

Global Conflict & Terrorism Trends

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NATIONAL CONSORTIUM FOR THE
STUDY OF TERRORISM AND RESPONSES TO TERRORISM



Center for International Development
and Conflict Management

Appleton Group

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Peace and Conflict 2010

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and Conflict Management

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Highlights

Over the past two years, the **risks of instability and conflict** have **increased** significantly in the regions of the world where those dangers were already very high.



Most Serious Threat

The most serious threats to international stability is the **recurrence** of armed hostilities in conflicts that have recently come to an end.



Peace and Conflict 2010

- Making cutting edge academic research accessible to the policy community
- Open-source data
- Commitment to transparency
- Available from Paradigm Publishers



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Peace and Conflict Ledger



- What does the Peace and Conflict Ledger measure?
- The risk of an instability event occurring in a country in the next three years.

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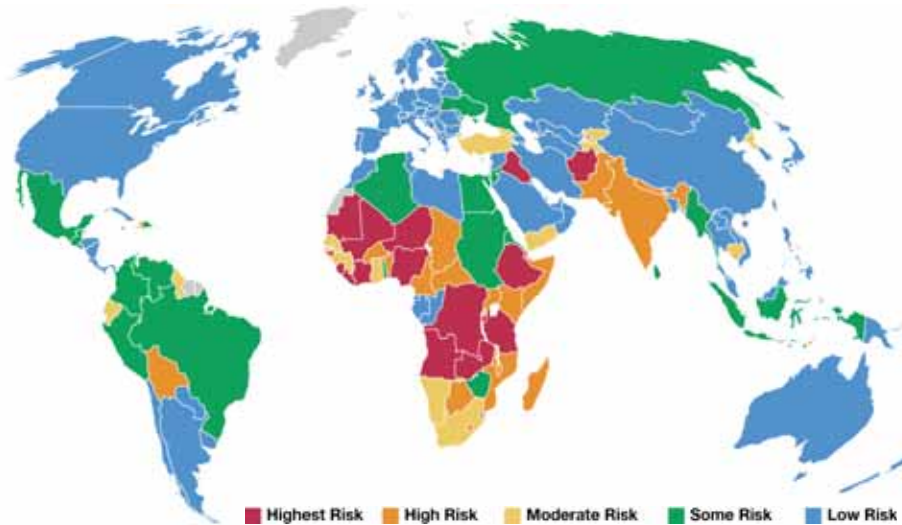
Some Key Details

- The focus is on how **structural attributes of states** influence the risk of instability
- **Four domains** of government activity (economics, politics, security, and social)
- Estimated a **statistical model** on data from 1950-2003 (training data)
- **Obtain country risk estimates** by inputting 2007 values for all countries

The Key Risk Indicators for Instability

- Regime Consistency, democratic or authoritarian, reduces risks
- Partial Democracy increases risks
- High Infant Mortality increases risks
- Openness to International Trade reduces risks
- High Militarization increases risks
- Internal Wars in Neighboring Countries increase risks

Risks of Instability, 2008-2010



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Instability Risk: Top 25

Rank	Country	Regime Consistency	Partial Democracy	Economic Openness	Infant Mortality	Militaryization	Neighborhood Conflict	Risk Score	Confidence Range	
									Lower	Upper
1	Afghanistan	●	●	●	●	●	●	38.9	23.7	58.2
2	Niger	●	●	●	●	●	●	33.1	21.3	47.6
3	Burundi	●	●	●	●	●	●	30.3	19.0	45.2
4	Congo, Dem. Republic of the	●	●	●	●	●	●	29.1	18.0	42.5
5	Djibouti	●	●	●	●	●	●	28.2	15.7	45.3
6	Ethiopia	●	●	●	●	●	●	26.8	18.2	38.0
7	Mali	●	●	●	●	●	●	25.9	15.7	38.7
8	Nigeria	●	●	●	●	●	●	25.6	15.9	37.4
9	Tanzania	●	●	●	●	●	●	24.5	16.2	35.5
10	Zambia	●	●	●	●	●	●	24.2	14.9	36.8
11	Sierra Leone	●	●	●	●	●	●	23.3	12.4	37.7
12	Liberia	●	●	●	●	●	●	22.7	12.3	38.1
13	Mauritania	●	●	●	●	●	●	21.4	12.6	33.0

