

RTV Codebook

1990 - 2021
Revised 24.06.2022

Center for Research on Extremism (C-REX)
University of Oslo

Contents

Introducing the RTV dataset	1
Inclusion criteria	1
Representativeness	2
Unit of analysis	3
Identifier variables	3
Case ID (case_id)	3
Year (year)	3
Month (month)	3
Day (day)	3
RTV Country ID (country_id)	3
ISO-alpha3 Country Code (iso3)	3
Country Name (country_name)	4
Region (region)	4
City/village (city)	4
City district/neighborhood/location (location)	4
Coordinates – Latitude (location_latitude)	4
Coordinates – Longitude (location_longitude)	4
Coordinates Accuracy (location_accuracy)	4
RTV variables	4
Incident type (incident_type)	4
Perpetrator type (perpetrator_type)	5
Organizational affiliation (organizational_affiliation)	5
Secondary organizational affiliation (organizational_affiliation_2)	5
RTV Lone Actor ID (loneactor_id)	6
Target Group (target_group)	6
Grouped Target Group (grouped_target_group)	7
Secondary Target Group (target_group_2)	7
Grouped Secondary Target Group (grouped_target_group_2)	7
Weapon type (weapon_type)	7
Grouped Weapon Type (grouped_weapon_type)	8
Secondary Weapon Type (weapon_type_2)	8
Grouped Secondary Weapon Type (grouped_weapon_type_2)	8
Weapon Description (weapon_description)	8
Fatal Event (fatal)	9
Number of Persons Killed (n_killed)	9
Number of Persons Wounded (n_wounded)	9
Case Description (description)	9
Sources (source_1; source_2; source_3; source_4; source_5; source_6)	9
Appendix 1: Regional units	10
Appendix 2: Perpetrator type coding practice	11
Appendix 3: Changes made to the RTV coding	12
Perpetrator type	12
Variable names and labels	12
Trends and terrorism	13
Target groups	13
Perpetrators	13

Introducing the RTV dataset

The Right-Wing Terrorism and Violence (RTV) dataset documents right-wing terrorism and violence in 18 West-European countries between 1990 and 2021. The main purpose of the RTV dataset is to offer a **systematic** overview of the most severe types of completed attacks, attack plots, and preparations for armed struggles, whose target selection is premised on right-wing beliefs. The dataset excludes less severe events, not because they are considered less important, but because such attacks are too many to be covered systematically without temporal and geographical biases. The datasets includes both fatal and severe non-fatal events, attack plots, and discoveries of major arm repositories. As of 2022, both fatal and non-fatal completed attacks are eligible for analyses in the 2015-2021 period. However, as a general rule, only fatal events should be used to analyze variation over time or between places prior to 2015.

For more information, see the ‘Representativeness’ section further below. For illustrating examples on how the dataset may be used, see our annual [RTV Trend Reports](#). For additional information about inherent biases and methodology, please consult our [RTV Error Profile and RTV Methodology](#).

Inclusion criteria

For an attack to be included in the RTV dataset, two inclusion criteria must be met. First, the target selection must be premised on a form of *right-wing belief* associated with *far-right ideology*. Second, the severity of the attack must satisfy at least one of the severity thresholds listed below.

By ‘right-wing beliefs’, we mean beliefs that are rooted in anti-egalitarianism. Anti-egalitarianism is understood as a politically right-wing ideology, supported by those who regard social inequality as inevitable, natural, or even desirable. This includes ideas that certain races are superior to other races, that certain ethnic groups are entitled to dominate other ethnic groups in certain areas, or that men are superior to women. However, the dataset only includes violent attacks whose motivation can be linked to a specific form of anti-egalitarianism associated with far-right ideology. Besides anti-egalitarianism, the ideological core of the far right consists of exclusionary nationalism (or nativism) and authoritarianism. Exclusionary nationalism holds that the nation-state should be inhabited by natives only, and that non-natives are considered a fundamental threat to the survival of the nation. Authoritarianism holds that society should be strictly ordered and that those violating the order should be punished severely. On an individual level, authoritarianism refers to those who have the most extreme preferences for oneness and sameness.

