

A New Agenda ... Values, World Society, Modelling

<https://sites.google.com/site/gordonburtmathsocsci/home/a-new-agenda>

A New Agenda seeks to explore all aspects of society using all the academic disciplines paying special attention to values ... with special interest in modelling ... not disinterested in practice ... and aspiring to high academic standards.

Commentary, April 2017

No. 40

May 20, London:

Sri Lanka, human rights; geography, war; cognitive analytic therapy; Cyprus, peacebuilding; Brexit, security; *Values, World Society and Modelling*

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| 1.1 September 18-19: Peace and Conflict, Oxford
http://conflictresearchsociety.org/ourevents/crs-conference-oxford-2017/ | 1 |
| 1.2 April 29: Narcissism in Ideas. An interdisciplinary workshop, London
Herb Blumberg: h.blumberg@gold.ac.uk | 1 |
| 1.3 May 20: Interdisciplinary Book Festival, London
Sri Lanka, human rights; geography, war; cognitive analytic therapy; Cyprus, peacebuilding; Brexit, security; <i>Values, World Society and Modelling</i> .
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1 CRS events

1.1 September 18-19: Peace and Conflict, Oxford

Conflict Research Society (CRS) annual conference
Host: *Changing Character of War Programme*,
Pembroke College, Oxford University.
September 18th and 19th, 2017, Monday and Tuesday

<http://conflictresearchsociety.org/ourevents/crs-conference-oxford-2017/>

1.2 April 29: Narcissism in Ideas. An interdisciplinary workshop

Saturday 29 April 2017; 2 pm to 4:30 pm

Ian Gulland Lecture Theatre (IGLT), Whitehead Building, Goldsmiths, University of London, London SE14 6NW, England

<http://www.gold.ac.uk/>

<http://www.gold.ac.uk/find-us/>

Co-sponsors: Conflict Research Society and Psychology Department, Goldsmiths

What can psychology and a psychodynamic understanding tell us about the popular mood which led to Trump, the Brexit referendum and the rise of populism in Europe? As well as being available for students and staff at Goldsmiths, this open workshop will be of interest to psychotherapists and psychoanalysts as well as peace and conflict researchers and practitioners - and is intended to stimulate a conversation among these groups.

Steve Potter, psychotherapist, will talk about *Narcissism in Ideas* and will demonstrate a research method – ways of mapping the relationships among politicians, people and ideology with reference to Brexit and Trump.

Lunch and refreshments are available in the Loafers cafe, in the main (Richard Hoggart) Building, 10am-9pm.

There is no charge but please sign up beforehand for limited places so as to give us an idea of numbers by contacting Herb Blumberg (h.blumberg@gold.ac.uk).

1.3 May 20: Interdisciplinary Book Festival

Books: Sri Lanka, human rights; geography, war; cognitive analytic therapy; Cyprus, peacebuilding; Brexit, security; *Values, World Society and Modelling*.

Speakers: Judith Large, Steve Pickering, Julie Lloyd, Steve Potter, Yeshim Harris, Rania Dimitraki, Gordon Burt.

Brunel University, London

May 20th, 2017; Saturday 10.30am - 5.00pm

If you wish to attend please email Gordon Burt (gordonjburt@gmail.com).

A fee of £20 must be paid in advance by April 30th.

Cheques should be made payable to the *Conflict Research Society* and sent to: Gordon Burt, 28 Severn Drive, Newport Pagnell, MK16 9 DQ, UK.

Payment by bank transfer is also possible. Email gordonjburt@gmail.com for details.

10 for 10.30

10.30

Human rights, peacemaking, and geopolitics:

Push back. Sri Lanka's dance with global governance. Judith Large.

11.30

Geography and society:

Understanding geography and war. Misperceptions, foundations and prospects. Steve Pickering.

12.30

LUNCH

13.30

Psychology and society:

Cognitive Analytic Therapy for People with Intellectual Disabilities and their Carers

Julie Lloyd; the psychology group; Steve Potter;

14.30

The White Book: Pathways towards sustainable peacebuilding. Yeshim Harris.

