A BIBLIOMETRIC ANALYSIS OF REBEL GOVERNANCE

Muhammed KARAKUŞ[1]

Abstract

This study delves into rebel governance through a bibliometric analysis. Rebel groups administer areas beyond the boundaries of nation-states with varying degrees of ambition, success, and violence and indicate that spaces lacking state authority are by no means ungoverned. Following the entire research field of Rebel Governance, 1133 data documents were retrieved from the WOS and Scopus databases. Data analysis was performed using Biblioshiny. The research reveals a global trend in interest and study of rebel governance. The field also offers fertile ground for innovative research projects. The findings from trend analysis indicate a shift in interest towards certain words over the years. Nonetheless, many phenomena related to the governance of rebels and their governance still need to be researched.

Keywords: Non-State Armed Groups, R Programming, Rebel Governance, Bibliometric, Biblioshiny

JEL Codes F50, F51, F52

İSYANCI YÖNETİMİ ÜZERİNE BİR BİBLİYOMETRİK ANALİZ

Abstract

Bu çalışma, bibliometrik analiz yöntemiyle "isyancı yönetimini" derinlemesine irdelemektedir. Bu gruplar, ulus devletlerin sınırlarının ötesinde değişen hırs, başarı ve şiddet dereceleriyle bölge yönetimleri yürütmektedirler ve devlet otoritesinin olmadığı alanların yönetilmiyor olmadığını da göstermektedir. İsyancı yönetimi araştırma alanının tamamını takip ederek, WOS ve Scopus veri tabanlarından 1133 veri dokümanı elde edilmiştir. Veri analizinde Biblioshiny kullanılmıştır. Araştırma, İsyancı yönetimine olan küresel ilgi ve çalışma alanında bir trend olduğunu ortaya koymuştur. Ayrıca alan, yenilikçi araştırma projeleri için de verimli bir zemin sunmaktadır. Trend analizinden elde edilen bulgular, yıllar içinde belirli kelimelere olan ilginin değiştiğini göstermektedir. Yine de isyancı grupların yönetimi ve onların yönetimi ile ilgili birçok olgu henüz araştırılmaya ihtiyaç duymaktadır.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Devlet Dışı Silahlı Gruplar, R Programlama, İsyancı Yönetimi, Bibliometri, Biblioshiny

JEL Kodları: F50, F51, F52

---
[1] Dr. Öğr. Üyesi, Adıyaman Üniversiyesi İktisadi ve İdari Bilimler Fakültesi, m.karakus@adiyaman.edu.tr, https://orcid.org/0000-0003-0078-8603

INTRODUCTION

Throughout history, states have been established and collapsed, and their numbers have constantly changed, but ultimately, a world order based on sovereign equality has been established. Theories of international relations and international law broadly adopt the "state" actor as the primary actor (Ikenberry and Holsti, 2004; R. Jackson, 2005). According to the general understanding, a state is an institution that claims political sovereignty over a specific territory and bases its sovereignty on the people or nation living on that territory without being dependent on any authority (Cox Blackwell, 2002; Jüde, 2020; Munro, 1996). The status of states, traditionally seen as the sole or primary actors of international law and international politics, is, of course, indisputable, but today, de-facto states also wield significant influence on global politics, challenging the traditional narrative (Florea, 2020; Hoch and Rudincová, 2015; Karakuş, 2022; Zaki, Haid, and Khatib, 2020). The emergence of a large number of new states following World War II led to the creation of a new category among state models. This is because many states with different structures have led to security, economic, and social problems. The rapidly increasing number of 'new' states have faced significant challenges in centralizing authority and monopolizing the use of force. In particular, states unable to establish their internal sovereignty and fulfill their primary functions have become regions where human rights abuses and external interventions have increased, leading to sovereignty crises.

Based on this, international actors and states today find their countries intertwined with problems experienced in other countries. In other words, the network of influence created by globalization as we transitioned from the 20th to the 21st century has created a structure where any change or development in a state can be reflected in the entire international system. In this new categorization based on state power, states have been categorized as successful and unsuccessful. Failed and weak states, which are identified with Max Weber's (Cetina Presuel and Martinez Sierra, 2024; Drechsler, 2023; Kettl, 2022; Lottholz and Lemay-Hébert, 2016) modern state definition, have become a problem that threatens the international community due to security vulnerabilities and the inability to provide public services throughout the country (Halvorson, 2013; Newman, 2007; Pham, 2011). This situation has begun to take its place on the international political agenda, both as a reality and as a thesis.

In essence, the failure of a state alone is not enough to pose a threat (Wyler, 2008). In other words, failed states do not directly cause a global or regional threat due to their failures. On the contrary, they have prepared or facilitated the emergence of a third actor - known as Non-state Armed Groups (NSAGs), one of the fundamental problems of the 21st century (Piazza, 2008). States have lost their position as the sole actors of international relations. The global system has become more complex. Globalization and interdependence have made states need to interact with non-state actors as new units. States have had to shape their policies

according to the multi-actor structure of the changing international environment. The rise of state failure has led to an increase in stateless territories and facilitated the development of NSAGs. Their most profound impact on international relations is the global and regional security threats they cause. As states collapse, the erosion of the state's monopoly on violence creates fertile ground for terrorism, organized crime, and internal conflict. Thus, interstate wars have given way to internal disputes, and regular armies have been replaced by paramilitary actors, insurgencies, warlords, local gangs, criminal groups, child soldiers, militants, terrorists, or mercenaries.

NSAGs and their effects have been closely monitored by policymakers and academia for a long time. The concept of non-state actors is an ancient phenomenon. Especially in the 1960s, momentum was shown against the state-centered vision of international relations, and the idea of NSAGs almost emerged in its current sense. The emergence of actors who could carry out actions (mostly armed activities) with legal consequences outside state control, their increasing diversity, and the result was the creation of many sui generis structures that had many standard features but were quite different from each other (political or ideological motivations and regional control). While each armed actor has a different vision and mission, they exhibit a comprehensive organization and an autonomous structure separate from governments and civil society. The lack of a universally accepted definition of a non-state actor can result in the creation of different armed non-state actor labels depending on the perspective of those who define non-state actors. First, they follow a policy of opposing state authority, weakening it and losing its legitimacy. They go on to strengthen their authority by weakening the state's power. Secondly, depending on their purposes, some armed groups want to change the status quo, while others defend the continuation of the status quo. Some NSAGs, such as terrorists, rebels, insurgents, and guerrilla fighters, want radical change, while other structures, such as tribal chiefs, warlords, and mafia, want the continuation of the existing structure. Thirdly, armed groups use both physical and psychological violence as a tool. It is frequently observed that members of actors, particularly those showing characteristics of armed opposition groups, are referred to as "freedom fighters" or "resistance movement" supporters and sympathizers by their advocates while being labeled as "terrorists" or "gangs" by opponents. Since each concept reflects the characteristics of a specific political ideology and legal perspective, terms such as "non-state armed group," "armed opposition/separatist movement," or "non-state actor" are now preferred to use less politically charged and legally neutral language. Another factor determining the tactics and strategies to be implemented is the motivations of armed non-state actors, which, although diverse, often converge around "economic interests," "beliefs and convictions," or "greed." There are debates about which motivation is predominant in fueling the ongoing civil wars. Still, each armed non-state actor is undoubtedly motivated by a combination of internal dynamics within the group or external pressures, often evolving in an unstable manner. Furthermore, the actions of

armed non-state actors, i.e., the methods they employ, also vary. Each non-state actor has its own organizational culture or dominant behavior pattern. Such differences stem from various factors, including the diversity of the actor's financial resources, propensity for violence, and the number and quality of fighters under their control. The structuring of non-state armed actors is fundamentally based on two different structures. A well-organized chain of command, top-down relationships, and vertical communication channels characterize hierarchical organizations. In contrast, networked organizations, on the contrary, have an unclear chain of command, decentralized decision-making mechanisms, and linear communication channels. While hierarchical organizations are armed non-state actors capable of implementing complex plans and exhibiting more predictable behavior, networked organizations are inherently more adaptable, quick, and flexible. The most crucial structure they create is governance.

This research aims to analyze the papers/articles on "rebel governance" published in Web of Science and Scopus databases using bibliometric analysis. Through this method, this study seeks to examine the publication trends in the field of rebel governance; to identify and map the most effective keywords and word clusters in the publications; to discover prominent areas by identifying thematic maps of keywords; to identify and map the most cited countries and journals, and to examine the most distinguished authors and distribution in years. It is believed that the findings obtained from the survey will serve as a guide for other studies in this field and will guide future research. Researchers can contribute to a better understanding of a research area (determine publication policies, explore publication networks, and identify leading scholars and journals over time) by revealing its epistemology and information structure using statistics.

Literature Review about Rebel Governance

In today's world, it is observed that various NSAGs, to survive and spread across the societal base, possess extensive area control and mobility (A. Jackson, 2021; Justin, 2020; Karakuş, 2022; Szekely, 2016; Zayd, 2020). In these areas, these actors (rebels) engaged in governance efforts. Accordingly, over the past decade, a wave of scholars have focused on the question of rebel governance. The scholarly discourse leans toward using "rebel governance" over governance under "non-state armed groups." Regardless of terminology, these groups establish well-functioning governmental structures. Acknowledging that not all rebel groups partake in governance efforts is crucial. It is a well-known revelation from Huang's research that a mere 13% of rebel organizations establish intricate administrative structures. Drawing upon Arjona, Kasfir, and Mampilly (2015) work, rebel governance is "the set of actions insurgents undertake to regulate the social, political, and economic life of non-combatants during wartime." As Kasfir claims, there are three conditions to engage in rebel governance: the armed group must hold some territory within the state against

which it is rebelling, Civilians must reside within this contested territory, and the group must have committed an initial act of violence against the state.

The way that governments are formed depends on various factors. For instance, in his study, Arjona (2016) distinguishes between rebelocracy and aliocracy- based on the level of power held by the rebel group or community and the scope of governance adopted by the rebels. The extent to which armed groups engage in communal affairs (coercion, illiberalism, responsiveness, and democracy) also varies. Mampilly and Stewart (2021) outline the qualities of various political institutions to construct in accordance with the consideration for community influence. In other words, rebel groups vary significantly based on their motivations, goals, and methodologies of confronting prevailing systems and authorities, so their level of violence may differ. Depending on the context of conflict and uprisings, they can engage in different civilian organizations. According to Huang (2016), in terms of social services, roughly one-third of rebel groups create social institutions like schools and hospitals while the fight is in progress. One characteristic of rebel government that comes to light is providing services to the people; rebels who undertake this approach usually rely on pre-existing institutional procedures and infrastructure. Other studies also examine the differences in governance among non-state armed groups or between different civil war settings, which can have significant and long-lasting impacts on communities even after the rebels have relinquished power. Generally, the term "rebels" often carries a pejorative undertone that can be explained in two ways. Primarily, rebels are usually a minority opting to challenge established governmental systems or otherwise develop systems and structures. The implicit assumption is that these systems embody the majority. However, these established authorities may not consistently reflect most people's will. Secondly, as some definitions suggest, rebels engage in at least initial acts of violence.

