An Empirical Assessment of Human Trafficking in Europe

Monti Datta, University of Richmond
Kevin Bales, Free the Slaves
## Trafficking Estimates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Sample Mean Trafficked People</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
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<td>Belarus</td>
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1,892,370 Slaves in Europe
Hypothesis

• Corruption is the best predictor of slavery in Europe
Controls

• The Cold War
Controls

- The Cold War
- EU Membership
Controls

• The Cold War
• EU Membership
• Violent Crime
Controls

• The Cold War
• EU Membership
• Violent Crime
• Unemployment
Controls

- The Cold War
- EU Membership
- Violent Crime
- Unemployment
- Women’s Rights
Controls

• The Cold War
• EU Membership
• Violent Crime
• Unemployment
• Women’s Rights
• Percent Muslims
Method

• Linear regression analysis
  – Dependent variable = log of slaves
  – Independent variable = corruption
  – Controls = cold war, EU membership, unemployment, women’s rights, percent muslims
Results

• For each unit-increase on the corruption measure, there is a roughly at 5% decrease in the presence of slavery, other things being equal.
Challenges

• Can we really make these assumptions in calculating our measure of slavery?
• What other variables should we include as controls?
Thanks!

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