15.30 BREAK

15.45

Economics and society:

The security budget in EU and the implications of Brexit on security issues. Rania

Dimitraki.

16.45

Twelve books: a *Values, World Society and Modelling* selection. Gordon Burt.

17.00

Close

Map: <http://www.brunel.ac.uk/about/documents/pdf/campus-map.pdf>

‘Getting to Brunel University London’: see page 2 of Map

Heathrow Airport: see page 2 of Map

Also: <http://www.brunel.ac.uk/about/finding-us>; <http://www.brunel.ac.uk/>

Food, Saturday 10am-7pm: <http://brunelcommercial.london/catering/subway/>

Coffee - Costa, Saturday 9.30am-5pm:

<http://brunelcommercial.london/catering/coffee-outlets/>

Accommodation, overnight on campus:

Lancaster Suite Hotel has restaurant, bar and spa. The rates are:

Lancaster Double (two double beds) from £75/night

Lancaster Single (1 double bed) from £55/night

Breakfast £8.95/person/day

Individual bookings can be made over the telephone on 01895 268001 or email

Lancaster-suite@brunel.ac.uk

Tourism, Windsor Castle, Berkshire:

<https://www.visitengland.com/things-to-do/berkshire>

The Books

Judith Large. *Push back. Sri Lanka’s dance with global governance.* London: Zed Books. 2016.

<https://www.zedbooks.net/shop/book/push-back/>

In 2009, after decades of conflict, the Sri Lankan government proclaimed the decisive defeat of the Liberation Tamil Tigers of Elam. Since then, the state has proved resistant to attempts by the UN and other international bodies to promote post-war reconciliation.

In this incisive new work, Judith Large investigates the ways in which the Sri Lankan government has been able to subvert international diplomatic efforts, as well as exploring the wider context of rising Sinhalese nationalism, the attendant growth of discrimination against Tamils, and efforts by both the Tamil diaspora and groups within Sri Lanka to lobby the international community.

Push Back is vital reading not only for those interested in Sri Lanka, but also for those interested in the wider implications of the conflict for human rights, peacemaking, and geopolitics.

- Examines how the Sri Lankan government has become adept at deflecting international criticism over its increased authoritarianism, and the wider implications for global human rights
- Offers a provocative critique of current attitudes towards international humanitarianism
- Investigates the role of China and the influence of the War on Terror

“A brilliant exposition of the end game in the Sri Lankan civil war. This book is essential background reading for anyone interested in how civil wars end and the role of different actors in these processes.”

Kevin Clements, University of Otago

‘The first serious academic study of the Rajapaksa regime’s manipulation of the international system, which enabled them to preside over mass atrocities and get away scot free.’

Frances Harrison, former Sri Lanka correspondent for the BBC and author of Still Counting the Dead: Survivors of Sri Lanka’s Hidden War

‘A fascinating account of the Sri Lankan government’s tense relationship with the international community.’

Alan Keenan, Sri Lanka project director, International Crisis Group

‘Incisively interrogates Sri Lanka’s socio-political fabric under the Rajapaksa regime ... sheds new light on how the government got away with outrageous human rights violations, even after the war.’

Sanjana Hattotuwa, Centre for Policy Alternatives (Sri Lanka)

Steve Pickering. *Understanding geography and war. Misperceptions, foundations and prospects.* London: Palgrave. 2016.

<http://www.palgrave.com/us/book/9781137522160>

Problematizes geopolitics and geography, compiling a wide range of thought on the subject while also contributing new perspectives

Offers both quantitative and critical perspectives on geopolitics and geography

Broadens the view of geopolitics to include global phenomena such as disease, sport, and mass immigration

By delving into the history of geopolitics and bringing us up to date with cutting-edge case studies looking at infrastructure, terrain, and maps, this book will dispel simplistic and misleading notions about the nature of how humans interact with the environment. Stops on the way will include critical geopolitics, religious geopolitics, popular geopolitics, feminist geopolitics, and, newest of all, critical quantitative geopolitics. More importantly, it uncovers new areas of research for the next generation of researchers, showing how critical and quantitative methods can be applied to look at how geography and war relate to diverse areas such as disease, sport, dispossession, and immigration.

