

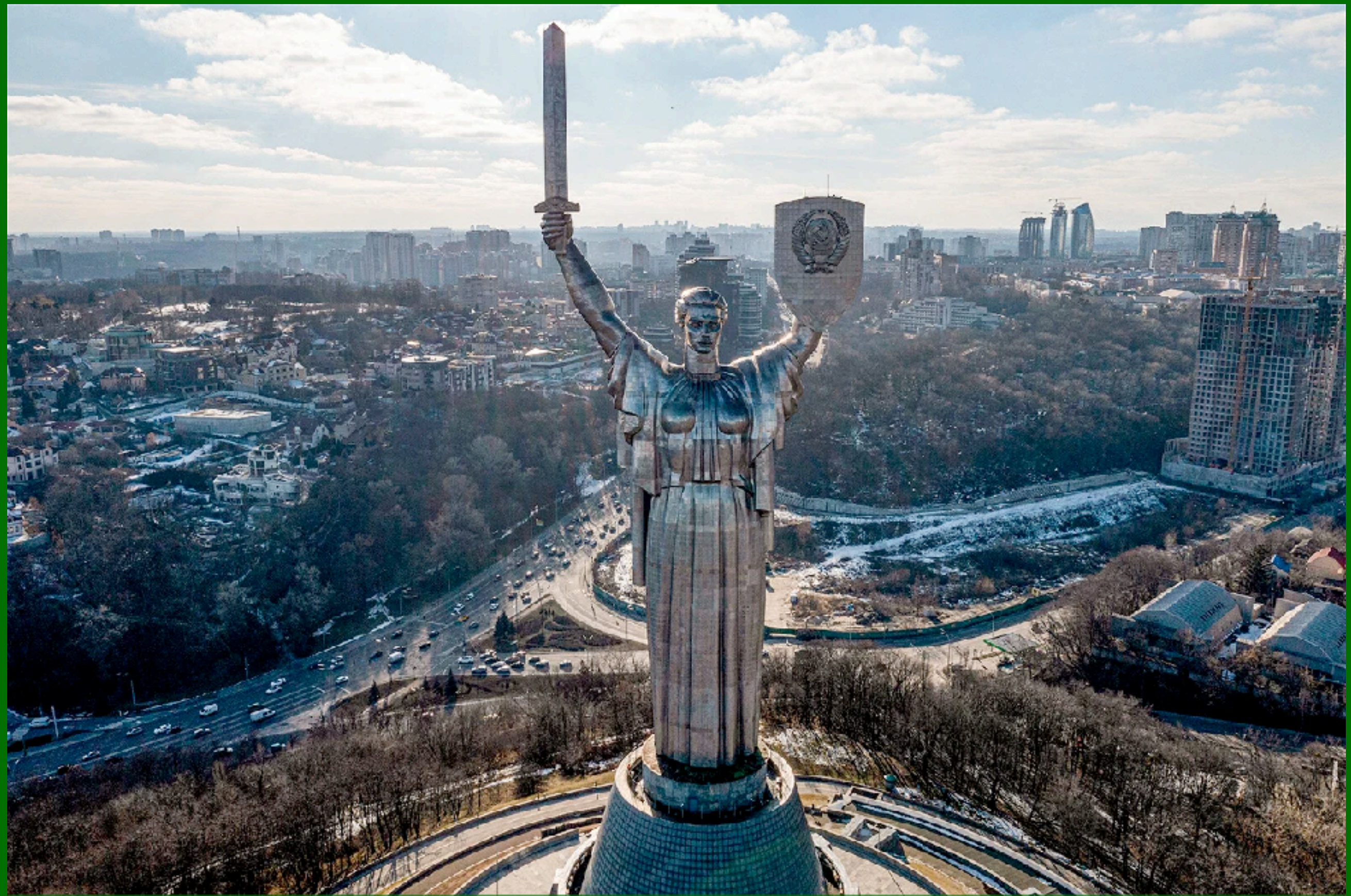
The Minsk Game

Jesse Driscoll
The Ohio State University
January 11, 2024



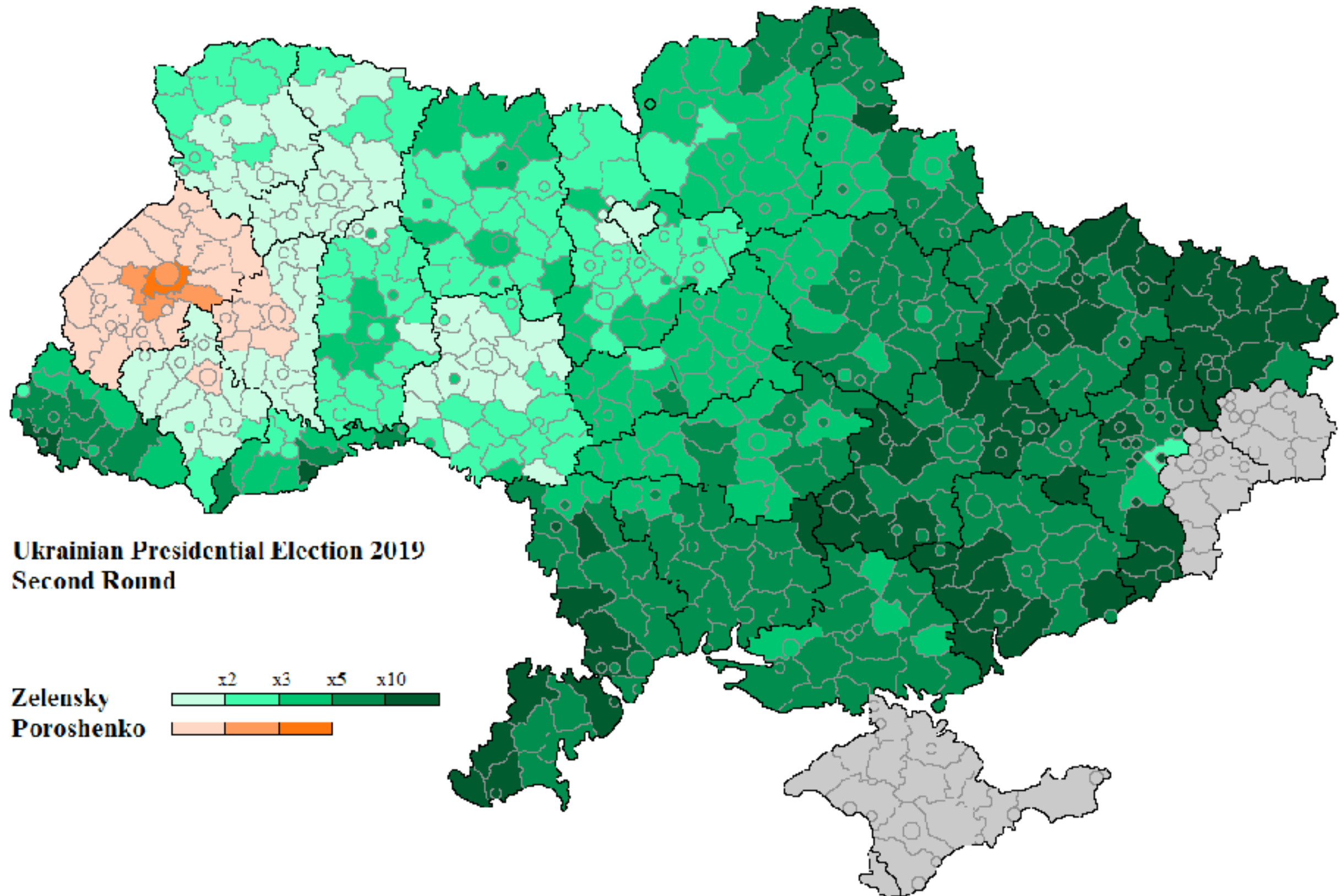


МИ ГОЛОСУЕМО ЗА МИР,
ЗА ДРУЖБУ МІЖ НАРОДАМИ!





Our Answer: Ukrainian Adaptation To The Unnamed War (Cambridge 2023)



The Minsk Game



- What's Being Bargained Over: National Symbols
- Strategic Setting: Russia, The USSR, The Ukrainian Nation, & The “Beached Diaspora”
- Order Of Play
- Evidence: How Does The Model Fit The Case?
- What Does The Model Suggest About Ways Forward?

What Is At Stake? National Symbols



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- Definition: “a political principle which holds that the political and the national unit should be congruent” (Gellner 1983, page 1).
- Language is critical: “Through that language, encountered at mother’s knee and parted with only at the grave, pasts are restored, fellowships are imagined, and futures dreamed” (Anderson 1983, page 154).
- In Ukraine, We Observe Four Zero-Sum Issues That Have Reliably Split “Western” and “Eastern” Nationalist Constituencies. To Simplify:
 - Language
 - Teaching of History
 - Geoeconomics (Trade/Labor Mobility)
 - Geopolitics (Security)
- State Policy Choices Can Shapes Outcomes
- Those State Policies Are The Result Of Bargaining Between Social Forces

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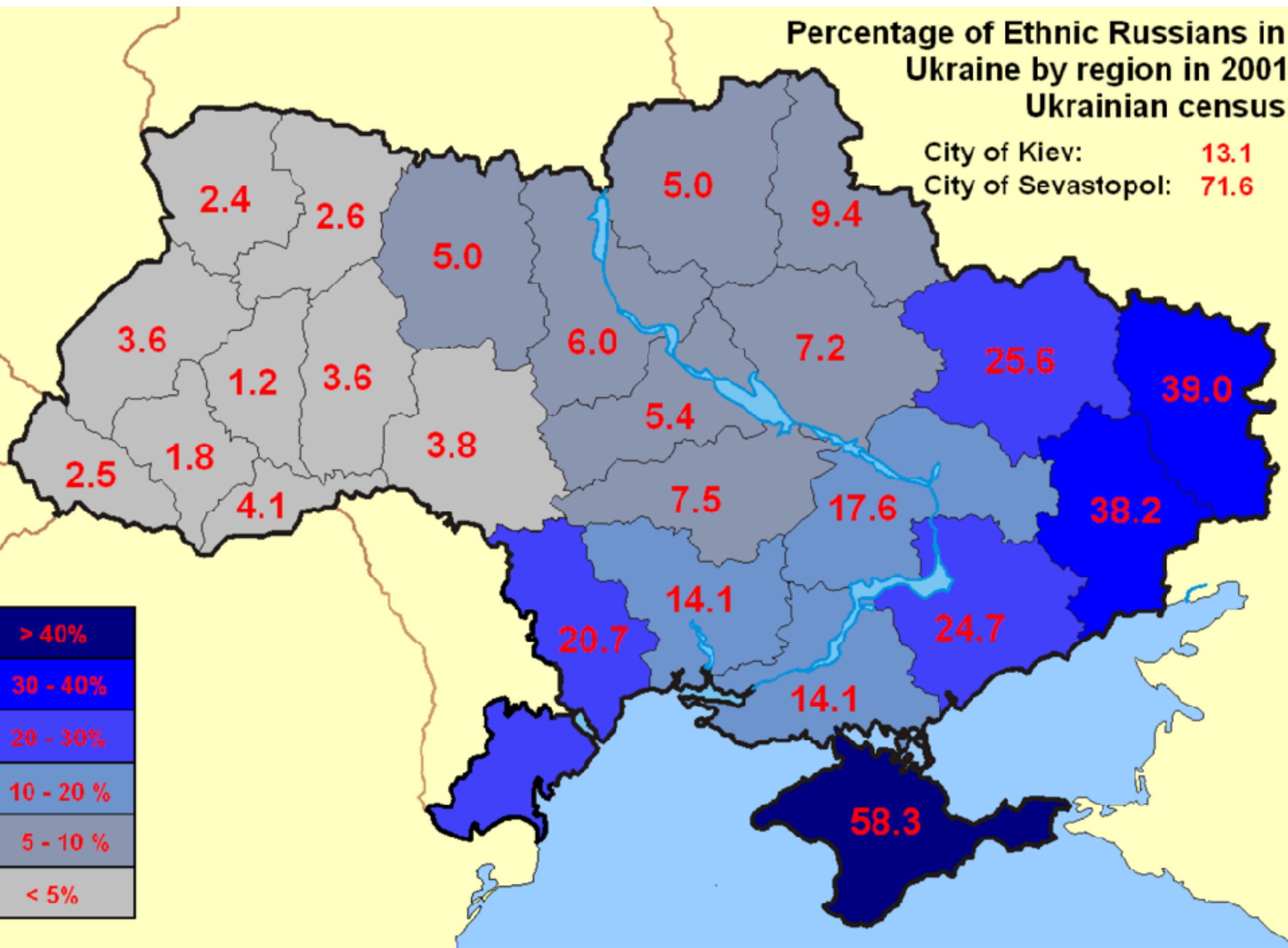
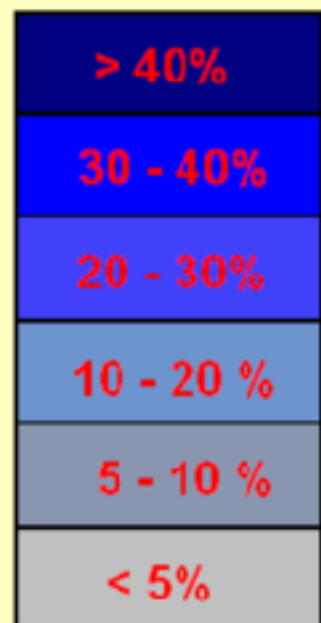
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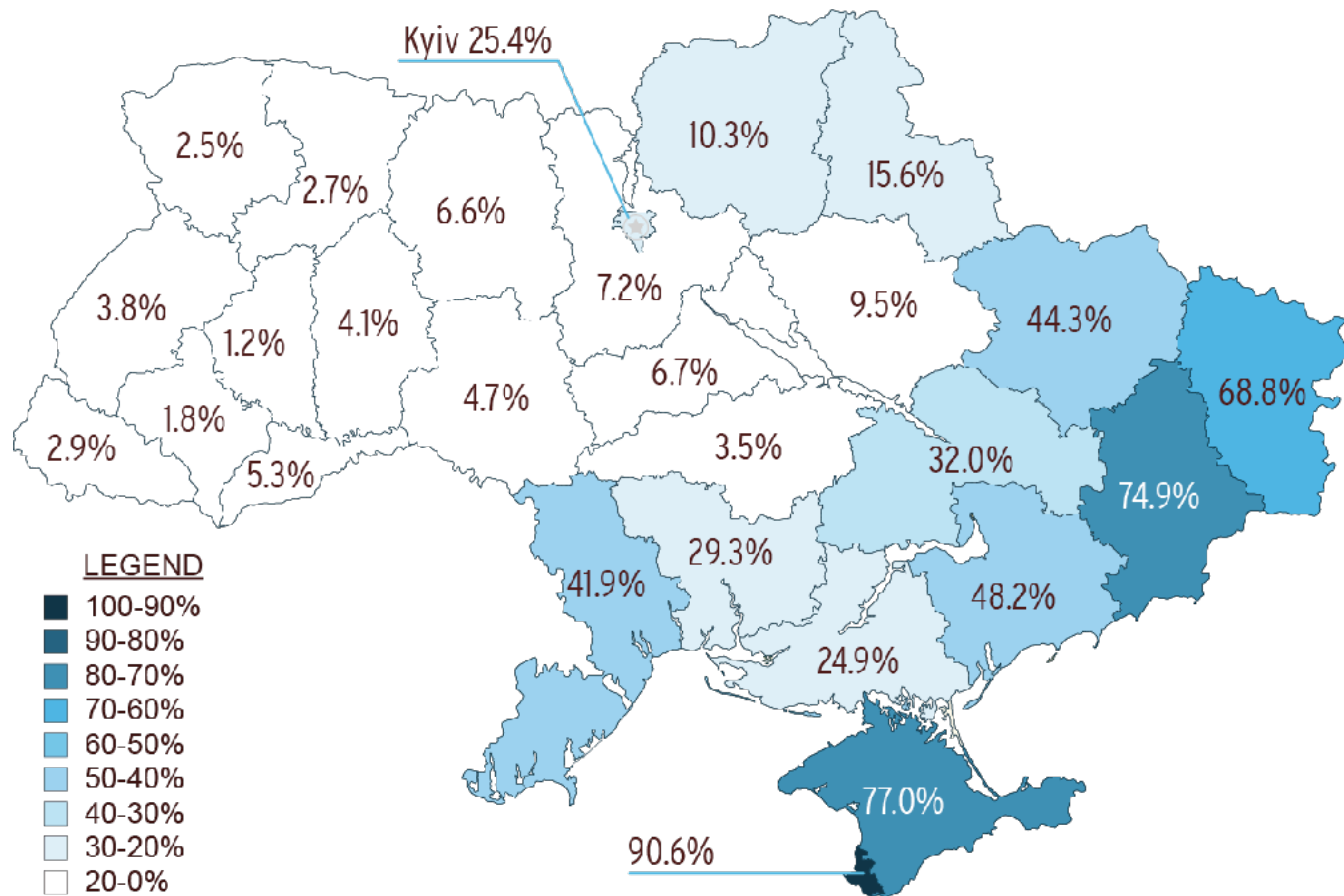
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Percentage of Ethnic Russians in Ukraine by region in 2001 Ukrainian census

