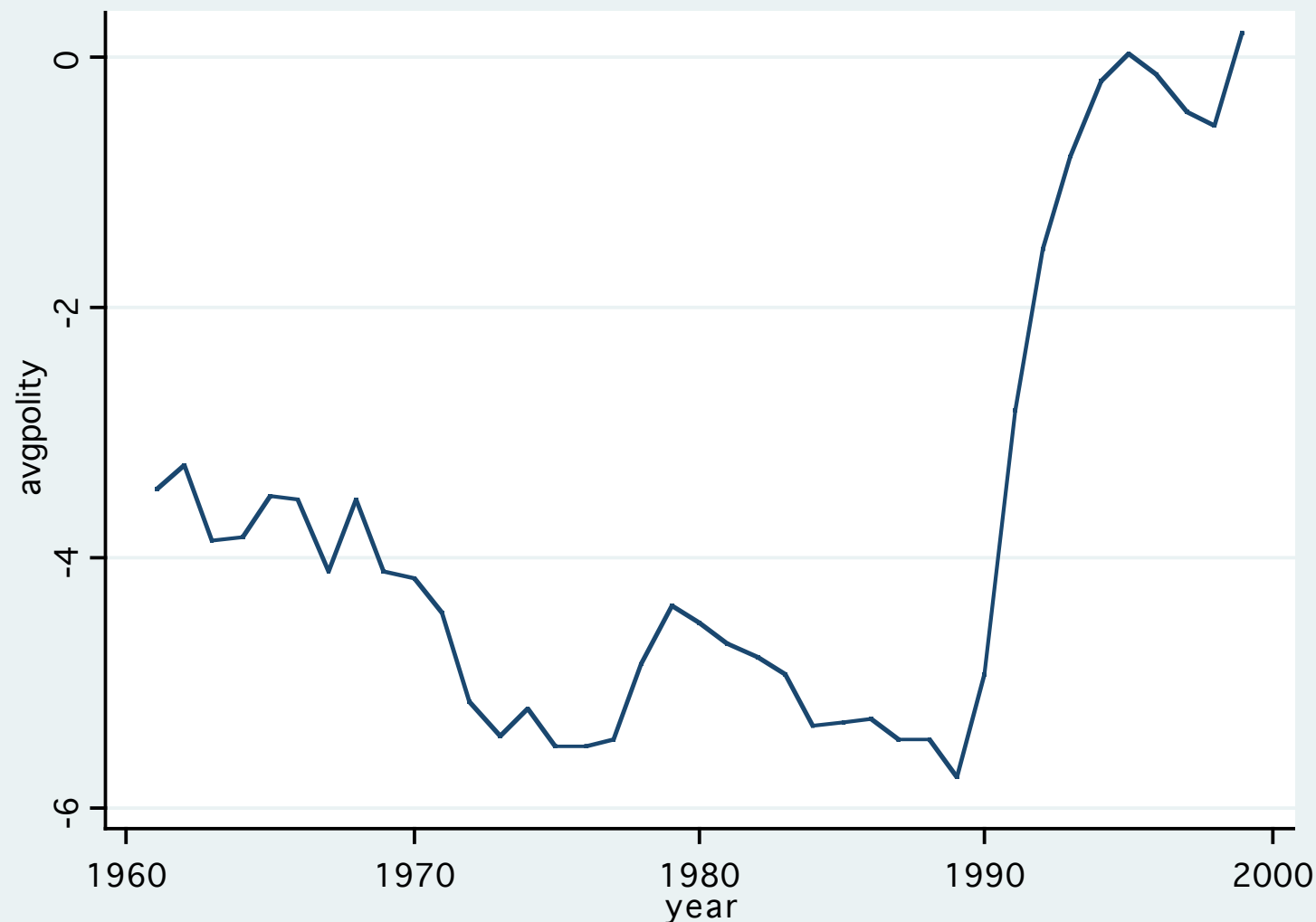


Authority Trends, 1946-2010: Saudi Arabia

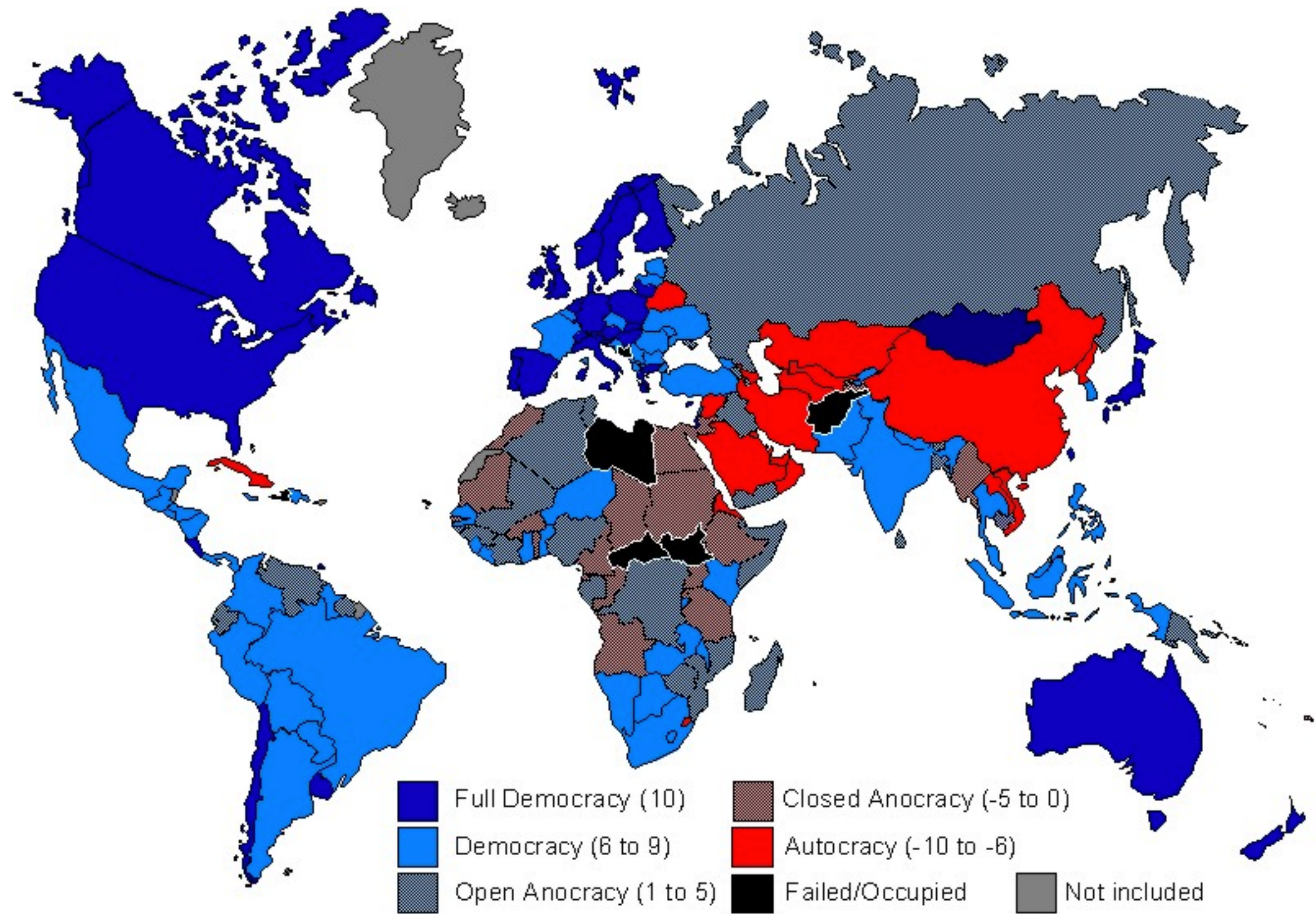


Polity Score