History

Critical Approaches

Feminist Approaches to Geopolitics: Beyond the Geopolitics of Gender

Popular Geopolitics

Religious Geopolitics and the Geopolitics of Religion

Critical Quantitative Geo-Spatial Methods and War

Cognitive Analytic Therapy for People with Intellectual Disabilities and their Carers. Julie Lloyd and Philip Clayton December 2013

320pp 978-1-84905-409-6 pb £22.99

With a variety of case examples and contributions from experienced clinicians, this book introduces Cognitive Analytic Therapy (CAT) in practical, user-friendly language, and for the first time guides readers on how to use it to with people with intellectual disabilities. CAT is increasingly recognised as an effective approach for working with people with intellectual disabilities. It focuses on observing and describing typical patterns of how the client relates to others, how they behave in relationships and how they see themselves. By considering how these patterns first developed and how they can be revised in a more constructive direction, CAT can encourage change to occur as the result of healthier relationships. The contributors describe in straightforward terms how CAT may be used with people with intellectual disabilities, and provide CAT tools adapted specifically for this client group. CAT and autism, CAT with people with intellectual disabilities in forensic settings and CAT with survivors of domestic abuse who have intellectual disabilities are also explored in detail. This is essential reading for any clinician wishing to use CAT with people with intellectual disabilities, including psychiatrists, psychologists, psychotherapists, social workers and support workers, as well as professionals across forensic services. 'During the last thirty years we have witnessed a major change in provision of the psychological therapies for people who have intellectual disabilities (ID). Cognitive Analytic Therapy (CAT) became part of this process about fifteen years ago but very little has been published on it that was accessible to practitioners, families and service users. At last we have a detailed and accessible book which provides accounts of the development and use of CAT and guidance on its use with people who have intellectual disabilities. This book will inspire those who want to work therapeutically with people who have ID. It will open new doors as it will help to expand training and provision of therapists. It will demystify what CAT is and show how, with creativity, it can be made accessible to people who have ID and similar difficulties in a range of contexts.' - Professor Nigel Beail, South West Yorkshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust & University of Sheffield, UK

Yeshim Harris. The White Book: Pathways towards sustainable peacebuilding

I am writing to you to announce a publication which I proudly co-produced within a team of wonderful and inspirational women, led by Sophia Papastavrou and Magda Zenon.

The White Book aims to provide guidelines of best practices for increasing women's participation in the making and keeping of peace in Cyprus. In 2000, the United Nations Security Council (UNSCR) unanimously adopted Resolution 1325 on 'Women, Peace and Security', which marks the first time that the gendered nature of war, conflict, peace and security was recognised.

The White Book (attached) is the result of the 3 and 4 November 2016 Conference:

[Pathways towards Sustainable Peacebuilding.](#)

Pathways towards Sustainable Peace: Building United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325 into the Cyprus context

The experiences of men and women in conflict and post-conflict conditions are different. In these differences, women offer a vital perspective in the analysis of war as well as providing strategies toward peacebuilding that focus on creating ties across opposing factions and increasing the inclusiveness, transparency, and sustainability of peace processes.

The purpose of this conference is to bring women experts in the field of politics and civil society from various perspectives (international, Turkish Cypriot, Greek Cypriot, Maronite, Armenian, other nationalities living in Cyprus) to gain a better understanding of UNSCR 1325, what it means, why it matters, but more importantly how it is implemented in the everyday lives of women in Cyprus. In doing so, the conference seeks to bring together women as a collective and to build women's solidarity across the four pillars of UNSCR 1325. The aim is to develop an integrated and inclusive dialogue on women in a post-solution Cyprus and to come up with a 'White Book' in this regard edited by the conference organizing team in an attempt to promote a set of good practices to promote the women, peace and security agenda as a core dimension of the larger discussion of the Cyprus peace building process.

Burt, Gordon. (2016...) *Values, World Society and Modelling Yearbook, 2014...*

Yearbook, 2014

Burt, Gordon. (2016) *Values, World Society and Modelling Yearbook, 2014.*

Cambridge Scholars.

