



Title	Foreign Aid Bureaucracies in Times of Humanitarian Crisis: How Media and Congressional Attention Shape USAID Responses to Complex Humanitarian Emergencies
Author(s)	Oliver, Danielle Kelsey
Citation	大阪大学, 2023, 博士論文
Version Type	
URL	https://hdl.handle.net/11094/91969
rights	
Note	やむを得ない事由があると学位審査研究科が承認したため、全文に代えてその内容の要約を公開しています。全文のご利用をご希望の場合は、大阪大学の博士論文についてをご参照ください。

The University of Osaka Institutional Knowledge Archive : OUKA

<https://ir.library.osaka-u.ac.jp/>

The University of Osaka

Abstract of Thesis

Name (Oliver Kelsey Danielle)	
Title	Foreign Aid Bureaucracies in Times of Humanitarian Crisis: How Media and Congressional Attention Shape USAID Responses to Complex Humanitarian Emergencies (人道的危機時の対外援助官僚制度：メディアと議会の注目が複合災害に対するUSAIDの対応をどのように形成するか)
Abstract of Thesis The determinants of foreign aid have been widely discussed. Numerous studies have found that economic, political, and geostrategic motives often underpin aid programs, at times even more so than humanitarian need. Other studies have suggested aid bureaucracies—beyond wielding aid programs in the pursuit of national self-interest—mold their responses to the attention of elected officials, the media, and the public. While this latter subset of research has been growing over the past two decades as researchers seek to tie bureaucratic responses to the wider agenda-setting process, its usefulness is hampered by its largely unidimensional treatment of attention as a simple matter of volume. Missing from the literature is a more comprehensive analysis of the ways in which the multiple dimensions of attention may shape aid responses. In addressing this gap, this research examines 20 years of USAID’s Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) responses to complex humanitarian emergencies. It uses a multiple regression analysis to quantify the relationship between OFDA aid obligations and three measures of media and congressional attention (volume, diversity, and topical focus), while controlling for the influence of need, economic interest, and geostrategic importance. It finds no evidence to suggest that any measures of congressional attention significantly shape OFDA aid decisions, but finds that both the volume and diversity of media attention is a significant indicator of OFDA responses. It further finds that the effect of media variables is interactive in nature, with the degree of attentional diversity conditioning the effect of volume so that the most aid-awarded crises are those that receive both high-volume and high-diversity coverage. Such findings further understanding of bureaucratic responsiveness and agenda-setting theory, and serve to better elucidate the role of the media in foreign policy decision-making.	

論文審査の結果の要旨及び担当者

氏 名 (Oliver Kelsey Danielle)			
論文審査担当者	(職)		氏 名
	主 査	教授	Hawkins, Virgil
	副 査	教授	松林 哲也
	副 査	准教授	片桐 梓
論文審査の結果の要旨			
This thesis attempts to answer the question of what influences foreign aid decisions by bureaucracies, using USAID responses to humanitarian emergencies over the course of 20 years as a case study. This is a question that has often been discussed in the literature but for which an in-depth answer has until now yet to be provided. It is known, for example, that actual humanitarian need is insufficient to explain aid levels, and that the volume of media coverage, and possibly elected officials, can have an impact on the determination of aid, but the details have remained unclear. This research addresses this question quantitatively through an agenda-setting framework, using three measures of media and congressional attention. It adds a considerable amount of breadth and depth to our understanding of agenda-setting regarding foreign aid in humanitarian crises. The thesis is divided into five chapters (including a conclusion). The first chapter is a literature review containing an overview of the state of research on agenda-setting, bureaucratic responsiveness and US foreign aid. It effectively lays out the current state of our understanding of the issue and the inadequacies therein, perhaps most notably the fact that research so far has tended to measure only the impact of the quantity of media coverage, not the content. Chapter two details the methods and data compiled. It uses multiple regression analysis with USAID data on complex humanitarian aid as its dependent variable, and three measures of media and congressional attention (volume, diversity, and topical focus) as independent variables (controlling for the influence of need, economic interest, and geostrategic importance). Chapter three describes the data trends identified, while chapter four provides the results of the analysis. It found no support for the notion that elected officials influenced the allocation of humanitarian aid (although this might be simply that the variable used - congressional hearings - does not influence the bureaucracy in this way). Regarding media influence, it found (as with previous studies) that greater volume of coverage led to greater aid. More importantly, it found that the diversity of media attention was also a significant and dynamic factor shaping aid decisions. High diversity led to greater aid allocation, with regard to moderate- and well-covered emergencies, but similar diversity had the opposite effect regarding emergencies that attracted low levels of coverage. The results challenge the notion that higher levels of media coverage will lead to higher levels of aid, and demonstrate a need for focus on the content of the coverage. They add considerable nuance and depth to our understanding of the relationship between the aid levels and the media. As such, this thesis serves as valuable contribution to the agenda-setting literature. The members of the Committee were in agreement that this thesis meets the conditions for the attainment of a Ph.D. degree.			