As Florea and Malejacq (2024) listed, the studies about rebel governance can be classified into five sections. The first focuses on the de facto constructed governance institutions (Bagdasaryan and Petrova, 2017; Bryant, 2014; Dembińska, 2023; Hoch and Rudincová, 2015; Markedonov, 2022). Secondly, how armed groups use governance to gather legitimacy at both domestic and international levels (Druckman, Vukovic, and Verbeek, 2024; Joshi, 2024; Malthaner and Malesevic, 2022; Neumann, 2019; Plowright, 2021; Schuberth, 2018; Termeer, 2023). The third one is the challenge of some of the critical assumptions of rebel governance. They have been titled under different names, such as 'hybrid political orders' (Aslan, 2020; Boege, Brown, and Clements, 2009; Ficek, 2023; Meagher, Herdt, and Titeca, 2014), 'negotiated statehood' (Kursani, 2024; Willems and van der Borgh, 2016), and 'governance without a state' (Börzel and Risse, 2010; Risse, 2011). The fourth one aimed at revealing variations in rebel governance and the environments in which they take an active role (Mampilly, 2015; Weinstein, 2007). There is also literature

on pre- (Akande, 2012; Ikenberry and Regan, 2000), during (Ruaud, 2013), and post-conflict situations such as state-building (Bruderlein, 2000; Massey Thaler, 2018; Menkhaus, 2014; Podder, 2014) and DDR (Ayissi, 2020; Dzinesa, 2017; Goebel and Levy, 2020; Schuberth, 2017). The fifth one attempts to shift the focus toward the dynamics of rebel-civilian interactions. In conflict areas, civilians actively participate in social cohesion, collective action, mobilization, and decision-making processes (Kaplan, 2017; Krause, 2018). While rebel governance encompasses various aspects like taxation (Bandula-Irwin, Gallien, Jackson, van den Boogaard, and Weigand, 2022; Breslawski and Tucker, 2022; Fontes, 2023; Mampilly and Gutierrez, 2023; Mampilly and Thakur, 2024a, 2024b; Reyntjens, 2014), administration (Gonzalez, Hirschel-Burns, and Uribe, 2024; Rickard and Bakke, 2021; Termeer, 2023; Voller, 2022; Voyvodic, 2021) justice (Berti, 2021; Provost, 2021), civil service (Cancian and Greenwald, 2022; Huang and Sullivan, 2021; Kubota, 2023; Madison, 2022), health care (Franco, Suarez, Naranjo, Báez, and Rozo, 2006; Furlan, 2023; Heffes, 2019; Lillywhite, 2015), environmental issues (Karakuş, 2024; Munive, 2023; Somer, 2015), water governance (Schillinger and Özerol, 2023), diplomacy (Schwab and Massoud, 2022), and even oil governance (Adunbi, 2015; Ahram, 2022); security provision (Bagayoko, Hutchful, and Luckham, 2016; Bojicic-Dzelilovic and Turkmani, 2018; Schuberth, 2018) emerges as the primary function prioritized by rebel groups particularly during the initial stages of their rule to establish and maintain order within the contested territory.

Purpose and Method of the Research

This study aims to conduct a bibliometric analysis of the scientific outputs produced in the "Rebel Governance" in the last ten years. Although the term "Rebel Governance" is used as an umbrella term, this study focuses on the most frequently and generally used keywords in the literature, namely "non-state armed groups," "non-state armed actors," "armed groups," "rebels," and "governance." Various databases such as Web of Science (WoS), Scopus, PubMed, EMBASE, Google Scholar, Dimension, ProQuest, and Google Scholar are available to obtain bibliometric study data. For the analysis to be conducted with the bibliometric method in this scope, studies on the subject were accessed by searching the most frequently used keywords in the field literature, namely "non-state armed group," "non-state armed actor," "armed group," "rebel," and "governance," from the Web of Science (WoS) and Scopus databases. The reason for obtaining data from these databases is that they are among the most critical platforms in the world for scientific citation search and analytical information. These two databases provide researchers with a wide range of data content from various disciplines. Bibliometric analysis results can be obtained using multiple programs. Some of these include VOSviewer, developed by Eck and Waltman in 2010; Citespace, designed by Chen in 2006; and Carrot2, developed by Osiński and Weiss in 2005. These programs have been used for over

ten years. The data collected in the scope of the research was analyzed using the R Studio program, which is freely available. The bibliometric software under R Studio developed by Aria and Cuccurullo (2017) and the biblioshiny application were used to classify the data according to various variables. Biblioshiny was selected for this study due to its flexibility and success in providing dynamic visualizations both in performance and over time. With this program, basic information about the data, the number of publications by year, the number of citations to publications, the number of publications by authors, author information (h-index, citation numbers, year of publication), distribution of authors by institution, countries of authors, number of publications by country, number of citations by nation, total citations to publications, most used keywords, co-occurrence network of keywords, thematic map, and thematic transformation information can be accessed.

Figure 1: Flowchart illustrating the stages for determining and selecting documents
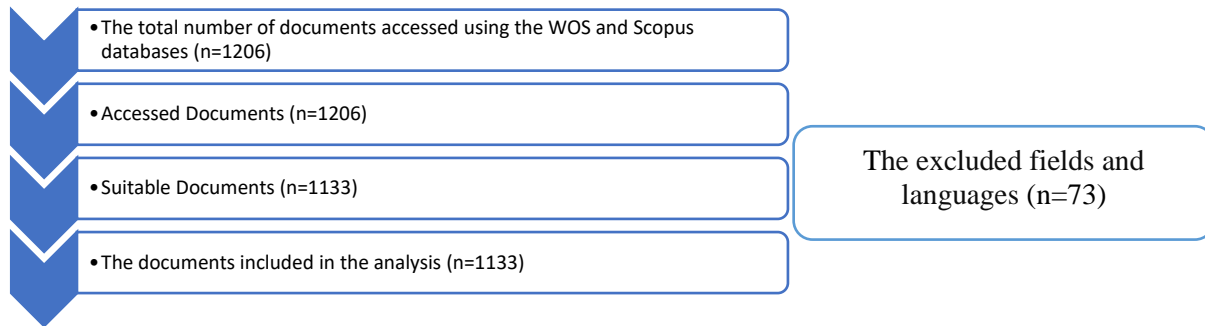
Although 2024 has not yet been completed at the time of the study, data for 2024 has been included to understand the place of "rebel governance" in academic research. In this regard, as shown in Figure 1, a total of 1133 scientific outputs produced between 1990 and 2024 from two databases have been examined using bibliometric analysis, and the results have been shared in the findings section. Upon examining the literature to improve the analysis and gain a more profound comprehension of the correlations among authors, references, publications, and keywords within the "Rebel Governance" field, no similar study has been found regarding the topic of interest and the approach to evaluating it.

Data Synthesis

Table 1 presents basic information regarding studies published on "rebel governance" in the WOS and Scopus databases. In the study, a search was conducted using keywords, and no studies on "rebel governance" were found in WOS before 1990 and Scopus before 1998. Accordingly, considering the change in the number of studies over time with the selection of the English language in the databases, the latest

search was conducted on 01.05.2024. As of this date, a total of 646 studies were found in WOS between 1990 and 2024, and 487 studies were found in Scopus between 1998 and 2024.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

The documents in the databases are categorized under the following document types: research article, review article, early access article, conference paper, editorial, book chapter, and others (conference note, letter, book review, and correction).

Table 1: Main data information

	Web Of Science	Scopus
Description	Results	Results
Timespan	1990:2024	1998:2024
Documents	646	487
Average citations per doc	13,57	13,66
Annual Growth Rate %	10.41	13.51
Authors	829	609
Single-authored docs	389	308
Co-Authors per Doc	1,65	1,56
International co-authorships %	22,76	20,12
Keywords Plus (ID)	812	491
Author's Keywords (DE)	1347	985
Article	499	356
Book chapter	43	75
Article-early access	46	3
Article-proceedings paper	5	
Book	4	24
Book review	16	1
Correction	1	2
Editorial material	5	
Editorial material-book chapter	8	1
Letter	1	1
Proceedings Paper	7	
Conference Paper		3
Review	11	21

According to the bibliometric R package analysis, there has been an average annual increase in the publication growth rate of 10.41% for WOS and 13.51% for Scopus. This reflects the growing interest in analyzing "rebel governance" during the respective dates (see Fig. 2.) While each document has been cited, yielding an average of 13,57 citations per document in WOS and 13,66 for Scopus. Since the "rebel governance" field is still emerging and has new relations with other areas, the scientific contribution is expected to increase annually, as shown by the results of the analysis. This analysis reveals significant information regarding the author's contribution and international collaboration in this research. The study involved 829 authors in WOS and 609 in Scopus. Notably, 389 of WOS and 308 of Scopus are sole authors. However, only about %22,76 for WOS and 20,12 of Scopus are international co-authorships, which indicates that most research in the field of "rebel governance" is carried out at the national level. Moreover, the number of unique additional keywords (beyond author-assigned keywords) associated with the documents, 812 keywords in WOS and 491 keywords in Scopus relevant to this topic, and the author's keywords totaling 2332, thus reflecting the diversity and depth of research in this topic.

Annual Scientific Production

The earliest publication on WOS and Scopus using the keyword 'Rebel Governance' dates back to 1990 and 1998, respectively. When examining the annual publication count according to Figure 2, besides the existence of fluctuation, it was found that it reached its peak in 2023, 112 in WOS and 77 in Scopus. Within the time range of 2010 to 2023, there was a shift in how researchers viewed Rebel Governance. The attention for the armed groups increased from 2006 to 2009. Unfortunately, the trend reversed until the Arab Spring, which resulted in the pop-up of new non-state armed groups. Various studies have frequently discussed the theme of non-state armed groups and their relations with internal conflicts.

Figure 2: Annual scientific production
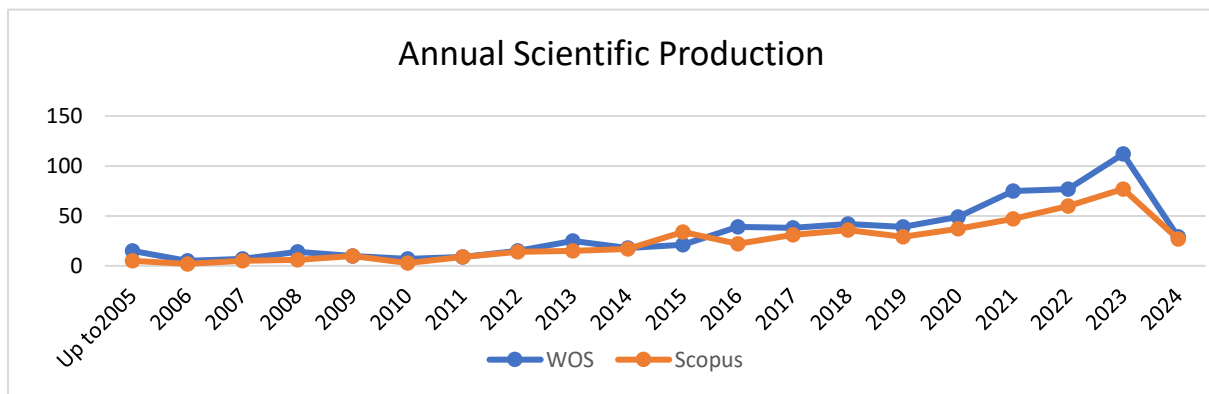
This increased attention and interest in the topic is reflected in a fluctuating pattern of article publications, with an upward slope in the graph. This demonstrates the evolving nature of this area of research.

