

Religion and State Codebook: Round 3

Jonathan Fox
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Introduction

This codebook is intended to describe the codings produced by the religion and state project, round 3. This project coded all countries which have a population of at least 250,000 as well as a sampling of countries with lower populations. The general goal is to provide detailed codings on several aspects of separation of religion and state. This codebook describes both the formal codings and the criteria by which the coders filled these codings.

In general, for each state, the coder would prepare a report on the state based on human rights reports, academic resources, as well as news media sources, primarily taken from the Lexis/Nexis database. Based on this report the coder filled out the codesheet under the supervision of myself. This is in order to assure coder reliability. That is, one of my roles as project director has been to make sure that different coders used the same methodology and criteria when filling out the codesheets. An additional measure to ensure inter-coder reliability is our policy that about one in every four states were recoded by additional coders based on the reports discussed above and compared to the original codings.

All codings discussed below were coded yearly from 1990 to 2014. The only exceptions are states that became independent after 1990, as did many of the former Soviet republics, for which the codings begin in the year they became independent, and states in a state of total civil war where there is no nominal government, such as Bosnia during the early 1990s and Syria since 2012.

It is important to emphasize that the main RAS codings focus on the relationship between religion and the state apparatus. For a variable to be coded, there must either be a law or a consistent government practice. In cases where the two contradict, consistent government practice was coded. These codings also represent the practice of the federal or national governments of states, and not practices by local governments. However, if a majority of local or regional governments engage in a practice it is also coded.

The societal codings focus on societal discrimination and include only discrimination from non-governmental groups, entities, and individuals in society.

In the description of the variables below, the names of variables in italics are the actual code for the variables in the dataset. The dataset is formatted in SPSS.

A General Note on Variable Names

Each variable in the dataset is coded separately for each year. The name of a variable has a static prefix followed by the year. For example, the *Official Religion* variable begins with the prefix '*sax*.' The 1990 version is names *sax1990*, the 1991 version, *sax1991*, etc. The descriptions below show only the prefix without the year but all variables are modified in this manner based on the year for the coding.

The Main RAS3 Dataset

As noted above this portion of the dataset focuses on government practices and policy. The unit of analysis is a national government.

Separation of Religion and State

There are two variables in this category. The first, *Official Religion*, measures whether the government has an established religion. For a religion to be established there must be a constitutional clause, a law, or the equivalent explicitly stating that a specific religion or specific religions are the official religions of that state. This variable is coded on the following scale:

0. The State has no official religion
1. The state has multiple established religions¹
2. The state has one established religion

In the dataset this variable is named *sax* followed by the year for the coding. For example, the coding for 1990 is *sax1990*.

The second variable, *Official Support* measures the formal relationship between religion and the state. It includes multiple codings for both states with official religions and states with no official religion.

The variable is coded on the following scale:

0. *Specific Hostility*: Hostility and overt persecution of religion where state ideology specifically singles out religion in general or religion is in some other way uniquely singled out for persecution. (i.e. the ex USSR)
1. *State Controlled Religion, Negative Attitude*: The state controls all religious institutions and discourages religious expression outside of those institutions. This is part of the state's policy of maintaining social control or keeping religion in check rather than due to ideological support for religion.
2. *Nonspecific Hostility*: While the state is hostile to religion, this hostility is at about the same level as state hostility to other types of non-state organizations. Religion is not singled out.
3. *Separationist*: Official separation of Church and state and the state is slightly hostile toward religion. This includes efforts to remove expression of religion by private citizens from the public sphere.
4. *Accommodation*: Official separation of church and state and the state has a benevolent or neutral attitude toward religion in general.
5. *Supportive*: The state supports all religions more or less equally.
6. *Cooperation*: The state falls short of endorsing a particular religion but certain religions benefit from state support more than others. (Such support can be monetary or legal)
7. *Multi-Tiered Preferences 2*: two or more religions are clearly preferred by state, receiving the most benefits, there exists one or more tiers of religions

¹ This is coded only if the state recognizes more than one religion as the official religion of the state and these religions are given equal status

- which receive less benefits than the preferred religions but more than some other religions.
8. *Multi-Tiered Preferences 1*: one religion is clearly preferred by state, receiving the most benefits, there exists one or more tiers of religions which receive less benefits than the preferred religion but more than some other religions.
 9. *Preferred Religion*: While the state does not officially endorse a religion, one religion serves unofficially as the state's religion receiving unique recognition or benefits. Minority religions all receive similar treatment to each other.
 10. *Active State Religion*: State actively supports religion but the religion is not mandatory and the state does not dominate the official religion's institutions.
 11. *State Controlled Religion, Positive Attitude*: The state both supports a religion and substantially controls its institutions but has a positive attitude toward this religion.
 12. *Religious State 2*: Religion mandatory for members of official religion.
 13. *Religious State 1*: Religion mandatory for all.