City of Kiev: 13.1
City of Sevastopol: 71.6



PERCENTAGE OF UKRAINE'S POPULATION (BY REGION) THAT INDICATED 'RUSSIAN' AS THEIR UNIQUE MOTHER TONGUE, ACCORDING TO THE 2001 CENSUS

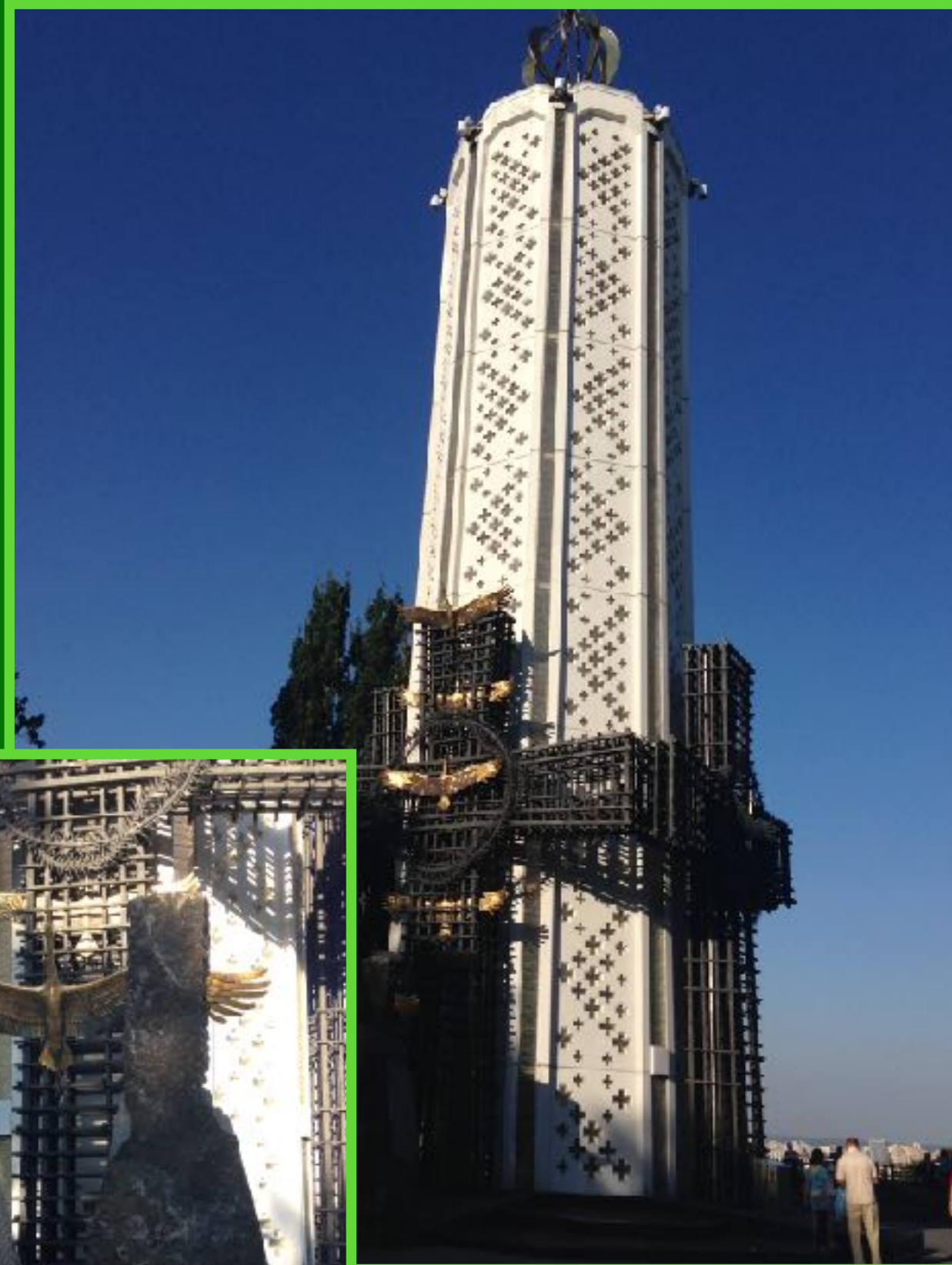


Source: 2001 Ukrainian census; "Ukrainian society 1994-2005: sociological monitoring." - <http://dif.org.ua/> (in Ukrainian)

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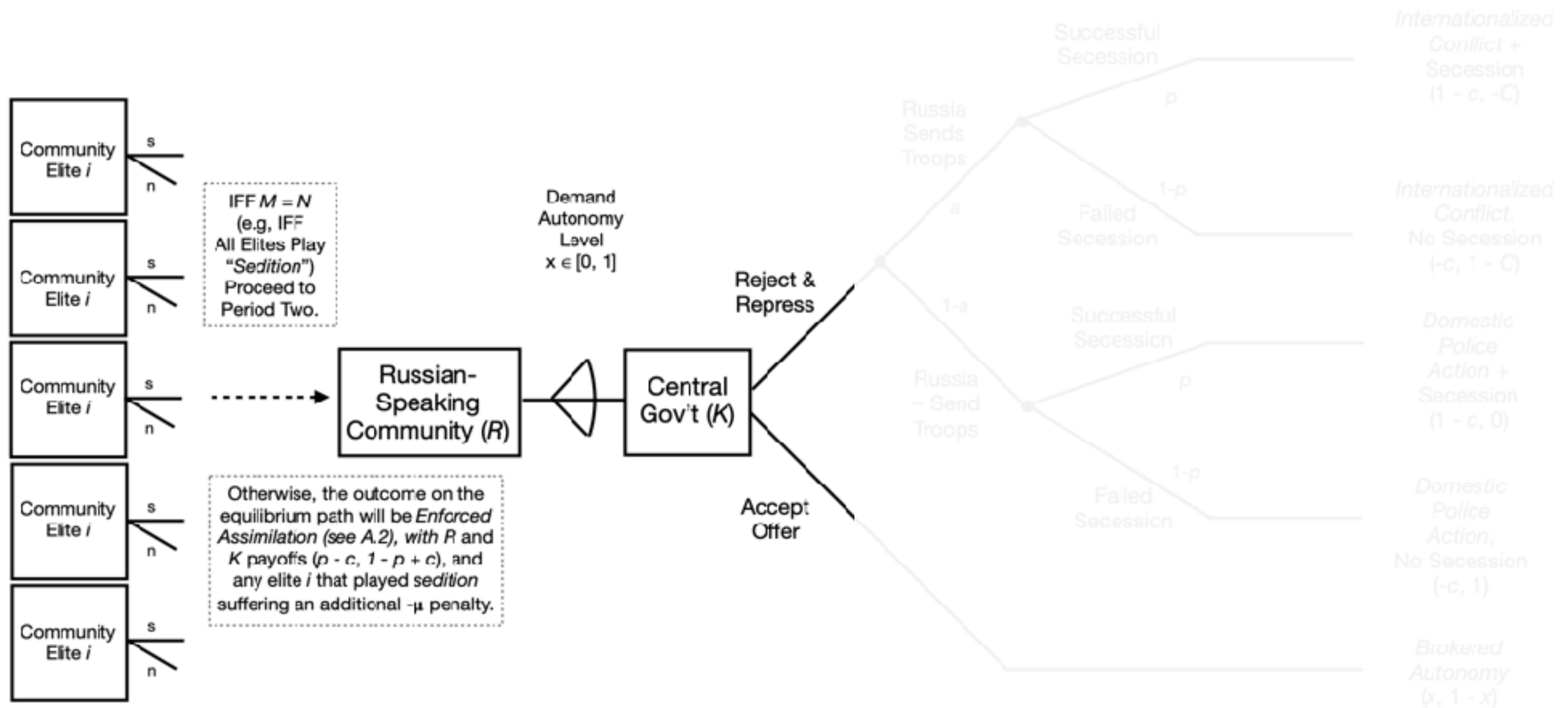
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A Strategic Constructivist Approach: Order Of Moves Matters A Great Deal

STAGE ONE

STAGE TWO

STAGE THREE (NATURE MOVES)

