About me

Henrique Pita Barros

- Assistant Professor (Auxiliar) in the Econ Department
- PhD in Econ from Brown University (2024)
- I study how the disruption caused by migration, forced displacement and conflict affects human behavior
- Expertise in economic development, conflict and migration; and field experience in Mozambique

You can check this presentation following this QR code:

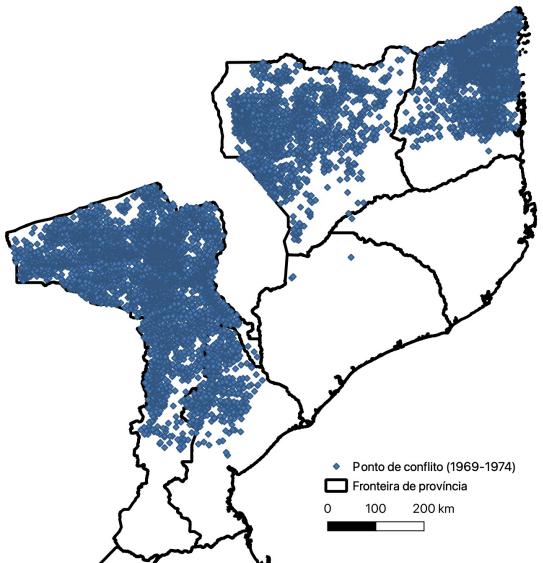


You can check my research at:

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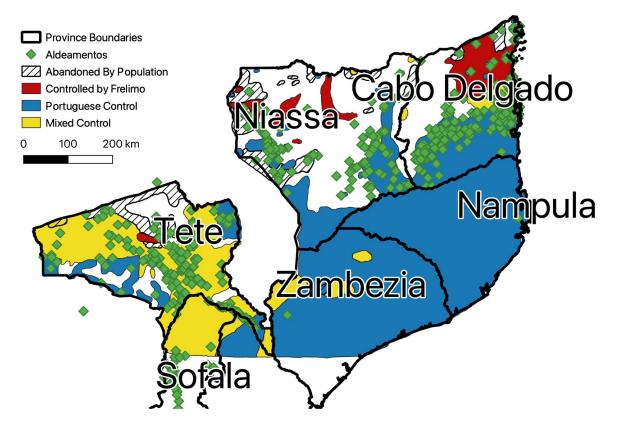
Project 1: The Colonial Roots of Modern Conflict

- Question: What is the relationship between Mozambique's war for independence and the current insurgency in Cabo Delgado?
- **Description:** Uses historical data from Portugal's archives and ACLED to analyze spatial conflict patterns.
- Methodology: Correlational analysis, with potential for causal identification via instrumental variables or regression discontinuity.
- Skills required: basic econometrics (OLS) and Stata.
- Skills you will learn: Data analysis, spatial data tools (ArcGIS, QGIS)
- Goal in addition to master thesis: Produce a working paper for peer-reviewed submission



Project 2: The Legacy of Colonial Resettlements in Mozambique

- **Objective:** How did a program of forced resettlements in colonial Mozambique affect long-term social cohesion?
- **Description:** Combines archival data and contemporary surveys to examine social and economic impacts.
- Methodology: Causal identification, potentially using Difference-in-Differences (Diff-in-Diff).
- **Skills required:** basic econometrics (OLS) and diff-in-diff methods. Stata.
- Skills you will learn: Data analysis, spatial data tools (ArcGIS, QGIS)
- Goal in addition to master thesis: Develop a publication-ready working paper.



Project 3: Policy Report on Forced Displacement in Pemba

- **Objective:** Create a policy report on the current forced displacement situation in Pemba, Cabo Delgado.
- **Description:** Utilizes data from a unique randomized trial conducted by me in Cabo Delgado to assess trends in demographics, labor, social cohesion, and attitudes toward insurgency.
- **Target Audience:** Mozambican government, donors, international organizations.
- Skills Required: Data analysis (Excel or Stata), econometrics, strong writing skills.
- **Goal:** Deliver a high-quality policy report ready for presentation to policymakers (UN agencies, Mozambican government, etc.)



Project 5: Impact of Public Service Provision on Social Cohesion in Cabo Delgado (Mozambique)

- **Objective:** Measure the effect of a radio-school intervention on perceptions of the social contract with the State in Cabo Delgado.
- **Description:** A two-year randomized evaluation assessing how educational radio broadcasts influence social cohesion.
- **Methodology:** Survey design, data analysis, and fieldwork.
- **Skills Required:** Advanced econometrics, RCT knowledge, communication, project management, ability to work in high-stress environments.
- **Goal:** Produce research findings suitable for policy application and publication, with fieldwork opportunities in Cabo Delgado.
- (This project is more suitable for a long-term relationship)



Option 5: Students suggestion

- You can suggest me a topic you're interested in studying, as long as it is broadly related to economic development.
- Here I suggest you dig into solid and underexplored databases:
 - DHS: Demographic and Health Survey
 - Afrobarometer
 - Joint Data Center on Forced Displacement (World Bank / UNHCR)
 - ACLED conflict data
- If you want to follow this route please reach out to me asap.