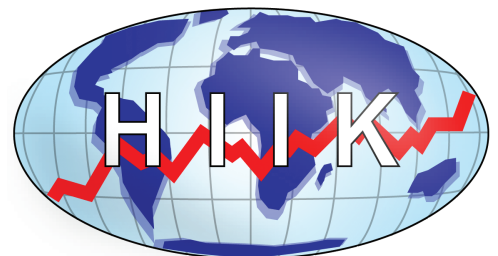


**HEIDELBERG INSTITUTE FOR
INTERNATIONAL CONFLICT RESEARCH**
at the Department of Political Science, University of Heidelberg

CONFLICT BAROMETER 2006

**Crisis - Wars - Coups d'État
Negotiations - Mediations - Peace Settlements**

15th ANNUAL CONFLICT ANALYSIS



HIK

The HEIDELBERG INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL CONFLICT RESEARCH (HIK) at the Department of Political Science, University of Heidelberg is a registered non-profit association. It is dedicated to research, evaluation and documentation of intra- and interstate political conflicts. HIK evolved from the research project 'COSIMO' (Conflict Simulation Model) led by Prof. Dr. Frank R. Pfetsch (University of Heidelberg) and financed by the German Research Association in 1991.

Conflict

We define conflicts as the clashing of interests (positional differences) over national values of some duration and magnitude between at least two parties (organized groups, states, groups of states, organizations) that are determined to pursue their interests and win their cases.

Conflict Items

Territory
Secession
Decolonization
Autonomy
System, Ideology
National Power
Regional Predominance
International Power
Resources
Other

Conflict Intensities

State of Violence	Intensity Group	Level of Intensity	Name of Intensity	Definition
non-violent	low	1	Latent Conflict	A positional difference over definable values of national meaning is considered to be a latent conflict if respective demands are articulated by one of the parties and perceived by the other as such.
		2	Manifest Conflict	A manifest conflict includes the use of measures that are located in the preliminary stage to violent force. This includes for example verbal pressure, threatening explicitly with violence, or the imposition of economic sanctions.
violent	medium	3	Crisis	A crisis is a tense situation in which at least one of the parties uses violent force in sporadic incidents.
	high	4	Severe Crisis	A conflict is considered to be a severe crisis if violent force is repeatedly used in an organized way.
		5	War	A war is a type of violent conflict in which violent force is used with a certain continuity in an organized and systematic way. The conflict parties exercise extensive measures, depending on the situation. The extent of destruction is massive and of long duration.

In this publication, the intensity of each conflict as imprinted in the tables is the highest intensity reached in the course of the year. Therefore, conflicts may be e.g. classified as severe crises although there may have been no more fighting in the second half of the year.

The present Conflict Barometer 2006 reflects our current state of research. Because conflict data even of previous years is continuously reviewed, this edition's data might differ from older editions. Therefore, if you wish to trace a conflict over time, please contact us in order to receive up-to-date time series evaluations.

The HIK assumes no liability for the accuracy of the data printed in this publication.

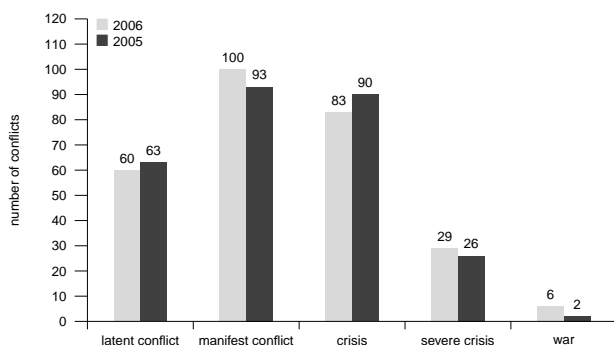
Editorial Deadline: December 1, 2006

Global Conflict Panorama

Global Development

In 2006, there were 278 political conflicts. Six of these were wars, and 29 severe crises, amounting to a total of 35 conflicts carried out with a massive amount of violence. 83 conflicts were classified as crises, meaning violence was used only occasionally. Altogether, 118 conflicts were carried out violently. In contrast, there were 160 non-violent conflicts, which can be differentiated in 100 manifest and 60 latent conflicts.

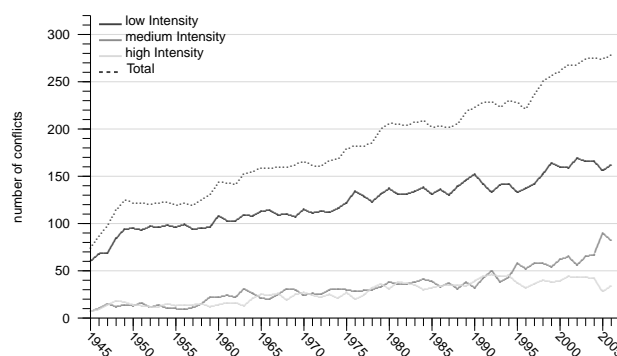
Global Conflict Intensities 2006 compared to 2005



Compared to last year, the number of conflicts carried out on the highest intensity level increased significantly from two to six wars. These six conflicts were Somalia (various rebel groups), Sudan (Darfur), Sri Lanka (LTTE), Afghanistan (Taleban), Iraq (insurgents), and Israel (Hezbollah). Two of them, Sudan (Darfur) and Iraq (insurgents), had already been carried out on the same level of intensity in 2005 as well as in 2004. Of the four wars that had not been fought out on this level of intensity in 2005, Afghanistan (Taleban) and Israel (Hezbollah) had been severe crises in 2005. In contrast, Somalia (various rebel groups) and Sri Lanka (LTTE) had been carried out with just a low scale of violence in 2005. The number of severe crises increased slightly from 26 to 29. Altogether, the number of conflicts on the two highest intensity levels increased from 28 in 2005, what had been the lowest number for decades, to 35 in 2006. The number of crises, representing conflicts of medium intensity, has slightly decreased from the all-time high in 2005, 90, to 83. While this was on the one hand due to deescalation processes, it also shows on the other hand that the extreme number of crises in 2005 had been a clear warning signal indicating that the all-time low of highly violent conflicts in 2005 was not the beginning of a trend towards a more peaceful world, as eight crises escalated to highly violent conflicts in this year. The number of conflicts on the non-violent intensity levels increased by four, from 156 to 160. While manifest conflicts rose from 93 to 100, latent conflicts were slightly reduced from

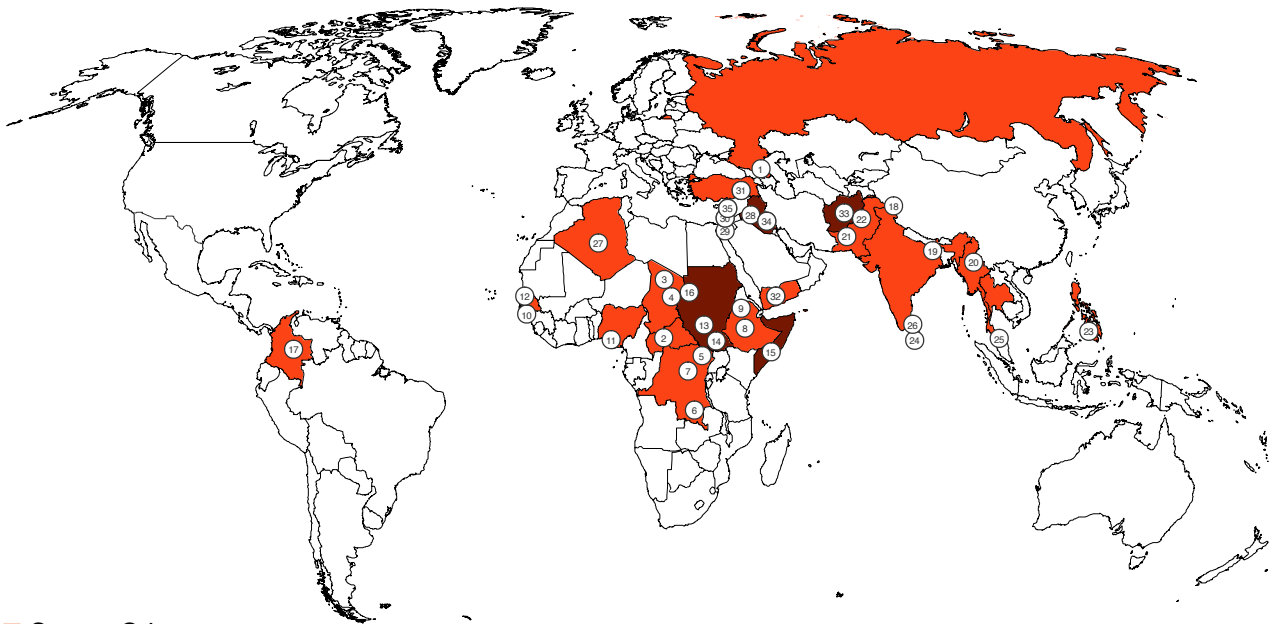
63 to 60. The total number of conflicts rose from 274 to 278, as five conflicts ended in 2005 and nine new conflicts emerged in 2006. These are set as follows: In Europe, two conflicts ended in 2005. In 2006, the secession conflict between Serbia and Montenegro ended with Montenegro becoming independent [=>Serbia and Montenegro (Montenegro)]. No new conflict emerged in Europe in 2006. In Africa, three conflicts ended in 2005, and three new ones emerged in 2006. In the Americas, no conflict ended in 2005, but three new ones emerged in 2006. In Asia and Oceania, no conflict ended in 2005, but one did in 2006. Two new conflicts emerged in 2006. In the Middle East and Maghreb, no conflict ended, and one new emerged. Of the nine new conflicts, only three were carried out non-violently, whereas four started as crises, and two as severe crises: Sudan (Nuer, White Army - SPLM/A) and Guinea-Bissau (MFDC-Sadio).

Ongoing Global Conflicts of low, medium and high Intensity 1945 to 2006



In order to show a long-term trend, the five intensity levels are categorized into three groups: The two non-violent levels are summarized as low intensity, crises as medium intensity, and severe crises and wars as conflicts of high intensity. The graph above also presents the total number of conflicts observed. As shown by the graph, the number of annually observed conflicts has more or less continuously risen from 74 in 1945 to 278 in 2006. Most conflicts are low-intensity conflicts. When looking at high-intensity conflicts, a continuous and - for the most part - regular increase, interrupted by minor phases of deescalation, is obvious, from seven in 1945 to 42 in 2004. After last year's spectacular drop to only 28, their number rose again to 35 in 2006, albeit not to the former peak. The all-time high was reached with 46 high intensity conflicts in 1992, shortly after the collapse of the Soviet Union. Comparing the graphs of high- and medium-intensity conflicts, a diametrical trend is notable in the rise and fall of the curves. When the number of high-intensity conflicts increases, there is a

Worldmap: Violent Conflicts of High Intensity 2006



- Severe Crises
- Wars

The countries affected by conflicts are marked regarding the highest intensity.

Legend

No. Name and Conflict Items

Europe - severe crises

- 1 Russia (Chechnya) - secession

Sub-Sahara Africa - severe crises

- 2 Central African Republic (UDFR) - national power
- 3 Chad (ethnic groups) - regional predominance
- 4 Chad (various rebel groups) - national power
- 5 DR Congo (Ituri militias) - other
- 6 DR Congo (Mayi-Mayi) - national power, resources
- 7 DR Congo (ex-RCD-G, FDLR, Interahamwe) - national power
- 8 Ethiopia (EPPF) - national power
- 9 Ethiopia (Guji - Borena) - regional predominance, resources
- 10 Guinea-Bissau (MFDC-Sadio) - regional predominance
- 11 Nigeria (Niger Delta - Ijaw) - resources
- 12 Senegal (MFDC-Sadio) - autonomy
- 13 Sudan (Nuer, White Army - SPLM/A) - regional predominance
- 14 Sudan (SPLM/A) - national power

Sub-Sahara Africa - wars

- 15 Somalia (various rebel groups) - national power
- 16 Sudan (Darfur) - regional predominance

The Americas - severe crises

- 17 Colombia (FARC) - regional predominance, system / ideology

Asia and Oceania - severe crises

- 18 India (Kashmir) - secession
- 19 India (Naxalites) - system / ideology
- 20 Myanmar (minorities) - secession
- 21 Pakistan (Balochs) - autonomy, system / ideology, resources
- 22 Pakistan (Waziristan) - regional predominance
- 23 Philippines (Abu Sayyaf) - secession
- 24 Sri Lanka (LTTE-East - LTTE) - regional predominance
- 25 Thailand (southern border provinces) - secession

Asia and Oceania - wars

- 26 Sri Lanka (LTTE) - secession

Middle East and Maghreb - severe crises

- 27 Algeria (Islamist groups) - national power, system / ideology
- 28 Iraq (al-Sadr group) - system / ideology
- 29 Israel (Palestinians) - secession, system / ideology, resources
- 30 Israel - Lebanon (international power) - territory, international power
- 31 Turkey (Kurds) - secession
- 32 Yemen (Believing Youth Movement) - system / ideology

Middle East and Maghreb - wars

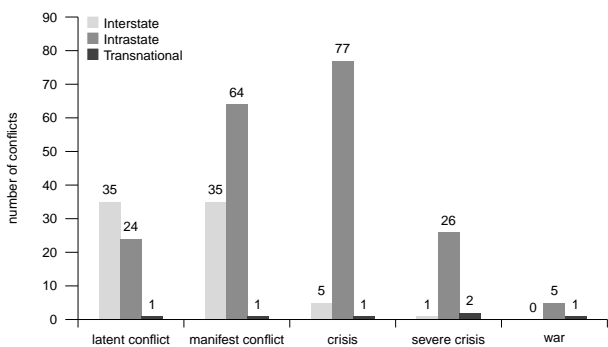
- 33 Afghanistan (Taleban) - national power, system / ideology
- 34 Iraq (insurgents) - national power, system / ideology
- 35 Israel (Hezbollah) - system / ideology

decline in medium-intensity conflicts or crises, respectively. This signifies that deescalating high-intensity conflicts often remained on a violent level, while crises often escalated to high-intensity conflicts. In many cases, individual conflicts oscillate between the level of a crisis and a severe crises or war.

Analysis intrastate - interstate

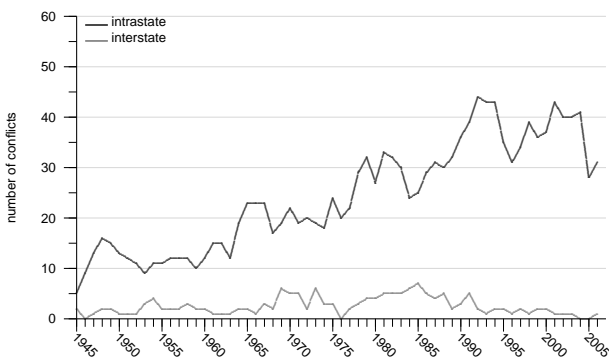
In 2006, a total number of 196 internal and 76 interstate conflicts were counted. The difference of the sum of intra- and interstate conflicts to the total number of conflicts is due to the fact that certain conflicts do not fit into this scheme.

Number of Intra- and Interstate Conflicts 2006 by Intensity Level



These conflicts, that can be named transnational, are characterized by one conflict party being a nonstate actor that has his main operation base in another country as his opponent, be it a state or another non-state actor. Of the six wars and 29 severe crises, one war and two severe crises were transnational: The war was waged in the Middle East and Maghreb between the Hezbollah, mainly based in southern Lebanon, and Israel [=>Israel (Hezbollah)], the two severe crises took place in Africa.

Ongoing Intra- and Interstate Conflicts of high Intensity 1945 to 2006



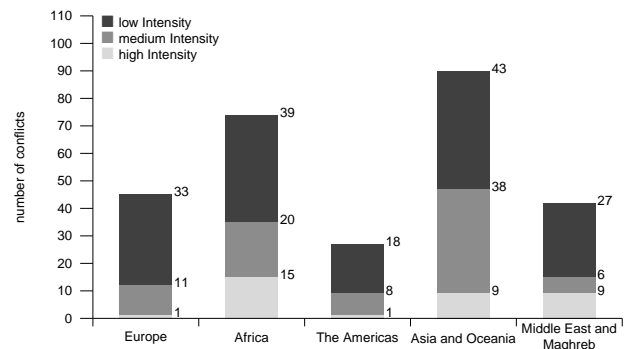
Guinea-Bissau was attacked by Senegalese rebels [=>Guinea-Bissau (MFDC-Sadio)], and Sudanese Janjaweed militias crossed the border to Chad, attacking the local population [=>Chad (ethnic groups)].

One severe crisis was fought out between states [=>Israel - Lebanon], the remaining 31 highly-violent conflicts were all intrastate. Of the 83 crises, one was transnational [=>Kenya (ethnic groups)], 77 intrastate and five interstate [=>Armenia - Azerbaijan; Bangladesh - India; Japan - Russia (Kuril Islands); North Korea - South Korea; Chad – Sudan]. Of the 100 manifest conflicts, 64 were intrastate. Only concerning latent conflicts, interstate ones outnumbered intrastate ones with 35 to 24. The long-term analysis, for which the two high intensity levels, severe crisis and war, were summarized into one group, shows clearly that the predominance of intrastate highly violent conflicts can be observed from the beginning of the examined period.

Regional Development

With a total of 90 conflicts, most - around a third of all – conflicts were located in Asia and Oceania. This region also held the highest number of crises with 38, as well as the highest number of non-violent conflicts, 43. Concerning highly-violent conflicts, however, Asia and Oceania ranked only third, after Africa and the Middle East and Maghreb. Africa continued to be the region with the highest number of highly-violent conflicts, as in the last years. With 15 – six more than in 2005 –, almost half of this year’s high-intensity conflicts were fought out in Africa, while it only ranked second concerning the overall number of conflicts with 74. With 45, Europe all in all had the third-most conflicts, as in previous years, but only one of these was fought out on the level of a highly violent conflict. This is quite remarkable, especially in comparison with the Middle East and Maghreb.

Distribution of all Conflicts 2006 by Region and Intensity Type



There, at 42, only three conflicts less were counted, but nine of these were high-intensity conflicts, making the Middle East and Maghreb the region with the second-highest number of highly violent conflicts. And the Americas, ranking equally with Europe in respect to a low number of highly violent conflicts this year, had a significantly lower number of conflicts altogether, i.e. just 27. With this number, the Americas

continued to be the region with the lowest total number of conflicts. If the number of conflicts is related to the number of states, it becomes even clearer how relatively peaceful the Americas and Europe were, not even counting one conflict per state on average. The number of highly violent conflicts per state was almost zero in these regions. Concerning highly violent conflicts in relation to the number of states, Africa, and the Middle East and Maghreb kept their sad leading position in relation to the others, but inversed their ranks. While Africa had the highest absolute number of high intensity conflicts, the Middle East and Maghreb had a slightly higher rate of them per state. Most interesting is the changing rank of Asia, if the relative instead of the absolute conflict number is taken into account. In respect to the absolute number of highly-violent conflicts, Asia remained third, but in respect to the relative overall number of conflicts, where Asia ranked first in absolute numbers, the Middle East and Maghreb had the most with almost 2.5 conflicts per state. Africa ranked second, Asia third, followed by Europe with still only almost one per state and least conflict-ridden were the Americas.

Dynamics within individual Conflicts

From 2005 to 2006, 177 conflicts remained at the same intensity level. A total of 46 conflicts escalated, eleven out of these by two levels, 35 by one. 46 conflicts deescalated, six of these by two levels, 40 by one. Of the eleven conflicts that escalated by two levels, seven turned from latent conflicts to crises, and two from manifest conflicts (still non-violent) to severe crises [=>Senegal (MFDC-Sadio) and Israel - Lebanon (international power)]. Two crises escalated to wars [=>Somalia (various rebel groups) and Sri Lanka (LTTE)]. Of the 35 highly violent conflicts in 2006, 14 ongoing conflicts had not been carried out on that level in the previous year.

Change of Intensity	Number
Escalation by four Levels	0
Escalation by three Levels	0
Escalation by two Levels	11
Escalation by one Level	35
No Change	177
De-escalation by one Level	40
De-escalation by two Levels	6
De-escalation by three Levels	0
De-escalation by four Levels	0

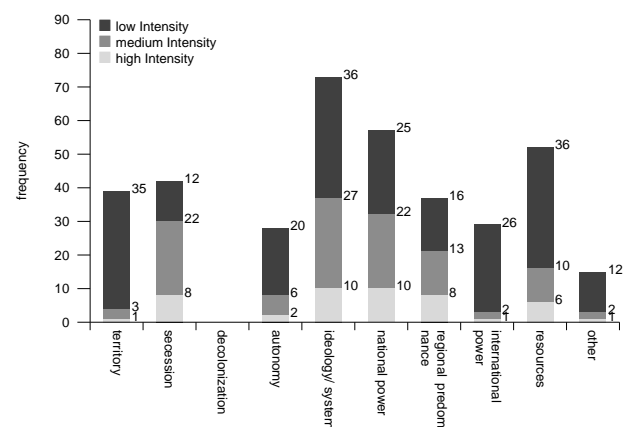
Two had been manifest conflicts (see above), but twelve had already been counted as crises, which is to say that violence merely intensified. Two other high-intensity conflicts were new conflicts in 2006, that is, were highly-violent in the very year of their beginning. A total of 46 conflicts deescalated, six by two levels, 40 by one. From the six conflicts that

deescalated by two levels, all turned from violent into non-violent conflicts. Two deescalated from a severe crisis to a manifest conflict [=>Burundi (Hutu - Tutsi) and Colombia (ELN)] and four from a crisis to a latent conflict.

Conflict Items

Most conflicts in 2006 were conducted in order to change the political system (73) or concerned ideological differences (e.g. secular state vs. theocracy, or religious differences), as had already been the case in 2005. The second most frequent conflict item was national power (57), as in 2005. Almost half of the ideological conflicts and a bit more than half of the national power conflicts were carried out with the use of violence. In most cases, violence was used only occasionally, but ten of the ideological and ten of the national power conflicts were highly violent. Secession and regional predominance, both intrastate items, were even more violence-prone, in 2006 as well as in 2005. Both were pursued violently in more than half of the cases and were even highly violent in almost a quarter of these (secession) or even above that figure (regional predominance). Autonomy, another intrastate item, was pursued violently in almost a third of cases, two times even with a high amount of violence. In this year, unlike 2005, all conflict items – except the de-facto not longer existing item of decolonization – were in at least one case pursued with the use of a high amount of violence. This is quite exceptional, as international power and territory are interstate items, and interstate conflicts in the very most cases are conducted without the use of violence nowadays.

Global Frequency of Conflict Items 2006 by Intensity Groups



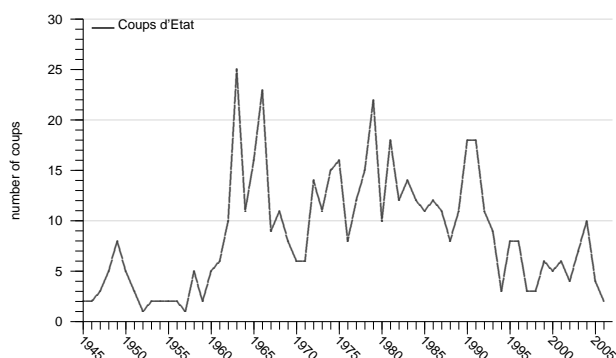
This exception in 2006 was due to the Israeli incursion in Lebanon [=>Israel - Lebanon], carried out over international power and territory. Please note that conflicts very often have more than one item. Frequent combinations are resources with territory, national or international power or regional predominance as well

as system / ideology with national or international power. There are quite striking differences in the frequency of items between the regions. In Europe, the most frequent item was secession, closely followed by territory. System / Ideology and national power, the most frequent items on the global scale, were very rare. The high global frequency of those items was due to system / ideology being the most frequent item in the Americas, Asia, and the Middle East and Maghreb, and national power being the most frequent one in Africa. And whereas regional predominance was a frequent item in Africa and Asia, it was unknown in Europe, in 2006 as well as in the years before. The different distribution of items also reflects the fact that in Europe interstate conflicts were much more common than in Africa and Asia, which were clearly marked by intrastate conflicts.

Coups d'Etats

After last year's decline in the number of observed coups and attempted coups from a peak of ten attempted coups in 2004 to three successful coups in 2005, there were only two successful overthrows of governments in 2006.

Coups d'État and Attempted Coups d'État 1945 to 2006



Both were observed in the region of Asia and Oceania. In Thailand, General Sonthi Boonyaratglin successfully seized power on September 19, following months of political unrest. Backed by King Adulyadej, an interim government was installed, and new elections scheduled for 2007 [=>Thailand (coup plotters)]. Since November 2, the army on the Fiji islands had repeatedly threatened to stage a coup in reaction to a government bill granting amnesty to the coup plotters of 2000. Finally, on December 5, Commodore Frank Bainimarama, the head of the armed forces, took control of the country. Notwithstanding the fact that the date is outside the period under review, this successful coup is taken into account here [=>Fiji (ethnic groups)]. In general, accusations regarding the plotting of coups were still used as a means to suppress the opposition in several cases. This could, among others, be observed in Burundi [=>Burundi

(opposition)] as well as in Zimbabwe [=>Zimbabwe (opposition)].

Terrorism

Terrorism is not a new phenomenon. Europe has been confronted with this kind of violence for decades, with ETA in Spain or the IRA in Northern Ireland. But with the events of September 11, 2001, terrorism seems to have reached a new quality. Motivated by fundamentalist religious faith, the transnational al-Qaeda network plots attacks, usually suicide attacks, long in advance in order to produce large effects with a massive amount of destruction or many victims, to receive the most possible public attention. This can be reached even if the attacks are not successful, as especially this year's failed assaults in Germany and the UK show. On July 31, a terror attack was attempted near the German towns of Hamm and Mönchengladbach. Two suitcases filled with explosive devices were placed on local trains but failed to detonate due to construction flaws. On August 21, German authorities arrested the Lebanese nationals Jihad Hamad and Yusuf al-Haj Dib. They were identified as the persons who had planted the bombs through the footage of surveillance cameras at the train stations. Both were considered to be affiliated with the radical group Hizb ut-Tahrir, banned by the German authorities in January. On August 10, British authorities foiled a terror attack aimed at simultaneously detonating explosive devices on ten planes traveling from the UK to the USA. On the same day, 23 persons were arrested in connection to the attack in the UK. Another seven persons were arrested the following day in Pakistan. On August 11, the British authorities charged eleven people for the attempted terror attack. In Jordan, where al-Qaeda had conducted bombings on hotels in the capital, Amman, in November 2005, the authorities succeeded to thwart another suicide attack against a vital civilian installation, allegedly planned by the terrorist network. Two Iraqis and a Libyan, believed to be members of the al-Qaeda terrorist network, were arrested in connection with the plot the same day.

Cartoon Crisis

On 09/30/05, a center-right Danish newspaper, Jyllands-Posten, published twelve caricatures depicting the prophet Muhammad. On 10/09/05, leaders of Denmark's Islamic Faith Community demanded that Jyllands-Posten apologize for the decision to publish these cartoons as they offended the religious sentiments of many Muslims and were considered blasphemous. In addition - ten days later - eleven ambassadors from several Muslim countries asked the Danish Prime Minister Fogh Rasmussen to meet with them and debate possible reactions from the Danish government regarding the caricatures. At that time,

people were already demonstrating in the streets of Copenhagen and requesting a formal apology from the newspaper. As the attempts of the spokesmen of the Islamic Faith Community failed, a delegation traveled to the Middle East and met with politicians, journalists, and religious leaders, e.g. in Egypt, Syria, and Lebanon. In these meetings, the delegation presented a book supposed to contain caricatures of the prophet being published in European newspapers. The religious leaders condemned these pictures as offensive and blasphemous. In the following weeks, the crisis escalated in many countries with Muslim majorities. The foreign ministers of the League of Arab States blamed the Danish prime minister for downplaying the situation, and many Arab League states took unilateral measures such as trade boycotts. Additionally, many Arab consumers boycotted products from Denmark, Italy, or Great Britain. At the height of the crisis in February 2006, demonstrations in the streets turned violent. Flags of European countries were set on fire, and people from European countries or with Christian backgrounds as well as several European embassies faced violent attacks. More than 100 people were killed, and even more injured. Four arguments were repeatedly raised during the crisis: Many politicians, journalists, and intellectuals, mainly from European democracies, argued that a reaction from the Danish government, as hoped for by several Arab countries, would interfere with a vital attribute of liberal democracy - freedom of the press. In line with these arguments, some European newspapers were reprinting the cartoons. On the other hand, many politicians and journalists or intellectuals from European and Arab League countries raised the point that the publication of the cartoons lacked respect for the religious traditions of Islam, implied negative stereotypes about Islamic traditions, and fostered Islamophobia in Europe. Finally, on January 30, Jyllands-Posten published a statement in which the editors apologized for the offense the caricatures had caused. This step deescalated the crisis. However, tensions remain between Muslim and non-Muslim as well as religious- and secular-minded citizens in European countries. This became evident once more after a speech by Pope Benedict XVI in Regensburg, Germany, in September 2006, led to renewed tensions.

Cartoon Controversy and the Misunderstandings Following a Quotation by the Pope Proving the "Clash of Civilization"?

Comment by Gerrit F. Schlomach

It seems that boycott calls, threats on Pope Benedict XVI's life as well as attacks on embassies and churches express Muslim feelings towards the cartoon controversy and the misunderstandings following a quotation by the pope. What circumstances are behind these so different incidences with so similar

reactions in the Muslim Arab region? Based on the published opinions and the pictures from Arab streets, one could quickly get the impression that a "clash of civilizations" is under way. At least since 9/11, this view hovers around the region of the Middle East and Maghreb. Thus, Arabs and Muslims feel that they are usually identified as a threat by "Western" political leaders. Sometimes even regional actors claim that the regional economic backwardness was a result of alleged "Jewish Christian" hegemonic ambitions. With regard to the recent so-called Cartoon Crisis, the "West" has been accused of double standards. On one hand, the publication of cartoons depicting the prophet Mohammed, that Muslims all over the world felt insulted by, was justified by the freedom of speech and opinion. On the other, many Muslims feel that this right would have limitations when Judaism is concerned, giving rise to the accusation of anti-Semitism. However there are also some more moderate voices in the region. Among them the "Amman Message" presented by Sheikh Al-Tamimi in 2004, opposing the self-fulfilling hypothesis of Huntington and emphasizing tolerance and peaceableness of Islam. Also the open letter of 38 Islamic leaders to the Pope showed the same concern, explicitly referring to the Regensburg speech and stressing the need for inter-religious dialogue. It is inadequate to perceive "Islam" or "the Muslim world" as one homogenous conflict party because of its complex shape and its internal fault lines. Nevertheless, anybody can refute that an impartial analysis of the previous Pope's speeches and publications would have led to more balanced opinions in the region, based on considerations of plausibility. Finally, the authoritarian systems in the region face political pressure because of an increasing dissatisfaction of the populations and a rising violent fundamentalism. Rumors play a major role with regard to public opinion and strengthen already built opinions, in lack of free media committed to multi-perspective views. As a conclusion, one thing is evident in this complex situation, namely that the struggle with the "West" is the result of the self-perceived image usually used as a vent for regional and domestic politics.

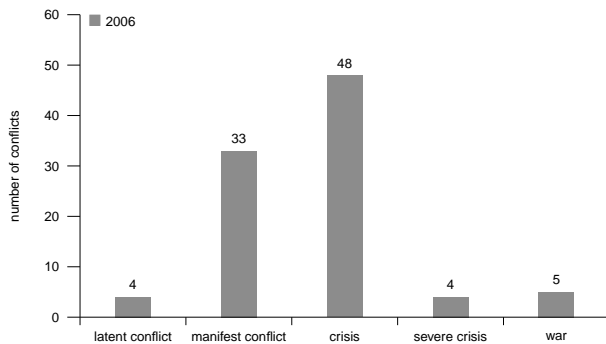
Measures of Conflict Resolution

Negotiations

In at least 31 of the 278 current conflicts, talks, negotiations, and conferences were held at least once in 2006. The majority of conflicts the parties negotiated with each other in were crises and manifest conflicts. Therefore, 33 rounds of talks were held in manifest conflicts, and 48 in crises. Most talks took place in Moldova (Transdnester) and the United Kingdom (Northern Ireland). In the 35 highly violent conflicts, talks were held only in at least five of these cases – among them the war in Sudan (Darfur) -, i.e. nine

rounds altogether. Most talks, however, ended without the signing of any agreement.

Number of Negotiations 2006 by Intensity



Treaties

A total of 23 treaties or agreements were signed on the regulation of conflicts in 2006; three of these in highly violent conflicts. Among the total number of agreements there were six peace treaties, one of which was signed in May in the Sudan (Darfur) war between the government and one of the major rebel groups. However, the deal failed to end fighting between rival rebel factions. In seven conflicts, ceasefire agreements were signed. Two of these also concerned highly violent conflicts, i.e. the two related conflicts Israel vs. Lebanon, and the Israel (Hezbollah) war. The UN had mediated the agreement reached in the shape of UN Resolution 1701 and coming into force on August 14. Other agreements referred to the regulation of procedures or disputed items, or were of a more general nature like memorandums of understanding and declarations of principles. All in all, notwithstanding the fact that a deescalation might be achieved, the different kinds of deals reached between the conflict parties usually did not result in final resolutions of the disputes concerned.