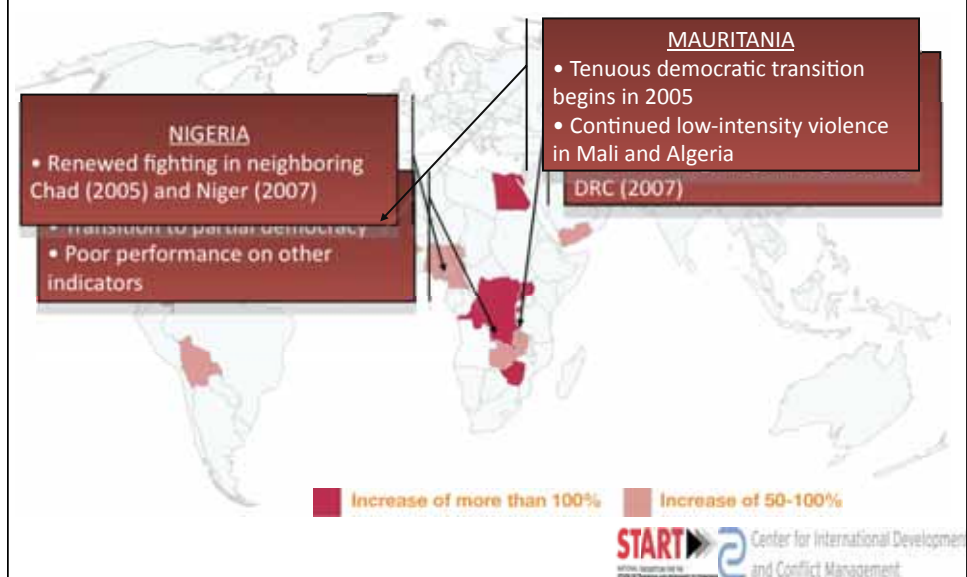
Legend: ● Highest Risk ● High Risk ● Moderate Risk ● Some Risk ● Low Risk

Instability Risk: Top 25 (cont.)

Rank	Country	Regime Consistency	Partial Democracy	Economic Openness	Infant Mortality	Militarization	Neighborhood Conflict	Risk Score	Confidence Range	
									Lower	Upper
14	Guinea-Bissau	●	●	●	●	●	●	20.2	11.3	32.7
15	Angola	●	●	●	●	●	●	20.0	9.2	35.8
16	Iraq	●	●	●	●	●	●	19.7	12.0	28.8
17	Cote d'Ivoire	●	●	●	●	●	●	19.5	11.7	30.1
18	Kenya	●	●	●	●	●	●	18.0	11.6	26.0
19	Central African Republic	●	●	●	●	●	●	17.6	10.6	28.0
20	Somalia	●	●	●	●	●	●	16.9	10.7	25.4
21	Chad	●	●	●	●	●	●	16.6	8.8	27.7
22	Benin	●	●	●	●	●	●	16.0	10.5	22.6
23	Mozambique	●	●	●	●	●	●	15.8	9.2	25.9
24	Malawi	●	●	●	●	●	●	15.5	10.5	22.4
25	Nepal	●	●	●	●	●	●	15.2	10.6	21.1

● Highest Risk ● High Risk ● Moderate Risk
 ● Some Risk ● Low Risk

Significant Increase in Risk

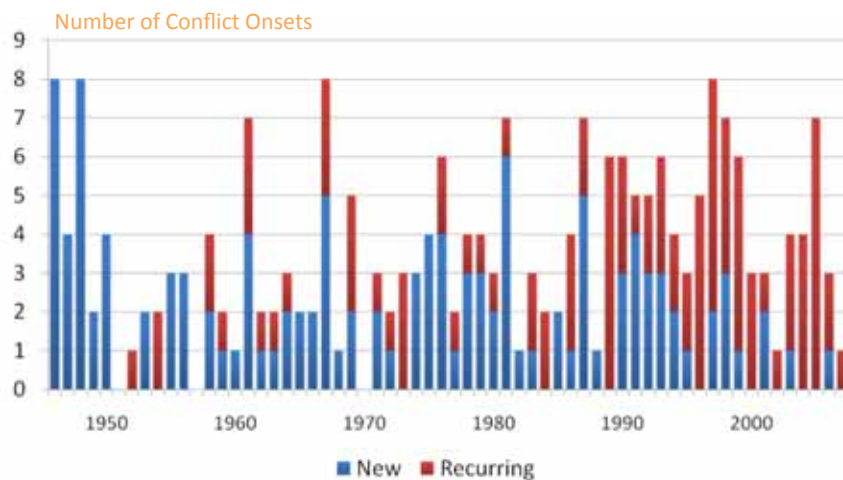


Sources of Increased Risk?

