



CONFLICT BAROMETER | 2018

Heidelberg Institute for
International Conflict Research

Codebook 2018



disputes
non-violent crises
violent crises
limited wars
wars

Codebook Conflict Barometer 2018

The HIIK dataset is based on information gathered in its CONTRA database. For each conflict, the dataset provides specific conflict information. Explanations regarding items, conflict intensity, and conflict types can be found in the following methodological section.

The database contains the following information:

<u>Variable Label</u>	<u>Description</u>
region	name of the greater conflict region
ID	conflict ID
conflict	conflict name (may vary over time)
type	conflict type (inter, sub, intra, trans)
start	start year, conflict-constitutive measure
intensity 2017	conflict intensity in 2017
intensity 2018	conflict intensity in 2018
<u>Items</u>	
territory	definition or change of an interstate border
secession	territorial separation from a sovereign state with the aim of establishing a new state or joining another state
autonomy	gaining or extending regional or sectoral self-determination of a population
system / ideology	change of the national or international system / ideologies with national or international scope
national power	central government power
subnational predominance	de facto political, economic, or cultural predominance that is not formulated in statist terms
international power	change of the power constellation in the global system or one of its regional subsystems
resources	natural resources
other	residual category

Additionally, this codebook provides information on inactive conflicts in 2017 and 2018, closed conflicts in 2017 and 2018, and several explanations on changes of basic conflict data such as merged conflicts, changed conflict names, transformed conflicts, newly opened conflicts and backdated newly opened conflicts. The HIIK cannot guarantee the completeness of the provided information. However, it aims at a more a transparent process of data collection and contributing to a higher usefulness of our data. If you have questions regarding the process of data gathering, contact methodik@hiik.de.

Methodology

Since 1991, quantitative conflict research at the HIIK has analyzed political conflicts by focusing on conflict processes rather than e.g. purely quantitative thresholds of casualties of war. Thus, the HIIK is particularly concerned with the concrete actions and communications between conflict parties. Such a process-oriented approach gives the analysis of political conflicts, especially regarding intensities, a broader and more detailed empirical foundation.

Beginning in 2011, the HIIK in cooperation with Heidelberg University has taken steps to further elaborate its methodological approach. In particular, the institute has revised its definition of political conflicts and restructured its conflict intensity assessment. The latter now not only takes into account the intensity for a given conflict area in a given year, but determines the intensity of a conflict for first-level subnational political units and months as well. As such, it allows for a much more detailed measurement of conflict dynamics. Furthermore, the conflict actions and communications, on which the assessment of violent conflict episodes is based, are now evaluated by combining qualitative and quantitative indicators of the means and consequences of violence. This is intended to further enhance the exactitude, reliability, and reproducibility of the conflict information provided.

THE CONCEPT OF POLITICAL CONFLICT



According to the Heidelberg approach, a political conflict is a perceived incompatibility of intentions between individuals or social groups. Such an incompatibility emerges from the presence of actors who communicate and act with regard to certain objects. These actions and communications are known as measures, while the objects form the issues of positional differences. Actors, measures, and issues are the constitutive attributes of political conflict.

CONFLICT ACTORS

Conflict actors are individuals or collectives that are relevant because they are taken into account by other conflict actors in their decision-making processes. Collective actors are characterized by a shared structure of preferences. They include states, international organizations, and non-state actors.

CONFLICT MEASURES

Conflict measures are actions and communications carried out by a conflict actor in the context of a political conflict. They are constitutive for an identifiable conflict if they lie outside established procedures of conflict regulations

and—possibly in conjunction with other measures—if they threaten the international order or a core function of the state. Established regulatory procedures are defined as those mechanisms of conflict management that are accepted by the conflict actors. Examples include elections and court proceedings. Established procedures of regulation must be performed without resorting to the use or threat of physical violence. Core state functions encompass providing security of a population, integrity of a territory and of a specific political, socioeconomic or cultural order. A state function or the international order is threatened if its fulfilment and persistence, respectively, becomes unlikely in a conflict actor's point of view.

CONFLICT ISSUES

Conflict issues are material or immaterial goods pursued by conflict actors via conflict measures. Due to the character of conflict measures, conflict issues attain relevance for the society as a whole—either for the coexistence within a given state or between states. Conflict issues are classified on the basis of ten items representing common goals of conflict actors. System/Ideology is encoded if a conflict actor aspires a change of the ideological, religious, socioeconomic or judicial orientation of the political system or changing the regime type itself. National power means the power to govern a state. Whereas Autonomy refers to attaining or extending political self-rule of a population within a state or of a dependent territory without striving for independence, Secession refers to the aspired separation of a part of a territory of a state aiming to establish a new state or to merge with another state. Furthermore, Decolonization aims at the independence of a dependent territory. Subnational Predominance focuses on the attainment of the de-facto control by a government, a non-state organization or a population over a territory or a population. The item Resources is encoded if the possession of natural resources or raw materials, or the profits gained thereof, is pursued. Territory means a change of the course of an international border, while International Power as an item describes the change aspired in the power constellation in the international system or a regional system therein, especially by changing military capabilities or the political or economic influence of a state. The item Other is used as residual category.