International Organizations

By the end of 2006, the United Nations Organization (UNO), particularly the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, administered 18 missions. These included two political missions, UNAMA in Afghanistan and the UN Integrated Office in Sierra Leone (UNIOSIL), which succeeded the peacekeeping operation UNAMSIL in January 2006. Apart from UNIOSIL, another new mission was established during the analyzed period in the shape of the UN Integrated Mission in East Timor (UNMIT). UNMIT took over from the UN Office in East Timor (UNOTIL) with a new, expanded mandate on August 25. It was to support the government in consolidating stability, enhancing a culture of democratic governance, and fa-

cilitating the political dialogue among Timorese stakeholders. All in all, with UNMIT in East Timor and the UN Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP), the UN deployed only two peacekeeping operations in Asia and Oceania – a meager yield, given the overall number of conflicts and the high number of violent ones. In contrast, sub-Saharan Africa once more constituted the region with most UN missions (ONUB in Burundi, UNOCI in Côte d'Ivoire, UNMIL in Liberia, MONUC in the DR Congo, UNMEE in Ethiopia and Eritrea, UNMIS in Sudan, and UNAMSIL succeeded by the political UNIOSIL mission in Sierra Leone). Africa was followed by the Middle East and Maghreb with five concurrent UN missions (political mission UNAMA in Afghanistan, UNDOF in the Golan Heights between Israel and Syria, MINURSO in Western Sahara, Morocco, UNIFIL in Lebanon, and UNTSO in Israel). As in previous years, the UN maintained three missions in Europe (UNFICYP in Cyprus, UNOMIG in Abkhazia, Georgia and UNMIK in Kosovo, Serbia) and with the UN Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) one in the Americas. By the end of the year, 76,726 uniformed personnel from 110 different countries had been assigned to 16 peacekeeping missions (the two political missions UNAMA and UNIOSIL not included). These numbers include 66,086 soldiers, indicating a rise after the numbers had dropped to 61,106 soldiers from 107 different countries in 2005. While only two UN missions were active in Asia, Asian countries were among the main contributors of personnel. Pakistan (with 9,790 to 10,154 uniformed members in action during the year), Bangladesh (with 9,516 to 9,655), and India (with 7,339 to 9,276) contributed most uniformed members to UN operations by far. Compared to 2005, Germany has increased its contributions, now deploying a maximum of 1,191 uniformed personnel in seven Missions (UNAMA, UNIFIL, UNMEE, UNMIK, UNMIL, UNMIS, UNOMIG) in 2006 instead of up to 297 Germans in five in 2005. A general observation concerning UN peacekeeping missions was that the international community still increasingly counted on robust mandates and assigned Blue Helmets also to high-intensity conflicts, e.g. in the DR Congo (various conflicts) and Israel - Lebanon. At no time in the history of peacekeeping were so many UN peacekeepers concurrently deployed as at present. Apart from peacekeeping missions, the UN also applied measures not involving the use of armed force in order to maintain or restore peace and security. Sanctions represent such measures. In 2006, the UN maintained sanctions against nine states: with Côte d'Ivoire, DR Congo, Liberia, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Somalia, and Sudan against seven African states; against the DPR Korea introduced in 2006, as well as against al-Qaeda and the Taliban and associated individuals and entities. Besides the UN, several regional organizations maintained field missions in 2006, e.g. the Economic and Monetary Council of Central Africa (CEMAC) in

the Central African Republic as well as the African Union (AU) still deploying 7,000 troops in Sudan (Darfur) while, in Burundi, being integrated into the UN mission ONUB. In the Americas the Organization of American States (OAS) maintains its OAS Special Mission for Strengthening Democracy in Haiti in order to support the different Haitian elections taking place during 2006. The Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) maintained a to-

tal of eight field missions, six of them in the Balkans, one in Moldova and one in Georgia. In the Balkans, the European Union (EU) deployed EUFOR in Bosnia and Herzegovina, which had succeeded the NATO-led Stabilization Force (SFOR) late in 2004. The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) led peace-keeping missions in Kosovo (KFOR) and Afghanistan (ISAF).

Overview: Present UN Peacekeeping Missions

Mission Acronym	Name of Mission	Start	Country
Europe			
UNOMIG	UN Observation Mission in Georgia	1993	Georgia
UNFICYP	United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus	1964	Cyprus
UNMIK	United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo	1999	Serbia
Africa			
UNMIL	United Nations Mission in Liberia	2003	Liberia
UNMIS	UN Mission in the Sudan	2005	Sudan
UNMEE	UN Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea	2000	Ethiopia and Eritrea
UNOCI	UN Operation in Côte d'Ivoire	2004	Côte d'Ivoire
ONUB	UN Mission for Burundi	2003	Burundi
UNIOSIL	United Nations Integrated Office in Sierra Leone	2006	Sierra Leone
MONUC	UN Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo	1999	DR Congo
The Americas			
MINUSTAH	UN Stabilization Mission in Haiti	2004	Haiti
Asia and Oceania			
UNMIT	UN Integrated Mission in Timor Leste	2006	East Timor
UNMOGIP	UN Observer Group in India and Pakistan	1949	India and Pakistan
Middle East and Maghreb			
UNIFIL	United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon	1978	Lebanon
UNTSO	United Nations Truce Supervision Organization	1948	Israel
MINURSO	United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara	1991	Western Sahara
UNAMA	United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan	2002	Afghanistan
UNDOF	United Nations Disengagement Observer Force	1974	Syria

Authoritative Decisions by the ICJ

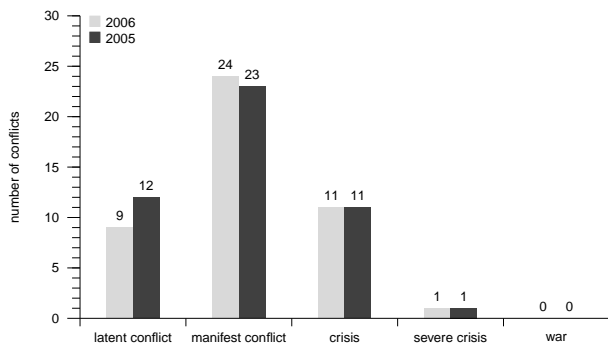
Three new cases were filed to the jurisdiction of the ICJ in 2006, adding to 26 cases already pending. On January 9, Djibouti filed a complaint against France concerning certain questions of mutual assistance in criminal matters. Particularly, the case was related to the French refusal to execute an international letter rogatory. On August 9, France accepted the jurisdiction of the ICJ to process Djibouti's complaint. On April 26, Dominica instituted proceedings against Switzerland concerning violations of rules in diplomatic relations. However, the case was removed from the ICJ's list at the request of Dominica on June 9. On May 4, Argentina instituted proceedings against Uruguay and requested the ICJ to indicate provisional

measures. The case concerns Uruguay's alleged breach of obligations under the Statute of the River Uruguay, signed by Argentina and Uruguay in 1975 and put into effect in 1976. Argentina claimed that the breach arose from the construction of two pulp mills on the River Uruguay, which supposedly has effects on the water quality and on the areas affected by the river. On July 13, the ICJ found that the circumstances did not require provisional measures. On November 29, Uruguay submitted a request for provisional measures, stating that organized groups of Argentine citizens have blockaded a vital bridge over the Uruguay river, shutting off commercial and tourist travel from Argentina to Uruguay [=>Argentina - Uruguay].

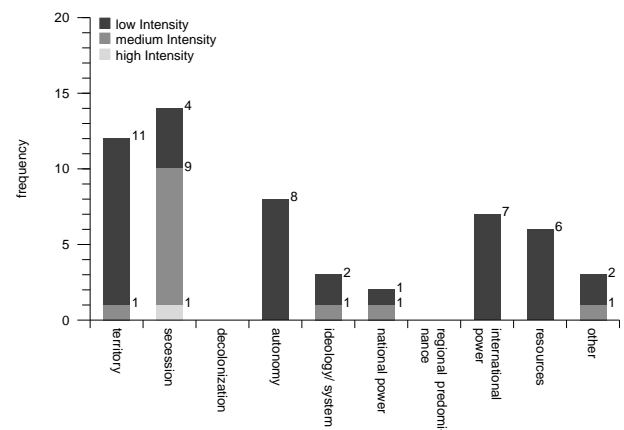
Europe

The total number of conflicts monitored in Europe was 45. Two conflicts ended in 2005 already, Liechtenstein-Germany and Ukraine (opposition). With the non-violent secession of Montenegro from Serbia, another conflict was terminated in 2006. As in 2005, there were twelve violent conflicts in Europe. Two violent conflicts decreased but two other conflicts crossed the threshold of violence. The only severe crisis remained the conflict in Russia (Chechnya). With ten conflicts, the Balkans continued to be the most unstable area. The Caucasus remained another very fragile region. This was reflected by the highly violent Chechnya conflict, the three crises in Nagorno Karabakh, Abkhazia, and South Ossetia, and three more manifest conflicts in Georgia and Azerbaijan. The majority of conflicts in Europe were intrastate conflicts, with secession and autonomy as the most frequent conflict items. For interstate conflicts, the most common conflict item was territory, followed by international power.

Conflict Intensities in Europe 2006 compared to 2005



Frequency of Conflict Items 2006 in Europe by Intensity Groups



Armenia - Azerbaijan

Intensity: 3	Change: •	Start: 1988
Conflict Parties: Armenia vs. Azerbaijan		
Conflict Items: secession, territory		

The conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan concerning the territorial status of the enclave Nagorno Karabakh continued. The enclave, an internationally recognized part of Azerbaijan mainly inhabited by Armenians, had been occupied by Armenian troops in 1992. In March and September 2006, both sides temporarily violated the existing ceasefire agreement. At least two servicemen were reportedly killed. Armenia still refused to terminate the occupation of Nagorno. Azerbaijan demanded the withdrawal of Armenian troops as a prerequisite for further negotiations on the status of Nagorno Karabakh. Several OSCE-facilitated meetings between the foreign ministers of Armenia and Azerbaijan as well as the presidents of both countries merely led to partial agreement. However, basic principles aiming at a long-term solution were laid down. These included the plan of holding a referendum to determine the final status of Nagorno-Karabakh.

Azerbaijan (opposition)

Intensity: 2	Change: ↘	Start: 2003
Conflict Parties: opposition vs. government		
Conflict Items: national power, system / ideology		

The conflict between Azeri opposition groups and Azerbaijan's President Ilham Aliyev and his ruling New Azerbaijan Party (NAP) continued. Following irregularities during the parliamentary election and violent protests in November 2005, the government admitted some anomaly. A new Central Election Commission conducted a rerun in ten constituencies on 05/13/06 which did not alter the majority situation in parliament. From January, Azerbaijan's opposition was in disarray and divided over the question of taking part in the rerun or participating in the new parliament. Only part of the opposition parties decided to take their seats. In spite of the rerun, the opposition still considered the parliament to be illegitimate. According to the Council of Europe's observer team, the rerun on May 13 was an improvement. The election campaign was marked by persistent opposition rallies and harassment of opposition activists by the police. President Aliyev and his ruling NAP increased the pressure on independent and foreign media. On November 24, Azerbaijan's biggest independent radio and TV channel, ANS, stopped broadcasting after the national radio and television authority had refused to renew its licence.

Summary: Conflicts in Europe 2006

Name of Conflict ¹	Conflict Parties ²	Conflict Items	Start	Change ³	Int. ⁴
Armenia - Azerbaijan	Armenia vs. Azerbaijan	secession, territory	1988	•	3
Azerbaijan (opposition)	opposition vs. government	national power, system / ideology	2003	↘	2
Belarus (opposition)	opposition vs. government	national power, system / ideology	1997	↗	3
Belarus - Poland*	Belarus vs. Poland	international power	1994	•	2
Bosnia and Herzegovina (Bosniaks - Croats)	Bosniaks vs. Croats	autonomy	1995	•	2
Bosnia and Herzegovina (RS - BCF)	Republika Srpska vs. Bosniak-Croat Federation	secession	1995	↗	3
Caspian Sea*	Amenia vs. Azerbaijan vs. Georgia vs. Iran vs. Kazakhstan vs. Russia vs. Turkey vs. Turkmenistan	resources, territory, international power	1993	↘	1
Croatia (Krajina, West and East Slavonia)	Croatian Serbs, militant Serbs vs. government	autonomy	1992	•	2
Cyprus (Northern Cyprus)	Northern Cyprus vs. Republic of Cyprus	secession	1963	•	2
Cyprus - Turkey	Cyprus vs. Turkey	international power	2005	•	2
Denmark - Canada (Hans Island)*	Denmark vs. Canada	territory, resources	1973	↘	1
France (Corsica)	Corsican nationalists, FLNC vs. government	secession	1975	•	3
France (rioters)	rioters vs. government	others (social situation)	2005	•	3
Georgia (Abkhazia)	Abkhazian separatists vs. Georgia	secession	1989	•	3
Georgia (Armenian minority)*	Armenian minority vs. government	autonomy	2004	•	2
Georgia (Azeri minority)*	Azeri minority vs. government	autonomy	2004	•	2
Georgia (South Ossetia)	South Ossetian separatists vs. Georgia	secession	1989	•	3
Greece - Macedonia*	Greece vs. Macedonia	territory, others (name of state)	1991	•	2
Hungary - Romania*	Hungary vs. Romania	international power	1990	•	1
Hungary - Slovakia (minority)*	Hungary vs. Slovakia	international power	1993	↗	2
Hungary - Slovakia (resources)*	Hungary vs. Slovakia	resources	1989	•	1
Latvia (Russian speaking minority)	Russian-speaking minority vs. Latvia	autonomy	1991	•	2
Macedonia (Albanian minority)	Albanian minority vs. government	secession	1991	•	3
Moldova (Transdniestria)	Transdniestrian separatists vs. government	secession	1989	•	2
Romania (Hungarian Minority)	Hungarian minority vs. government	autonomy	1989	↗	2
Romania - Ukraine*	Romania vs. Ukraine	territory, resources	1991	•	1
Russia (Chechnya)	Chechen rebels vs. government	secession	1989	•	4
Russia (opposition)	opposition vs. government	system / ideology	2001	•	2
Russia - Georgia	Russia vs. Georgia	international power	1992	•	2
Russia - Latvia*	Russia vs. Latvia	international power	1994	•	2
Russia - Norway (Barents Sea)*	Russia vs. Norway	territory, resources	1947	↘	1
Russia - Ukraine	Russia vs. Ukraine	territory, resources	2003	↗	2
Serbia (Hungarian minority)*	Hungarian minority in Vojvodina vs. Serbian government	autonomy	1998	•	2
Serbia (Kosovo)	Albanian majority in Kosovo vs. Serbian government	secession	1989	•	3
Serbia (Presevo valley)*	southern Serbian municipalities Presevo, Bujanovac and Medvedja, UCPMB vs. Serbian government	secession	2000	↘	2
Serbia and Montenegro (Montenegro)	Serbia vs. Montenegro	secession	1997	END	2

Name of Conflict ¹	Conflict Parties ²	Conflict Items	Start	Change ³	Int. ⁴
Slovakia (Hungarian minority)	Hungarian minority vs. government	autonomy	1993	↗	2
Slovenia - Croatia*	Slovenia vs. Croatia	territory	1991	•	2
Spain (Basque provinces)	ETA vs. government	secession	1959	•	3
Spain - Morocco (Ceuta and Melilla)*	Spain vs. Morocco	territory	1961	•	1
Spain - Morocco (Parsley Island)*	Spain vs. Morocco	territory	1956	•	1
Spain - United Kingdom (Gibraltar)*	Spain vs. United Kingdom	territory	1954	•	1
Turkey - Armenia	Turkey vs. Armenia	others (acceptance of Armenian genocide)	1915	•	2
Turkey - Greece	Turkey vs. Greece	territory	1973	•	2
United Kingdom (Northern Ireland)	Sinn Féin, IRA vs. government, UUP, DUP, UDA/UFF, LVF, Red Hand Defenders, Orange Volunteers, Real IRA	secession	1968	•	3

¹ conflicts marked with * are without description

² mentioned are only those conflict parties relevant for the period under review

³ change of intensity compared to the previous year: ↑ respectively ↗ escalation by one respectively more than one level of intensity; ↓ respectively ↘ de-escalation by one respectively more than one level of intensity; • no change

⁴ levels of intensity: 5 = War; 4 = Severe Crisis; 3 = Crisis; 2 = Manifest Conflict; 1 = Latent Conflict

On the same day, an Azeri court convicted 12 opposition activists who had taken part in a non-violent demonstration supporting the independent media. Emphasizing their demand for an end of media repression, six activists of the opposition newspaper Azadliq went on hunger strike on October 30.

ap, kw

Belarus (opposition)

Intensity: 3	Change: ↗	Start: 1997
Conflict Parties:	opposition vs. government	
Conflict Items:	national power, system / ideology	

The conflict between the opposition and the government of Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko peaked during the presidential elections in March. In the run-up to the elections, the campaign of opposition candidates was very limited due to the state's control over the media, a climate of intimidation, and harassment of opposition activists. Lukashenko won the election on March 18, obtaining 82.6 per cent of the votes. OSCE observers as well as monitors from the national opposition parties declared the poll had failed to meet democratic standards. The strongest presidential candidate of the opposition, Alexander Milinkevich, demanded a rerun. His demand was supported by several thousands of protesters who expressed their objections to the election fraud in Minsk over several days. During the demonstrations, protesters and police clashed violently. More than 1,000 people were arrested. Some of the arrested who had been heavily battered by the police subsequently disappeared. Belarusian opposition leader and presidential candidate Aleksander Kozulin was imprisoned and sentenced to five and a half years for hooliganism and inciting mass disorder. In April, Milinkevich was arrested for 15 days after being con-

victed for attending an unsanctioned rally. Many other opposition activists also received prison sentences.

ts

Bosnia and Herzegovina (Bosniaks - Croats)

Intensity: 2	Change: •	Start: 1995
Conflict Parties:	Bosniaks vs. Croats	
Conflict Items:	autonomy	

The Bosniak-Croat Federation (BCF) within Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) remained ethnically divided between Roman Catholic Croats and Muslim Bosniaks. On May 19, High Representative Christian Schwarz-Schilling called the stalemate over crucial reforms in the unification process of the ethnically divided city of Mostar unacceptable. On September 15, Schwarz-Schilling appointed German diplomat Norbert Winterstein as his special envoy to mediate and assist local authorities in activities aimed at unifying the city. Tensions rose in October following the election of Bosnian Croat Zeljko Komsic of the multi-ethnic Social Democratic Party (SDP) as Croat member of the tripartite presidency of BiH. The nationalist Croatian Democratic Community (HDZ) protested against the election result, claiming that Komsic was not entitled to represent Croats as he had also been elected by Bosniaks. HDZ candidate Ivo Miro Jovic threatened that the Croats' disappointment might lead to their secession from BiH. The Catholic Archbishop of Sarajevo, Cardinal Vinko Puljic, criticized the result as an injustice to BiH's Croats. On October 11, unknown perpetrators fired an anti-tank rocket at a mosque in Mostar. The previous day, a Roman Catholic cemetery had been desecrated.

aog

Bosnia and Herzegovina (RS - BCF)

Intensity: 3	Change: ↗	Start: 1995
Conflict Parties:	Republika Srpska vs. Bosniak-Croat Federation	
Conflict Items:	secession	

The conflict between the two entities in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) continued, fuelled especially by the calls of Republika Srpska's (RS) Prime Minister Milorad Dodik for an independence referendum similar to the one that separated Montenegro from Serbia in May. On September 26, the prime ministers and presidents of RS and Serbia signed an agreement on special relations, against the objections of the main Bosniak political formations. In February, the BiH vs. Serbia and Montenegro trial concerning genocide and aggression, strongly opposed by the RS, began at the ICJ. Whereas numerous trials concerning the 1992-95 civil war were held, the Bosnian Serb suspects Ratko Mladic and Radovan Karadzic remained at large. On January 5, people were injured in a shooting incident near the RS town of Rogatica when an indicted Bosnian Serb war criminal tried to resist arrest by EUFOR troops. Both the EU and the High Representative repeatedly expressed their frustration at BiH's failure to pursue constitutional reforms aimed at strengthening the state institutions. RS continued to resist the implementation of a police reform aimed at integrating the two entities' police forces. However, the BiH presidency approved a law on an army reform on August 5. Unknown perpetrators desecrated the Muslim cemetery of Banja Luka, the RS capital, on March 4, and planted a bomb damaging the tomb of wartime Bosniak leader and former BiH President Alija Izetbegovic on August 11.

aog

Croatia (Krajina, West and East Slavonia)

Intensity: 2	Change: •	Start: 1992
Conflict Parties:	Croatian Serbs, militant Serbs vs. government	
Conflict Items:	autonomy	

The conflict between Croatian Serbs and the government of Croatia continued. In December 2005, Croatian war crimes suspect Ante Gotovina was arrested and extradited to the UN war crimes tribunal in The Hague (ICTY). Gotovina was held responsible for the death of 150 Serbs and the displacement of a further 150,000 during the Croatian offensive in the Krajina region in 1995. In the Croatian capital, Zagreb, and in cities on the Adriatic coast, tens of thousands protested against Gotovina's arrest. The demonstrations occasionally turned violent. Croatian Prime Minister Ivo Sanader expressed his understanding for the public's sentiments. The EU confirmed Croatia had played an active role in apprehending Gotovina and said that the main obstacle to Croatia's EU accession talks had been removed. Also in December, Bel-

grade District Court's War Crimes Council sentenced 14 people found guilty of executing nearly 200 Croatian prisoners near Vukovar in 1991. Throughout the year, ethnically motivated incidents against Croatian Serbs took place, especially in areas affected by the 1991-95 war. On 12/24/05, fire was set to the seat of the Serbian Orthodox bishopric in Sibenik. According to Human Rights Watch, Serb refugees returning to Croatia continued to face violence and intimidation.

aog

Cyprus (Northern Cyprus)

Intensity: 2	Change: •	Start: 1963
Conflict Parties:	Northern Cyprus vs. Republic of Cyprus	
Conflict Items:	secession	

The conflict between the Republic of Cyprus and secessionist Northern Cyprus, recognized only by Turkey, continued. On May 21, the Republic of Cyprus held its first parliamentary elections since the referendum on reunification was rejected in 2004. President Tassos Papadopoulos's Diko party won 18 per cent of the vote. His ruling coalition with the Communist Akel party was confirmed. The main opposition Disy party, which represents a pro-reunification course, won 30 per cent of the vote. On July 3, the leaders of Greek and Turkish Cypriots, Papadopoulos and Mehmet Ali Talat, met for the first time in two years to discuss the fate of missing people on the island. Five days later, both met again for UN-hosted talks on resuming the stalled peace process. They agreed on confidence-building measures to improve the relations between the two entities and to address technical as well as political issues. In November, the UN proposed to accelerate the implementation of the agreement reached in July. A letter sent to both Papadopoulos and Talat stated that if satisfactory progress was achieved, the UN could decide to resume peace talks. Both leaders welcomed this new initiative.

jc

Cyprus - Turkey

Intensity: 2	Change: •	Start: 2005
Conflict Parties:	Cyprus vs. Turkey	
Conflict Items:	international power	

With the beginning of EU accession talks with Turkey in October 2005, a conflict emerged between the Republic of Cyprus and Turkey. On June 12, the EU formally opened its negotiations with Turkey. Previously, Cyprus had repeated its demand that Turkey must first recognize the Cypriot state and open its ports and airports to traffic from Cyprus, implementing the EU customs union. The EU foreign ministers decided to remind Turkey of its obligations, thereby containing the Cypriot threat to block the talks. On June 16, Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan confirmed that Turkey would not change its position until the

EU had fulfilled its promise to lift the economic isolation of the Turkish Cypriots. Finland, the holder of the EU presidency, tried to persuade Turkey to lift the ban for Cypriot traffic by suggesting to put a Northern Cypriot port under UN administration and thereby open it for trade with the EU. In early November, the EU canceled a meeting between Turkish, Cypriot and Northern Cypriot officials because Finland said it was unable to get all sides to the negotiating table. On November 20, the EU set the first week of December as a deadline for Turkey to implement its obligations towards Cyprus.

jc, sb

France (Corsica)

Intensity: 3	Change: •	Start: 1975
Conflict Parties:	Corsican nationalists, FLNC vs. government	
Conflict Items:	secession	

The conflict between the separatist Corsican National Liberation Front (FLNC) and the French government continued. FLNC increased the number of attacks against French governmental institutions and holiday homes of non-Corsicans. Three FLNC members were killed while planting bombs. Numerous bomb attacks occurred, mostly causing damage to property. To accomplish the attacks, the FLNC took several hostages. In May, the FLNC drew attention to its 30th anniversary with a night of bombings, in which several incendiary bombs detonated in different cities across the island. Subsequently, the French police arrested several FLNC members who were subsequently convicted.

al

France (rioters)

Intensity: 3	Change: •	Start: 2005
Conflict Parties:	rioters vs. government	
Conflict Items:	others (social situation)	

The conflict between deprived adolescents and the French authorities concerning the social situation, which erupted in 2005, continued violently. In more than 30 French cities a state of emergency was imposed in 2005, which was lifted in January 2006. Even though the situation was declared normal again, the acts of violence did not stop. In October, the French Interior Minister Nicolas Sarkozy declared in parliament that between January and September 2,890 policemen had been wounded in the course of duty, and 31,000 cars set on fire. On the anniversary of the 2005 riots in October, violence increased once more. Prime Minister Dominique de Villepin promised a higher presence of policemen in the suburbs.

al

Georgia (Abkhazia)

Intensity: 3	Change: •	Start: 1989
Conflict Parties:	Abkhazian separatists vs. Georgia	
Conflict Items:	secession	

The de-facto independent republic of Abkhazia continued to strive for secession from Georgia while the Georgian government aimed to restore territorial integrity. The two conflict parties received substantial economic and political support from abroad; Abkhazia from Russia, and Georgia from the USA. After numerous complaints about Russia's support for Abkhazia's de-facto government, the Georgian parliament passed a resolution calling for the withdrawal of Russian peacekeeping forces from Abkhazia. Tensions over the Abkhazian conflict were also aggravated by the general deterioration of Georgian-Russian relations [=>Russia - Georgia]. On July 22, Georgia launched a military operation in the Kodori Valley, a small pocket of Georgian-controlled territory within the breakaway region of Abkhazia. Troops were banned from this territory according to the 1994 Moscow ceasefire agreement. Although the object of this operation was to target the Hunters, a militia formerly part of the Georgian army, this move was perceived as a strong provocation by Abkhazia. Abkhazia subsequently decided not to attend regular weekly talks with Georgian, Russian and UN representatives. On October 13, the UN Security Council condemned the Georgian troop deployment in Resolution 1716. A week later, the Abkhazian government started a maneuver with 2,000 soldiers in the Russian military base of Gudauta. On the same day, the Abkhazian parliament called on Russia to recognize its sovereignty.

ilk

Georgia (South Ossetia)

Intensity: 3	Change: •	Start: 1989
Conflict Parties:	South Ossetian separatists vs. Georgia	
Conflict Items:	secession	

The breakaway republic of South Ossetia continued to strive for secession from Georgia. The not internationally recognized de-facto President Eduard Kokoiti repeatedly called for the establishment of political unity with North Ossetia, which is part of the Russian Federation. Despite obtaining good relations to the South Ossetian government, Russia so far remained noncommittal regarding the demand to recognize South Ossetia's independence or its unification with North Ossetia. On February 15, the Georgian parliament passed a resolution setting an ultimatum for the removal of the Russian forces from South Ossetian territory. South Ossetia responded by calling on Russia to maintain its deployment. In August, South Ossetia started to issue its own passports. On September 3, South Ossetian militia members shot at the helicopter of Georgian Minister of Defense, Irakli

Okrushvili. Nobody was injured but the helicopter was forced to land. Five days later, four soldiers were killed in fighting between Georgian troops and South Ossetian militia on the border to South Ossetia. On November 12, South Ossetia held a referendum on independence, claiming afterwards that 99 per cent of the voters supported secession from Georgia. The EU, the USA and the OSCE rejected this referendum as undemocratic and invalid.

ilk

Latvia (Russian speaking minority)

Intensity: 2	Change: •	Start: 1991
Conflict Parties:	Russian-speaking minority vs. Latvia	
Conflict Items:	autonomy	

The conflict concerning the rights of the Russian-speaking minority in Latvia continued. Although almost 20,000 successfully applied for citizenship in 2005, 19 per cent of Latvia's residents still had the status of non-citizens, most of whom were ethnic Russians. Several, especially Russian-speaking organizations as well as Russia continued to criticize the non-citizens' deprivation of rights. In April, the Latvian parliament voted against the proposal to grant non-citizens the right to vote in municipal elections. In October, 50 non-citizens sent a petition to the OCSE protesting against their discrimination. The Latvian parliamentary elections on October 7 ended with heavy losses for the radical Russian-speaking minority party For Human Rights in a United Latvia. The less radical Concord Centre, also advocating the rights of minorities in Latvia, received 14.4 per cent of the votes. It promoted the policy of granting Russian the special status of a protected minority language. However, it did not demand Russian to become an official language. On November 17, the Council of Europe adopted a resolution stipulating more flexible naturalisation procedures in Latvia and stating that all permanent residents should be able to vote in local elections.

kw

Macedonia (Albanian minority)

Intensity: 3	Change: •	Start: 1991
Conflict Parties:	Albanian minority vs. government	
Conflict Items:	secession	

The conflict between the Albanian minority in Macedonia and the government continued. On January 31, the oppositional Democratic Party of Albanians (DPA) abandoned its boycott and returned to parliament. The other main ethnic Albanian parties – the Democratic Union for Integration (DUI) and the Party for Democratic Prosperity (PDP) – began boycotting parliament following the elections of July 5. The election campaign period was marred by clashes and shootings between followers of DUI and DPA. Although DUI received most of the Al-

banian votes, new Prime Minister Nikola Gruevski of the nationalist Internal Macedonian Revolutionary Organization-Democratic Party for Macedonian National Unity (VMRO-DPMNE) chose DPA to represent the Albanian minority in his government coalition. Consequently, Ali Ahmeti, DUI leader and former insurgent, threatened the new government with non-recognition. In August, DUI and PDP staged protests, blocking highways and damaging cars. In September, talks between PM Gruevski and the Albanian opposition began, signalling a return to normalcy. In the course of the year, remarks by Kosovo Prime Minister Agim Ceku questioning the legality of the border between Macedonia and Kosovo led to a diplomatic quarrel. The remarks raised fears that secessionist tendencies among Macedonia's Albanian population might increase should Kosovo achieve independence.

aog

Moldova (Transdnierster)

Intensity: 2	Change: •	Start: 1989
Conflict Parties:	Transdnierstrian separatists vs. government	
Conflict Items:	secession	

The conflict between the Republic of Moldova and the breakaway Transdnierstrian region continued. From March 7, negotiations between Moldova and Transdnierstria were suspended because of a dispute over new customs regulations. In a referendum organized by the Transdnierstrian de-facto government on September 17, 97.1 per cent of the voters supported the final secession of Transdnierstria from Moldova and a later alignment with the Russian Federation. 1,500 troops continued to be deployed to the region, despite Russia's past assurances of withdrawing all forces by 2002. Moldovan President Vladimir Voronin called for a replacement of Russian troops with other international peacekeeping forces. On October 6, the Russian parliament passed a statement recognizing the referendum as legitimate and asking the international community to accept the result. No other state or international organization recognized the outcome of the referendum. The head of the OSCE mission to Moldova called the poll illegitimate. On October 18, separate consultations of international mediators with delegates from both conflict parties were held in the Ukrainian city of Odessa but ended without results.

ag

Romania (Hungarian Minority)

Intensity: 2	Change: ↗	Start: 1989
Conflict Parties:	Hungarian minority vs. government	
Conflict Items:	autonomy	

The conflict between the Hungarian community in Romania and the government intensified. The Hungarian minority is not united on this issue. The Széklers, a group of 600,000 Hungarians living in Transylvania,

demanded not only cultural but also territorial autonomy. The Székler National Council published its demands on March 15, calling among other things for the right for Széklers to have a president and school system of their own. The main Hungarian Party in Romania, the Democratic Union of Hungarians in Romania, part of the ruling coalition, already obtained further rights for Hungarians, including the use of bilingual signs. Yet the draft of the new minority law, which would further strengthen Hungarian autonomy, was not accepted by the parliament. Romanians across the political spectrum criticized the demands for territorial autonomy. The Greater Romania Party, promoting nationalist, anti-Hungarian policies, strongly opposed the autonomy demands and threatened to fight against the public demonstration of Hungarian autonomy demands in March. A clash between Romanian nationalists and Hungarian Széklers was only prevented by the mediation of the Romanian president.