In the dataset this variable is named *sbx*.

The codings of 10 through 14—the ones covering states with official religions—are placed in the order of least state support for religion to the strongest support. I argue that this is so to the extent that these categories can be considered ordinal. In addition, I argue that all of these categories constitute higher levels of support for religion than states which do not have official religion because the official designation of a state religion constitutes a symbolic and substantive difference in a religion's role in the state, even if some states which have no official religion in practice provide more material support for a religion than do some states with official religions. In addition, the extent of that material support can be measured by other variables in the RAS dataset. The codings for states without official religions—0 through 9—are ordered from the least support for a single religion (which includes hostility to religion) to the most support. The support end of the scale focuses on to what extent a single religion is privileged over other religions.

Religious Discrimination Against Minority Religions

This set of variables is designed to examine restrictions the government places on the practice of religion by minority religious groups. It is important to clarify two points. First, this section focuses on restrictions on minority religions. Restrictions that apply to all religions are not addressed in this section but are addressed in the following section. This is because the act of restricting or regulating the religious practices of minorities is qualitatively different from restricting or regulating all religions. Second, this section focuses only on restrictions of the practice of religion itself or on religious institutions and does not include other types of restrictions on religious minorities. The reasoning behind this is that there is much more likely to be a religious motivation for restrictions on the practice of religion than there is for political, economic, or cultural restrictions on a religious minority. These secular types of restrictions, while potentially motivated by religion, can also be due to other reasons. That political, economic, and cultural restrictions are often placed on ethnic

minorities who share the same religion and the majority group in their state is proof of this.

This set of variables is essentially a list of specific types of religious restrictions which a government may place on some or all minority religions. RAS3 includes 30 categories of religious discrimination. Because the intensity of restrictions can vary, each of the items in this category is coded on the following scale:

- 3 = The activity is prohibited or sharply restricted or the government engages in a severe form of this activity or most or all minorities.
- 2 = The activity is slightly restricted for most or all minorities, the government engages in a mild form of this practice **or** the activity sharply restricted for some of them or the government engages in a severe form of this activity for some of them.
- 1 = The activity is slightly restricted or the government engages in a mild form of this practice for some minorities.
- 0 = Not significantly restricted for any or the government does not engage in this practice.

The 36 variables are grouped by types of discrimination which are noted below. The following variables are coded on this scale:

Restrictions on Religious Practices

- **mx01:** Restrictions on public observance of rel. services, festivals and/or holidays, including the Sabbath.
- **mx02:** Restrictions on private observance of rel. services, festivals and/or holidays including the Sabbath.
- **mx03:** Forced observance of religious laws of another group.
- **mx04:** Restrictions on ability to make/obtain materials necessary for rel. rites/customs/ceremonies.
- **mx05:** Restrictions on circumcisions or other rite of passage ceremonies.
- **mx06:** Restrictions on observing dietary laws or access to food appropriate for rel. dietary requirements.
- **mx07:** Restrictions on the ability to write, publish, or disseminate religious publications.
- **mx08:** Restrictions on the ability to import religious publications.
- **mx09:** Restrictions on access to religious publications for personal use.
- **mx10:** Restrictions on the observance religious laws concerning marriage and divorce.
- **mx11:** Restrictions on the observance religious laws concerning burial.
- **mx12:** Restrictions on the wearing of religious symbols or clothing. This includes presence or absence of facial hair but does not include weapons or clothing which covers one's face.

Restrictions on Religious Institutions and the Clergy

- **mx13:** Restrictions on building, leasing, repairing and/or maintaining places of worship.

