

# Semi-Weekly MLP Data Update

AUTHOR  
DevLab@Penn

PUBLISHED  
March 4, 2023

Table of contents

[Introduction](#)  
[Colombia Update](#)  
[Ecuador Update](#)  
[Guatemala Update](#)  
[Honduras Update](#)  
[Paraguay Update](#)  
[Kenya Update](#)

## Introduction

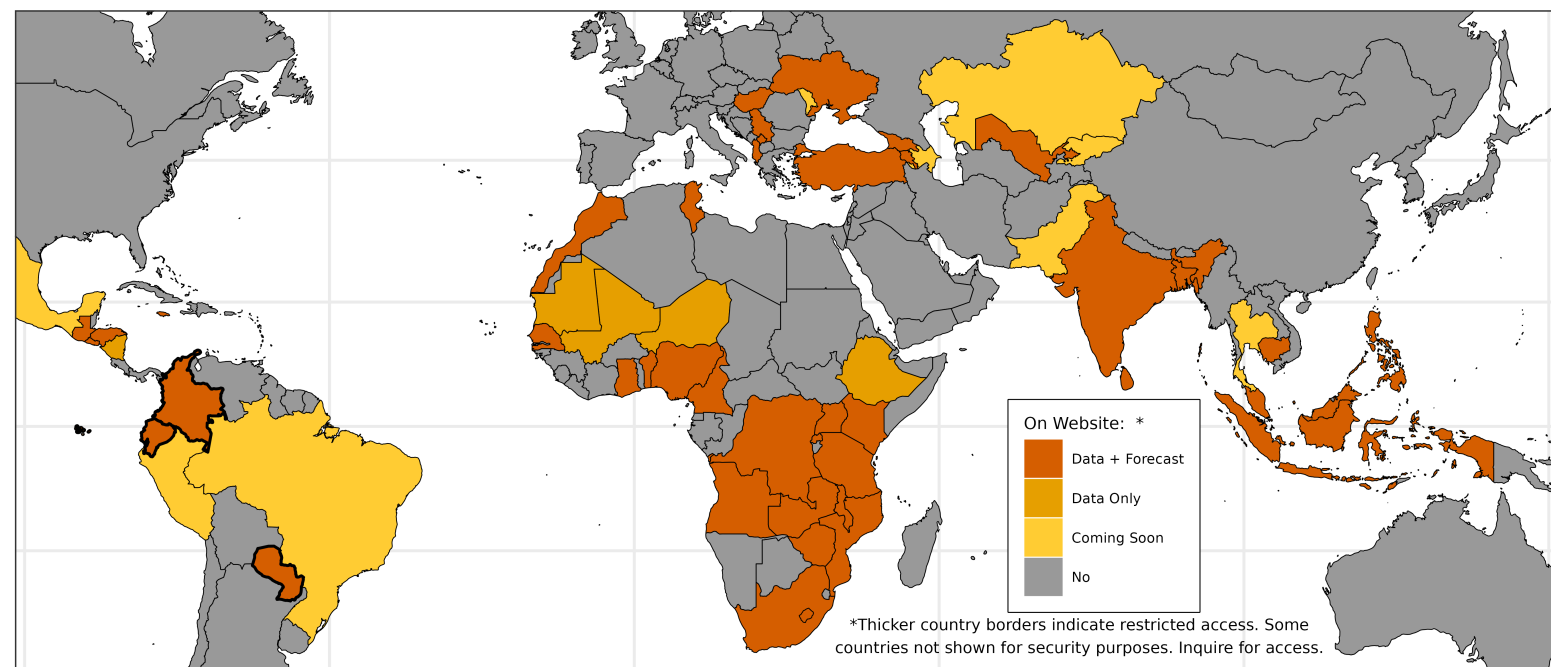
This memo describes updated data and forecasts for Kenya, Guatemala, Paraguay, Ecuador, Honduras, and Colombia. In these memos, we describe any major events that were detected by our data since the last update. We hope that this information can be useful for monitoring conditions across countries. We also review any notable forecasts made during the last data update and highlight any notable events we are forecasting over the next seven months. Importantly, we only highlight predictions of relatively large events from models with relatively high accuracy scores. In some cases, models with lower performance predict major events, or models with high performance predict smaller events, but we do not highlight these predictions. We encourage you to visit the MLP website to explore all of our data and forecasts.

Note: We have recently completed a review of all local sources that we are scraping to assess their alignment/bias. When we have a larger volume of news from state-aligned sources, we apply weighting that over-represents news from more independent sources.

MLP Website: [here](#)

PW Protected Page: [here](#) (email [jspr@sas.upenn.edu](mailto:jspr@sas.upenn.edu) for access)

Current country coverage



## Colombia Update

Colombia's results are password protected. Please [email](#) for access.

## Ecuador Update

Ecuador's results are password protected. Please [email](#) for access.

## Guatemala Update

For Guatemala, our data includes coverage through the end of January 2023. Since the data was last updated for November, we saw increases in reporting on:

- Censorship in November-December: The closure of The Guatemalan Morning newspaper after the imprisonment of its owner and political pressure.
- Legal actions in December: Charges against the owner of several newspapers and the conviction of a former President for involvement in a customs corruption ring (La Línea case).
- Corruption in December: An increase in reporting on multiple instances of both political and private corruption not tied to specific event.
- Election activity January: Campaign, nomination, and election administration in advance of a general election in June.

## Forecasts

Over the next seven months, we are not predicting any major events.

## Honduras Update

For Honduras, our data includes coverage through the end of January 2023. Since the data was last updated for October, we saw increases in reporting on:

- Non-lethal Violence November: An increase in reporting on criminal violence not related to any specific event
- Protests in November and December: National Telecom and healthcare employees protested late payment of wages
- State of Emergency in December: The imposition of curfews in major cities due to increasing insecurity
- Civic activism in December: Reporting on various NGO advocacy activities
- Purge/Remove in January: The suspension of the deputy director of Civil Service
- Election Activity in January: National Congress election of judges of the Supreme Court of Justice

## Forecasts

Over the next seven months, we are not predicting any major events.

## Paraguay Update

Paraguay's results are password protected. Please [email](#) for access.

## Kenya Update

For Kenya, our data includes coverage through the end of January 2023. Since the data was last updated for September, we saw increases in reporting on:

- Defamation in October: Kenya's High Court threw out a defamation case brought by a company linked to the Kenyatta family against an MP.
- Legal actions in October: The termination of a high-profile criminal case brought by the Presbyterian Church of East Africa against one of its top clerics suspect of stealing church funds
- Protests in November: An airline worker strike that shut down the national airport
- Non-lethal violence in November: A journalist was assaulted by security officers attached to Kenya's Second Lady
- Troop mobilization in November: A decision to deploy specialized security units in Nairobi in response to escalating crime
- Arrests in November and January: Arrests were made in a number of high-profile fraud cases in these months, including a County Assembly Leader, county officials blamed for approving four buildings that collapsed, and the head of major fraud syndicate.
- Purge/Remove in December: The President suspended four members of the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission
- Lethal violence in January: 11 Kenyan soldiers were killed in a clash with an Al-Shabaab camp in Somalia

## Forecasts

We are predicting an increase in reporting on corruption in Q3 2023.

## Corruption

