Dra Emilmar, buenas noches.

Envío la respuesta que le di al Dr Michael Lund.

NOTA: En este correo le envíe por primera vez el trabajo traducido, me parece importante el concepto que pueda expresar él sobre el documento de investigación.

Cordialmente,

Javier Giraldo
d6901787

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Javier Giraldo <javiergiraldopersonal@gmail.com>
Date: 2018-07-24 8:48 GMT-05:00
Subject: Responding to your important questions - Dr Lund
To: Michael Lund <mslund@verizon.net>

Dr. Lund, good morning.

I am happy to greet you again and I am very pleased that you are interested in knowing a little more about my research. Actually your work and the contribution of knowledge about the Conflict Curve, have helped me to understand the way of seeing a conflict and that is why I wanted to investigate about the current situation in Venezuela. Regarding the questions, I would like to answer them in the same order.

The first three questions

1. What was the purpose of doing this analysis?
2. What analytical questions were you hoping it might answer?
3. Did you want to see what changing levels of conflict have occurred in this case?"

These three questions could be answered with the research question and with the general objective and specific objectives, which are:

**Research question:**
How can the migration process of Venezuelans to Colombia between 2012 and 2017 be explained through the application of Lund's theory?

**General purpose:**
Explain the migratory process of Venezuelans to Colombia between 2012 and 2017 from the Lund Theory.

**Specific objectives:**

1. Analyze the historical events of the internal conflict in Venezuela from 1998 to 2017, starting from the Lund curve.
2. Establish the relationship between the internal conflict in Venezuela and its bilateral relations with the Republic of Colombia from 2007 to 2017, starting with the Lund curve.

3. Analyze the migratory processes of Venezuelans entering Colombia from 2012 until 2017.

4. Have you drawn any conclusions or hypotheses about any such questions? What lessons have you learned?

For this question, I will include the conclusions of the work.

Conclusions
To conclude, from the point of view of international relations, the case of Venezuela makes clear how an internal conflict has a direct impact on relations with neighboring countries, in this case Colombia.

Below are some aspects that resolve the specific objectives raised at the beginning of this research work:

One of the lessons learned throughout this research is that each country works for years to build the essential bases on which its democracy will be based, which are supported by institutions that become its pillars and bastions. Venezuela was not the exception. The Venezuela of the year 1998 was supported in some important pillars, and although all the reforms will always be welcome, in order to build a better nation, in the case of Venezuela since its implementation of the "Bolivarian Revolution" plan of Chávez and Maduro, followed by different negative and irreparable changes, or restructuring with substantial modifications against the democratic system and the quality of life of Venezuelans. That is why, analyzing all the points of view from the theory of Lund - the curve of the conflict -, it is notorious how an internal conflict in a country, with the decisions that this implies, can get to deteriorate the structures-support of a State, to such a point, that civilians lose confidence in their own institutions, and unfortunately Venezuelan citizenship was taken to this day, Venezuelans have lost hope and see with pessimism what will become of them in the days to come. What they choose to do their life in other countries.

The path traveled by Chavez and continued by Maduro led to a series of measures that seriously affected the essential elements of peace, processes, scenarios and democratic exercises and in turn were reflected in the limitation of the rights of citizens and a deterioration sensitive in the quality of life of the Venezuelans, situations that were not necessary for the subsistence of the new regime. In the same way, it could be analyzed that one of the clearest stages of de-escalation of the internal conflict occurred in the transition between Chavez and Maduro, which is logical, because in that period it was necessary to create an environment of trust that would allow Maduro get to power in a stable way to then resume the plan outlined by his predecessor.

From the methodological point of view, Lund's proposal allowed us to see graphically that, in a consistent manner, whenever the internal conflict escalated, the Venezuelan government created a fearful perception of Colombia's aggression in the population, thus it had no basis whatsoever (Reuters, 2017). Colombia, on the other hand, showed that it handled its international relations well and, we do not know if by deliberately applying Lund's strategy, it
set tasks and used tools of preventive diplomacy that allowed it to de-escalate tensions with high effectiveness, gaining confidence of Venezuelans, not of his government. Skillfully Colombia resorts to international multilateral actors to participate in the situation and it is evident that the alleged attacks denounced by Venezuela to its population, were "smoke screens" to distract them from their real problems inside the country, and thus achieved the support needed to relieve tensions consistently.

For its part, the behavior of the migration of Venezuelans to Colombia clearly reflects the magnitude of the internal conflict in Venezuela. The number of migrants is a variable that behaves as a fairly reliable sensor that must be taken into account in this type of studies, in order to establish if the conflict is international or if it is really an internal problem. It is interesting how at certain moments the Venezuelans came to Colombia to supply some basic needs, but as the conflict became permanent and escalated more and more, the motivation varied and what they were looking for was a country where they had greater security and opportunities to work and settle for a longer period.