ötb

Russia (Chechnya)

Intensity: 4	Change: •	Start: 1989
Conflict Parties:	Chechen rebels vs. government	
Conflict Items:	secession	

The conflict between the breakaway northern Caucasus republic of Chechnya and Russia continued. In early 2006, the Council of Europe adopted a resolution condemning the behaviour of Russian security forces in Chechnya. The European Court of Human Rights several times convicted the Russian government to pay damages in cases concerning the Chechen war. In March, Ramzan Kadyrov, the son of assassinated President Akhmad Kadyrov and current leader of a militia force, became prime minister. In June, Abdul-Khalim Saydullayev, who had been appointed to replace Aslan Maskhadov as president of the separatist leadership in 2005, was reportedly killed by security forces. On July 10, warlord Shamil Basayev, wanted by Russia in connection with several attacks including the 2004 Beslan school hostage-taking, died in Ingushetia. According to Russian forces, he lost his life in a special operation, whereas Chechen rebels blamed an accidental explosion. At the end of June, Basayev had been appointed vice president of the separatist government. Later in July, the Federal Security Service (FSB) urged the Chechen rebels to disarm and offered an amnesty to those laying down their arms. Several hundred Chechen fighters reputedly surrendered voluntarily to the authorities. In August, Putin ordered to prepare a partial withdrawal of Russian troops by 2008. In autumn, the pro-Moscow Chechen administration as well as the Regional Operation Headquarters of the Antiterrorist Operation admitted that the security situation in Chechnya remained tense and Chechen resistance still posed a serious threat. Armed clashes,

attacks, kidnappings and other violent incidents remained frequent, also spreading to neighboring republics in northern Caucasus.

vl, jc

Russia (opposition)

Intensity: 2	Change: •	Start: 2001
Conflict Parties:	opposition vs. government	
Conflict Items:	system / ideology	

In Russia, the system conflict between oppositional media and NGOs on the one hand and the government on the other continued. In late November 2005, the popular TV show of Olga Romanova was taken off the air after she had reported critically on the acquittal in a criminal case against the son of Defense Minister Sergei Ivanov. On December 22, the Russian authorities blocked the radio frequencies of BBC and Deutsche Welle, two foreign radio stations. In the observed period, numerous attempted murders and assassinations of opposition activists and critical journalists were not clarified by the state authorities. In April, a new law was implemented foreseeing stricter registration procedures and the disclosure of NGOs' financial background. Several NGOs complained about the new law, reporting severe problems with registering, and calling it an assault on the work of human rights groups. Protests of human rights activists before the bill's implementation were broken up by the special security OMON troops.

lo, jc, kw

Russia - Georgia

Intensity: 2	Change: •	Start: 1992
Conflict Parties:	Russia vs. Georgia	
Conflict Items:	international power	

The conflict between Russia and Georgia over international power continued. The conflict reached a new peak on October 3 with Russia calling back its ambassador from the Georgian capital, Tbilisi, and suspending all transport and postal links to Georgia. The relations between the two states had already been strained due to Georgia's orientation towards the USA. In May, Russia closed its market for Georgian wine and mineral water, two of their biggest export goods. On July 8, Russia closed the only overland border pass with Georgia. After a series of diplomatic accusations and resentments on both sides, the conflict further intensified on September 28, when Georgian authorities arrested four Russian military officers, accusing them of espionage. Russia subsequently closed its embassy in Georgia and ordered its troops to shoot to kill if necessary to defend Russian bases. It also announced not to withdraw its troops from Georgia, despite the Russian-Georgian agreement signed in March. In October, Russia increased pressure by tracing down more than 100 illegal Georgian workers living in Moscow and

deporting them to Georgia. Russia also called on Russians living in Georgia to leave the country, and provided aircrafts for their transport. Russia showed no inclination to respond to the call of EU and NATO to lift its sanctions against Georgia. Instead, Russian state-controlled monopoly Gazprom, Georgia's biggest supplier of gas, announced more than doubling its prices. Gazprom declared to cut off gas supplies by January 1 unless Georgia agreed to pay the higher prices.

luk

Russia - Ukraine

Intensity: 2	Change: ↗	Start: 2003
Conflict Parties:	Russia vs. Ukraine	
Conflict Items:	territory, resources	

The conflict over territory and resources between Russia and Ukraine reached a new dimension with the energy crisis in January. On January 1, Russian monopolist Gazprom completely cut off its gas supply to Ukraine. On January 4, Ukraine agreed on paying the double price for its gas, and Gazprom resumed its gas deliveries. During the year, tensions over the new gas pricing deal persisted. Ukrainian authorities accused Russia of using its gas monopoly to exert political pressure on its neighbor. In October, Russia and Ukraine started new negotiations about the unresolved territory issues in the Crimea. Both sides failed to agree on a line of demarcation concerning the island of Tuzla, situated in the Kerch Strait.

ts

Serbia (Kosovo)

Intensity: 3	Change: •	Start: 1989
Conflict Parties:	Albanian majority in Kosovo vs. Serbian government	
Conflict Items:	secession	

The conflict between the Albanian majority in Kosovo and Serbia concerning the status of the province continued. In December 2005, the UN administration UNMIK formally handed over control of the police and justice ministries to Kosovo's authorities. Shortly before the scheduled start of direct status talks, Kosovo's President Ibrahim Rugova died of cancer on 01/21/06. The parliament elected Fatmir Sejdiu as new president. On February 20, the first round of UN-supervised negotiations began in Vienna. On March 1, Kosovo's Prime Minister Kosumi announced his resignation and was succeeded by Agim Ceku, a former Kosovo Liberation Army commander, currently head of the Kosovo Protection Corps. From mid-March on, status talks continued focusing e.g. on the situation of ethnic Serbs in Kosovo, decentralization, the protection of religious and cultural heritage sites, and economic issues. In July, the seventh round of talks ended – like most of the previous ones - without any results. On July 24, the first direct talks between Kosovo Albanian and Serbian presidents and prime

ministers since the 1999 Kosovo war took place. As each side reiterated its known positions, the talks failed to produce a breakthrough. On September 20, the international Contact Group once more urged to settle the status question by the end of 2006. They instructed UN special envoy Martti Ahtisaari to prepare his proposals on the province's status. At the end of September, the Serbian parliament adopted a new constitution naming Kosovo an integral part of Serbia. In a referendum, the Serbian voters approved the new constitution by a narrow majority. Kosovo's ethnic Albanians were not entitled to take part in the elections due to not being registered as voters. In November, Ahtisaari postponed the presentation of his report on the future status of Kosovo until after the Serbian elections scheduled for 01/21/07. Various acts of violence, mainly affecting the Serbian minority, were committed in Kosovo, leaving at least 20 people injured. On November 28, pro-independence demonstrators attacked government and UNMIK buildings.

jc

Serbia and Montenegro (Montenegro)

Intensity: 2	Change: END	Start: 1997
Conflict Parties:	Serbia vs. Montenegro	
Conflict Items:	secession	

In the conflict within the Union of Serbia and Montenegro, Montenegro held a referendum which decided on the future of the state union. In the run-up to the referendum, Serbia announced to accept the secession of Montenegro only if a significant majority of the Montenegrin population was in favour of independence. On May 21, 55.5 per cent of Montenegrins - just narrowly above the necessary threshold - voted for seceding from Serbia. On June 4, Montenegro declared its independence. One day later, the parliament of Montenegro ratified this declaration. As a result, Serbia also declared itself independent. Serbia did not officially recognise Montenegro as an independent state until June 15, after many other countries had already done so. On June 22, both countries established diplomatic relations.

ap

Slovakia (Hungarian minority)

Intensity: 2	Change: ↗	Start: 1993
Conflict Parties:	Hungarian minority vs. government	
Conflict Items:	autonomy	

Tensions continued in the conflict between the Hungarian minority and Slovakia concerning the cultural autonomy and rights of the Hungarians. In June, a government coalition including the extremist, anti-Hungarian Slovak National Party was formed. In August, Slovak extremists committed several assaults against ethnic Hungarians and their institutions. Members of the Hungarian minority answered

with anti-Slovak graffiti on Slovak official buildings. After talks between the authorities of Hungary and Slovakia, the Slovakian government announced to fight political extremists and ensure the protection of Hungarian minority rights.

sd

Spain (Basque provinces)

Intensity: 3	Change: •	Start: 1959
Conflict Parties:	ETA vs. government	
Conflict Items:	secession	

The conflict between the organization Basque Homeland and Freedom (ETA) and the government concerning the independence of the Basque provinces continued. ETA was responsible for a series of bomb attacks with much damage to property in late 2005. From January to March 2006, ETA committed several other bombings on buildings. Two people were slightly injured in a bomb attack in Vitoria on February 25. On March 22, ETA surprisingly announced a permanent ceasefire. It came into force two days later and was not broken all year. After this announcement, the government demanded the end of the use of extortion by the Basque organization, and Prime Minister José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero signalled his willingness to start peace talks. In July, the Basque wing of the ruling Spanish Socialist Party began talks with the banned Basque separatist group Batasuna to find a political solution. The negotiations were accompanied by strong protests of hundreds of thousands of people in Madrid. The judicial prosecution of ETA members continued. In November 2005, a trial against 56 suspected ETA activists started. At the end of 2006, smaller incidents were reported, for example a robbery of weapons in France by the French branch of ETA, as well as ETA threats to break the ceasefire agreement.

jrt

Turkey - Armenia

Intensity: 2	Change: •	Start: 1915
Conflict Parties:	Turkey vs. Armenia	
Conflict Items:	others (acceptance of Armenian genocide)	

The 1915 genocide of the Armenian population of the Ottoman Empire remained a major disputed issue between Turkey and Armenia. Following diplomatic pressure by the EU, a Turkish court in January dropped the case against the Turkish author Orhan Pamuk, who had been charged with insulting the Turkish state after publicly stating that one million Armenians were killed in Turkey during World War I. Turkey continued to deny the genocide. In May, negotiations between Armenia and Turkey, which still do not obtain diplomatic relations, led to no rapprochement. On October 12, the French parliament passed a bill declaring it a crime to deny the Armenian genocide. Subse-

quently, the Turkish parliament passed a declaration condemning the French bill.

stw

Turkey - Greece

Intensity: 2	Change: •	Start: 1973
Conflict Parties:	Turkey vs. Greece	
Conflict Items:	territory	

Greece and Turkey maintained their claims in the conflict on rights of sovereignty in the Aegean border region. The antagonism threatened to escalate when a Turkish and a Greek fighter jet collided over the Aegean Sea during a mock dogfight on May 23. The Greek pilot died while the Turkish aviator survived. Both Turkey and Greece quickly defused any potential tensions arising from the incident. The two foreign ministers agreed this should not affect the two countries' efforts to improve their relations. As a confidence-building measure, the Greek chief of staff visited Ankara in July, and his Turkish counterpart accepted an invitation to Athens in November.

aj

United Kingdom (Northern Ireland)

Intensity: 3	Change: •	Start: 1968
Conflict Parties:	Sinn Féin, IRA vs. government, UUP, DUP, UDA/UFF, LVF, Red Hand Defenders, Orange Volunteers, Real IRA	
Conflict Items:	secession	

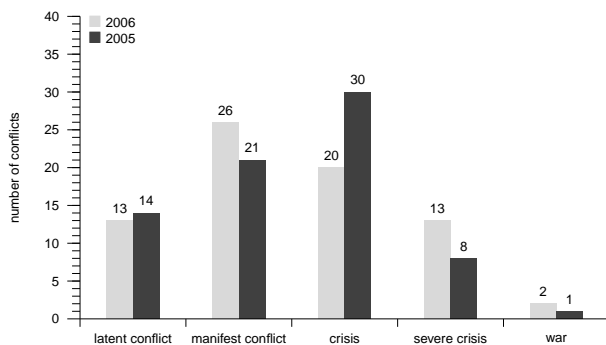
The conflict concerning secession of Northern Ireland from the United Kingdom continued. After numerous talks between the British government and Northern Ireland's leading parties, the regional assembly met for the first time in three years on May 15. On October 13, the St Andrews Agreement was reached, envisioning the gradual reintroduction of Northern Irish self-administration. The crucial point of the agreement was the acknowledgment of Northern Irish security forces by the pro-Irish party Sinn Féin. Sinn Féin refused. The responsibility for the police force and judicial system was to be transferred to the Northern Irish self-administration by summer 2007. No agreement was reached between the leading parties. This was also due to the fact that the pro-British Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) did not differentiate between Sinn Féin and splinter groups of the Irish Republican Army (IRA). The British and Irish prime ministers set 03/26/07 as a deadline for the return of a power-sharing government to Stormont. Paramilitary violence continued. The long standing feud between Loyalist paramilitaries Ulster Volunteer Fighters (UVF) and Loyalist Volunteer Fighters (LVF) persisted. The IRA splinter group Real IRA claimed responsibility for a series of firebomb attacks in the city of Newry on August 9.

jb

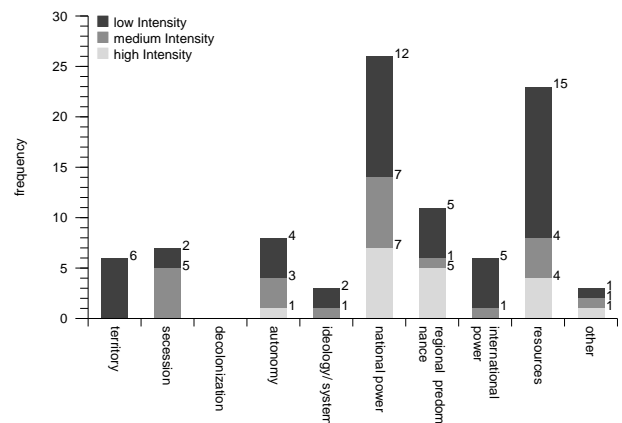
Africa

In Africa, there were 74 political conflicts. This is the same number as in 2005, seeing as three conflicts ended in 2005, and three new ones emerged in 2006. No conflict ended in 2006 as of yet. Of these 74 conflicts, two were wars: Somalia (various rebel groups) and Sudan (Darfur). 13 were severe crises. Therefore, 15 were carried out on a high level of violence, compared to nine in 2005. This increase was largely due to the re-emergence of regional conflicts. Regional conflicts can be characterized as an interrelated system of violent conflicts crossing national boundaries and leading to transnational regions of instability and humanitarian crisis. In the African context, this phenomenon had frequently been linked to destabilization strategies, in which countries support or even create insurgent groups in neighboring states. The best known examples of these regional conflicts in the recent past have been the civil wars in Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone, and the conflict zone in the Great Lakes region. But while this specific form of regional conflicts ceased to exist in western Africa and has been contained – at least to some extent – in the Great Lakes region, the phenomenon resurged in the region of the border triangle of Sudan, Chad, and the Central African Republic, and is not unlikely to appear in the Horn of Africa, among the states of Eritrea, Ethiopia, and Somalia. After the civil war in the western Sudanese province of Darfur raged for three years, the conflict in recent time spilled over to the neighboring states of Chad and the Central African Republic, where the fighting between government and rebel forces developed into full-fledged, and highly violent civil wars. As in the case of its predecessors, the affected countries accused their neighbors of massively supporting the rebel forces. Another case for a possible spill-over of a violent conflict could be observed in Somalia. In the course of the advance of the United Islamic Courts militia in Somalia, Ethiopia as well as Eritrea became increasingly involved in the conflict, with Ethiopia intervening militarily on the side of the Transitional Government in Baidoa, while Eritrea is said to provide support to the UIC militias. Interestingly, and in contrast to the regional conflicts in West Africa and the Great Lakes region, the aspect of resources does not seem to play a decisive role in these two cases. The situation in the regions affected by regional conflicts is worsened by the weakness of the states, which can neither effectively contain those rebel forces nor prevent intercommunal clashes. Another event of central importance was the election in the Democratic Republic of Congo held in July and October. Despite fears that fighting would resume after the elections, by the beginning of December, there were no major clashes between the forces of President Joseph Kabila, who was declared winner of the presidential elections, and his rival Jean Pierre Bemba, who indicated willingness to accept his defeat in the polls. As in the DRC in 2006, the elections in Nigeria of 2007 are widely seen as a crucial test to the political stability of the respective countries. In 2006, international, regional, and sub-regional organizations were conducting peacekeeping operations in Africa. Most active among them were the United Nations, running six missions in Africa. However, the UN was not uncontested: Burundi's government wished the peacekeeping force to leave, claiming it was no longer necessary, whereas the government in Côte d'Ivoire referred to the peacekeepers as colonizers, and pro-governmental militias even attacked their bases. Meanwhile, Sudan does not agree with the transformation of AMIS, the peacekeeping mission of the African Union in Darfur, to a joint AU and UN mission. AMIS is the only AU peacekeeping mission running in this year, but AU is also to deploy a joint mission with the sub-regional organization Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) to Somalia. The sub-regional organization of the Economic and Monetary Community of Central African States (CEMAC) maintains a stabilization force in the Central African Republic. The EU launched a military mission in the DRC to support the election process.

Conflict Intensities in Africa 2006 compared to 2005



Frequency of Conflict Items 2006 in Africa by Intensity Groups



Summary: Conflicts in Africa 2006

Name of Conflict ¹	Conflict Parties ²	Conflict Items	Start	Change ³	Int. ⁴
Angola (Cabinda)	FLEC vs. government	secession	1975	•	3
Angola (UNITA)	UNITA vs. government	national power	1975	•	3
Botswana (Basarwa)*	Basarwa vs. government	resources	1997	•	2
Burundi (Hutu - Tutsi)	Hutu vs. Tutsi	national power	1962	↓	2
Burundi (Palipehutu-FNL Rwasas)	Rwasas's Palipehutu-FNL faction vs. government	national power	2005	•	3
Burundi (opposition)	FRODEBU, UPRONA vs. government	national power	2006	NEW	3
Burundi - Rwanda (border)*	Burundi vs. Rwanda	territory	1960	↗	2
Central African Republic (Patassé)*	Patassé vs. government	national power	2003	↘	1
Central African Republic (UDFR)	UDFR vs. government	national power	2005	↗	4
Chad (MDJT)*	MDJT vs. government	national power	1998	•	1
Chad (ethnic groups)	Arab ethnic communities vs. African ethnic communities	regional predominance	2003	↗	4
Chad (opposition)*	opposition vs. government	national power	1990	•	2
Chad (various rebel groups)	various rebel groups vs. government	national power	2005	•	4
Chad - Sudan	Chad - Sudan	international power	2003	↗	3
Comores (regions)	regional governments of Anjouan and Moheli vs. Union government on Grand Comore	autonomy	1997	↗	2
Congo-Brazzaville (Ninja militias)*	Ninja militias, CNR vs. government	autonomy	1997	↘	2
Côte d'Ivoire (Guere - Dioula, immigrants)*	Guere vs. Dioula, immigrants	regional predominance, resources	2004	↘	2
Côte d'Ivoire (rebels)	FN, Group of Seven vs. government	national power	1999	•	3
DR Congo (Hema - Lendu)*	Hema vs. Lendu	regional predominance, resources	2000	•	2
DR Congo (Ituri militias)	Hema militias, Lendu militias vs. government	other	2003	•	4
DR Congo (MLC, RCD-G, UDPS)	MLC, RCD-G, UDPS vs. government	national power, resources	1997	•	3
DR Congo (Mayi-Mayi)	Mayi-Mayi vs. government	national power, resources	1997	•	4
DR Congo (ex-RCD-G, FDLR, Interahamwe)	ex-RCD-G, FDLR, Interahamwe vs. government	national power	1997	•	4
DR Congo - Rwanda*	DR Congo vs. Rwanda	international power, resources	2002	•	2
DR Congo - Uganda*	DR Congo vs. Uganda	international power, resources	1999	•	2
Equatorial Guinea - Gabon*	Equatorial Guinea vs. Gabon	territory	1970	•	1
Ethiopia (Anyuak - Nuer)*	Anyuak vs. Nuer	regional predominance, resources	2003	↘	2
Ethiopia (EPPF)	EPPF vs. government	national power	1998	↗	4
Ethiopia (Guji - Borena)	Guji vs. Borena	regional predominance, resources	2005	↗	4
Ethiopia (Ogaden)*	ONLF vs. government	secession	1984	↑	3
Ethiopia (Oromo - Somali)*	Oromo vs. Somali	regional predominance, resources	2005	↓	1
Ethiopia (Oromo)	OLF vs. government	secession	1974	•	3
Ethiopia (opposition)*	CUD, UEDF vs. government	national power	2005	↘	2
Ethiopia - Eritrea	Ethiopia vs. Eritrea	territory	1998	•	2
Gambia - Senegal*	Gambia vs. Senegal	resources	2005	↘	1
Guinea (Guerze - Konianke)*	Guerze vs. Konianke	regional predominance	2001	↓	1
Guinea Bissau - Gambia*	Guinea Bissau vs. Gambia	others	2005	•	1
Guinea-Bissau (MFDC-Sadio)	Guinea-Bissau vs. MFDC (Salif Sadio)	regional predominance	2006	NEW	4
Guinea-Bissau (PAIGC)*	PAIGC vs. government	national power	1998	↘	2
Kenya (ethnic groups)	Kenyan ethnic groups vs. Ugandan ethnic groups	resources	1991	•	3

Name of Conflict ¹	Conflict Parties ²	Conflict Items	Start	Change ³	Int. ⁴
Kenya (opposition)*	opposition vs. government	system / ideology, national power	1990	↘	2
Liberia (LURD, MODEL - Taylor loyalists)	Charles Taylor, Taylor loyalists vs. LURD, MODEL	national power, resources	1999	•	2
Madagascar (CMMR)*	CMMR vs. government	national power	2001	•	1
Mali (Tuareg)	Tuareg vs. government	autonomy	1989	↑	3
Mauritania - Senegal*	Mauritania vs. Senegal	resources	2000	•	1
Namibia (Caprivi Strip)*	CLA, DTA, UDP vs. government	secession	1998	↗	2
Niger (various Touareg groups)*	Tuareg rebels vs. government	autonomy, resources	1999	↘	1
Nigeria (Biafra)	MASSOB vs. government	secession	1967	•	3
Nigeria (Christians - Muslims)	Muslims, Hausa-Fulani vs. Christians,	system / ideology	1960	•	3
Nigeria (Niger Delta - Ijaw)	Ijaw vs. Itsekiri, government	resources	1997	↗	4
Nigeria (Nigerdelta - Ogoni)*	MOSOP vs. government	autonomy, resources	1990	•	2
Nigeria - Cameroon (Bakassi)	Nigeria vs. Cameroon	territory	1961	↘	2
Rwanda (various Hutu rebel groups)	Interahamwe, ex-FAR, FDLR vs. government	national power	1990	•	2
Rwanda - France*	Rwanda vs. France	international power	2004	•	2
Rwanda - Uganda*	Rwanda vs. Uganda	international power, resources	2000	•	2
Senegal (MFDC-Sadio)	MFDC-Sadio vs. government, MDFC	autonomy	1982	↑	4
Sierra Leone (AFRC, RUF, SMG)*	AFRC, RUF, SMG vs. government	national power, resources	1991	•	2
Somalia (Somaliland)*	Somaliland vs. government	secession	1991	•	2
Somalia (various rebel groups)	warlords vs. government	national power	1980	↑	5
South Africa (KwaZulu-Natal)	IFP vs. ANC	regional predominance	1990	↗	3
South Africa - Namibia*	South Africa vs. Namibia	territory, resources	1991	•	1
Sudan (Darfur)	SLM/A, JEM, NMRD vs. government, Janjaweed	regional predominance, resources	2003	•	5
Sudan (Eastern Front)	Eastern Front vs. government	autonomy	2005	↘	3
Sudan (Hotiya-Baggara - Newiba-Aballa)*	Hotiya-Baggara vs. Newiba-Aballa	resources	2005	•	3
Sudan (Nuer, White Army - SPLM/A)	Nuer, White Army vs. SPLM/A	regional predominance	2006	NEW	4
Sudan (SPLM/A)	SPLM/A vs. government	national power	1989	↗	4
Sudan - Uganda*	Sudan vs. Uganda	international power	1994	•	1
Swaziland (opposition)	SFTU, PUDEMO, SWAYOCO vs. government	system / ideology	1998	↘	2
Swaziland - South Africa*	Swaziland vs. South Africa	territory	1902	•	1
Tanzania (Zanzibar)	CUF vs. government	secession	1993	↗	3
Togo (opposition)	UFC vs. government	national power	2002	↘	2
Uganda (ADF, NALU)	ADF, NALU vs. government	national power	1987	↘	3
Uganda (LRA)	LRA vs. government	autonomy, resources, others	1987	↘	3
Zimbabwe (opposition)	MDC, MDC-pro senate, NCA, WOZA, ZCTU, ZINASU vs. government	national power	2000	•	3

^{1 2 3 4} see first regiontable

Angola (Cabinda)

Intensity: 3	Change: •	Start: 1975
Conflict Parties:	FLEC vs. government	
Conflict Items:	secession	

The conflict concerning the future status of the oil-rich province of Cabinda remained unresolved despite a peace agreement between a Cabindian ne-

gotiator and the Angolan government. On July 10, António Bento Bembe, a former leader of a faction of the Front for the Liberation of the Enclave of Cabinda (FLEC), announced that FLEC would lay down their weapons. He was joined in this announcement by a negotiator of the Cabinda Dialogue Forum (FDC), an umbrella organization encompassing different FLEC factions as well as major civil society groups. On Au-

gust 1, Bembe signed a peace agreement with the government. This agreement, however, was immediately dismissed as unacceptable by most member organizations of the FDC. In addition, representatives of the FDC also denied Bembe's legitimacy to sign an agreement on their behalf. In October, clashes between police forces and demonstrators protesting against the peace agreement were reported. In response, the government announced it would crack down on those who did not accept the peace deal.

ml

Angola (UNITA)

Intensity: 3	Change: •	Start: 1975
Conflict Parties:	UNITA vs. government	
Conflict Items:	national power	

The conflict over power between the ruling Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) and the biggest opposition party of Angola, the Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA), continued to be violent. At the local level, sporadic violent incidents directed against UNITA members were reported from five provinces. Allegedly, members of the former Civil Defense Organization and the State Security Services were involved. In January, President Jose Eduardo dos Santos indicated that the elections, originally scheduled for 2006, would not be held before 2007 due to the country's bad infrastructure. UNITA's Secretary for Public Administration, Alcides Sakala, therefore accused the ruling MPLA of using infrastructural projects as a political tool for winning votes. In October, the UN started its final repatriation scheme for the remaining 60,000 of the originally 400,000 refugees displaced during the civil war.

ml

Burundi (Hutu - Tutsi)

Intensity: 2	Change: ↓	Start: 1962
Conflict Parties:	Hutu vs. Tutsi	
Conflict Items:	national power	

The conflict over power between the Hutu and Tutsi, the country's two major ethnicities, deescalated to a non-violent level. Due to a change in government, violence shifted towards a different conflict constellation [=>Burundi (Palipehutu-FNL Rwas)]. In August 2005, a clearly Hutu-dominated government of the former Hutu rebel movement National Council for the Defense of Democracy - Forces for the Defense of Democracy (CNDD-FDD) was inaugurated. The fact that the main Tutsi party, Union for National Progress (UPRONA), and the former main Hutu party, Front for Democracy in Burundi (FRODEBU), were cooperating in their opposition against President Pierre Nkurunziza [=>Burundi (opposition)] indicated a diminishing significance of ethnic affiliations. These parties had already cooperated in the transitional govern-

ment. Moreover, several Tutsi left UPRONA and other Tutsi parties to join the CNDD-FDD. On 12/21/05, the UN Security Council extended the mandate of the UN peacekeeping forces in Burundi (ONUB) but recommended downsizing them in accordance to the new government's wishes. The first peacekeepers left on 12/28/05. In February 2006, the last phase of the demobilization started, this time including army officers. In accordance to the Arusha peace agreement of 2000, the UN intended to establish a Truth and Reconciliation Committee as well as a Special Court to deal with the crimes committed during the country's long civil war.

hlm

Burundi (Palipehutu-FNL Rwas)

Intensity: 3	Change: •	Start: 2005
Conflict Parties:	Rwasa's Palipehutu-FNL faction vs. government	
Conflict Items:	national power	

In August 2005, a transformation of conflict constellations occurred in Burundi. A power conflict with a faction of Palipehutu National Liberation Forces (Palipehutu-FNL) evolved after the election of a Hutu-dominated government. The new government was headed by President Pierre Nkurunziza, leader of the former Hutu rebel movement National Council for the Defense of Democracy - Forces for the Defense of Democracy (CNDD-FDD), the new ruling party. The Palipehutu-FNL had split in two factions. While a part of Palipehutu-FNL under Jean Bosco Sindayigaya announced that its demands had been fulfilled and that it therefore would stop fighting, a splinter group led by Agathon Rwas kept fighting the government. Immediately after his inauguration, Nkurunziza announced that he was ready for negotiations. This was dismissed by Rwas. Throughout the first half of 2006, sporadic clashes continued between Rwas's fighters and the government army, especially in the rebel stronghold Bujumbura Rural. Army and police arrested many alleged Rwas supporters, some of which were tortured or killed in custody according to Human Rights Watch. On March 11, Rwas offered negotiations to the government. At the end of the month, Tanzania officially invited Burundi to peace talks in Dar es Salaam, which started on May 29 under South African mediation. During these negotiations, Rwas's Palipehutu-FNL faction intensified its attacks for several days, also shelling the capital Bujumbura. On June 18, the two parties signed a preliminary truce setting a deadline for a permanent ceasefire until July 1. This was not achieved, as Rwas insisted on the dissolution of the national army while Nkurunziza merely offered the integration of Rwas's fighters into the armed forces. Negotiations started once more on July 17, while Rwas's fighters again attacked civilians on July 19, killing three persons. On

September 7, the parties finally signed a permanent truce. Subsequently, no more fighting was reported.

hlm

Burundi (opposition)

Intensity: 3	Change: NEW	Start: 2006
Conflict Parties:	FRODEBU, UPRONA vs. government	
Conflict Items:	national power	

A new conflict over national power erupted in Burundi in 2006. The conflict parties were the recently elected Hutu-dominated government, headed by President Pierre Nkurunziza, and several opposition political parties. The dispute transcended ethnic cleavages, as the main opposition parties were the biggest Hutu-dominated party, Front for Democracy in Burundi (FRODEBU), and the biggest Tutsi-dominated party, Union for National Progress (UPRONA). UPRONA was in power for some 20 years before the transitional phase in Burundi, FRODEBU was the dominant Hutu-party during the transition process. In last year's elections, FRODEBU was the most important competitor of the now ruling Hutu party National Council for the Defense of Democracy - Forces for the Defense of Democracy (CNDD-FDD). FRODEBU and UPRONA accused the CNDD-FDD and especially the National Intelligence Service (SNR), that is directly controlled by the president, of frequently violating the constitution and other laws as well as human rights. The SNR was held responsible for extrajudicial killings of at least 38 persons, many of them alleged supporters of rebel movements [=>Burundi (Palipehutu-FNL Rwasana)]. In early August, many politicians and military leaders were arrested as coup plotters. Among them were former Vice President Alphonse Marie Kadege (UPRONA), former President Domitien Ndayizeye (FRODEBU) and several other FRODEBU members, former Hutu rebel leader Alain Mugabarabona, now heading a political party, together with some members of his party, as well as Colonel Damien Ndarisigaranye. FRODEBU, UPRONA and other parties protested against the arrests while the UN expressed concern about reported torture of the detainees. On November 24, the Supreme Court adjourned the trial after the defendants questioned the judges' impartiality.

hlm

Central African Republic (UDFR)

Intensity: 4	Change: ↗	Start: 2005
Conflict Parties:	UDFR vs. government	
Conflict Items:	national power	

The conflict between the Union of Democratic Forces of Unity (UDFR) and the government of Francois Bozizé intensified, causing approx. 100 casualties as well as 40,000 refugees and 55,000 internally displaced persons. The fighting concentrated on the northern prefectures of Ouham, Ouham-Pende, and

Vakaga, close to the border to Chad. Heavy clashes were reported when the rebels attacked an army installation near the Chadian border on January 27. On January 29, government troops launched an attack against rebel groups in the town of Paoua that allegedly caused many civilian casualties. The conflict intensified in the second half of the year. On October 30, a rebel group led by Florian Ndjadder-Bedaya captured the town of Birao. Quadda-Djalle also came under rebel control on November 10. The government, blaming Sudan for orchestrating the insurgency, repeatedly asked for military support from its neighbor states as well as from France. On November 18, the Gabonese President Omar Bongo declared that the African Economic and Monetary Community (CEMAC) would intervene in the conflict. The CEMAC had already deployed troops to the country in 2003. In 2006, the Multinational Force in Central Africa numbered 300 men. In addition, Chad dispatched a contingent of 150 soldiers to support the government on November 21, while France agreed to provide logistical and intelligence support. During a counter offensive at the beginning of December, government forces recaptured the towns of Birao, Sam Ouandja, Quadda and Ndele, leaving only the town of Quadda-Djalle under the control of the rebels. France became directly involved in these fights, as its air forces conducted air raids against rebel strongholds.

rz

Chad (ethnic groups)

Intensity: 4	Change: ↗	Start: 2003
Conflict Parties:	Arab ethnic communities vs. African ethnic communities	
Conflict Items:	regional predominance	

The conflict between Arab Janjaweed groups, located on both sides of the Chad-Sudan border, and black African communities in the eastern part of Chad escalated. The conflict began in 2003, when Sudanese Janjaweed conducted cross-border raids into the Chadian region south of Adré. After the situation had improved in 2005, due to the stepped up army border-patrols by Chad as well as the deployment of AU Mission in Sudan (AMIS) on the Sudanese side of the border, the situation deteriorated again in 2006. In connection with the escalating civil war in Chad [=>Chad (rebels)], the intensification of fighting in Darfur [=>Sudan (Darfur)] and repeated accusations of Chad against Sudan for supporting Chadian rebel groups [=>Chad - Sudan], Janjaweed raided border villages in Chad on a daily basis. On January 6, Janjaweed attacked the cities of Borota, Ade and Moudaina located in eastern Chad. About 80 villages in the prefecture of Borota were raided and afterwards abandoned by their African inhabitants. Due to the diminishing army presence - mainly deployed by the government to fight the rebels - the residents of Modoya and Borota organized self-defense forces.