- **mx14:** Restrictions on access to existing places of worship.
- **mx15:** Restrictions on formal religious organizations.
- **mx16:** Restrictions on the ordination of and/or access to clergy.
- **mx17:** Requirement for minority religions (as opposed to all religions) to register in order to be legal or receive special tax status.
- **mx18:** Restricted access of minority clergy to jails compared to the majority religion.
- **mx19:** Restricted access of minority clergy to military bases compared to the majority religion.
- **mx20:** Restricted access of minority clergy to hospitals & other public facilities compared to maj. rel.

Restrictions on Conversion and Proselytizing

- **mx21:** Restrictions on conversion to minority religions.
- **mx22:** Forced renunciation of faith by recent converts to minority religions.
- **mx23:** Forced conversions of people who were never members of the majority religion.
- **mx24:** Efforts or campaigns to convert members of minority rel. to the maj. rel. which do not use force.
- **mx25:** Restrictions on proselytizing by permanent residents of state to members of the majority religion.
- **mx26:** Restrictions on proselytizing by permanent residents of state to members of minority religions.
- **mx27:** Restrictions on proselytizing by foreign clergy or missionaries. (This includes denial of visas if it is specifically aimed at missionaries but not if it is the same type applicable to any foreigner.)

Other Restrictions

- **mx28:** Restrictions on the running of religious schools and/or religious education in general.
- **mx29:** Mandatory education in the majority religion (Code as 1 if some but not all students can opt out or take courses in their own religion or this applies only to some students, code as 2 if in public schools only, code as 3 if in all schools, including private schools).
- **mx30:** Arrest/detention/harassment of religious figures/officials/members of religious parties for activities other than proselytizing.
- **mx31:** Severe and willful failure to protect rel. minorities against violence or punish the perpetrators.
- **mx32:** State surveillance of minority religious activities not placed on the activities of the majority.
- **mx33:** Custody of children granted to members of majority rel. solely or in part on the basis of religion.
- **mx34:** Declaration of some minority religions dangerous or extremist sects.(Code 1 if the law exists but is not invoked or if a government body exists which monitors cults or sects. Code as 2 if the law is invoked for no

more than one or two religions and has significant legal or practical consequences or of it is often invoked but has no real legal or practical consequences. Code as 3 if the law is invoked often and has significant legal or practical consequences).

- **mx35:** Anti-religious propaganda in official or semi-official government publications.
- **mx36:** Restrictions on other types of observance of religious law. Specify:

The variables can be combined to create a measure of religious discrimination against minority religions which ranges from 0 to 108. This index is called **mx**.

Regulation of and Restrictions on the Majority Religion or All Religions

This variable addresses whether the state regulates either all religions or the majority religion. This is qualitatively different from restrictions on minority religions because it indicates a fear, hatred, or suspicion of religion in general rather than this type of attitude toward minority religions. This set of variables is essentially a list of specific types of religious restrictions which a government may place on the majority religion or all religions.

RAS3 includes 29 of these types of restrictions. Each of the items in this category is coded on the following scale:

- 3 = The activity is illegal or the government engages in this activity often and on a large scale.
- 2 = Significant restrictions including practical restrictions or the government engages in this activity occasionally and on a moderate scale.
- 1 = Slight restrictions including practical restrictions or the government engages in this activity rarely and on a small scale
- 0 = No restrictions

The 29 variables are grouped by types of restriction which are noted below. The following variables are coded on this scale:

Restrictions on Religion's Political Role

- **nx01:** Restrictions on religious political parties.
- **nx02:** Restrictions on trade associations or other civil associations being affiliated with religion.
- **nx03:** Restrictions on clergy holding political office.
- **nx04:** Restrictions or monitoring of sermons by clergy. (this generally applies to political speech)
- **nx05:** Restrictions on clergy/religious organizations engaging in public political speech (other than sermons) or propaganda or on political activity in or by religious institutions.

Restrictions on Religious Institutions

- **nx06:** Restrictions/harassment of members and organizations of the majority religion who operate outside of the state sponsored or recognized ecclesiastical framework (do not code arrests for activities that are commonly considered criminal unless these charges seem to be pretexts).
- **nx07:** Restrictions on formal religious organizations other than political parties
- **nx08:** Restrictions on access to places of worship.
- **nx09:** Foreign religious organizations are required to have a local sponsor or affiliation.
- **nx10:** Heads of religious organizations (eg. Bishops) must be citizens of the state.
- **nx11:** All practicing clergy must be citizens of the state.
- **nx12:** The government appoints (code as 3) or must approve (code as 2) clerical appointments or somehow takes part in the appointment process (code as 1).
- **nx13:** Other than appointments, the government legislates or otherwise officially influences the internal workings or organization of religious institutions and organizations.
- **nx14:** Laws governing the state rel. are passed by the government or require the government's approval.