These ideological constructs (anti-egalitarianism, exclusionary nationalism, and authoritarianism) – and beliefs that are strongly associated with them such as racism and conspiratorial thinking – produce a set of political and social groups considered enemies of, and thus legitimate targets, for the far right. Most notably, these target groups include ethnic minorities, religious minorities, sexual minorities, political opponents, liberal-democratic state institutions, and other marginalized groups. The dataset includes attacks against these groups in cases where target selection was indeed premised on far-right beliefs, but excludes for example attacks against sexual minorities committed by religious fundamentalists, since the perpetrators are not driven by exclusionary nationalism. Perpetrators included in the RTV dataset do not necessarily subscribe to a coherent and comprehensive far-right ideology, such as Fascism or Nazism, but often espouse more general racist beliefs.

By ‘severe’ attacks and plots, we mean cases in which the perpetrator(s) appeared determined or willing to inflict deadly or physically disabling injury on the victim(s). More specifically, to satisfy this criterion, at least one of the following three severity thresholds must be met: (1) the attack had a fatal, or near fatal outcome; (2) the perpetrator(s) proactively used potentially lethal weapons, such as knives, heavy blunt instruments, guns, or bombs, including attacks that only caused minor injuries; (3) the attack caused major and/or disabling injuries, such as coma, unconsciousness, broken bones or other physical trauma, typically requiring hospitalization or medical treatment.

Note that we include attacks with minor or even no physical harm in cases where the potential for major physical harm is present, such as knife stabbings and firebombs thrown at, or inside, populated houses.

In some instances, such as violence perpetrated by adults against children or physically/mentally disadvantaged persons, the severity threshold is lowered due to imbalance in power relations and targets who are particularly vulnerable.

The dataset also includes planned attacks (plots) likely to satisfy one or several of the above severity thresholds. Vague attack plots missing concrete information about target and/or weapons are included when they lead to arrests and are reported in the media as terrorist plots, considering that the police saw the events as sufficiently severe for acting upon them. Thus, the threshold for including planned attacks is set purposely low. However, due to different practices in counterterrorism and media reporting in different countries, plot frequencies may not reflect actual terrorist activity. We therefore caution against using plots when estimating trends over time or comparing frequencies between countries.

Finally, the dataset also includes discoveries of major arms repositories belonging to people associated with the far right. For such a discovery to be included, the arms repository must consist of weapons suitable and intended for political violence and terrorism. Personal hunting weapons or antique weapons collections are not included. Discoveries of materials intended for production of improvised explosives devices are always included.

Representativeness

One may confidently assume that the RTV dataset covers nearly all, if not all, fatal attacks, in Western Europe since 1990 whose target selection was determined by far-right beliefs. Such events receive broad news coverage and we have made an extensive effort to cover them all, including consultation with national experts.

When it comes to non-fatal but severe attacks, plots, and discoveries of major arms repositories, we are only approaching sufficient coverage from 2015 onwards for several reasons. First, the number of relevant and available sources has increased over time, especially after the introduction of the Internet, thereby also improving potential coverage of such events over time. Second, public reporting on RTV events varies considerably between countries, so that potential coverage is far better in some countries than in others. Third, our ability to identify relevant events has significantly improved over the past years due to technological and methodological improvements¹.

¹ See the [‘RTV Methodology’](#) for more detailed information on changes to methodology and Appendix 3 for a detailed overview over recent changes in coding practices.