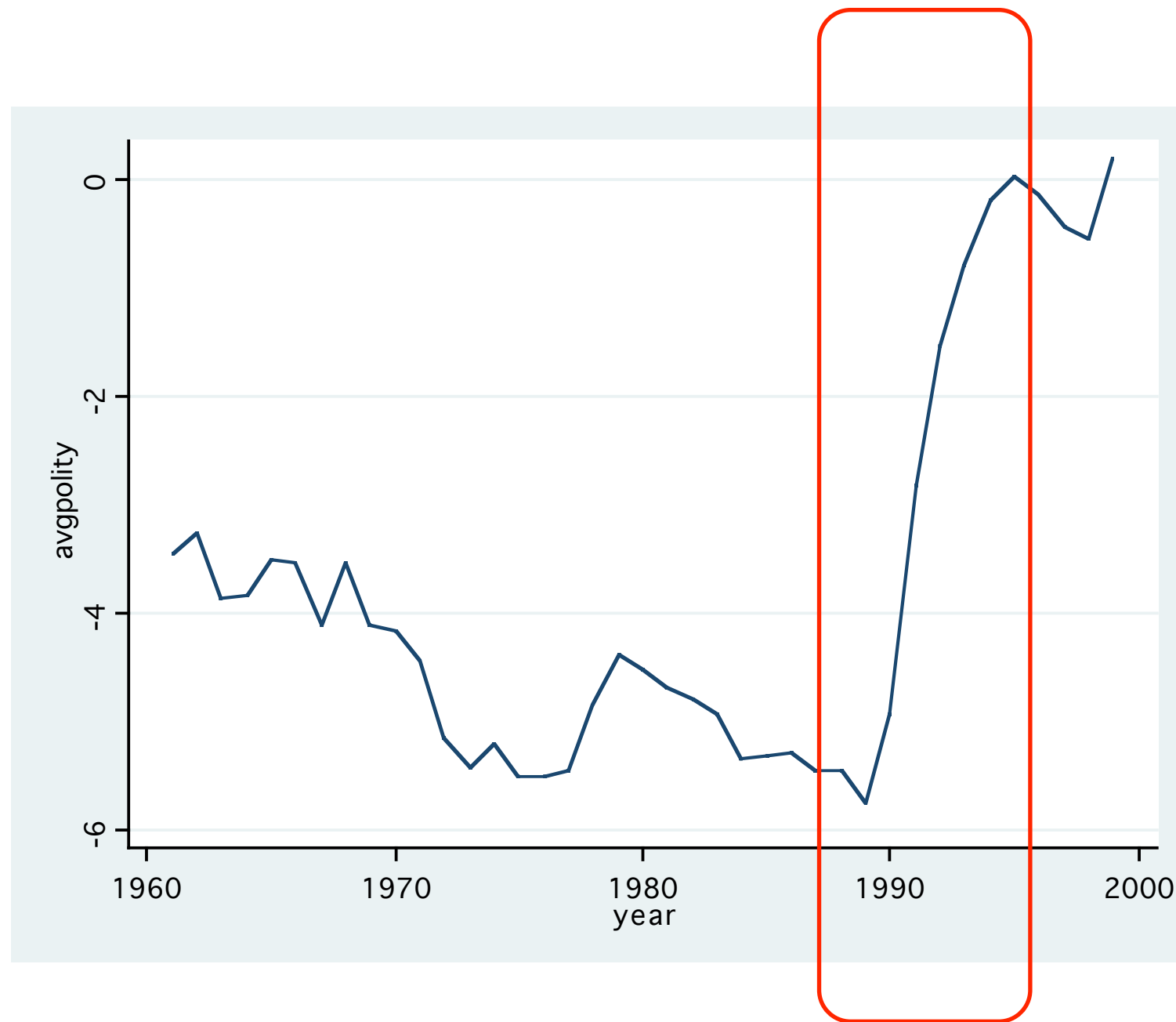
- Country experts code countries on
 - Executive recruitment
 - Constraints on executive authority
 - Political competition



