

Appendix 2A. Patterns of major armed conflicts, 1998–2007

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I. Major armed conflicts in a wider context

This appendix reports on trends in major armed conflicts in the past 10 years. These include some of the deadliest conflicts on our planet and consequently have significant implications for international peace and security.¹ There were 14 major armed conflicts in 2007, based on new criteria for defining major armed conflicts that were introduced by the Uppsala Conflict Data Program (UCDP) in 2007.² This is the same number as in 2006, although only 11 of the conflicts in 2007 were also active in 2006.

Section II of this appendix describes global trends in major armed conflicts over the decade 1998–2007. Section III describes trends at the regional level in the same period. Section IV discusses changes to the list of major armed conflicts between 2006 and 2007. Table 2A.3 presents data on the major armed conflicts that were active in 2007. Appendix 2B provides details of the definitions, sources and methods used in compiling the major armed conflict data.

While the focus of this appendix remains on major armed conflicts, other armed conflicts are taking place. These others include conflicts in which at least one conflict party is the government of a state that have not reached the level of intensity required to be classified as major armed conflicts³ and non-state conflicts (conflicts waged between non-state groups)⁴. Non-state conflicts include violence between, for

¹ The Uppsala Conflict Data Program (UCDP) defines a major armed conflict as a contested incompatibility concerning government and/or territory over which the use of armed force between the military forces of 2 parties—of which at least 1 is the government of a state—has resulted in at least 1000 battle-related deaths in a single calendar year. After a conflict reaches this threshold, it reappears in the data set on major armed conflicts if it results in at least 25 battle-related deaths in a single year. For more detail see section II, and for a definition of the separate elements see appendix 2B. Elsewhere, the UCDP uses the category war rather than major armed conflict. War is defined by the same criteria except that the conflict must cause 1000 battle-related deaths every year. Thus, major armed conflicts listed in the SIPRI Yearbook may in some years be classified as minor armed conflicts (see note 3) in other UCDP lists, publications and databases.

² For discussion of the revised criteria see appendix 2B.

³ Most of these lower-scale conflicts fall under the broader UCDP category of minor armed conflict, defined as a contested incompatibility concerning government and/or territory over which the use of armed force between the military forces of 2 parties—of which at least 1 is the government of a state—has resulted in at least 25 battle-related deaths in a single calendar year. The UCDP has data on all state-based conflicts in the forms of a data set from 1946 and of an online database, containing a wide range of variables, from 1989.

⁴ The UCDP defines a non-state conflict as the use of armed force between 2 organized groups—neither of which is the government of a state—which results in at least 25 battle-related deaths in a single calendar year. The UCDP has collected data on non-state conflicts since 2002, making global

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example, rebel organizations or different ethnic groups. In the years since 1998, major armed conflicts have, on average, comprised about half of all state-based conflicts. In order to shed light on the broader context in which major armed conflicts take place, section V of this appendix includes information on non-state conflicts in 2002–2006.

II. Global patterns in major armed conflict

In recording the major armed conflicts active in 2007 some revisions have been made to the definition of major armed conflict. The main criterion for classifying an armed conflict as major remains: that fighting between two parties, one or both of which is a state, has resulted in 1000 battle-related deaths during at least one calendar year of the conflict. In previous editions of the SIPRI Yearbook such conflicts were still recorded as major armed conflicts if there was at least one battle-related death in a year due to fighting between the same two parties. The new rule raises the minimum to 25 battle-related deaths. The tables, figures and data set for all years in the period 1990–2007 have been revised accordingly.⁵

In 2007, 14 major armed conflicts were active in 13 locations around the world. Over the past decade the global number of active major armed conflicts has declined overall. However, as can be seen in table 2A.1, the revised data reveal a very uneven decline, with major drops in 2002 and 2004—the year with the lowest number of active conflicts during the period—and an increase of three in 2005.