Authors' Local Impact by H Index

Table 2 provides information about the authors, including their "H-index," "year of publication," and "citation counts." The Authors' Local Impact by H Index is a measure of research output that takes into account the number of publications by a researcher and the number of citations those works have received. It provides a concise overview of an individual's research performance.

This index is most effective when comparing researchers with similar career lengths in the same field, and who publish in the same journal categories, as citation practices vary widely across different fields.

Table 2: Authors' local impact by h index

Element	h_index	Total Citation	Publishing Year start
BERTI B	6	87	2015
CUNNINGHAM KG	5	145	2020
KLIJN EH	5	281	2016
STEWART MA	5	281	2017
TERPSTRA N	5	150	2017
VLASSENROOT K	5	131	2009
CEDERMAN LE	4	685	2009
HUANG R	4	54	2016
LOYLE CE	4	96	2021
PODDER S	4	111	2012
SOSNOWSKI M	4	47	2018
ARJONA A	3	96	2016
BERKMAN H	3	436	2009
BRESLAWSKI J	3	50	2021
COLE RA	3	436	2009
CURTIS DEA	3	41	2015
FLOREA A	3	128	2014
FORTIN K	3	27	2016
FRERKS G	3	118	2017

FU LJ	3	436	2009
GLAWION T	3	27	2018
HOFFMANN K	3	87	2014
HOWE K	3	45	2016
KLEM B	3	55	2012
KOPPENJAN J	3	230	2016

The h-index measures how consistent the citations are, which is more important than the total number of citations. According to Table 2, BERTI has an h-index of 6, calculated based on publications from 2015. The next table presents the top 25 rankings of authors in the field.

**Figure 3:** Author's productivity over the years
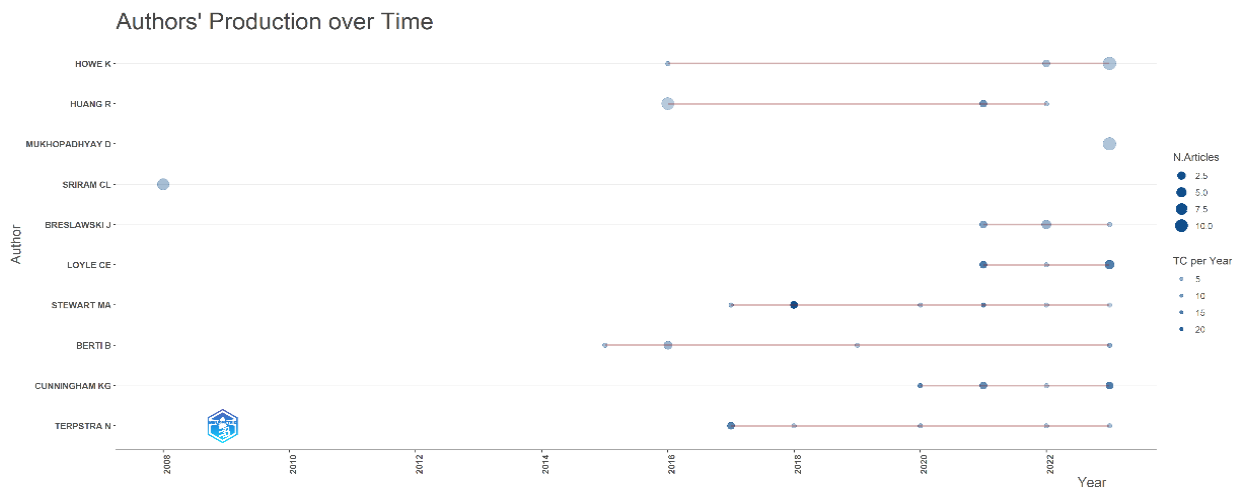
The size of the dots represents the number of articles published in a given year, and for most authors, this number varies, indicating fluctuating research output. Moreover, the color intensity of the dots corresponds to the total citations received per year for the articles published by each author.

A darker color signifies more citations, which generally indicates the impact or relevance of the research within the academic community. Different authors show varying degrees of productivity over the specified years. The author with the highest number of citations is "CEDERMAN LE," and the authors who started publishing earliest are "VLASSENROOT K," "CEDERMAN LE," "BERKMAN H," "COLE RA," and "FU LJ." Figure 3 illustrates the contributions of other prominent scholars in this field. Comparing the authors, "MUKHOPADHYAY D." and "HUANG R." appear to be the most prolific and impactful, given their consistent publishing rate and higher citation numbers.

Three-Field Plot

In the three-field plot scheme depicted in Figure 4, the distribution of authors' publications in journals and the keywords they used is schematized. This scheme showcases which journals have more studies on "rebel governance" at the outset of the publication process, which keywords are more frequently used, and by "which authors." The leftmost column represents documents; the middle column shows authors' keywords; the right column represents scholars' names.

Figure 4: Three-Field Plot- WOS
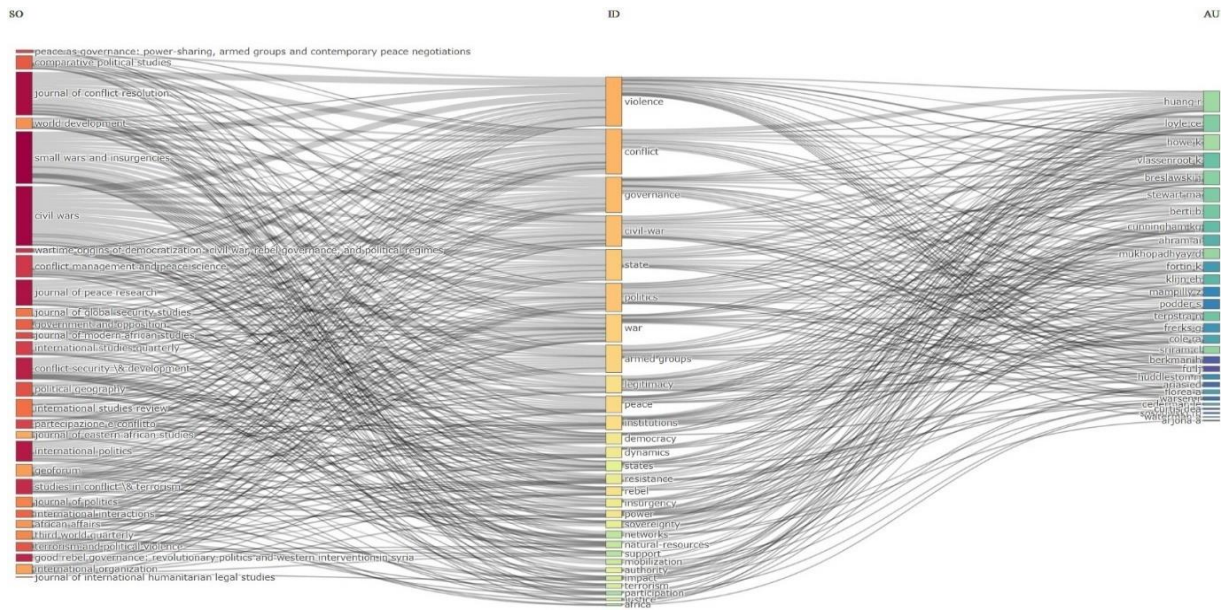
In this visual map, the thickness of the lines connecting stakeholders represents the magnitude of the relationship between them. In other words, thicker lines indicate a stronger relationship between pairs. For example, in the civil wars journal in the WOS database, Terms like "power-sharing," "armed groups," and "contemporary peace negotiations" are likely related to conflict resolution strategies. Terms like "state," "institutions," and "governance" are likely associated with the governance structures and processes involved in conflict resolution. Terms like "violence," "conflict," and "war" are directly related to the violent aspects of conflict. Again, as can be seen more clearly in Figure 5, the terms "world development," "third world quarterly," and "international studies quarterly" likely represent different academic journals or publications. The terms "breslawsk," "fortin," and "davis de" likely refer to individual authors or groups of authors. The terms "governance approach," "political conflict," and "social movement" likely represent the main themes or topics covered in the publications. The connections between Publications and Authors indicate which authors have published in specific journals or publications. Overall, the three-fold plot provides a valuable

starting point for exploring the relationships between publications, authors, and concepts in the field of conflict studies.

Figure 5: Three-Field Plot- SCOPUS
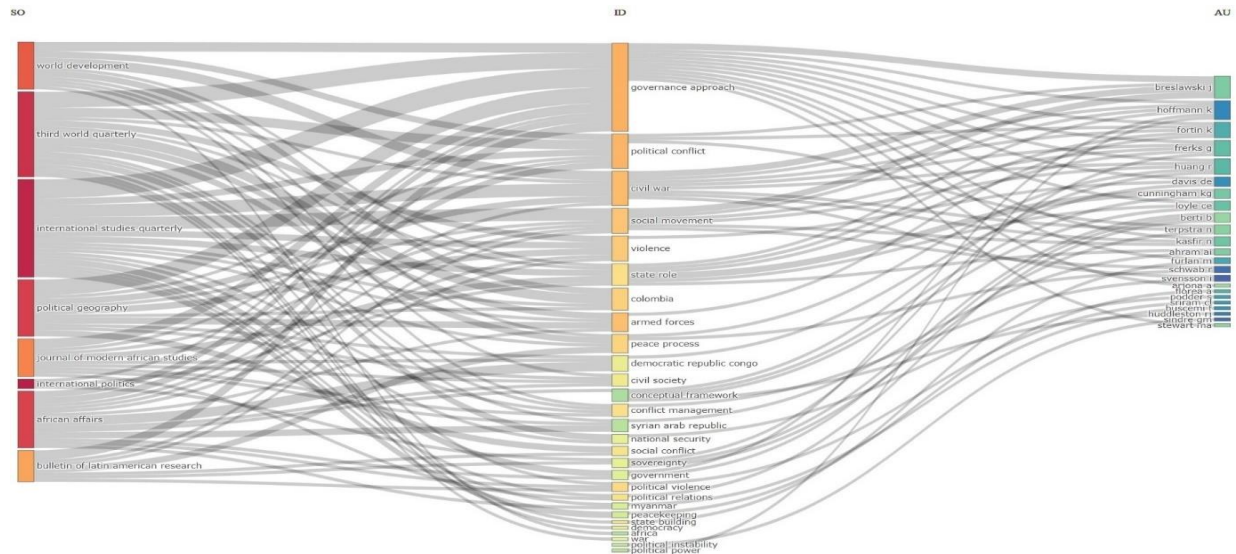
In terms of their comparison, both plots show complex networks of connections between the three sets of data, indicating that these concepts are interconnected and influence one another. Both plots identify central themes related to conflict, governance, and violence, suggesting that these are common areas of focus in the research. The first plot appears to focus on the relationships between conflict resolution strategies, governance, and violence. The second plot seems to focus on the relationships between publications, authors, and concepts related to conflict studies.