THE CONCEPT OF CONFLICT INTENSITY

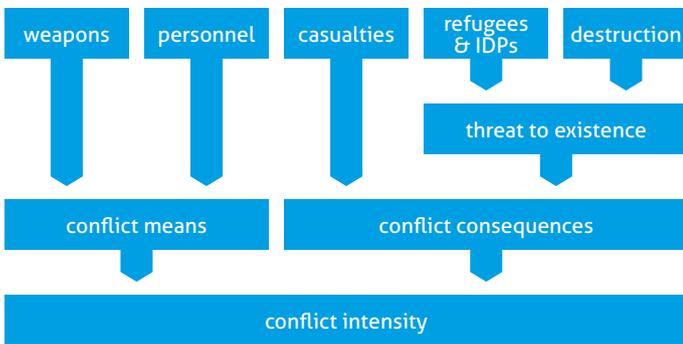
intensity level	terminology	level of violence	intensity class
1	dispute	non-violent conflicts	low intensity
2	non-violent crisis		
3	violent crisis	violent conflicts	medium intensity
4	limited war		high intensity
5	war		

In addition to the three constituting elements—conflict actors, measures, and items—conflict intensity is an essential feature of political conflicts. Conflict intensity is an attribute of the sum of conflict measures in a specific political conflict in a geographical area and a given space of time. The primary units of analysis are the calendar month and the region, i.e. the first-level subnational administrative unit of a country. The basic conflict intensity is therefore determined for a region-month. Since 2003, the HIIK has been using a five-level model of conflict intensity. Under its revised methodology, the intensity levels are now known as dispute, non-violent crisis, violent crisis, limited war, and war.

The last three levels constitute the category of violent conflicts, in contrast to the non-violent conflicts (dispute and non-violent crisis). Whereas a dispute is a political conflict carried out without resorting to violence, in a non-violent crisis one of the actors threatens to use violence. This includes violence against objects without taking the risk to harm persons, the refusal of arms surrender, pointing weapon systems against each other and sanctions.

ASSESSING THE INTENSITIES OF VIOLENT CONFLICTS

When measuring the three levels of violent conflict, five proxies are used indicating the means and consequences of violent conflict measures. The dimension of means encompasses the use of weapons and personnel, the dimension of consequences the number of casualties, destruction, and refugees/internally displaced persons.



Each indicator is scored on a ternary scale. Aggregating the five individual scores results in the total intensity of a region-month.

		conflict means		
		0 points	1 point	2 points
conflict consequences	0 points	violent crisis	violent crisis	limited war
	1 point	violent crisis	limited war	war
	2 points	limited war	war	war

WEAPONS

		weapons employment	
		light	heavy
weapon type	light	0 points	
	heavy	1 point	2 points

The weapons indicator determines whether light or heavy arms are used (e.g. handguns or hand grenades vs. artillery or heavy bombs). Regarding the extent to which the fighting capacity of heavy arms is exploited, we differentiate restrictive and extensive use.

PERSONNEL

low	medium	high
≤ 50	> 50 ≤ 400	> 400
0 points	1 point	2 points

The personnel indicator measures the highest number of participants in an individual measure. Counted are all persons who, by their actions, collectively represent a conflict actor in the context of a violent measure. Low, medium, and high numbers of personnel are distinguished, based on two thresholds: 50 and 400 persons.

CASUALTIES

low	medium	high
≤ 20	> 20 ≤ 60	> 60
0 points	1 point	2 points

Third, the overall number of casualties in the conflict in a region-month is evaluated, comprising the number of deaths from violent measures or their direct consequences. Persons dying due to indirect effects, e.g. starvation or disease, are not counted. The thresholds employed here are 20 and 60 persons killed.

REFUGEES & IDPs

low	medium	high
≤ 1 000	> 1 000 ≤ 20 000	> 20 000
0 points	1 point	2 points

Evaluated is the overall number of cross-border refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs) in a region-month. Displacement is the migration of human beings provoked by conflict measures, e.g. by creating inhumane living conditions. Taken into account is flow, not stock data. The thresholds employed here are 1,000 and 20,000 refugees.

DESTRUCTION

The amount of destruction resulting from the conflict during the whole month and within the subnational unit is determined in four dimensions considered essential for civil populations: infrastructure, accommodation, economy, and culture.

low	medium	high
within 0 dimensions	within 1 - 2 dimensions	within 3 - 4 dimensions
0 points	1 point	2 points

UP- AND DOWNGRADING

When assessing conflict intensities, the HIIK differentiates between violent and non-violent conflicts. If violence occurred, we assess the region-month intensity (RMI, see above). RMIs are the first pillar for determining the yearly intensity for a specific conflict region (region-year intensity) as well as the overall area-year intensity of a conflict (area-year intensity). A conflict area is the sum of all subnational units affected by the violent conflict in question. In the standard case, the area-year intensity is equal to the highest RMI in a given area-year. Like this, intensities of a certain spatiotemporal unit directly translate into a certain conflict intensity level. However, methodological issues such as a considerable variance in the size of administrative regions might threaten the comparability between different conflicts on the same intensity level. Up- and downgrading becomes relevant in the following example: two conflicts have an area-year intensity of a violent crisis according to the assessment based on the first pillar. The first conflict accounted for 30 casualties in three RMIs with ten fatalities each, while the second conflict accounted for more than 370 casualties in 37 RMI. In this case, it might be out of proportion to assign the same conflict intensity to both conflicts. Therefore, we apply up- and downgrading rules, the second pillar of our conflict intensity assessment, fine-tuning conflict intensities in order to ensure a better comparability.

