

## **Abstract**

To learn more about the effect of economic conditions on civil war, we examine whether Sub-Saharan civil wars are more likely to start following downturns in the international price of countries' main export commodities.

The data show a robust effect of commodity price downturns on the outbreak of civil wars. We also find that Sub-Saharan countries are more likely to see civil wars following economic downturns in their main OECD export destinations.

**Key words:** Commodity prices, civil war, Sub-Saharan Africa

**JEL codes:** O0, P0, Q0