<http://www.cambridgescholars.com/values-world-society-and-modelling-yearbook-2014>

Yearbook, 2015 (due April/May 2017)

Values, World Society and Modelling Yearbook, 2015

An overview of the chapters is available at (pages 3 to 16):

<https://docs.google.com/viewer?a=v&pid=sites&srcid=ZGVmYXVsdGRvbWFpbmxiY3Jkb25idXJ0bWF0aHNvY3NjaXxneDo3ZTFiNzZjNTU4YWUz> .

Yearbook, 2016

Values, World Society and Modelling Yearbook, 2016

first draft of Overview with online links to Commentary:

<https://docs.google.com/viewer?a=v&pid=sites&srcid=ZGVmYXVsdGRvbWFpbmxiY3Jkb25idXJ0bWF0aHNvY3NjaXxneDo3ZDk2ZjNjMDI2MzNhNTFl>

2 Colombia Peace Agreement Referendum, 2016: the geography of the vote

“La politique de toutes les puissances est dans leur géographie.”

Napoleon in a letter to the King of Prussia in 1804

Magnus, George. “It can celebrate a great history, but Britain cannot ignore its geography.” *The Times*, 5 April 2017, 39.

2.1 The referendum in 2016

The Colombia Peace Agreement Referendum in 2016

The polls ... the turnout ... the result ... the winning margin

Variation between provinces

Variation within each province

Territory and physical geography

The winning contour ... its topology

The perimeter profile and spiral

A comparison: Nigeria, Greece, Ireland, USA, Ukraine and Scotland ... and Colombia

The exceptionality of the capital

2.2 Correlated contour maps

The correlation of the 2016 vote with non-violent politics, 1982-2014

The correlation of the 2016 vote with violent politics

The correlation of the 2016 vote with social and economic geography

The correlation of the 2016 vote with physical geography

2.3 Democracy

Two-option choices and majority voting

Democracy: satisfaction? ... dissatisfaction? ... value space

Nigeria, Greece and Ireland: geography and one-dimensional political space

Further analyses

2.1 The referendum in 2016

The Colombia Peace Agreement Referendum of 2016

The Times leader on 31st December 2015 declared that:

“a year of anxiety is coming to a close ... Yet there are alternative futures ... Colombia is only months away from a final agreement this could, however, be a more confident and somewhat happier new year.”¹

On 24 August 2016 the government of Colombia reached a peace agreement with Farc rebels, signed by President Santos and Farc leader Timoleon Jiminez. The deal was to be ratified in a referendum which was held on 2nd October 2016.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Colombian_peace_agreement_referendum,_2016

The polls ... the turnout ... the result ... the winning margin

“Voters in Colombia have rejected a landmark peace deal with Farc rebels in a shock referendum result, with 50.2% voting against it.” 3 October 2016.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-latin-america-37537252>

“Polls conducted ahead of Sunday's vote suggested a comfortable win for the "yes" campaign ...

Turnout was low with fewer than 38% of voters casting their votes.”

The vote was extremely close: 49.8% Yes and 50.2% No, rejecting the peace agreement. So the winning margin was a mere 0.4%.

Variation between provinces

Columbia has 32 provinces. The Yes vote ranged between 29% (Casanare) and 80% (Choco), a range of 51%. See Table 1. Over half the provinces, 17, are outside the 40% to 60% interval. The distribution is fairly flat across the range 30% to 70%; and is somewhat skewed to the right. There are six provinces with less than 40% and eleven provinces with more than 60%. There is one province with less than 30% and two provinces with more than 70%.

Table 1 Distribution of voting in the 32 provinces, % ‘Yes’

	% Yes					
	30-	30-40	40-50	50-60	60-70	70-80
Number of provinces	1	5	7	8	9	2

Note that a majority of provinces voted ‘Yes’: 19 (59%) for Yes, and 13 (41%) for No. This happens even though the overall result was a very narrow win for ‘No’ with 50.2% of the vote. It happens because different provinces had different numbers of voters. On average, ‘No’ provinces had a larger number of voters than did ‘Yes’ provinces – about 46% larger.

¹ Leader. “A year of anxiety is coming to a close.” *The Times*, December 31,m 2015.