For the fourth consecutive year no interstate conflict was recorded in 2007. Only three major armed conflicts were fought between states during the entire period 1998–2007: Eritrea–Ethiopia (1998–2000); India–Pakistan (1998–2003); and Iraq versus the United States and its allies (2003). The first two conflicts concerned territory while the third was fought over governmental power. The remaining 30 major armed conflicts recorded for this period were all fought within states, with 9 concerning territory and 21 governmental power.

In 2007 four conflicts were categorized as internationalized—that is, they included troops from a state that was not a primary party to the conflict but was aiding one of the conflict parties. This is an increase of one over the number in 2006. Interestingly, just as in 2006, all the internationalized conflicts in 2007 were in some way linked to the US-led ‘global war on terrorism’. Those most clearly connected to it were the conflict between the US Government and al-Qaeda; the conflict between the Afghan Government and the Taliban; and the conflict between the Iraqi Government and the numerous insurgent groups operating there. The fourth internationalized major armed conflict recorded in 2007 was between the Government of Somalia and the Supreme Islamic Council of Somalia (SICS).⁶ Here, however, its link to the ‘global war on

information about this type of conflict available for the first time. The UCDP also collects information on one-sided violence—the use, by the government of a state or by a formally organized group, of armed force deliberately targeting civilians that results in at least 25 deaths in a calendar year. There data are available from 1989, both as a data set and in the UCDP online database. All data can be found at the UCDP webpage <<http://www.ucdp.uu.se>>. They are presented annually in the Human Security Report and the *Journal of Peace Research*.

⁵ The revised list of major armed conflicts for the period 1990–2007 is available at <http://www.pcr.uu.se/research/UCDP/data_and_publications/datasets.htm>.

⁶ For the states contributing troops to these conflicts see table 2A.3. On the conflict between the USA and al-Qaeda, and the complex issues affecting its coding, see Eriksson, M., Sollenberg, M. and Wallen-

Table 2A.1. Regional distribution, number and type of major armed conflict, 1998–2007

Region	1998		1999		2000		2001		2002		2003		2004		2005		2006		2007	
	G	T	G	T	G	T	G	T	G	T	G	T	G	T	G	T	G	T	G	T
Africa	9	1	8	1	7	1	7	0	6	0	5	0	3	0	3	0	3	0	1	0
Americas	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	1	0	2	0	2	0	2	0	3	0
Asia	2	5	2	4	2	5	2	5	1	4	1	5	1	2	2	4	2	3	2	4
Europe	0	1	0	2	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1
Middle East	0	1	1	1	1	2	1	2	0	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2
Total	12	8	12	8	10	9	12	8	9	7	8	8	7	5	8	7	8	6	7	7
Total	20		20		19		20		16		16		12		15		14		14	

G = Government and T = Territory, the two types of incompatibility

terrorism' is more tenuous. As Ethiopian troops aiding the Somali Government fought to push the militia of the SICS out of the country, the USA carried out air strikes against al-Qaeda operatives who had sought refuge among the Somali Islamists. Thus, US military action was not directly a part of the Somali conflict.

III. Regional patterns

In 2007 six major armed conflicts were recorded for Asia, making it the region with the highest number of major armed conflicts for the third year running. Three major armed conflicts each were recorded for the Americas and the Middle East. The lowest incidence of major armed conflicts was recorded for Europe and Africa, where only one major armed conflict was recorded for each region in 2007. The regional distributions of major armed conflicts and of conflict locations for the period 1998–2007 are shown in tables 2A.1 and 2A.2, respectively. Figure 2A.1 shows the total number and regional distribution of major armed conflicts in each year of this period.

Thirteen major armed conflicts were recorded for Africa between 1998 and 2007.⁷ While this makes Africa the region with the highest total figure, there was a dramatic decrease in major armed conflicts there over the period. From 1998 until 2000, and again in 2002, Africa had the highest annual totals of major armed conflicts of any region.⁸ However, the number of conflicts recorded for Africa started to fall slightly in 1999. This decline continued steadily until 2004, when only three conflicts were active in the region, and remained at that level until 2006. In 2007 only one major armed conflict in Africa was recorded. Between 1998 and 2007, only one major

steen, P., 'Patterns of major armed conflict, 1990–2001', *SIPRI Yearbook 2002: Armaments, Disarmament and International Security* (Oxford University Press: Oxford, 2002), pp. 67–68. Prior to its renaming on 25 June 2006, the SICS was referred to by several names, including the Supreme Council of Islamic Courts and the Union of Islamic Courts.