Sub-Saharan Africa



Democratization in Africa



Democratization Factors

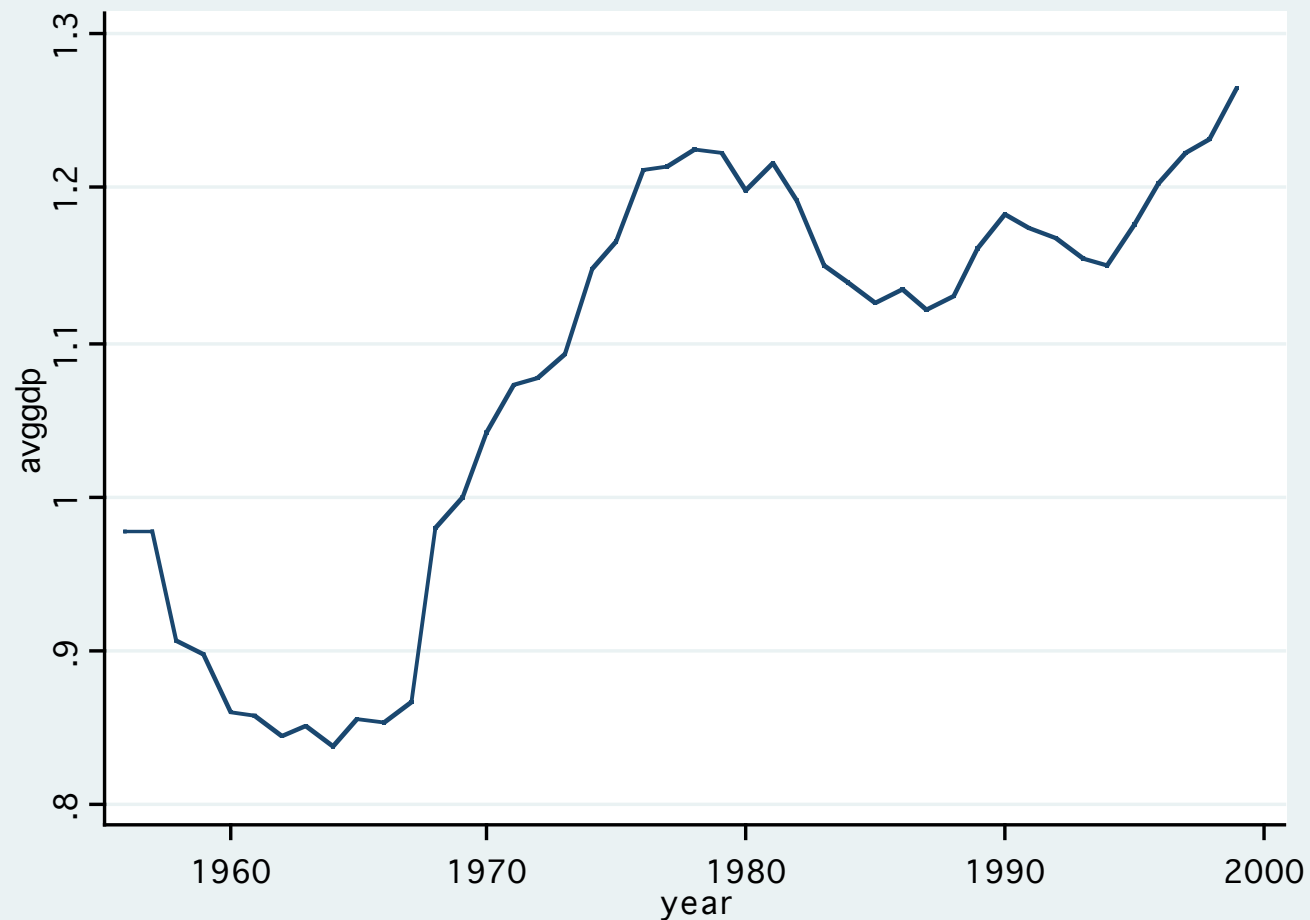
- External influence
 - ✓ Changes in WB model of development
 - ✓ End of Cold War
 - ✓ New technologies for mass communication
 - ✓ French model (bicentennial)
 - ✓ US aggressively promoting democracy by 1990
- Internal influence
 - ✓ Backlash against WB SAPs
 - ✓ Legitimacy crisis
 - ✓ Mandela's release

Q: True or False, according to the Polity project, Africa today is more autocratic than any other region of the world