With the recent methodological advancements, we believe we are approaching sufficient coverage for making inferences about the entire universe of non-fatal but severe attacks (but not plots or arms discoveries) from 2015, making the entire 2015-2021 period eligible for trend analysis and correlational research. Nevertheless, if non-fatal analyses are to be conducted, we advise that this should be done with caution due to different practices in media reporting in the respective countries. Our current ‘Error Profile’ for the RTV dataset is found in Appendix 4, and the most recent version will be available on our [website](#), outlining potential biases users should be aware of to avoid measurements error during analyses.

Unit of analysis

The RTV dataset consists of event data, in which almost every unit in the dataset represents a single event. A handful of coding units do however include multiple attacks, either because they happened consecutively and were carried out by the same perpetrator, or in the rare case that they form part of a chain of related events that are indistinguishable in available sources.

Identifier variables

Case ID (case_id)

Each event has been given a unique identification number based on the year, month, and day when the event occurred. For example, 1 January 1990 becomes 1990-1-1. When several events occurred on the same date, a letter is added, beginning with ‘a’, to distinguish between each event (e.g., 1990-1-1-a). Some events lack information about month or day and are in those cases identified as 1990-1-d or 1990-m-d.

Year (year)

The year in which the event took place (1990-2021). Response: Numeric.

Month (month)

The month in which the event took place (1-12). Response: Numeric.

‘m’ – missing

Day (day)

The day in which the event took place (1-31). Response: Numeric.

‘d’ – missing

RTV Country ID (country_id)

Unique country ID designed by the RTV team for each country (1-18). Response: Numeric.

ISO-alpha3 Country Code (iso3)

Three-digit alphabetical country code assigned by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). Response: Text.

country_id	iso3	country_name
1	AUT	Austria
2	BEL	Belgium
3	DNK	Denmark
4	FIN	Finland
5	FRA	France
6	DEU	Germany
7	GRC	Greece
8	ISL	Iceland
9	IRL	Ireland
10	ITA	Italy
11	LUX	Luxembourg
12	NLD	Netherlands
13	NOR	Norway
14	PRT	Portugal
15	ESP	Spain
16	SWE	Sweden
17	CHE	Switzerland
18	GBR	United Kingdom

Country Name (country_name)

Name of coded country in English. Response: Text.

Region (region)

Name of geographical region in local language. An overview over the different regions can be found in Appendix 1. Response: Text. *Note: currently only available for the year 2021.*

City/village (city)

Name of city or village. Response: Text.

City district/neighborhood/location (location)

Name of the city district, neighborhood, area, or address. The most specific location available is registered. Response: Text. *Note: currently only available for the year 2021.*

Coordinates – Latitude (location_latitude)

Latitude of the incident. Response: Coordinates. *Note: currently only available for the year 2021.*

Coordinates – Longitude (location_longitude)

Longitude of the incident. Response: Coordinates. *Note: currently only available for the year 2021.*

Coordinates Accuracy (location_accuracy)

Accuracy of the geolocation. Response: Categorical. *Note: currently only available for the year 2021.*

1. City district/village/neighbourhood-level
2. City-level
3. Region-level

RTV variables

Incident type (incident_type)

Type of incident. Response: Categorical.

1. *Premeditated attack* – completed attack where perpetrators have targeted a predefined person or group.
2. *Spontaneous attack* – completed attack triggered by random confrontations between perpetrator(s) and victim(s), associated with some predefined target group.
3. *Attack plot* – detection of people who are purposively planning an attack that would satisfy the RTV inclusion criteria but have yet to be launched. Attack plots in which target group and/or weapon type is coded as 99 ('unknown') indicate vague plots.
4. *Preparation for armed struggle* – discoveries of bomb-making materials or major arms repositories belonging to people who subscribe to far-right beliefs but lack specific attack plans.

Perpetrator type (perpetrator_type)

Refers to the nature of the violence, and not necessarily the perpetrator(s) themselves. For a detailed schematic overview on coding practice, see Appendix 2. Response: Categorical.