Variation within each province

The numbers in Table 1 can be thought of in another way. Within each province there is a sizeable minority in the province who voted differently from the majority in the province.

In 15 provinces there is a minority of at least 40%.

In 14 provinces there is a minority of between 30% and 40%.

In 2 provinces there is a minority of between 20% and 30%.

Territory and physical geography

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Colombia>

The territory of Colombia has land and sea borders. The province of Choco is on the Pacific coast (west), forms the border with Panama (north) and has a short coastline on the Gulf of Mexico. Colombia borders Ecuador, Peru and Brazil in the south, Brazil and Venezuela in the east and the Gulf of Mexico in the north. The territory of Colombia also includes islands in the Pacific and in the Caribbean. See Figure 1.

Figure 1 A schematic map of the territory and borders of Colombia

Pacific	Panama, Caribbean	
Pacific	Colombia	Venezuela
Pacific	Colombia	
Pacific	Colombia	Brazil
Pacific	Ecuador	Peru Brazil

The physical geography indicates six main natural regions: the Caribbean coast in the north; the pacific coastal region in the west, the Amazon rainforest in the south and-south east; the Andes mountain range; the plains towards the east; and the islands.

The winning contour ... its topology

“Who voted how?”

Colombia was divided regionally with most of the outlying provinces voting in favour of the agreement and those nearer the capital and inland voting against it.”

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-latin-america-37537252>

The website includes the above map. Provinces with few roads seem to have a high ‘Yes’ vote; and provinces with few roads seem to have a low ‘Yes’ vote;

The above quotation corresponds to the notion that the winning contour is the dividing line between the outer (primary) perimeter and the inner (secondary) perimeter. This is indeed the case – 17 out of 20 primary perimeter provinces voted ‘Yes’; 10 out of 11 secondary perimeter provinces voted ‘No’; but the [tertiary perimeter] centre voted ‘Yes’. See Table 2 below (an extension of Table 1 above).

Table 2 Distribution of voting for the 32 provinces

	% Yes					
	30-	30-40	40-50	50-60	60-70	70-80
Number of provinces						
overall	1	5	7	8	9	2
outer perimeter (20)	0	2	1	6	9	2
inner perimeter (11)	1	3	6	1	0	0
centre (capital) (1)	0	0	0	1	0	0

We now consider the topology of the winning contour. We look at connected subsets of Yes provinces and connected subsets of No provinces. All the No provinces are in one connected subset: ‘N’. The Yes provinces consist of four separate connected subsets: three are on the outer perimeter and one is in the centre: Y1, Y2, Y3 and Y4. The No set N ‘invades’ the perimeter at three separate points (Arauca, Norte de Santander, Antioquia) thus creating the three separate subsets Y1, Y2 and Y3. Set N surrounds the centre Y4. See Figure 1.

Figure 1 A schematic map of the topology of the winning contour (‘No’)

Y1 N Y2 Y2 Y2
Y1 N N N N
Y1 N Y4 N Y3
Y1 N N N N
Y1 N N N Y1
Y1 Y1 Y1 Y1 Y1

The perimeter profile and spiral

The above quotation also corresponds to the notion that the outer perimeter profile is above (has higher percentage ‘Yes’ than) the inner perimeter profile. This is indeed the case – see Figure 2.

The outer (primary) perimeter runs anticlockwise from Choco (a voting peak) in the west to the south then to Vaupes (a second peak) in the east then to a pair of troughs then to the north then to Antioquia (another trough) and finally back to Choco (back to the first peak) in the west. So the outer perimeter is (broadly speaking) two-peaked. The lowest part of the profile is in the middle, corresponding to the eastern portion of the perimeter – the provinces bordering Venezuela: Guainia, Vichada, Arauca (trough), Boyaca, Norte de Santander (trough), Cesar, La Guarjira.

The corresponding inner (secondary) perimeter also starts in the west, going round anticlockwise. There is a weak similarity of shape in the two profiles. Note that there are fewer provinces in the inner perimeter and so there are gaps in the correspondence with the outer perimeter – indicated by a ‘0’ in Figure 1.