⁷ The 13 major armed conflicts recorded in Africa for the period 1998–2007 are Algeria, Angola, Burundi, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Republic of the Congo, Eritrea–Ethiopia, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan and Uganda. When only the name of a country is given, the conflict is over governmental power. The name of the contested territory appears in parenthesis after the country name in the case of conflicts over territory.

⁸ In 2001 and 2004 equally high totals were recorded for Asia.

Table 2A.2. Regional distribution of locations with at least one major armed conflict, 1998–2007

Region	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Africa	10	9	8	7	6	5	3	3	3	1
Americas	1	1	0	2	2	1	2	2	2	3
Asia	7	6	6	6	4	5	2	5	5	5
Europe	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Middle East	1	2	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3
Total	20	20	18	19	15	15	11	14	14	13

armed conflict in Africa was fought between states: Eritrea–Ethiopia. A distinctive characteristic of major armed conflicts in Africa during this period is the large proportion that were internationalized: of the 12 intrastate conflicts, seven were internationalized at some point. All but one of the major armed conflicts recorded in this region were fought over governmental power.

For the Americas three conflicts were recorded in the past decade.⁹ The annual number of major armed conflicts recorded as active for the region ranged from zero (in 2000) to three (in 2007). All three conflicts recorded for the period were intrastate and concerned governmental power.

Ten major armed conflicts were recorded for Asia in 1998–2007.¹⁰ The annual number of conflicts ranged between five and seven, except in 2004, when the number fell to three. In 2003 and again in 2005–2007 the highest annual totals of active major armed conflicts were recorded for Asia.¹¹ Two of the major armed conflicts in Asia were active in all years of the period 1998–2007: India (Kashmir) and the Philippines. Only one of the conflicts recorded for Asia, India–Pakistan, was fought between states. Five intrastate conflicts were fought over territory, while the remaining four concerned governmental power.

Only two of the major armed conflicts recorded between 1998 and 2007 had their location in Europe, making it the region with the lowest total. The intrastate conflict in Yugoslavia over the territory of Kosovo was active in 1998 and 1999. Russia (Chechnya) was active from 1999 and continued until 2007.

In the 10-year period, five major armed conflicts were recorded for the Middle East.¹² In 1998 only one conflict was recorded for the region. Thereafter, the annual totals fluctuated between two and three. The same three conflicts have been active since 2004: the conflict in Iraq, Israel (Palestinian territories) and Turkey (Kurdistan). Turkey (Kurdistan) was active in all years of the period. One conflict recorded for the region was fought between states: Iraq–USA and its allies. The remaining four were fought within states, two over governmental power and two over territory.

⁹ The 3 major armed conflicts in the Americas recorded for the period 1998–2007 are Colombia, Peru and the USA (the conflict between the US Government and al-Qaeda).

¹⁰ The 10 major armed conflicts recorded for Asia in the period 1998–2007 are Afghanistan, Cambodia, India (Kashmir), India–Pakistan, Indonesia (East Timor), Myanmar (Karen State), Nepal, the Philippines, the Philippines (Mindanao) and Sri Lanka ('Tamil Eelam').

¹¹ In 2001 and 2004 equally high totals were recorded for Africa.

¹² The 5 major armed conflicts in the Middle East recorded for the period 1998–2007 are Iran, Iraq, Iraq–USA and its allies, Israel (Palestinian territories) and Turkey (Kurdistan).