Sources' Local Impact

Local citation measures the number of citations within a discipline under study and the impact of a document in the analyzed collections (Aria and Cuccurullo, 2020). Research has shown that the number of citations a publication receives is an important indicator of its scholarly impact and scientific productivity. Table 3 shows the starting dates of journals and the number of citations they have received on 'rebel governance' up to the present.

Table 3: Sources' local impact

Element	h_index	g_index	m_index	TC	NP	PY_start
Rebel Governance In Civil War	11	12	1.100	625	12	2015
Small Wars and Insurgencies	10	17	0.769	324	31	2012
Civil Wars	9	14	0.692	217	21	2012
Journal Of Conflict Resolution	9	16	0.818	399	16	2014
Journal Of Peace Research	9	14	0.474	416	14	2006
African Affairs	5	5	0.278	205	5	2007
International Studies Quarterly	5	10	0.556	164	10	2016
Studies In Conflict and Terrorism	5	7	0.500	63	7	2015
Conflict Management and Peace Science	4	5	0.571	51	5	2018
Government and Opposition	4	4	0.667	46	4	2019

Among these top 10 relevant sources, it is observed that despite not having an ancient starting date, the journal that has received the most citations is "Rebel Governance in Civil War." The most cited local source is "Small Wars And Insurgencies," which focuses on various aspects (historical, political, socio-economic, and psychological) of warfare (limited war and irregular warfare) and rebellions (insurgency, counterinsurgency).

Among these top 10 relevant sources, it is observed that despite not having an ancient starting date, the journal that has received the most citations is "Rebel Governance in Civil War." The most cited local source is "Small Wars And Insurgencies," which focuses on various aspects (historical, political, socio-economic, and psychological) of warfare (limited war and irregular warfare) and rebellions (insurgency, counterinsurgency). The analysis reveals that, regarding the institutions and authors' affiliations (or Most Relevant Affiliations) contributing to rebel governance, "Utrecht University" leads with the highest number of publications (33), followed by Texas with 28 publications. Regarding citation counts attributed to countries (or Most Cited Countries); the USA tops the list with 933 citations in WoS and 3702 citations in Scopus, followed by the United Kingdom. In a similar vein, the study also analyzed scientific production and contribution to rebel governance studies across regions and countries (or Countries' Scientific Production Frequency); the United States has the highest number of publications in this field with 558, closely followed by the UK with 256 publications in WOS and 197 (the USA), 112 (the UK) in Scopus. Countries such as the Netherlands, Germany, and Belgium have significantly contributed to the study of rebel governance in Europe.

Interestingly, the analysis in the Scopus database shows that Colombia is also contributing to the research on rebel governance in their region, which is different from the findings in the WOS database. In summary, when it takes into account rebel governance, the yearly impact of the publication on the field, indicating that the authors' studies have a positive influence on this area of research.

Most Global Cited Documents

Most Global Cited Documents indicates the number of times a document has been cited across the board in the database, including citations from other disciplines. Table 4 presents the top 10 most globally cited documents on "rebel governance." The table shows the authors and their works globally, as well as the total citation count and the annual citation rate.

Table 4: Most global cited documents (WOS)

Paper	DOI	Total Citations	TC per Year
Wimmer, 2009, am social rev	10.1177/000312240907400208	524	32,75
Staniland p, 2012, perspect polit	10.1017/S1537592712000655	251	19,31
Roessler p, 2011, world polit	10.1017/S0043887111000049	238	17,00
Berkman h, 2009, j bank financ	10.1016/j.jbankfin.2007.11.001	222	13,88
Derouen kr, 2004, j peace res	10.1177/0022343304043771	215	10,24
Berkman h, 2010, j financ quant anal	10.1017/S0022109010000608	204	13,60
Harbom l, 2006, j peace res	10.1177/0022343306067613	163	8,58
Stewart ma, 2018, int organ	10.1017/S0020818317000418	149	21,29
Berger an, 2016, j money credit bank	10.1111/jmcb.12316	127	14,11
Cederman le, 2015, am polit sci rev	10.1017/S0003055415000118	115	11,50

The work with the highest number of citations in the WoS database, with 524 citations, is "Ethnic Politics and Armed Conflict: A Configurational Analysis of a New Global Data Set" by Andreas Wimmer, Lars-Erik Cederman, and Brian Min. Notably, some studies in Table 4, like "Rebel Governance in Civil War," appear to have more citations within a specific region than globally.

Table 5: Most global cited documents (SCOPUS)

| Paper	DOI	Total Citations	TC per Year
Arjona a, 2016, Rebelocracy: Social Order in the Colombia Civil War	10.1017/9781316421925	304	33,78
Arjona a, 2015, Rebel Governance in civil war	10.1017/CBO9781316182468	262	26,20
Harbom l, 2006, j Peace Res	10.1177/0022343306067613	191	10,05
Huang r, 2016, The wartime origins of democratisation: Civil war, Rebel gov, and Political Regimes	10.1017/CBO9781316711323	158	17,56
Arias ed, 2017, Criminal Enterprises and Gov in Latin America and the Caribbean	10.1017/9781316650073	154	19,25
Stewart ma, 2018, Int organ	10.1017/S0020818317000418	139	19,86
Walter bf, 2015, j conflict resolution	10.1177/0022002714528006	113	11,30
Lessing b, 2021, prospect polit	10.1017/S1537592720001243	107	26,75
Bennett, 2014, process tracing: from metaphor to analytic tool	10.1007/9781139858472.003	106	9,64
Kasfir n, 2015, Rebel Governance in Civil War	10.1017/CBO9781316182468.002	98	9,80

In the Scopus section, Arjona's work "Rebelocracy: Social Order in the Colombia Civil War" is ranked first with 304 Citations.

WordCloud

This section explores the prevalent themes in rebel governance research and the scholars of the area have prioritized over time. We utilized the 'Biblioshiny App' within the 'Bibliometric' software to generate the Word Cloud. The graphical parameters were set to author keywords, which offer valuable insights into the primary topics and research trends. One of the main advantages of selecting author keywords is the ability to gain a deeper understanding of the field.

Figure 6: WordCloud WOS

The first cloud was acquired from Scopus, and the second was acquired from the WOS database. Publication keywords were chosen for this analysis because they quickly and effectively identify each research paper's core topic and focus.

Figure 7: WordCloud SCOPUS
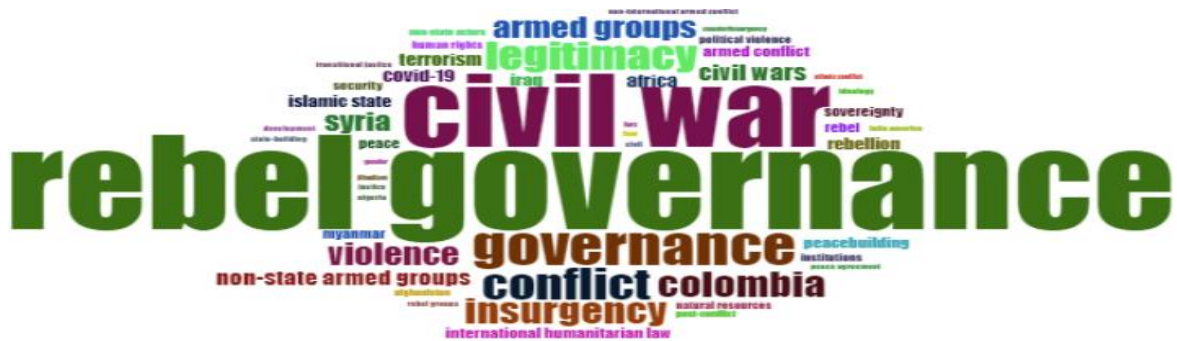
The word cloud showcases the most commonly used keywords in larger font sizes, while the size reduces proportionally with the frequency of usage. According to this display, "rebel governance" appears to be the most frequently used keyword, followed by "civil war," which is often the precursor to the establishment of such governance, and "legitimacy," which pertains to armed groups.

Thematic Map

Thematic maps are valuable for gaining insights into a specific research field and assessing its sustainability potential. To streamline the creation of these maps, a semi-automatic algorithm was developed that analyses research titles and author-provided keywords. This method facilitates a comprehensive understanding of the variations within a particular theme. Thematic maps serve as a valuable tool for gaining deeper insights into a specific field, as well as for assessing its potential for sustainability in the long run. By analyzing author-provided keywords and identifying themes, researchers can better understand the connections between different topics and their potential for future growth and development.

Two fundamental properties are often used to characterize themes within a research field: density and centrality. Centrality refers to the degree of correlation between different topics, whereas density measures the cohesiveness among nodes. By analyzing these properties, researchers can identify the most critical and well-developed issues and those that require further exploration. Nodes with more connections are considered more significant due to their higher centrality. In contrast, the cohesiveness among nodes determines a research field's ability to develop and sustain itself.

Figure 8: Thematic map-WOS
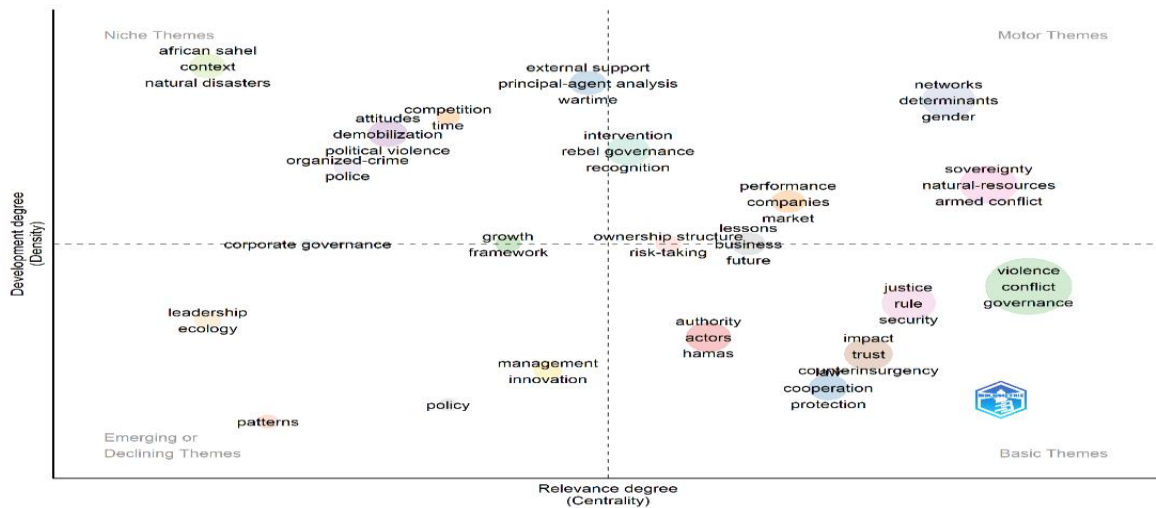
In Biblioshiny (R-studio) software, there are four regions on the thematic map, and according to these four regions, a bibliometric analysis is made of the articles written on biophilic design. According to the thematic map (Cobo, López-Herrera, Herrera-Viedma, and Herrera, 2011) in Figure 8, significant research and core clusters (Basic Themes) are located in the lower-right region (Q1). The upper-right region of the figure shows the Motor (driving) Themes (Q2); the upper-left region (Niche Themes) shows the specialized (Q3) and specific clusters, and the lower-left region (Q4) shows the rising or falling clusters (Emerging and Declining Themes).