Democratization

Recurring Armed Conflict

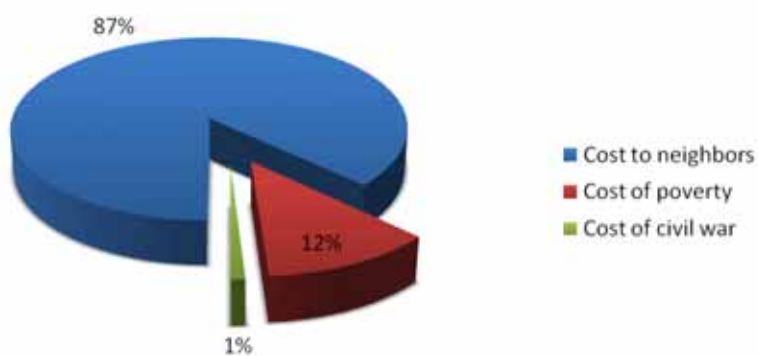
New and Recurring Conflict, 1946-2007



Recently Terminated Conflicts and Prospects for Recurrence, 1946-2007



Costs of State Failure



Global estimated cost of state failure: \$270 billion*

* Anke Hoeffler, *Peace and Conflict* 2010

Ethnic Identity and Conflict

- More than 5,000 ethnic groups globally (UNDP 2004)
- Two-thirds of the world's countries have at least one minority that is 10% or more of its population
- The Minorities at Risk project (MAR) has identified nearly 2,000 socially significant ethnic groups that comprise at least 100,000 people or 1% of a country's population
- The MAR project tracks 300 groups at risk of conflict
- MAR estimates that nearly 1 in 7 people in the world face some sort of discrimination based on ethnic identity



Why Study Ethnic Organizations?

- 7 of the 10 deadliest organizations have ethnically based ideology or membership, in full or in part (1998-2005 data)
- MAR data demonstrates some broad preconditions for ethnic groups to use violence or terrorism, not which specific organizations may use terrorism
- Most ethnic groups are represented by multiple organizations that use different mixes of strategies (violent and nonviolent).



Global Ethnic Militancy



Countries with at least one militant, ethnically based organization

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GLOBAL TERRORISM TRENDS

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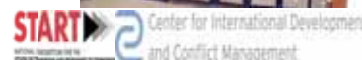
Trends in Global Terrorism

- Frequency of terrorist attacks is on the rise worldwide, including an increased number of fatal attacks
- Terrorist activity has been especially more frequent in the Middle East and Asia this decade
- Countries emerging as “terrorist hotspots” are not necessarily the countries at risk of instability



The Global Terrorism Database

- Originally compiled by PGIS
 - 82,000+ attacks, 1970 to 2007
 - Open source, unclassified
 - Drawn from electronic databases (e.g., Lexis/Nexis); wire services (e.g., Reuters); newspapers (e.g., *Washington Post*); Radio/TV Transcripts; Terrorism Chronologies; Government Reports
 - Includes Domestic Data
- www.start.umd.edu/gtd