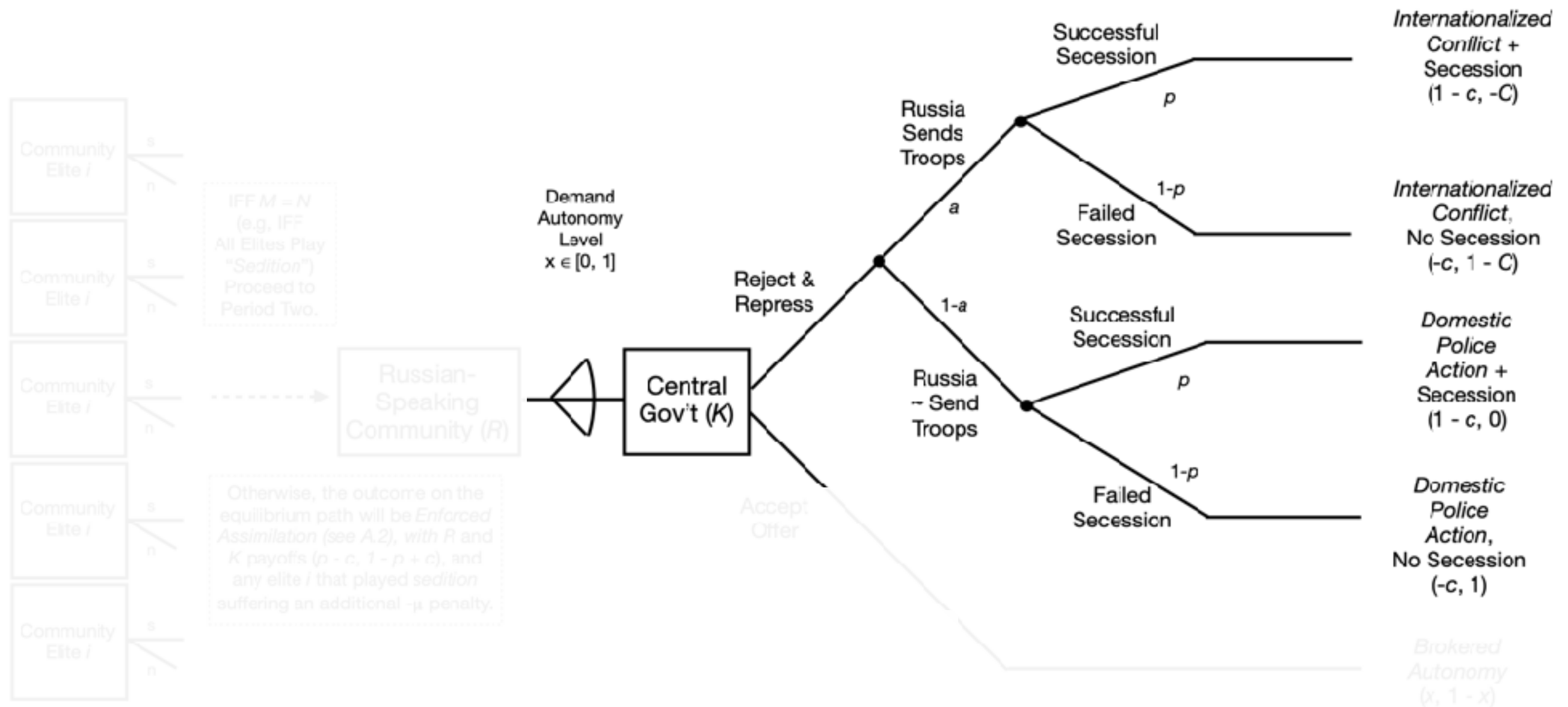


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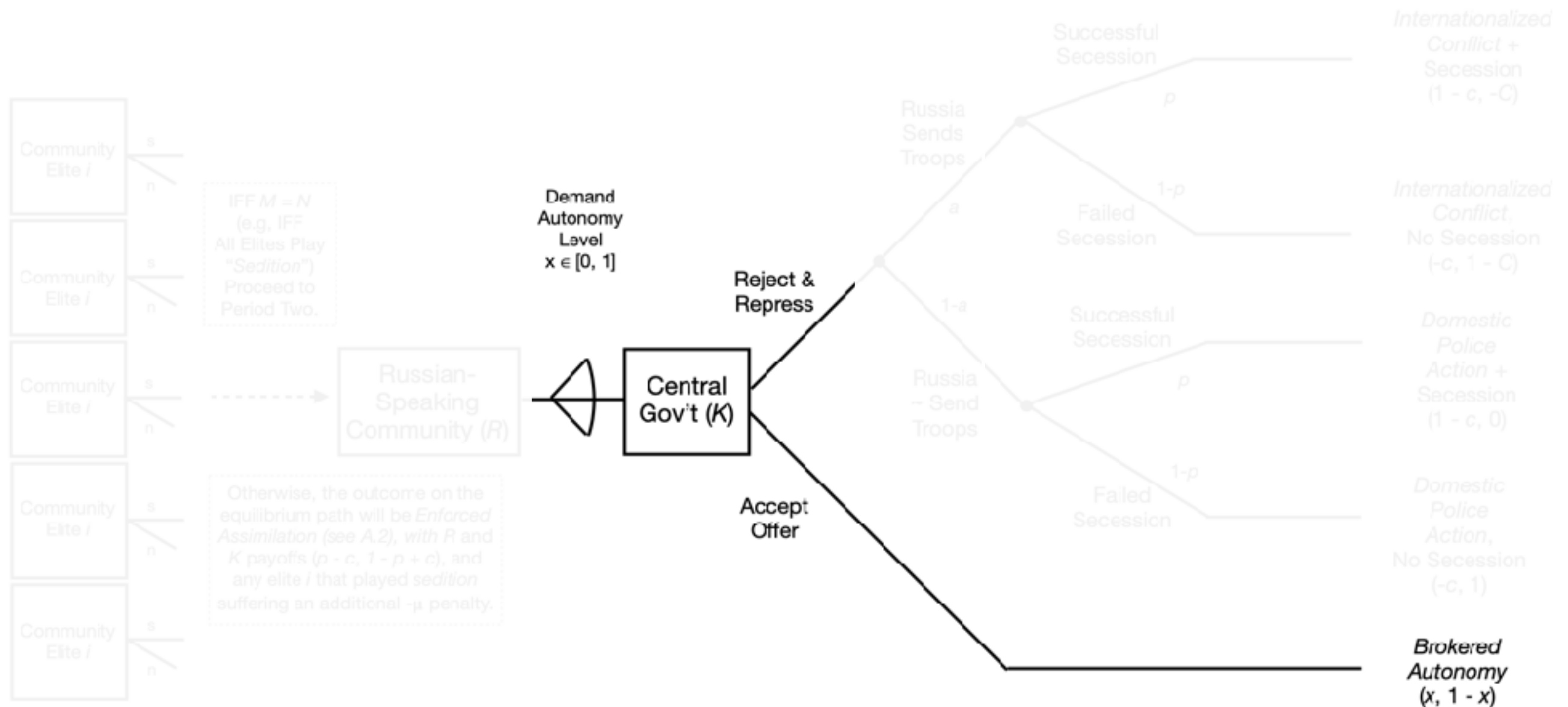


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STAGE ONE

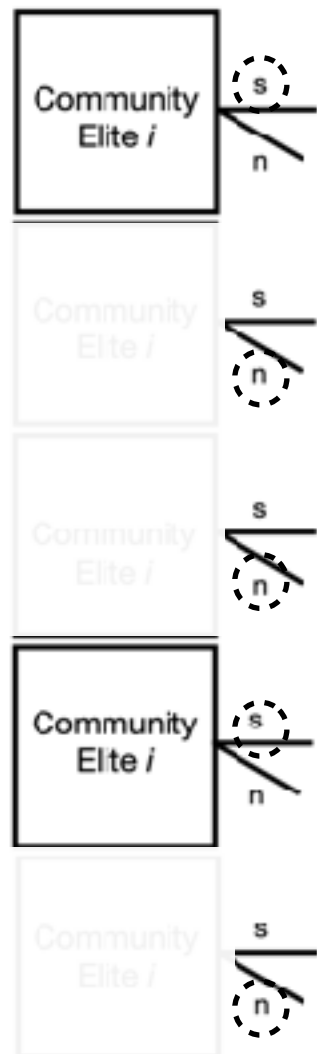
STAGE TWO

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A Strategic Constructivist Approach: Order Of Moves Matters A Great Deal

STAGE ONE



STAGE TWO

if $M < N$ (e.g, if At Least One Elite Plays "Neutral"), Proceed to Period Two

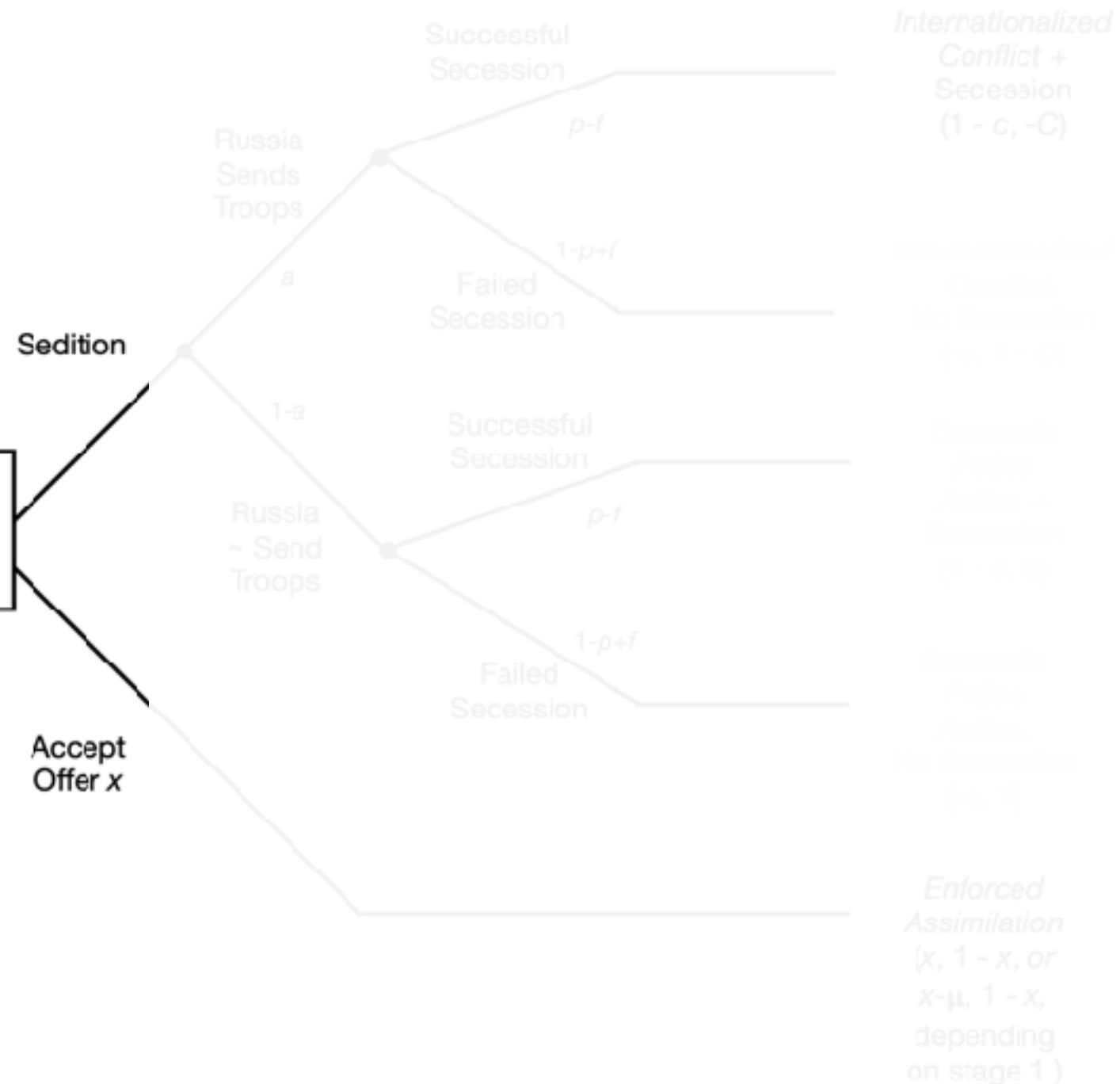
Central Gov't (K)

Propose
Autonomy
Level
 $x \in [0, 1]$

Community Elite i

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STAGE THREE (NATURE MOVES)

Sedition

Accept Offer x



Internationalized Conflict + Secession
($1 - c, -C$)

Internationalized Conflict, No Secession
($-c, 1 - C$)

Domestic Police Action + Secession
($1 - c, 0$)

Domestic Police Action, No Secession
($-c, 1$)

