UNHCR Codebook

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We apply the theory of collective action and alliance behavior first developed by Olson and Zeckhauser (1966) and later extended by Sandler in a series of studies to test whether the nature of refugee protection influences state motivations to provide contributions. We investigate whether refugee protection can be viewed as a pure public good with the concomitant problem of free riding leading to sub-optimal outcomes, or whether contributions provide states private benefits which transform the nature of the good. Using a Heckman selection model, we test for the determinants of state contributions to the UNHCR and find that refugee protection offers several private benefits indicating that it can best be understood as an impure public good. We conclude, however, that even when states are able to secure these private benefits, it does not necessarily lead to the optimal provision of refugee protection.

This data set includes the following variables:

1. **Year**:
Data collected from 1995-2005.

2. **Countries**:
Alphabetical list of all nation-states worldwide (taken from UN membership).

3. **Panel_Number**:
Number for each country of the panel.

4. Contributor:
Whether the state contributed to the UNHCR in a given year (0 = no; 1 = yes).

5. **Amount**:
The amount that the state contributed to the UNHCR in a given year. Data collected from UNHCR reports to the UN General Assembly (years 1995-2001) and UNHCR's *Global Reports* (years 2002-2005).

6. **Amount_1**:
The amount that the state contributed to UNHCR with constant of 1.

7. **Lamount_1**:
The log amount that the state contributed to the UNHCR in a given year with a constant of 1.

8. **Democracy_Score**:
The level of democracy in the state for that year. Coding comes from Freedom House and ranges from 2-14 (lower scores indicate higher level of democracy).

9. **GDP**:
GDP of the state for the given year reported in real dollars. Data collected from the *World Bank Development Reports*.

10. **LGDP**:
The log of GDP for the given year reported in real dollars.

11. **Refugees**:
Number of refugees in the state. Data collected from the *UNHCR Statistical Yearbook*.

12. **Refugees_1**:
Number of refugees in the state with a constant of 1.

13. **Lrefugees_1**:
Log number of refugees in the state with a constant of 1.

14. **Border_Refugees**:
Number of refugees that border the state. Data collected from the *CIA World Factbook*.

15. **Border_Refugees_1**:
Number of refugees that border the state with a constant of 1.

16. **Lborder_Refugees_1**:
Log number of refugees that border the state with a constant of 1.

17. **Percentage_Earmarked**:
Percentage of contribution that was earmarked by the state. Data collected from *UNHCR Global Reports* 199-2005.

18. **NGOs**:
Number of NGOs consulted. Data collected from *UNHCR Annual Consultations* 2001-2005.

19. **Spill_In**:
The total contribution amount of other states in the previous year minus the state's contribution in the current year.

20. **Lspill_In**:
The log total contribution amount of other states in the previous year minus the state's contribution in the current year.

21. **Years**:
The number of years since last donation (starting from base year "0").

22. **Years_2**:
The number of squared years squared since last donation (starting from base year "0").

23. **Years_3**:
The number of cubed years since last donation (starting from base year "0").

24. **Lag_Lamount**:
The log amount that the state contributed to the UNHCR in the previous year.