After an extensive process and an analysis of the different problems that Venezuelan democracy has had to face, we still have many questions about the future that this nation has to offer. It is not easy to say that Venezuela will simply be a nation that will slowly rise up and re-emerge to be the country it once was. Maybe, it will not be so easy, but if we look at it from a logical perspective, it is understood that Venezuela still has a lot of potential and in one way or another, it will manage to emerge as the country it always was. These last 20 years have left indelible marks, but undoubtely they have been 20 years of history that have sown in the new generations, a political power and a degree of maturity without precedents, that although the repression has decimated and closed some mouths, the young of Venezuela will be the promising future of their nation.

Therefore, the high point of the analysis was to know if the migratory flow of Venezuelans entering Colombia between 2012 and 2017, as seen from Lund's theory, was applicable and demonstrated that while the conflict was escalating in the neighboring country, more Venezuelans sought to enter Colombia, a point that at the end of the analysis, if it could be demonstrated, that is, while the conflict was getting worse, Colombia received a collateral impact on Venezuelan immigrants who wanted to flee the violence, with the desire to remain in the neighboring country.

Based on the above, we proceed to respond in a synthetic way the research question, which was raised in the following terms: How, through the application of Lund's theory, can be explained the migratory process of Venezuelans to Colombia between 2012 to 2017?. Between 2012 and 2017 there really was not a conflict between Venezuela and Colombia that could lead to war because as it says (Lund, 2018): "War is a relationship in which two sides are actively trying to destroy each other through physical force "... (War is a relationship in which two sides actively try to destroy each other through physical force). Elements that are not present in this period among these actors. The causal relationship is evident between the escalation of the conflict in Venezuela with the increase in the number of Venezuelan migrants to Colombia, and in turn it is evident that when this happens the Venezuelan government undertakes aggressive actions against Colombia, which are neutralized with tools of preventive diplomacy on the part of Colombia.

A very interesting conclusion for our study discipline, which are international relations, and that can be drawn from this work, is that not all international conflicts are really, but can be collateral manifestations of the escalation of internal conflicts, which it is demonstrated when the migratory phenomena are directed to the country presumably with which there is a
conflict, situation that would not make sense because precisely the natural tendency for survival is to move away from the aggressor and not to turn towards it. Finally, from the methodological point of view, for later studies, Michael S. Lund's proposal has been found a valuable tool that allows to visualize the behavior of phenomena in time to analyze them and understand their dynamics that are taking place in a process of conflict, which particularly, in this case, led us to understand that the migratory phenomenon of Venezuelans to Colombia was due to the escalation of the internal conflict and not to an international confrontation between these two countries.

5. In your comment, when you says: This shortcoming seems to be reflected in the fact that you subdivided the unstable peace category into more detail. But whether specific behaviors/events reflect this or that level, or sublevel, is very much subject to one's individual interpretation of what a particular occurrence “means”.

I would like to comment that in your book "Prevention of Violent Conflict - A Strategy for Preventive Diplomacy", in its last chapter, there is a very important picture or table, in which you perform in a very detailed way the subdivision of each state of the curve, it is more , that's where I found that the "Unstable Peace" you subdivide into the three stages that are:
Unstable Peace - Unstable Peace
Unstable Peace - Low Level Conflict
Unstable Peace - Close to Crisis
Therefore, all I wanted was to faithfully print your work, since these subdivisions were more concrete and helped me to understand the internal conflict in Venezuela and the bilateral situation between Colombia and Venezuela. Something important to highlight, is that in that same table the indicators of each state are detailed in the levels that are shown in the graphs.

6. For the last questions, which are: Setting aside the question of valid interpretation above, the “All curves” graph seems to show a convergence in the four variables starting in 2014 or 2015. What might that say? Is there some hypothesis there?.

I would like to ask you in a respectful way, I am sending you my complete work, you will excuse me if the translation is not so reliable, but I would like very much if you could read it and understand it because I wanted to work the curve of the conflict and because it comes to your work and because finish drawing the conclusions I draw.
In the same way, highlight how important it has been for me your contribution in knowledge, which undoubtedly continues to be recognized today in the midst of society.
The last request, for my work is vital to know a little more about the life of the author that I am quoting, therefore, I would like to know its place and date of birth, and if possible, know a little more about its biography.
Thank you very much for your precious time, it means a lot to me and my professional experience.
Happy day.
Cordially,

Javier Giraldo
Bogotá - Colombia
Dear Javier,
I've now had a chance to look at your graphs tracing the course of events in Venezuela and Colombia. Your work is by far the most elaborate effort (actually, the only effort I know of) to apply my conflict curve of the levels of conflict intensity to a particular case. Thanks for your interest in the curve and seeing what it may illuminate.

I'm not sure how to respond, however, both because I don't know the specifics of this case, and I'm not sure what your purpose in doing the exercise was. So all I can offer is some questions and observations:

1. 1. What was the purpose of doing this analysis? What analytical questions were you hoping it might answer? For example, did you want to see what changing levels of conflict have occurred in this case? Or to see if there were causal relationships between those levels and the other “variables”, i.e., the actions by the two governments (such as whether there was a some discernible pattern of escalation between the governments, or about the increasing internationalization of the conflict), or in the reactions by the emigrants? Or did you want to point to what tools seem most appropriate to those levels and changing events?