A comparison: Nigeria, Greece, Ireland, USA, Ukraine and Scotland ... and Colombia

Of the eight cases presented in Table 2 Colombia has the narrowest winning margin and the second largest range between provinces.

Table 2 Eight cases of voting on a binary option; overall and regional variation

	Total variation			Between-unit variation		
	Options A	B	winning margin	min	max	Regional variation difference
Colombia peace agreement	50.2	49.8	0.4	29	80	51
USA 2012 Obama v. Romney	50.6	47.9	2.7	27.3	70.6 ²	43.3
USA 2008 Obama v. McCain	52.9	45.7	7.2	-	-	-
Ukraine 2014 Poroshenko v. others	54.7	45.3	9.4	36	70	34
Scotland independence 2014	45	55	10.0	42.7	67.2	24.3
Nigeria 2015 Johnson v. Buhari	45	55	10.0	1	95	94
Greece 2015 bailout	38.7	61.3	22.6	51	74	23
Ireland 2015 equal marriage	62.1	37.9	24.2	49	75	26

The exceptionality of the capital?

The Colombia case suggests a notion of the exceptionality of the capital province – cf. Nigeria and USA ... and indeed Brexit ... and the geography of personality.

2.2 Correlated contour maps

Consider the contour map for a variable x and the contour map for a variable y. If x and y are correlated then the contour maps for x and y will look similar – and vice versa. So we can talk about correlated contour maps. Some maps are strongly correlated with one another, other maps only weakly if at all correlated.

The correlation of the 2016 vote with non-violent politics, 1982-2014

The winning contour in 2016 is almost identical with the winning contour in the first and second rounds of the 2014 presidential elections. Wins/losses for ‘Yes’ in 2016 correspond to wins/losses for President Santos in 2014. This is so for 25 of the 32 mainland provinces, in other words 78% of the provinces. (The exceptions are: five of

² This excludes Washington DC where it was 91%.

the 20 provinces on the outer perimeter, all of them on the east border; and two of the 11 provinces on the inner perimeter.)

(1) Peace referendum 2016

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-latin-america-37537252>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Colombian_peace_agreement_referendum,_2016

(2) Presidential election 2014

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Colombian_presidential_election,_2014;

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Mapa_de_Colombia_\(segunda_Vuelta_2014\).svg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Mapa_de_Colombia_(segunda_Vuelta_2014).svg)

Less strongly there is a link with the contour for the parliamentary elections in 2014. Wins/losses for ‘Yes’ in 2016 correspond to wins/losses for either the Social Party of National Unity or the Liberal Party or the Alternative Democracy Pole Party (v. the Democratic Centre Party or the Conservative Party). This is so for 22 of the 32 mainland provinces, in other words 69% of the provinces. (The exceptions are: six of the 20 provinces on the outer perimeter; and four of the 11 provinces on the inner perimeter.)

Note:

Social Party of National Unity: Juan Manuel Santos

Democratic Centre Party: [Alvaro Uribe](#)

Parliamentary elections in 2014

https://johanneslangerdotcom.files.wordpress.com/2014/03/screenshot_registradura.png

<https://johanneslanger.com/2014/03/12/colombia-on-the-crossroads-after-parliamentary-elections/>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Colombian_parliamentary_election,_2014

The winning contour in 2016 is similar to the winning contour in the final round of the 2002 presidential election. Wins/losses for ‘Yes’ in 2016 correspond to wins/losses for the Liberal Party (v. Columbia First Party) in 2002.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Colombian_presidential_election,_2002

The winning contour in 2016 is similar to the winning contour in the final round of the 1998 presidential elections. Wins/losses for ‘Yes’ in 2016 correspond to wins/losses for the Liberal Party (v. Conservative Party) in 1998.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Colombian_presidential_election,_1998

... less so for the 1994 and 1982 elections.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Colombian_presidential_election,_1994

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Colombian_presidential_election,_1982

[I do not have the relevant information to hand to comment on presidential or parliamentary elections in other years.]

The correlation of the 2016 vote with violent politics

I do not have the relevant information to hand to comment on violent politics. However the situation appears to be complex. The following quotation suggests some correspondence between the % ‘Yes’ vote in 2016 and presence of FARC – on the outer perimeter.