1. *Organized groups* – known entities with five or more members whose association primarily relies on a strong commitment to right-wing politics.
2. *Affiliated members* – two or more members of organized groups acting on their own initiative.
3. *Autonomous cells* – clandestine entities of two to four members whose association primarily relies on a strong commitment to right-wing politics.
4. *Gangs/informal groups* – Three or more acquaintances with a general right-wing commitment, but whose association primarily relies on social bonds.
5. *Unorganized* – two or more perpetrators with unknown or no association to any specific right-wing group, cell, or gang.
6. *Lone actors* – single perpetrators who prepare and carry out attacks alone at their own initiative.
7. *Shadow groups* – attacks claimed by formerly unknown groups.
8. *Coordinated entities* – constellations of two or more people with a suspected far-right affiliation acting in a coordinated manner, but where information about their organizational affiliation is missing.
9. *Professional entities* – one or more perpetrators operating in capacity of their professional affiliation, typically the police, military, or private security firms.
99. Unidentified perpetrator(s), but where targeting or other factors strongly indicate a far-right motivation.

Organizational affiliation (organizational_affiliation)

Lists the organizational affiliation the perpetrator(s) may have had to known groups, movements, or parties on the far right at the time of the attack. Listed organizations are not necessarily directly involved in the event. Response: Text.

‘unknown’ – organizational affiliation may be coded as ‘unknown’ if information indicates that the perpetrator(s) belonged to a specific group or organization, but where the name of this group or organization is unknown.

‘suspected’ – organizational affiliation may be coded as ‘Group Name (suspected)’ if there are indications that the perpetrator(s) belongs to a specific group or organization.

‘fictional’ – organizational affiliation may be coded as ‘Group Name (fictional)’ if the perpetrator(s) claimed to be part of a group which was discovered not to exist.

Secondary organizational affiliation (organizational_affiliation_2)

Lists a secondary organizational affiliation when relevant, for example in cases where a single perpetrator had multiple organizational affiliations or where multiple perpetrators were affiliated with different organisations. Response: Text.

RTV Lone Actor ID (loneactor_id)

Unique ID used to identify lone actors who are behind several separate attacks. Lone actor ID is only assigned to events where the perpetrator carried out the attack alone. Response: Numeric.

Target Group (target_group)

Lists the intended target group of the attack or plot. For example, if a Sikh is targeted because the perpetrator believes the victim was a Muslim, target group will be coded as Muslim. Response: Categorical.

1. Ethnic/religious minorities

- 100. Jews
- 101. Muslims
- 102. Immigrants/foreigners/asylum seekers/refugees
- 103. Blacks
- 104. Romas

2. Political opponents

- 200. Left-wing/anti-fascist/liberals
- 201. Pro-immigration activists
- 202. Media
- 203. Deserters
- 204. Separatists

3. State institutions

- 300. Government
- 301. Police

4. Marginalized groups

- 400. LGBTQI+
- 401. Homeless/low social status
- 402. Physically/mentally disabled

8. Other

- 800. Other

9. Unknown

- 900. Unknown

Grouped Target Group (grouped_target_group)

Lists the grouped category of the intended target group of the attack or plot. Response: Categorical.

Ethnic/religious minorities

Political opponents

State institutions

Marginalized groups

Other

Unknown

Secondary Target Group (target_group_2)

Lists a secondary target group when relevant, for example when the perpetrator targets multiple people or if one person was targeted for multiple reasons. Response: Categorical (same as target group above).

Grouped Secondary Target Group (grouped_target_group_2)

Lists the grouped category of the intended secondary target group of the attack or plot when relevant. Response: Categorical (same as target group above).

Weapon type (weapon_type)

Lists the type of weapon used in the event. Response: Categorical (1-6, 8, 9).