Restrictions on Religious Practices

- **nx15:** Restrictions on the public observance of rel. practices, including rel. holidays and the Sabbath.
- **nx16:** Restrictions on religious activities outside of recognized religious facilities.
- **nx17:** Restrictions on the publication or dissemination of written religious material.
- **nx18:** People are arrested for religious activities.
- **nx19:** Restrictions on religious public gatherings that are not placed on other types of public gathering.
- **nx20:** Restrictions on the public display by private persons or orgs. of rel. symbols, including (but not limited to) rel. dress, the presence or absence of facial hair, nativity scenes/icons.
- **nx21:** Conscientious objectors to military service are not allowed alternative service and are prosecuted.

Other Regulation of Religion

- **nx22:** Arrest/detention/ harassment of religious figures, officials, and/or members of religious parties.
- **nx23:** Restrictions on public religious speech.
- **nx24:** Restrictions on religious-based hate speech.
- **nx25:** Government controls/influences the instructors or content of rel.

- education in public schools.
- **nx26:** Government controls/influences the instructors or content of rel. education outside public schools.
- **nx27:** Government controls/influences the instructors or content of rel. education at the university level.
- **nx28:** State ownership of some religious property or buildings.
- **nx29:** Other religious restrictions. Specify:

The variables can be combined to create a measure of religious regulation which ranges from 0 to 87. This index is called **nxx**.

Specific Types of Religious Support

This category refers to laws or government policies which legislate or otherwise support aspects of religion. This includes diverse laws and policies including the direct legislation of religious precepts, funding religion, religious monopolies on aspects of policy or law, and giving clergy and religious institution official powers or influence. RAS3 includes 52 types of religious support. Each of the items on the below list was coded as 1 if such a law or policy was present and 0 if not. These 52 variables are grouped by types of support which are noted below:

Legislating Religious Precepts: Laws on Relationships, Sex and Reproduction

- **lx01:** Marriage and divorce can only occur under religious auspices.
- **lx02:** Marriages performed by clergy of at least some religions are given automatic civil recognition, even in the absence of a state license.
- **lx03:** Restrictions on interfaith marriages.
- **lx04:** Restrictions on premarital sex.
- **lx05:** Laws which specifically make it illegal to be a homosexual or engage in homosexual sex.
- **lx06:** Prohibitive restrictions on abortion.
- **lx07:** Restrictions on access to birth control.

Legislating Religious Precepts: Laws restricting Women

- **lx08:** Women may not go out in public unescorted.
- **lx09:** Women are required to wear some form of religious dress or are subject to public modesty laws other than the common restrictions on public nudity.
- **lx10:** Female testimony in court is given less weight than male testimony (do not code if this is true only of religious courts unless they are the only courts available for important judicial issues).
- **lx11:** Restrictions on women other than those listed elsewhere in this list. Specify:

Legislating Religious Precepts: Other Laws

- **Ix12:** Dietary laws (restrictions on the production, import, selling, or consumption of specific foods).
- **Ix13:** Restrictions or prohibitions on the sale of alcoholic beverages. (This is a general prohibition, not a restrictions of sales on certain days such as the Sabbath).
- **Ix14:** Laws of inheritance defined by religion.
- **Ix15:** Religious precepts used to define crimes or set punishment for crimes such as murder, theft, etc.
- **Ix16:** The charging of interest is illegal or significantly restricted
- **Ix17:** Required public dress or modestly laws for men other than common restrictions on public nudity
- **Ix18:** Restrictions on conversions away from the dominant religion.
- **Ix19:** Significant restrictions on public music or dancing other than the usual zoning restrictions.
- **Ix20:** Mandatory closing of some/all businesses during religious holidays, the Sabbath or its equivalent.
- **Ix21:** Other restrictions on activities during religious holidays, the Sabbath or its equivalent. (“blue laws”). Specify:

Institutions or Laws which Enforce Religion

- **Ix22:** Blasphemy laws, or any other restriction on speech about majority religion or religious figures.
- **Ix23:** Censorship of press or other publications on grounds of being anti-religious.
- **Ix24:** Presence of a police force or other government agency which exists solely to enforce rel. laws.
- **Ix25:** Presence of religious courts with jurisdiction family law and inheritance.
- **Ix26:** Presence of rel. courts with jurisdiction over matters of law other than family law and inheritance.