According to human rights agencies, non-Arab ethnic groups in Chad, e.g. the Quaddai, Tama and Mimi, allied themselves with the Janjaweed in order to avoid being attacked by them. In November, fighting caused 200 casualties in the Kerfi area, as well as 123 casualties in the Salamat region. In the course of the conflict, approx. 68,000 people became displaced.

rs

Chad (various rebel groups)

Intensity: 4	Change: •	Start: 2005
Conflict Parties:	various rebel groups vs. government	
Conflict Items:	national power	

The conflict in Chad over national power between various rebel groups and President Idriss Deby further intensified. The main rebel movement is the United Front for Change and Democracy (FUC), an anti-government alliance encompassing several rebel groups, among them the Platform for National Change, Unity, and Democracy (SCUD), led by Yaya Dillo Djerou, and the Rally for Democracy and Liberty (RDL), led by Mahamat Nouri, also head of the FUC. The rebellion against Deby began when soldiers defected from the army and mutinied, leading to the dissolution of the presidential guard. In late 2005, the first severe fighting between government and rebel forces took place in Chad's capital Ndjamen. In December 2005, approx. 370 fighters died in a battle at the town of Adre on the Sudanese border, where rebel and government forces clashed once more in March 2006. Army Chief of Staff General Abakar Youssouf Mahamat Itno was killed. Also in March, Deby announced that he had survived an attempt to shoot down the plane he was traveling in. On March 22, there was shooting around Deby's residence. Late in March, government forces launched an attack on SCUD in the east. In April, FUC made a swift move westwards from the Sudanese border to Ndjamen. An estimated 200 persons were killed in the city in the ensuing battle. Government forces aided by French combat aircraft repelled the assault. France maintained troops in Chad and had been repeatedly supporting Deby with air reconnaissance. The situation in the triangle between CAR, Chad, and Sudan deteriorated as Chadian rebels moved across the border to CAR, where they were attacked by CAR and French soldiers in mid-2006. In June, a UN Security Council delegation visited Darfur, and also eastern Chad. The mission conferred with Deby and French officials about a possible UN mission to Chad and France's contribution to it. After a pause in fighting during the rainy season, the Chadian army engaged the rebels in the Aram Kolle mountains north of the city Abeche in September. In October, the rebels briefly held the towns Goz Beida and Am-Timan, about 600 km south of Abeche. The army recaptured both towns. In late November, there was fighting in the surrounding of and in Abeche, which served as a hub for humani-

tarian aid for more than 200,000 refugees from Sudan, and also as a base for the French air force. On November 28, UNHCR began the evacuation of its staff from Abeche after the security situation had further deteriorated. Some 68,000 Chadians became displaced in the east in 2006. Chad repeatedly accused Sudan of supporting the rebels, but Sudan denied these allegations and accused Chad of supporting rebels in its Darfur region [=>Chad - Sudan]. On January 18, FUC announced it maintained friendly relations with Sudan but would not receive any military assistance.

pb

Chad - Sudan

Intensity: 3	Change: ↗	Start: 2003
Conflict Parties:	Chad - Sudan	
Conflict Items:	international power	

The conflict between Sudan and Chad concerning cross-border military operations of state security forces and the support of rebel activities directed against the government of the respective neighbor state remained tense. Beginning in December 2005, reports emerged on the direct involvement of Sudanese troops in cross-border raids by Sudanese Janjaweed militias [=>Sudan (Darfur)] into the Chadian border region of Goungor [=>Chad (ethnic groups)]. On January 18, Abdelwahid Aboud Makaye, a leader of the United Front for Change and Democracy rebel group [=>Chad (rebel groups)] confirmed that his movement was using Sudanese territory as a rear base. This was denied by the Sudanese authorities. On 12/23/05, Chad declared it was in a state of belligerence with its neighboring state. Sudan did not reciprocate this declaration of war, and instead called for mediation. On February 8, through the mediation of Libya, the belligerent parties reached the Tripoli Agreement. Thereby, both parties pledged to prevent the use of their territory as rear bases for rebel movements, and to refrain from any support for these insurgent groups. Despite the accord, Chad continuously accused Sudan of supporting various rebel groups in the Chadian civil war, which gained momentum since March. As a result Chad, cut diplomatic relations with Sudan for the second time in 2006 on April 14. Diplomatic channels between Sudan and Chad were reestablished in August. On October 28, Chad accused Sudan of having bombed the border villages of Bahai, Tine, Karyari, and Bamina. Sudan denied the attacks.

pb, rs

Comores (regions)

Intensity: 2	Change: ↗	Start: 1997
Conflict Parties:	regional governments of Anjouan and Moheli vs. Union government on Grand Comore	
Conflict Items:	autonomy	

The conflict concerning autonomy between the regional governments of Anjouan and Moheli on the one hand and the central government on Grand Comore on the other continued peacefully. On March 30, an AU mission with 460 troops was stationed in the capital, Moroni, to guarantee free and fair elections. On May 14, the three islands of the Comores elected Ahmed Abdallah Mohamed Sambi as the new president with 58 per cent of the vote. With the federal presidency of the union rotating between the three islands, Sambi from Anjouan succeeded Azali Assoumani, who represented Grande Comore, on May 26. These were the first peaceful democratic elections.

ab

Côte d'Ivoire (rebels)

Intensity: 3	Change: •	Start: 1999
Conflict Parties:	FN, Group of Seven vs. government	
Conflict Items:	national power	

The conflict between the rebels of the New Forces (FN) and the government of President Laurent Gbagbo over national power remained violent. The year before, the conflict parties had agreed on a new prime minister, Charles Konan Banny, to head the transitional government, tasked with advancing the stalled peace process and organizing presidential elections in October 2006. The main impediment to the elections were the stagnating disarmament and issuing of Ivorian identification cards, which are a prerequisite for achieving suffrage. These processes were to be concluded before elections could take place. The rebels demanded that the identification process must be finished before they hand in their weapons. The UN tried in vain to resume the disarmament process, in which 42,000 ex-combatants of the FN, 5,000 members of the regular army, and 12,000 members of pro-government militias were to be disarmed. In July, the Young Patriots (YP), loyal to Gbagbo, violently blocked roads, stopping people from registering for identification cards. One person was killed. The UN peacekeeping mission UNOCI as well as French peacekeepers were also targeted by the YP. After the International Working Group overseeing the implementation of the peace agreement noticed that the mandate of the FPI-dominated parliament had ended, the FPI denounced the UN as colonizers, and the YP staged violent demonstrations against UNOCI from January 16 to 19. More than 1,000 people blocked the French embassy and besieged UNOCI camps, unhindered by the coun-

try's security forces. In an exchange of gunfire, five demonstrators were killed by UN troops. French troops were repeatedly harassed by government troops in the buffer zone, from which the latter were strictly banned. Gbagbo himself announced that UN-OCI and French troops should leave the country. When it transpired that the elections could not take place as scheduled in 2006, the AU proposed that Gbagbo should stay in office one more year. UN Resolution 1721 accepted this proposal but also called for the transfer of more power to Banny, especially in regard to the control of the security forces. No November 2, Gbagbo stated that he would not fully comply with the resolution. The power struggle between Gbagbo and Banny intensified in the end of November, when Gbagbo reinstated senior civil servants, that had been sacked by Banny in connection to the toxic-waste scandale in September. In the beginning of December violent demonstrations, directed against president Gbagbo, erupted in the towns of Toumodi, Dabou and the capital Yamousoukro, leaving two people dead.

mg, hlm

DR Congo (Ituri militias)

Intensity: 4	Change: •	Start: 2003
Conflict Parties:	Hema militias, Lendu militias vs. government	
Conflict Items:	other	

The conflict concerning the disarmament of several militias by the government in the Ituri province of the DR Congo was conducted on the level of a severe crisis. The government was backed by the UN mission MONUC. The militias were formed along the ethnicities of Hema and Lendu. The conflict was rooted in the dispute over regional predominance and resources between both [=>DR Congo (Hema - Lendu)]. After the withdrawal of Uganda, which had occupied Ituri until 2003, MONUC and the then newly created army of Congo, Armed Forces of DR Congo (FARDC) introduced a voluntary and compulsory disarmament program in Ituri. In 2006, most fighting took place between the army and various militias. During three weeks in March, 8,000 to 10,000 persons fled following warnings of an imminent attack by an army commander. The attack took place south of the provincial capital, Bunia. The UN troops faced strong resistance by elements of the Patriotic Resistance Front in Ituri (FRPI) and the Movement for Revolution in Congo (MRC). There also was fighting in Tcheyi, stronghold of the Front of Nationalists and Fundamentalists (FNI). Since the introduction of the disarmament program, 12,515 combatants surrendered their weapons in the first phase, and another 6,000 under the program's second phase. Other militiamen refused to give up their weapons and remained loyal to the MRC, led by Mathieu Ngudjolo, and FNI, led by Peter Karim. Although Karim became integrated

into the national army in October, his men remained active in Ituri. Following the expiry of the deadline for the disarmament and community reinsertion plan for former combatants on April 1, the government deployed 10,000 to 20,000 soldiers to pursue the militia, backed by some 4,700 UN troops. The militia groups were estimated to number 4,000 fighters. A new ultimatum for disarmament was set on June 30. By June 27, about 1,100 combatants had arrived at transit sites. The deadline for surrender was extended to July 15. Agreements were signed between the government and the FNI on July 13, and with the MRC on July 23, in which the militias promised not to disturb the electoral process and which also set the pretext for the militia to join the DDR process. In return the leaders of the FNI and MRC, Karim and Ngudjolo, were promised ranks of Colonels in the FARDC and the extension of amnesty. In September, the army reported that some militias were rearming and fighting again. The army was particularly concerned about a well-armed group of the Lendu militia FNI, which officially transformed into a political party. On October 7, the army killed twelve FRPI fighters. The army was supported by Bangladeshi MONUC troops. The militia leader Thomas Lubanga was on trial at the ICC for the recruitment of child soldiers and other alleged crimes. Lubanga, founder and leader of the predominantly Hema militia Union of Congolese Patriots (UPC), made his first appearance at the ICC on March 20. He had been detained in August 2005 in Ituri and then transferred to The Hague. On November 28, the leader of the FRPI, Cobra Matata, agreed to take part in the DDR programme by December 11.

pb

DR Congo (MLC, RCD-G, UDPS)

Intensity: 3	Change: •	Start: 1997
Conflict Parties:	MLC, RCD-G, UDPS vs. government	
Conflict Items:	national power, resources	

The conflict over national power and resources in the DR Congo remained violent. The most important events were the approval of a new constitution and elections. On 12/18/05, the Congolese accepted a draft constitution in a referendum. This constitution provided for presidential and parliamentary elections in June. These polls were the first since Congo's independence in 1960. The most relevant conflict parties had agreed on this ballot. The UN and the EU had strongly pushed it. The EU paid for about 70 per cent of the costs. There were major setbacks during the electoral process and the situation remained tense, even after ruling President Joseph Kabila had apparently won. The campaign process was marred by lingering violence, albeit on a low level. The situation in the warring provinces of Katanga, North and South Kivu, Ituri and in Maniema was negatively influenced by the elections, as ethnic cleavages were

utilized. Tribal cleavages were widely used throughout the country to mobilize the electorate. The issue of Congolite was the main campaigning tool of the Liberation Movement of the Congo (MLC), led by Jean-Pierre Bemba. He argued that Kabila could not become president, because he was not Congolese. In the first election phase, Congolese political veteran Etienne Tshisekedi and his party, Union for Democracy and Social Progress (UDPS), boycotted the electoral process. However, he subsequently filed a case at the constitutional court to be included in the list of candidates. The court dismissed this plea, stating that he had missed the deadline. Thus, the most important civilian party could not take part in the presidential elections. The other candidates all had military backing. On March 23, the EU Council agreed on a military mission proposed by the UN in order to promote peaceful elections. With Resolution 1671, the mandate was granted by the UN Security Council on April 25 and accepted by the EU Council two days later. On June 1, the German Bundestag agreed to send troops as part of the mission EUFOR RD Congo. In addition, the EU was already conducting a mission for training of police, EUPOL, and a mission to reform the Congolese army, EUSEC RD. Presidential elections were held on July 30. Kabila received 45 per cent of the vote; his main contender, Bemba of the MLC, got about 20 per cent. These results made a run-off ballot necessary. The second round was scheduled for October 29. On August 21, fighting broke out between troops of Bemba and Kabila in the capital, Kinshasa, after the results had been announced. The fights left at least 23 dead. Bemba was attacked at his residence while being visited by 15 foreign ambassadors, who had to be evacuated by EUFOR. It remained unclear who had started the fighting. The contenders agreed to a ceasefire on August 23. Bemba's strongholds are Kinshasa and western Congo, while Kabila's are in Katanga and eastern Congo. The contenders that had lost in the first round, such as Azaria Ruberwa of the Congolese Rally for Democracy - Goma (RCD-G), and Tshisekedi, filed a petition to the Supreme Court to annul the election. This was dismissed, and the run-off ballot remained scheduled for October 29. On September 18, supporters of Bemba violently protested against the destruction of his radio and TV stations. The second election took place as scheduled. On November 12, four persons died in clashes between forces of Bemba and Kabila. The police arrested 337 persons the next day. On November 16, the electoral commission declared Kabila the winner. He had won 58 per cent of the vote, Bemba 42 per cent. Bemba contested the results, which therefore remained provisional until endorsed by the Supreme Court. On November 20, part of the Supreme Court building was burned down, while the judges reviewed the electoral fraud complaints. It was unclear who started the fire. On November 24, Kabila requested that Bemba with-

draw some of his troops from Kinshasa. This led to renewed tensions. Eventually Bemba accepted the election's outcome as the Supreme Court's ruling declared Kabila to the new president.

pb

DR Congo (Mayi-Mayi)

Intensity: 4	Change: •	Start: 1997
Conflict Parties:	Mayi-Mayi vs. government	
Conflict Items:	national power, resources	

The conflict between the militia of the Mayi-Mayi and the government of DR Congo continued to be conducted on the level of a severe crisis. The situation deescalated after May. The conflict took place in the province of Katanga and especially in the province of Maniema. It spilled over into the troubled east of Congo as well as into North and South Kivu province [=>DR Congo (ex-RCD-G, Interahamwe, FDLR)]. The Mayi-Mayi had been allied with the government of Joseph Kabila during the civil war and fought for it in eastern Congo. In 2004, the conflict between the former allies was sparked by the issue of disarmament. Its root is the feeling of betrayal of the Mayi-Mayi by Kabila who did not include them into his transitional government. Furthermore, he publicly denounced the Mayi-Mayi as rebels, that should be fought. The organization CONADER, that is conducting the DDR programme did not pay the former combatants because the World Bank stopped its funding. In mid-November 2005, the army launched a military campaign in northern Katanga to disarm the rebels by force. Around the turn of the year 2005, this led to a humanitarian crisis as tens of thousands of persons had been displaced. Heavy fighting erupted, mostly in central Katanga. Mayi-Mayi attacked villages, and were also attacked by the army in the western and northern parts. These clashes resulted in an estimated 150,000 displaced persons. On May 8, approx. 200 Mayi-Mayi fighters surrendered to the UN mission MONUC. On May 12, the important warlord Kyungu Mutanga, a.k.a. Gédéon, surrendered to UN peacekeepers.

pb

DR Congo (ex-RCD-G, FDLR, Interahamwe)

Intensity: 4	Change: •	Start: 1997
Conflict Parties:	ex-RCD-G, FDLR, Interahamwe vs. government	
Conflict Items:	national power	

The conflict between dissidents of the Congolese Rally for Democracy - Goma (ex-RCD-G) of Laurent Nkunda as well as rebel forces of the Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR) and Interahamwe militias on the one hand and the government on the other was conducted on the level of a severe crisis. Nkunda used to be a senior officer of the Rwanda-backed RCD-G, and resisted being in-

tegrated into the new Congolese army. Combatants were hard to identify and to keep apart. The biggest threat to civilians was the government army, according to the UN. In late January, fighting between ex-RCD-G and the army displaced several thousand persons in North Kivu. In the course of the heavy fighting, the government army had to withdraw from a number of sites captured by rebels. Approx. 7,000 persons fled to Uganda. By mid-February, about 55,000 persons had been internally displaced. In South Kivu, fighting between the army and the FDLR in Burhyni displaced nearly 15,000 people. The participation of the people in North and South Kivu in the Congolese elections was protected by 3,000 UN troops. Voter turnout was low. On August 6, fighting erupted near the provincial capital of Goma, in which the army suffered several casualties. The situation in the Kivus was negatively affected by the events during the runoff ballot to the presidential elections [=>DR Congo (MLC, RCD-N, UPDS)].

pb

Ethiopia (EPPF)

Intensity: 4	Change: ↗	Start: 1998
Conflict Parties:	EPPF vs. government	
Conflict Items:	national power	

The conflict over national power between the Ethiopian People's Patriotic Front (EPPF) under the leadership of Meskerem Atalay and the Ethiopian government led to heavy fighting in northern Ethiopia. The EPPF, aiming to overthrow the government of Meles Zenawi, had been founded in 1998 in Eritrea and had begun conducting military operations in the northern Ethiopian region of Amhara in 2001. In February and March, 150 people were reportedly killed in clashes between government and rebel forces. In April and June, over 100 soldiers were killed in rebel attacks on army installations located at North Gonder Zone in the Amhara region. On June 26, the government claimed to have killed 111 rebels in the course of military operations in the same region.

rs

Ethiopia (Guji - Borena)

Intensity: 4	Change: ↗	Start: 2005
Conflict Parties:	Guji vs. Borena	
Conflict Items:	regional predominance, resources	

After the disputes between the Guji and the Borena had resulted in 20 deaths as well as 45,000 displaced people in 2005, the conflict escalated to a severe crisis in 2006. The conflict was rooted in a border demarcation by the government in 2003, according to which parts of the Borena district had been given to the Guji. In May, three weeks of fighting between the two ethnic groups claimed 150 lives and displaced 90,000 people. These clashes in the region of south-eastern Oromiya, around the towns of Shakiso, Arero,

and Yabello, allegedly started when the Guji drove their cattle onto Borena land without permission. The situation calmed down in June, however.

mh

Ethiopia (Oromo)

Intensity: 3	Change: •	Start: 1974
Conflict Parties:	OLF vs. government	
Conflict Items:	secession	

The conflict concerning the future status of the Oromiya region between the Oromo Liberation Front (OLF) and the Ethiopian government remained violent. The OLF reported fighting between its forces and government troops in western Oromiya in January. The OLF accused the Sudanese Southern People's Liberation Army (SPLA) [=>Sudan (SPLM/A)] of supporting the armed forces of Ethiopia during the operation. In the same month, there were also reports of clashes in the districts of Ginir and Bale. On January 18, Prime Minister Meles Zenawi agreed to an investigation into alleged human rights violations in Oromiya state.

mh

Ethiopia - Eritrea

Intensity: 2	Change: •	Start: 1998
Conflict Parties:	Ethiopia vs. Eritrea	
Conflict Items:	territory	

The border dispute between Eritrea and Ethiopia remained unresolved. The UN peacekeeping mission UNMEE, deployed to the disputed borderline since the ceasefire agreement of 2000, faced increasing restrictions imposed by Eritrea. In December 2005, Eritrea expelled 180 members of UNMEE, and another five in September 2006. Although Ethiopia withdrew troops from the border in early 2006, the military situation remained tense. A meeting of both countries with the Border Commission led to no results. In June, the UN Security Council extended UNMEE's mandate by four months while reducing its size. In October, 1,500 Eritrean troops moved into the buffer zone, breaching the ceasefire regulations. On November 21, both conflict parties rejected a Boundary Commission mediation attempt. Relations between the conflict parties also deteriorated in view of developments in Somalia [=>Somalia (various rebel groups)]. Eritrea accused Ethiopia of supporting the provisional government of Somalia with troops, while Ethiopia accused Eritrea of supporting the Union of Islamic Courts (UIC) rebels.

mh

Guinea-Bissau (MFDC-Sadio)

Intensity: 4	Change: NEW	Start: 2006
Conflict Parties:	Guinea-Bissau vs. MFDC (Salif Sadio)	
Conflict Items:	regional predominance	

A faction of the Senegalese Movement for the Democratic Forces of Casamance (MFDC), led by Salif Sa-

dio, crossed the border and started fighting government troops from neighboring Guinea-Bissau. Sadio's faction had been driven from Senegalese territory as a result of fighting with a rival MFDC faction [=>Senegal (MDFC)]. On March 14, two government soldiers and an unknown number of rebels were killed in skirmishes between MFDC-Sadio and the army. Approx. 7,500 people fled their homes, and several villages were destroyed. The government of Guinea-Bissau announced that it intended to destroy Sadio's rebel bases within its territory. Fighting ceased at the end of April.

kaa

Kenya (ethnic groups)

Intensity: 3	Change: •	Start: 1991
Conflict Parties:	Kenyan ethnic groups vs. Ugandan ethnic groups	
Conflict Items:	resources	

Violent incidents between ethnic groups in Kenya's northern border regions continued. In March 2005, approx. 150 ethnic Pokot raiders from Kenya attacked Bukwa district in northeastern Uganda, killing at least four civilians. The Ugandan army drove them back across the border with helicopters, killing several rebels. In April, at least seven people were killed and thousands of livestock stolen during a spate of violent raids by cattle rustlers in Samburu district. In May, raiders presumed to belong to an Ethiopian militia killed at least four civilians and stole 1,200 heads of cattle in border villages. Clashes between the Borana and Gabra ethnic groups continued in Marsabit district. In November, at least four people died in clashes between ethnic groups in Rift Valley. The ethnic conflicts displaced more than 30,000 people.

tk

Liberia (LURD, MODEL - Taylor loyalists)

Intensity: 2	Change: •	Start: 1999
Conflict Parties:	Charles Taylor, Taylor loyalists vs. LURD, MODEL	
Conflict Items:	national power, resources	

The situation in Liberia remained calm. Former President Charles Taylor left the country in 2003, and his militias were disarmed by UNMIL. So were the former rebels of Liberians United for Reconciliation and Democracy (LURD) and Movement for Democracy in Liberia (MODEL), who transformed into political parties. The UN Security Council lifted the embargos on arms and timber. On September 29, it further decided to extend UNMIL's mandate till 03/31/07. UNMIL had approx. 15,000 troops deployed to Liberia. In order to investigate human rights abuses during the civil war, the Liberian government officially launched a truth and reconciliation commission. In March, Liberia demanded the extradition of Taylor to a UN Special Court in Sierra Leone, where Taylor was charged for his crimes in Sierra Leone's civil war [=>Sierra Leone

(AFRC, RUF, SMG)]. Taylor tried to escape from his exile in Nigeria to Cameroon but was arrested. Taylor had been meddling in Liberian politics during his exile.

stu

Mali (Tuareg)

Intensity: 3	Change: ↑	Start: 1989
Conflict Parties:	Tuareg vs. government	
Conflict Items:	autonomy	

14 years after a peace agreement had been reached, the conflict between Tuareg rebels and the government flared up again in 2006. On May 23, rebels led by former Lieutenant-Colonel Hassane Fagaga attacked army installations in the towns of Kidal, Menaka, and Tessalit in northern Mali. After government troops had regained control over the region the following day, negotiations between the rebels and the government started under the mediation of Algeria. A peace agreement reached on July 3 in Algiers reaffirmed the territorial integrity of Mali. In return, the government promised to reintegrate defected Tuareg soldiers into the armed forces, to withdraw the military from urban areas, to assign more powers to local governments, and to increase development assistance to the region of Kidal.

rs

Nigeria (Biafra)

Intensity: 3	Change: •	Start: 1967
Conflict Parties:	MASSOB vs. government	
Conflict Items:	secession	

The conflict between Nigerian authorities and the separatist Movement for the Actualisation of the Sovereign State of Biafra (MASSOB) escalated in 2006. MASSOB is supported predominantly by the Igbo population in Nigeria. In 1967 The declaration of an independent State of Biafra by Igbos in south-east Nigeria had led to one of Africa's most devastating civil wars. Over one million people died until the defeat of the separatists in 1970. In November 2005 Ralph Uwazurike was imprisoned and charged with treason. In December 2005, protest and strikes in south eastern Nigeria led to clashes between MASSOB activists and the police leaving 12 people dead. In June and July unrest between MASSOB supporters and security forces continued at the town of Onitsha, in the region of Anambra continued claiming dozens of casualties. The governor of south eastern state Anambra imposed a curfew and prompted the Nigerian Government to deploy extra troops.

de

Nigeria (Christians - Muslims)

Intensity: 3	Change: •	Start: 1960
Conflict Parties:	Muslims, Hausa-Fulani vs. Christians,	
Conflict Items:	system / ideology	

The conflict between Muslims and Christians in the central and northern states of Nigeria remained tense. Since 2004, more than 1,000 people were killed in clashes and about 200,000 displaced. The situation had deescalated in 2005. Renewed violence flared up towards the end of February. In northern Nigeria, Muslims protested against cartoons of the prophet Muhammad [=>Panorama: Cartoon Conflict]. At least 40 Christians, including a Catholic priest, were killed, and 30 churches torched. Revenge attacks by Christian youth gangs followed in Onitsha, southern Nigeria. At least 123 people died, most of whom were Muslims, and 50,000 people became displaced within four days. In September, a series of new sectarian attacks occurred in Dutse, the capital of the northern state of Jigawa. Muslim youth gangs looted shops and set light to churches. The clashes were sparked because of Christians allegedly blaspheming against the prophet Muhammad. At least 1,000 people were displaced.

de


Nigeria (Niger Delta - Ijaw)

Intensity: 4	Change: ↗	Start: 1997
Conflict Parties:	Ijaw vs. Itsekiri, government	
Conflict Items:	resources	

The conflict in the Niger Delta between the Ijaw and the government concerning the distribution of oil revenues remained violent. Several attacks by the Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND) on January 17 forced the Shell Royal Dutch Company to evacuate four oil platforms. At least 14 soldiers and two oil workers were killed. The bombing of a pipeline on February 19 temporarily reduced the Nigerian oil exports by 20 per cent. On April 19, Nigerian President Olusegun Obasanjo discussed possible development programs for the Niger Delta with moderate Niger Delta leaders. On May 12, rebels detonated two car bombs, killing at least three people. MEND members captured a total of over 50 oil workers in the first seven months, but released all of them afterwards. The explosion of more than ten pipelines since the beginning of 2006 cut Nigeria's daily oil exports significantly. In early August, MEND members continued attacks on oil facilities as a reaction to the court ruling denying bail to Moujahid Dokubo-Asari. Dokubo-Asari, the head of Niger Delta People's Volunteer Force, had been charged with treason in September 2005. In response, Obasanjo ordered an immediate clampdown to stop the attacks and kidnappings.

de


Nigeria - Cameroon (Bakassi)

Intensity: 2	Change: 	Start: 1961
Conflict Parties:	Nigeria vs. Cameroon	
Conflict Items:	territory	

The conflict between Nigeria and Cameroon over the peninsula of Bakassi was officially resolved. On June 13, Cameroon's President Paul Biya and his Nigerian counterpart Olesegun Obasanjo agreed on transferring the Bakassi peninsula to Cameroon, ending the 12-year border conflict. The talks were led by UN Secretary General Kofi Annan in New York. Nigeria withdrew its troops from the northern part of the peninsula, believed to be rich in oil reserves. The agreement provided for handover to be completed within two years by when the residents would have to choose either Cameroonian citizenship or evacuation to Nigeria. The Bakassi Self-Determination Movement rejected the treaty, protesting that the population wanted to belong to Nigeria, and declared the independence of the Bakassi Island before the handover to Cameroon. On August 14, official transfer documents were signed by the justice ministers while Nigerian troops completed their withdrawal from the northern peninsula of Bakassi. According to the agreements there should be no military presence on the peninsula until five years after Nigeria's withdrawal. In September, the Nigerian government protested against Cameroonian troops harassing the remaining Nigerian population. A UN-backed Mixed Commission set up a special committee to investigate. Meanwhile, 7,000 of the estimated 300,000 inhabitants of the peninsula had fled and caused unrest in Nigeria.

de

Rwanda (various Hutu rebel groups)


Intensity: 2	Change: 	Start: 1990
Conflict Parties:	Interahamwe, ex-FAR, FDLR vs. government	
Conflict Items:	national power	

Since the disarmament of a number of Hutu rebels the previous year, the conflict between the government of Paul Kagamé and Hutu rebels of the Interahamwe, Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR), and the former Armed Forces of Rwanda (ex-FAR) continued without violence. Developments in Rwanda were mainly marked by a number of arrests of high-ranking officials accused of war crimes by the UN International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda in Arusha, Tanzania. Since its establishment, the tribunal had rendered 31 verdicts. On September 14, Attorney-General Martin Ngoga issued an ultimatum to the tribunal to take action against members of its staff accused of participating in the 1994 genocide but differences were resolved one week later. The traditional Gacaca courts also continued trials of the vast majority of suspects and perpetrators of the 1994 genocide. 55,000 convicted

might be sentenced to community service instead of prison. The number of asylum seekers in Burundi increased to 8,000 in January. Many of them supposedly fled to evade Gacaca trials. On April 10, Burundi threatened to expel all Rwandans failing to seek refugee status. Between April 12 and June 13, 5,206 Rwandans were repatriated.

tb


Senegal (MFDC-Sadio)

Intensity: 4	Change: 	Start: 1982
Conflict Parties:	MFDC-Sadio vs. government, MDFC	
Conflict Items:	autonomy	

After the signing of a peace agreement in 2005, hopes for an end to the 24-year conflict suffered a severe setback in 2006. Tensions within the military wing of the Movement of Democratic Forces of Casamance (MFDC) resulted in a new wave of fighting in Senegal's southern region. While most leaders of the MFDC accepted the peace agreement, a group under the leadership of Salif Sadio refused to comply. In March, fighting between different military sections of the MFDC started in the border region between Guinea-Bissau and Senegal. In mid-May, fighting in northern Casamance, on the border to the Gambia, erupted when Sadio's military wing attacked MFDC fighters loyal to Magne Dieme, who supported the peace agreement. At least 100 fighters died in the internal conflict, while 17 villages were seized. The level of violence further increased when the Senegalese government decided on August 17 to launch a vast military operation particularly against the MFDC-Sadio. Red Cross officials estimated that between 5,000 and 10,000 people fled to neighboring Gambia in August.

de

Somalia (various rebel groups)

Intensity: 5	Change: 	Start: 1980
Conflict Parties:	warlords vs. government	
Conflict Items:	national power	

The conflict over national power in Somalia intensified. The Transitional Federal Government (TFG) of President Abdullahi Yussuf Ahmed, established at the end of 2004, maintained international recognition. However, the government – led by Prime Minister Ali Muhammad Gedi – did only exert control over the city of Baidoa and its surroundings as well as to the President's home region of Puntland. Somalia's capital, Mogadishu, saw the worst fighting in several years. From February 18 until June 4, approx. 400 people were killed in heavy battles between the Union of Islamic Courts (UIC) and a newly-established secular alliance of warlords, the Alliance for the Restoration of Peace and Counter Terrorism (ARPCT). The heaviest fighting occurred from mid-May until June 4, with the UIC finally claiming victory over the Alliance on