1. Explosives

100. Improvised explosive device

101. Letter bomb

102. Rocket launcher/grenade

2. Arson/firebomb

200. Arson

201. Petrol bomb/Molotov cocktail/firebomb

3. Firearms

300. Automatic/semi-automatic firearm

301. Shotgun/rifle

302. Handgun

399. Unspecified firearm

4. Knives/bladed weapons and sharp objects

400. Knives/bladed weapons and sharp objects

5. *Blunt instruments*

500. Blunt instruments

6. *Beating/kicking (no weapon used)*

600. Beating/kicking

8. *Other*

800. Other

801. Car/vehicle

802. Tear gas/CS gas

803. Pepper spray

804. CBRN (Chemical/biological/radiological/nuclear)

9. *Unknown*

900. Unknown

Grouped Weapon Type (grouped_weapon_type)

Lists the grouped weapon used in the event. Response: Categorical.

Explosives

Arson/firebomb

Firearms

Knives/bladed weapons and sharp objects

Blunt instruments

Beating/kicking

Other

Unknown

Secondary Weapon Type (weapon_type_2)

Lists a secondary weapon type when relevant, for example when the perpetrator uses multiple weapons or if an arms repository of multiple weapons is discovered. Response: Categorical (same as weapon type above).

Grouped Secondary Weapon Type (grouped_weapon_type_2)

Lists the grouped secondary weapon type when relevant. Response: Categorical (same as weapon type above).

Weapon Description (weapon_description)

A short, qualitative description of weapon type. Response: Text.

Fatal Event (fatal)

Dummy variable for whether or not the event was fatal. Response: Binary.

- 0. Non-fatal
- 1. Fatal

Number of Persons Killed (n_killed)

Number of persons killed. Response: Numeric.

Number of Persons Wounded (n_wounded)

Number of persons wounded. Response: Numeric.

'm' – missing

Case Description (description)

A detailed description of the event. The case description may be used to code additional variables relevant to different research projects. Response: Text.

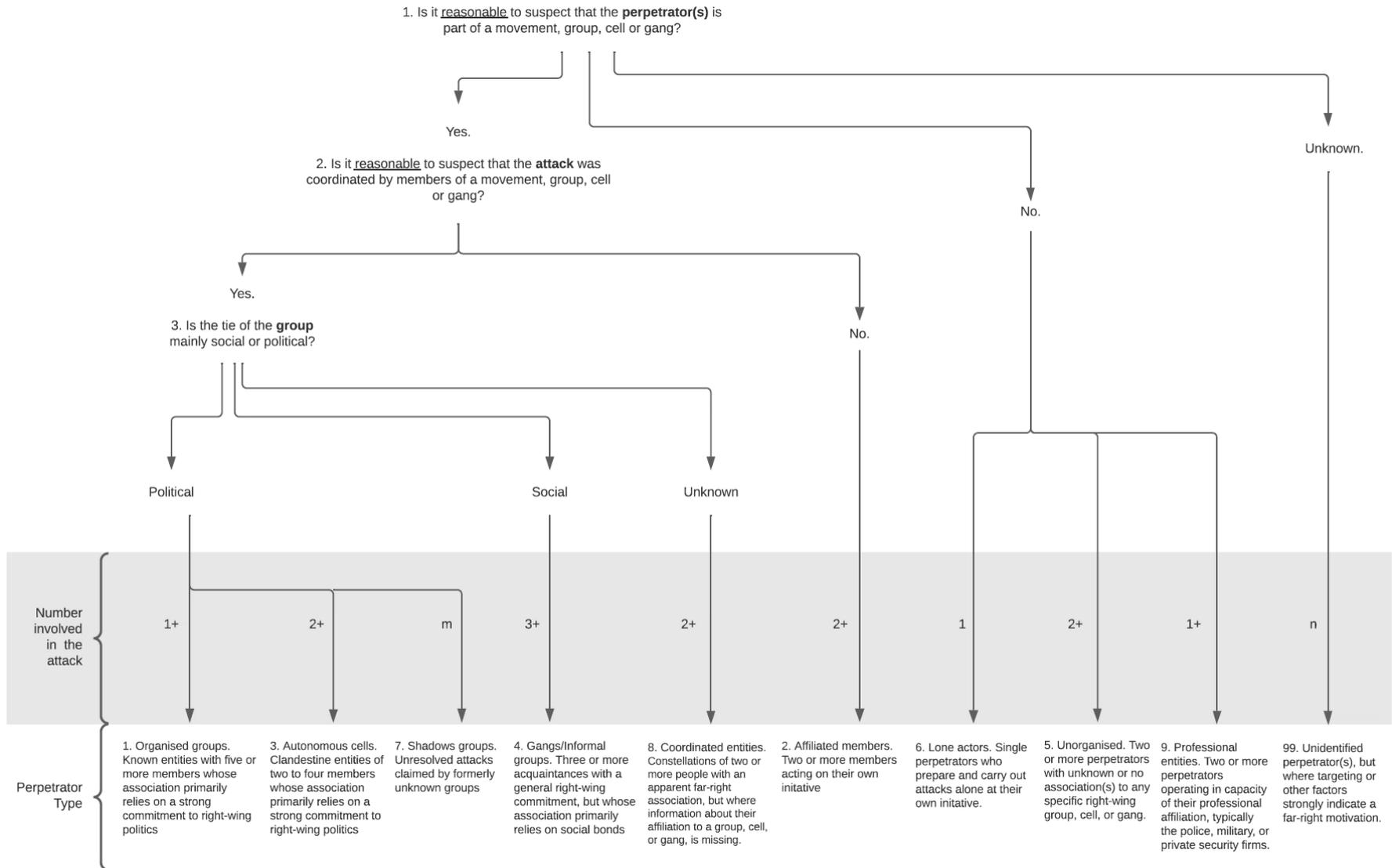
Sources (source_1; source_2; source_3; source_4; source_5; source_6)