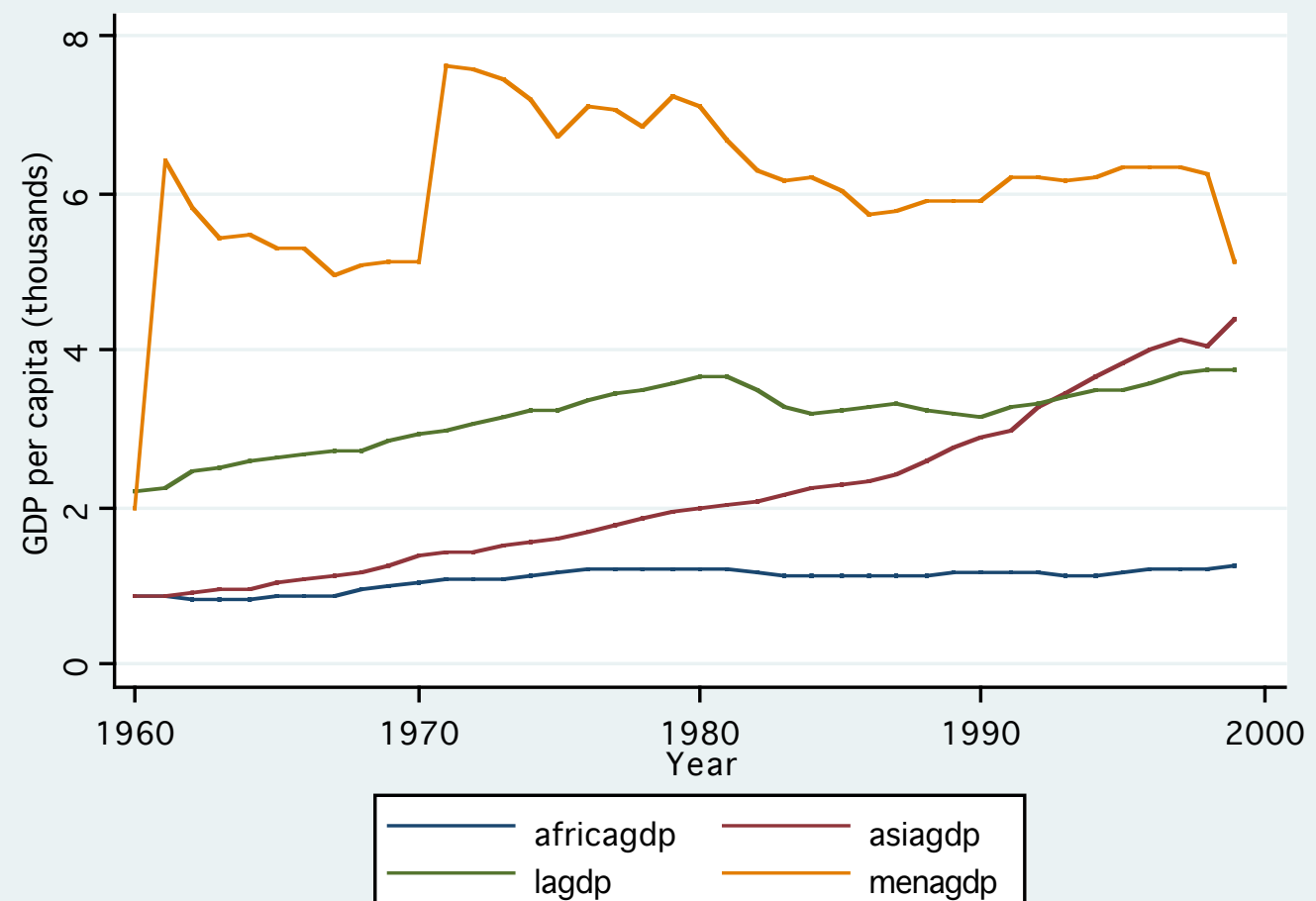
- a. True
- b. False

Democratization = Stability?