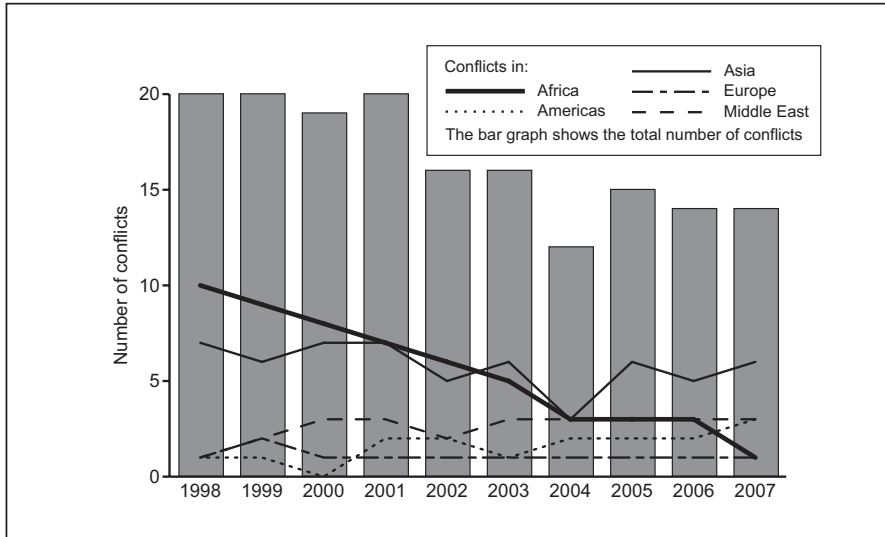


Figure 2A.1. Regional distribution and total number of major armed conflicts, 1998–2007

IV. Changes in the list of major armed conflicts for 2007

Conflicts added to the table in 2007

Three conflicts appear in the table for 2007 that were not registered for 2006: Peru, the Philippines (Mindanao) and Somalia.¹³

Conflict-related violence in Peru escalated in 2007 to a level not recorded since 1999. The Maoist rebel group Sendero Luminoso (Shining Path) launched an armed campaign against the Peruvian Government in 1980 that continued throughout the 1980s. The group's leader, Abimael Guzmán, was captured in 1992. This major setback, compounded by internal divisions, weakened Sendero Luminoso and conflict activity subsequently declined. While some attacks were carried out between 2000 and 2006, the violence did not reach the threshold for inclusion in the list of major armed conflicts. In 2007 the same pattern of irregular ambushes and attacks continued, but their frequency increased somewhat, pushing the toll of battle-related deaths over 25.

The conflict between the Philippine Government and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) separatist group escalated in 2007 and once again passed the threshold of 25 battle-related deaths. Fighting between these parties was first registered as a major armed conflict in 2000. Intermittent fighting has continued since then, although there was a brief de-escalation in 2006. During most of 2007 MILF members

¹³ Peru and Philippines (Mindanao) both appeared in the table published in *SIPRI Yearbook 2007*, but they are no longer in the UCDP data set for 2006 due to the new coding rule. All comparisons in this section relate to the current UCDP list (note 5) not the tables published in previous editions of the SIPRI Yearbook.

appeared frustrated by the continual stalling of negotiations. However, in mid-November exploratory talks took place and were deemed successful by both parties.¹⁴

A major armed conflict was last recorded for Somalia in 1996. After some chaotic years when no central government could be identified, a transitional government was established in 2001, only to collapse two years later. A new transitional government was established in December 2004. This government soon suffered infighting and faced an expanding network of local Islamic courts in Mogadishu that refused to recognize its authority. From 2006, the SICS took over large swathes of land in the south of the country. Government forces, together with Ethiopian troops, launched an offensive against the SICS in late 2006 that resulted in hundreds of deaths.¹⁵ By early 2007 the Ethiopian troops had seized control of Mogadishu and attempted to push the SICS forces out of the country. Fighting persisted in southern Somalia and by April violence had returned to Mogadishu, as the SICS launched long-distance mortar attacks on Ethiopian targets. Civilians bore the brunt of the violence. In 2007 the fighting in Somalia was of an intensity not recorded in many years.

Conflicts removed from the table in 2007

Three conflicts were removed from the list of major armed conflicts in 2007: Burundi, Sudan and Uganda.