Each variable represents a unique source, embedded as permalinks. Due to GDPR regulations, source links are removed from the publicly available version of the RTV dataset but can be requested by researchers for research purposes [here](#).

Appendix 1: Regional units

country_name	# regions	regions
Austria	9	Burgenland, Kärnten, Niederösterreich, Salzburg, Steiermark, Tirol, Oberösterreich, Wien, Corarlnerg
Belgium	3	Flanders, Brussels, Wallonia
Denmark	5	Hovedstaden, Midtjylland, Nordjylland, Sjælland, Syddanmark
Finland	19	Lappi, Pohjois-Pohjanmaa, Kainuu, Pohjois-Karjala, Pohjois-Savo, Etelä-Savo, Etelä-Karjala, Keski-Suomi, Etelä-Pohjanmaa, Pohjanmaa, Keski-Pohjanmaa, Pirkanmaa, Satakunta, Päijät-Häme, Kanta-Häme, Kymenlaakso, Uusimaa, Varsinais-Suomi, Ahvenanmaa
France	13	Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes, Bourgogne-Franche-Comté, Bretagne, Centre-Val de Loire, Corse, Grand Est, Hauts-de-France, Île-de-France, Normandie, Nouvelle-Aquitaine, Occitanie, Pays de la Loire, Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur
Germany	16	Baden-Württemberg, Bavaria, Berlin, Brandenburg, Bremen, Freie und Hansestadt Hamburg, Hessen, Niedersachsen, Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Nordrhein-Westfalen, Rheinland-Pfalz, Saarland, Sachsen, Sachsen-Anhalt, Schleswig-Holstein, Thüringen
Greece	7	Attica, Central Greece, Central Macedonia, Crete, Eastern Macedonia and Thrace, Epirus, Ionian Islands, North Aegean, Peloponnese, South Aegean, Thessaly, Western Greece, Western Macedonia, Mount Athos
Iceland	-	-
Ireland	4	Leinster, Munster, Connacht, Ulster
Italy	20	Abruzzo, Valle d'Aosta, Puglia, Basilicata, Calabria, Campania, Emilia-Romagna, Friuli-Venezia Giulia, Lazio, Liguria, Lombardia, Marche, Molise, Piemonte, Sardegna, Sicilia, Trentino-Alto Adige/Südtirol, Toscana, Umbria, Veneto
Luxembourg	3	Diekirch, Grevenmacher, Luxembourg
Netherlands	12	Drenthe, Flevoland, Friesland, Gelderland, Groningen, Limburg, Noord-Brabant, Noord-Holland, Overijssel, Zuid-Holland, Utrecht, Zeeland
Norway	11	Oslo, Rogaland, Møre og Romsdal, Nordland, Viken, Innlandet, Vestfold og Telemark, Agder, Vestland, Trøndelag, Troms og Finnmark
Portugal	18	Aveiro, Beja, Braga, Bragança, Castelo Branco, Coimbra, Évora, Faro, Guarda, Leiria, Lisbon, Portalegre, Porto, Santarém, Setúbal, Viana do Castelo, Vila Real, Viseu
Spain	16	Andalucía, Aragón, Principado de Asturias, Illes Balears, Cantabria, Castilla y León, Castilla-La Mancha, Cataluña, Comunitat Valenciana, Extremadura, Galicia, Comunidad de Madrid, Región de Murcia, Comunidad foral de Navarra, País Vasco, La Rioja
Sweden	21	Stockholm, Västerbotten, Norrbotten, Uppsala, Södermanland, Östergötland, Jönköping, Kronoberg, Kalmar, Gotland, Blekinge, Skåne, Halland, Västra Götaland, Värmland, Örebro, Västmanland, Dalarna, Gävleborg, Västernorrland, Jämtland
Switzerland	26	Zürich, Bern, Luzern, Uri, Schwyz, Obwalden, Nidwalden, Glarus, Zug, Fribourg, Solothurn, Basel-Stadt, Basel-Landschaft, Schaffhausen, Appenzell Ausserrhoden, Appenzell Innerrhoden, St.Gallen, Graubünden, Aargau, Thurgau, Ticino, Vaud, Valais, Neuchâtel, Genève, Jura
United Kingdom	4	England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales

Appendix 2: Perpetrator type coding practice



Appendix 3: Changes made to the RTV coding

2020