(1) The greatest concentrations of FARC forces were in the southeastern, northern and southwestern regions of Colombia's 500,000 square kilometers (190,000 sq mi) of [jungle](#), in the [plains](#) at the base of the [Andean](#) mountain chain^{[[citation needed](#)]} and in

northwestern Colombia.^[24] However, the FARC and the [*ELN* \(National Liberation Army of Colombia\)](#) lost control of much of the territory, especially in urban areas, forcing them to relocate to remote areas in the jungle and the mountains.

1 [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/FARC#Role of FARC in the areas it controlled;](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/FARC#Role_of_FARC_in_the_areas_it_controlled;)

2 not found

http://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/interactive/2017/02/colombia-farc-eln-areas-3_influence-170208110412073.html;

3 Mines controlled by illegal groups are located in or near the north, west and south of the outer perimeter.

<http://www.insightcrime.org/news-analysis/map-where-the-farc-controls-colombias-mines>;

4 <http://colombiareports.com/mapping-colombias-illegal-armed-groups/> ;

https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?mid=1GkOIofcpG2Qc4Oj7x_ef_WXnKco&hl=en&ll=5.695248753762099%2C-73.59741200000002&z=6;

<http://www.conflictmap.org/conflict/colombia>;

5 50 years of war: Colombia and FARC

Jeremy Ratcliff, John Hopkins University

The correlation of the 2016 vote with social and economic geography

The map for the 2016 vote – and the political maps in general - show some correlation with social and economic geography:

(1) Land use map: forest in the west and south v. intensive agriculture in the centre.

http://mapas.owje.com/maps/1925_colombia-land-use-map.html

(2) Economic activity: mainly in the centre and north/east.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Geography_of_Colombia#/media/File:Colombia_econ_1970.jpg

(3) The map of highways in Colombia shows an absence of roads on the west Pacific coast and in the south-east half of the country.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Highways_in_Colombia#/media/File:Mapa_de_Colombia_\(red_vial\).svg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Highways_in_Colombia#/media/File:Mapa_de_Colombia_(red_vial).svg)

(4) More tenuously there is a link between the contours for the percentage of indigenous peoples in Colombia.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indigenous_peoples_in_Colombia

(5) On average, ‘No’ provinces had a larger number of voters than did ‘Yes’ provinces – about 46% larger. See earlier section.

The correlation of the 2016 vote with physical geography

The map for the 2016 vote – and the political, social and economic maps in general - show some correlation with physical geography:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Geography_of_Colombia

(1) Relief map:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Geography_of_Colombia#/media/File:Mapa_de_Colombia_\(relieve\).svg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Geography_of_Colombia#/media/File:Mapa_de_Colombia_(relieve).svg)

(2) Climate types:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Geography_of_Colombia#/media/File:Colombia_koppen.svg

2.3 Democracy

Two-option choices and majority voting

Peter Emerson, director of the de Borda Institute has been a long-standing and energetic critic of two-option choices and majority voting. He carried out a six-option survey associated with the Scottish independence referendum which is analysed and discussed on pages 193-195 of my *Values, World Society and Modelling Yearbook 2014* (Cambridge Scholars, 2016).

‘Democracy: satisfaction? ... dissatisfaction? ... value space’

Chapter 12 of *Yearbook, 2015* (due April/May 2017)

See pages 13 to 14 in the overview of the chapters is available at (pages 3 to 16):

<https://docs.google.com/viewer?a=v&pid=sites&srcid=ZGVmYXVsdGRvbWFpbmxb3Jkb25idXJ0bWF0aHNvY3NjaXxneDo3ZTFiNzM0ZjljNTU4YWUz> .

Nigeria, Greece and Ireland: geography and one-dimensional political space

The following is the overview of Chapter 8 in my *Values, World Society and Modelling Yearbook 2015* (Cambridge Scholars, April/May 2017).

This chapter is about the relationship between political space and geographical space. The political space considered here is only one-dimensional because it is based on the percentage vote in cases where there are just two options. Three cases are considered: the presidential election in Nigeria; the bailout referendum in Greece; and the same-sex referendum in Ireland. The background to these three cases is given in Chapter 5.