In Burundi the last active rebel group, Parti pour la libération du peuple Hutu–Forces nationales de libération (Palipehutu–FNL, Party for the Liberation of the Hutu People–National Liberation Forces) signed a ceasefire accord in September 2006. The agreement was largely respected in 2007 and the conflict was subsequently inactive for the first time since 2001. However, neither the country nor the peace process was stable during the year. In July senior rebel figures quit the truce-monitoring team and throughout the rest of the year there were fears that war would return. While this did not happen, violence did break out between rival factions of the Palipehutu–FNL, causing many civilians to flee.

In the Darfur region of Sudan the situation continued to be chaotic in 2007. However, there was an overall decline in organized violence, especially in fighting between rebels and government forces. Thus, for the first time since this conflict erupted, fighting between the government and the Sudan Liberation Movement/Army (SLM/A) did not reach the threshold required for inclusion in the table of major armed conflicts. The decline in fighting can be attributed to two factors. First, the rebels were weakened as a result of splits within the movement. Second, infighting in the Janjaweed militia, which had been extensively used by the government against the SLM/A, reduced its capacity to fight.¹⁶

In 2007 the conflict between the Government of Uganda and the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) rebel group was inactive for the first time since 1994. Negotiations between the two parties were initiated in southern Sudan in mid-2006 and a ceasefire

¹⁴ Xinhua, 'Philippine gov't, rebel group to hold formal talks early 2008', *People's Daily*, 16 Nov. 2007.

¹⁵ On the situation in Somalia see Lindberg, S. and Melvin, N. J., 'Major armed conflicts', *SIPRI Yearbook 2007: Armaments, Disarmament and International Security* (Oxford University Press: Oxford, 2007), pp. 72–78.

¹⁶ While the violence between government, pro-government and rebel forces declined in 2007, fighting between non-state groups in Darfur increased as various Arab groups competed for large areas of land abandoned by populations displaced by the main conflict. See chapter 2, section IV.

was signed in August of that year. Even though the talks have been slow and marred by frequent walkouts, the ceasefire was largely respected in 2007 and most observers agreed that this offered the best chance for peace in Uganda in many years.

Changes in intensity of conflict

Four of the 14 major armed conflicts that were active in 2007 increased in intensity compared to 2006: Sri Lanka ('Tamil Eelam'), Afghanistan, Myanmar (Karen State) and Turkey (Kurdistan). In the latter three, battle-related deaths increased by more than 50 per cent.

In Afghanistan 2007 was the most violent year so far in the conflict between the Taliban rebels and the government in Kabul, supported by troops from the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF). The intensification was partly due to the Taliban's effort to establish stable footholds in the country. Another factor was the more aggressive and offensive tactics employed by ISAF and US-led forces. Afghan President Hamid Karzai invited Taliban leaders to talks several times during the year. However, the rebels refused to negotiate until the foreign troops had left the country.

In eastern Myanmar (Burma) the conflict between the government and the Karen National Union (KNU) rebel group escalated in 2007. This was the result of a government offensive into Karen areas, launched in 2006, which brought about the most violent fighting there in a decade.

In Turkey the protracted conflict between the government and the Partiya Karkerên Kurdistan (PKK, Kurdistan Workers' Party) escalated markedly after a period of relative calm in 2006. PKK leader Abdullah Öcalan called for negotiations in 2007, but the Turkish Government stated that it would not negotiate with terrorists. On the military front, fighting continued unabated throughout the year, mainly in the PKK strongholds of south-eastern Turkey. In October, the Turkish Parliament authorized an attack on the PKK headquarters in northern Iraq and Turkish forces carried out several cross-border air strikes.

Six major armed conflicts decreased in intensity between 2006 and 2007: Colombia, India (Kashmir), Israel (Palestinian Territories), Russia (Chechnya), the Philippines and the USA—the Philippines by more than 50 per cent. Philippine President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo vowed in early 2007 to crush the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) militarily, but this hard-line strategy apparently failed to achieve its end and between July and September Macapagal-Arroyo made at least three overtures to the rebels in an attempt to draw them back to the negotiating table. The rebels responded that they would not negotiate until they had been removed from the USA's list of foreign terrorist organizations.