<p>Perpetrator type</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Two new values added: <i>coordinated entities</i> and <i>professional entities</i>. ▪ The value <i>gang</i> has been renamed to <i>gang/informal groups</i> ▪ The definition of the value <i>unorganized</i> is changed from ‘two or more perpetrators with no known association to any specific right-wing group, cell, or gang’ to ‘two or more perpetrators with unknown or no association to any specific right-wing group, cell, or gang’ <p>Weapon type</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The value <i>knife</i> is renamed to <i>knife/bladed weapon</i> <p>All RTV events in the 1990-2020 period have been reviewed and updated according to the new adjustments.</p>
2021
<p>Variable names and labels</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All variables and labels are renamed. E.g., the previous ‘Variable 2: Year’ is now named ‘year’. <p>Identifier variables</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A three-digit alphabetical country code assigned by the IOS is added (<i>iso3</i>) ▪ The RTV country IDs are updated, ordered alphabetically (<i>country_id</i>) ▪ The previous ‘Variable 6: city/village/ location’ is broken down to three different variables (<i>region</i>, <i>city/village</i>, <i>location</i>) ▪ Two new variables added logging the coordinates of each event (<i>location_longitude</i>, <i>location_latitude</i>, <i>location_accuracy</i>) ▪ One new variable added controlling for location accuracy (<i>location_accuracy</i>). <p>Incident type</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The definition of the value <i>preparation for armed struggle</i> is changed from ‘discoveries of bomb-making materials or major arms repositories belonging to right-wing activists lacking specific attack plans’ to ‘discoveries of bomb-making materials or major arms repositories belonging to right-wing activists lacking specific attack plans. We do not include events in which the arms discovery suspectedly is linked to weapons collections.’ <p>Perpetrator type</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The definition of the value <i>coordinated entities</i> is changed from ‘constellations of two or more people with an apparent far-right association, but where information about their affiliation to a group, cell, or gang is missing’ to ‘constellations of two or more people with an apparent far-right association acting in a coordinated manner where information about the their affiliation to a group, cell, or gang, is missing’ <p>Organizational affiliation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Organizational_affiliation</i> may be coded as ‘Group Name (suspected)’ and ‘Group Name (fictional)’ <p>Target group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ New values are assigned to all target groups according to their respective new parent categories <p>Weapon type</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ New values are assigned to all weapon types according to their respective new parent categories ▪ The value <i>Knife/bladed weapon</i> is renamed to <i>Knives/bladed weapons and sharp objects</i> ▪ <i>Unspecified firearm</i> is added as a new value under the parent category ‘Firearms’ <p>All RTV events in the 1990-2020 period have been reviewed and updated according to the new adjustments except from the geo-specific variables (only for 2021).</p>