Funding Religion

- **Ix27:** Government funding of religious primary/secondary schools or religious education programs in non-public schools.
- **Ix28:** Government funding of seminary schools.
- **Ix29:** Government funding of religious education in colleges or universities
- **Ix30:** Government funding of religious charitable organizations including hospitals. Specify:
- **Ix31:** Government collects taxes on behalf of religious organizations (religious taxes).
- **Ix32:** Official government positions/salaries/other funding for clergy excluding salaries of teachers.
- **Ix33:** Direct general grants to religious organizations (this does not include above categories).
- **Ix34:** Funding for building, maintaining, or repairing religious sites.

- **Ix35:** Free air time on television or radio is provided to religious organizations on government channels or by government decree.
- **Ix36:** Funding or other government support for religious pilgrimages such as the Hajj.
- **Ix37:** Funding for religious organizations or activities other than those listed above. Specify:

The Entanglement of Government and Religious Institutions

- **Ix38:** Some religious leaders are given diplomatic status, diplomatic passports, or immunity from prosecution by virtue of their religious office.
- **Ix39:** Presence of an official government ministry or department dealing with religious affairs.
- **Ix40:** Certain government officials are also given an official position in the state church by virtue of their political office (ie the Queen of England is also head of Anglican Church.).
- **Ix41:** Certain rel. officials become government officials by virtue of their rel. position (ie as in Iran).
- **Ix42:** Some or all government officials must meet certain religious requirements in order to hold office. (This excludes positions in religious ministries, head of state church, or the like).
- **Ix43:** Seats in Legislative branch/Cabinet are by law or custom granted, at least in part, along rel. lines.

Other Forms of Support for Religion

- **Ix44:** Religious education is present in public schools.
- **Ix45:** Presence of official prayer sessions in public schools
- **Ix46:** Public schools are segregated by religion or separate public schools exist for members of some religions.
- **Ix47:** The presence of religious symbols on the state's flag.
- **Ix48:** Religion listed on state identity cards or other government documents that most citizens must possess or fill out.
- **Ix49:** A registration process for religious organizations exists which is in some manner different from the registration process for other non-profit organizations.
- **Ix50:** Burial is controlled by rel. organizations or clergy or otherwise subject to rel. laws or oversight.
- **Ix51:** Blasphemy laws protecting minority religions or religious figures.
- **Ix52:** Other religious prohibitions or practices that are mandatory. Specify:

The variables can be combined to create a measure of religious legislation which ranges from 0 to 52 and called **Ixx**.

Detailed Variables

Some of the topics covered above are complex and require more detailed coverage. The variables in this section accomplish this task

Religious Education in Public Schools

The following three variables measure aspects of religious education in public schools:

First, *Required Education* (**ved1x**) measures the extent to which religion is mandatory on the following scale:

0. None.
1. Optional or there is a choice between religion and a non-religion course on topics like, ethics, philosophy, or religions of the world.
2. Mandatory but, upon specific request, student may opt out of the course. (this is different from the above category in that in the above case the choice is automatic and in this case a special request to opt out must be made.)
3. Mandatory for some who have no ability to opt out, the course must be in religion but optional for others or there exists for some the option of taking a non-religious course on topics like, ethics, philosophy, or religions of the world.
4. Mandatory for all, the course must be in religion.

Second, *Available Education* (**ved2x**) measures in what religions religious education is available on the following scale:

0. None.
1. Available in all religions for which there is a significant number of students (in cases where population is homogeneous code this category).
2. Available in some religions for which there is a significant number of students.
3. Available for only one religion even though there is a significant number of students belonging to other religions.

Third, *Teachers* (**ved3x**) measures who is teaching the religion classes on the following scale:

0. There is no religious education in public schools.
1. Religious education in public schools is taught by lay teachers.
2. Religious education is taught by clergy or teachers appointed by religious organizations.

Prayer in Public Schools (vprayer01x)

While officially organized prayer is not nearly as common as religious education in public schools, it is a contentious issue which is deserving of quantification. It is coded on the following scale.