This decision is based on the conflicts' annual and area-wide numbers of refugees / IDPs and casualties. A violent crisis must thereby be upgraded to a limited war level if more than 360 casualties or more than 18,000 refugees were counted in the whole year in the conflict area. A limited war must be upgraded to war level if more than 1,080 fatalities or more than 360,000 refugees were counted. In contrast, a limited war must be downgraded to a violent crisis if not less than 120 casualties and less than 6,000 refugees were counted. Likewise, a war must be downgraded to limited war level if less than 360 casualties and less than 120,000 refugees were counted. The area-year intensity is both displayed above each conflict description in this publication as well as in the regional conflict overviews.

CONFLICT TYPES

The methodology of HIIK distinguishes between interstate, intrastate, substate, and transstate conflicts. Whereas interstate conflicts only involve internationally recognized state actors, intrastate conflicts involve both state actors and non-state actors. Substate conflicts are carried out solely among non-state actors. Transstate conflicts involve both state and non-state actors and meet the criteria of political conflict for at least two sovereign states.

conflict and observation changes 2018

Nr	ID	Name	Region	kind of change	comment
1	32014	Brazil (Drug Trafficking Organizations)	Americas	start year	start year (2010) changed to (2008): The Pacifying Police Units (UPP) started its operations in Rio de Janeiro's favelas in 2008, as a security measure for the upcoming events, as the World Cup 2014 in Brazil, and thereby acknowledging DTO problems as internal security issues. Along with the subsequent more invasive military police (PM) action, the DTO's control over the favelas was challenged.
2	30228	Colombia (FARC dissidents, left wing militants)	Americas	conflict frame	conflict frame change: left wing militants added as actors as they share a common cleavage with the government.
3	30228	Colombia (FARC dissidents, left wing militants)	Americas	name	name change from [Colombia (FARC dissidents)] to [Colombia (Farc dissidents, left-wing militants)] to adjust the added actors.
4	32022	El Salvador (Maras)	Americas	start year	start year changed from (2012) to (2003): first "Mano Dura" measure was implemented in 2003. We first started to observe the conflict in 2012 in the course of the gang truce. But conflict between gov and gangs dates back to 2003.
5	40074	China (Hong Kong)	Asia & Oceania	name	name change from [China (Hong Kong Pro-democracy groups)] to [China (Hong Kong)]: adjustment to HIIK naming conventions
9	41097	China (Taiwan – opposition)	Asia & Oceania	intensity 2017	conflict's intensity of 2017 (2; non-violent crisis) was reassessed and changed to (1; dispute)
6	40055	Indonesia (Papua)	Asia & Oceania	actor	actor (PRPPB) removed: PRPPB was removed as an actor in the conflict parties constellation due to inactivity
8	40039	Papua New Guinea (tribal tensions)	Asia & Oceania	actor	actors removed: Kukurin vs. Yapetalin vs. Wapiago vs. Tapamu vs. et al, actor added: Kala vs. Kii vs. Homu vs. various tribes – tribal conflicts are extremely heterogenous in the highlands of PNG, almost every year other actors in the constellation which show main tensions in the respective year
7	40204	Sri Lanka (inter-religious tensions)	Asia & Oceania	actor	actor (Sinhala Jathika Balaya) removed, (Mahason Balakaya) added: Sinhala Jathika Balaya due to inactivity, actor added: Mahason Balakaya
10	40092	Australia - Timor Leste	Asia&Oceania	start year	start year (2002) changed to (1962):The so-called "Timor Gap", which lacked permanent maritime borders, was created in 1962, when Australia issued petroleum permits for oil and gas reserves north of the median line between Australia and then-Portuguese Timor-Leste. While Portugal disputed this claim, Indonesia accepted the Australian maritime borders based on continental shelf expansion in the Seabed Boundary Treaty (SBT) of 1972.
11	40092	Australia - Timor Leste	Asia&Oceania	item	item (territory) added: The conflict - as solved in the treaty - deals with both territory and resources. Accordingly, both should be included as description for conflict items.
12	40034	India (Kashmir)	Asia&Oceania	actor	actor (IS) added
18	41017	India (Sikhs)	Asia&Oceania	item	item (autonomy) removed: as SAD is no longer considered as a direct actor, no direct actors actively pursue autonomy.
19	41017	India (Sikhs)	Asia&Oceania	actor	actor (SAD) removed: as SAD changed its orientation from demanding sovereignty for the SIKHS to a form of integrative regionalism, it does not claim the item secession for itself. Hence, SAD became an indirect actor.
17	40332	Myanmar (TNLA – RCSS / Shan State)	Asia&Oceania	name	name changed from [Myanmar (TNLA, RCSS / Shan State)] to [Myanmar (TNLA – RCSS / Shan State)] to meet HIIK convention standards for substate conflicts in order to avoid the impression of an interstate conflict
13	40244	Pakistan (Balochistan)	Asia&Oceania	supporter	supporter (China) added: supports the government of Pakistan
14	40313	Pakistan (opposition)	Asia&Oceania	actor	actor (PTM) added, NOTE: government change in July, all actors are independent of each other.
15	40313	Pakistan (opposition)	Asia&Oceania	item	item (autonomy) added for PTM: Pashtuns protest against discrimination by the government, labelling as terrorists