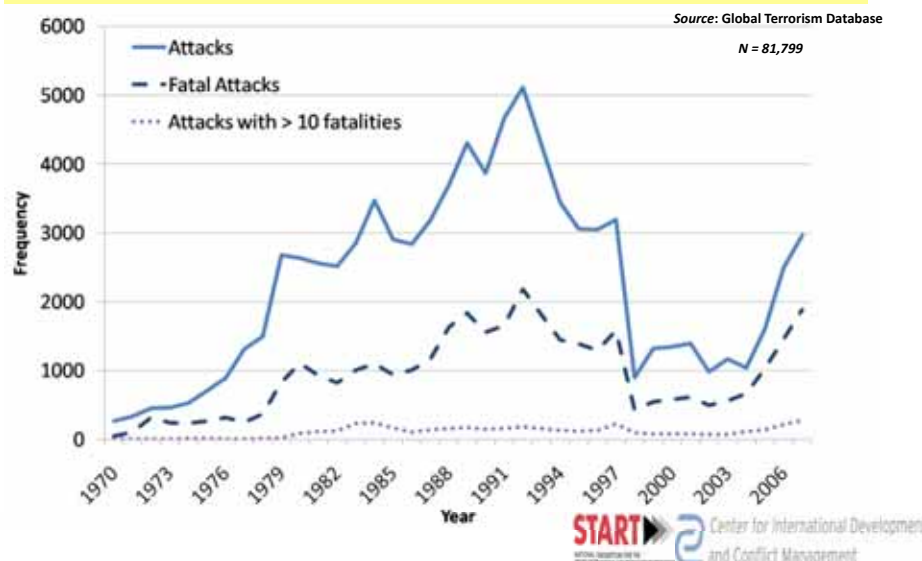


Defining Terrorism

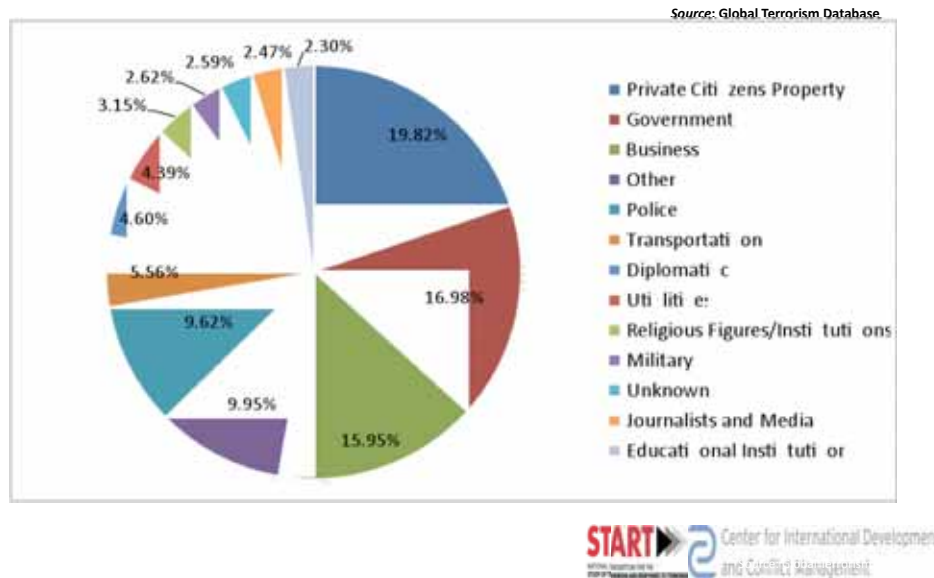
The GTD defines **terrorism** as acts by non state actors involving the threatened or actual use of illegal force or violence to attain a political, economic, religious or social goal through fear, coercion or intimidation.

Worldwide Terrorist Attacks, 1970-2007

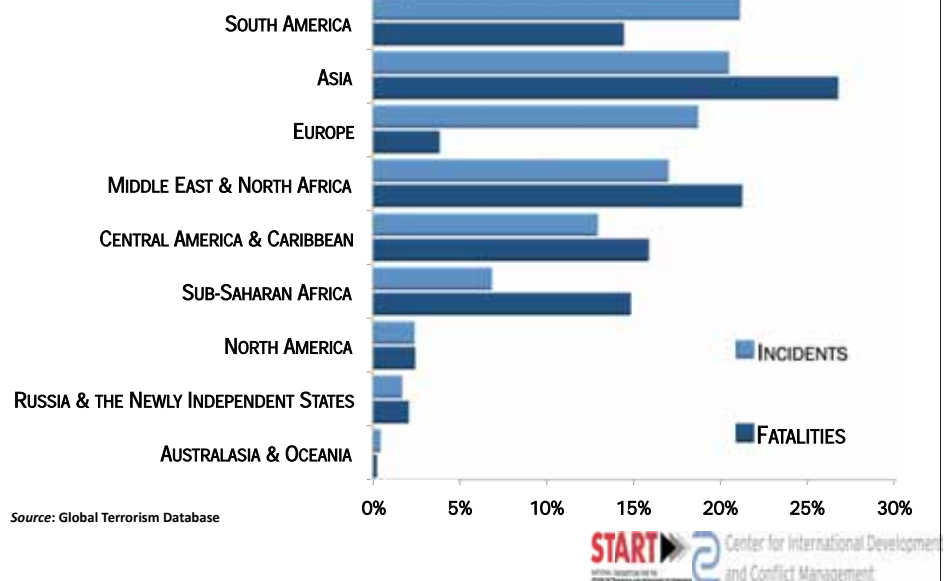
Comparison of all attacks vs. fatal attacks vs. mass-casualty attacks