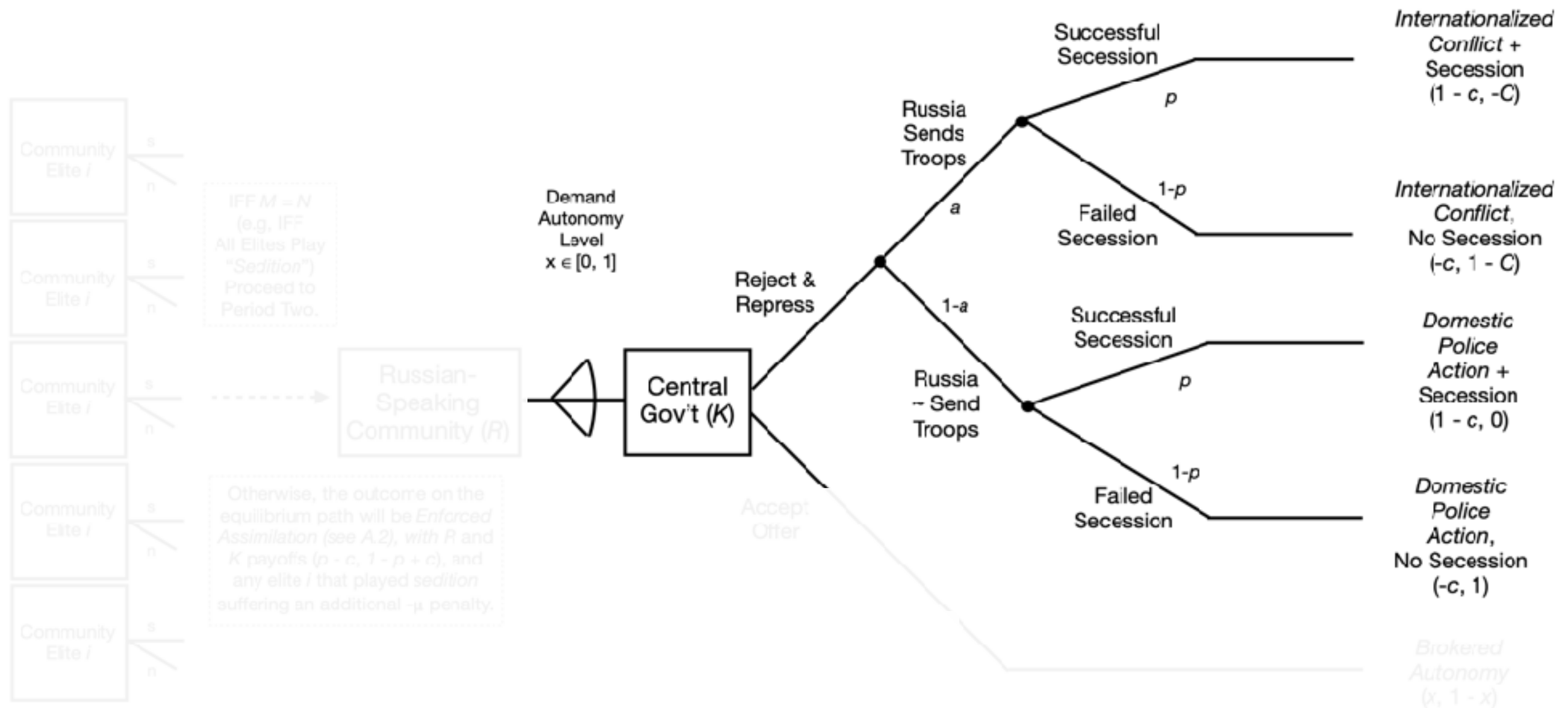
Enforced Assimilation
($x, 1 - x$, or $x-\mu, 1 - x$, depending on stage 1)

A Strategic Constructivist Approach: Order Of Moves Matters A Great Deal

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Ukraine's Miners Bemoan The Cost of Independence

By LEON PERLIN

Special to The New York Times

KIEV, Ukraine, July 24 — The country's first election at the October Coal Mine closed again at the end of the first shift, showing a majority of 100,000 votes for the miners' union.

The miners' union, which has been at work at the mine for more than a year, is now the only union in the country.

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Miners voting to elect a new union at the October Coal Mine in Ukraine.

Converging Crests of Mighty Rivers Threaten the Defenses of St. Louis

By H. H. HARRINGTON

Special to The New York Times

ST. LOUIS, July 24 — The Missouri River and Mississippi River, meeting tonight at higher stages of water, threaten the city of St. Louis.

The Missouri River, which has been at work at the mine for more than a year, is now the only union in the country.

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INSIDE

Italy Shifts on Somalia

Seeking to end the Italian-Somali war, Italy announced today its decision to withdraw its troops from Somalia.

Energy Windows in Trouble

Energy windows in the United States are in trouble, according to a report from the Federal Energy Commission.

Booth Conference Warns

A conference of the Booths of the United States has warned that the country is in danger of a major economic crisis.

A French Enthusiasm

The French people are showing a new enthusiasm for the country, according to a report from the French government.

Race Situation

The race situation in the United States is becoming more serious, according to a report from the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Any Place in the Sun Will Video Revolution and the Rest of New York Using

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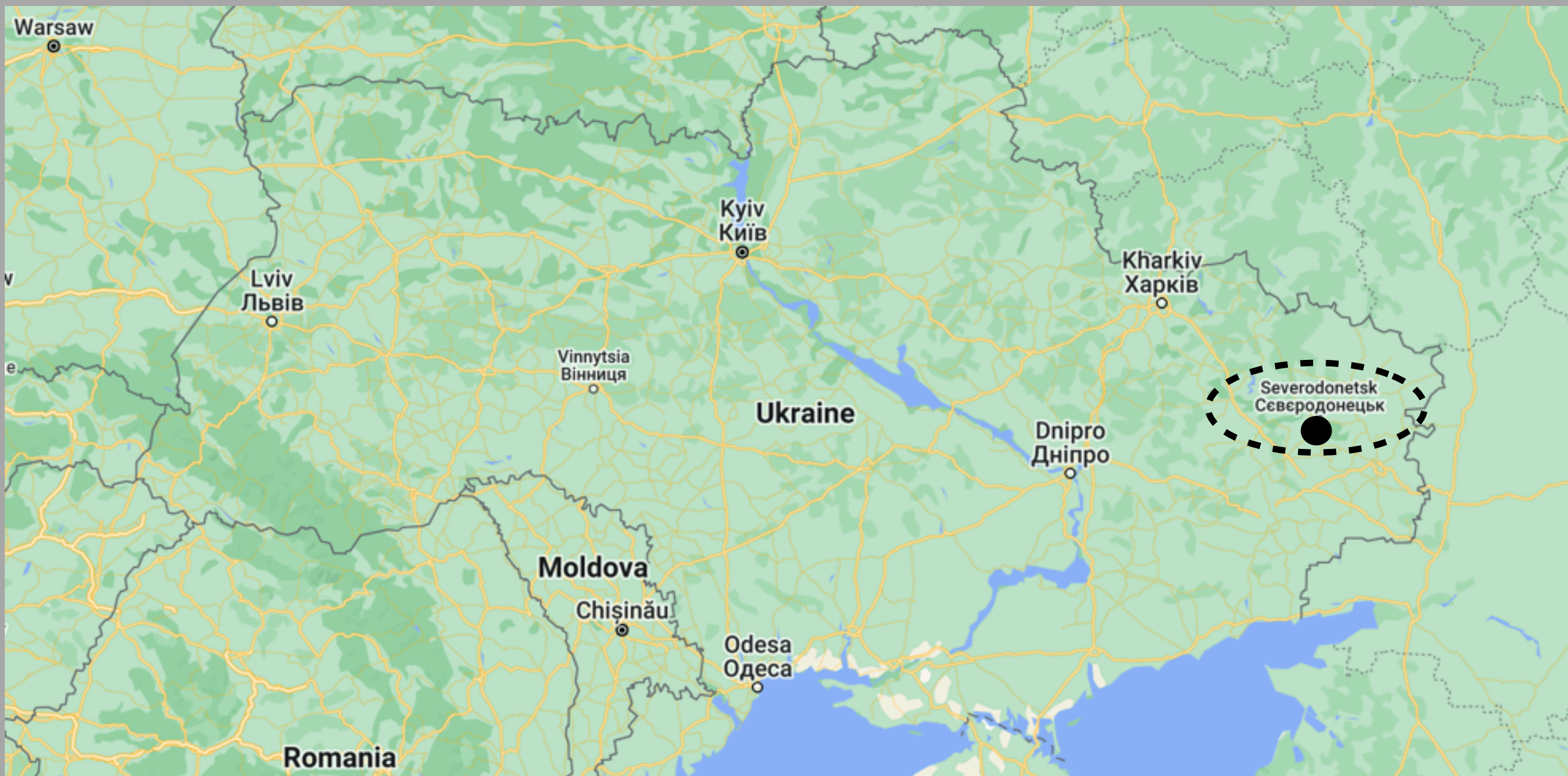


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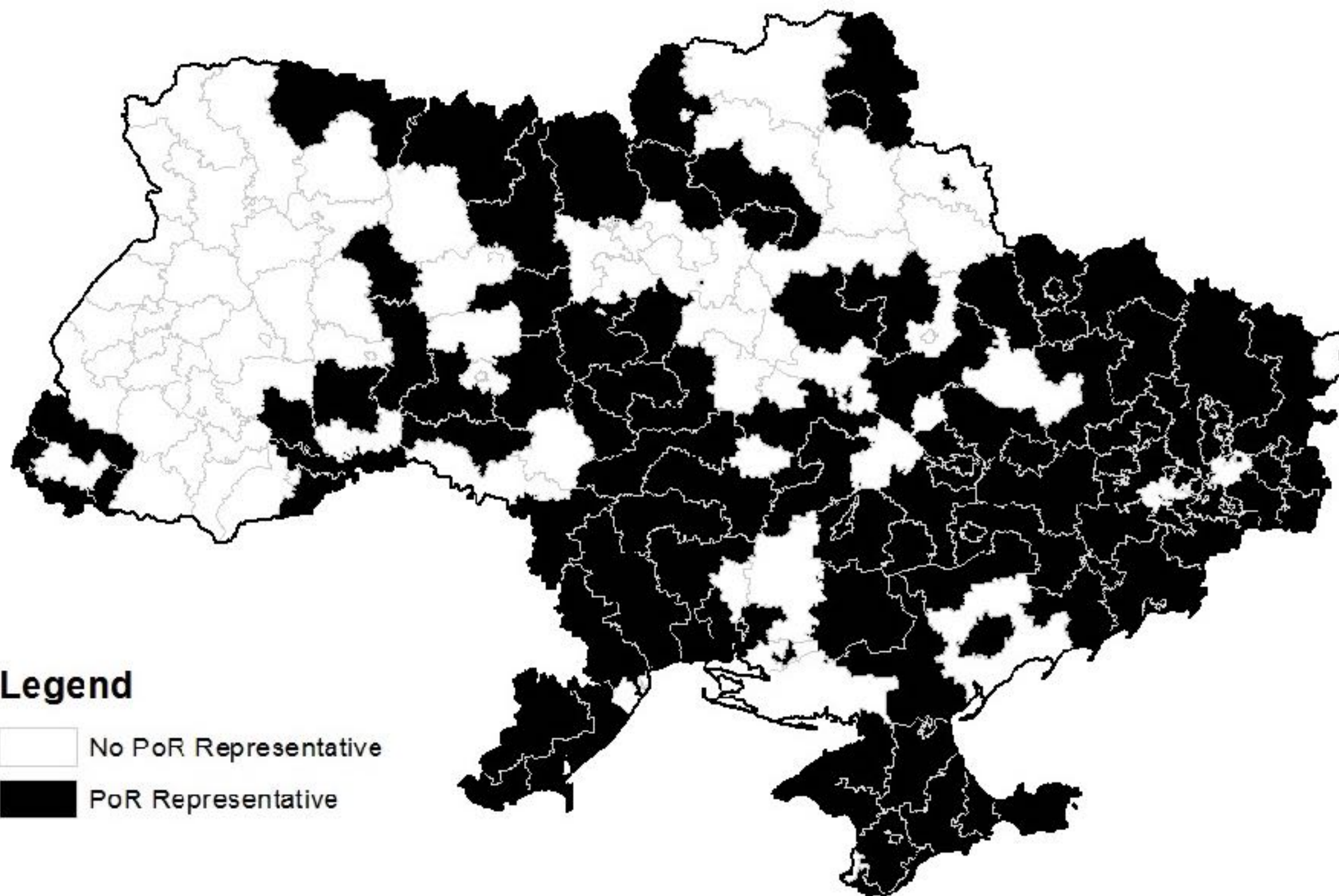
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**Number of Party of Regions Representatives
by Electoral Districts (before February 20, 2014)
(for single-mandate district elected officials only)**