June 5. By July 10, the UIC gained control over the whole city of Mogadishu. From mid-July on, the UIC extended its control over most of southern Somalia, including the pirate stronghold Haradere on August 16, the important port of Kismayo on September 25, and the city of Buur Hakaba, only 60 km from Baidoa on October 23. This was reached largely without major violent clashes, but through negotiation with local militias and with public support. By extending its area of control, the UIC increasingly challenged the TFG. On November 6, UIC forces engaged in fighting with Puntland troops for the first time. In mid-November, UIC and TFG were reported to be amassing troops around Baidoa, with the eruption of fighting only impeded by heavy rains. According to a UN report on the arms embargo on Somalia, the UIC was being supported militarily by Eritrea, Libya, Saudi Arabia, and others, while the TFG was able to rely on close ties with Ethiopia, which reputedly sent several hundreds of soldiers to support the TFG [=>Ethiopia - Eritrea]. The Arab League and the regional organization Intergovernmental Authority for Development (IGAD) brokered peace negotiations between UIC and TFG in Khartoum, Sudan, that yielded no results. One of the major contentious issues was the acceptance of AU peacekeeping troops to the country. The TFG asked for AU troops, while the UIC was strongly opposed. Amid the escalations of fighting, tensions within the Transitional Federal Institution (TFI) emerged about the appropriate strategy to deal with the situation. On November 14, a delegation of members of Parliament, under the leadership of the speaker of Parliament Sharif Hassan Sheikh Adan, reached an agreement with representatives of the UIC in Mogadishu. This accord, however, was rejected by the government, denying the legitimacy of Sheikh Adan to negotiating in the name of the TFG. On December 2, the UIC seized control of Dinsoor, a town located 140 km north of Baidoa. On December 6, the TFG claimed to have retaken Dinsoor, what was denied by the UIC. On December 3, Sheikh Adan, called for the withdrawal of Ethiopian troops, what was rejected by the TFG, that on December 5, ruled out any further peace talks with the UIC. On December 6, the UN-Security Council endorsed a joint AU-IGAD protection and training mission in Somalia. The IGAD Peace Support Mission in Somalia (IGASOM), which is considered to be deployed at Baidoa to prevent the downfall of the TFG, has a mandate for six months and will have a military strength of 8000 men. According to the mandate, states sharing a direct border with Somalia, are not allowed to contribute troop contingents to the mission. More than 30,000 people were displaced by the fighting in summer.

cb

South Africa (KwaZulu-Natal)

Intensity: 3	Change: ↗	Start: 1990
Conflict Parties:	IFP vs. ANC	
Conflict Items:	regional predominance	

After the conflict between the African National Congress (ANC) and the Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) had calmed down in previous years, tensions flared up again in the course of local government elections. The conflict had cost thousands of lives in the province of KwaZulu-Natal in the early 1990s. In the weeks following the elections in March 2006, eleven ANC officials were killed. The ANC blamed the IFP for the killings. The relationship between the two coalition partners in the newly constituted ANC-IFP provincial government worsened after the ANC stated that its ties with IFP in the legislature and executive existed only on paper.

br

Sudan (Darfur)


Intensity: 5	Change: •	Start: 2003
Conflict Parties:	SLM/A, JEM, NMRD vs. government, Janjaweed	
Conflict Items:	regional predominance, resources	

The conflict in the western Sudanese region of Darfur over regional predominance remained highly violent. By the end of the year, over 2.2 million people had been displaced and over 200,000 people killed as a consequence of the conflict. The conflict parties were on the one hand the Sudanese government and the Janjaweed militia, and on the other the rebel groups of the Sudanese Liberation Movement/Army (SLM/A) and the Islamic Justice and Equality Movement (JEM). In January, JEM and SLM/A announced the formation of a political-military alliance called Alliance of Revolutionary Forces of West Sudan (AR-FWS). The Janjaweed militias kept attacking villages and refugee camps in Darfur, especially from December 2005 to February 2006. At least 20 people were killed and 70,000 displaced. Heavy fighting between the army of the central government, named Sudanese Defense Forces (SAF), and the various rebels continued. For example, SLM/A rebels attacked the government-controlled towns of Rokoro on 12/24/05, and Golo on 01/23/06. These attacks violated the ceasefire agreement of 2005 and led to counterattacks by the Sudanese military and allied militias. The subsequent fighting continued until April and displaced at least 30,000 people. The government, SLM/A, and JEM engaged in AU-mediated peace talks in Nigeria. Only Sudan and the SLM/A faction led by Minni Minnawi signed the Darfur Peace Agreement (DPA) of May 5, however. Minnawi was subsequently appointed Special Assistant to the Sudanese President on August 7. On September 7, he also was appointed head of the newly created interim government for Darfur. After the signing of the

CPA, Minnawi's SLM/A and the SAF ceased fighting each other. Abdelwahid Mohamed al-Nur, leader of another faction of the SLM/A, and JEM leader Khalil Ibrahim refused to sign the DPA, as it would not address their political and security demands. Therefore, new conflict parties emerged: A breakaway group from SLM/A-Minnawi called itself G-19. On June 6, JEM, the G-19, and another breakaway faction of Minnawi's SLM/A formed the National Redemption Front (NRF), an umbrella organization for rebel groups dissatisfied with the DPA. On July 25, the leader of a further SLM/A faction, Abdel Wahid el-Nur, who had refused to join the NRF, was toppled by field commanders and replaced with Ahmed Abdelshaafie. Intense fighting between the SAF and the rebel groups and breakaway factions that had not signed the CPA continued. The SAF started a major air and ground offensive against the NRF in North Darfur at the end of August, killing at least 20 civilians. Moreover, the signatory and non-signatory rebel groups of the CPA clashed heavily from July to October. At the beginning of July, e.g., fighting between Minnawi's and the non-signatory SLM/A factions displaced at least 8,000 people. Clashes also occurred between Minnawi's SLM/A and the NRF near the city of Kukul at the end of July. In July alone, an estimated 25,000 people were displaced. When JEM attacked Minnawi's SLM/A, at least eleven civilians died in the town of Gereida at the end of September. The 7,000 currently deployed troops of the AU peacekeeping mission AMIS were not able to control the situation. AMIS troops were attacked many times, and several peacekeepers were killed. AMIS's mandate was scheduled to end by the end of the year. On August 31, the UN Security Council decided to deploy 20,000 UN troops in Darfur, under the prerequisite of the consent of the Sudanese government. Despite intense negotiations, Sudan rejected any direct UN involvement in the AU mission in Darfur. On December 1, the Sudanese government stated that it would only allow for technical UN support to the AU mission, while still ruling out any UN or joint UN-AU mission in Darfur. Also on December 1, the AU extended the mandat of AMIS for one year.

lh, hlm, rs

Sudan (Eastern Front)

Intensity: 3	Change: 	Start: 2005
Conflict Parties:	Eastern Front vs. government	
Conflict Items:	autonomy	

After the Sudanese government forces and the Eastern Front had engaged in military fighting in the first half of the year, the conflict parties reached a peace agreement in their conflict concerning autonomy of Sudan's eastern provinces. After the Southern People's Liberation Movement/Army (SPLM/A) had withdrawn its troops from eastern Sudan under the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) of 2005 [=>Su-

dan (SPLM/A)], both the government and the rebels tried to fill the thereby created power vacuum. In January and March, the Eastern Front and government forces violently clashed in the towns of Hamesh Koreb and Kassala in Kassala state, close to the Eritrean border. On June 13, the peace talks started under the mediation of Eritrea, leading to a ceasefire on June 20, and finally resulted in the peace agreement of October 16. The peace accord resembling the CPA provided for the Eastern Front's participation in government on regional and national level. In addition, the government pledged to provide the region with 600 million US dollars of development assistance.

rs, dc


Sudan (Nuer, White Army - SPLM/A)

Intensity: 4	Change: NEW	Start: 2006
Conflict Parties:	Nuer, White Army vs. SPLM/A	
Conflict Items:	regional predominance	

A new conflict emerged in southern Sudan, when the Sudan People's Liberation Movement/Army (SPLM/A), now South Sudan's official army, tried to disarm the Nuer. The disarmament of militias in the South came under the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) of 2005 between the SPLM/A and the Sudanese government [=>Sudan (SPLM/A)]. According to the CPA, the SPLM/A is legally entitled to disarm armed groups in South Sudan. In January, the SPLM/A tried to disarm the Nuer. A part of this tribe formed a militia called White Army, which had been fighting against the SPLM/A on the government's side during the civil war. However, many young Nuer resisted the disarmament and were supported by the White Army. Several attempts to negotiate a settlement failed. Subsequent intense fighting between a 3,000-troops-strong SPLA force and the White Army in March and May claimed the lives of approx. 300 SPLM/A soldiers and more than 500 Nuer, many of them civilians. The Nuer announced that they would not oppose disarmament as such, but were perturbed by the way it was carried out. Moreover, they claimed they needed their weapons to defend themselves against cattle-raids by neighboring tribes.

hlm

Sudan (SPLM/A)


Intensity: 4	Change: 	Start: 1989
Conflict Parties:	SPLM/A vs. government	
Conflict Items:	national power	

After the conflict between the Sudanese government and the Southern People's Liberation Movement/Army (SPLM/A) had deescalated significantly in 2005, the level of violence intensified again in 2006. In 2005, the conflict had calmed down due to the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) in January 2005, the subsequent inauguration of the Interim Legislative Council of South Sudan in Septem-

ber 2005, the swearing in of the Government of South Sudan in October 2005, and finally the signing into law of the Interim Constitution of South Sudan in December 2005, accompanied by the enactment of the new Interim National Constitution for Sudan as a whole in September 2005. However, a clause of the CPA stating that all operative militias in South Sudan either had to disband or join the SPLM/A or the Sudan Armed Forces (SAF) supposedly led to several violent incidents this year. On January 8, the South Sudan Defense Forces (SSDF), a former pro-government militia under the leadership of Paulino Matip, signed the Juba Declaration on Unity and Integration, announcing their fusion with forces of the SPLM/A. Some splinter groups of the SSDF, however, continued fighting the SPLM/A. Several civilians died in the clashes in February. Finally, the UN Mission in Sudan (UNMIS) managed to convince the parties to stop the actual fighting. It remained unclear whether these splinter groups acted independently or had joined the SAF. The SPLM/A accused the military intelligence in Khartoum of having encouraged the SSDF to fight the SPLM/A and disrupt the peace agreement. In addition, clashes between SPLM/A and SAF forces in the town of Rubkona in Unity State claimed an unknown number of casualties on July 19. On November 28, SPLA and SAF forces clashed again in the town of Malakal, in the Upper Nile region, after a pro government militia had barricaded on a SAF military camp, that subsequently was stormed by SPLM/A forces. The resulting clashes, between the militia, SDF and SPLM/A forces led to more than 150 casualties. In the days after situation calmed down, when high-level officers from the SPLA and SAF, as well as the the UNMIS Force Commander arrived in Malakal. With respect to the future of the oil-rich state of Abyei, the government in May refused to accept the demarcation-ruling of the Abyei Boundary Commission established under the CPA. On August 31, the UN Security Council extended the mandate of UNMIS, monitoring the implementation of the CPA at a strength of 11,000 peacekeepers.

te, hlm, rs

Swaziland (opposition)


Intensity: 2	Change: 	Start: 1998
Conflict Parties:	SFTU, PUDEMO, SWAYOCO vs. government	
Conflict Items:	system / ideology	

The conflict concerning democratization in Swaziland, Africa's last absolute monarchy, escalated again. The new constitution signed by King Mswati III in July led to speculations among Swaziland's political opposition whether opposition parties would be legalized. On 12/16/05, unknown yet pro-democratic activists presumed to be members of the People's United Democratic Movement (PUDEMO) conducted a series of bombings of Swazi schools and police stations

lasting till 01/25/06. The Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU) organized border blockades to demand the legalization of political parties and a democratically elected constitutional forum on April 12. The South African police arrested 25 demonstrators and fired rubber bullets to disperse the crowd, wounding eight. Another demonstration for a constitutional monarchy organized by the Swaziland Youth Congress (SWAYOCO) at the beginning of August was suppressed by the Swaziland police using tear-gas and rubber bullets. At around the same time, Mswati III launched a new royalist party. In September, the oppositional umbrella organization National Constituency Assembly (NCA) appealed to the high court, challenging the new constitution.

jk


Tanzania (Zanzibar)

Intensity: 3	Change: 	Start: 1993
Conflict Parties:	CUF vs. government	
Conflict Items:	secession	

The secession conflict between the Civic United Front (CUF) and Tanzania continued. Clashes in Zanzibar between police forces and CUF supporters on election day, 12/14/05, left approx. 20 people injured. The police accused CUF supporters of instigating the violence, and arrested at least 46 people. Approx. 60 people from the town of Tumbatu in northwestern Zanzibar took refuge in nearby Nungwi following election-related clashes between supporters of the ruling Revolutionary State Party and CUF. From the beginning of 2006, the situation calmed down. In April, a group of Zanzibaris filed a case with the Zanzibar High Court, seeking to have the union treaty of Tanzania and Zanzibar invalidated. This claim was dismissed by the court in October.

tk

Togo (opposition)

Intensity: 2	Change: 	Start: 2002
Conflict Parties:	UFC vs. government	
Conflict Items:	national power	

The power conflict between the opposition and the government of Faure Gnassingbé deescalated. In 2005, the conflict had caused hundreds of deaths and approx. 40,000 people to flee the country. On 07/03/06, after months of negotiations, six out of eight opposition groups reached an agreement with the government concerning electoral reforms and the establishment of a government of national unity. The biggest opposition party, the Union of Forces for Change (UFC), which had initially refused the accord, signed an agreement with the government on August 21, following mediation by Burkina Faso. On September 16, opposition politician Yawovi Agboyibo was appointed prime minister to head the government of national unity. One major task of the new government

was to organize the parliamentary elections scheduled for June 2007. In spite of these developments, approx. 20,000 refugees still remained abroad.

rs

Uganda (ADF, NALU)

Intensity: 3	Change: ▼	Start: 1987
Conflict Parties:	ADF, NALU vs. government	
Conflict Items:	national power	

The long standing conflict between the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) and the National Liberation Army (NALU) on the one hand and Uganda on the other continued. ADF and NALU were operating their rear bases in Congo for years. There were about 1,000 fighters located in the North Kivu region. Their presence was one of the reasons for Uganda to get involved in the last two Congolese civil wars. In autumn 2005, Congo started an offensive to dispel foreign rebel groups, including the ADF and the NALU. This offensive was buttressed by the UN Mission MONUC in Congo. According to the UN, attacks by ADF and NALU continued in winter. In spring, the rebels moved deeper into hiding and continued their attacks on civilians.

pb

Uganda (LRA)

Intensity: 3	Change: ▼	Start: 1987
Conflict Parties:	LRA vs. government	
Conflict Items:	autonomy, resources, others	

The level of violence in the conflict between the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) and the government of Yoweri Museveni decreased. LRA killed three persons in January. The previous year's peace treaty in Sudan fostered Ugandan hopes to beat the LRA, as it lost its military basis in Sudan. Sudan continued to be suspected of still supporting the LRA. The LRA evaded the Ugandan military by partially moving from its hideouts in Southern Sudan to DR Congo. Uganda put significant pressure on Congo. Congo started an offensive to push the LRA fighters out of Congo with support of the UN mission MONUC. The ICC still issued warrants for five commanders of the LRA, including the leader, Joseph Kony. These have been excluded from the amnesty Uganda offered rebels turning themselves in. On April 28, Congo accused Uganda of having killed one soldier while pursuing LRA rebels on Congolese territory. On May 5, Uganda launched an offensive in the north to secure the region and put pressure on the LRA. Museveni stated that Kony and the other leaders had to be detained and that military victory was at hand. Uganda

deployed security personnel in the north and intensified its diplomatic efforts to cooperate with Congo, MONUC, Sudan, and the Sudanese SPLA to catch Kony. Peace talks started on July 14. On August 26, an agreement on the cessation of hostilities was signed. The talks were mediated by the Vice President of South Sudan, Riek Machar. A revised ceasefire deal was signed on November 1 after ongoing problems with the indictments and issues concerning the assembly of the LRA fighters. In mid-November, the UN offered to take part in monitoring the ceasefire agreement. The LRA leadership has been demanding the lift of the indictments.

pb

Zimbabwe (opposition)

Intensity: 3	Change: •	Start: 2000
Conflict Parties:	MDC, MDC-pro senate, NCA, WOZA, ZCTU, ZINASU vs. government	
Conflict Items:	national power	

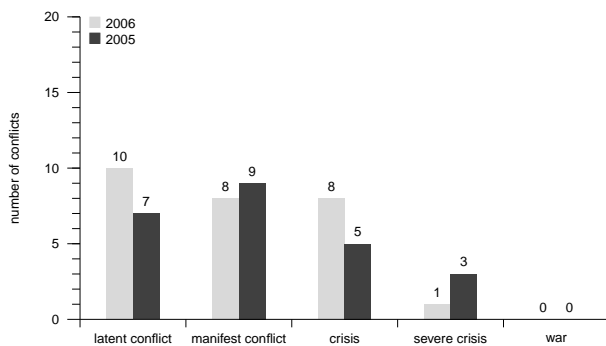
The conflict over national power between the opposition and the government of President Robert Mugabe and his Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front (ZANU-PF) was still marked by occasional acts of violence. The strongest opposition party, Movement for Democratic Change (MDC), split after 26 members had ignored a veto by party president Morgan Tsvangirai on 11/26/05 to run in the elections for the senate. Followers of the Tsvangirai faction assaulted members of the pro-senate faction several times. On July 2, followers of the Tsvangirai faction injured MP Trudy Stevenson with a machete. In late July, opposition parties, churches, and civil society groups formed a broad alliance against the government, named Save Zimbabwe. The government continued to violently oppress the opposition. In early March, the authorities used an alleged coup-attempt as a pretext for arresting several MDC members and searching MDC offices. Between May and August, the police arrested more than 100 participants of opposition group marches. During a union protest on September 13, the police arrested more than 500 demonstrators. During the march and in custody, many union followers were beaten and tortured by the police, suffering severe injuries. The government continued its controversial settlement policy. In May and June, it relocated some 10,000 homeless people and street vendors from Harare to rural areas. These resettlements were probably directed against urban MDC strongholds. On June 15, police destroyed illegal dwellings in a Harare suburb.

sk

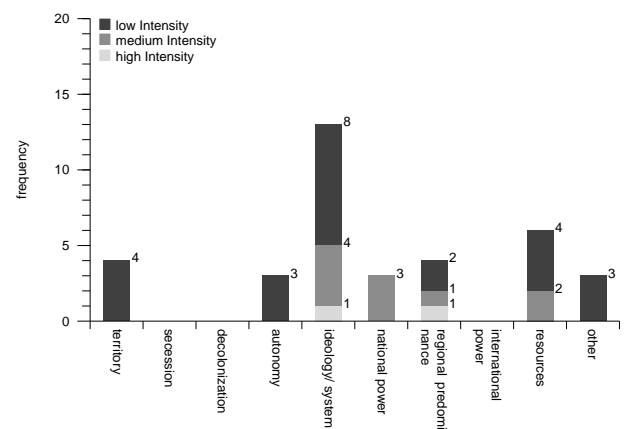
The Americas

In the region of the Americas, the total number of conflicts increased from 24 to 27. Compared to 2005, there was a change concerning intensities. This year only one highly violent conflict was observed [=>Colombia (FARC)]. While conflicts as such deescalated, the level of crime increased, e.g. in Brazil, Colombia, Guatemala, and Haiti. The main source of instability in several states of the continent still was the insecure and tense economic situation in Central and South America. In this context, it was surprising to observe two new conflicts in Mexico. Riots in the southern Mexican state of Oaxaca and the elections in Mexico revealed two new conflicts. Mexico therefore was the country with the most violent conflicts in this region in 2006. Last year's trend in national elections continued: Apart from Colombia and Mexico, left-wing presidents were elected or re-elected in many countries in Central and South America, e.g. in Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, and Venezuela. In violent conflicts, system/ideology remained the dominant conflict item. In Colombia, the internal conflicts' intensity decreased again or remained on the same level due to the government's resumption of negotiations with all conflict parties. However, only some success due to a continuing demobilization of paramilitaries and beginning peace talks with the ELN. Interstate conflicts continued to be carried out without violence.

Conflict Intensities in the Americas 2006 compared to 2005



Frequency of Conflict Items 2006 in the Americas by Intensity Groups



Argentina (Piqueteros)

Intensity: 1	Change: •	Start: 2001
Conflict Parties:	Piqueteros vs. government	
Conflict Items:	system / ideology	

In the conflict between the Piqueteros and the government concerning the economic, social and political system no solution was reached. On January 10, the two former policemen Alfredo Luis Fanchiotti and Alejandro Acosta were sentenced to life imprisonment for the murder of two Piqueteros during a demonstration in the capital, Buenos Aires, on 06/26/02. Three former colleagues of Fanchiotti and Acosta were sentenced to four years each in prison for covering their colleagues during the investigations. Throughout the whole year there were sporadic protests against the sluggish investigations of several assaults by the police between 2000 and 2002.

eg

Argentina - Iran

Intensity: 1	Change: •	Start: 1994
Conflict Parties:	Argentina vs. Iran	
Conflict Items:	others	

The conflict between Argentina and Iran concern-

ing the investigation of the bomb attack on the Israeli-Argentinian Mutual Association (AMIA) in 1994 headed in a new direction. On October 26, Argentinian prosecutors formally charged the former Iranian President Hashemi Rafsanjani and seven members of his cabinet with being involved in the AMIA bombing. In addition, Hezbollah official Imad Fayed Moughnieh was charged with having carried out the attack. This was the first time that Argentinian officials publicly accused the former Iranian administration of being responsible for the bombing. On November 9, a judge issued international arrest warrants for Rafsanjani and his colleagues. Argentina suspected that the bombing was in retaliation for the non-compliance of former Argentinian President Carlos Menem with the nuclear cooperation agreement between both countries.

eg

Argentina - Uruguay

Intensity: 2	Change: NEW	Start: 2006
Conflict Parties:	Argentina vs. Uruguay	
Conflict Items:	resources	

The conflict between Argentina and Uruguay concerning the construction of two pulp mills at the

Summary: Conflicts in The Americas 2006

Name of Conflict ¹	Conflict Parties ²	Conflict Items	Start	Change ³	Int. ⁴
Argentina (Piqueteros)	Piqueteros vs. government	system / ideology	2001	•	1
Argentina - Iran	Argentina vs. Iran	others	1994	•	1
Argentina - Uruguay	Argentina vs. Uruguay	resources	2006	NEW	2
Belize (opposition)*	opposition vs. government	system / ideology	2005	↓	1
Bolivia (opposition)*	opposition vs. government	system / ideology, autonomy	1983	•	2
Brazil (MST)	MST vs. government	resources	1995	↗	3
Canada (Quebec)*	opposition vs. government	autonomy	1945	•	1
Colombia (AUC)	AUC vs. government	regional predominance, system / ideology	1995	↘	2
Colombia (ELN)	ELN vs. government	regional predominance, system / ideology	1964	↓	2
Colombia (FARC)	FARC vs. government	regional predominance, system / ideology	1964	•	4
Colombia (Guambianos)*	Guambianos vs. government	resources	2005	↓	1
Colombia - Venezuela*	Colombia vs. Venezuela	territory, resources	1945	•	1
Costa Rica - Nicaragua*	Costa Rica vs. Nicaragua	territory	1945	↘	1
Ecuador (opposition)	opposition vs. government	system / ideology	1998	•	3
Guatemala (PAC)*	PAC vs. government	system / ideology	1960	•	2
Haiti (opposition)	Aristide supporters vs. Aristide opponents	national power	1986	↘	3
Mexico (APPO)	APPO vs. government	system / ideology	2006	NEW	3
Mexico (EZLN)*	EZLN vs. government	autonomy, others	1994	•	1
Mexico (opposition)	opposition vs. government	national power	2006	NEW	3
Paraguay (opposition)	opposition vs. government	resources	1989	↗	3
Peru (Shining Path)	Shining Path vs. government	regional predominance, system / ideology	1980	↗	3
Peru - Chile - Bolivia*	Peru vs. Chile vs. Bolivien	territory, resources	1964	•	1
USA - Cuba (Guantanamo)*	USA vs. Cuba	territory	1959	•	1
USA - Cuba (system)	USA vs. Cuba	system / ideology	1959	•	2
USA - Mexico	USA vs. Mexico	others	2001	•	2
Venezuela (opposition)	opposition vs. government	national power, system / ideology	2000	•	3
Venezuela - USA*	Venezuela vs. USA	system / ideology	2001	•	2

^{1 2 3 4} see first regiontable

border river Río Uruguay started early this year. Argentina accused Uruguay of breaking a contract concerning the use of the river. The former agreement defined that projects like pulp mills would have to be approved by both countries. Argentina feared a strong pollution of the river and its banks by the factories. When Uruguay commenced with the construction works early in the year, Argentine residents regularly blocked the bridge over Río Uruguay. On February 15, Argentine President Nestor Kirchner expressed his full support for the activists. Five days later, Uruguay announced that it would call upon the Organization of American States to mediate in the conflict. In March, the Argentine protestors blocked a transport of construction materials from Chile. On May 4, Argentina filed a formal complaint over the mills at the ICJ to stop the project. However, the ICJ decided on July 13 that Uruguay could proceed with the construction for the time being while the court re-

vised the case.

eg

Brazil (MST)

Intensity: 3	Change: ↗	Start: 1995
Conflict Parties:	MST vs. government	
Conflict Items:	resources	

The conflict between Brazil's Landless Rural Workers' Movement (MST) and the government concerning a land reform continued. On June 6, approx. 700 activists of the Movement for the Liberation of the Landless (MLST) stormed a congressional building in the capital, Brasília. MLST is a radical faction of MST. The demonstrators demanded a speed-up of the land reform. Demonstrators armed with farming implements clashed with the police inside the congressional building. 25 people were injured, one of them seriously. The building was strongly damaged. Approx. 400 MLST members were arrested. President Luiz Ina-

cio Lula da Silva condemned the disturbance as an act of vandalism against democracy.

mmk

Colombia (AUC)

Intensity: 2	Change: ▾	Start: 1995
Conflict Parties:	AUC vs. government	
Conflict Items:	regional predominance, system / ideology	

The peace process between the right-wing paramilitary United Self-Defense Force (AUC) and the government continued. After a short interruption of the AUC's demobilization process in October 2005, the paramilitary organization finally decided to resume its disarmament following successful talks with the government on 11/17/05. In exchange, Colombia extended the time frame for the AUC to hand over its weapons. As a result, many former AUC leaders and their fighters surrendered their weapons due to the prospect of reduced prison terms under the Justice and Peace Bill. Between December 2005 and March 2006, 10,000 fighters laid down their arms. Altogether approx. 30,000 AUC fighters were reportedly disarmed since the start of the peace process in 2003. The ongoing disarmament of the AUC was enforced without any displays of violence from either side.

jjh

Colombia (ELN)

Intensity: 2	Change: ↓	Start: 1964
Conflict Parties:	ELN vs. government	
Conflict Items:	regional predominance, system / ideology	

The conflict between the National Liberation Army (ELN) and the government decreased significantly. Preliminary talks aiming at peace negotiations between the belligerent parties were held in Cuba on 12/12/05. Both parties expressed their intention to find a conflict solution. Between February and March 2006, government representatives and the ELN military leader Antonio Garcia met again to discuss the preconditions for peace talks. On February 24, Colombia suspended arrest warrants for two leaders of the ELN. The ELN officially announced a temporary ceasefire on March 2. Shortly afterwards, the rebel group released a Colombian soldier. Further talks between the ELN and the government led to no results. Finally, representatives of both sides declared on October 26 that formal peace talks would proceed in November and December.

jjh

Colombia (FARC)

Intensity: 4	Change: •	Start: 1964
Conflict Parties:	FARC vs. government	
Conflict Items:	regional predominance, system / ideology	

The conflict between the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) and the government remained

highly violent. President Alvaro Uribe continued fighting the left-wing rebel group by using even massive military power. The FARC, which are said to number approx. 16,000 armed men, conducted bombings and ambushes. At least 76 government troops, 52 police officers, and seven politicians were killed in FARC assaults throughout the year. On 12/27/05, FARC rebels attacked military government installations, killing 29 soldiers. In February, the government launched air strikes against FARC positions in the Meta province. Occasionally, both sides signaled readiness for talks on the exchange of captives. An exchange did not occur, however. President Uribe finally broke off negotiations on October 20, after FARC rebels had bombed a bus in the capital, Bogotá, leaving more than 20 people injured. Subsequently, FARC forces attacked a remote police station in the northern province of Córdoba on November 1. 17 police officers and three FARC fighters died in the attack. On December 1, FARC rebels killed 17 soldiers in northeastern Colombia. The FARC also launched attacks on the country's logistical infrastructure. On May 19, they hit the electricity station of Colombia's major seaport, Buenaventura.

jjh

Ecuador (opposition)

Intensity: 3	Change: •	Start: 1998
Conflict Parties:	opposition vs. government	
Conflict Items:	system / ideology	

The conflict between the non-parliamentary opposition and the government continued violently. On 20 January, hundreds of protestors clashed violently with the police because of an announced increase of bus fares. Dozens were injured. The protestors also demanded an end to the contract with the private Occidental Petroleum Corporation (OPC), and the refusal to join the Free Trade Agreement (FTA) of the Americas. On February 22, a one-day state of emergency was declared in reaction to violent protests in which pipelines were occupied. Oil workers of the state-owned Petroecuador demanded better working conditions and an end to corruption in the company. Although an agreement with the government was reached, protests continued in March. Another strike of thousands of workers led to the declaration of a state of emergency in three regions. Protestors blocked main roads, calling for a referendum against the FTA. 14 people were injured. On March 22, the state of emergency was once again declared in five provinces, including the capital, Quito. One student was killed in a clash with the police on April 8. On May 15, the government canceled the contract with OPC.

cg

Haiti (opposition)

Intensity: 3	Change: ↘	Start: 1986
Conflict Parties:	Aristide supporters vs. Aristide opponents	
Conflict Items:	national power	

The conflict between several non-state groups over national power continued to be carried out violently. These rival political groups became increasingly criminal and split up. They could be roughly classified in supporters and opponents of former President Jean-Bertrand Aristide, removed from office on 02/28/04. The latter included armed former soldiers of the army, dissolved in 1995. On 02/07/06, regular parliamentary and presidential elections were held in a fair manner. In the run up to the elections, sporadic violent incidents were reported. On January 18, two UN peacekeepers were killed. After the estimated share of votes for René Préval had dropped from 61 to below 50 per cent in the second extrapolation, Préval supporters demanded recognition of his victory. In the course of these demonstrations, one person was killed in clashes with the police. UN troops tried to calm the situation. On February 16, Préval was declared winner by 51 per cent of the votes due to the cancellation of all blank votes. At the same time, the UN mission MINUSTAH was extended for six months. On April 21, the second round of parliamentary elections was held. Violent clashes occurred. On June 10, the new government was sworn in. On July 15, thousands of Aristide supporters demonstrated for their leader's return from exile. After a period of relative stability, violence increased once more in fall due to the unsolved issues such as the re-establishment of the army and the integration of Aristide followers and workers into public service. On November 11 two UN soldiers were killed in a shooting.

mgm; jl

Mexico (APPO)

Intensity: 3	Change: NEW	Start: 2006
Conflict Parties:	APPO vs. government	
Conflict Items:	system / ideology	

A system conflict between the Popular Assembly of the Peoples of Oaxaca (APPO) and the government of the state of Oaxaca erupted. On May 1, the national union of Mexico's teachers demanded higher salaries and an improvement of the social situation in schools. Oaxaca Governor Ulises Ruiz did not respond. Teachers occupied the center of Oaxaca City on May 22. The first violent clashes occurred on June 14. In the following weeks, numerous demonstrations were held. As a result, the APPO was formed on June 17 by 365 grassroots organizations, including indigenous and peasant groups, unions, left-wing groups, and women's associations. The intensity of protests subsequently increased, leading to several killed protestors. On October 22, APPO decided to end the teachers' strike. However, some members

continued to demonstrate. They demanded Ruiz's resignation, accusing him of election fraud and corruption. The central government dispatched troops to Oaxaca on October 28, but also recommended finding a political solution to the conflict. Troops, helicopters, and policemen cleared the city center of Oaxaca of protesters. As a result, demonstrators moved to the University of Oaxaca, where fighting continued. Two buildings were bombed in Mexico City on November 6. An unknown left-wing group claimed responsibility, and drew a connection to the situation in Oaxaca. However, APPO rejected any involvement in the bombings. APPO considered becoming a political party. The central government considered withdrawing troops from Oaxaca.

fs

Mexiko (opposition)

Intensity: 3	Change: NEW	Start: 2006
Conflict Parties:	opposition vs. government	
Conflict Items:	national power	

A new conflict between the opposition Party of the Democratic Revolution (PRD) and the ruling National Action Party (PAN) over national power erupted. In the run-up to parliamentary and presidential elections, oppositional activists staged violent protests. On May 9, at least one person was killed, as police cracked down on demonstrators. Both parties agreed on free and fair elections on June 13. Following the elections, the main candidates, Felipe Calderón (PAN) and Andrés Manuel López Obrador (PRD), both declared themselves winner. Both parties held demonstrations on July 4. Preliminary results of the National Election Commission showed Calderón as winner. Obrador contested the result. In the following weeks, Obrador's supporters staged a wave of protests, occupying the main square Zócalo in Mexico City. The Federal Electoral Tribunal declared Calderón the winner in early September. Obrador was elected head of a parallel government and sworn in on November 21. He further declared his intentions of blocking Calderón's inauguration on December 1.

fs

Paraguay (opposition)

Intensity: 3	Change: ↗	Start: 1989
Conflict Parties:	opposition vs. government	
Conflict Items:	resources	

