activities, for example. However, if we turn to system sciences and system dynamics then those areas may be able to provide advice and guidance on the construction and use of appropriate sets of indicators.

EUROPEAN COMMISSION CHECK-LIST
FOR ROOT CAUSES OF CONFLICT

The European Commission checklist on the root causes of conflict is outlined below may provide guidance for the production of a set of indicators to be used for assessing overall political and societal stability and the possibility of conflict and disintegration of existing governmental and other structures in countries of interest, for example. The European Commission Check-list identifies the following types of factor:

- The Legitimacy of the state:

    - Are there proper checks and balances in the political system?
    - How inclusive is the political/administrative power?
    - What is the overall level of respect for national authorities?
    - Is corruption widespread?

- The Rule of Law:

    - How strong is the judicial system?
    - Does unlawful state violence exist?
    - Does civilian power control security forces?
    - Does organized crime undermine the country's stabilities?

- The Respect for fundamental rights:

    - Are civilian and political freedom respected?
    - Are religious and culture rights respected?
    - Are other human rights respected?

- Civil society and media:

    - Can civil society operate freely and efficiently?
    - How independent and professional is the media?

- Relations between communities and dispute-solving mechanisms:

    - How good is the relation between identity groups?
    - Does the state arbitrate over tensions and dispute between communities?
    - Are there uncontrolled flows of migrants/refugees?

- Sound economical management:

    - How robust is the economy?
    - How sustainable is the state's environmental policy?