Democracy

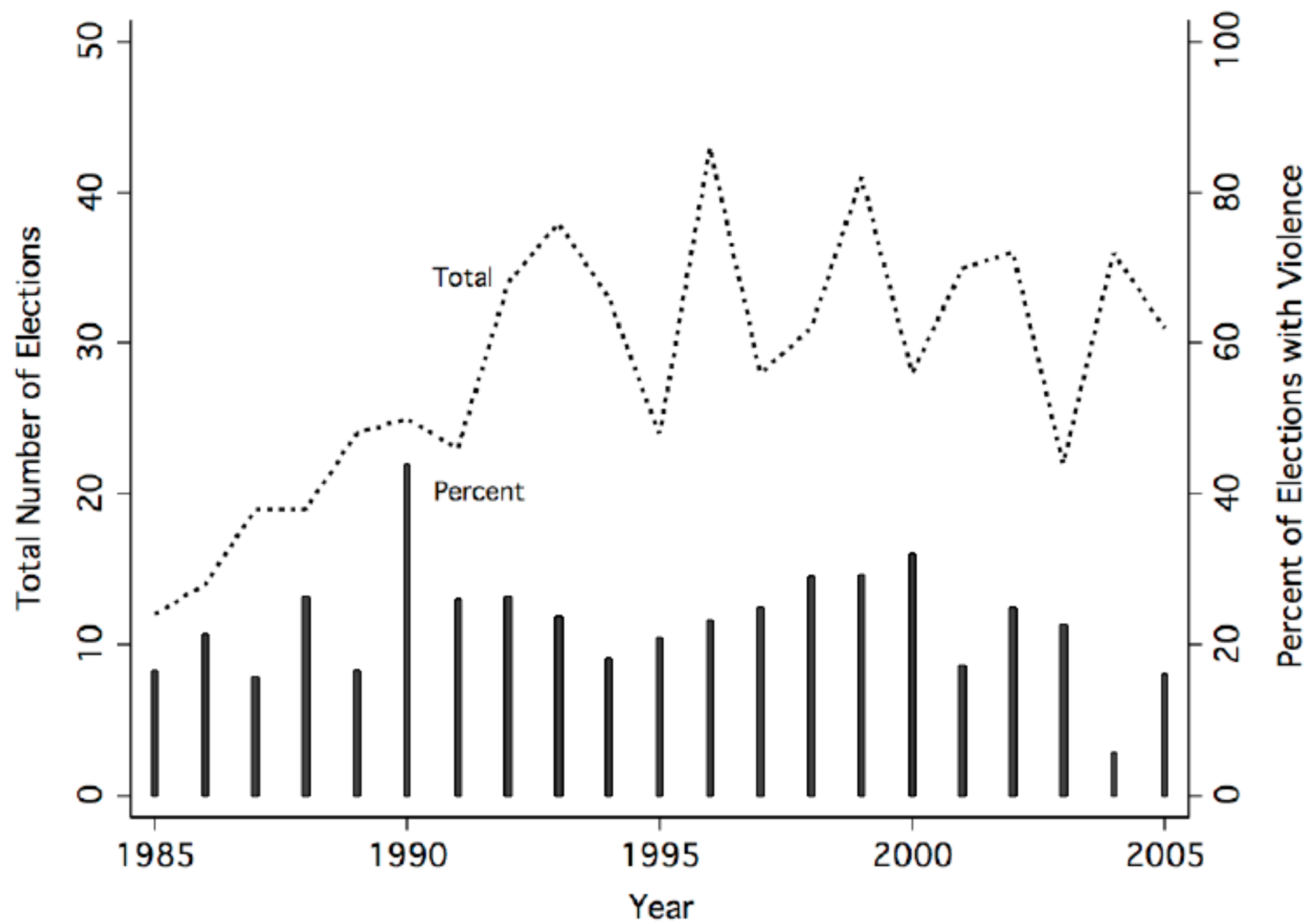
Growth



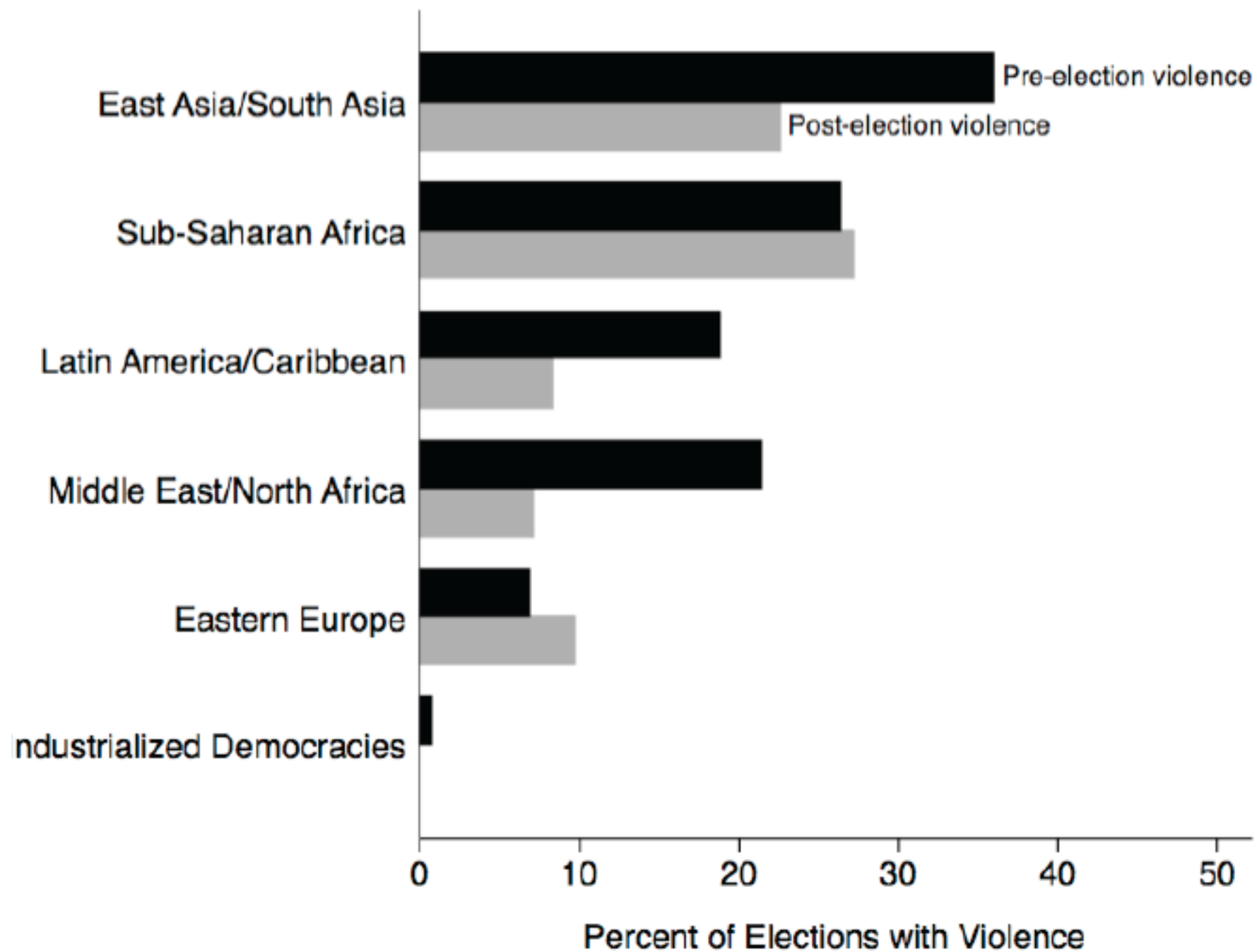
Democratization = Stability?