16	42012	Pakistan (Taliban - tribes)	Asia&Oceania	merged	merged into 40301 Pakistan (Islamist militant groups): same militant groups; many government-supported tribal elders and lashkars have been killed or became less active. It now makes more sense to consider the tribes as part of the civilian population, which the government is supposed to protect; FATA merger to KP
20	10033	FYROM (Albanian minority – ethnic Macedonians)	Europe	name	name change from [FYROM (Albanian minority)] to [FYROM (Albanian minority – ethnic Macedonians)]: name adjusted as it is a substate conflict evolving between the Albanian minority and ethnic Macedonians.
21	12001	Bosnia and Herzegovina (Islamist militant groups)	Europe	item	item (subnational predominance) removed: the item subnational predominance is no longer pursued by Islamist militants.
22	10190	France (Corsican nationalists)	Europe	name	name change from [France (FLNC / Corsica)] to [France (Corsican nationalists)]: adjustment to HIIK naming conventions
23	10190	France (Corsican nationalists)	Europe	item	item (autonomy) added in order to show that some actors also seek autonomy while pursuing secession on the long run.
24	10013	FYROM - Greece (official name of FYROM)	Europe	status	ceased to be inactive, became a non-violent crisis
34	10033	FYROM (Albanian minority – ethnic Macedonians)	Europe	actor	actor constellation revised: government taken out as conflict actor as the conflict is a substate conflict which is primarily carried out between the two communities. The government is understood as an indirect actor which has a major impact on the conflict dynamics.
33	10203	Hungary – Romania, Slovakia, Ukraine (Hungarian minorities)	Europe	conflict type	conflict type changed from (interstate) to (transstate) as conflict criterias are met in all affected countries.
31	10191	Kazakhstan et al. – Russia (Caspian Sea)	Europe	actor	actor constellation revised: all parties conflict with another
25	10131	Kosovo* – Serbia	Europe	conflict type	conflict type changed from (intrastate) to (interstate) as HIIK follows the UN classification of state recognition.
26	10131	Kosovo – Serbia	Europe	name	name change from (Kosovo – Serbia) to (Kosovo* – Serbia): *naming of contested territories is oriented at UN policies.
27	12005	Kosovo (opposition)	Europe	name	name change from [Serbia (Kosovo – opposition)] to [Kosovo (opposition)]
32	10034	Norway et al. – Russia (Arctic)	Europe	item	item (international power) added as power issues between NATO member states and Russia are at stake.
28	10109	Ukraine (right-wing / opposition)	Europe	name	name change from [Ukraine (opposition)] to [Ukraine (right-wing / opposition)] due to conflict frame change.
29	10109	Ukraine (right-wing / opposition)	Europe	actor	Actor change: Civil-right groups include Roma and LGBT; Right-wings used violence against both Government and Civil-Society groups. Although opposition parties (most prominently Sakaashvili party) are not connected to civil-society groups, they are united against their fight against corruption (which is evident in the governments actions against NABU (investigating political fraud)). Opposition parties and activists/minorities both are actually too differentiated to legitimately put them in their own respective groups. So we decided for the most convenient and somewhat fitting actor constellation: Three different groups.
30	10051	United Kingdom (Scottish Nationalists / Scotland)	Europe	name	name change from [United Kingdom (SNP / Scotland)] to [United Kingdom (Scottish Nationalists / Scotland)]: SNP are not the only direct actors, the Green Party was added as direct actor, name change in line with HIIK naming conventions.
45	50401	Algeria (opposition)	MENA	actor	actor (labour unions) added
47	50042	Egypt (opposition)	MENA	actor	actor (Lewaa al-Thawra) removed as the opposition group was not active in this conflict in 2018
35	51014	Iran (PDKI et al.)	MENA	name	name change from [Iran (PDKI, PAK)] to [Iran (PDKI et al.)]: PAK ceased to be active in 2018 and was therefore removed as direct actor.
36	50014	Iraq (Shiite militant groups)	MENA	actor	actor changed due to yearly activities
50	50121	Israel – State of Palestine (PNA)	MENA	name	name change from [Israel (PNA / Palestinian Territories)] to [Israel – State of Palestine (PNA)]: accounting for disputed statehood, symbolised by , according to UN classification.
48	50041	Israel (Hamas et al.)	MENA	name	name change from [Israel (Hamas et al. / Palestinian Territories)] to [Israel (Hamas et al.)]
44	50052	Lebanon (inner-Palestinian tensions)	MENA	actor	conflict actor change: (Ansar Allah) added and (Jund al-Sham), (Fatah al-Islam) removed as ceased to active in this conflict in 2018.
51	51006	Lebanon (Sunni militant groups)	MENA	actor	actor (Saraya Ahl al-Sham) removed as did not fulfill the direct actor criterias in 2018
37	51400	Libya (inter-tribal rivalry)	MENA	actor	actor change
38	51400	Libya (inter-tribal rivalry)	MENA	name	name change from [Libya (inter-tribal tensions)] to [Libya (inter-tribal rivalry)]: adjustment to HIIK naming conventions
39	50405	Libya (opposition)	MENA	actor	Actor changed due yearly activities, and also for clarity
49	50047	State of Palestine (Hamas – Salafi Groups)	MENA	name	name change from [Israel (Hamas – Salafist groups)] to [State of Palestine (Hamas – Salafi Groups)]: accounting for disputed statehood, symbolised by , according to UN classification.
40	50409	Tunisia (opposition)	MENA	actor	actor (opposition groups) added: opposition groups are actors next to civil society groups (Popular Front is a coalition of political parties)
46	50409	Tunisia (opposition)	MENA	actor	actor (opposition groups) added in conflict constellation: Popular Front is a coalition of different parties