RTV Error Profile 2022

Most datasets come with certain inherent biases resulting in potential measurement errors. Below are the most important biases inherent in the 2022-version of RTV dataset that users should be aware of to avoid measurement errors. See the [RTV Methodology](#) for more details.

Unit of analysis	Sufficient coverage for estimating trends?		For more information
	1990-2014	2015-2021	
Non-fatal events	No	Yes	See 1
Fatal-events	Yes	Yes	See 1
Terrorist events	No	With caution	See 2
Plots and preparation for armed struggle	No	With caution	See 3

Trends and terrorism

1. Our current coverage of non-fatal events between 1990 and 2014 is limited and skewed towards certain periods and places. Consequently, these data should not be used to estimate trends or perform correlational analysis. By contrast, all fatal events between 1990-2021 and non-fatal events between 2015-2021 are eligible for correlational analysis.
2. The RTV dataset currently does not distinguish terrorist from non-terrorist events. Events from 2015 that may qualify as terrorism can be identified by filtering out premeditated attacks using explosives, firearms, vehicles and potentially also firebombs, Molotov cocktails, and knives, depending on one's definition of terrorism. We encourage users to manually review events to ensure they are in line with their chosen definition of terrorism. Events prior to 2015 are not covered systematically.
3. Most events reported in the media as terrorist plots are included, likely resulting in an overreporting of plots from 2015 to 2021. At the same time, there is an underreporting of plots between 1990 and 2014 due to limitations in sources, methods and media coverage. Frequencies of plot discoveries are also influenced by government's attention towards this threat. Similar biases concern discoveries of major arms repositories, coded as "preparation for armed struggle" in the RTV dataset. Consequently, users should be wary of these biases when including "plots" and "preparation for armed struggle" in their analyses.

Target groups

4. The coverage of attacks against LGBT+ people, Jews, and homeless may be incomplete because it is difficult in some cases to determine whether an attack was indeed motivated far-right beliefs or by some other ideological, religious, or personal motive with hostility toward the same target groups. Thus far, we have only included cases in which a far-right motive could be established or reasonably deduced, given the circumstances.
5. Attacks committed by incels, school shooters and other perpetrators commonly associated with the far right are only included if the target selection was indeed determined by, and resonates with, explicit far-right beliefs.

Perpetrators

6. Whether an attack was committed by an organized or unorganised entity is sometimes difficult to determine. Such cases have been coded as "coordinated entities", defined as "constellations of two or more people with a suspected far-right affiliation who are acting in a coordinated manner, but where information about their organizational affiliation is missing". When analyzing the extent of organized violence, users should run the analysis with and without this perpetrator type (coordinated entities).
7. Attacks perpetrated by minors below the average age of criminal responsibility in Western Europe, which is 14 years, are excluded from the dataset.