Council on Foreign Relations



1985-2005



The electoral fallacy

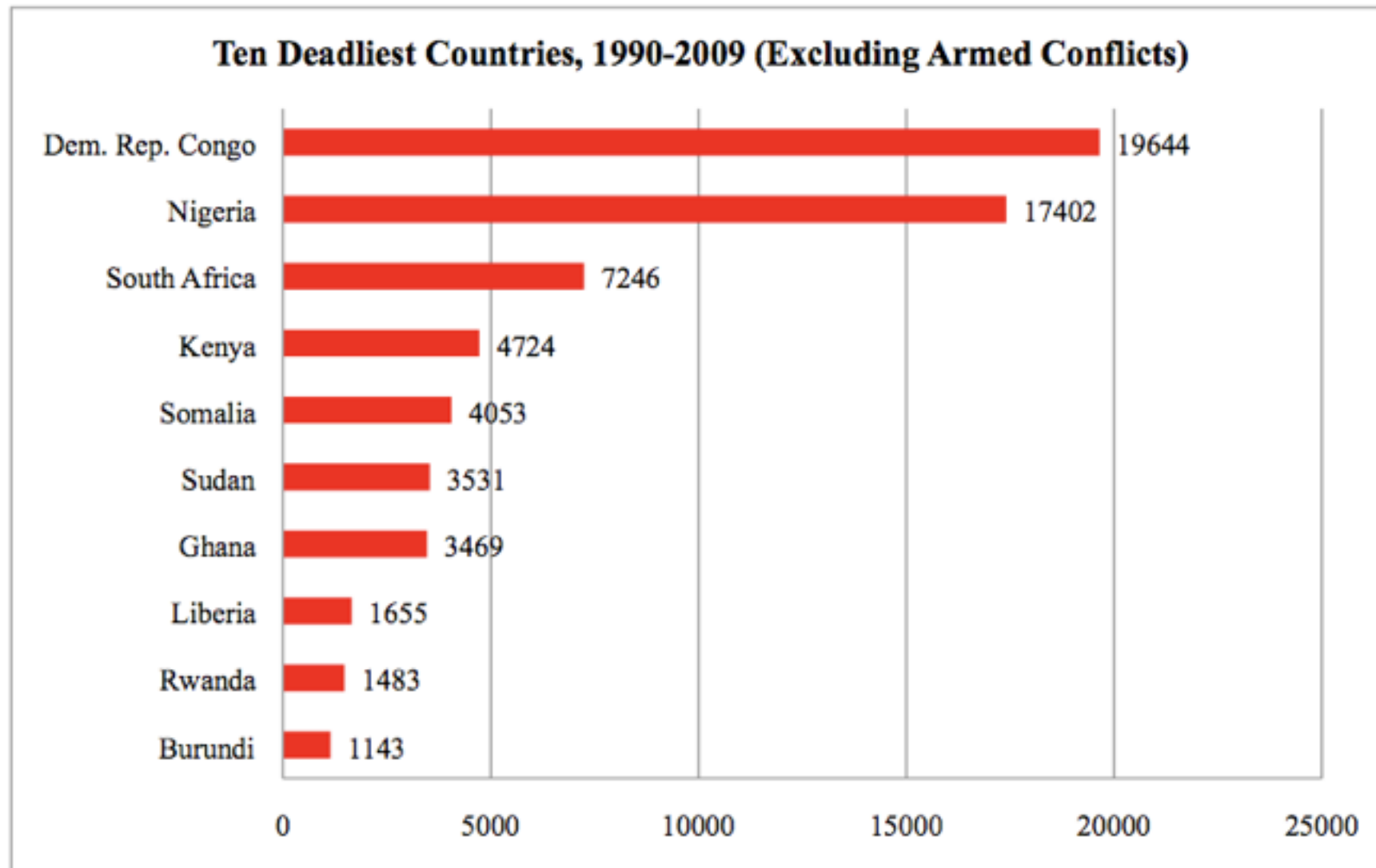


Figure 2. Social conflict events have resulted in a significant number of fatalities in Africa over the last twenty years, with the ten deadliest countries spread across the continent.

“... the crude simplicity of multiparty elections, which allows some of the world’s most notorious autocrats to parade democratic credentials without reforming their repressive regimes.”



theguardian.com



globalpost.com



aviewfromthecave.com



salon.com



theguardian.com



allafrica.com

Electoral violence (Straus and Taylor)

- Definition: physical violence and coercive intimidation directly tied to an impending electoral contest or to an announced electoral result
- Universe of cases: elections in SSA 1990-2007
- Dimension variations
 - Who: incumbents vs. challengers
 - When: pre-vote vs. post-vote
 - Level of violence: high vs. low

Broad patterns (S&T)

Dimensions	Statistics
Incumbents perpetrate	85% of violent cases
Challengers perpetrate	19% of pre-election violent cases 40% of post-election violent cases
Pre-vote violence	94% of violent cases, 76% of high-violent cases
Post-vote violence	30% of violent cases; 37% of high-violent cases
High electoral violence	19% of elections
Harassment	39% of elections
No violence	42% of elections

Determinants of electoral violence (S&T)

- ✓ Smaller margin of victory
- ✓ Less consolidated democracy
- ✓ More migration; more group competition over resources
- ✓ Middle-income
- ✓ Past pathways to power