conflict and observation changes 2018

Nr	ID	Name	Region	kind of change	comment
41	50055	Turkey (opposition)	MENA	actor	actor (GÜLEN) removed, since not active this year and also structurally no valid actor. Also Nation Alliance replaces CHP, since this was one major opposition coalition (headed by CHP) for the parliamentary elections, besides the pro-Kurdish HDP
43	50055	Turkey (PKK)	MENA	start year	start year changed from (1974) to (1978): 1978 is the founding year of PKK.
42	50063	Western Sahara (Polisario – Morocco)	MENA	name	name changed from [Morocco (POLISARIO / Western Sahara)] to [Morocco (POLISARIO / Western Sahara*)] to account for disputed statehood.
52	50061	Algeria, Mali et al. (AQIM, ISGS et al.)	Sub-Saharan Africa	region	region change from (MENA) to (Sub-Saharan Africa): conflict originated in Algeria and was therefore listed in the MENA region till 2017. However, as activities are focused in SSA countries, the conflict was shifted to SSA; ID was kept to maintain the traceability
53	50061	Algeria, Mali et al. (AQIM, ISGS et al.)	Sub-Saharan Africa	actor	actor change: actors added (JNIM, OIC), actors removed (MUJAO, Ansar al Din): actor constellation adjusted to this year's conflict developments.
54	50061	Algeria, Mali et al. (AQIM, ISGS et al.)	Sub-Saharan Africa	name	name change from [Algeria, Mali et al. (AQIM et al.)] to [Algeria, Mali et al. (AQIM, ISGS et al.)]: consequence of actor change
55	20077	Angola (FLEC / Cabinda)	Sub-Saharan Africa	item	item (resources) removed: resources do not appear as reason for measures anymore
82	20078	Angola (opposition)	Sub-Saharan Africa	name	name change from [Angola (UNITA)] to [Angola (opposition)]: UNITA fought for national power in a civil war, however, the current conflict dynamics resemble an opposition conflict.
56	20614	Burundi (opposition)	Sub-Saharan Africa	item	item (national power) added: oppositional groups also strive to replace President Nkurunziza and therefore rally for constitutional reform
57	20613	Burundi, DR Congo (FNL, RED-Tabara)	Sub-Saharan Africa	name	name change from [Burundi, DR Congo (FNL)] to [Burundi, DR Congo (FNL, RED-Tabara)]: adjustment due to actor change
58	20613	Burundi, DR Congo (FNL, RED-Tabara)	Sub-Saharan Africa	item	item (subnational predominance) removed: in current conflict developments, subnational predominance is not pursued by conflict actors.
59	21080	Central African Republic (Anti-Balaka – ex-Séléka)	Sub-Saharan Africa	conflict type	conflict type changed from (substate) to (intrastate): conflict no longer only pursued on substate level; government included in the actor constellation structure
60	20606	Chad (militant groups)	Sub-Saharan Africa	item	item (resources) added because gold is an issue in the conflict
61	20606	Chad (militant groups)	Sub-Saharan Africa	name	name change from [Chad (rebel groups)] to [Chad (militant groups)]: adjustment to HIIK naming conventions
62	20606	Chad (militant groups)	Sub-Saharan Africa	actor	actor (CCSMR) added
63	20011	DR Congo (Bantu – Batwa)	Sub-Saharan Africa	conflict type	conflict type changed from (intrastate) to (substate) as the government ceased to be a conflict actor.
64	20210	DR Congo (Ituri Militias)	Sub-Saharan Africa	actor	actor changed from (FRPI) to (Ituri militias)
77	20618	DR Congo, Rwanda (FDLR, CNRD)	Sub-Saharan Africa	conflict type	conflict type revised from (intrastate) to (transstate) as conflict criteria are met in both countries; also retroactively changed.
65	20004	Eritrea-Ethiopia	Sub-Saharan Africa	start year	start year changed from (1961) to (1998): The Conflict Barometers 2014-2016 set the conflict start in 1961. In accordance with the previous versions (1998-2013) the start was set to 1998 due to the conflict type (Inter-state conflict vs. War of independence). The conflict between Eritrea and Ethiopia starting 1961 and ending 1991 is characterized by the war of independence of Eritrea and has different, however interrelated, conflict actors. Of course, it cannot be excluded from the overall picture of the conflict and still has influence on conflict dynamics. The current conflict though must be analyzed separately by setting the starting point in 1998 with the start of the conflict over the border demarcation between two sovereign states.
66	20055	eSwatini (opposition)	Sub-Saharan Africa	name	name change from [Swaziland (opposition)] to [eSwatini (opposition)] as the country name changed to eSwatini.
67	20311	Guinea (opposition)	Sub-Saharan Africa	actor	actor (FPSE) removed, since not active in 2018
68	25001	Mali (inter militant rivalry/ northern Mali)	Sub-Saharan Africa	actor	actor (Islamist groups) added
69	20883	Niger (opposition)	Sub-Saharan Africa	actor	actor (student unions) removed
70	20118	Nigeria (Islamic Movement)	Sub-Saharan Africa	item	item (subnational predominance) removed: no longer pursued by Islamist Movement
71	20909	Sierra Leone (opposition)	Sub-Saharan Africa	name	name change from [Sierra Leone (APC – SLPP)] to [Sierra Leone (opposition)]: national power has been contested between the APC and SLPP since 2007, due to its opposition character the name was changed to Sierra Leone (opposition)
72	20904	Somalia (Somaliland - Puntland)	Sub-Saharan Africa	item	item (territory) added: border area SSC is disputed among the conflict parties.
73	20904	Somalia (Somaliland - Puntland)	Sub-Saharan Africa	actor	actor (Khatumo state) removed: not active in 2018
74	21091	Somalia (subclan rivalry)	Sub-Saharan Africa	merged	merger of 21089 Somalia (Habar Gidir - Biyomal/Lower Shabelle) and 21091 Somalia (Hawadle - Surre/Hiran): teh observation of various militia conflicts in Somalia did not really made sense.
75	21091	Somalia (subclan rivalry)	Sub-Saharan Africa	name	name change due to the conflict merger of two conflicts
81	21700	South Africa (opposition)	Sub-Saharan Africa	item	item (system/ideology) removed as an item: opposition parties no longer aim to change the orientation of the political system. Systemic change has mostly been demanded by socioeconomic protesters in separate conflict.
76	25002	South Sudan (various militias)	Sub-Saharan Africa	merged	20911 South Sudan (various militias) merged with 25002 South Sudan (opposition): overlap in dynamics and actors.
78	21084	Sudan (inter-communal rivalry)	Sub-Saharan Africa	conflict type	conflict type revised from (intrastate) to (substate): error in 2017 dataset
79	20002	Tanzania (Chadema, CUF – CCM)	Sub-Saharan Africa	name	conflict name revised from [Tanzania (Chadema, CUF – CCM)] to [Tanzania (opposition)]: adjustment to naming conventions; Chadema is also considered as a nationwide opposition party and not only as an actor aiming at secession.
80	20012	Uganda (inter-communal rivalry / Rwenzururu)	Sub-Saharan Africa	item	item (resources) removed: correction of former conflict data: the rivaling ethnic groups (mainly Bakonzo and Bamba) primarily clashed (!) over conflicting views on the Ugandan election in 2016. It does not include a certain kind of resource like gold or cobalt. Therefore, the item resources cannot be applied on this conflict and actor constellation.

