

Abstract

A large amount of academic literature demonstrated that intrastate conflicts often occur in countries that have already experienced civil war. This reoccurring pattern forced several researchers to analyze which factors contribute and which lower the risk of war recurrence. This master thesis focuses on the civil war recurrence through the lenses of gender. I will argue that higher gender equality could lower the risk that intrastate conflict will reoccur. If the countries are organized by norms of gender inequality, the same treatment is reproduced towards the other groups within society. On the other hand, more gender-equal societies may transform these relationships into the same tolerant relationships with those who are perceived as different and foreign in the country. Moreover, socialization and the way children have been raised play an important role in how they will behave as adults. Less patriarchal societies with a lower focus on the norm of dominance create space for norms of tolerance, respect, peace, freedom, and equality which has a pacifying effect on the behavior of the state and people within it. Therefore, I will hypothesize that the higher women's political, economic, and social participation, the longer the duration of peace after the civil war. Large-N quantitative analysis in which the Cox proportional hazards model was utilized only partly confirmed these hypotheses. The social participation, when measuring women's primary education compared to men's one, was statistically significant and confirmed that increased women's education has a positive effect on peace. On the other hand, when the social dimension was measured with the variable fertility rate, no effect was found. The economic participation of women also did not reveal statistically significant results. However, when measuring with an alternative variable, one of the models showed statistically significant results that higher participation of women in paid labor market increases the duration of peace

after a civil war. Finally, the political participation of women did not show any effect on the duration of peace based on my dataset.