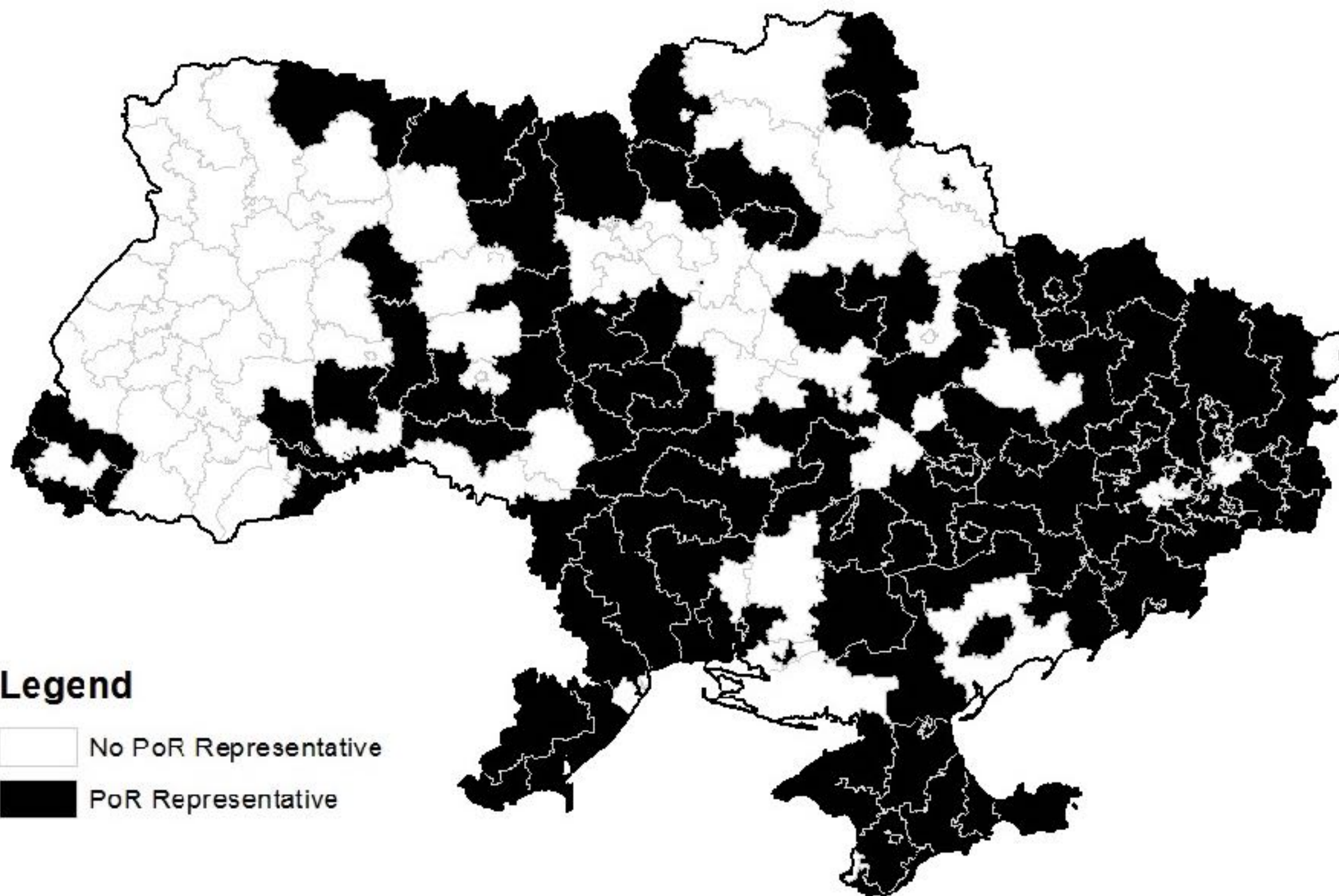




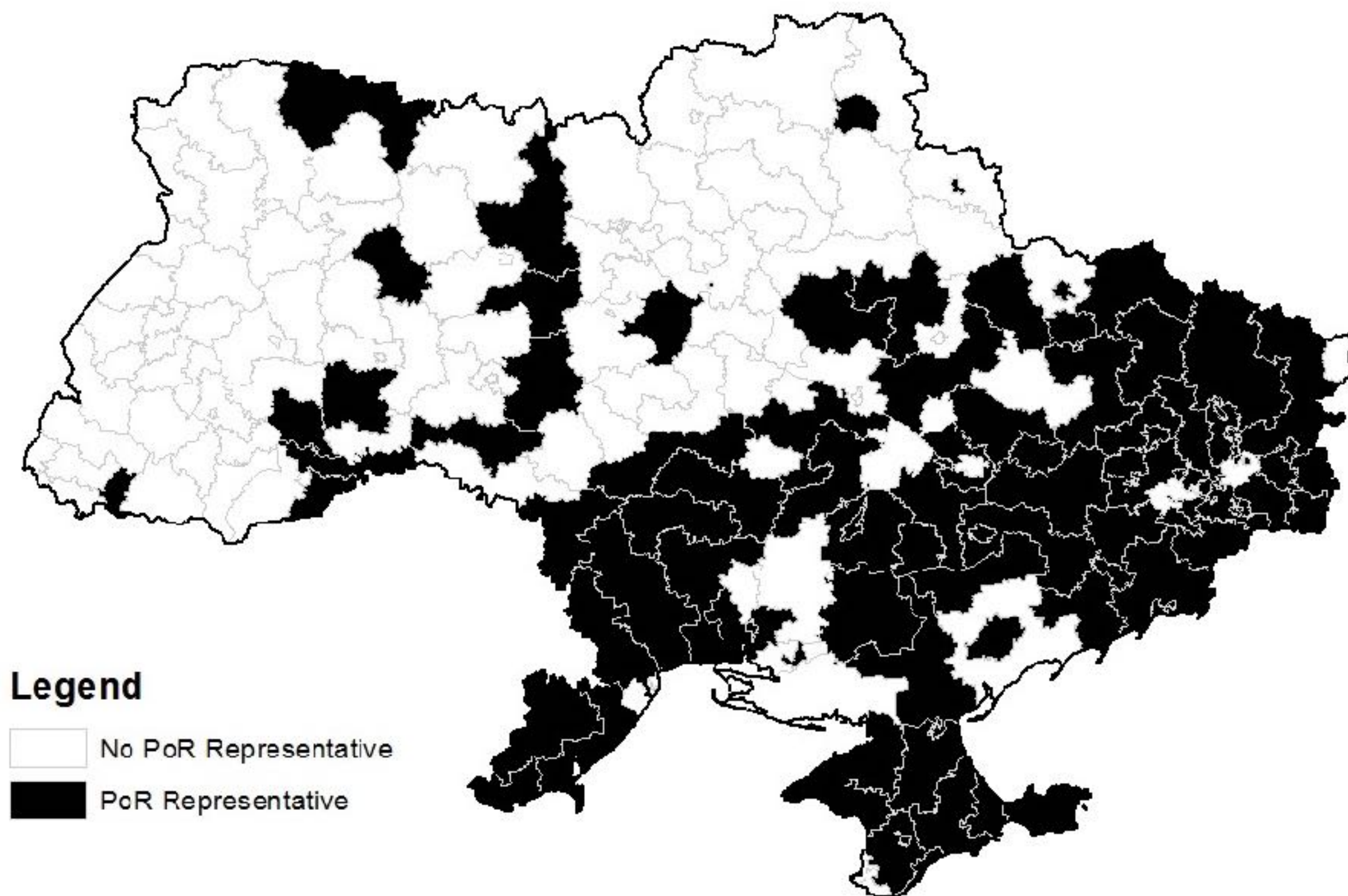




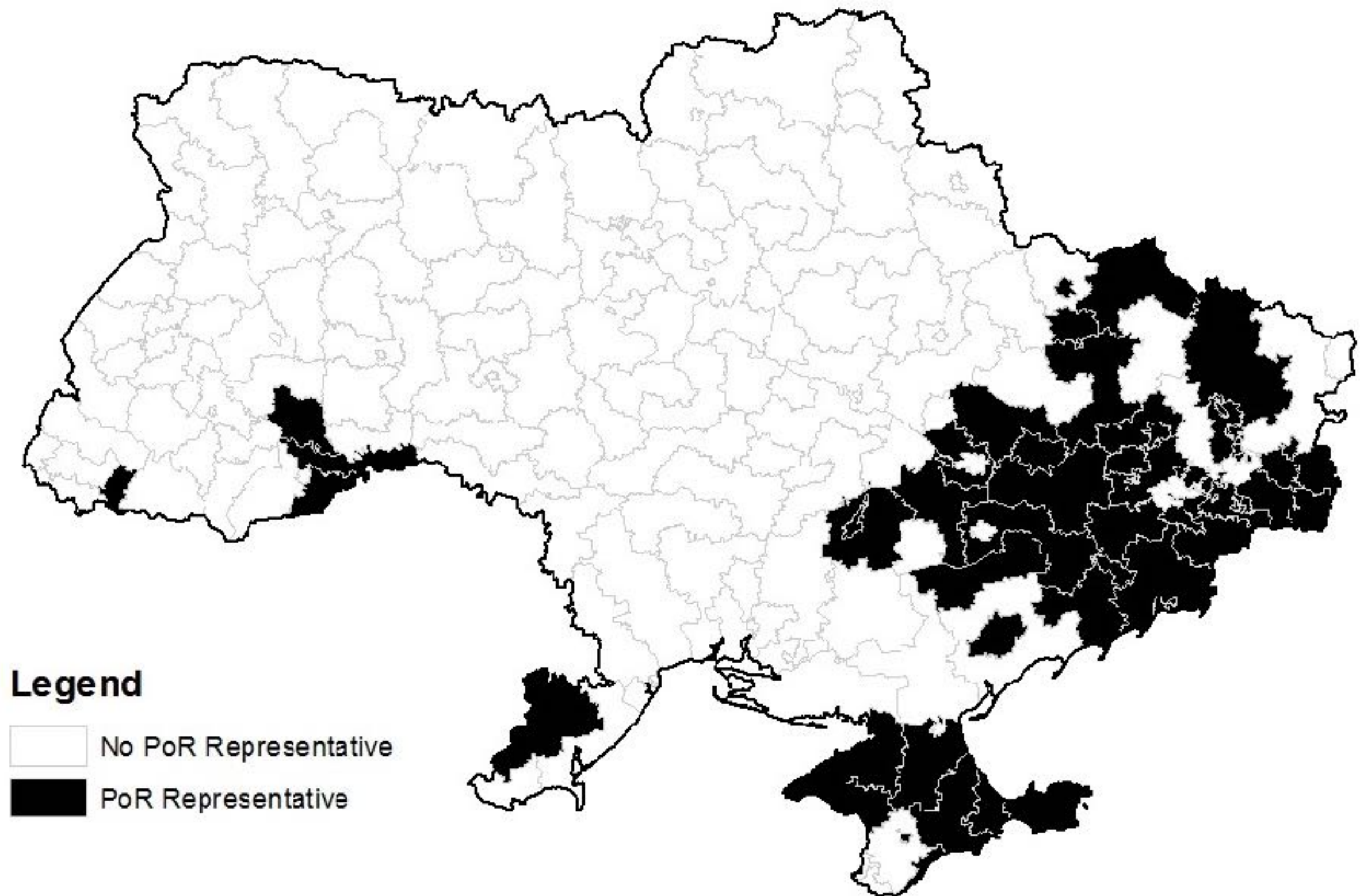
**Number of Party of Regions Representatives
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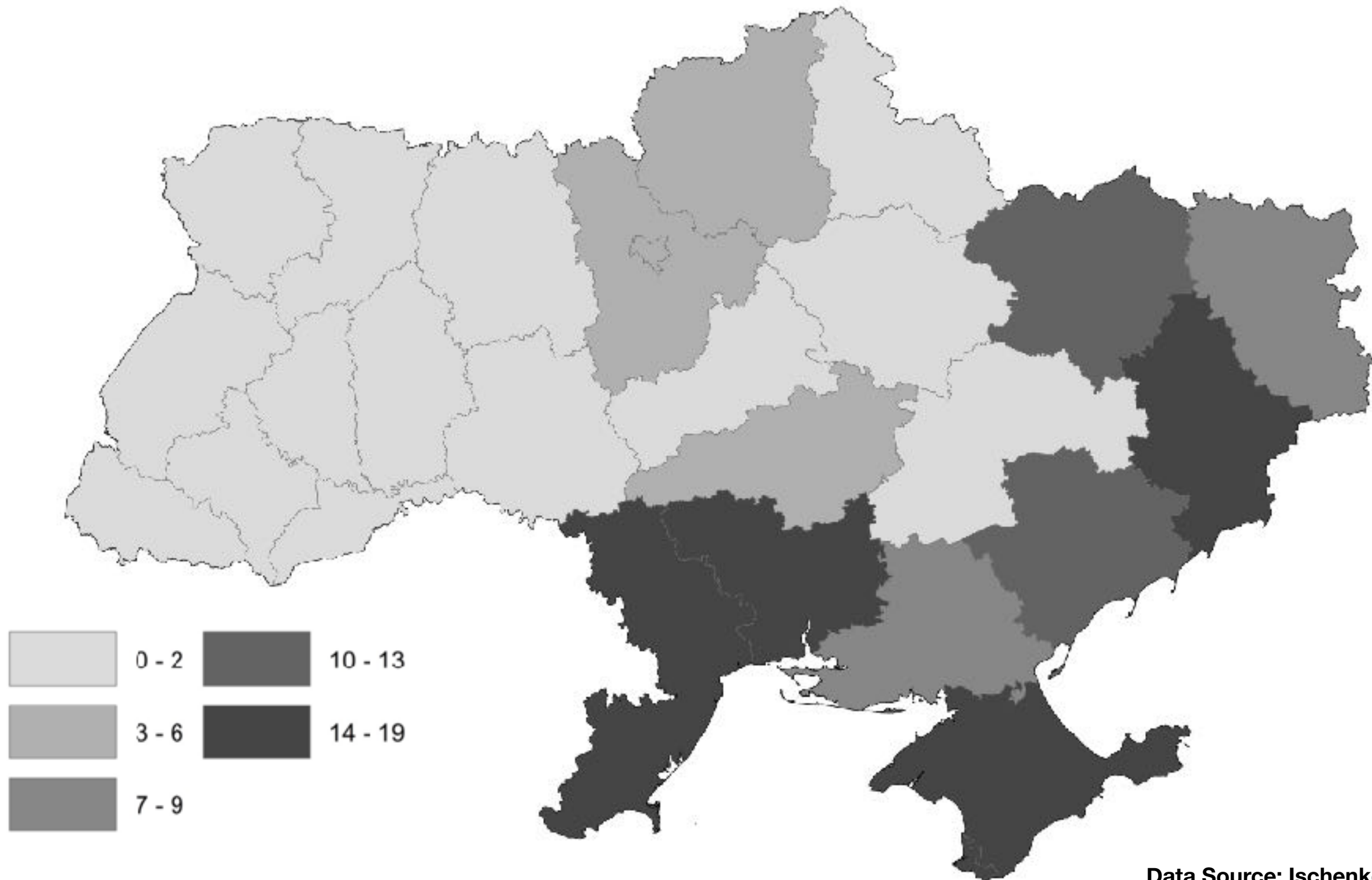
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“The Narratives Diverge”