inactive conflicts 2017&2018

Nr.	ID	name	region	inactive since	status 2018	comment
1	30269	Nicaragua (militant groups)	Americas	2018	inactive	no active measures in 2018
2	41066	Samoa (landowner protests)	Asia and Oceania		inactive	inactive
3	10031	Serbia (Islamist militant groups / Sandzak)	Europe	2013	inactive	inactive since 2013 or longer
4	10000	Azerbaijan – Iran	Europe	2013	inactive	inactive since 2013 or longer
5	11058	Bosnia and Herzegovina (Bosnian Croats / Herzegovina)	Europe	2013	inactive	inactive since 2013 or longer
6	10908	Bulgaria (opposition)	Europe	2013	inactive	inactive since 2013 or longer
7	10028	Georgia (Armenian minority)	Europe	2013	inactive	inactive since 2013 or longer
8	10029	Georgia (Azeri minority)	Europe	2013	inactive	inactive since 2013 or longer
9	40026	Kyrgyzstan (Kyrgyz – Uzbeks)	Europe	2018	inactive	The conflict over subnational predominance and resources between ethnic Kyrgyz and ethnic Uzbeks in Kyrgyzstan did not see any measures in 2018. The item has not been actively pursued by the relevant conflict parties in 2018, therefore the conflict is set on "inactive".
10	10132	Serbia (Albanian minority / Presevo Valley)	Europe	2013	inactive	inactive since 2013 or longer
11	11054	Serbia (Bosniak minority / Sandzak)	Europe	2013	inactive	inactive since 2013 or longer
12	40026	Tajikistan (opposition)	Europe	2018	inactive	The intrastate conflict between the Tajik government and the opposition over national power and the orientation of the political system was set inactive in 2018. The opposition remains marginalized, and important members from actors such as Group 24 or the Islamic Renaissance Party of Tajikistan (IRPT) fled the country. The remaining opposition consists mostly of Islamists (→ Tajikistan (Islamist groups)).
13	10202	Turkey – Greece (border)	Europe	2016	inactive	inactive since 2016 oder longer
14	50049	Afghanistan (Kuchi Nomads – Hazara)	MENA	2016	inactive	inactive since 2016
15	54001	Algeria (Malekites – Mozabites / Ghardaia)	MENA	2017	inactive	Due to the police presence in the area, the conflict has been dormant since 2016. The conflict has been set as inactive since 2017 and will be closed next year, if there are no further measures.
16	54001	Algeria (Malekites-Mozabites / Ghardaia)	MENA	2016	inactive	inactive since 2016 (tensions within the Berber community persist though they are rather accentuated towards the government. As future local tensions cannot be ruled out, the conflict was not closed)
17	50048	Egypt (Bedouin activists)	MENA	2017	inactive	inactive since 2017
18	50040	Iraq (Kurdistan Regional Government)	MENA	2018	inactive	Over the course of 2018, the dispute over independence between the Kurdish regional government and the Iraqi government remained unsolved. However, both conflict parties cooperated partially in military campaigns against the Islamic State.
19	50029	Jordan (Hamas)	MENA	2018	inactive	During the last years, no active measures between the Jordan government and Hamas could be observed. However, due to Jordan's involvement in regional politics (→ Israel - State of Palestine* (PNA); State of Palestine (Hamas - Fatah)), occasional communication between the government and Hamas took place.
20	51005	Lebanon (Sunni – Alawite)	MENA	2015	inactive	inactive since 2015 or longer (no violent measures were observed for the past two years. Due to the conflict's history, the conflict is not actively closed but rather put on a observatory status.)
21	51044	Libya (Federalist / Cyrenaica)	MENA	2015	inactive	inactive since 2015 or longer (federalism demands are not actively pursued any more, the conflict actors converged with LNA)