The clusters on the axes share the common characteristics of each region where the boundary is located. The topic clusters in these areas are considered together and are essential in the regions where they are located. The circular sizes of the clusters vary according to the number of studies done on this subject. There are also two axes of the thematic map named development degree (density) and relevance-interest (centrality). Centrality is located on the horizontal axis and shows the relationships with other themes, while density is located on the vertical axis and shows the connections within the cluster.

As it is illustrated in Figure 8, the Motor Themes are 'networks,' 'determinants,' 'gender,' 'sovereignty,' 'natural-resources,' and 'armed conflict.' These are well-developed and highly relevant themes that drive the field. They are central to the research on rebel governance and related areas. For example, themes like "sovereignty" and "armed conflict" suggest that studies focus on power dynamics and resource control, critical factors in governance by non-state actors. These themes are influential and guide much of the current research, reflecting core issues in conflict and governance. While Motor Themes are 'African Sahel,' 'natural disasters,' 'political violence,' 'organized crime,' 'external support,' 'principal-agent' analysis. These themes are highly developed but not central to the broader research field. They often represent specialized or context-specific studies. For instance, "African Sahel" and "natural disasters" indicate a regional focus that might not be universally applicable but is crucial within its niche. "external support" and "principal-agent analysis" highlight complexities in how rebel groups function and interact with external actors.

On the other hand, 'violence,' 'conflict,' 'governance,' 'rule,' 'justice,' 'security,' 'impact,' 'trust' are Basic Themes. These are foundational themes in the literature and essential for understanding the broader context of rebel governance. They are central but not deeply developed, indicating that they may provide the starting point or common ground for many studies. These themes also provide a foundation upon which more complex analyses may be anchored and are crucial in framing broader discussions of conflict dynamics. Finally, patterns, policy, leadership, ecology, management, and innovation are Emerging or Declining Themes. These themes are less central and less developed, indicating that these themes may be an emerging research area or are of declining importance. Management and innovation are indicative of a possible new track in which the governance studies meet organizational and innovative approaches. The themes here may constitute new fields of interest or those that are in further need of research in order to be fully integrated into the field.

Figure 9: Thematic map-SCOPUS
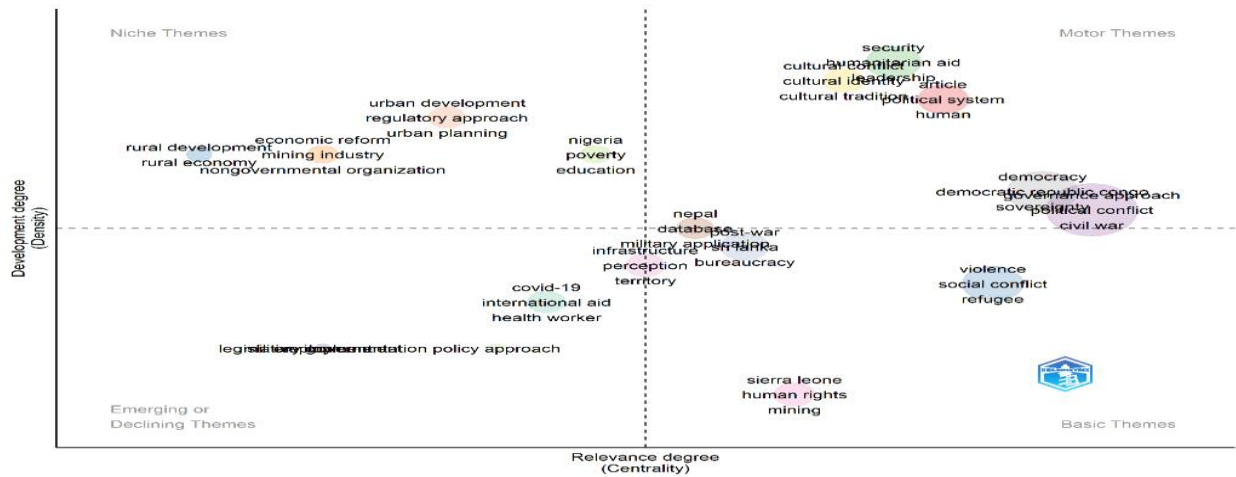
Using this method, as illustrated in Figure 9; security, humanitarian aid, cultural identity, leadership, political system, cultural traditions are Motor Themes. These themes are well-developed and central to the field, indicating they are driving forces in the research. The presence of "security" and "humanitarian aid" suggests a strong focus on the intersection of conflict and relief efforts, often critical in post-conflict or crisis settings. The emphasis on "cultural identity" and "political system" indicates that cultural and political dimensions are key in understanding governance and conflict dynamics. Secondly, Urban development, regulatory approach, economic reform, rural development, mining industry, nongovernmental organizations are Niche Themes. Thirdly, democracy, Democratic Republic of Congo, governance approach, social conflict, civil war, violence, refugee are Basic Themes. These are essential, foundational themes in the research field, providing the base upon which more complex discussions are built. Themes such as "democracy" and "civil war" are crucial for understanding broader conflict dynamics. The positioning of "Democratic Republic of Congo" indicates a case-specific focus, highlighting this region as a critical study area. Lastly, Policy approach, legislation, health workers, international aid, COVID-19, and military applications are Emerging or Declining Themes. These themes are less developed and have lower relevance, suggesting they are either emerging areas of interest or declining in current research focus. Themes like "COVID-19" and "health worker" indicate recent trends and may reflect the evolving impacts of health crises on conflict settings. The inclusion of "military applications" and "policy approach" suggests potential future directions where governance and security strategies could intersect.

In comparing them, the motor theme for both deals with those vital aspects, conflict and governance, but it does so from somewhat different angles since the first leans more towards strategic and structural factors such as networks and sovereignty, while the second encompasses a more human-centered approach

with cultural and security dimensions. Both sets of niche themes are highly specialized but differ in focus:. While the themes of the first map are more conflict and violence-oriented, most often with influences of an external factor to a zone of conflict, the second map addresses socio-economic development issues with a greater emphasis on how governance intersects with issues of development and reform. Thirdly, both maps emphasize themes fundamental to conflict studies, but the second map emphasizes specific case studies and geographical contexts (e.g., the Democratic Republic of Congo) alongside broader social issues like refugee crises. The first map's basic themes are more universally applicable across various contexts. Lastly, both sets of themes represent areas at the fringes of current research, either gaining or losing momentum. The second map's emerging themes are more influenced by recent global changes, like the pandemic, while the first map's emerging themes lean towards new governance approaches and innovations in conflict settings. The first map provides a more macro and strategic overview, while the second emphasizes contemporary, culturally, and human-centered approaches.

Co-Occurrence Network

Through co-occurrence analysis, the powers and clusters in the network are determined based on the combined use of keywords in the field of "rebel governance" in social science studies. Elements of the same color in the network represent clusters, while the sizes of the nodes indicate the frequency of terms. Additionally, the closer the nodes in the same cluster are, the more indicative they are of increased frequency of co-occurrence. The software Biblioshiny helps identify themes using keyword co-occurrence analysis in a specific study area (van Eck and Waltman, 2020). This approach identifies bibliographic clusters and emerging and least explored themes (Donthu et al., 2020).
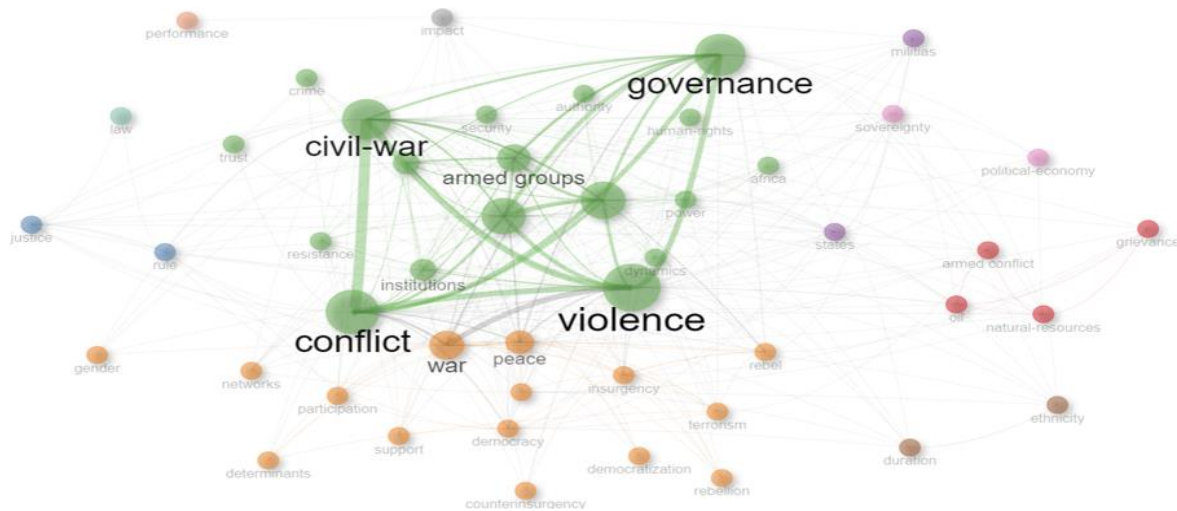
Figure 10: Co-occurrence Network-WOS

Figure 10 exhibits five colors ranging from purple to yellow. This is one of the most significant and most central nodes, indicating it is a primary theme in the literature. Its strong connections to other nodes like conflict, **violence**, **civil war**, and **armed groups** suggest that governance is often discussed in the context of conflict and violence, particularly in settings involving non-state actors and instability. The strong link between these nodes underscores the significant role of armed groups in shaping governance in conflict zones. This could include discussions around rebel governance, the role of non-state actors in power dynamics, and the challenges of establishing legitimate governance in contested areas. Apart from the high-density nodes, there are other influential nodes such as 'Justice and Rule,' 'Grievance,' 'Oil,' and 'Natural Resources.' There are also Emerging Themes such as 'Political-Economy,' 'Sovereignty,' and 'Militias,' 'Gender' and 'Networks.' This co-occurrence network provides a comprehensive overview of the key themes and their interrelationships within the field, highlighting both well-established and emerging areas of focus in conflict and governance studies.