Terrorist Targets, 1970-2007



Terrorist Attacks and Fatalities by Region, 1970-2007



Twenty Top Countries for Terrorist Activity, 1970 to 2007

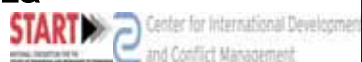
Most Frequently Attacked			Most Fatalities	
Rank	Country	Attack Count	Country	Fatality Count
1	Colombia	6,770	Iraq	17,475
2	Peru	6,040	Sri Lanka	14,166
3	El Salvador	5,330	India	13,520
4	India	4,273	Colombia	13,031
5	Northern Ireland	3,774	Peru	12,829
6	Spain	3,169	El Salvador	12,496
7	Iraq	2,969	Nicaragua	11,324
8	Turkey	2,680	Algeria	8,538
9	Pakistan	2,499	Philippines	6,282
10	Philippines	2,486	Pakistan	5,804
11	Sri Lanka	2,393	Guatemala	5,150
12	Chile	2,288	Turkey	4,658
13	Guatemala	2,032	Burundi	4,084
14	Nicaragua	1,987	United States	3,340
15	Lebanon	1,930	Rwanda	3,200
16	South Africa	1,920	Afghanistan	3,174
17	Algeria	1,645	Lebanon	3,108
18	Italy	1,490	Russia	3,014
19	West Bank & Gaza Strip	1,372	Angola	2,871
20	United States	1,347	Northern Ireland	2,844

Source: Global Terrorism Database



Emerging Terrorist Hotspots

Afghanistan
 Bangladesh
 Indonesia
 Iraq
 Kashmir
 Nepal
 Rwanda
 Thailand
 West Bank/Gaza

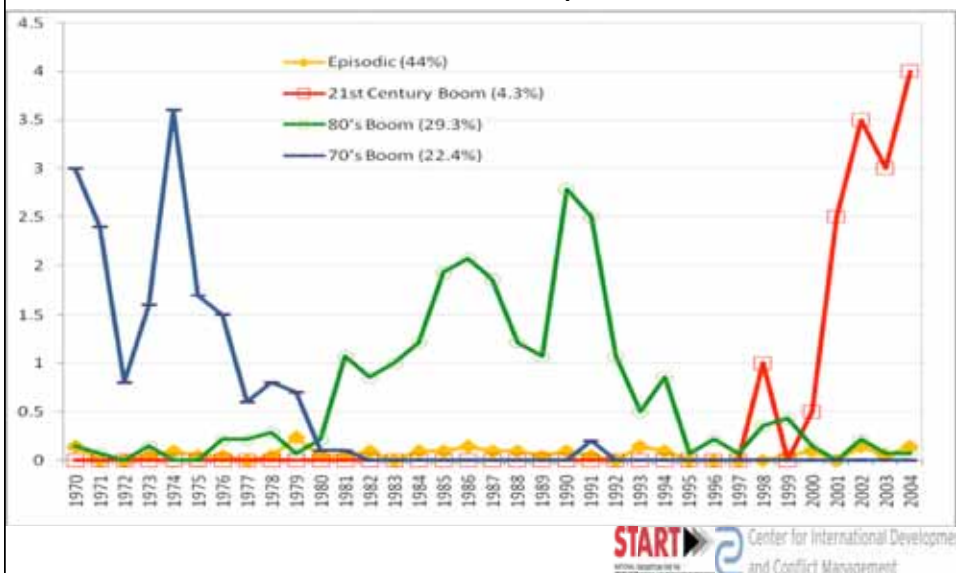


Emerging Terrorist Hotspots and Risk of Instability

Afghanistan
Bangladesh
Indonesia
Iraq
Kashmir
Nepal
Rwanda
Thailand
West Bank/Gaza

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Trajectories of Attacks on United States by Anti-U.S. Terrorist Groups, 1970-2004



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Shifting Adversaries

21st Century Boom

al Qaeda

Taliban

80s Boom

Shining Path

Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front

70s Boom

Red Brigades

People's Liberation Forces

Sporadic

Popular Liberation Army

Moro Islamic Liberation Front



Conclusions

- State failures are an enduring and very costly threat to global security
- Waves of terrorism are episodic and specific to particular conflict regions
- Understanding trends and causes in state failure, and terrorism, are diagnostic tools for policy-makers to support effective policies to mitigate conflict risks



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