	Russian narrative	Dignity narrative
21 February Agreement	violated	overtaken by momentum of events
National Unity Cabinet	“of Victors”	no longer a priority
Yanukovych removal	coup	constitutional
Violence on Maidan	instigated by the West	failure to deescalate
Violence by police	heroic	disproportionate
Violence by protesters	fascist	unrepresentative/tragic
Fate of Russian-speakers	imminent threat	downplayed

“Anti-Maidan” Protests (Ischenko et al 2018)



Data Source: Ischenko et al (2018)



Military Defections Inside Crimea

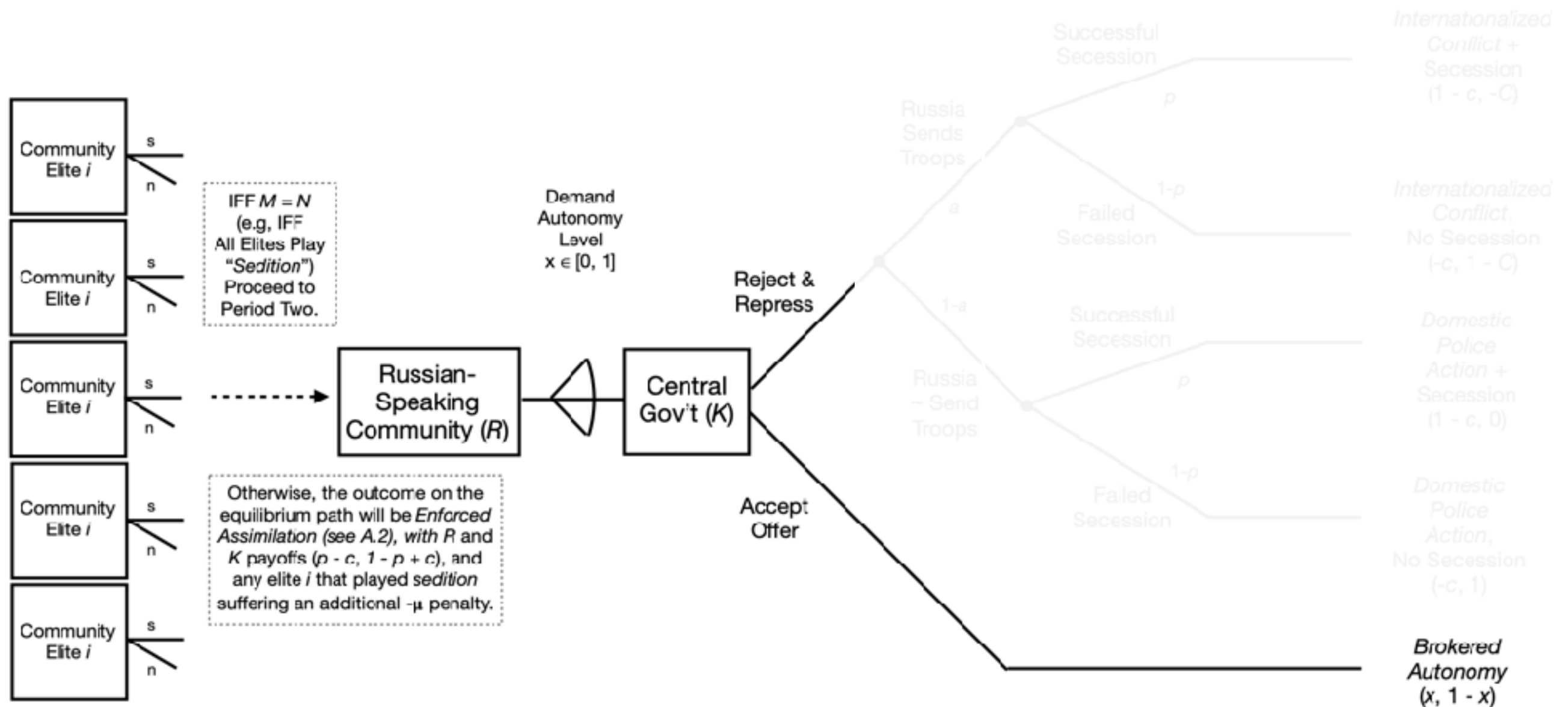
Types of Security Forces	Armed Forces of Ukraine	State Border Guard Service of Ukraine	National Guard of Ukraine	State Security Admin.	Security Service of Ukraine (Uniforms/Officers)	State Space Agency	Total
Soldiers in February 2014	13468	1870	2560	1614	527	247	20315
Soldiers Who Did Not Defect to Russia	3990 (30%)	519 (28%)	1177 (46%)	20 (1%)	242 (46%)	61 (22%)	6010 (30%)

Crimea: $a=1, x=1$, Brokered Autonomy

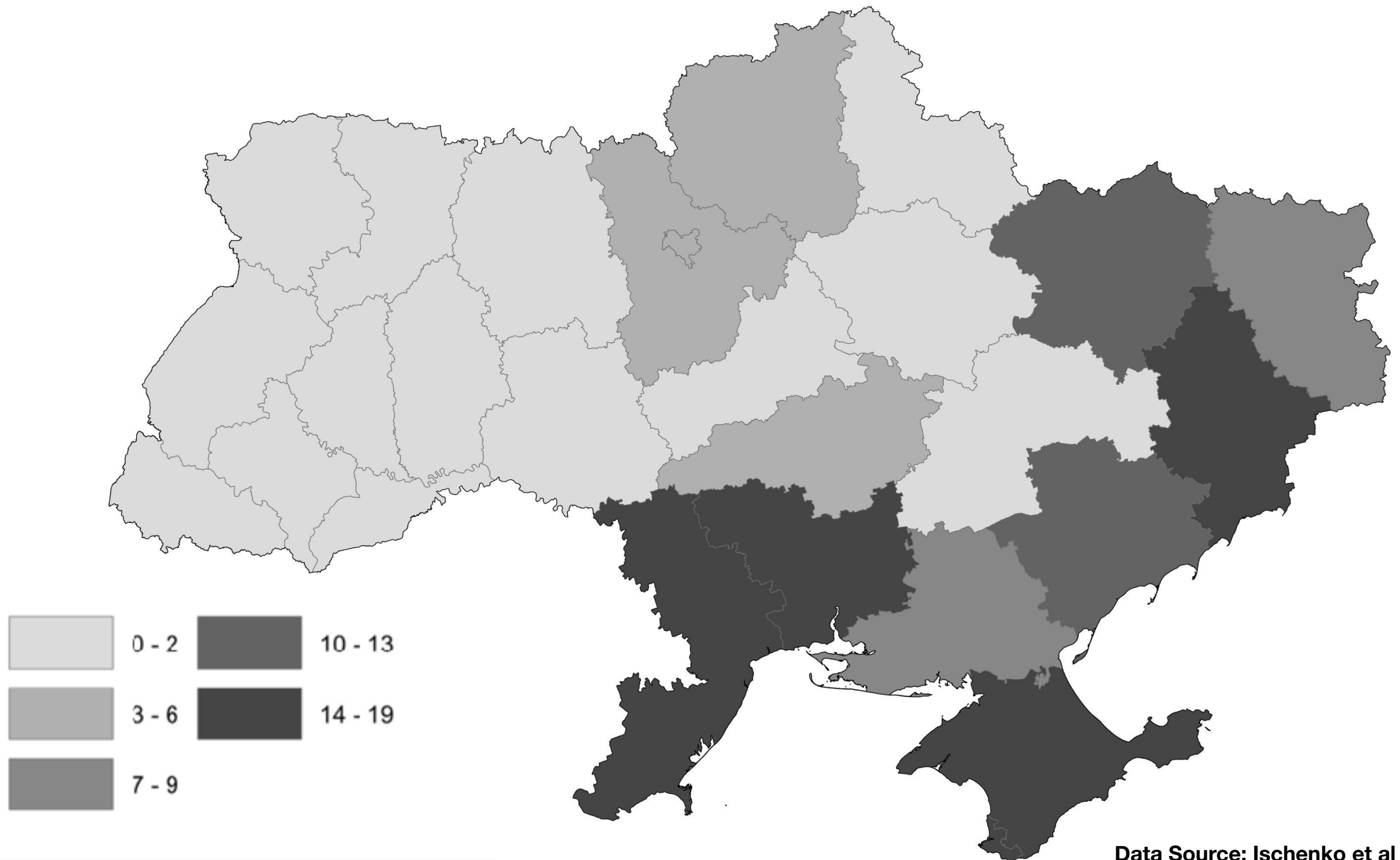
STAGE ONE

STAGE TWO

STAGE THREE (NATURE MOVES)



Coordinated sedition fails (or occurs only after very messy/contingent stuff) everywhere else...

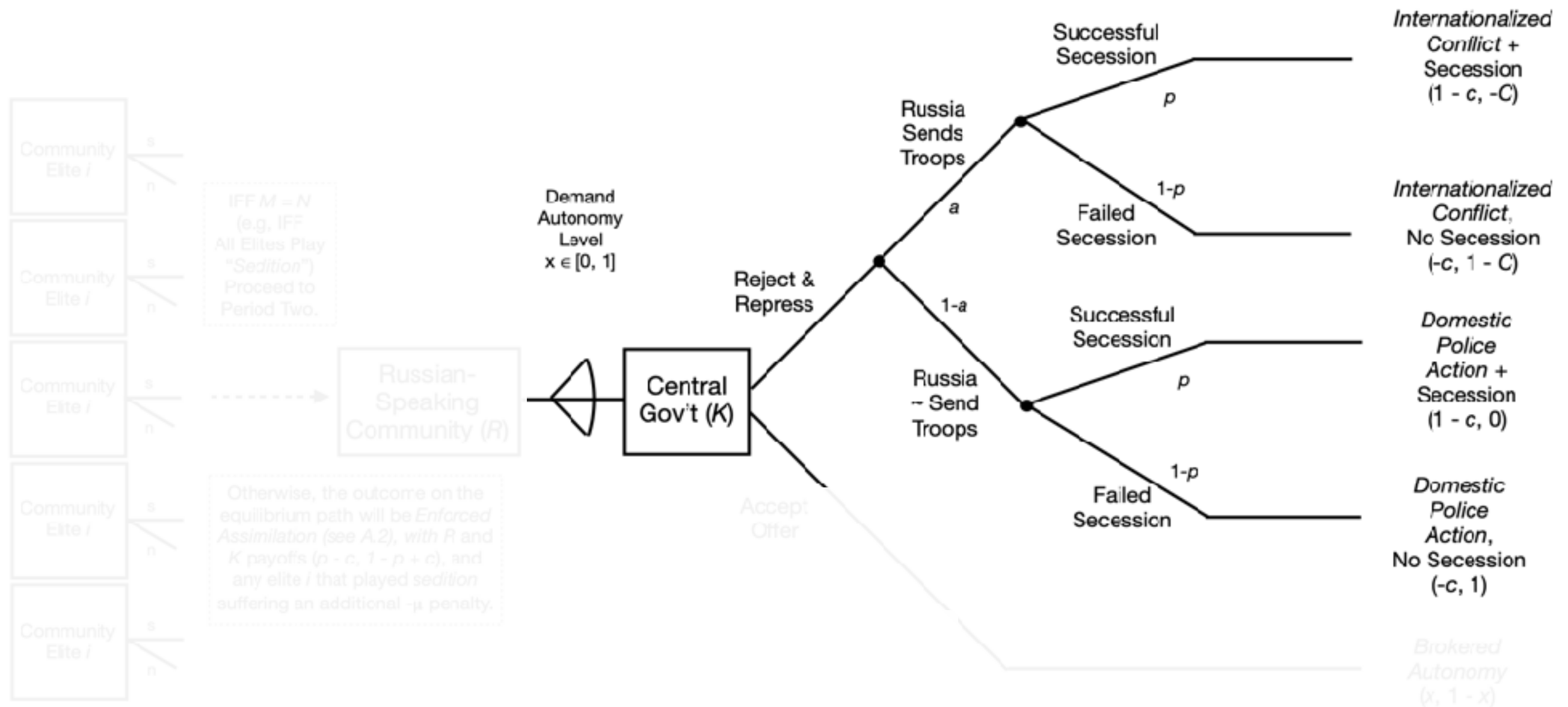


...all of the other outcomes actually occur...