Only one major armed conflict did not change in intensity between 2006 and 2007: that between the Government of Iraq and the numerous Iraqi insurgency groups. While the overall level of violence was the same as in 2006, marked changes in intensity could be discerned during the year. There was a dramatic increase in violence in the first half of 2007 compared to 2006, but the rest of 2007 was much calmer.¹⁷ There were also changes in the geographical pattern of the fighting, with the violence spreading in 2007 to northern Iraq, an area that had been relatively unaffected by the conflict. Meanwhile, the situation in the Iraqi capital, Baghdad, improved.

¹⁷ On developments in Iraq in 2007 see chapter 2, section III.

In four of the major armed conflicts active in 2007 there were more than 1000 battle-related deaths: Afghanistan (over 5800), Iraq (over 5700), Sri Lanka (*c.* 2500) and Somalia (almost 1400).

V. Patterns in non-state conflict, 2002–2006

The recent general decline registered in the number of major armed conflicts has been paralleled in non-state conflicts. In 2002, the first year covered by the UCDP data on this phenomenon, 32 non-state conflicts were active around the world. After climbing to 35 in 2003, the number dropped to 23 in 2004 and 2005 and then to 21 in 2006. However, although the overall trend in the numbers of non-state conflicts is downward, there is considerable fluctuation.

The great majority of the non-state conflicts in the period were in Africa. The region accounted for over 80 per cent of the non-state conflicts recorded in 2002 and 2003, falling to 66 per cent in 2006. Furthermore, the non-state conflicts were concentrated in a handful of countries. The countries with the most non-state conflicts during the period 2002–2006 were Somalia (24), Nigeria (15), Ethiopia (14) and Sudan (11).

The region with the second highest number of non-state conflicts was Asia, accounting for between 8 per cent of all non-state conflicts recorded (in 2003 and 2004) and 23 per cent (in 2006). The Americas accounted for between 3 per cent (in 2002) and 13 per cent (in 2004 and 2005) of recorded non-state conflicts between 2002 and 2005. No non-state conflict was registered for the Americas in 2006. The rest of the non-state conflicts took place in the Middle East, which accounted for between 0 and 9.5 per cent of the world totals annually. No non-state conflict was registered for Europe in the period 2002–2006.

From the first five years' data it is possible to identify some characteristics that seem to be prevalent among non-state conflicts.¹⁸ One characteristic is that they are significantly less deadly than state-based conflicts. While the average death toll of state-based conflicts in 2005 was 388,¹⁹ the corresponding figure for non-state conflicts was 82.²⁰ Another characteristic is that non-state conflicts tend to be relatively brief, lasting only one or two years. No non-state conflict was registered as being active throughout the period 2002–2006. The non-state conflicts of the longest duration, both recorded for four consecutive years, were those between the Colombian rebel group Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias Colombianas (FARC, the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia) and the militia Autodefensas Unidas de Colombia (AUC, United Self-Defense Forces of Colombia) and between the Ivorian Dioulas and Krou ethnic groups. The short duration of most non-state conflicts may be, in large part, due to the parties having smaller resources. State-based armed conflicts, in contrast, involve the resources of at least one government, making them potentially longer, more deadly and more costly.

¹⁸ For a more detailed overview of non-state conflicts see Kreutz, J., 'Conflicts without borders? A brief overview of non-state conflicts', ed. L. Harbom, *States in Armed Conflict 2006*, Research Report no. 79 (Uppsala University, Department of Peace and Conflict Research: Uppsala, 2007), pp. 155–67.

¹⁹ This average includes both major and minor armed conflicts. See note 3.