0. There are no official prayer sessions.
1. There are official prayer sessions but they are fully optional.
2. There are official prayer sessions and they are mandatory for members of some religions.
3. There are official prayer sessions and they are mandatory for all and available in all religions for which there are a significant number of students.
4. There are official prayer sessions and some students are forced to attend session in religions other than their own.

Religious Registration

There are eight factors which can differentiate registration policies from state to state. For the following six, the presence or absence of such a policy is sufficient to quantify the issue in question:

- **vregister01x**: Registration of religions includes the requirement to submit the religion's doctrine.
- **vregister02x**: Registration requires a minimum number of community members.
- **vregister03x**: Registration includes a waiting period or religions must be present in a country for a certain amount of time.
- **vregister04x**: Religions may register without a waiting period but there is a requirement that religions must be registered at a lower-tier registration for a period before they can have the highest level of registration.
- **vregister05x**: There is a multiple-tiered registration system with different tiers getting different rights and privileges.
- **vregister06x**: At least some religions must register both nationally and locally in order to operate legally.

Another important factor is the issue of whether registration is sometimes denied. This is coded on the following scale (**vregister07x**):

0. There is no registration requirement.
1. Registration is required but is never denied and treatment of all religions in the registration process is equal.
2. Registration is required, is never denied, but some religions have more difficulty registering than others (this includes cases where some religions are not required to register but others are so required.)
3. Registration is required but sometimes denied.

Finally, it is important to measure the impact of registration. In some states, failure to register carries few or no penalties while in others it is illegal to operate an unregistered religion. The following variable quantifies this issue (**vregister08x**):

0. There is no registration requirement.
1. Groups need not register but registration is allowed or encouraged. This encouragement may include benefits given only to registered religions.
2. Groups are officially required to register but groups which do not are not

- in any way restricted except in that they may be denied status as a legal entity.
3. Groups are officially required to register, the government enforces this, and discriminates against unregistered groups.

Restrictions on Abortion

RAS3 measures whether abortion is restricted in each of the eight situations plus a final variable for official approval, each on the following scale:

0. Not restricted.
1. Restricted legally but often allowed in practice.
2. Restricted both legally and in practice.

The specific variables are as follows:

- **vabortion01x**: To save the life of the mother
- **vabortion02x**: To preserve the physical health of the mother
- **vabortion03x**: To preserve the mental health of the mother
- **vabortion04x**: Rape
- **vabortion05x**: Incest
- **vabortion06x**: Economic reasons
- **vabortion07x**: Social reasons
- **vabortion08x**: On request
- **vabortion09x**: Some form of official approval necessary (mark if official approval is necessary).

Religious Funding Exclusivity

While most governments which fund religion fund some religions more than others, measuring the extent to which funding is exclusive to one or a few religions is important to understanding this aspect of government support for religion. The exclusivity of government support for religion (**vfundingx**) is coded on the following scale:

0. The government does not fund religion
1. Government funding of religion goes roughly equally (taking into account population distributions) to all religions for which there are a substantial number of adherents in the country.
2. Government funding of religion goes primarily to only some religions for which there are a substantial number of adherents in the country, but all religions receive some funds.
3. Government funding of religion goes only to only some religions for which there are a substantial number of adherents in the country.
4. Government funding of religion goes primarily to one religion but at least some other religions receive some funds.
5. Government funding of religion goes to only one religion, no other religions receive funds.

Religious Requirements and Oaths for Holding Office and Oaths of Office

Linking public office to religion is a very significant form of support for religion. Accordingly round 2 measures this variable (**voffice01x**) on the following scale:

0. There are no religious requirements or oaths necessary in order to hold office.
1. The oath of office for some or all officials contains mention of God or religion in general but that part is optional.
2. Some or all officials must take an oath of office which includes mention of God or religion in general.
3. Some government officials (other than head of state Church and the like) must meet some form of religious requirement to hold office.
4. All government officials must meet some form of religious requirement to hold office.

Limits on Proselytizing: (Code all of the following which are appropriate)

Limits on proselytizing and missionaries are common and specific policies vary considerably. The below 12 variables are intended to capture this.