The conflict between farmers' organizations and the government about land reforms and distribution led to demonstrations and strikes. Occasionally, land was occupied and violent clashes occurred. In May, approx. 20,000 farmers demonstrated against the government's economic policy, occupying regional branches of the Agrarian Extension Office (DEAG). The strikes and road barricades were expanded, covering seven of 17 departments of the country. Farm-

ers' organizations accused paramilitary groups of attacks and torture. Indigenous minorities were particularly affected by land conflicts. In May, the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, for the second time, condemned Paraguay for violating the rights of the indigenous Enxet in the central department of Presidente Hayes.

gb

Peru (Shining Path)

Intensity: 3	Change: ↗	Start: 1980
Conflict Parties:	Shining Path vs. government	
Conflict Items:	regional predominance, system / ideology	

The conflict between the rebel group Shining Path and the government over regional predominance turned violent. The rebel group was accused of being involved in drug-trafficking. Late in 2005, members of the Shining Path killed eight policemen. Subsequently, on 12/21/05, the Peruvian President Alejandro Toledo declared a state of emergency in six provinces. On 12/23/05, police and rebels clashed again. The Shining Path fired at a police helicopter and injured two policemen. On October 14, the founder of Shining Path, Abimael Guzmán, and his partner, Elena Iparraguirre, were sentenced to life imprisonment in a renewed trial. Ten other codefendants were sentenced to between 24 and 35 years imprisonment. The leader of Shining Path, Comrade Artemio, offered the government a truce on November 26. In return he demanded amnesty and a negotiated solution. Since the arrest of Guzmán in 1992, only a few hundred rebels remained, operating in southern and southeastern Peru.

mgm

USA - Cuba (system)

Intensity: 2	Change: •	Start: 1959
Conflict Parties:	USA vs. Cuba	
Conflict Items:	system / ideology	

The system conflict between the USA and Cuba continued without violence. On August 1, Cuban President Fidel Castro temporarily transferred power to his younger brother, Raúl Castro. Subsequently, Raúl Castro mobilized tens of thousands of reservists and members of the militia. The next day, the militia was demobilized. He declared all steps were taken to avoid any US attacks against Cuba. The USA announced they had no reason to change their political strategy towards Cuba following the transfer of power. The US economic embargo and the denial of travel permits were maintained. On August 3, US President George W. Bush urged the Cuban people to actively push for democracy. In July, a special commission of the US government recommended supporting the

democratic change in Cuba with 80 million US dollars.

mas

USA - Mexico

Intensity: 2	Change: •	Start: 2001
Conflict Parties:	USA vs. Mexico	
Conflict Items:	others	

The conflict between the USA and Mexico concerning illegal immigration and a border wall was carried out non-violently. Approx. 160,000 illegal immigrants per year were estimated to cross the border to the USA. On 12/17/05, the US Congress discussed the construction of a border wall. Mexico's President Vicente Fox protested against these plans. The USA sought protection against illegal immigration and was willing to spend 1.2 billion US dollars on the project. 6,000 to 18,000 US soldiers were to observe the border with high-tech equipment. Mexico's protests increased in intensity. On May 18, Fox announced that a wall would not solve the immigration problem or improve relations between the two nations. On October 10, Mexico officially issued a protest note after the US Senate had adopted the law allowing the construction. Fox compared the border fence to the Berlin Wall. Both candidates of Mexico's presidential election opposed the wall. The USA deployed some 55 soldiers to the border on June 6. On November 9, designated Mexican President Felipe Calderón met US President George W. Bush to express his concerns. In 2005, approx. 500 people had died trying to illegally cross the border, rights groups reported.

fs

Venezuela (opposition)

Intensity: 3	Change: •	Start: 2000
Conflict Parties:	opposition vs. government	
Conflict Items:	national power, system / ideology	

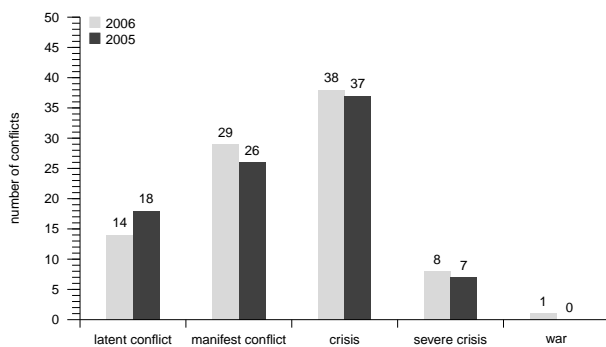
The national power and system conflict between the opposition and the government of President Hugo Chávez as well as the polarization of the civil society continued. The conflict was usually carried out with public demonstrations, marches, and reciprocal rhetorical attacks. In the run-up to the presidential elections on December 3, sympathizers of the opposition candidate Manuel Rosales violently clashed with Chávez followers, leaving several persons injured. In November, more than 100,000 opposition supporters protested against the government. Chávez announced that opposition members were not welcome in the military service or in the national oil company, Petroleos de Venezuela S.A. The opposition accused Chávez of endangering pluralism and undermining the rule of law as well as the freedom of the press.

gb

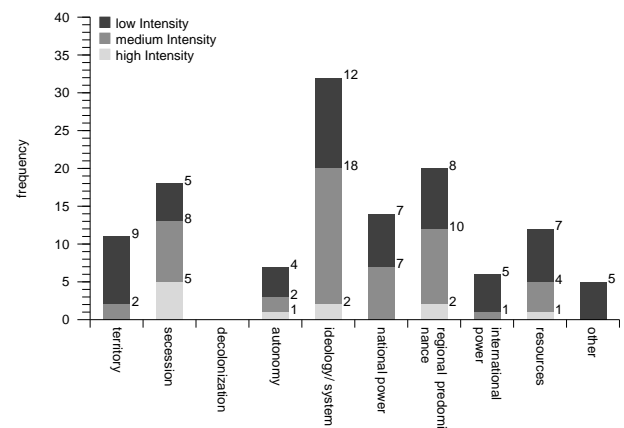
Asia and Oceania

In 2006, Asia and Oceania was the region with the most conflicts in terms of absolute numbers. Of the 90 political conflicts, one war, and eight severe crises were observed. In fact, a general increase of violence in the whole region took place. In March, a new conflict erupted in East Timor. There, the government dismissed 600 soldiers who were mainly from the western part of the country. Two coups d'états were staged: in Thailand on September 19, and in Fiji on December 5. In Sri Lanka, the secessionist conflict between the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) and the government escalated to a war, with nearly one thousand casualties and over two hundred thousands civilians displaced. Internal upheavals in Pakistan involving separatist movements in the northwestern region of Waziristan (bordering on Afghanistan), as well as the southwestern province Balochistan (on the frontier with Afghanistan and Iran), and the government of Pervez Musharraf, escalated to severe crises. In the Pacific region, violent clashes were registered on the islands of Solomon and Tonga. In central Asia, opposition parties and civil movements aiming at full democratization of their countries were constrained by authoritarian governments, and media censorship was imposed. In northeast Asia, North Korea's underground nuclear test on October 9 further worsened relations between Pyongyang on the one hand and the USA, South Korea, and Japan on the other. Nevertheless, some conflicts deescalated: In Banda Aceh, Indonesia, the peace agreement reached in 2005 between BAM members and the government in Jakarta was maintained. In Nepal, the national parliament was reinstated in April after a four-year moratorium, and a ceasefire between the new coalition government and the Maoist rebels was agreed upon in November.

Conflict Intensities in Asia and Oceania 2006 compared to 2005



Frequency of Conflict Items 2006 in Asia and Oceania by Intensity Groups



Bangladesh (Awami League)

Intensity: 3	Change: •	Start: 1991
Conflict Parties:	Awami League vs. government	
Conflict Items:	national power	

The conflict between the main opposition party, the Awami League (AL), and the governing Bangladesh National Party (BNP) over national power continued. From August 2005, the AL repeatedly organized nation-wide demonstrations and strikes, resulting in violent clashes between protestors and the police. On February 12, the AL returned to parliament after a one-year boycott. However, the AL continued accusing the government of corruption and demanded electoral reforms. Prime Minister Khaleda Zia's five-year term ended on October 28. After that, an interim administration was supposed to govern the country for 90 days until general elections scheduled for January 2007. However, Zia tried to postpone this process. As a consequence, clashes between the opposition and BNP supporters occurred in the capital, Dhaka. At least six people were killed, and over 200 injured. On

October 29, an interim government led by President Iajuddin Ahmed was established.

bk, cs

Bangladesh (JMB)

Intensity: 3	Change: •	Start: 2005
Conflict Parties:	JMB vs. government	
Conflict Items:	national power, system / ideology	

The conflict between Jamaat-ul-Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) and the Bangladeshi government continued. In 2006, several members accused of the 2005 nation-wide bombings were arrested. The JMB threatened to kill judges, lawyers, civil servants, and journalists, and to bomb public buildings. The government announced a reward of 152,000 US dollars for information leading to the arrest of JMB chief Sheikh Abdur Rahman and the leader of Jagrata Muslim Janata Bangladesh (JMJB), Siddiqui Islam alias Bangla Bhai. In November 2005, JMB explosives and bomb-making equipments were discovered. Nevertheless, the JMB attacked public buildings,

Summary: Conflicts in Asia and Oceania 2006

Name of Conflict ¹	Conflict Parties ²	Conflict Items	Start	Change ³	Int. ⁴
Bangladesh (Awami League)	Awami League vs. government	national power	1991	•	3
Bangladesh (Chittagon Hill Tracts)*	PCJSS vs. UPDF	regional predominance	1997	•	3
Bangladesh (JMB)	JMB vs. government	national power, system / ideology	2005	•	3
Bangladesh (PCJSS, UPDF)*	PCJSS, UPDF vs. government	autonomy	1971	↘	2
Bangladesh - India	Bangladesh vs. India	territory, resources	1971	•	3
Bangladesh - Myanmar*	Bangladesh vs. Myanmar	territory, resources	1991	•	2
Cambodia (CFF)*	CFF vs. government	resources	2000	•	1
Cambodia (FUNCINPEC, SRP)	FUNCINPEC, SRP vs. CPP	system / ideology, national power	1979	•	2
Cambodia (Khmer Rouge)*	Khmer Rouge vs. government	system / ideology, others	1967	END	1
China (Falun Gong)*	Falun Gong vs. government	system / ideology	1999	•	3
China (Hong Kong pro-democracy parties)*	Hong Kong pro-democracy parties vs. government	autonomy, system / ideology	1999	•	2
China (Hui)*	Hui vs. government, Han	others	2004	•	2
China (Taiwan)	Taiwan vs. China	secession, ideology / system	1949	•	2
China (Tibet)	Tibetan government in exile, Tibetan separatists vs. government	system / ideology, secession	1912	↗	3
China (Xinjiang)*	East Turkestan Islamic Movement vs. government	ideology / system, secession	1990	↗	3
China - Vietnam et al.*	China vs. Vietnam et al.	territory, resources	1945	•	1
China -India*	China vs. India	territory, international power	1949	•	1
East Timor (opposition)	opposition vs. government	system / ideology	2006	NEW	3
East Timor - Australia *	East Timor vs. Australia	resources, territory	2002	•	1
Fiji (ethnic groups)	indigenous Fijians vs. Fijians of Indian origin	national power	1987	•	2
India (ANVC)	ANVC vs. government	secession	1995	↘	2
India (Ayodhya)*	Hindus vs. Muslims	regional predominance	1989	↘	2
India (Bodos - Santhals)*	(NDFB) vs. Santhals	autonomy	1994	•	3
India (Dimasa - Hmar)*	DHD vs. HPC	secession / autonomy	1987	•	3
India (Gujarat)*	Hindus vs. Muslims	regional predominance	1987	•	1
India (KNF-S - KNF-Z)*	KNF-S vs. KNF-Z	regional predominance	1995	•	3
India (Kashmir)	Kashmiri and Pakistani separatists vs. government	secession	1947	•	4
India (LTTE)*	LTTE vs. government	others	1987	•	1
India (Manipur)*	UNLF vs. MPLF vs. PLA vs. ZRA	secession	1964	•	3
India (NSCN-K - NSCN-IM)*	NSCN-K vs. NSCN-IM	regional predominance	1988	•	3
India (Nagaland)*	NSCN vs. government	secession	1956	↗	3
India (Nagas - Kukis)*	NSCN vs. KNF	regional predominance	1947	↘	2
India (Naxalites)	Naxalites vs. government	system / ideology	1997	•	4
India (Sikhs)	Sikhs vs. government	regional predominance, autonomy	1947	↘	2
India (Tripura)	NLFT vs. government	secession	1980	•	3
India (ULFA, ATTF - Biharis, Bengalis)	UULFA, ATTF vs. Biharis, Bengalis	regional predominance	1981	•	3
Indonesia (Aceh)	GAM vs. government	secession, resources	1953	•	3
Indonesia (Jemaah Islamiyah)*	Jemaah Islamiyah vs. government	national power	1981	↘	2
Indonesia (Kalimantan)*	Dayaks vs. Madurese	regional predominance	1997	•	1
Indonesia (Moluccans)*	Muslims vs. Christians	regional predominance	1998	•	3
Indonesia (Papua)*	OPM vs. government	secession, resources	1949	•	2
Indonesia (Sulawesi)	Christians vs. Muslims	regional predominance	1998	•	3
Japan - China (Senkakus-Diaoyus Islands)*	China vs. Japan	territory, resources	1972	•	2

Name of Conflict ¹	Conflict Parties ²	Conflict Items	Start	Change ³	Int. ⁴
Japan - Russia (Kuril Islands)	Japan vs. Russia	territory, resources	1945	↑	3
Japan - South Korea (Tokto - Takeshima Islands)*	Japan vs. South Korea	territory	1945	•	1
Kazakhstan (opposition)	opposition parties vs. government	system / ideology	2004	•	3
Kyrgyzstan (opposition)	opposition parties vs. government	system / ideology	2005	•	3
Laos (LCMD, CIDL)*	LCMD, CIDL vs. government	system / ideology, national power	1975	↘	3
Malaysia (KMM)*	KMM vs. government	system / ideology	1998	•	2
Malaysia (ethnic Chinese)*	Chinese vs. Malays	national power	1946	•	1
Malaysia - Indonesia, Philippines (Immigrants)	Malaysia vs. Indonesia, Philippines	regional predominance	1998	•	2
Maldives (MDP)*	MDP vs. government	system / ideology	2003	•	2
Myanmar (minorities)	Myanmar vs. ethnic minorities	secession	1948	↗	4
Myanmar (opposition)*	opposition vs. government	system / ideology, national power	1982	•	2
Nepal (Maoists)	CPN-M vs. government	system / ideology, national power	1990	↘	3
Nepal (opposition)	opposition parties vs. government	system / ideology	2002	↗	3
Nepal - Bhutan (refugees)*	Nepal vs. Bhutan	others	1985	•	2
North Korea - South Korea	North Korea vs. South Korea	international power, system / ideology	1945	•	3
North Korea - USA, South Korea, Japan	North Korea vs. USA, South Korea, Japan	international power, system / ideology	1990	•	2
Pakistan (Balochs)	Pahtoonkhwa Milli Awami Party, BLA, Baloch tribes vs. government	autonomy, system / ideology, resources	1998	↗	4
Pakistan (Sunni - Shiites)	militant Sunni Muslims vs. militant Shi'a Muslims	system / ideology	1998	•	3
Pakistan (Waziristan)	Waziri tribes vs. government	regional predominance	2004	•	4
Pakistan - India	Pakistan vs. India	territory, international power	1947	•	2
Philippines (Abu Sayyaf)	Abu Sayyaf vs. government	secession	1991	•	4
Philippines (MILF)	MILF vs. government	secession, system / ideology	1977	•	3
Philippines (MNLF)*	MNLF vs. government	autonomy	1969	↘	2
Philippines (NPA, CPP)	NPA, CPP vs. government	system / ideology	1968	•	3
Singapore (Jemaah Islamiyah)	Jemaah Islamiyah vs. government	ideology / system	1999	•	2
Singapore - Malaysia*	Singapore vs. Malaysia	international power, territory, resources	1963	•	2
Solomons (opposition)	opposition vs. government	resources, national power	1998	↑	3
Sri Lanka (Buddhists - Hindus, Muslims, Christians)*	Sinhalese nationalists, conservative Buddhist clergy vs. Muslims, Christians, Tamils	system / ideology	1948	↗	3
Sri Lanka (Jamiyathul Ulama - Sufis)*	Jamiyathul Ulama vs. Sufis	regional predominance	1978	↑	3
Sri Lanka (LTTE - EPDP)*	LTTE vs. EPDP	regional predominance	1996	•	3
Sri Lanka (LTTE - JVP)*	LTTE vs. JVP	secession	1976	•	2
Sri Lanka (LTTE - PLOTE)*	LTTE vs. PLOTE	regional predominance	1979	↑	3
Sri Lanka (LTTE)	LTTE vs. government	secession	1976	↑	5
Sri Lanka (LTTE, Tamils - SLMC, Muslims)*	LTTE, Tamils vs. SLMC, Muslims	regional predominance	1976	↗	3
Sri Lanka (LTTE-East - LTTE)	LTTE-East vs. LTTE	regional predominance	2004	↗	4
Sri Lanka (SLMC)*	SLMC vs. government	others	1981	•	2
Sri Lanka (Sinhalese nationalists)*	Sinhalese nationalists, JHU, conservative Buddhist clergy vs. government	ideology / system	1948	↘	2
Sri Lanka (Upcountry Tamils)*	Upcountry Tamils vs. government	regional predominance	1948	•	1
Tajikistan (opposition)	opposition parties vs. government	system / ideology	1997	•	3

Name of Conflict ¹	Conflict Parties ²	Conflict Items	Start	Change ³	Int. ⁴
Thailand (Northern Hill Tribes)*	Ethnic Thais vs. Northern Hill Tribes, Tribal Assembly of Thailand	regional predominance	1955	•	1
Thailand (coup plotters)	coup plotters vs. government	national power	2006	NEW	2
Thailand (southern border provinces)	Muslim separatists vs. government	secession	1784	•	4
Thailand - Cambodia*	Thailand vs. Cambodia	territory, international power	1954	•	1
Tonga (democratization)	HRDM vs. government	ideology / system, national power	1970	↗	3
Uzbekistan (IMU)*	IMU vs. government	system / ideology, national power	1991	•	3
Uzbekistan (opposition)	opposition vs. government	system / ideology, national power	2005	↘	2
Vietnam (KKNLF)*	KKNLF vs. government	secession, system / ideology	2002	•	1

^{1 2 3 4} see first regiontable

in the course of which people were killed and injured. On March 2, Abdur Rahman was arrested in Sylhet City. Four days later, Bangla Bhai was arrested in the northern district of Mymensingh following clashes with security forces. Abdur Rahman confessed that his organization was responsible for numerous attacks. In May, a court in Jhalakati sentenced to death seven top Islamist militants, including Abdur Rahman and Bangla Bhai, for killing two judges in a bomb attack in Jhalakati on 11/14/05. The District and Sessions Judge Court in Laxmipur sentenced three JMB leaders to death and another five members to life imprisonment for their involvement in the 17/08/05 bombings. Abdur Rahman and Bangla Bhai filed conditional applications in the Supreme Court seeking permission to appeal against their death penalty. The registrar of the Supreme Court stayed the executions of the convicted JMB leaders.

bk, cs

Bangladesh - India

Intensity: 3	Change: •	Start: 1971
Conflict Parties:	Bangladesh vs. India	
Conflict Items:	territory, resources	

The conflict between Bangladesh and India over the border demarcation and resources continued. On March 20, the Bangladeshi Prime Minister Khaleda Zia met with her Indian counterpart Manmohan Singh in the Indian capital, Delhi, to discuss trade relations, illegal immigration, and smuggling across the common border. It was Zia's first official visit to India. In June, Indian border security forces and Bangladesh Rifles exchanged fire, leading to at least six casualties. On July 7, a joint expert group met in Bangladesh to discuss bolstering economic ties, especially with regard to the energy market as well as oil exploration and production in the Bay of Bengal.

bk, cs

Cambodia (FUNCINPEC, SRP)

Intensity: 2	Change: •	Start: 1979
Conflict Parties:	FUNCINPEC, SRP vs. CPP	
Conflict Items:	system / ideology, national power	

The power and system conflict between the Sam Rainsy Party (SRP) and the National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful and Cooperative Cambodia (FUNCINPEC) on the one side and the Cambodian People's Party (CPP) on the other continued. CPP was one of the government parties. The conflict intensified when Sam Rainsy was convicted in absence to 18 month in jail for criticising the government. After he was pardoned by King Norodom Sihamon in February, Rainsy returned from his self-imposed exile in Paris on February 10.

sg

China (Taiwan)

Intensity: 2	Change: •	Start: 1949
Conflict Parties:	Taiwan vs. China	
Conflict Items:	secession, ideology / system	

The secession conflict between Taiwan and China continued. China continued to consider Taiwan a breakaway region, whereas Taiwan continued to consider itself the legitimate Chinese Republic. On February 28, Taiwan's President announced the abolition of the National Unification Council that had been set up to oversee the eventual unification of Taiwan and China. China strongly protested. The USA, Taiwan's most important ally, advised Taiwan not to take this measure. In March, 45,000 Taiwanese demonstrated against China for having issued a law providing for a military option in the reintegration of Taiwan in the capital, Taipeh. Simultaneously, they protested against the Taiwanese president's steps towards independence. In August, China initiated diplomatic relations with Chad. In turn, Chad and Taiwan cut their diplomatic ties.

jd

China (Tibet)

Intensity: 3	Change: ↗	Start: 1912
Conflict Parties:	Tibetan government in exile, Tibetan separatists vs. government	
Conflict Items:	system / ideology, secession	

The secession conflict between the Tibetan government in exile and Tibetan separatists on the one hand and the government of China on the other concerning the future status of Tibet continued. Several requests of the Dalai Lama, the spiritual leader of the Tibetan people, concerning self-determination of Tibetans yielded no results. On September 30, Chinese border guards opened fire on a group of Tibetan refugees on their way to Nepal. One of the refugees died. According to the Chinese government, the border soldiers acted in self-defense. Abroad, demonstrations against China's policy towards Tibet took place.

jd

East Timor (opposition)

Intensity: 3	Change: NEW	Start: 2006
Conflict Parties:	opposition vs. government	
Conflict Items:	system / ideology	

A system conflict erupted between the opposition, mainly consisting of sacked militaries, and the government. In March, Prime Minister Mari Alkatiri dismissed 600 soldiers, nearly half of the East Timorese army, after they had protested against discrimination against soldiers from the west of the country. On April 24, the police killed two protestors during a protest march of sacked soldiers in the capital, Dili. Subsequently, demonstrations against Alkatiri spread all over the country, resulting in clashes between protestors and the security forces. Foreign and Defense Minister Ramos Horta asked for the intervention of foreign troops. On May 25, Australia, New Zealand, Malaysia, and Portugal dispatched 2,400 troops. On June 7, Horta met a delegation of rebel soldiers. Ten days later, they handed over a small number of weapons to the foreign peacekeepers. On June 26, Alkatiri resigned. On August 8, Horta was appointed interim prime minister, and general elections were scheduled for May 2007. In mid-August, part of the recently dismissed soldiers handed in their weapons. On August 26, the UN Security Council established the UN mission UNMIT with an initial mandate for six months. The presence of foreign troops and the UN did not tackle the violent unrest in the country. At least 25 people died as a consequence of the riots.

yf / di

Fiji (ethnic groups)

Intensity: 2	Change: •	Start: 1987
Conflict Parties:	indigenous Fijians vs. Fijians of Indian origin	
Conflict Items:	national power	

The power struggle between the indigenous population and groups of Indian descent over national power continued. The longstanding conflict had flared up for the last time in 2000 when the business man George Speight unsuccessfully attempted to topple the government of Prime Minister Mahendra Chaudhry in order to secure indigenous dominance in domestic politics. On November 2, the government, led by Premier Laisenia Qarase, proposed a bill granting amnesty to the coup plotters of 2000. These laws were opposed by the military. On November 2, the head of the armed forces, Commodore Frank Bainimarama, threatened to overthrow the government. Two days later, Qarase announced to change the contested amnesty law. Nevertheless, Qarase did not modify the bill. On November 13, the Great Council of Chief, which represented Fiji's indigenous population, established a mediation committee in search for an agreement between the military and Qarase. On November 30, the army threatened again to stage a coup in the next 24 hours unless its demands were met. On December 5, Bainimarama took control of the country. No curfew was imposed.

ct

India (ANVC)

Intensity: 2	Change: ↘	Start: 1995
Conflict Parties:	ANVC vs. government	
Conflict Items:	secession	

The conflict between the Achic National Volunteers Council (ANVC) and the Indian government continued. ANVC fought for the creation of a separate state for the Garo tribe in northeastern India. In 2006, a joint group to monitor the 2004 ceasefire was created, and several talks were held with representatives of the ANVC. On May 28, the ANVC asked the central government to lift the ban imposed in 2000. On July 11, the ceasefire was extended by one year. On September 28, the parties discussed the conditions of disarmament, albeit unsuccessfully. On November 9, the government extended the ANVC's proscription.

kp

India (Kashmir)

Intensity: 4	Change: •	Start: 1947
Conflict Parties:	Kashmiri and Pakistani separatists vs. government	
Conflict Items:	secession	

The conflict between militant separatists of the state of Jammu and Kashmir and the government continued. Clashes between the militants - especially Lashka-e-Toiba, Hizb-ul-Mujahideen, Harkat-ul-

Mujahideen, and Jaish-e-Mohammad - and security forces took place on a daily basis. Since April, infiltrations into Indian territory along the Line of Control (LoC) separating Pakistan-administered Kashmir from Indian-administered Kashmir intensified. Furthermore, assassinations and kidnappings of civilians by the separatists took place on a weekly basis. A total of 18 grenade attacks were reported, especially in the state's capital, Srinagar. On February 5, the withdrawal of 5,000 soldiers was announced. On February 25, Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh initiated a round table on the future status of Jammu and Kashmir. The Kashmiri moderate All Party Hurriyat Conference refused to participate. On March 10, India reaffirmed its position on Jammu and Kashmir as an inalienable part of the state. On May 24, Singh proposed a peace program. On September 8, the government accused the separatists, especially Lashkar-e-Toiba, of having al-Qaeda links. On September 20, Hizb-ul-Mujahideen offered a ceasefire during Ramadan if India scaled down its troops and released imprisoned insurgents. This was rejected. While the government stated that infiltrations from Pakistan decreased by 50 per cent, Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir, Ghulam Nabi Azad, claimed on November 5 that the numbers had doubled compared to the previous year. From January, about 500 militants crossed the LoC.

yf

India (Naxalites)

Intensity: 4	Change: •	Start: 1997
Conflict Parties:	Naxalites vs. government	
Conflict Items:	system / ideology	

The ideological conflict between the Naxalite rebels, organized in the Communist Party of India - Maoists, and the government remained on a highly violent level. Naxalite insurgents regularly attacked persons and institutions representing the Indian state in rural areas of central and northern India. Villagers were frequently kidnapped and killed. Clashes between Naxalites and paramilitary forces continued as well. The Indian government backed the paramilitaries operating in the Red Corridor. On March 24, Naxalites forces attacked a prison in the state of Orissa, releasing 35 of their supporters. On April 1, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh identified the Maoist rebellion as India's biggest security threat. On April 24, the Naxalites killed Ashok Kumar Singh, a local politician in Bihar. They killed another 23 people in the state of Chhattisgarh in mid-July. On October 8, at least 13 paramilitaries died when a mine exploded.

cb

India (Sikhs)

Intensity: 2	Change: ↘	Start: 1947
Conflict Parties:	Sikhs vs. government	
Conflict Items:	regional predominance, autonomy	

The conflict between Sikh separatists and the Indian government over regional predominance in the country deescalated. The Indian authorities were occasionally successful in fighting the organization Babbar Khalsa International (BKI). On March 20, several members of BKI were arrested in the federal state Punjab. Arms and explosives were seized. The same day, Paramjeet Singh Bheora, the current head of BKI in India, was captured in the capital, Delhi, following a fire exchange.

as

India (Tripura)

Intensity: 3	Change: •	Start: 1980
Conflict Parties:	NLFT vs. government	
Conflict Items:	secession	

The secession conflict between the National Liberation Front of Tripura (NLFT) and the Indian government persisted. In January 2006, the NLFT supported the strike called by the United Liberation Front of Assam (ULFA) during the Republic Day celebrations in India. In February, three employees of the Gas Authority of India Ltd. were shot dead by NLFT in the West Tripura district. In April, NLFT members killed three security force personnel, and injured eight civilians in the Karnamuni district. In June and July, more clashes between NLFT and the security forces took place. Several casualties were registered.

ds

India (ULFA, ATTF - Biharis, Bengalis)

Intensity: 3	Change: •	Start: 1981
Conflict Parties:	UULFA, ATTF vs. Biharis, Bengalis	
Conflict Items:	regional predominance	

The conflict between ULFA and ATTF on the one hand and the Bihari- and Bengali-speaking communities over regional predominance continued. On January 26, ULFA and ATTF announced a general strike. On February, two policemen and five demonstrators were killed in a riot in Tinsukia district. As a consequence, ULFA called another two days of strikes. In May, police in West Bengal arrested four ULFA members. In June, bombings caused eight casualties, and left 63 people injured. In August, at least 15 persons were injured in a blast in Dhemajy district carried out by ULFA.

ds

Indonesia (Aceh)

Intensity: 3	Change: •	Start: 1953
Conflict Parties:	GAM vs. government	
Conflict Items:	secession, resources	

The conflict between the Free Aceh Movement (GAM) and the government concerning the status of the Aceh region deescalated due to a peace agreement signed in August 2005. After initial troop withdrawals, and the release of GAM members in exchange for the handover of weapons, further peace consolidation measures were implemented this year. On April 16, nine GAM leaders returned to Aceh after 30 years in exile in Sweden. Provincial, district, and municipal elections were scheduled for December 11. The polls, the first ones in the province, were to be monitored by the Asian Network for Free Elections (ANFREL) and the EU Election Observation Mission (EOM). On November 15, the eight candidates for the Aceh governorship committed themselves to peaceful campaigns. Nevertheless, sporadic violent incidents continued. On October 23, a police officer killed a man who had tried to take down Indonesia's national flag in a government building. On November 21, a candidate of the separatist movement was assaulted.

bb, yf

Indonesia (Sulawesi)

Intensity: 3	Change: •	Start: 1998
Conflict Parties:	Christians vs. Muslims	
Conflict Items:	regional predominance	

The conflict between Christians and Muslims over regional predominance on the Indonesian island of Sulawesi continued. On 10/29/05, three Christian girls were decapitated. On November 29, another three Christian girls were shot dead. On December 30, a bomb detonated in a market place frequented by Christians, killing at least six people. This year, bombs blasted on September 6 and on September 10, killing two Christians. Subsequently, four Muslims were arrested. On September 20, three Christians, sentenced to death for their involvement in the killing of Muslims between 1999 and 2002, were executed by the authorities. The execution sparked riots by the Christian community. On October 23, a police patrol was reportedly attacked by an armed group in the city of Poso. A young Muslim was killed. The attack led to violent unrest. Two days later, a church was set on fire and bombs detonated in a market place and a bus station.

yf

Japan - Russia (Kuril Islands)

Intensity: 3	Change: ↑	Start: 1945
Conflict Parties:	Japan vs. Russia	
Conflict Items:	territory, resources	

The conflict between Japan and Russia over the Kuril

Islands escalated to a violent level. On 11/20/05, Russian President Vladimir Putin and Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi agreed to ease tensions between the two countries. Russia offered Japan its support in building a pipeline in northeast Asia. However, in August, Putin revealed plans to enlarge the infrastructure of the main Kuril island by 2012. On August 16, a Russian coastguard killed a Japanese fisherman and arrested three more who had entered the disputed territory. The Japanese fishermen were accused of illegal border crossing and smuggling. Japan's Foreign Ministry strongly condemned the incident and demanded the release of the three crew members as well as the return of the dead body. Two of the Japanese fishermen were released on August 30.

je

Kazakhstan (opposition)

Intensity: 3	Change: •	Start: 2004
Conflict Parties:	opposition parties vs. government	
Conflict Items:	system / ideology	

The system conflict between opposition parties pushing for democratic reforms in Kazakhstan and the government of President Nursultan Nazarbayev continued. On 11/12/05, opposition leader Zamanbek Nurkadilov was killed. On February 13, another opposition politician, Altynbek Sarsenbailu, his bodyguard, and his driver were shot dead outside the city of Almaty. On April 7, the main political parties, Asar and Otan, under the influence of Nazarbayev and his daughter Dariva, created a ruling coalition. The same day, Nazarbayev modified the media laws in order to obstruct any criticism coming from the opposition. On October 11, a mass demonstration, demanding freedom of speech, took place in the capital, Astana.

ac

Kyrgyzstan (opposition)

Intensity: 3	Change: •	Start: 2005
Conflict Parties:	opposition parties vs. government	
Conflict Items:	system / ideology	