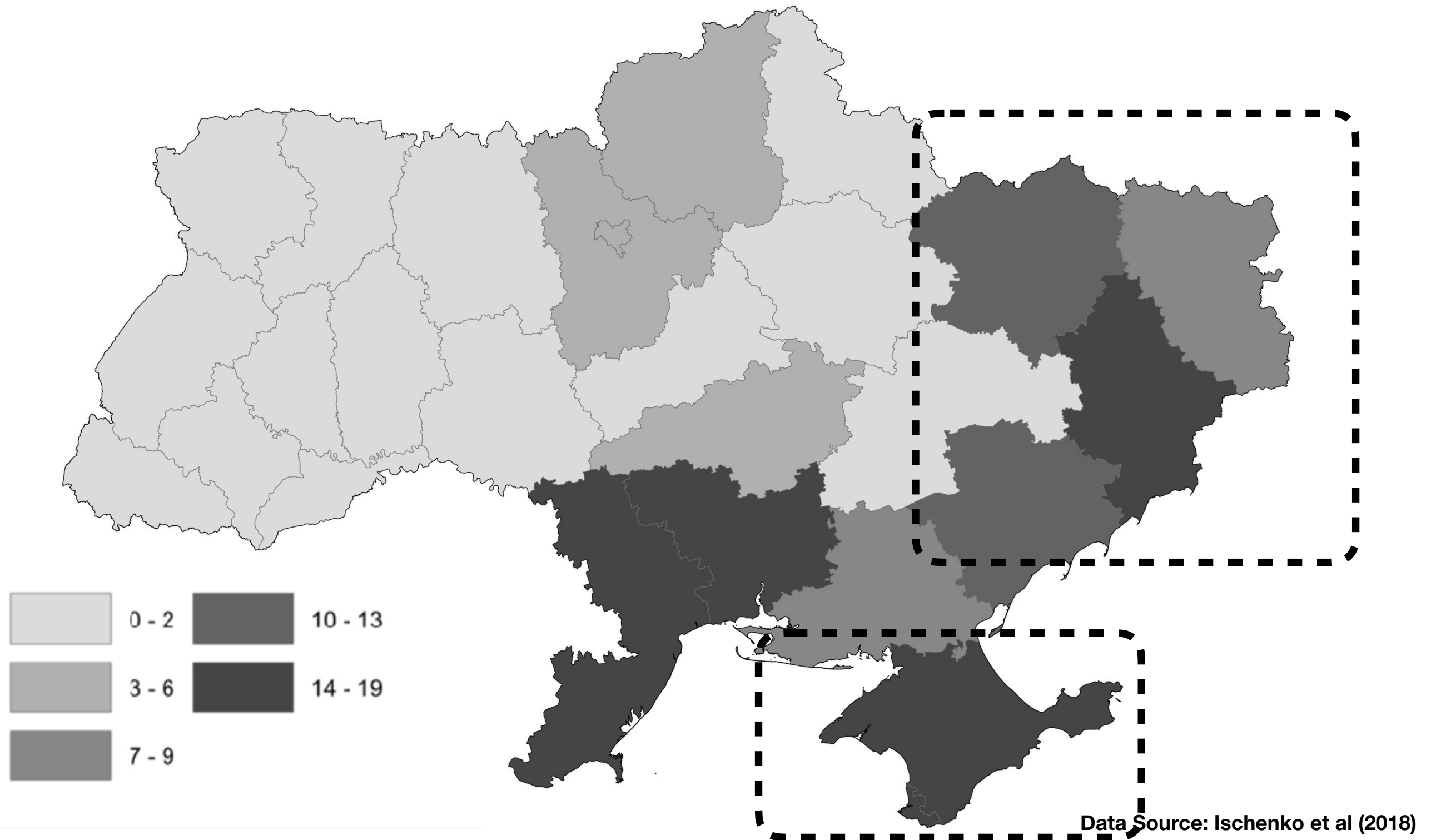
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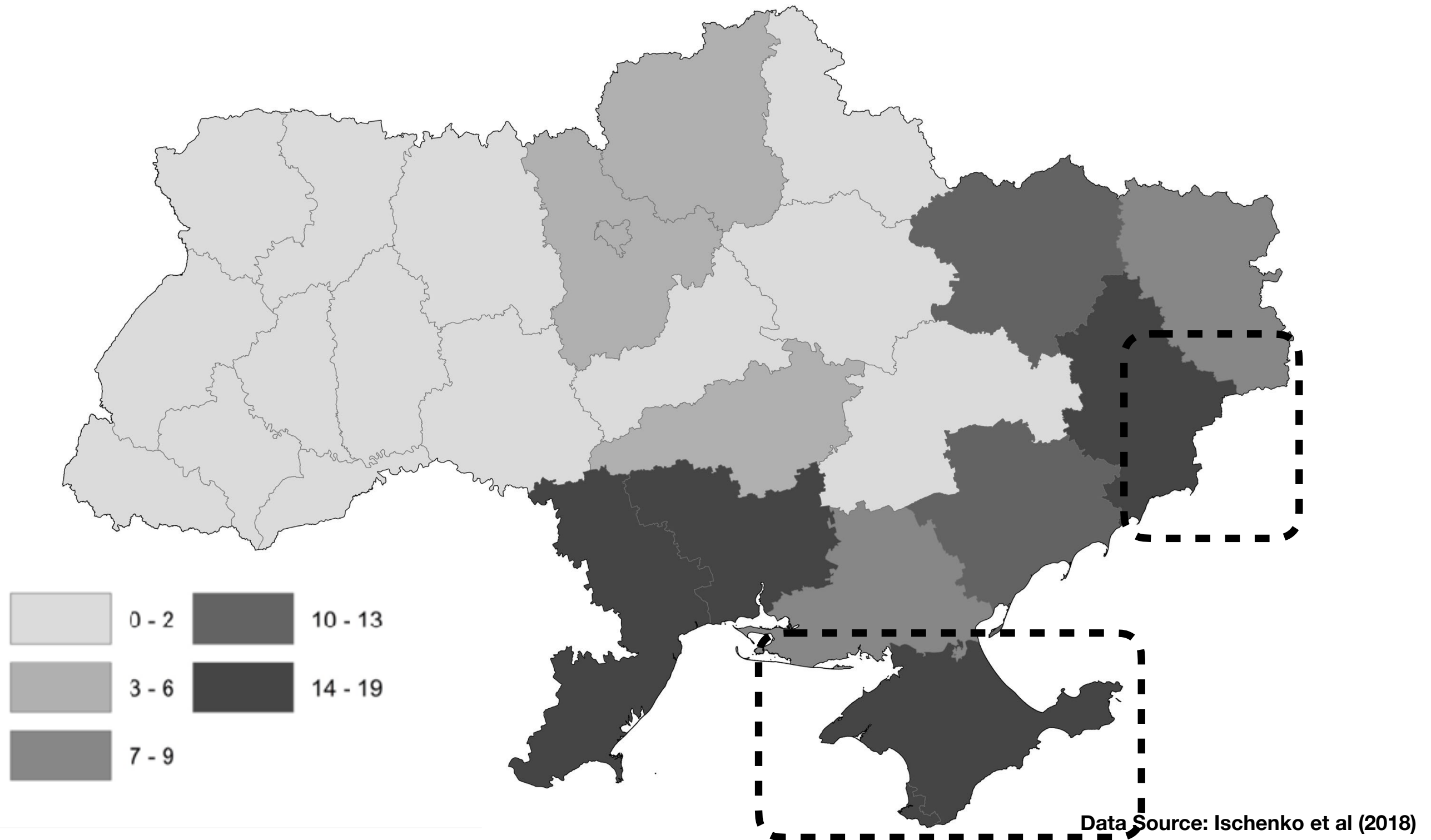
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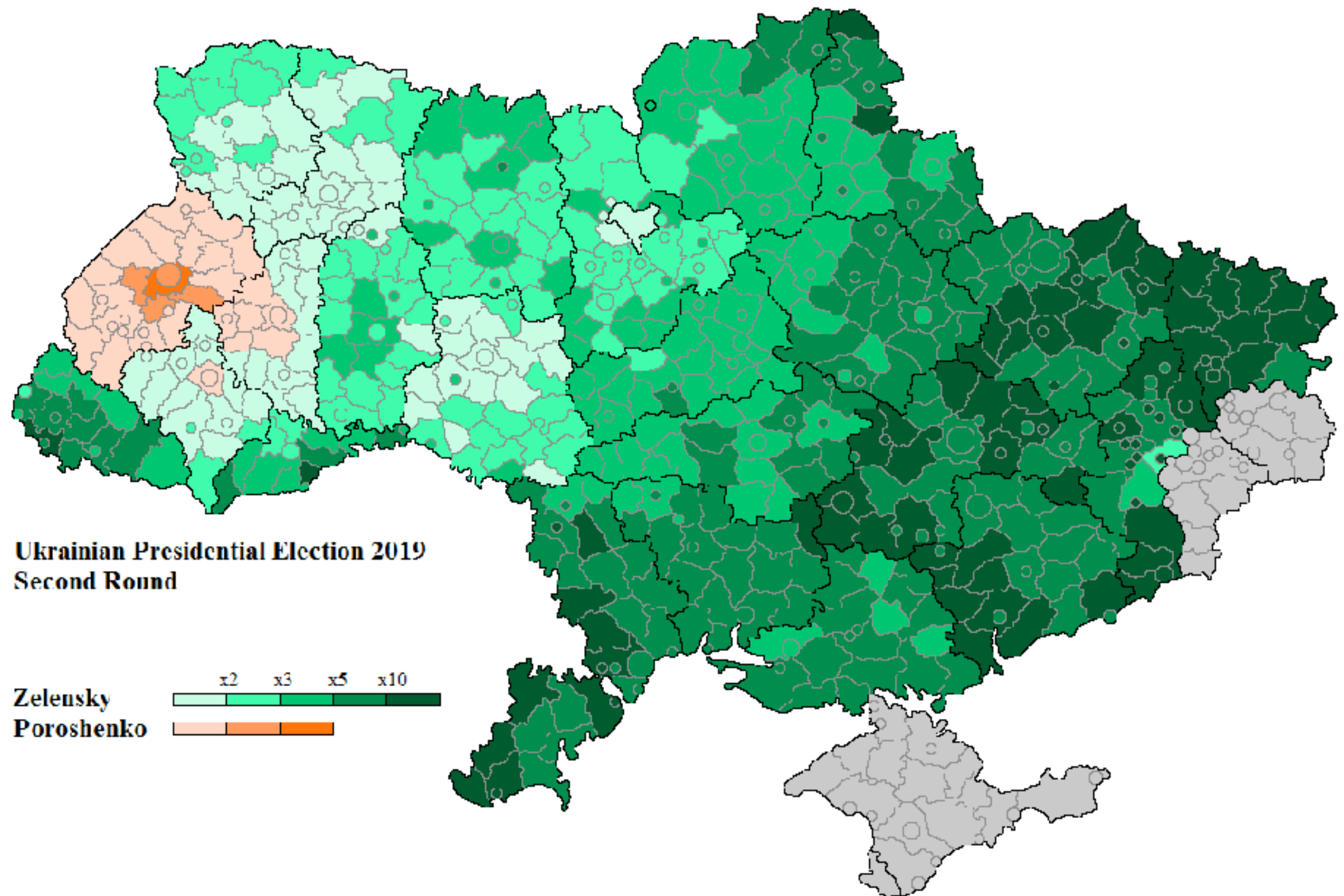
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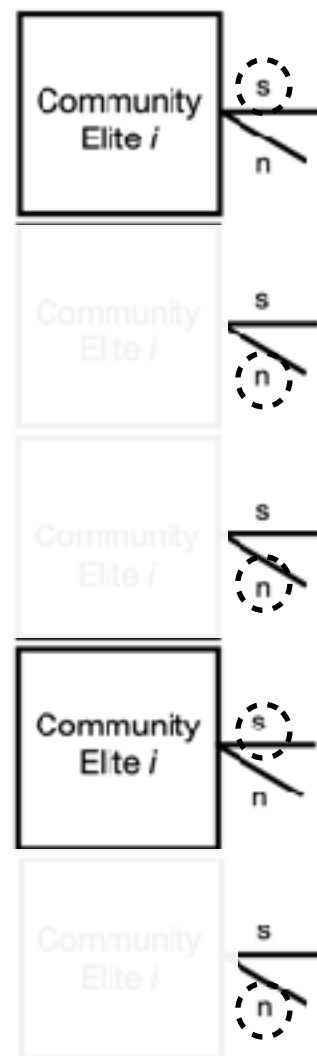


...and, 5 years later, they still aren't voting.