- **vprosely01x:** Proselytizing by all religions is illegal and is not allowed in practice. (If this category is coded, the below categories should not be coded)
- **vprosely02x:** Proselytizing is illegal but is sometimes allowed in practice.
- **vprosely03x:** Proselytizing to members of the majority religion is illegal but proselytizing to members of minority religions is legal.
- **vprosely04x:** Proselytizing is legal but it is restricted in practice by the national government.
- **vprosely05x:** Proselytizing is legal but it is restricted in practice by local or regional governments or officials.
- **vprosely06x:** Proselytizing is legal but entry to the country or visas are often denied to foreigners who wish to proselytize.
- **vprosely07x:** Foreign missionaries and religious workers require special visas or permits in order to proselytize.
- **vprosely08x:** Proselytizing is limited to specific locations such as places of worship.
- **vprosely09:** Proselytizing is limited to legally recognized religions.
- **Vprosely10x:** Practical or legal restrictions on proselytizing by some or all legally recognized minority religions.
- **Vprosely11x:** Practical or legal restrictions on proselytizing by **some** members of the majority religion (this usually applies to sects of the majority religion which are not favored by the government).
- **Vprosely12x:** Practical or legal restrictions on proselytizing by **all** members of the majority religion

Religion and Citizenship

Linking religion to citizenship is relatively uncommon but of sufficient gravity that the RAS project coded the following variable (**vcitizenship01x**) on the following scale:

0. There is no official link between citizenship and religion.
1. Members of some religions are given preference for citizenship but no religion disqualifies anyone from obtaining or keeping citizenship.
2. Citizenship is denied to members of certain religions or conversion away from the dominant religion can be the basis for stripping an individual of citizenship.
3. All citizens must be members of the state's dominant religion.

It is important to note that the banning of certain religions is not sufficient for coding this variable. There must be an express link between religious identity and citizenship.

Building, Leasing or Repairing Places of Worship

Restrictions on places of worship is one of the most common forms of religious discrimination and the nature of these policies can vary. This variable (**vtemplesx**) is intended to capture this diversity in policy. It is coded on the following scale:

0. No restrictions
1. There are no official restrictions but some local governments use zoning laws and permits to limit minority places of worship in practice.
2. There are no official restrictions but the national government uses zoning laws and permits to limit minority places of worship in practice.
3. The national government officially limits some minority places of worship.
4. The national government bans or severely restricts all places of worship.

Religious Political Parties

This variable (**vpartiesx**) answers the question are there religious political parties which are capable of getting elected to office? If no it is coded as 0 and if yes it is coded as 1.

The RAS3 Societal Module

Unlike the main RAS dataset this module focuses on actions taken by societal actors. It primarily measures societal discrimination and attitudes toward minority religions. The main version of this module uses the country as the unit of analysis and covers 1990 to 2014. The variables are coded using the same name-year scheme as the main RAS3 dataset.

Discrimination, harassment, acts of prejudice and violence against minority religions: General

This category refers to actions taken against members of minority religions in a state by non-government actors. It includes 27 types of discrimination which are coded on the following scale:

- 3 = This action occurs on a substantial level to members of most or all minority religions.
- 2 = This action occurs on a substantial level to members one or a few minorities but not most or on a minor level to all or most minorities.
- 1 = This action occurs on a minor level to one or a few minorities but not most
- 0 = There are no reported incidents of this type of action against any minorities.

The following variables are coded on this scale:

- wsocdis01x:** Instances of societal economic discrimination against minority religions in the workplace.
- wsocdis02x:** Organized boycotts of businesses owned by the minority group or denial of minority access to businesses, stores, restaurants or places of entertainment.
- wsocdis03x:** Other forms of economic discrimination. Specify
- wsocdis04x:** Anti-religious minority propaganda, statements, articles, or shows in mainstream private media.
- wsocdis05x:** Overt anti-religious minority rhetoric from members of the majority religion's clergy.
- wsocdis06x:** Presence of anti-religious rhetoric in political campaigns or political party propaganda.
- wsocdis07x:** Vandalism against religious property including places of worship, community centers, schools, and cemeteries.
- wsocdis08x:** Vandalism against other property (eg. businesses or homes) owned by a religious minority which is clearly due to their religious affiliation.
- wsocdis09x:** Anti-religious graffiti.
- wsocdis10x:** Efforts to deny access to / close religious sites including places of worship.
- wsocdis11x:** Efforts to prevent places of worship or other religious sites from being built, opened, or rented.
- wsocdis12x:** Dissemination of publications against religious minorities.
- wsocdis13x:** Harassment of clergy which does not reach the level of violence. This includes "verbal attacks."