On the other hand, it is seen in Figure 11 that the terms "civil war," "rebel governance," "civil resistance," "rebel groups," "counterinsurgency," "conflict," and "armed conflict" form a central cluster, suggesting a strong association with the broader theme of conflict and its governance. The critical terms of studies on Rebel Governance have been grouped into four distinct clusters based on similar topics. Moreover, terms like "human rights," "international humanitarian law," "security," and "governance" cluster together, highlighting their interconnectedness in the context of conflict and its aftermath.

Figure 11: Co-occurrence network- SCOPUS
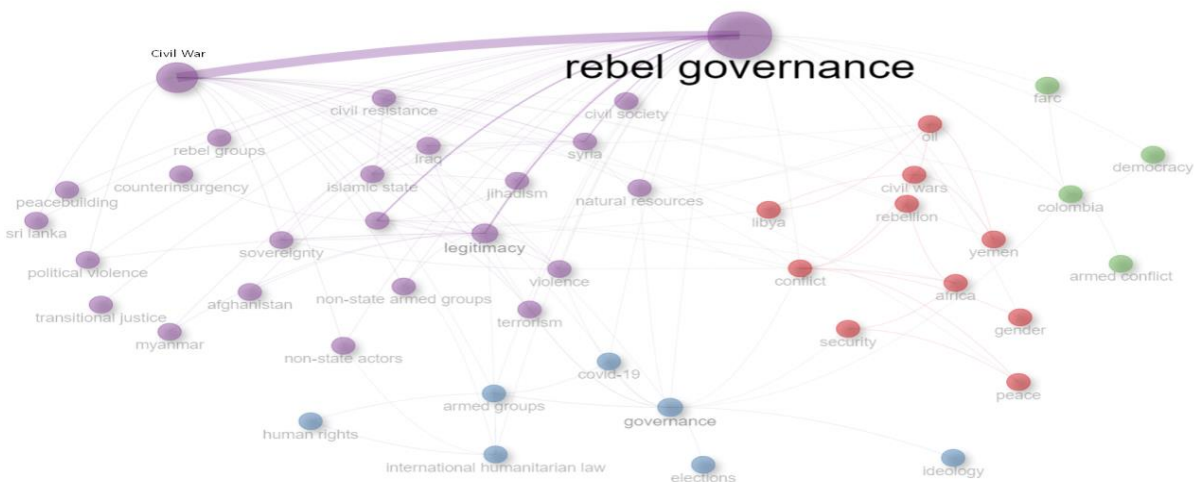
"Rebel governance" is closely linked to "civil war" and "rebel groups," indicating that rebel groups often establish their governance structures in conflict zones. Terms like "legitimacy," "sovereignty," and

"democracy" are connected to "conflict," suggesting that the legitimacy of governments and their sovereignty are often contested in conflict situations. In addition, "Human rights," "international humanitarian law," and "armed groups" are associated with "conflict," highlighting the humanitarian challenges often associated with armed conflict. Overall, the co-occurrence network provides a valuable starting point for exploring the complex relationships between conflict, governance, human rights, and security concepts. Further research is needed to investigate these relationships and understand their implications.

Regarding their comparison, both networks highlight the central themes of conflict, violence, governance, and security. Both networks reveal relationships between these concepts, such as the connection between armed groups and civil war, and the association between conflict and governance challenges. The first network seems to have a broader focus, encompassing topics like human rights, international humanitarian law, and legitimacy. The second network appears to be more specific to conflict and violence, with a stronger emphasis on armed groups and institutions. In sum, these two co-occurrence networks provide insight into the relationships among concepts of conflict, violence, governance, and security. However, in interpreting specific focuses, connections, and context in each network, such data need to be put into context. Comparing and contrasting these two networks provides further insight into key themes and their relationships in this domain.
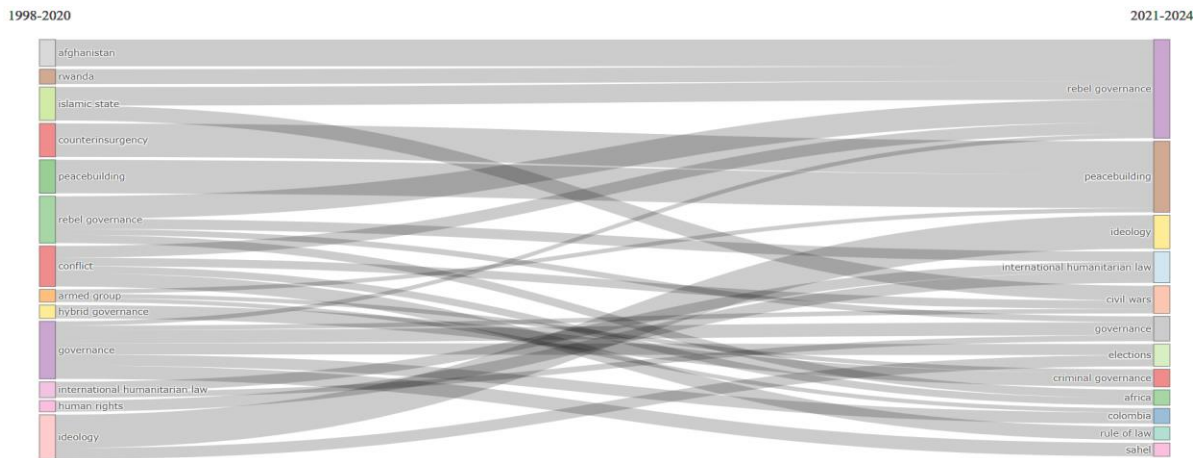
Thematic evolution

Thematic evolution analysis, another step in the research process, enables the identification of thematic content, strength, changing rules, and evolutionary relationships and trends that emerge over time in the literature. By using thematic evolution analysis, "it is possible to visualize the development in the field, understand the direction of this development, and make future-oriented inferences about trends in the field (Cobo et al., 2011, p. 54)." In a Sankey diagram, every node signifies a distinct topic. The node's dimensions vary proportionally based on the number of related keywords in the theme. The connections between nodes express the evolutionary direction of the concepts being addressed. The historical continuity of these connections indicates the ongoing importance of concepts in the field over time. The color difference in the connection lines helps in differentiation. The thickness of these lines represents the number of keywords shared between the connected topics. In other words, as the connection between issues strengthens, the line also expands.

Figure 12: Thematic evolution- WOS
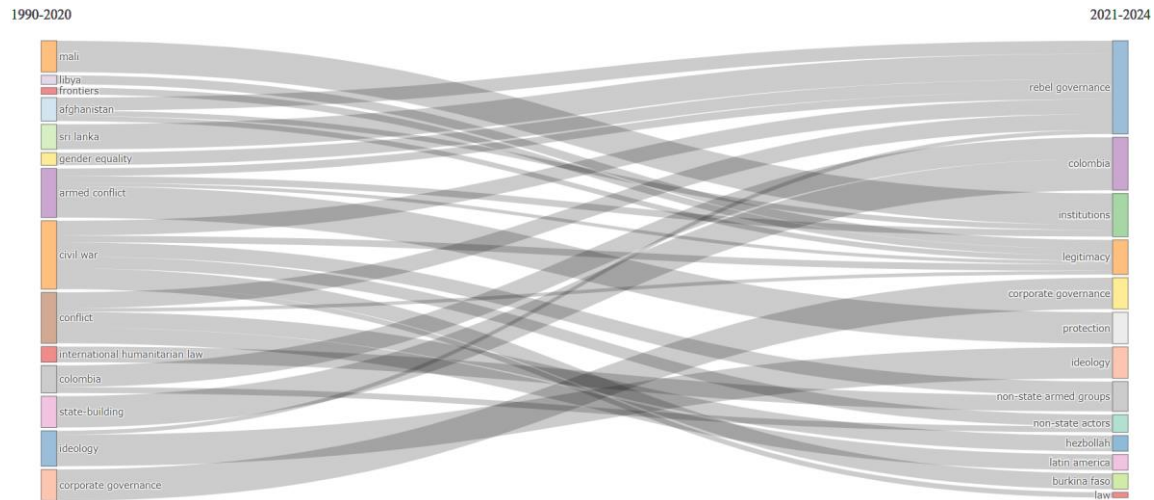
In the first period, from 1990 to 2020, the concepts of civil war, conflict, and armed conflict stood out. When examining the relationships with the terms that occurred during the second period, it can be observed that rebel governance (1990-2020), Columbia (2021-2024), and institutions (2021-2024) are influential. Similarly, while corporate governance (1990-2020), state-building (1990-2020), Columbia (1990-2020), and the other concepts seem to have an impact on Columbia (2021-2024), institutions (2021-2024), legitimacy (2021-2024), protection (2021-2024), ideology (2021-2024), and non-state armed groups (2021-2024). In sum, **Legitimacy, Non-State Actors, Latin America, Burkina Faso, Law** themes broadly broaden the scope of topics, ranging from general governance and legal principles to regional specifics, reflecting new geopolitical, legal, and social dynamics. Several earlier themes like "Mali," "Libya," "Afghanistan," "Sri Lanka," "Gender Equality," "Armed Conflict," "Civil War," "Conflict," "International Humanitarian Law," "State-Building," and "Corporate Governance" do not seem to continue into the later period. This might suggest a shift away from these specific focuses or a resolution of these issues to some extent. The focus on specific groups like "Hezbollah" and regions like "Latin America" and "Burkina Faso" in the later period might reflect new or continuing conflicts, emerging studies, or international policy focus areas.

Figure 13: Thematic evolution- SCOPUS

The themes' differentiation, integration, transfer, and regeneration are evident due to the many study themes across several eras and intricate thematic evolution links. As is seen in Figure 13, governance (1998-2020) has an impact on several concepts like Sahel (2021-2024), the rule of law (2021-2024), elections (2021-2024), and governance (2021-2024). In the same sense, rebel governance (1998-2020) has an impact on rebel governance (2021-2024), international humanitarian law (2021-2024), governance (2021-2024), and Africa (2021-2024). From the figure, one can see that some new themes like civil wars, governance, elections, criminal governance, Africa, Colombia, the rule of law, and the Sahel suggest a broadening of geographical and conceptual focus in recent years. There is a noticeable shift from specific conflict zones (Afghanistan, Rwanda) and groups (Islamic State) to broader governance and legal themes (rule of law, criminal governance) and a regional focus (Africa, Colombia).

CONCLUSION

Bibliometric analysis has become an integral part of scientific research; it allows scholars to obtain a comprehensive overview about data concerning their very field. This research utilizes two software programs that are actually capable of conducting a bibliometric analysis. In addition, the R program provides high levels of support and libraries that enable running wide ranges of analyses, giving very valuable solutions to many users. This paper endeavors to carry out a bibliometric review of the extant literature on rebel governance, taken herein to refer to the ways in which NSAGs exercise territorial governance beyond the reach of conventional state authority. Using a dataset comprising 1,133 documents retrieved from the WOS and Scopus databases, this study ascertains key trends, emerging themes, and blind spots in extant literature about rebel governance. Bibliometric analysis was performed to identify authors, publications, institutions, and countries interested in the subject. Thus, it is aimed to examine the

developments in the literature from the past to the present and to guide future studies. All the lines of research on rebel governance examined in this literature review are demonstrably closely interlinked and, in most cases, mutually reinforcing.