One year after the Tulip Revolution ousted former President Askar Akayev, tensions continued between opposition parties demanding democratic reforms and new President Kurmanbek Bakiyev. In January, Parliamentary Speaker Omurbek Tekebayev resigned and joined the opposition. In April, Industry Minister Almazbek Atambayev resigned, too. Demonstrators in the capital, Bishkek, demanded that Bakiyev either fight crime and corruption or resign. On September 21, the parliament accused Bakiyev of being responsible for the detention of opposition leader Tekebayev in Warsaw, Poland, where he was accused of drug trafficking. Mass demonstrations resumed in November after Bakiyev had rejected political reforms. On November 6, Bakiyev sacked Interior Minister Osmon-

ali Guronov in an attempt to calm down the protests. On November 7, violent clashes erupted in Bishkek. The police fired tear gas at protestors. On November 8, the members of parliament announced political reforms aimed at curbing the president's powers.

ac

Malaysia - Indonesia, Philippines (Immigrants)

Intensity: 2	Change: •	Start: 1998
Conflict Parties:	Malaysia vs. Indonesia, Philippines	
Conflict Items:	regional predominance	

The conflict between Malaysia and its neighboring countries Indonesia and Philippines concerning immigrants coming from these countries to work in Malaysia continued. On July 14, the interior minister announced that 100,000 reservists would be called up in order to deport some 500,000 illegal migrants from the country, about one quarter of Malaysia's workforce. Human rights groups criticized that these reservists had participated in former raids and evictions in which migrants had died or suffered.

tw

Myanmar (minorities)

Intensity: 4	Change: ↗	Start: 1948
Conflict Parties:	Myanmar vs. ethnic minorities	
Conflict Items:	secession	

The conflict between secessionist rebel groups and the military junta in Myanmar escalated. From November 2005, continuous fighting took place. The military continued resettlement in order to gain control over territories where the rebel groups operated, and isolate them. In northern Karen, up to 20,000 people were forced to leave. In September 2006, the UN Security Council put Myanmar on its agenda.

dar

Nepal (Maoists)

Intensity: 3	Change: ↘	Start: 1990
Conflict Parties:	CPN-M vs. government	
Conflict Items:	system / ideology, national power	

The conflict between the Communist Party of Nepal - Maoists (CPN-M) and the government over national power and ideology deescalated. Early this year, sporadic violent incidents between CPN-M and security forces continued. However, the new government coalition established in April paved the way for a ceasefire. On April 24, the Maoists agreed to new Prime Minister Girija Prasad Koirala's appeal to lift city blockades. On May 3, a truce offered by the government came into force. On June 13, the government began releasing rebels detained under the anti-terrorist law introduced in 1998. On June 16, first talks between Koirala and the Maoist leader, Prachanda, took place. In July, Prachanda ordered members of the CPN-M to stop extorting money. In addition, the Maoist parallel system of courts was ended. On Au-

gust 8, both parties agreed to their disarmament being monitored by the UN. On October 10, both parties agreed on elections for a constitutional assembly by June 2007 [=>Nepal (opposition)]. The peace treaty was signed on November 22.

yf

Nepal (opposition)

Intensity: 3	Change: ↗	Start: 2002
Conflict Parties:	opposition parties vs. government	
Conflict Items:	system / ideology	

The conflict between the parliamentary opposition parties, which aim for the full democratization of the country, and the Nepalese government of King Gyanendra escalated. On January 16, a night curfew was imposed in the capital, Kathmandu, to avoid demonstrations and strikes against the king. The police fired at protestors, and arrested many of them, including leaders of the opposition. On February 8, local elections were held, being the first polls in the country since 1999. After the elections, opposition leaders arrested during the demonstrations were released or put under house arrest. However, this measure did not appease protestors, who staged four days of protests early in April. For four weeks, clashes between security forces and thousands of anti-royalists in Kathmandu occurred on a daily basis. At least 16 people were shot dead, dozens were injured, and hundreds were arrested. Any offers for talks by King Gyanendra were rejected. On April 24, the King reinstated parliament, dissolved four years previously, and appointed former Prime Minister Girija Prasad Koirala of the Nepali Congress Party prime minister once more. Koirala formed a coalition called the People's Government and annulled all appointments made by King Gyanendra since October 2002. On May 18, parliament passed a Magna Charta, granting itself full legislative powers and control over the army. The king lost his veto right, and was reduced to a ceremonial figure. On June 10, a panel to investigate excesses committed by the former government against demonstrators was established. In October, the ruling coalition and Nepal's Maoist rebels agreed on elections to a constitutional assembly by mid-June 2007 [=>Nepal (Maoists)].

yf

North Korea - South Korea

Intensity: 3	Change: •	Start: 1945
Conflict Parties:	North Korea vs. South Korea	
Conflict Items:	international power, system / ideology	

The ideological conflict between North Korea and South Korea continued. On 11/17/05, South Korea proposed to replace the 1953 armistice by a peace treaty. On March 2, both parties resumed talks to boost trade relations. Former South Korean President Kim Dae Jung announced a visit to North Korea for

June. In March, five North Korean citizens fled to the South Korean capital, Seoul, seeking asylum. In April, a South Korean citizen was kidnapped in North Korea. On May 24, North Korea canceled plans to test a train connection crossing the border. After North Korea had test-fired missiles in the Japanese Sea on July 4 [=>North Korea - USA, South Korea, Japan], South Korea stopped the delivery of food and fertilizer to North Korea. In response, North Korea suspended family reunions and bilateral talks. On August 1, border guards exchanged gunfire after North Korean soldiers had presumably entered the demilitarized zone. On August 20, the parliament in Seoul agreed to resume food aid to North Korea due to heavy rainfalls threatening to cause a humanitarian catastrophe. On October 7, South Korean soldiers fired warning shots when North Korean soldiers tried entering the demilitarized zone.

je

North Korea - USA, South Korea, Japan

Intensity: 2	Change: •	Start: 1990
Conflict Parties:	North Korea vs. USA, South Korea, Japan	
Conflict Items:	international power, system / ideology	

The conflict between North Korea on the one hand and the USA, South Korea as well as Japan on the other concerning the North Korean nuclear armament program continued. On 12/24/05, the USA and Japan launched a joint missile program. On March 9, North Korea fired two short-range test missiles into the Japanese Sea. On June 13, IAEA complained about North Korea's reluctance to provide information on its nuclear program. On June 6, the USA deployed an aircraft carrier in the Japanese Sea, and announced the installation of interceptor missiles in Japan. On July 4, North Korea tested six long-range missiles. As a consequence, the UN Security Council passed a resolution banning export and import of missile-related materials to North Korea on July 15. On September 19, the South Korean foreign minister expressed concerns that recent sanctions could be interpreted as provocative acts by North Korea. On October 3, North Korea stated that it would carry out nuclear weapons tests. An underground nuclear test was conducted on October 9. On October 16, the UN Security Council passed Resolution 1718 imposing financial and weapons sanctions on North Korea. Furthermore, the nuclear test intensified the debate in Japan concerning the development of an own nuclear program. On October 22, North Korea announced it would abandon further nuclear weapons tests if economic sanctions were lifted.

je

Pakistan (Balochs)

Intensity: 4	Change: ↗	Start: 1998
Conflict Parties:	Pahtoonkhwa Milli Awami Party, BLA, Baloch tribes vs. government	
Conflict Items:	autonomy, system / ideology, resources	

The conflict between the Baloch tribes (Bugti, Marri, Mengal) and insurgents of the Baluchistan Liberation Army (BLA) on the one hand and the government on the other intensified. It has been carried out in the southwestern province Baluchistan since 1998. The Baloch tribes demanded more autonomy and a change in the political system as well as access to resources, particularly natural gas. In December 2005, the army launched a large-scale operation against camps of suspected Baloch insurgents. The Balochs subsequently increased the number of attacks on army installations, sabotage on pipelines, roadside bombs as well as assassinations of army personnel. On April 9, the government banned the BLA after declaring it a terrorist organization, and increased the number of troops to 80,000 to 123,000. On July 13, the UK also declared the BLA a terrorist organization. On August 26, the intensity of the conflict reached a climax when Nawab Akbar Khan Bugti, leader of the Bugti tribe and one of the most influential political actors in the province, was killed in a military operation. His death caused boycotts, demonstrations, riots, and strikes across Baluchistan. The security forces arrested hundreds of protestors. The ongoing military operation led to the surrender of a large number of Marri commanders and troops. At least 400 people were reportedly killed.

tow

Pakistan (Sunni - Shiites)

Intensity: 3	Change: •	Start: 1998
Conflict Parties:	militant Sunni Muslims vs. militant Shi'a Muslims	
Conflict Items:	system / ideology	

The ideological conflict between Sunni and Shiite militant groups in Pakistan continued on a violent level, causing at least 140 casualties on both sides. On April 11, 57 Sunni Muslims were killed in a suicide attack at a religious festival. In early October, clashes between Sunni and Shiite militants in the Orakzai tribal region caused 23 casualties.

sdi

Pakistan (Waziristan)

Intensity: 4	Change: •	Start: 2004
Conflict Parties:	Waziri tribes vs. government	
Conflict Items:	regional predominance	

The conflict between tribes in the Pakistani region of Waziristan and the government continued. North and South Waziristan, that belonged to the semi-autonomous Pakistani Federal Administered Tribal

Areas (FATA) in the Northwest of the country, witnessed heavy clashes between local tribal militants and the Pakistani army on a weekly basis. The majority of tribes - with Pashtun origin - rejected the presence of central government troops supported by the USA. Pakistan accused Waziristan tribes of supporting Taliban and Al Qaeda members of neighbouring Afghanistan. During the year, the insurgents carried out persistent attacks with missiles on army barracks and checkpoints. Furthermore, roads were bombed and suspected infiltrators from the Pakistani government were assassinated. In March 2006, the intensity of fighting reached an apex when the airport in North Waziristan and telephone utilities were attacked. On April 12, a bomb blasted in a market place in the city of Bannu. Two days later, another bomb exploded in Ghulam Khan. On April 25, a bomb exploded in the city of Mirali. On September 5, a cease fire was agreed, under which part of Pakistani troops were to withdraw from the region. Nevertheless, the agreement did not lead to a deescalation of the conflict and combat actions persisted. During the observation period, at least 500 people - insurgents, Pakistani security forces as well as civilians - were killed.

sd

Pakistan - India

Intensity: 2	Change: •	Start: 1947
Conflict Parties:	Pakistan vs. India	
Conflict Items:	territory, international power	

The conflict between India and Pakistan over Kashmir and international power persisted. The composite dialogue, initiated in 2004 and enhanced after the earthquake in Pakistan in October 2005, continued. On January 18, both countries agreed not to build additional defense posts along the Line of Control (LOC). Outside Kashmir, traffic connections along the Indian-Pakistani border were opened. On January 20, the first bus line across divided Punjab was launched. In February, two rail links between Rajasthan in India and Pakistan's southern Sindh province reopened after 40 years. On March 3, the Indian capital, Delhi, protested against the Basha Dam that Pakistan planned to build in Kashmir. Power demonstrations accompanied the socio-economic approach. E.g. between March and April, Pakistan test-fired a cruise missile and a surface-to-surface missile. On May 5, freight transport was permitted across the LoC. On May 23, the tenth round of talks between India and Pakistan on troop withdrawal from the Siachen Glacier ended without success. However, talks over another disputed area outside Kashmir, the Sir Creek, a narrow strip of marsh land, were initiated two days later. On June 6, another bus link along the LoC was launched. On July 7, India unsuccessfully test-fired a surface-to-surface missile. The Mumbai blasts of July 11 negatively affected bilateral relations. Pakistan's intelligence services were blamed for support-

ing Laskhar-e-Toiba, the insurgent group presumably responsible for the attacks [=>India (Kashmir)]. Consequently, further peace talks were put on hold by India. Not until September, Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf met with Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh. On November 11, India ruled out any compromise over the Siachen Glacier. On November 15, news talks revived bilateral relations. India and Pakistan agreed to share intelligence to fight terrorism. A new hotline between the Pakistan Maritime Agency and the Indian Coast Guard was inaugurated. An Agreement on Reducing the Risk from Accidents Relating to Nuclear Weapons was initiated as well. Finally, both sides praised the implementation of an Agreement on Pre-Notification of the Flight Testing of Ballistic Missiles. In mid-November, both sides tested missiles again.

yf

Philippines (Abu Sayyaf)

Intensity: 4	Change: •	Start: 1991
Conflict Parties:	Abu Sayyaf vs. government	
Conflict Items:	secession	

The severe crisis concerning secession between the al-Qaeda-linked Islamist group Abu Sayyaf and the government continued. Abu Sayyaf is fighting for an independent Islamic state in western Mindanao and the southern Sulu Archipelago. On April 11, two members of Abu Sayyaf were killed and four arrested in a clash in Zamboanga City. On May 21 and 22, Abu Sayyaf staged separate attacks in Sulu killing four Marine soldiers. In late May, the army division of the Southern Command started to split in two new commands, the Eastern Mindanao Command, and the Western Mindanao Command. The split included more troops especially for the Western Mindanao Command focusing on Abu Sayyaf and other armed groups. At the beginning of September, more than 80 members of Abu Sayyaf were killed in several days of fierce fighting in Jolo. In Patikul, six soldiers were killed in clashes with the rebels. On October 8, fighting intensified in the mountains of Jolo Island. Six soldiers were wounded and an unknown number of Abu Sayyaf militants killed. On November 4, three persons, including a soldier and a militant, were killed in separate attacks on the island province of Sulu through an ambush by Abu Sayyaf. In mid-November, at least four soldiers and 19 Abu Sayyaf members were killed and dozens more injured in fighting on Jolo Island.

sus

Philippines (MILF)

Intensity: 3	Change: •	Start: 1977
Conflict Parties:	MILF vs. government	
Conflict Items:	secession, system / ideology	

The conflict between the Moro Islamic Liberation

Front (MILF) and the government concerning secession as well as system and ideology continued on a violent level. On January 25, shooting erupted in Maguindanao between elements of the MILF Base Commands and the paramilitary Civilian Volunteers Organization (CVO) and the Civilian Armed Forces Geographical Unit (CAFGU). As a consequence, troops of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) were deployed to the region that subsequently also became involved in the fighting. The armed clashes caused the evacuation of nearly 32,000 civilians. Over the previous three years, most cases of ceasefire-related violations in the area of Maguindanao between the MILF Base Commands and the CAFGU and the CVO were rooted in - or connected with - clan feuds. On May 18, the government declared a unilateral seven-day ceasefire for the island of Jolo to facilitate a visit by the Organization of Islamic Conferences (OIC) [=>Philippines (MNLF)]. On June 28 and the following days, MILF forces killed at least 20 army-backed militias and wounded about two dozens of people in clashes in Maguindanao. One MILF fighter died, and ten were wounded. More than 3,000 residents sought refuge in evacuation centers. The peace negotiations from February on between the MILF and the government over the issue of ancestral domain deadlocked because the MILF raised the issue of independence during the peace negotiations, which was rejected by the government. In February and July, representatives of the Indigenous Peoples from Mindanao declared their opposition to the inclusion of their ancestral domains into the Bangsamoro homeland proclaimed by the MILF.

sus

Philippines (NPA, CPP)

Intensity: 3	Change: •	Start: 1968
Conflict Parties:	NPA, CPP vs. government	
Conflict Items:	system / ideology	

The conflict between the Communist Party Philippines (CPP) and its military wing, the New People's Army (NPA), and the government concerning system and ideology continued on a violent level. On 21/12/05, the NPA shot four soldiers and wounded a woman in an attack. At the end of May, the army division of the Southern Command started to split in two new commands known as the Eastern Mindanao Command, and the Western Mindanao Command. The split included more troops, especially for the Eastern Mindanao Command, focusing on the war against the NPA. On July 25, nearly 100 NPA rebels took some 50 civilians hostage, whom they rounded up in a checkpoint in Agusan del Sur. Meanwhile, five people were wounded when two land mines exploded and hit a public vehicle. NPA rebels, who were purportedly demanding revolutionary taxes from owners

of public vehicles, detonated the land mines after the owners had refused to give in to their demands.

sus

Singapore (Jemaah Islamiyah)

Intensity: 2	Change: •	Start: 1999
Conflict Parties:	Jemaah Islamiyah vs. government	
Conflict Items:	ideology / system	

Singapore was able to post a success in the war against terror. An alleged militant leader was deported from Indonesia to Singapore. Singapore has long waited to question Mas Selamat Kastari over various terrorism charges. Kastari is accused of being the leader of the Singaporean arm of the militant group Jemaah Islamiyah (JI).

sg

Solomons (opposition)

Intensity: 3	Change: ↑	Start: 1998
Conflict Parties:	opposition vs. government	
Conflict Items:	resources, national power	

The national power conflict between various political factions, repeatedly alternating in their hold on government power, escalated. After the general elections on the Solomon Islands on April 5, Snyder Rini was elected new prime minister. The supporters of his rival, Job Dudley Tausinga, launched violent protests from April 19 to 21, leading to riots especially affecting the Chinese quarters of the Solomons' capital, Honiara. Following the riots, several members of parliament were arrested. Australia increased its military presence on the islands to approx. 560 troops. After the acting prime minister had resigned, Manasseh Sogovare succeeded him in office on May 4. The new prime minister expelled the Australian High Commissioner, causing Australia to react strongly.

ct

Sri Lanka (LTTE)

Intensity: 5	Change: ↑	Start: 1976
Conflict Parties:	LTTE vs. government	
Conflict Items:	secession	

The secession conflict between the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) and the government clearly intensified since the election of Mahinda Rajapakse as the new president in November 2005. Several peace talks were held in Geneva without leading to a deescalation. On the contrary, the situation deteriorated steadily. In fact, civil war erupted once more. Apart from systematic assaults and assassinations in the northern and the eastern part of the island as well as in the capital, Colombo, attacks spread to other parts of the country for the first time since the truce of 2002. This was displayed in a LTTE attack on a bus in Anuradhapura in mid-June as well as one on a naval base in the tourist resort Galle in mid-October.

64 civilians were killed. The government repeatedly launched heavy air raids on LTTE areas. In July and August, it also launched a ground offensive to reach a vital water reservoir near the eastern port of Trincomalee, blocked by the rebels. The nearby strategically important city of Sampur was taken by the government. This represented the first loss of territory for the LTTE since the truce of 2002. Violent fights also erupted in Jaffna. More than 130 soldiers and up to 200 LTTE cadres lost their lives on a single day in mid-October. The civilian population was strongly affected by the heavy fighting over Trincomalee and Jaffna. More than 200,000 civilians were displaced, and 200 died. In mid-October, a suicide attack on a naval bus convoy killed approx. 100 soldiers and injured another 100. The EU and Canada both added the LTTE to their list of terrorist groups. This had far-reaching consequences, in particular for the work of the international Sri Lankan Monitoring Mission (SLMM). The SLMM, which monitored the 2002 truce, had to temporarily withdraw its staff from the northern and eastern part of the island. Since the beginning of the year, at least 1,100 civilians fell victim to the conflict, and far more than 2,000 fighters were killed. Furthermore, hundreds of thousands were displaced.

ps

Sri Lanka (LTTE-East - LTTE)

Intensity: 4	Change: ↗	Start: 2004
Conflict Parties:	LTTE-East vs. LTTE	
Conflict Items:	regional predominance	

The conflict over regional predominance between the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) and the splinter group LTTE-East, also known as Karuna faction, escalated. In the beginning of 2006, only some isolated targeted assassinations and assaults took place. The most severe attack occurred at the end of April, leaving 17 combatants dead. Over the course of the year, violence steadily intensified. In the meantime, the LTTE-East and Sri Lankan government cooperated, mutually supporting each other against the LTTE. This became evident when open fights started in the Water War in the Trincomalee region, eastern Sri Lanka, in the third week of July [=>Sri Lanka (LTTE)]. There, paramilitary and military units of the Sri Lankan government and LTTE-East fought side by side against the LTTE. Both sides suffered substantial losses. Kidnappings and killings of young people were repeatedly reported from the eastern part of the island. The UN accused both conflict parties of recruiting children.

ps

Tajikistan (opposition)

Intensity: 3	Change: •	Start: 1997
Conflict Parties:	opposition parties vs. government	
Conflict Items:	system / ideology	

The system conflict between the opposition parties and the government of President Imomali Rahmonov concerning democratic reforms continued. Several assaults on government officials and border facilities occurred. As a consequence, the police took action against suspected members of alleged terrorist organizations. In the run-up to the presidential elections on November 6 - won by the incumbent Rahmonov -, censorship of the media was intensified. In June, new media laws were planned, aimed at increasing licensing requirements for non-state and foreign media. Before the elections, repressions against critical media deepened. Courts sentenced opposition members to lengthy prison terms, accusing them of being terrorists. According to the leader of the Social Democratic Party, Rhamaltullo Zoirov, some 1,000 people became imprisoned because of their political orientation.

df

Thailand (coup plotters)

Intensity: 2	Change: NEW	Start: 2006
Conflict Parties:	coup plotters vs. government	
Conflict Items:	national power	

A coup d'état was staged against the Thai government of Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra. On September 19, General Sonthi Boonyaratglin seized power in Thailand in the absence of Prime Minister Thaksin, who was at the UN in New York. The coup followed months of continuous mass demonstrations accusing Prime Minister Thaksin of corrupted practices, and demanding his resign. In February, Thaksin dissolved parliament and announced elections to be held in April. Thaksin's political party, Thai Sek, won 57 per cent of the votes. However, millions of Thais cast protest votes, and the main opposition parties refused to take part. The Supreme Court annulled the results, and new elections were announced for October. The coup d'état was endorsed by King Adulyadej. Martial law was imposed, and the military assumed legislative powers. However, martial law did not impede anti-coup demonstrations taking place in the capital, Bangkok. On October 1, retired General Surayud Chulanont was appointed interim prime minister. The same month, a provisional constitution was drafted, under which the coup leaders, renamed Council for National Security (CNS), were allowed to dismiss the prime minister, and exerted influence on the commission in charge of drafting a new constitution. Elections were announced for 2007. On November 28, the interim government eased the martial law.

yf

Thailand (southern border provinces)

Intensity: 4	Change: •	Start: 1784
Conflict Parties:	Muslim separatists vs. government	
Conflict Items:	secession	

The conflict between Muslim separatists and the government concerning the secession of the southern border provinces Songkhla, Yala, Pattani, and Narathiwat escalated. Muslim separatists launched numerous bomb and rifle assaults targeted at persons and organizations representing the predominantly Buddhist Thai state, killing at least 700 people. On January 17, the emergency law imposed in 2005 was extended but did not lead to a deescalation. After the military coup of September 19, led by General Sonthi Boonyaratglin and backed by King Bhumibol Adulyadej, a new approach towards the violent conflict was implemented [=> Thailand (coup plotters)]. On October 1, Sarayud Chulanont was appointed as the new prime minister. He tried to negotiate with the separatists while at the same time seeking the support of neighboring Malaysia. On October 5, the military rulers announced to hold talks with the separatists. Nevertheless, the separatists continued their attacks. On October 17, two government officials were shot dead. On October 22, a bomb blast triggered by mobile phone killed a soldier, and injured several other people. On November 4, three schools were burned down. On November 16, Prime Minister Sarayud visited the region and made a call for peace. The next day, three bombs exploded, killing one person and injuring over 60.

ml

Tonga (democratization)

Intensity: 3	Change: ↗	Start: 1970
Conflict Parties:	HRDM vs. government	
Conflict Items:	ideology / system, national power	

Since 2001, the Human Rights and Democracy Movement (HRDM) demanded the democratization of the Kingdom of Tonga, dominated by the royal house and the aristocracy. The security situation became in-

creasingly tense due to the antagonism between the HRDM and the elites. As a consequence of protests in 2005, a commoner was elected prime minister for the first time on 02/13/06. The country was politically paralyzed in the weeks before and after the death of King Taufa'ahau Tupou IV on September 11. The tensions accompanying the reform process discharged in violent riots on November 16. Eight people were killed, and parts of the capital Nuku'alofa were destroyed. The government subsequently announced democratic parliamentary elections for 2008. In order to stabilize the situation, Australia and New Zealand sent a total of 150 soldiers to Tonga.

ct

Uzbekistan (opposition)

Intensity: 2	Change: ↘	Start: 2005
Conflict Parties:	opposition vs. government	
Conflict Items:	system / ideology, national power	

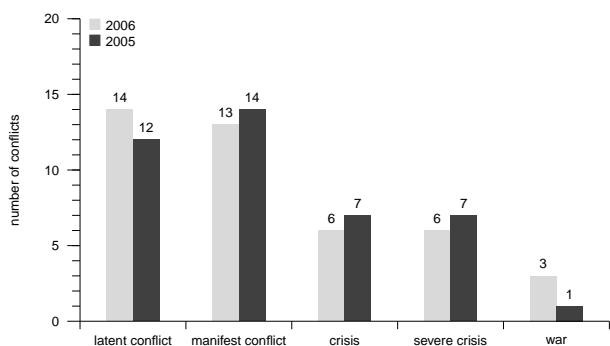
The system conflict between opposition parties and the government of President Islam Abduganiyevich Karimov concerning democratic reforms deescalated. After last year's massacre in the city of Andijan in the Ferghana valley, where some 500 citizens had been killed and over 1,000 had fled to Osh in Kyrgyzstan, pressure against the opposition movement and violations of human rights persisted. Many of the people that fled applied for refugee status in 2006. On January 23, the opposition Sunshine Coalition called for an open trial for the group's jailed leader, Sanjar Umarov. Two months later, Umarov, the coalition's coordinator, Nodira Hidoyatova, and rights activist Mutabar Tojibaeva were sentenced to 10 years imprisonment. On February, Switzerland joined the EU in imposing sanctions. On 10/03/05, the EU had resolved to reduce aid, suspend a cooperation agreement, and impose an arms embargo on Uzbekistan. Sanctions were renewed this year on November 13 when the arms embargo and a travel ban for top Uzbek officials were extended. Nevertheless, some EU countries including Germany pushed for an easing of sanctions and greater dialogue.

df

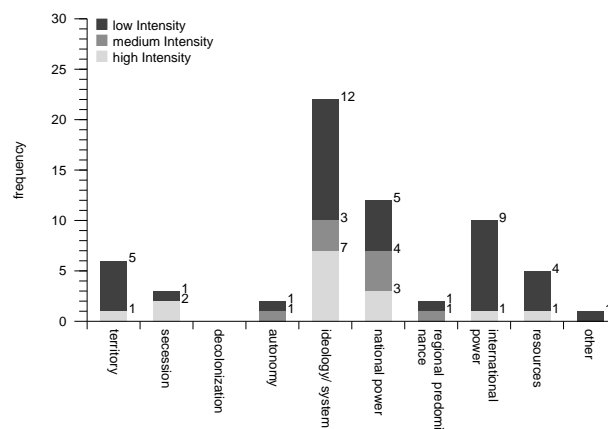
Middle East and Maghreb

In 2006, the Middle East and Maghreb was the region with the highest number of wars. Three of the six highest intensity conflicts were fought out in this geographical area. Iraq (insurgents vs. government) was already considered a war in 2005. An increase of violent and combat operations continued throughout 2006. Adding to this, Afghanistan (Taleban vs. government) escalated to a war by a flare up of violence and a proliferation of military actions mainly in the south of the country. The second new war was fought by Israel against the Hezbollah in the South of Lebanon (Hezbollah vs. Israeli government). Although the number of confrontations on the highly violent level of severe crisis decreased by one to a total of six, the conflict between Israel and Lebanon escalated by two intensity levels to a severe crisis as a result of Israel's war against Hezbollah. Furthermore, the conflict in Iraq between the group of radical Shia cleric Moqtada al-Sadr and the government also escalated to this intensity level. Four other conflicts remained at this high intensity level, namely in Algeria (Islamist groups), Israel (Palestinians), Turkey (Kurds), and Yemen (Believing Youth Movement). The conflict in Iraq between the al-Qaeda-affiliated al-Zarqawi group and the government, that had been carried out as a severe crisis in 2005, deescalated to a crisis. The overall number of crises, characterized by the sporadic use of violence by at least one of the parties, decreased from eight to six. More than half of the 42 conflicts in the Middle East and Maghreb were non-violent. 13 of these were manifest conflicts and 14 latent conflicts. Most of the conflicts, carried out on this lowest intensity level, represented interstate disputes. Interestingly, almost half of the conflicts in this region were interstate conflicts, as the third most disputed item was international power. No other region had as many international power conflicts. As in 2005, most of the conflicts were carried out over the orientation of the political system or ideology, followed by national power as the second most disputed item. The total number of conflicts in the region of the Middle East and Maghreb slightly increased by one from 41 to 42. Although the region is not the one with the highest total number of conflicts, it is the one with the highest conflict rate and the highest rate of highly violent conflict per country. With a number of 22, more than half of the conflicts were internal in nature. Altogether, 30 out of 42 conflicts remained on the same level of intensity in 2006. Although six conflicts deescalated and six escalated in the region of the Middle East and Maghreb, the whole region was more violent than in 2005. With two new wars, next to the existing war, and three escalations on the levels of violent and highly violent conflicts, the state of affairs was very fragile.