22	50122	Saudi Arabia (AQAP)	MENA	2016	inactive	inactive since 2016
23	50025	Turkey – Iraq	MENA	2015	inactive	inactive since 2015
24	50419	Turkey (Huda Par – PKK / Kurdish Regions)	MENA	2015	inactive	inactive since 2015 or longer (no violent measures were observed for the past two years. Due to the conflict's history, the conflict is not actively closed but rather put on a observatory status.)
25	20100	Equatorial Guinea - Gabon (Mbaníé, Cocotier, Congo Islands)	Sub-Saharan Africa	2018	inactive	auf inaktiv gesetzt, da 2016 Vertrag geschlossen. Abwarten mit Schliessung bis ICJ entscheidet
26	20889	Nigeria (Eggon groups / Nasarawa State)	Sub-Saharan Africa	2016	inactive	no active measures since 2016
27	20049	Nigeria (MOSOP, Ogoni / Niger Delta)	Sub-Saharan Africa	2018	inactive	inactive since 2016 or longer
28	25003	South Sudan, Uganda (border communities)	Sub-Saharan Africa	2018	inactive	1 last year, no measures this year
29	20204	Sudan (Eastern Front)	Sub-Saharan Africa	2018	inactive	1 last year, no measures this year
30	20099	Tanzania (Christians - Muslims)	Sub-Saharan Africa	2018	inactive	The conflict over subnational predominance between Christians and Muslims in Tanzania did not see any measures affecting core state functions in 2018. The item has not been actively pursued by the relevant conflict parties in 2018, therefore the conflict is set on "inactive".
31	20954	Uganda (Baganda / Buganda)	Sub-Saharan Africa	2016	inactive	inactive since 2016 or longer
32	40061	Bhutan – Nepal	Asia & Oceania	2017	closed	after the conflict was inactive for several years, it was closed in 2017
33	41041	Cambodia – Thailand (border)	Asia & Oceania	2016-2018	closed	The border dispute over the Preach Vihear Temple was unanimously decided in favor of Cambodia on November 11, 2013 by the International Court of Justice, with Thai villagers leaving the area and Thai troops being withdrawn. The temple was declared safe to visit again in 2015, but Thailand did not accept the ruling over the nearby Phnom Trap hill. No tensions have broken out since 2016 and no violent measures since 2013. It is thus classified as inactive in retrospect since 2016 and closed this year.
34	41097	China (Taiwan – opposition)	Asia & Oceania	2017-2018	closed	no active measures since 2017 (mistakenly a "2" in 2017, no violent measures already since 2015), main actor (sunflower movement) lost relevance
35	41086	India (PULF)	Asia & Oceania	2017	closed	after the conflict was inactive for several years, it was closed in 2017
36	20853	Cameroon, Nigeria (militants / Bakassi)	Sub-Saharan Africa	2017-2018	closed	The conflict between militants fighting for an independent Bakassi and the governments of Cameroon and Nigeria was closed this year after the conflict has been inactive for the second year.
37	20853	Cameroon, Nigeria (militants / Bakassi)	Sub-Saharan Africa	2017-2018	closed	The conflict between militants fighting for an independent Bakassi and the governments of Cameroon and Nigeria was closed this year after the conflict has been inactive from 2017-2018
38	20005	South Africa (KwaZulu-Natal)	Sub-Saharan Africa	2000- 2017	closed	inactive since 2000 or longer, closed in 2017
39	20010	Tanzania (Uamsho / Zanzibar)	Sub-Saharan Africa	2014-2017	closed	after the conflict was inactive from 2014-2017, the conflict was actively closed in 2017 after an agreement was negotiated and implemented in September 2017)
40	10013	Greece – FYROM (official name of FYROM)	Europe	2013-2018	active	The conflict was since at least 2013 inactive but became active in 2018.