Côte d'Ivoire, an example

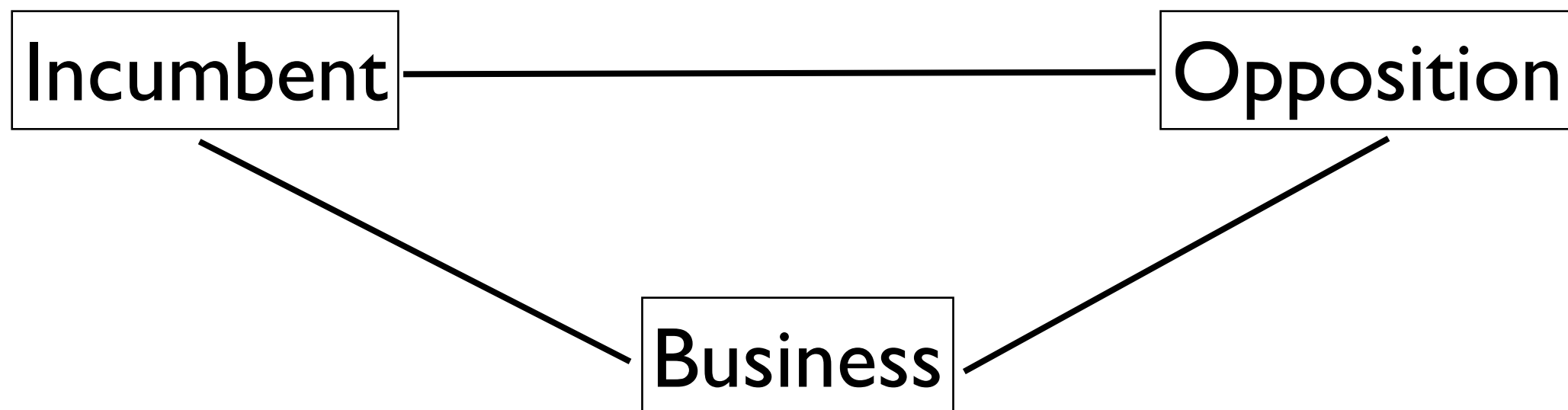


Côte d'Ivoire: prototype

- ✓ Small margin of victory
- ✓ Young democracy
- ✓ Competition over resources, migrants/locals
- ✓ Middle-income
- ✓ Past pathways to power: coups and coercion

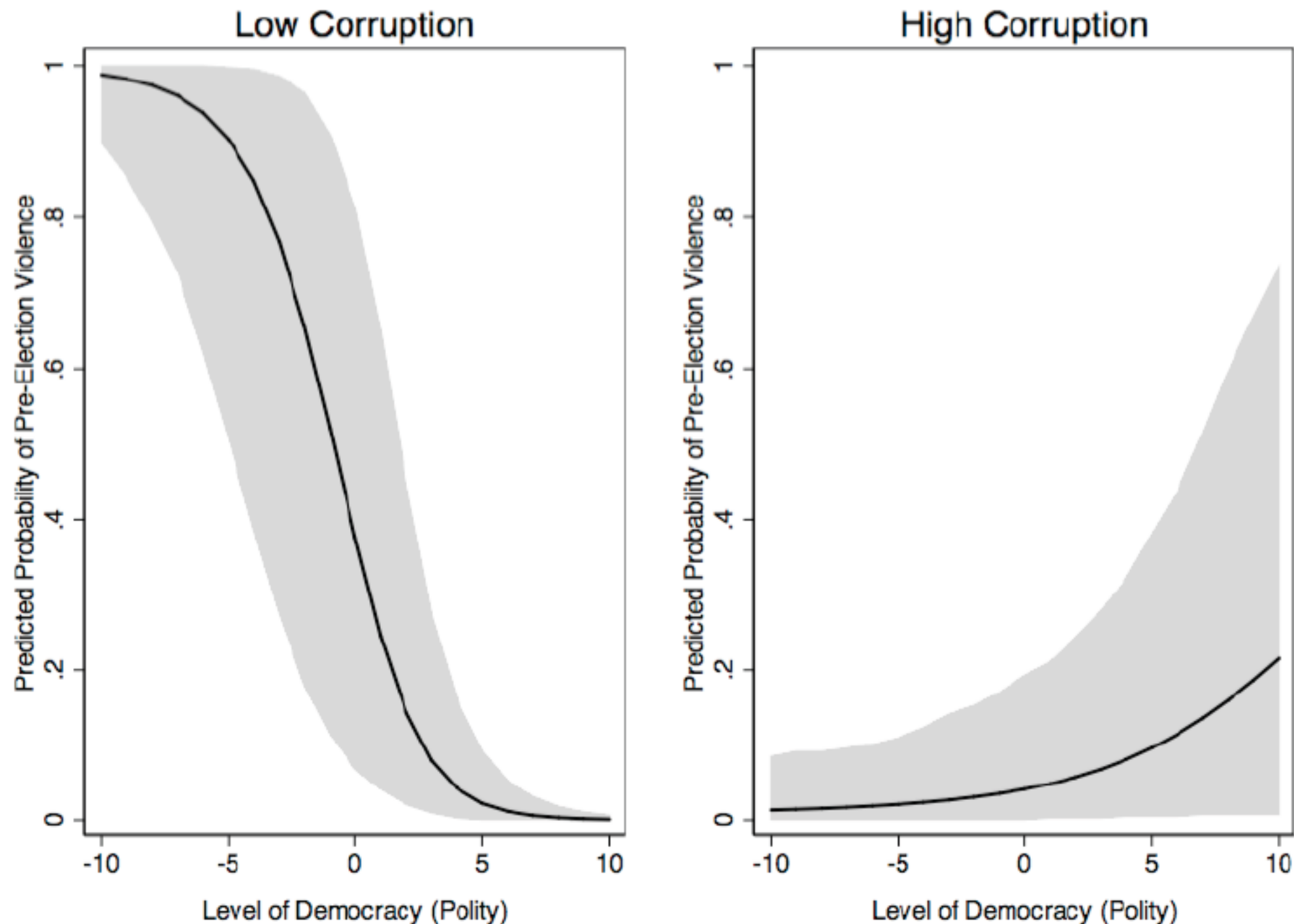
Electoral Violence (A&J)