Conflict Intensities in Middle East and Maghreb
2006 compared to 2005



Frequency of Conflict Items 2006 in the Middle East
and Maghreb by Intensity Groups



Afghanistan (Taleban)

Intensity: 5	Change: ↗	Start: 1994
Conflict Parties: Taleban vs. government		
Conflict Items: national power, system / ideology		

The conflict between the Taleban and the Afghan government of President Hamid Karzai over national power remained violent. The country experienced its bloodiest period since the fall of the Taleban in 2002. More than 3,700 people were killed since December 2005. Fierce battles raged especially in the southern provinces. The militants stepped up activities in the

east as well. However, terrorist attacks increasingly targeted urban centers. On February 7, a suicide bombing in Kandahar killed 13 people, most of them police officers. On April 11, at least seven children were killed and 34 injured after a rocket hit their school in the eastern province of Kunar. In May, a car crash caused by a US military vehicle killed at least twelve civilians, triggering violent riots in the Afghan capital, Kabul. As many as 2,000 protesters headed for the city center and set police cars and police checkpoints on fire. NATO repeatedly launched major offensives against Taleban insurgents in the south. The most recent operation, Medusa, killed 1,100 Taleban in

Summary: Conflicts in Middle East and Maghreb 2006

Name of Conflict ¹	Conflict Parties ²	Conflict Items	Start	Change ³ Int. ⁴
Afghanistan (Taleban)	Taleban vs. government	national power, system / ideology	1994	↗ 5
Algeria (Berber)*	Berber vs. government	autonomy, system / ideology	1963	↘ 1
Algeria (Islamist groups)	various religious groups vs. government	national power, system / ideology	1919	• 4
Bahrain (Shia opposition)	various Shia groups vs. government	national power	1919	• 2
Egypt (Islamist groups)	various Islamist groups vs. government	national power, system / ideology	1992	• 3
Egypt - Sudan*	Egypt vs. Sudan	territory, resources, system / ideology	1958	• 1
Iran (Kurds)	DPK, PJAK vs. government	autonomy	1979	↑ 3
Iran (People's Mujahideen)*	People's Mujahideen vs. government	national power, system / ideology	1965	• 1
Iran (Reformists - Conservatives)*	Iranian Conservatives vs. Iranian Reformer	national power, system / ideology	1993	• 2
Iran - UAE*	Iran vs. UAE	territory	1970	• 1
Iran - USA	Iran vs. USA	international power, system / ideology	1979	• 2
Iraq (PUK - DPK)*	PUK vs. DPK	regional predominance, system / ideology	1979	• 1
Iraq (al-Sadr group)	al-Sadr group vs. government	system / ideology	2004	↗ 4
Iraq (al-Zarqawi group)	al-Zarqawi group vs. government	national power, system / ideology	2003	↘ 3
Iraq (insurgents)	insurgents vs. government	national power, system / ideology	2004	• 5
Iraq - Iran	Iraq vs. Iran	international power	1969	• 2
Iraq - Israel*	Iraq vs. Israel	system / ideology, international power	1948	• 1
Iraq - Kuwait*	Iraq vs. Kuwait	territory, resources	1961	• 1
Iraq - Syria*	Iraq vs. Syria	system / ideology	2003	↘ 1
Israel (Fatah - Hamas)	Fatah vs. Hamas	regional predominance	1994	• 3
Israel (Hezbollah)	Hezbollah vs. government	system / ideology	1982	↗ 5
Israel (Palestinians)	Islamic Jihad, Hamas, al-Aqsa Brigades, al-Fatah, PNA vs. government	secession, system / ideology, resources	1920	• 4
Israel - Jordan (Westbank)*	Israel vs. Jordan	territory	1967	• 1
Israel - Lebanon (international power)	Israel vs. Lebanon	territory, international power	1967	↑ 4
Jordan (militant group)	militant group vs. government	system / ideology	2006	NEW 2
Jordan - Israel (water)*	Jordan vs. Israel	resources	1945	• 1
Lebanon (religious groups)	various religious groups vs. government	national power	1975	• 3
Lebanon - Israel (water)*	Lebanon vs. Israel	resources	2001	• 1
Libya - USA*	Libya vs. USA	international power, system / ideology	1964	• 2
Mauritania (coup plotters)	Taya, Taya loyalists vs. government	national power	2003	↘ 2
Morocco (Western Sahara)	POLISARIO Front vs. government	secession	1975	↘ 2
Saudi Arabia (Islamists)	Islamists vs. government	national power, system / ideology	1990	• 3
Saudi Arabia (reformer)*	reformer, Movement for Islamic Reform in Arabia vs. government	system / ideology	2001	↘ 1
Syria - Israel*	Syria vs. Israel	territory, others	1967	• 2
Syria - Lebanon	Syria vs. Lebanon	international power	1976	• 2
Syria - USA	Syria vs. USA	international power, system / ideology	2003	• 2
Turkey (Kurds)	PKK/KONGRA-GEL, TAK vs. government	secession	1920	• 4
Turkey - Iran*	Turkey vs. Iran	international power	1979	• 2
Turkey - Iraq	Turkey vs. Iraq	international power	1979	• 2
Turkey - Syria*	Turkey vs. Syria	international power	1983	• 1

Name of Conflict ¹	Conflict Parties ²	Conflict Items	Start	Change ³	Int. ⁴
Yemen (Believing Youth Movement)	Believing Youth Movement vs. government	system / ideology	2004	•	4
Yemen (Islamic Jihad)*	Islamic Jihad, Army of Aden-Abyan vs. government	national power	1994	•	1

^{1 2 3 4} see first regiontable

mid-September. On October 5, the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) took charge of military operations in the eastern provinces, which so far had been under US control. On October 24, up to 80 civilians were accidentally killed in an anti-terrorist offensive in the Kandahar province. The deteriorating security situation undermined vital development efforts, displayed in the Afghanistan Compact, a five year development plan launched in London in January.

th

Algeria (Islamist groups)

Intensity: 4	Change: •	Start: 1919
Conflict Parties:	various religious groups vs. government	
Conflict Items:	national power, system / ideology	

The conflict between the Salafist Group for Preaching and Combat (GSPC) and the government over national power and the orientation of the political system continued unabated. In 2005, Algerian President Abdelaziz Bouteflika had offered a six-month partial amnesty to those willing to lay down their arms. The amnesty provided for immunity for all rebels who had not committed massacres, rape, or bombings of public places. The amnesty offer came into effect on 02/28/06, and expired on August 31. Despite these actions, the level of violence remained high. On January 17, security forces killed Ahmed Zarabib alias Ahmed Abou al-Baraa, a senior commander of GSPC, in Touja. On April 7, 13 customs officers were killed in an ambush. Ten communal guards died in an attack near el-Kassa, in the Skikda region, on April 24. In September, the GSPC announced that it had joined al-Qaeda. Since October, the number of rebel attacks was rising again. On October 29, three people died and 24 were injured in simultaneous bomb attacks on two police stations near the capital, Algiers. These were the first bomb attacks on police stations in the past five years. Clashes with guerrillas normally took place in isolated rural areas. On November 11, seven soldiers were killed and 13 wounded in an ambush.

sz

Bahrain (Shia opposition)

Intensity: 2	Change: •	Start: 1919
Conflict Parties:	various Shia groups vs. government	
Conflict Items:	national power	

The manifest conflict between the Shia opposition and the Sunni-dominated government over national power

continued. In late December 2005, the Shia cleric Ayatollah Shaykh Muhammad Sanad was arrested. Shia protesters, who successfully demanded his release, were imprisoned, but eventually King Hamad ibn Issa al-Khalifa announced their release in mid-September. The conviction of the protestors marked the beginning of sporadic clashes between Shia protesters and the police in late 2005. In September 2006, the police clashed with Shia protesters demonstrating against plans to change the demographic profile of the mainly Shia country via political naturalization. In early May, the al-Wefaq National Islamic Society, the largest opposition party, led by the Shia cleric Shaykh Ali Salman, announced its participation in the parliamentary elections. This put an end to a four-year boycott.

ts

Egypt (Islamist groups)

Intensity: 3	Change: •	Start: 1992
Conflict Parties:	various Islamist groups vs. government	
Conflict Items:	national power, system / ideology	

After the previous year's turbulent elections, the conflict over national power between Islamist groups and the government continued. On April 24, three suicide bombings left 24 people dead in the Bay of Dabab. The Muslim Brotherhood condemned these attacks. The police put pressure on the alleged terrorist groups by arresting 31 members of the Muslim Brotherhood on June 19.

cha

Iran (Kurds)

Intensity: 3	Change: ↑	Start: 1979
Conflict Parties:	DPK, PJAK vs. government	
Conflict Items:	autonomy	

The conflict concerning autonomy between the Democratic Party of Kurdistan (DPK) and the Party of Free Life of Kurdistan (PJAK) on the one hand and the government on the other turned violently. On April 10, the police arrested seven PJAK members, and charged them with inciting ethnic rioting the year before, when 17 people had been killed in the Iranian province of West Azerbaijan. In April, Iranian troops bombed border areas near the town of Hajj Umran before crossing the border into Iraq and shelling rebel positions [=>Iraq - Iran]. In May, numerous cross-border bombardments along Iraq's north-eastern border conducted by the Iranian military and directed against Iranian Kurdish opposition groups,

taking refuge in the Iraqi Kurdish area, were reported. On September 29, an explosion hit an Iran-Turkey gas pipeline near the Iranian town of Bazargan. The Iranian police blamed Kurdish separatists for the bombing [=>Turkey - Iran].

ho, sus

Iran - USA

Intensity: 2	Change: •	Start: 1979
Conflict Parties:	Iran vs. USA	
Conflict Items:	international power, system / ideology	

The conflict between Iran and the USA concerning Iran's nuclear armament and political system remained manifest. On January 2, Iran dismissed the compromise proposal suggesting it would enrich its uranium for civilian use in Russia. On January 10, Iran removed international seals from a nuclear facility in defiance of foreign pressure. On February 4, the IAEA decided to report Iran to the UN Security Council because of its disputed nuclear program. According to UN diplomats, Iran resumed uranium enrichment on February 13. On June 2, the USA, the UK, France, China, Russia, and Germany agreed on a package combining incentives and penalties. Two days later, Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad declared his country was not willing to bargain its legitimate and legal right to produce nuclear energy. On July 31, the UN Security Council passed Resolution 1696 giving Iran one month to suspend uranium enrichment or face possible sanctions. Iran failed to meet these requirements. On October 25, Iran said it had taken further steps in developing its nuclear program.

rd

Iraq (al-Sadr group)

Intensity: 4	Change: ↗	Start: 2004
Conflict Parties:	al-Sadr group vs. government	
Conflict Items:	system / ideology	

The system conflict between the group of Shia cleric Moqtada al-Sadr and the government continued violently. Most of the clashes took place in Sadr City near the capital, Baghdad, and in the Shia-dominated south of Iraq. Although al-Sadr participated in the last elections, his militia, the Mehdi Army, never surrendered its weapons, and took over key positions in the areas mentioned above. The group already succeeded in establishing an infrastructure there. Al-Sadr aimed at building an Islamic state. On July 7, a joint Iraqi and US military force tried to arrest a leader of the Mehdi Army. Fighting erupted, killing nine rebels. On July 23, about ten followers of the Mehdi Army were killed when Iraqi and US soldiers attacked a militia post in Baghdad. During a raid to arrest alleged members of a death squad, fighting erupted between the rebels and combined Iraqi and US forces in Baghdad on August 8. On the same day,

at least three people were killed and 12 wounded in heavy clashes in Sadr City. On August 28, 25 Iraqi soldiers were killed in an operation against Shia militia in Diwaniya. On October 21, fighting occurred between armed Shia and coalition forces in the city of Amara in southern Iraq. After two days of fighting, the coalition troops took over the city. The al-Sadr group developed political alliances with neighboring countries. On January 22, al-Sadr visited Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, promising his Mehdi Army would help to defend Iran if the USA attacked [=>Iran - USA]. In February, he visited Syria twice, meeting the Syrian president. In Lebanon, al-Sadr met high-ranking Lebanese officials. The Mehdi Army organized support rallies for the Hezbollah in its war with Israel [=>Israel (Hezbollah)]. Moreover, al-Sadr called on Iraq's Shia and Sunni Muslims to stop attacking each other in the aftermath of the destruction of a Shia shrine in February. The Shia cleric and the Sunni leadership held joint Sunni-Shia prayers in a demonstration of unity in the southern city of Basra one week after the bombing of the shrine. Earlier, on January 11, the Saudi Arabian King Abdullah I had met with Moqtada al-Sadr. The aim of the meeting was to ease the tensions between the Sunnites and Shiites in Iraq.

os

Iraq (al-Zarqawi group)

Intensity: 3	Change: ↘	Start: 2003
Conflict Parties:	al-Zarqawi group vs. government	
Conflict Items:	national power, system / ideology	

The conflict between the al-Qaeda-affiliated al-Zarqawi group and the Iraqi government concerning the establishment of an Islamist state continued. The group was weakened by subsequent strikes and arrests by Iraqi and US-led coalition forces. On February 18, Iraqi security forces tracked down Abu al-Faruq, a senior al-Qaeda figure in Iraq, in the southern Iraqi city of Basra. He was killed in an exchange of fire with 200 British troops on September 25. On March 7, Muhammad al-Ubaydi alias Abu Ayman was caught by Iraqi and Coalition forces in southern Baghdad, the Iraqi capital. On June 8, the leader of Iraq's al-Qaeda, Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, was detected and killed by Iraqi and US forces. His successor Abu Hamza al-Muhajir called for kidnapping of Westerners in late-September.

os

Iraq (insurgents)

Intensity: 5	Change: •	Start: 2004
Conflict Parties:	insurgents vs. government	
Conflict Items:	national power, system / ideology	

The war between insurgents and the government over national power continued. The insurgents clashed

with Iraqi and US-led coalition forces on various occasions.

Small and large scale military operations against insurgents were launched frequently, while ambushes on military convoys and troops were incessantly carried out by insurgents. Furthermore, numerous bomb attacks against Iraqi army and police recruitment centers as well as mosques, markets, and government buildings were conducted by the latter on an almost daily basis. The fighting and bomb attacks took place mainly in the so-called Sunni triangle in central Iraq. The predominantly Kurdish north remained relatively calm. Nonetheless, the whole year was characterized by the highest level of violence since the invasion of Iraq by US-led coalition forces in 2003. On January 10, at least 28 police officers were killed after bombers attacked the Iraqi Interior Ministry where ministers and the US ambassador were meeting. On March 13, a suicide bomber killed at least eleven people, including a US soldier and five Iraqi police officers, in a truck bomb attack on a military checkpoint in the western town of Falluja. At least 40 people were killed when a suicide bomber attacked an army recruitment center in northwestern Iraq late in March. On May 4, at least 13 people died in an air strike by US forces on the Iraqi city of Ramadi, just one hour after a bomber had killed nine people outside a court in the capital, Baghdad. In mid-June, about 40 people were killed in attacks across Iraq, predominantly in Baghdad. At the end of the month, US troops backed by air support assaulted a hideout of foreign insurgents, killing 12 militants. In car bomb attacks, 78 people were killed in Kufa and Baghdad on July 18. Five days later, 20 people were killed in the northern Kurdish territory, and at least 62 people were killed throughout Iraq. In early August, 20 Iraqi troops, a US soldier, and a British soldier died in clashes with insurgents. On August 28, a bomber blew himself up outside Iraq's Interior Ministry, killing 16 people in a bloody challenge to the prime minister's assertions that violence was on the decrease. On October 10, it was reported that about 300 people were killed in shootings and car bombings in greater Baghdad in less than a week. On October 26, about 400 people were killed in Iraq within four days. Furthermore, more than 100 US soldiers died in clashes and ambushes in October alone. In mid-November, 135 people died in bomb attacks and shootings. On November 25, US forces stated the killing of ten insurgents in an assault against a bomb-making facility north of Baghdad. In addition to the violence between insurgents and the government, hostilities between Sunni groups and Shia groups worsened the stability of the government and the security situation throughout Iraq. In early January, bombers targeted Shia pilgrims in southern Iraq and police recruits in central Iraq, killing at least 120 people. On February 28, a series of attacks targeting Shias killed 58. On July 7, 61 people were killed, most of them Irani-

ans visiting the Muslim holy shrines in Kufa. A suicide bomber killed at least 35 people near a Shia shrine in the southern city of Najaf on August 10. The monthly Iraqi death toll hit a record high in October, leaving more than 3,700 dead. The majority were killed in sectarian attacks. On November 7, Shias and Sunnis clashed in an exchange of mortar fire in Baghdad, killing 22 people. On November 13, the police discovered 46 corpses deposited around Baghdad in one day. On November 23, several car bombs killed at least 200 people and injured 250 in the Shia neighborhood of Sadr City. Mortar attacks on Sunni areas followed. One day later, gunmen attacked a Sunni area of Baghdad, burning mosques and homes, and killing at least 30 people. The UN estimated that 100 Iraqis were killed every day in a wave of sectarian violence. On November 5, former Iraqi President Saddam Hussein was convicted of crimes against humanity in the town of Dujail and sentenced to death. However, further trials against him will follow.

ho, sus

Iraq - Iran

Intensity: 2	Change: •	Start: 1969
Conflict Parties:	Iraq vs. Iran	
Conflict Items:	international power	

The conflict between Iraq and Iran over international power continued. Between April 21 and 30, Iranian troops bombed border areas near the town of Hajj Umran and crossed into northern Iraqi territory. Iranian forces targeted the Kurdish Workers' Party/Kurdish People's Congress (PKK/KONGRA-GEL), which maintained camps and hideouts in Iraqi Kurdish area [=>Turkey (Kurds), Iran (Kurds)]. The PKK/KONGRA-GEL allegedly had links with anti-Iranian Kurdish fighters. On May 6, Iraq expressed concern about Iran amassing troops along the common border. On September 12, Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad offered Iraq full support in stabilizing the security situation in Iraq after talks with Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri Maliki [=>Iraq (insurgents), Iraq (al-Sadr group)]. On November 21, Iraq's President Jalal Talabani accepted an invitation from Ahmadinejad to discuss ways of tackling the violence in Iraq.

sus, ho

Israel (Fatah - Hamas)

Intensity: 3	Change: •	Start: 1994
Conflict Parties:	Fatah vs. Hamas	
Conflict Items:	regional predominance	

The struggle over power in the Palestinian National Authority (PA) between the Palestinian National Liberation Movement (Fatah) and the Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas) started when Hamas won the elections for the Palestinian Legislative Council on January 25 [=>Israel (Palestinians)]. Hamas's vic-

tory led to increased tensions between Hamas and the Fatah of Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas. On January 28, members of the Fatah party staged protests against Abbas, and blamed Hamas's victory on the corruption of the PA. On February 19, Ismail Haniya, a Hamas leader, was elected Palestinian Prime Minister. The Hamas cabinet did not feature any members of the Fatah, as Fatah refused to join the government. On April 1 and May 8, six people died in fighting between members of both parties. On May 25, Abbas threatened Hamas with a referendum on the Palestinian statehood to be held if the rival factions would not come to terms with each other. The fighting continued throughout the year and escalated at the beginning of October. Ten people died in protests against the Hamas government on the issue of unpaid wages. The EU threatened to stop financial support for the PA if the Hamas government failed to recognize Israel's right to exist, renounce violence, and express clear support for the Middle East peace process. The USA demanded back 50 million US dollar for the PA, stating they would not support terrorists. On November 11, both parties agreed on a new prime minister, Muhammad Shbeir. Previously, Haniya had announced he was willing to resign if that would end the crippling Western aid boycott. On May 25, Israel announced its willingness to support the Fatah members with weapons and equipment. Israel refused any negotiations with the Hamas-led government as long as it did not accept Israel's right to exist and renounced its armed struggle.

hl

Israel (Hezbollah)

Intensity: 5	Change: ↗	Start: 1982
Conflict Parties:	Hezbollah vs. government	
Conflict Items:	system / ideology	

The system conflict between Hezbollah, operating from Lebanese territory, and Israel escalated to a war. The sparking event was the abduction of two Israeli soldiers in a cross-border raid by Hezbollah fighters on July 12. Israel subsequently began a combined air, sea, and ground offensive against targets of Hezbollah in all of Lebanon [=>Israel - Lebanon]. Israel started the campaign with massive air strikes on targets in southern Lebanon and the Lebanese capital, Beirut. On July 19, Israeli ground forces crossed the border into Lebanon in order to destroy Hezbollah rocket launch sites. In the offensive, e.g. eight Israeli soldiers and up to 80 Hezbollah fighters died in heavy fighting near the town Bint Jbeil between July 27 and 28. While Israeli forces struck at alleged Hezbollah infrastructure, the militants reacted by firing thousands of mostly unguided rockets at Israeli cities. Soon after the initial attacks, the UN was engaged in trying to broker a ceasefire between the conflict parties. Hezbollah was to release the Israeli soldiers and Israel to halt all military oper-

ations, as demanded by UN Secretary General Kofi Annan on July 19. The USA, France, Germany, and other nations stressed Israel's right to self-defense. The USA accused Syria of supporting Hezbollah and destabilizing Lebanon. On August 11, the UN Security Council unanimously passed UN Resolution 1701. 15,000 Lebanese troops were to be sent into Southern Lebanon along with a strengthened UNIFIL force of about 15,000 troops. Israeli troops were to withdraw, Hezbollah was to be disarmed. Furthermore, an embargo against Hezbollah was put into force, banning all foreign arms shipments to them. The resolution was accepted both by Israel and Hezbollah. The Israeli army announced its complete withdrawal from Lebanon on October 1. The figures for killed Hezbollah fighters ranged from 74 to over 500. On the Israeli side, 44 civilians and 119 soldiers were killed. 900,000 Lebanese and 300,000 Israelis fled the fighting.

hl

Israel (Palestinians)

Intensity: 4	Change: •	Start: 1920
Conflict Parties:	Islamic Jihad, Hamas, al-Aqsa Brigades, al-Fatah, PNA vs. government	
Conflict Items:	secession, system / ideology, resources	

The conflict between the Palestinian National Authority (PA) and the Israeli government concerning the creation of a sovereign Palestinian state escalated. After the break-up of the Israeli Likud and Labor coalition in November 2005, Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon split from Likud and formed a new centrist party, Kadima. The break-up necessitated elections to be held within 90 days. On January 4, Sharon suffered a severe hemorrhagic stroke and fell into a coma. On March 28, Kadima won the Israeli parliamentary elections, and Ehud Olmert was elected prime minister. On January 25, Hamas won the elections for the Palestinian Legislative Council, the legislature of the PA. On February 19, Ismail Haniya, a Hamas leader, was elected PA prime minister. The Hamas cabinet did not feature any members of the Fatah, the party of Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas. Fatah refused to join the government [=>Israel (Fatah - Hamas)]. The Israeli government reacted to Hamas's victory with financial sanctions. Tax revenues of 55 million US dollars for the PA were withheld, creating a severe financial shortage. The EU threatened to stop financial support for the PA if the Hamas government failed to recognize Israel's right to exist, renounce violence, and express clear support for the Middle East peace process. The USA demanded back 50 million US dollar for the PA, stating they would not support terrorists. On April 17, nine Israelis died in a suicide attack by a member of the Islamic Jihad in Tel Aviv. After an Israeli air strike killed eight Palestinians in Gaza, Hamas renounced its informal ceasefire in effect since 2005. The conflict es-

calated on June 25, when an Israeli soldier was kidnapped by militants. The kidnapers demanded the release of imprisoned Palestinians. Subsequently, Israel started its biggest offensive into Gaza since the withdrawal in 2005. Up to 300 Palestinians were killed in the operation. Furthermore, Israeli troops arrested eight Palestinian ministers and 64 members of parliament and officials from Hamas in raids across the West Bank. The EU accused Israel of using disproportionate force, while the UN demanded an end to the fighting from both sides. 18 Palestinians, militias and civilians, died in clashes on November 8. A UN resolution proposed by the Arab League condemning the Israeli attack was vetoed by the USA. On November 26, Palestinian militants fired at least three rockets on Israeli territory, hours after an unexpected ceasefire had been announced between the two sides.

hl

Israel - Lebanon (international power)

Intensity: 4	Change: ↑	Start: 1967
Conflict Parties:	Israel vs. Lebanon	
Conflict Items:	territory, international power	

The conflict between Israel and Lebanon escalated following the capture of two Israeli soldiers by the Hezbollah [=>Israel (Hezbollah)] on July 12. Israel subsequently attacked Lebanon by air, land, and sea. Israel officials stated that the attacks were targeted exclusively against Hezbollah, not against Lebanon. Israel accused Lebanon of not controlling its southern territory and therefore enabling Hezbollah to operate against Israel. On July 17, Israeli air-raids killed at least 23 people in southern Lebanon. One day later, Israel extended its air strikes to the north and killed at least 15 people in Tripoli. Approx. 60 civilians were killed in Israeli attacks on July 20. In the following weeks, attacks intensified, and Israeli ground troops invaded southern Lebanon on July 22 for the first time since the withdrawal of 2000. On July 26, Israeli forces destroyed a UN observer post, killing four UN troops. The USA blocked a UN Security Council statement that would have condemned Israel's proceeding. Also, the USA, the UK, and Israel initially rejected the calls for a ceasefire. On July 28, the foreign ministers of the USA as well as European and Middle Eastern countries met in Rome to discuss a ceasefire. Finally, a UN-brokered ceasefire, part of UN Resolution 1701, came into force on August 14. A multinational task force monitored compliance with the UN resolution. It stated that 15,000 troops of the Lebanese army were sent into southern Lebanon accompanied by a strengthened UNIFIL force of about 15,000 troops and the withdrawal of Israeli troops. However, Israeli forces remained in southern Lebanon until October 1. Apart from smaller incidents, the ceasefire remained stable. On September 7 and 8, Israel lifted its air and sea blockade. The conflict severely damaged the Lebanese infras-

tructure. According to UNDP, around 35,000 homes and businesses in Lebanon were destroyed, and approximately 25 per cent of Lebanon's bridges damaged. More than 1,000 Lebanese civilians died, and 900,000 fled.

tz

Jordan (militant group)

Intensity: 2	Change: NEW	Start: 2006
Conflict Parties:	militant group vs. government	
Conflict Items:	system / ideology	

A new conflict emerged between a militant splinter group stating to be part of the Hamas and the government of Jordan concerning the arrest of some 20 alleged members of the militants. They had been smuggling weapons into Jordan on April 18 with the intention of conducting a terrorist attack. The alleged group leader, Ayman Naji Daraghmeh, stated he had ties with Hamas and was trained in Syria, where the leadership of the movement was situated. Already in 1999, Jordan had expelled several Hamas leaders because of their activities, and repeatedly accused Hamas of plotting attacks against Jordan ever since. On April 19, the Jordan government cancelled the visit of the Palestinian foreign minister, and joined the USA's financial boycott against Hamas. On May 12, the Jordan government broadcasted confessions of the arrested militants, who admitted having planned a terrorist attack in Jordan. Hamas denied any involvement and rejected both the accusations and the confessions as false. On November 3, the state prosecutor of Jordan charged three of the alleged activists with planning terrorist attacks on the kingdom.

ts

Lebanon (religious groups)

Intensity: 3	Change: •	Start: 1975
Conflict Parties:	various religious groups vs. government	
Conflict Items:	national power	

The conflict between various religious groups and the government over national power continued. The conflict was influenced by the fragile political situation in the entire region. Due to the conflicts between Israel and Hezbollah [=>Israel (Hezbollah)] and Israel and Lebanon [=>Israel - Lebanon], Lebanon became destabilized. On February 6, huge crowds protested in the Christian neighborhood near the Danish embassy against cartoons of the prophet Muhammad [=>Panorama: Cartoon Conflict]. The demonstration started peacefully but turned violent, also featuring attacks on a nearby Christian church. Three days later, following the call of Hezbollah leaders, hundreds of thousands of Shia Muslims turned a religious ceremony into a protest against the cartoons. On February 14, thousands of people gathered in the capital, Beirut, to mark the first anniversary of the killing of former Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri. [=>Syria

- Lebanon; USA - Syria]. On September 5, a bomb blast near Sidon wounded Samir Shehadeh, an investigator of the Hariri murder, and killed four of his aides and bodyguards. On November 21, Pierre Gemayel, a leading anti-Syrian Lebanese minister and Maronite Christian leader, was killed in Beirut. The USA, the UK, and the UN condemned the assassination. Syria denied any involvement in the killing. More than 800,000 people greeted Gemayel's coffin on its arrival in his home village on November 22.

ho

Mauritania (coup plotters)

Intensity: 2	Change: ▾	Start: 2003
Conflict Parties:	Taya, Taya loyalists vs. government	
Conflict Items:	national power	

In August 2005, the Military Council for Justice and Democracy ousted the old regime of President Maaouiya Ould Taya. The new military leaders, led by Colonel Ely Ould Mohamed Vall, started restructuring the political system. The African Union finally accepted the new government and did not demand Taya's reinstatement. On June 25, the military government accomplished a referendum on the change of the political system and received wide agreement by the population. Prior to the referendum, two army officers and some civilians attached to the Taya regime were arrested.

s/

Morocco (Western Sahara)

Intensity: 2	Change: ▾	Start: 1975
Conflict Parties:	POLISARIO Front vs. government	
Conflict Items:	secession	

The conflict between the POLISARIO Front and Morocco concerning the secession of Western Sahara remained unsolved. On April 21, UN Secretary General Kofi Annan urged Morocco to hold talks on a solution of the conflict with the POLISARIO Front. One day later, Morocco's King Mohammed VI released 48 people jailed for demanding the independence of Western Sahara the previous year. However, all attempts at an UN-brokered solution failed. On November 3, UNHCR resumed family visit flights between Sahrawi refugee camps in Algeria and the Western Sahara territory. On November 18, the UN Security Council extended the UN operation MINURSO for another six months.

gs

Saudi Arabia (Islamists)

Intensity: 3	Change: •	Start: 1990
Conflict Parties:	Islamists vs. government	
Conflict Items:	national power, system / ideology	

The conflict over national power between militant Islamists, supposedly belonging to al-Qaeda, and

the government continued on a violent level. On 12/12/05, Muhammad Suwail, one of the country's most wanted persons, was arrested after a shootout in which five police officers died. On February 24, security forces foiled a suicide car bomb attack on a Saudi oil facility. Al-Qaeda had been urging to attack oil installations in order to hurt the West for several months. Three days later, police forces killed five suspected Islamic militants in a shootout in Saudi Arabia's capital, Riyadh. Among them were three of Saudi Arabia's most wanted persons. On March 30, police forces arrested 40 alleged al-Qaeda members. On June 23, the police killed six men linked to al-Qaeda in a gun battle in Riyadh. In another gunfight on August 21, Saudi Arabian security forces killed another two suspected Islamists.

hl

Syria - Lebanon

Intensity: 2	Change: •	Start: 1976
Conflict Parties:	Syria vs. Lebanon	
Conflict Items:	international power	

The conflict between Syria and Lebanon over international power continued. While the UN investigations into the murder of former Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri continued, the relationship between Syria and Lebanon started to normalize [=>Lebanon (religious groups)]. On 12/12/05, the Lebanese anti-Syrian politician and journalist Gibran Tuani was killed in a massive car bomb attack in the Lebanese capital, Beirut. The attack occurred hours before the UN Security Council published a report on the death of Hariri, in which Syria became implicated. Syria stated the attack was timed to damage its reputation ahead of a UN meeting. Despite the tensions, Syrian President Bashar al-Assad and Lebanese Prime Minister Fuad Siniora met for the first time since July 2005 on 03/28/06. In April, both sides agreed to establish diplomatic ties. The continued effort of Lebanon to extend the investigations led to a stop to the rapprochement on May 3. On September 5, a bomb attack wounded Colonel Samir Shehadeh, an investigator of the Hariri murder, and killed four of his aides and bodyguards. During Israel's war against Hezbollah, Syria supported Lebanon politically [=>Israel (Hezbollah), Israel - Lebanon]. In November, the pro-Syrian Shia ministers of the Lebanese government resigned in order to strengthen their demand for greater influence. On November 21, Pierre Gemayel, a leading anti-Syrian Lebanese minister, was killed in Beirut. Syria denied any involvement in the killing. Two days later, Gemayel's funeral took place with tens of thousands of people. Crowds carrying flags and chanting anti-Syrian slogans converged in central Beirut, turning the funeral into an impassioned political rally. On November 25, Lebanon's cabinet gave

its final approval to a plan for an international tribunal to try suspects in the murder of Hariri.

kv, ho

Syria - USA

Intensity: 2	Change: •	Start: 2003
Conflict Parties:	Syria vs. USA	
Conflict Items:	international power, system / ideology	

The manifest conflict between the USA and Syria about armament control and US influence in Lebanon continued. The USA demanded that Syria cooperate in the UN investigation of the assassination of former Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri. Syria denied any involvement, however [=>Syria - Lebanon; Syria - Israel; Lebanon (religious groups)]. In order to mount pressure on Syria, US President George W. Bush ordered the freezing of assets of anyone linked to the assassination. On February 18, the USA announced to grant five million US dollars to support pro-democracy groups in Syria. During the Lebanon war between Israel and Hezbollah [=>Israel (Hezbollah)], the USA accused Syria of trying to use the Middle East crisis to reassert its influence in Lebanon. On September 12, Syrian security forces killed three attackers in an attempted car bombing of the US embassy in the capital, Damascus. On November 1, the USA accused Syria, Iran, and Hezbollah of planning to topple the Lebanese government.

hl

Turkey (Kurds)

Intensity: 4	Change: •	Start: 1920
Conflict Parties:	PKK/KONGRA-GEL, TAK vs. government	
Conflict Items:	secession	

The conflict concerning secession between the Kurdistan Workers' Party/Kurdish People's Congress (PKK/KONGRA-GEL) and the Kurdistan Freedom Falcons (TAK) on the one hand and the government on the other continued unabated. At least 12 people died during street clashes in Diyarbakir in late March. On March 31, one person was killed and 13 wounded in a bomb blast in Istanbul carried out by TAK, PKK/KONGRA-GEL's militant splinter group. On April 1, the Turkish military deployed 40,000 additional troops to the Iraqi border. On August 27, four bombs exploded in Istanbul and Marmaris, injuring at least 27 people. TAK, claiming responsibility for the assaults, threatened with further violence. The next day, three people died and 18 were injured in a bomb attack near the municipal council building of Antalya. In mid-September, a bomb explosion in Diyarbakir killed eleven people. On September 27, imprisoned PKK/KONGRA-GEL chief Abdullah Öcalan called for a ceasefire. PKK/KONGRA-GEL subsequently declared a unilateral truce starting on October

1. However, a bomb detonated in front of the hospital of Mersin the same day. On November 12, Turkish forces killed three Kurdish fighters in southeastern Turkey.

dl

Turkey - Iraq

Intensity: 2	Change: •	Start: 1979
Conflict Parties:	Turkey vs. Iraq	
Conflict Items:	international power	

The conflict between Turkey and Iraq over international power remained manifest. On May 5, Iraq expressed concern about Turkey deploying troops near the common border [=>Turkey (Kurds)]. On July 1, Turkey claimed its right to cross the Iraqi border to fight against Kurdish militants. Although Iraq warned Turkey not to conduct any military incursions, Turkey reaffirmed its right under international law on July 17. Four days later, the USA condemned unilateral actions on the part of Turkey. In mid-September, Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan called on Iraq to stop all cross-border raids by militant Kurds, to shut down political parties linked to the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK/KONGRA-GEL), and to label it a terrorist organization. Subsequently, Iraq announced shutting down offices of Kurdish parties on September 19.

dl

Yemen (Believing Youth Movement)

Intensity: 4	Change: •	Start: 2004
Conflict Parties:	Believing Youth Movement vs. government	
Conflict Items:	system / ideology	

The system conflict between the Believing Youth Movement and the government continued violently. On 11/26/05, bloody confrontations between security forces and the Believing Youth broke out again. Eleven troops and four members of Believing Youth were killed. On 12/24/05, the 50-members-strong armed group of the Believing Youth attacked a police station, leaving a number of people dead and several wounded on both sides. Confrontations between the army and the Believing Youth, headed by cleric Badr al-Din al-Houthi, continued throughout the Saada province until the beginning of February 2006. The death toll supposedly reached 60. On March 3, President Ali Abdallah Saleh released 627 rebels from jail as part of an amnesty. On June 3, three soldiers were killed in clashes with al-Houthi followers. On August 18, the army attacked followers of al-Houthi in Saada province's al-Masnaa area, using tanks and heavy artillery. On November 11, security forces launched a wave of arrests against al-Houthi followers in the Maran district of the Saada province.

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Cosimo 2.0

In its databank Cosimo, HIIK records information on political conflicts between 1945 and today. Since 2003, it has been working with a relational databank system, completely reconsidering, updating, and extending the dataset of Cosimo 1.3. At present, Cosimo 2.0 includes information on more than 500 conflicts with over 2,500 phases. By the systematic recording of single conflict measures, the new conceptual design enables a detailed description of the conflict development in violent and non-violent phases. In addition, the databank includes extensive annual structural data on state and non-state actors.

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