

## HOME OFFICE

### Analysis of International Conflict and Instability - ALCED dataset

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#### Overview of the Data Fellowship

My Q-Step internship was at the Home Office in Westminster where I carried out social research in the Central Analysis and Insight Team. I used secondary data from the The Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project (ACLED) in order to gain an understanding of conflict. This data is then included in the wider conflict and instability project which, once completed, will be published in the future.

The main objective of the project was to discover, assess and analyse ALCED as a key conflict and instability dataset. Through this, the Home Office is able to familiarise itself with international issues and conflict patterns.

#### Data Analysis

In order to determine conflict and instability trends, I familiarised myself with the ACLED dataset and considered how it can be used to track changes in conflict and emerging patterns at the country-level. The data was looking to year ending June 2022. I analysed the dataset and collated summary statistics across all countries with available data in order to compare and examine main countries of interest, all which were presented in excel. This was for both conflict and protests across countries.

I was able to extract key trends and stories from the data to analyse and present in a project PowerPoint. This was complemented by qualitative findings from the wider forward-looking project.

Additionally, I produced a set of desk notes outlining the best ways to use the data, key caveats and and guidance for the ALCED dataset. This was so the next person to pick up the project could be familiarised quickly with how to use it to its full potential.

#### Findings

Due to the data not being published yet and it is confidential, I am unable to include the results and provide analysis.

#### Key Skills Learnt

From this internship, I have been able to develop my excel skills to an experienced level. I have been able to gain professional expertise through being exposed to the workplace as well as talking to my colleagues about their past and present jobs. I was able to speak to other social researchers, people in policy and, in intelligence to name a few.

This experience has been hugely beneficial as it has shown me the plethora of opportunities available within the civil service as well as other institutions in the government. I have become more confident with both quantitative and qualitative data analysis and methods, skills which can be used in my future essays and research in the future.