- Politicians rely on patronage systems (corruption) to lower stakes of office and reduce uncertainty associated with elections. When they no longer have access to corruption, the stakes of office go up, leading to electoral violence
- Contrasts with Structural argument



Determinants of electoral violence (A&J)

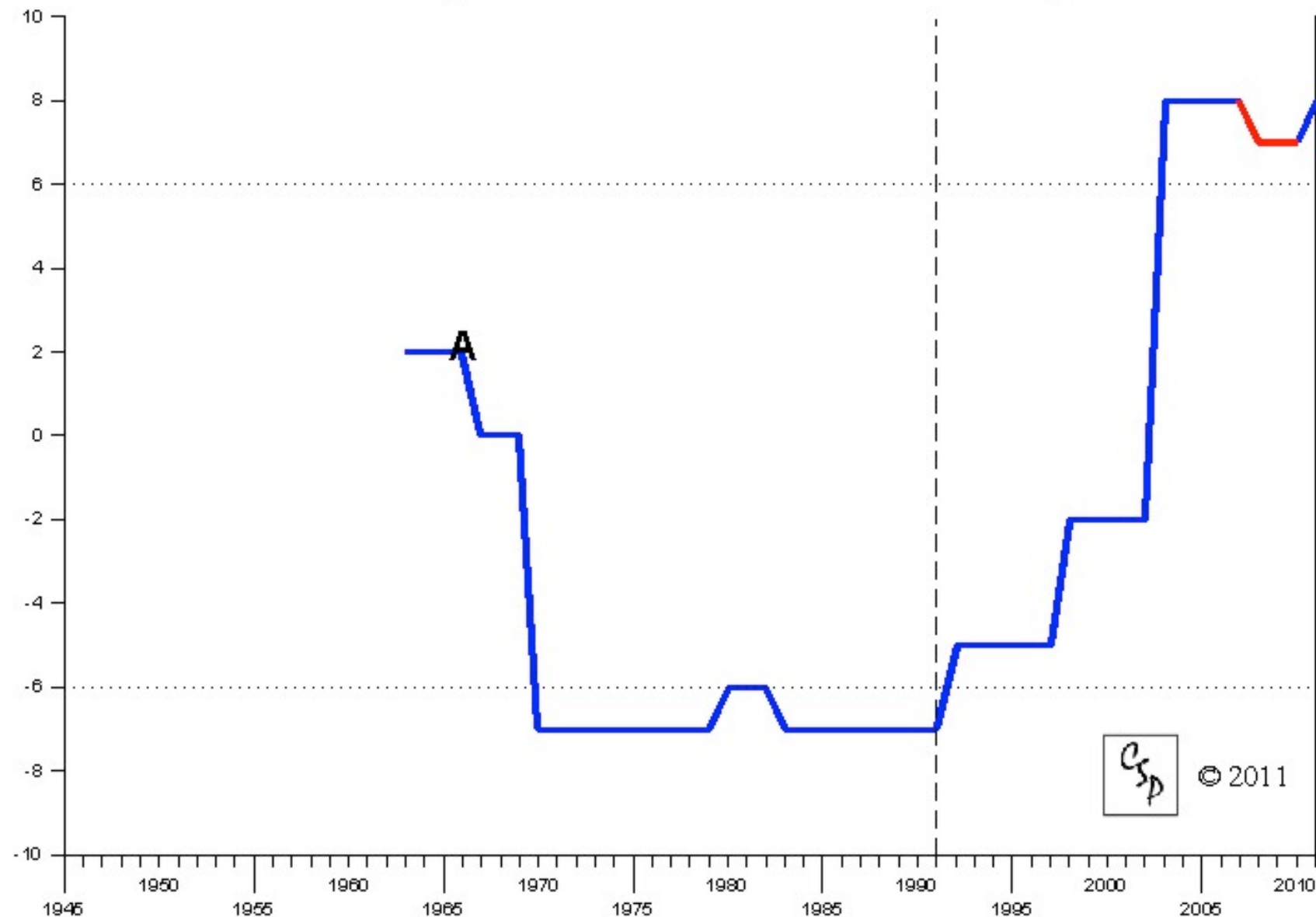
- Test argument in 596 national elections held worldwide 1985-2005



But Kenya?

Isn't Kenya highly corrupt? Didn't it experience violence?

Authority Trends, 1963-2010: Kenya



In sum

- Useful to identify broad patterns (Straus and Taylor)
- But when it comes to explaining electoral violence, need to think about (Arriola and Johnson)
 - Actors
 - Preferences
 - Strategies
- Political elites want to stay in power and employ a menu of options to do so
- Trade-off between corruption and electoral violence

Q: Political scientists like to explain things like conflict and violence as the outcomes of trade-offs leaders face. Which of the following is not a trade-off we have discussed in this class?



- a. Trade off between rebellions and coups
- b. Trade off between winning a primary election and winning a national election
- c. Trade off between corruption and electoral violence

POLI 120N: Contention and Conflict in Africa

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Electoral Violence