2. Have you drawn any conclusions or hypotheses about any such questions? What lessons have you learned?

2.

3. Some general impressions I draw from the graphs:
   · It is very hard to reach objective conclusions about what kinds of behaviors by the actors correspond to what levels of conflict. My curve and its distinctions were only a very crude effort to make some very broad distinctions among those levels. This shortcoming seems to be reflected in the fact that you subdivided the unstable peace category into more detail. But whether specific behaviors/events reflect this or that level, or sublevel, is very much subject to one's individual interpretation of what a particular occurrence “means”. Perhaps this suggests that the only differences my scale may be useful for is in differentiating gross differences in levels of open behaviors, such as public statements by leaders, threats of violence, actual violence, etc.
     · The column about the numbers of emigres does not seem to be related to the other kinds of data.
     · Setting aside the question of valid interpretation above, the “All curves” graph seems to show a convergence in the four variables starting in 2014 or 2015. What might that say? Is there some hypothesis there?

Hope this is constructive.
Best,
Michael Lund (let's just say an “old guy born in the USA”)
-----Original Message-----
From: Michael Lund <mslund@verizon.net>
To: mslund <mslund@verizon.net>
Sent: Tue, Jul 17, 2018 8:26 pm
Subject: Fwd: Dr Lund - A final question

Michael Lund
mslund@verizon.net

-----Original Message-----
From: Javier Giraldo <javigiraldo@personal@gmail.com>
To: Michael Lund <mslund@verizon.net>
Sent: Sat, Jul 14, 2018 12:19 pm
Subject: Dr Lund - A final question

Dr Lund, good evening.

I really wanted to thank you for your kind response, I am very excited and pleased with your answers.

Again I wanted to make you participate in my work and I wanted to show you the result of my research using your theory "The Curve of the Conflict" with the case of the internal conflict in Venezuela and how this situation has affected Colombia. The result was 4 graphs, three of them are three different curves and in the last crossing all the curves and I found the result surprising.

For me it would be an honor to know your concept about this and if you consider that I made the proper use of your important work.

Finally, and not wanting to abuse your kindness. I would like to know your date and place of birth, I have searched in many places and I have not been able to find a biography of you. The only one I have is the one from your book "Preventing Violent Conflict 1996", but there is only part of your career, but not your date and place of birth.

With much appreciation and abmiracion for your work, I appreciate your kind response.

Cordially,

Javier Giraldo
Hi Javier,

Thanks for writing me, and thanks for your kind words. I'm not sure how helpful I can be, however, in an email.

1. I don't understand the question.

2. War is a relationship in which two sides are actively trying to destroy each other through physical force. But as with any typology, those differences in the "cycle" represent very broad characteristics. So those categories shade into each other, like on a color wheel. But there still is a difference between red and blue!

3. No, not in such detail. But have you seen my more recent survey of conflict prevention? If not, I attach it here. In it, I break down escalation to violent conflict into several stages and suggest the kinds of preventive measures that are most appropriate in each stage.

4. Unfortunately, I am not sure that any US or other government's agency has actually set up a complete process that systematically follows the kinds of steps I outline in the book. That is, when the signs of conflict arise somewhere, the government consistently would go through such procedures. That's surprising because those ideas basically just lay out what a rational approach would look like!

As you probably know, however, there are many conflict early warning frameworks that are used in some form or other by several governments. That is, these state the questions to ask in this place or that place, to find out if a conflict is likely to occur and escalate.

5. Yes, I've been reading about Venezuela's ongoing political confrontation. It's very relevant to my current research on why in some countries the efforts to challenge a semi-authoritarian regime result in major violent conflicts such as civil wars, but other countries manage to evolve, relatively peacefully, into a more democratic government. In case it is helpful, I attach a draft paper I wrote in 2016 that summarizes some of the research that is relevant to this question. But I don't know enough about Venezuela to try to make a prediction.

Hope this helps -- to some extent anyway!

Best wishes,
Michael.
Good afternoon.

My name is Javier Giraldo, I am a student of the New Granada Military University in Colombia - South America. I wanted to tell you that I am finishing my career at the University, I am studying International Relations and I was very interested in your book "Preventing Violent Conflicts" written in 1996. In my research I am using the strategy of Preventive Diplomacy as a referene, analyze the internal conflict in Venezuela and its international effects with Colombia.

I would like very respectfully to ask you 5 questions:

1. Faced with the Conflict Curve raised in the book "Preventing Violent Conflicts, 1996" has changed its position against the 5 states of conflict: Lasting Peace, Stable Peace, Unstable Peace, Crisis and War.

2. According to the curve of the conflict, what would be his personal concept against the war state, since for many war it is a warlike confrontation.

3. Have you perfected or developed new "Priority Tasks" or "Tools" of the Preventive Diplomacy, which complement those stated in your book ?.

4. In addition to the United States Peace Institute, do you know if other government agencies are applying the strategy you have chosen?

5. Have you heard about the internal conflict in Venezuela? If so, I could share your personal concept of the escalation of the conflict in that country.
Thank you very much for your great support and your important work.

Cordially,

Javier Giraldo