closed conflicts of 2017 & 2018

Nr	ID	name	region	closed in	comment
1	30002	Colombia (FARC)	Americas	2017	closed in 2017 as conflict was actively settled in 2017. New conflict Colombia (FARC dissidents) was opened.
2	40061	Bhutan – Nepal	Asia & Oceania	2017	after the conflict was inactive for several years, it was closed in 2017
3	40020	India (inter-militant rivalry / Meghalaya)	Asia & Oceania	2017	closed
4	41086	India (PULF)	Asia & Oceania	2017	after the conflict was inactive for several years, it was closed in 2017
5	41091	Pakistan (inter-islamist rivalry)	Asia & Oceania	2017	closed
6	50235	Turkey – Russia	Europe	2017	closed
8	20005	South Africa (KwaZulu-Natal)	Sub-Saharan Africa	2017	closed (inactive since 2000 or longer)
9	20010	Tanzania (Uamsho / Zanzibar)	Sub-Saharan Africa	2017	after the conflict was inactive from 2014-2017, the conflict was actively closed in 2017 after an agreement was negotiated and implemented in September 2017)
10	40092	Australia – Timor-Leste	Asia & Oceania	2018	conflict actively settled with peace agreement and closed in 2018.
11	41041	Cambodia – Thailand (border)	Asia & Oceania	2018	The border dispute over the Preach Vihear Temple was unanimously decided in favor of Cambodia on November 11, 2013 by the International Court of Justice, with Thai villagers leaving the area and Thai troops being withdrawn. The temple was declared safe to visit again in 2015, but Thailand did not accept the ruling over the nearby Phnom Trap hill. No tensions have broken out since 2016 and no violent measures since 2013. It is thus classified as inactive in retrospect since 2016 and closed this year.
12	41097	China (Taiwan – opposition)	Asia & Oceania	2018	no active measures since 2017 (mistakenly a "2" in 2017, no violent measures already since 2015), main actor (sunflower movement) lost relevance
13	40015	Malaysia (opposition)	Asia & Oceania	2018	For the first time since Malaysia's independence in 1957, the opposition won a majority in the general elections, being led by the Pakatan Harapan coalition. They have since begun the repeal of laws repressive to democracy that they, as a former opposition, had been criticizing, and placed electoral and anti-corruption institutions under supervision of the parliament. This was also the key interest of main civil society protest organizer Bersih, although they still lobby for more meaningful reforms, yet not together with now-opposition parties. Any consequential conflict from the new opposition can be expected to be within established regulatory procedures
14	56250	Iraq (KRG – YBS)	MENA	2018	No measures this year. In 2017, most of the forces left YBS and joined the KRG-affiliated Peshmaga. YBS are not identifiable as an independent actor anymore.
15	20853	Cameroon, Nigeria (militants / Bakassi)	Sub-Saharan Africa	2018	The conflict between militants fighting for an independent Bakassi and the governments of Cameroon and Nigeria was closed this year after the conflict has been inactive from 2017-2018
16	20851	Ethiopia (TPDM)	Sub-Saharan Africa	2018	conflict ended; peace agreement http://shabait.com/news/local-news/26946-tpdm-reaches-peace-agreement-with-ethiopian-government
17	20004	Ethiopia-Eritrea	Sub-Saharan Africa	2018	conflict closed due to Jeddah peace agreement: https://www.reuters.com/article/us-ethiopia-eritreasaudi/ethiopian-eritrean-leaders-sign-peace-agreement-in-jeddah-idUSKCN1LW0KV
18	21021	Republic of Congo (Ninja Militias)	Sub-Saharan Africa	2018	conflict ended 2017 due to peace agreement

new conflicts and retroactively opened conflicts 2017 & 2018

Nr	ID	name	region	observed since	conflict start	comment
1	20122	Mali (inter-communal rivalry/ central Mali)	Sub-Saharan Africa	2018	2012	retroactively opened (start year 2012)
2	20003	South Africa (socioeconomic protests)	Sub-Saharan Africa	2018	2018	While violent protests on service delivery and land/housing have been frequent in South Africa throughout most of the 2000s, it was not until 2018 that they were politicized and acknowledged as political events.
3	40050	India (Dalits/Adivasis)	Asia&Oceania	2018	1950	retroactively opened (start year 1950)
4	20006	Mozambique (ASWJ)	Sub-Saharan Africa	2018	2017	retroactively opened (start year 2017)
5	20816	DR Congo (KN)	Africa	2017	2016	retroactively opened (start year 2016)
6	20378	Somalia (ISS)	Africa	2017	2015	retroactively opened (start year 2015)
7	21085	Djibouti – Eritrea	Africa	2017	1996	retroactively opened (start year 1996)
8	32887	USA (right-wing extremists)	Americas	2017	1990	retroactively opened (start 1990)
9	50333	Iran – Saudi Arabia	MENA	2017	1979	retroactively opened (start 1979)
10	30321	Colombia (artisanal miners / Antioquia)	Americas	2017	2017	
11	30228	Colombia (FARC dissidents)	Americas	2017	2017	
12	33101	Dominican Republic (anti-corruption)	Americas	2017	2017	
13	56250	Iraq (KRG – YBS)	MENA	2017	2017	
14	50099	Qatar – Saudi Arabia et al.	MENA	2017	2017	
15	23678	Ethiopia (inter-ethnic rivalry)	Africa	2017	2017	



Heidelberg Institute for International
Conflict Research e. V.

campus bergheim
bergheimer str. 58
69115 heidelberg
germany

email : info@hik.de
phone: +49 6221 54 2863

www.hik.de

ISSN 1616-931X