

Is Happiness Really a Warm Gun?

The Consequences of US Weapons Sales for Political Violence

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1. What is the question?

此篇論文在探討國家向美國購買武器後的影響。

2. Why should we care about it?

軍事力量對國家衝突的影響很大，購買武器確實會影響一個國家軍事的傾向及類別，但現有的實證文獻卻很少。

3. What is the author's answer?

作者發現跟美國購買武器的國家會減少政治迫害(one-sided violence)，但會增加內戰的可能性(two-sided violence)。還有增強軍事力量不一定會增加或減少政治暴力，但會改變國家對國內政治威脅的處理方式，內戰的次數也變多。

4. How did the author get there?

作者將國家區分成 political repression (one-sided violence)及 civil war (two-sided violence)，藉由蒐集武器銷售及政治暴力的資料並個別分析來了解跟美國購買武器會對國家造成什麼影響。

公式整理

$$Y_{irt} = \beta W_{irt} + X_{irt}'\gamma + \varphi_{ir} + \delta_{rt} + u_{irt}$$

$$W_{irt} = \alpha(\pi_{t-1} - q_{ir}) + X_{irt}'\gamma + \varphi_{ir} + \delta_{rt} + u_{irt}$$

For country i region r year t

Y_{irt} : indicating either political repression or civil war

W_{irt} : the log of U.S. weapons sales

X_{irt} : exogenous control variables which we describe in more detail below

φ_{ir} : country fixed effects

δ_{rt} : region-specific year fixed effects

π_{t-1} : the U.S. domestic inflation in year $t-1$

q_{ir} : the country i 's historical frequency of weapons purchases over the sample period