- wsocdis14x:** Harassment of proselytizers which does not reach the level of violence. This includes “verbal attacks.”
- wsocdis15x:** Harassment of converts away from the majority religion which does not reach the level of violence. This includes “verbal attacks.”
- wsocdis16x:** Harassment of other members of religious minorities which does not reach the level of violence. This includes “verbal attacks.”
- wsocdis17x:** Expulsion or harassment so severe that it leads to a significant number of minority members leaving a town or region.
- wsocdis18x:** Organized demonstrations and public protests against religious minorities.
- wsocdis19x:** Threats of violence.
- wsocdis20x:** Physical violence targeted specifically at clergy.
- wsocdis21x:** Physical violence targeted specifically against proselytizers or people who converted away from the majority religion.
- wsocdis22x:** Physical violence against other individual members of religious minority which is clearly due to their religious affiliation.
- wsocdis23x:** Large scale violence against members of religious minority which is clearly due to their religious affiliation. This includes rioting and targeting of entire communities, rioting, and clashes.
- wsocdis24x:** Lethal violence against any member of minority religions due to their religious affiliation.
- wsocdis25x:** Arson, bombing, or concerted attacks against religious property.
- wsocdis26x:** Arson, bombing, or concerted attacks against property (eg. businesses or homes) owned by a religious minority which is clearly due to their religious affiliation.
- wsocdis27x:** Other relevant acts against minority religions. Specify:

Minority actions of Discrimination, harassment, acts of prejudice and violence

This section focuses on discriminatory or otherwise conflict-type activities taken by members of minority religions both against members of the majority religion and against members of other minority religions.

Against the majority religion

This category refers to actions taken by minority group members against the majority religion. Each of the five items on this list are coded on the following scale:

- 3 = This action occurs on a substantial level to members of most or all minority religions.
- 2 = This action occurs on a substantial level to members one or a few minorities but not most or on a minor level to all or most minorities.
- 1 = This action occurs on a minor level to one or a few minorities but not most
- 0 = There are no reported incidents of this type of action against any minorities.

The following variables are so coded:

- wmintomaj01x:** Violence against members of the majority religion.

- wmintomaj02x:** Acts of terror against members of the majority religion.
- wmintomaj03x:** Harassment against members of the majority religion
- wmintomaj04x:** Acts of vandalism, graffiti or similar against members of the majority religion.
- wmintomaj05x:** Other relevant acts against members of the majority religion.
Specify:

Against the other minority religions

This category refers to actions taken by minority group members against members of other minority religions. Each of the five items on this list are coded on the following scale:

- 3 = This action occurs on a substantial level to members of most or all minority religions.
- 2 = This action occurs on a substantial level to members one or a few minorities but not most or on a minor level to all or most minorities.
- 1 = This action occurs on a minor level to one or a few minorities but not most
- 0 = There are no reported incidents of this type of action against any minorities.

The following variables are so coded:

- wmintomin01x:** Violence against members of another minority religion.
- wmintomin02x:** Acts of terror against members of another minority religion.
- wmintomin03x:** Harassment against members of another minority religion.
- wmintomin04x:** Acts of vandalism, graffiti or similar against members of another minority religion.
- wmintomin05x:** Other relevant acts against members of another minority religion.
Specify:

General societal relations

This variable measures the general relationship between the members of the majority religion and members of minority religions: It is coded on the following scale:

- 0. Amicable with all religious minorities
- 1. Minor hostility toward some religious minorities
- 2. Minor hostility toward all or most minority religions or significant hostility toward one or some minority religions.
- 3. Substantial hostility toward all or most minority religions.

Societal regulation of religion

This category replicates the original Grim & Finke SRI Index. It refers to attitudes against members of minority religions in a state by members of the majority religion. The variables in this category are coded using the following categories

- 3 = Hostile against most or all minority religions

- 2 = Negative but not hostile against all minority religions or hostile against some but not most minority religions.
1 = Negative but not hostile against some minority religions
0 = None

Coding Year of Change, if any

wsocreg01x: Attitudes toward other or nontraditional religions.

wsocreg02x: Attitudes toward conversion to other religions

wsocreg03x: Attitudes toward proselytizing

In addition code the following variable as listed below:

Do existing religions try to shut out new religions (**wsocreg04x**)?

1 = Yes

0 = No