²⁰ Human Security Centre, *Human Security Brief 2006* (University of British Columbia, Liu Institute for Global Issues, Human Security Centre: Vancouver, 2006), p. 9

Table 2A.3. Major armed conflicts, 2007

Location	Incompatibility ^d	Year formed/year stated/ year joined/year entered ^b	Warring parties ^c	Total deaths (including 2007) ^d	Deaths in 2007 ^e	Change from 2006/ ^f
Africa						
Somalia	Government	1981/2006/2006/2007	Government of Somalia, Ethiopia vs Supreme Islamic Council of Somalia (SICS)	..	<1 400	n.a.
Americas						
Colombia	Government	1964/1966/1966/..	Government of Colombia vs FARC	>45 100*	>300	–
FARC: Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia (Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia)						
* This figure includes deaths involving parties other than FARC in the fighting since 1964, although the vast majority of the deaths can be attributed to FARC and, to a lesser extent, the Ejército de Liberación Nacional de Colombia (ELN, National Liberation Army of Colombia).						
Peru	Government	1980/1980/1980/1981	Government of Peru vs Sendero Luminoso (Shining Path)	>28 000	25–100	n.a.
USA*	Government	2001/2001/2001/2001	Government of USA, Multinational coalition** vs al-Qaeda	<3 100	<200	–

* 'Location' refers to the government of the state that is being challenged by an opposition organization. Thus, location refers to the incompatibility and is not necessarily the geographical location of the fighting. For background and the origins of this intrastate conflict see *SIPRI Yearbook 2002*, pp. 67–68.

** In 2007 the US-led multinational coalition included troops from Afghanistan, Australia, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Pakistan, Poland, Romania, Saudi Arabia and the UK. Note that reliable information on states contributing troops is sensitive and hard to find, so this list should be seen as preliminary.

Asia	
Afghanistan	Government 1990/1994/1994/2005 Government of Afghanistan, ISAF* vs Taliban >5 800 .. ++
* The following countries contributed troops to the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in 2007: Albania, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia (Former Yugoslav Republic of), the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, the UK and the USA. While all these countries contributed troops to ISAF, some did not have a mandate to fight. All the countries are listed here because information on the mandates of individual states' troops is often sensitive and hard to find.	
India	Territory (Kashmir) 1977/1977/1989/1990 Government of India vs Kashmiri insurgents >29 300 >500 -
Myanmar	Territory (Karen State) 1948/1948/1948/1949 Government of Myanmar vs Karen National Union (KNU) >20 100 >100 ++
Philippines	Government 1946/1968/1969/1982 Government of the Philippines vs Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) Territory (Mindanao) 1968/1981/1986/2000 Government of the Philippines vs Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) 20 000–27 000 >38 600 25–100 n.a. --
Sri Lanka	Territory (‘Tamil Eelam’) 1976/1976/1975/1989 Government of Sri Lanka vs Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) >64 400 <2 500 +
Europe	
Russia	Territory (Chechnya*) 1991/1991/1991/1995 Government of Russia vs Chechen insurgents 40 000–70 000 <200 -
* Most of the violence in 2007 took place in the neighbouring Russian republics of Dagestan and Ingushetia.	

Location	Incompatibility ^a	Year formed/year stated/ year joined/year entered ^b	Warring parties ^c	Total deaths (including 2007) ^d	Deaths in 2007 ^e	Change from 2006 ^f
Middle East						
Iraq	Government	2003/2003/2003/2004	Government of Iraq, Multinational coalition* vs Iraqi insurgents**	>24 300	>5 700	0
* The US-led multinational coalition in Iraq included combat troops from Albania, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia (Former Yugoslav Republic of), Moldova, Mongolia, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, South Korea, the UK and the USA.						
** These included e.g. the ISI (Islamic State of Iraq, Dawlat al-'Iraq al-Islamiyya)—the successor to al-Qaeda in Iraq (AQI)—the Reformation and Jihad Front (RJF), Ansar al-Islam) and the Mahdi Army (Jaish al-Mahdi). The ISI was previously called Tanzim Qa'idat al-Jihad fi Bilad al-Rafidayn (Organization of Jihad's Base in the Country of the Two Rivers), the RJF was previously called al-Jaysh al-Islami fi Iraq (Islamic Army of Iraq) and Ansar al-Islam was previously called Jaish Ansar al-Sunna (Army of Ansar al-Sunna).						
Israel	Territory (Palestinian territories)	1964/1964/1964/..	Government of Israel vs Palestinian organizations*	>15 100	>300	-
* These included Fatah (Movement for the National Liberation of Palestine), Hamas (Islamic Resistance Movement) and Palestinian Islamic Jihad (Jihad).						
Turkey	Territory (Kurdistan)	1974/1974/1984/1992	Government of Turkey vs Partiya Karkerên Kurdistan (PKK)*	<31 000	>400	++