The Intra-Ukrainian Commitment Problem

STAGE ONE



STAGE TWO

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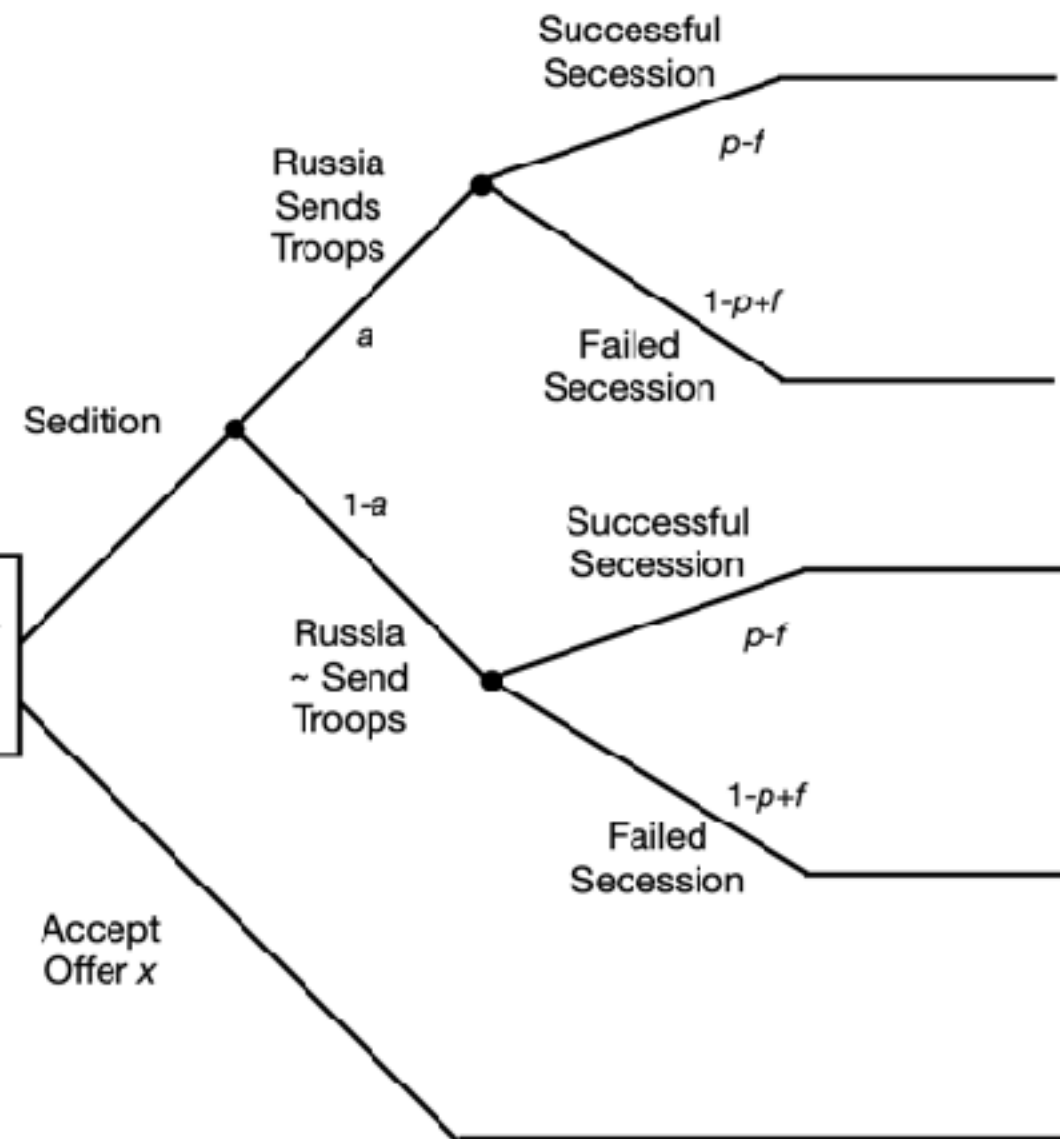
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STAGE THREE (NATURE MOVES)



Internationalized
Conflict +
Secession
($1 - c, -C$)

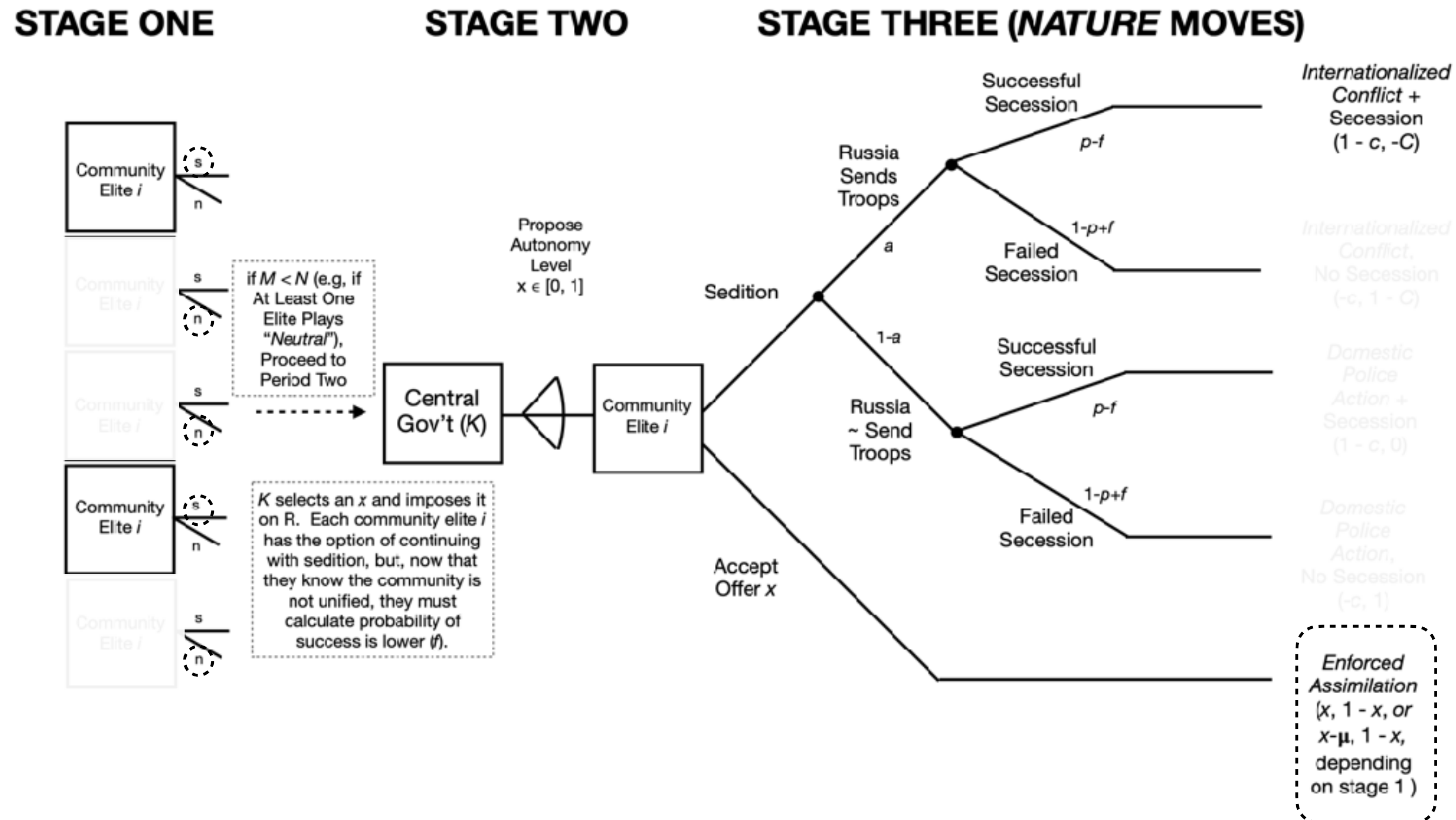
Internationalized
Conflict,
No Secession
($-c, 1 - C$)

Domestic
Police
Action +
Secession
($1 - c, 0$)

Domestic
Police
Action,
No Secession
($-c, 1$)

Enforced
Assimilation
($x, 1 - x$, or
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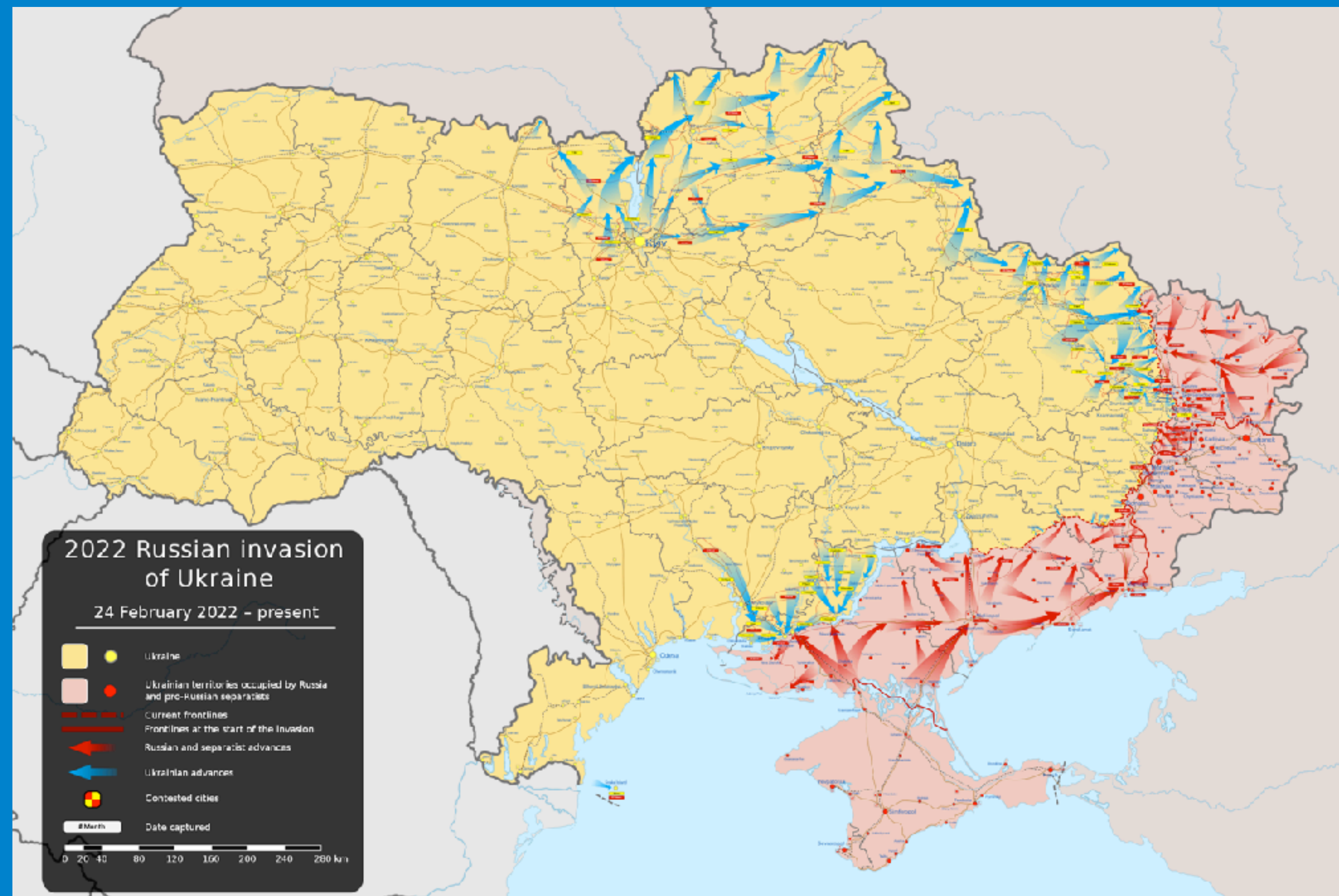
- 2014: Canceling Old Language Law Is First Order Of Business After Maidan
- 2015: “Decommunization Laws”: street signs re-named; various clauses prohibiting “falsification of history”, centralization of national narrative
- 2015: Attempt by Poroshenko government to introduce language of “decentralization” in the constitution leads to violence and end of session
- 2017: New Education Law (No Russian In High Schools)
- 2018: Autocephalous Ukrainian Church recognized
- 2019: Constitution amended to clarify NATO aspiration could never be modified by laws of subsequent governments
- 2021: “Democracy Through All-Ukraine Referendum” put any territorial changes, constitutional changes, or revocation of laws to a popular vote.

2022 Russian invasion of Ukraine

24 February 2022 – present

-   Ukraine
-   Ukrainian territories occupied by Russia and pro-Russian separatists
-  Current frontlines
-  Frontlines at the start of the invasion
-  Russian and separatist advances
-  Ukrainian advances
-  Contested cities
-  Date captured

0 20 40 80 120 160 200 240 280 km



The Minsk Game

- Nationalism
- The Break-Up Of The USSR & The “Beached Diaspora”
- Order Of Play
- Evidence: How Does The Model Fit The Case?
- What Does This Suggest About Ways Forward?

Epilogue: If Ukraine Gets 100% of Its Territory Back, It Re-Starts The Minsk Game.

Strategy	Paradigmatic Cases
Population Transfers // Overt Ethnic Cleansing	Greece-Turkey 1922, Tatars from Crimea 1944, Croatia-Krajina 1995, Azerbaijan-Karabakh 2023
Leave Population Intact BUT Deny Premise of Self-Determination, Ruthlessly Repress Efforts to Organize Resistance. Encourage Exit. (Petersen 2011, “Social Dominance”)	Israel 1967, Kosovo Serbs 2001, PRC Takeover Of Hong Kong 2020
Leave Population Intact, Positive Incentives to Encourage Emigration/Assimilation, Tolerate Parallel Institution-Building. (Fearon and Laitin 1996, “In-Group Policing”).	Alsace-Lorraine 1871-2023
Leave Population Intact, but With Constitutional/Federal Protections that Acknowledge/Legitimize Ethnic Difference. (Roeder “Segment States”)	Crimea 1992-2014. (Ethiopia, India, Canada...)
Shared Sovereignty Arrangements	Special Territories (Danzig, Jerusalem)



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Thank You!