The first case is Nigeria. Presidential elections were held in Nigeria in March 2015. Muhammadu Buhari gained 54% of the votes and the sitting president, Goodluck Johnson, gained 45% - a sizeable win for Buhari but still substantial support for Johnson. Of the total variation in voting, 59% was within-state variation and 41% was between-state variation. Across the 37 states, the vote for Buhari ranged between 1% and 95%.

Political space relates to geographical space. This can be studied in various ways. Looking at the 50% ‘winning contour partition’, Buhari won in a single set of connected states and Johnson won in three connected sets of states: the mid-south, the east-middle and the Federal capital. Contour-partitions at different levels divided the country into four: north, upper middle, lower middle, and mid-south, ordered according to decreasing Buhari vote. Latitude north correlates 0.9 with the Buhari vote. The voting surface can be represented by a series of west-east sections for different latitudes north and this suggests an interaction between latitude north and longitude east and also a special mid-south effect. The pattern of results is also illustrated by looking at the spatial network of states and the correlated profiles for the primary and secondary concentric perimeters.

The second case is Greece. Three elections were held in Greece in 2015: a legislative election on 25 January and a second legislative election on 20 September – but it is the bailout referendum, held on 5 July between these two other elections, that we focus on here. In terms of differences between states the two legislative election results correlated 0.9 with one another and each correlated 0.7 with the referendum results. The bailout proposal was rejected with 61% voting ‘No’ and 39% voting ‘Yes’ - a sizeable win for ‘No’. Voting percentages across the 57 regions ranged between 51% and 74% - revealing a moderately divided society. Political space relates to geographical space. Perimeter profiles exhibited local jaggedness superposed on single-peakedness.

The third case is Ireland. On 22 May 2015 a referendum was held in Ireland to mandate provision for same-sex marriage. The bill was supported by all political parties but officially opposed by the Roman Catholic Church, in Ireland and in the Vatican (85% of the population in Ireland is Catholic).

The 62% 'Yes' vote was, as well as being a sizeable win, also reflective of a divided society. Voting across the 43 constituencies exhibited a uniform distribution with the 'Yes' vote ranging from 75% (Dublin South East) to 49% (Roscommon Leitrim). So variation within constituencies was much greater than variation between constituencies. Political space relates to demographics: the 'Yes' vote correlated 0.9 with the logarithm of population density, with the area of the constituency and with the 'internal distance'. Political space relates to geographical space, in particular to an urban-rural divide. The highest 'Yes' vote was in the capital, Dublin, in the East; next were 'medium urban' areas, the east & south coastal corridor and the two urban areas in the west, Limerick and Galway; and finally, lowest were rural and lesser urban areas, the north being lower than the south. An equation seeks to capture east-west and south-north gradients as well as urban peaks. Ireland has a lower urban population (63%) than the UK (83%) and just nine urban areas with more than 30,000 people (following a power distribution). These areas and their internal transport linkages are mostly situated on the east & south coastal corridor, and are the primary terminals for transport to the UK and the rest of Europe. Turnout was positively related to the 'Yes' vote; and (hence?) to demographics.

The chapter ends with a comparison of seven binary-option elections: USA 2008 and 2012; Ukraine 2014; Scotland 2014; Nigeria 2015; Greece 2015; and Ireland 2015.

Extract from pages 9 to 11 in the overview – see link below.

[Yearbook, 2015](#) (due April/May 2017)

Values, World Society and Modelling Yearbook, 2015

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An overview of the chapters is available at (pages 3 to 16):

<https://docs.google.com/viewer?a=v&pid=sites&srcid=ZGVmYXVsdGRvbWFpbmxb3Jkb25idXJ0bWF0aHNvY3NjaXxneDo3ZTFiNzZjNTU4YWUz> .

Further analyses

I would be interested in carrying out further analyses. One small aspect is that it would be good to have better data:

- (1) the actual percentages rather than the percentage bands which are used in Figure 1.
- (2) The percentages at a more localised level than provinces.