* The Partiya Karkerên Kurdistan (PKK, Kurdistan Workers' Party) has changed names several times in recent years: in 2002 to the Kurdish Freedom and Democracy Congress (KADEK), in Nov. 2003 to the Conference of the People's Congress of Kurdistan (Kongra-Gel) and in Apr. 2005 back to its previous name, PKK.

Notes: Although some countries are also the location of minor armed conflicts, the table lists only the major armed conflicts in those countries. For the definitions, methods and sources used see appendix 2B.

The conflicts in table 2A.3 are listed by location, in alphabetical order, within 5 geographical regions: Africa—excluding Egypt; the Americas—including North, Central and South America and the Caribbean; Asia—including Oceania, Australia and New Zealand; Europe—including the Caucasus; and the Middle East—Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Syria, Turkey and the states of the Arabian peninsula.

^aThe stated general incompatible positions—'Government' and 'Territory'—refer to contested incompatibilities concerning *governmental power* (type of political system or a change of central government or its composition) and *territory* (control of territory, secession or autonomy), respectively. A location may have incompatibilities over several different territories, but only 1 incompatibility over government.

^b'Year formed' is the year in which a warring party first stated the incompatibility. In conflicts where several parties have fought over the same incompatibility, the year that the incompatibility was first stated is given, even if the party that stated it is no longer active in the conflict. 'Year stated' is the first year in which 1 of the currently active opposition parties (see note c) stated its incompatibility. 'Year joined' is the first year in which armed force was used in the conflict by at least 1 of the active opposition parties. 'Year entered' is the first year in which fighting between the government and 1 or more of the active opposition parties led to 1000 or more battle-related deaths in a single calendar year and was therefore classified as a major armed conflict. Thus, 'year formed' refers to the start of the armed conflict itself, while the other 3 years listed in the table ('year stated', 'year joined' and 'year entered') refer to the involvement of at least 1 active opposition party.

^cThe government party and its allies are listed first, followed by the opposition parties, which may be organizations or other states. Opposition parties are only listed in the table if fighting between them and the government over the declared incompatibility has passed the threshold of 1000 battle-related deaths in a calendar year. An opposition organization is any non-governmental group that has publicly announced a name for itself as well as its political goals and has used armed force to achieve its goals. Only those parties and alliances that were active during 2007 are listed in this column. A comma between 2 warring parties indicates an alliance. In cases where 2 governments have both stated incompatible positions, e.g. over a shared border, they are listed in alphabetical order.

^dThe figures for total battle-related deaths refer to those deaths caused by the warring parties since the start of the conflict that can be directly connected to the incompatibility. This figure thus relates to the 'Year formed' variable. In the case of intrastate conflicts, it should be noted that the figures include only battle-related deaths that can be attributed to fighting between the government and opposition parties that have at some point been listed in the table. Information that covers a calendar year is necessarily more tentative for the last months of the year. Experience has also shown that the reliability of figures improves over time; they are therefore revised each year.

^eNumbers over 100 are, as far as possible, rounded to the nearest hundred. Thus, figures ranging between 101 and 150 are presented as >100, while figures ranging between 151 and 199 are presented as <200. Figures between 25 and 100 are presented as 25–100.

^fThe 'Change from 2006' is measured as the increase or decrease in the number of battle-related deaths in 2007 compared with the number of battle-related deaths in 2006. Although the symbols are based on data that cannot be considered totally reliable, they represent the following changes:

- ++ increase in battle deaths of >50%
- + increase in battle deaths of >10–50%
- 0 stable rate of battle deaths (\pm 10%)
- decrease in battle deaths of >10–50%
- decrease in battle deaths of >50%

n.a. not applicable, since the major armed conflict is not recorded for 2006.