CONFLICT AND VIOLENCE IN THE 21ST CENTURY
CURRENT TRENDS AS OBSERVED IN EMPIRICAL RESEARCH AND STATISTICS

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In the 21st century, conflicts have increased sharply since 2010.

Global trends in armed conflict, 1946-2014

Source: Center for Systemic Peace 2014

Source: Uppsala Conflict Database and Global Terrorism Database

• In 2015 the number of ongoing conflicts increased to 50 compared to 41 in 2014 (Institute of Economics and Peace)
Battle deaths are now largely concentrated in Middle East

World record in forced displacement since WWII

By end-2014, 59.5 million people were forcibly displaced
- 19.5 million refugees
- 38 million IDPs
Conflicts are increasingly affecting civilians

Source: Center for Systemic Peace 2014
Interpersonal violence and gang violence kill much more people than political violence

- Interpersonal violence exacts a high human cost

Half a million people are killed by interpersonal violence each year;

That’s 1300 people a day

And nine times the number of lives lost in open warfare

Interpersonal violence and political violence tend to be increasingly interrelated, particularly where institutions are weak and social norms have become tolerant of violence.

Source: Center for Systemic Peace 2014
Interpersonal violence seems to be declining but remains very high in some regions.

Source: UNODC Global Study on Homicide

Source: Global status report on violence prevention 2014

Source: UNODC Global Study on Homicide
Gender based violence remains very high, with negative consequences for both societies and economies.

- 1 in 3 women in the world have experienced physical or sexual violence—mostly by an intimate partner (World Health Organization).

- 2 in 3 victims of intimate partner/family related homicide are women (United Nations Statistics Division, The World’s Women 2015).

- It is estimated that close to 90% of current war casualties are civilians, the majority of whom are women and children, compared to a century ago when 90% of those who lost their lives were military personnel.

- Contextual factors, such as humanitarian crises, including conflict and post-conflict situations, may increase women’s vulnerability to violence (UN Women).
Violence and conflict do not affect all regions the same way

Battle deaths over 300 from 2010-2014
Source: UCDP data

Homicide rate over 11 (per 100,000 people)
Source: UNODC 2014
Conflicts and violence are persistent and often extremely costly

- Many countries and subnational areas now face cycles of repeated violence, weak governance, and instability. (WDR 2011)

- 90 percent of the last decade’s civil wars occurred in countries that had already had a civil war in the last 30 years. (WDR 2011)

- The aggregate economic and financial cost of conflict in 2014 was estimated to be $14.3 billion, or 13.4% of the global economy (Institute for Economics and Peace)

- More than half of all states affected by ongoing conflicts are also affected by protracted armed conflicts persisting for more than 10 years (Center for Systemic Peace)
Conflict In most cases crosses borders
Democratization and institutional transition can increase conflict.

Global Trends in Governance, 1946-2014

Polity and the Onset of Political Instability, 1955-2006

Source: Center for Systemic Peace 2014
Multiple dimensions of conflict and violence

How various drivers of conflict combined to create and sustain the conditions for civil war in Ivory Coast in the 2000s.

**Key**

- **Drivers of Conflict**
- **Factors Sustaining Conflict**
- **Core Reason for Conflict**

- Inflow of Migrants from the North
- Competition for Power after Death of Founding President
- Minorities Resent Dominance of Baule on Economy and Politics
- Economic Stagnation, Limited Job Creation, Youth Bulge
- Availability of Natural Resources (Coffee, Diamond, Gold)
- Unclear Land Rights, Increased Pressure on Land
- High Level of Regional Disparities; High Level of Horizontal Inequalities
Conflict and violence have multiple dimensions

- Dimensions of conflict charted across all 21st century conflicts resulting in more than 300 battle deaths per country.
- A multiplicity of different drivers can come together to create a major open conflict.

Source: FCV CCSA analysis
GDP per capita is not a strong correlate of conflict

Sources: UCDP/PRIO Armed Conflict Dataset, World Bank WDI database, WB list of Fragile Situations FY16
The poor are increasingly concentrated in countries affected by violence

Prolonged conflict keeps countries poor

- a civil war costs a medium-sized developing country the equivalent of 30 years of GDP growth
- it takes 20 years for trade levels to return to pre-war levels
MESSAGE FROM CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC
NEVER THIS AGAIN !!!

Plus jamais ça !!!