The study of rebel governance is a valuable tool for systematically understanding and mapping this area of research. The research has yielded significant findings regarding the concept of rebel governance. First, the analysis indicates a rising trend in academic interest in rebel governance, as seen in the steady increase in publications over the years. Notably, the field has experienced significant growth since 2010, particularly after events such as the Arab Spring, which catalyzed the emergence of new NSAGs. Core themes in the literature and the area scholars have prioritized the keywords: 'governance,' 'conflict,' 'violence,' 'security,' and 'legitimacy.'

The analysis of thematic maps identifies foundational themes such as conflict and governance and emerging themes like leadership, innovation, and management. These themes are integral to understanding the complex dynamics of rebel governance and how it influences both local and international politics. Research on rebel governance is characterized by limited international collaboration insofar as most research occurs nationally. This points to some real opportunities for more comparative and interdisciplinary research that may further extend insights about rebel governance in contexts other than those here. The network analysis of the co-occurrences shows how main concepts such as governance, violence, civil war, and armed groups are interlinked in their respective co-mentions.

These relationships highlight the central role of armed groups in shaping governance structures in conflict zones. Nonetheless, many phenomena related to rebel governance and their governance are still far too little researched. In other words, the field offers fertile ground for research projects, as can be inferred from the same thematic map, topics such as "natural disaster," "non-governmental organizations," "external support," "corporate governance," "competition," "rural development and economy," "urban development and planning," and "education" have not been sufficiently studied in relation to Rebel Governance. Thematic evolution analysis shows that general themes of conflict and governance were in focus at first, whereas in recent years, more specific and regionally focused studies have emerged, such as 'Sahel,' 'Latin America.' This kind of evolution reflects the change in the nature of the research in rebel governance, adapting itself to new geopolitical and social realities. The analysis identifies emerging themes, such as the effect of humanitarian aid and cultural identity; thus, new areas of research are suggested, which join at traditional conflict studies.

In that regard, some of the older themes, such as state-building and corporate governance, have declined in numbers and can therefore be considered less pertinent today, which might reflect a shift in academic interest toward more topical and pressing issues. Further research is needed to investigate these gaps, foster greater interdisciplinarity, and widen our knowledge on the role of NSAGs in governance beyond conflict areas. This will be fundamental for further development of integrated frameworks addressing the complexities brought along by rebel governance within the contemporary world.

YAZAR BEYANI / AUTHOR STATEMENT

Araştırmacı makaledeki tüm katkının kendine ait olduğunu bildirmiştir. Araştırmacı herhangi bir çıkar çatışması bildirmemiştir.

Researcher declared that all contributions to the article were his own. Researcher have not declared any conflict of interest.

REFERENCES

Adunbi, O. (2015). Oil wealth and insurgency in Nigeria. In *Oil wealth and insurgency in Nigeria*. Indiana University Press.

Ahram, A. I. (2022). When rebels govern oil. *Extractive Industries and Society, 12*. doi: 10.1016/j.exis.2022.101169.

Akande, D. (2012). Classification of armed conflicts: Relevant legal concepts. *SSRN Electronic Journal*. doi: 10.2139/ssrn.2132573.

Arjona, A. (2016). Creating rebelocracy, aliocracy, and disorder. In *Rebelocracy* (pp. 159–211). Cambridge University Press. doi: 10.1017/9781316421925.006.

Aslan, M. (2020). Hybrid political order in Libya: State, non-state and Armed Actors. *Insight Turkey, 22*(4), 139-156. doi: 10.25253/99.2020224.09.

Ayissi, A. (2020). Three decades of disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration of ex-combatants in Africa: Lessons learned and challenges ahead. In *The state of peacebuilding in Africa: Lessons learned for policymakers and practitioners*. Springer International Publishing. doi: 10.1007/978-3-030-46636-7_9.

Bagayoko, N., Hutchful, E., & Luckham, R. (2016). Hybrid security governance in Africa: rethinking the foundations of security, justice and legitimate public authority. CONFLICT SECURITY & DEVELOPMENT, 16(1), 1–32. doi: 10.1080/14678802.2016.1136137.

Bagdasaryan, S., & Petrova, S. (2017). The republic of Abkhazia as an unrecognized state. *Russian Law Journal, 5*(1), doi: 10.17589/2309-8678-2017-5-1-98-118.

Bandula-Irwin, T., Gallien, M., Jackson, A., van den Boogaard, V., & Weigand, F. (2022). Beyond greed:

Why armed groups tax. *Studies In Conflict & Terrorism, 47*(12), 1599-1622. doi: 10.1080/1057610X.2022.2038409.

Berti, B. (2021). Rebel justice? Rule of law and law enforcement by non-state armed groups. In *Rule of law and areas of limited statehood: domestic and international dimensions*. Edward Elgar Publishing Ltd.

Boege, V., Brown, A. M., & Clements, K. P. (2009). Hybrid political orders, not fragile states. *Peace Review, 21*, 13-21. doi: 10.1080/10402650802689997.

Bojicic-Dzelilovic, V., & Turkmani, R. (2018). War economy, governance and security in Syria's opposition-controlled areas. *Stability-International Journal of Security and Development*, *7*(1). doi: 10.5334/sta.569.

Börzel, T. A., & Risse, T. (2010). Governance without a state: Can it work? *Regulation and Governance, 4*(2), 113-134. doi: 10.1111/j.1748-5991.2010.01076.x.

Breslawski, J., & Tucker, C. (2022). Ideological motives and taxation by armed groups. *Conflict Management and Peace Science*, *39*(3), 333–350. doi: 10.1177/07388942211033229.

Bruderlein, C. (2000). The role of non-state actors in building human security: the Case of armed groups in intra-state wars. In *Centre for humanitarian dialogue*.

Bryant, R. (2014). Unrecognized states: The struggle for sovereignty in the modern international system. *Southeast European and Black Sea Studies*. doi: 10.1080/14683857.2014.967964.

Cancian, M., & Greenwald, D. B. (2022). Infrastructure, revenue, and services: Non-state governance in Iraq's disputed territories. *Civil Wars*, *24*(4), 445–496. doi: 10.1080/13698249.2022.2125718.

Cetina Presuel, R., & Martinez Sierra, J. M. (2024). The adoption of artificial intelligence in bureaucratic decision-making: A Weberian perspective. *Digital Government: Research and Practice, 5*(1). doi: 10.1145/3609861.

Clunan, A., & Trinkunas, H. (2011). Ungoverned spaces: Alternatives to state authority in an era of softened sovereignty. *Choice Reviews Online, 48*(10). doi: 10.5860/choice.48-5953.

Cobo, M. J., López-Herrera, A. G., Herrera-Viedma, E., & Herrera, F. (2011). An approach for detecting, quantifying, and visualizing the evolution of a research field: A practical application to the Fuzzy Sets Theory field. *Journal of Informetrics*, *5*(1), 146–166. doi: 10.1016/J.JOI.2010.10.002.

Cox Blackwell, K. R. (2002). *Political geography territory, state, and society*. Blackwell Publishers.

Dembińska, M. (2023). Legitimizing the separatist cause: Nation-building in the Eurasian de facto States. *Nationalities Papers*. doi: 10.1017/nps.2022.33.

Drechsler, W. (2023). The New Neo-Weberian state. *Max Weber Studies, 23,* 109-125. doi: 10.1353/max.2023.0007.

Druckman, D., Vukovic, S., & Verbeek, N. (2024). Rebel group legitimacy, ideology and durable peace. *International Journal of Conflict Management*, *35*(1), 215–241. doi: 10.1108/IJCMA-01-2023-0015.

Dzinesa, G. A. (2017). Disarmament, demobilization and reintegration in Southern Africa swords into

ploughshares? In *Rethinking Political Violence*. Palgrave Macmillan.

Esguerra, A., Helmerich, N., & Risse, T. (2017). *Sustainability politics and limited statehood: contesting new modes of governance*. Palgrave Macmillan.

Ficek, R. (2023). Hybrid regimes and political (dis)order. *Historia i Polityka, 46*(53), 49-70. doi: 10.12775/hip.2023.030.

Florea, A. (2020). Rebel governance in de facto states. *European Journal of International Relations, 26*(4). doi: 10.1177/1354066120919481.

Florea, A., & Malejacq, R. (2024). The supply and demand of rebel governance. *International Studies Review*, *26*(1). doi: 10.1093/ISR/VIAE004.

Fontes, A. W. (2023). Taxation and incarceration in Guatemala: Prisons, protection rackets, and citizenship. *European Review of Latin American and Caribbean Studies*, *116*, 105 – 123. doi: 10.32992/ERLACS.10984.

Franco, S., Suarez, C. M., Naranjo, C. B., Báez, L. C., & Rozo, P. (2006). The effects of the armed conflict on the life and health in Colombia. *Ciencia e Saude Coletiva, 11*(2), 349-361. doi: 10.1590/S1413-81232006000200013.

Furlan, M. (2023). Rebel governance at the time of Covid-19: Emergencies as opportunities for rebel rulers. *Studies in Conflict and Terrorism, 46*(2). doi: 10.1080/1057610X.2020.1816681.

Goebel, C. M., & Levy, J. C. (2020). Disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration. In *Research handbook on post-conflict state building*. Edward Elgar Publishing Ltd. doi: 10.4337/9781788971645.00016.

Gonzalez, A. F. A., Hirschel-Burns, D., & Uribe, A. D. (2024). Contestation, governance, and the production of violence against civilians: Coercive political order in rural Colombia. *Journal Of Conflict Resolution*, *68*(4), 616–641. doi: 10.1177/00220027231177591.

Halvorson, D. (2013). States of disorder: Understanding state failure and intervention in the periphery. In *States of Disorder: Understanding State Failure and Intervention in the Periphery*. Ashgate Publishing Ltd.

Heffes, E. (2019). Armed groups and the protection of health care. *International Law Studies*, *95*.

Hoch, T., & Rudincová, K. (2015). Legitimization of statehood in de facto states: A case study of Somaliland. *Acta Universitatis Carolinae, Geographica*. doi: 10.14712/23361980.2015.85.

Huang, R., & Sullivan, P. L. (2021). Arms for education? External support and rebel social services. *Journal of Peace Research*. doi: 10.1177/0022343320940749.

Ikenberry, G. J., & Holsti, K. J. (2004). Taming the sovereigns: Institutional change in international politics. *Foreign Affairs*. doi: 10.2307/20034082.

Ikenberry, G. J., & Regan, P. M. (2000). Civil wars and foreign powers: Outside intervention in intrastate conflict. *Foreign Affairs*, *79*(4). doi: 10.2307/20049833.

