

The International Community's Reaction to Coups

What motivates the international community to react to coups?

Figure 1. Signal Frequency Following Coups, 1950-2011



- Coups against democracies and wealthy countries draw more reaction (signals) from the international community
- Countries react when democracies are challenged by coups
- International organizations react to coups in Africa and coups in the post-Cold War period
- Coups within heavy trading and oil-rich states do not receive more attention
- Overall, international actors appear to be more driven by normative concerns rather than material interests when reacting to coups

Megan Shannon

Assistant Professor of Political Science

mshannon@fsu.edu