Jackson, A. (2021). *Negotiating survival: Civilian - insurgent relations in Afghanistan*. Oxford University Press. doi: 10.1093/oso/9780197606179.001.0001.

Jackson, R. (2005). Classical and modern thought on international relations. In *Classical and modern thought on international relations*.

Joshi, M. (2024). Civil war violence and competing legitimacy claims: Evidence from district level courts cases in Nepal. *Political Geography*, *109*. doi: 10.1016/j.polgeo.2023.103044.

Jüde, J. (2020). The possibility of state formation and the limitations of liberal international state-building. *Journal of International Relations and Development*, *23*(1), 92 – 116. doi: 10.1057/s41268-018-0139-z

Justin, S. (2020). Surviving the War in Syria: Survival Strategies in a Time of Conflict. In *Surviving the War in Syria: Survival Strategies in a Time of Conflict*. Cambridge University Press. doi: 10.1017/9781108909716.

Kaplan, O. (2017). Resisting war: How communities protect themselves. In *Resisting war: How communities protect themselves*. Cambridge University Press.

Karakuş, M. (2022). Non-State armed group's durability strategy: Instrumentalizing de-facto governance. *Journal of History School*, *15*(58), 1909-1948.

Karakuş, M. (2024). Greening the guns: How armed non-state actors can become a player in the fight for a sustainable future. M. Hamdan, et al. (eds.), *Global trends in governance and policy paradigm* (pp. 187–208). IGI Global.

Kettl, D. F. (2022). Weberian bureaucracy and contemporary governance. *Perspectives on Public Management and Governance*, *5*(2), 111-120. doi: 10.1093/ppmgov/gvab026.

Krause, J. (2018). Resilient communities: Non-violence and civilian agency in communal war. In *Resilient communities: Non-violence and civilian agency in communal war*.

Kubota, Y. (2023). Remaining behind in the community: Rebel service provision and internal (non-) displacement of civilians in the former FATA, Pakistan. *Journal of Peace Research, 60*(3), 444-458. doi: 10.1177/00223433221079868.

Kursani, S. (2024). Costs of international recognition: Palestine's and Kosovo's struggle with negotiated statehood. *Geopolitics, 29*(1), 174-202. doi: 10.1080/14650045.2022.2151903.

Lillywhite, L. (2015). Non-state armed groups, health and healthcare. Retrieved from https://www.chathamhouse.org/sites/default/files/events/special/NSAGs%20Meeting%20Summary%20in%20template%20-%20final%20edit%20from%20Jo%20-%20ER-%20PKA%2027.10.15.pdf

Lottholz, P., & Lemay-Hébert, N. (2016). Re-reading Weber, re-conceptualizing state-building: from neo-Weberian to post-Weberian approaches to state, legitimacy and state-building. *Cambridge Review of International Affairs, 29*(4), 1467-1485. doi: 10.1080/09557571.2016.1230588.

Madison, I. (2022). Competitive statebuilding from the demand-side: counter-state services and civilian choice in Kosovo, 1989-1998. *Conflict Security & Development, 22*(3), 297–319. doi: 10.1080/14678802.2022.2084283.

Malthaner, S., & Malesevic, S. (2022). Violence, legitimacy, and control: The dynamics of rebel rule. *Partecipazione E Conflitto*, *15*(1, SI), 1–16. doi: 10.1285/i20356609v15i1p01.

Mampilly, Z. (2015). Performing the nation-state: Rebel governance and symbolic processes. In *Rebel governance in civil war*. Cambridge University Press. doi: 10.1017/CBO9781316182468.004.

Mampilly, Z., & Gutierrez, J. A. (2023). A tax like any other? Rebel taxes on narcotics and war time economic order. *International Politics*. doi: 10.1057/s41311-023-00517-w.

Mampilly, Z., & Stewart, M. A. (2021). A Typology of Rebel Political Institutional Arrangements. Journal of Conflict Resolution, *65*(1), 15–45. doi: 10.1177/0022002720935642.

Mampilly, Z., & Thakur, S. (2024). Rebel taxation as extortion or a technology of governance? Telling the difference in India's northeast. *Comparative Political Studies.* doi: 10.1177/00104140241237472.

Markedonov, S. (2022). Post-Soviet de facto states: Trajectories of their struggle for sovereignty. *Social Sciences (Russian Federation).* doi: 10.21557/SSC.74941708.

Massey Thaler, K. (2018). *From insurgent to incumbent: State building and service provision after rebel victory in civil wars.* The Harvard University.

Meagher, K., De Herdt, T., & Titeca, K. (2014). Hybrid governance: Buzzword or paradigm shift? *African Arguments.*

Menkhaus, K. (2014). State failure, state-building, and prospects for a "functional failed state" in Somalia. *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science, 656,* 154-172. doi: 10.1177/0002716214547002.

Munive, J. S. F. (2023). *How non-state armed groups engage in environmental protection*. Copenhag: DIIS Policy Brief.

Munro, W. A. (1996). Power, peasants and political development: Reconsidering state construction in Africa. *Comparative Studies in Society and History, 38*(1), 112-148. doi: 10.1017/s0010417500020144

Neumann, L. (2019). Is formality legitimacy? Defining the obligations of non-state armed groups. In B. L. Kristiansen, K. Mitkidis, L. Munkholm, L. Neumann, & C. Pelaudeix (Eds.), *Transnationalisation and legal actors: Legitimacy in question* (pp. 216–229). Routledge.

Newman, E. (2007). Weak states, state failure, and terrorism. *Terrorism and Political Violence*, *19*(4), 463–488. doi: 10.1080/09546550701590636.

Ojo, J. S. (2020). Governing "ungoverned spaces" in the foliage of conspiracy: Toward (re)ordering terrorism, from Boko Haram insurgency, Fulani militancy to banditry in Northern Nigeria. *African Security*, *13*(1), 77–110. doi: 10.1080/19392206.2020.1731109.

Pham, J. P. (2011). State collapse, insurgency, and famine in the horn of Africa: Legitimacy and the ongoing somali crisis. *Journal of the Middle East and Africa*, *2*(2), 153–187. doi: 10.1080/21520844.2011.617238.

Piazza, J. A. (2008). Incubators of terror: Do failed and failing states promote transnational terrorism?

International Studies Quarterly, *52*(3), 469–488. doi: 10.1111/j.1468-2478.2008.00511.x

Plowright, W. (2021). Armed non-state groups and international legitimacy Introduction. In *armed groups and international legitimacy: Child soldiers in intra-state conflict* (pp. 1–35). Routledge.

Podder, S. (2014). Mainstreaming the non-state in bottom-up state-building: linkages between rebel governance and post-conflict legitimacy. *Conflict, Security and Development*, *14*(2), 213–243. doi: 10.1080/14678802.2014.889878.

Provost, R. (2021). Rebel Courts: The Administration of Justice by Armed Insurgents. In *Rebel courts: The administration of justice by armed insurgents*. Oxford University Press.

Reyntjens, F. (2014). Regulation, taxation and violence: the state, quasi-state governance and cross-border dynamics in the Great Lakes Region. *Review Of African Political Economy*, *41*(142), 530–544. doi: 10.1080/03056244.2014.928612.

Rickard, K., & Bakke, K. M. (2021). Legacies of wartime order: Punishment attacks and social control in Northern Ireland. *Security Studies*, *30*(4), 518–551. doi: 10.1080/09636412.2021.1976822.

Risse, T. (2011). Governance without a State. In *Policies and politics in areas of limited statehood.*

Risse, T. (2015). Limited statehood: A critical perspective. In *The Oxford handbook of transformations of the state*. Oxford University Press. doi: 10.1093/OXFORDHB/9780199691586.013.8.

Ruaud, H. (Oct 31, 2013). *Armed non-state actors and displacement in armed conflict*. Retrieved from www.imprimerie-villiere.com.

Schillinger, J., & Özerol, G. (2023). Non-state armed groups with territorial control as emergent actors of wartime water governance. *Environment and Security*. doi: 10.1177/27538796231204761.

Schuberth, M. (2017). Disarmament, demobilization and reintegration in unconventional settings: the case of MINUSTAH's community violence reduction. *International Peacekeeping*, *24*(3), 410 – 433. doi: 10.1080/13533312.2016.1277145.

Schuberth, M. (2018). Hybrid security governance, post-election violence and the legitimacy of community-based armed groups in urban Kenya. *Journal Of Eastern African Studies*, *12*(2, SI), 386–404. doi: 10.1080/17531055.2018.1457277.

Schwab, R., & Massoud, S. (2022). Who Owns The Law?: Logics of insurgent courts in the Syrian War (2012-2017). In *Actors and dynamics in the Syrian conflict's middle phase: Between contentious politics, militarization and regime resilience*. Taylor and Francis. doi: 10.4324/9781003254904-10.

Somer, J. (2015). *Environmental protection and non-state armed groups: setting a place at the table for the elephant in the room*. CEOBS.

Szekely, O. (2016). The politics of militant group survival in the Middle East: Resources, relationships, and resistance. In *The politics of militant group survival in the Middle East: Resources, relationships, and resistance*. Springer International Publishing.

Termeer, A. (2023). Rebel legal order, governance and legitimacy: Examining the Islamic State and the Taliban insurgency. *Studies In Conflict & Terrorism*. doi: 10.1080/1057610X.2023.2231641.

Voller, Y. (2022). Rethinking armed groups and order: Syria and the rise of militiatocracies. *International Affairs*, *98*(3), 853–871. doi: 10.1093/ia/iiac047.

Voyvodic, C. (2021). The legacy of rebel order: local (in)security in Colombia. *Conflict Security & Development*, *21*(2), 177–197. doi: 10.1080/14678802.2021.1911065.

Weinstein, J. (2007). Inside rebellion: The politics of insurgent violence. In *Inside Rebellion: The Politics of Insurgent Violence*. Cambridge University Press.

Willems, R., & van der Borgh, C. (2016). Negotiating security provisioning in a hybrid political order: the case of the Arrow Boys in Western Equatoria, South Sudan. *Conflict, Security and Development*. doi: 10.1080/14678802.2016.1200312.

Wong, C. S. (2022). The past, the present, and the future: A bibliometric analysis of failed/fragile/collapsed state research during 1990–2020. *Frontiers in Research Metrics and Analytics*, *7*. doi: 10.3389/FRMA.2022.720882/BIBTEX.

Wyler, L. (2008). Weak and failing states: Evolving security threats and U.S. policy. *Congressional Research Service*.

Zaki, M., Haid, H., & Khatib, L. (2020). *Assessing control and power dynamics in Syria De facto authorities and state institutions*. Retrieved from https://www.chathamhouse.org/sites/default/files/2020-11/2020-11-11-control-power-syria-mehchy-haid-khatib_0.pdf.

Zayd, O. A. (2020, October 19). HTS Populism: Survival and Expansion. *Al Sharq Strategic Research*. Retrieved from https://research.sharqforum.org/2020/10/19/hts-populism-survival-and-expansion/