

“Armed Conflicts Today” Technical Report

Motivation:

The purpose of ArmedConflicts.Today is to help inform the public about violent conflicts around the world. There are many wars and conflicts that most people do not know about. This website provides information about the ongoing conflicts, related countries, and relevant news.

User Stories:

- REST endpoint for the news articles by location
- REST endpoint for conflicts in a specific country
- REST endpoint for a list of conflicts that started in a specific year
- REST endpoint for related charities
- REST endpoint for conflicts with a certain amount of casualties

RESTful API:

The Conflict endpoints are as follows:

- GET All Conflicts: <https://api.armedconflicts.today/api/conflicts>
 - Returns all conflicts stored in the database.
- GET Conflict by ID: <https://api.armedconflicts.today/api/conflicts/{conflictId}>
 - Returns a specific conflict by an arbitrarily assigned ID.
- GET Sorted Conflicts by Name: https://api.armedconflicts.today/api/conflicts/?sort_by=-name
 - Sorts the list of conflicts by name.
- GET Sorted Conflicts by Date Started: https://api.armedconflicts.today/api/conflicts/?sort_by=-date
 - Gets a sorted list of conflicts by the starting date.

- GET Conflicts by Country: <https://api.armedconflicts.today/api/conflicts/{country}>
 - Returns the list of conflicts a country is involved in.
- GET Filtered Conflicts by Deaths: [https://api.armedconflicts.today/api/conflicts/?\\$filter=deaths](https://api.armedconflicts.today/api/conflicts/?$filter=deaths)
 - Filters conflict by number of deaths.

The Country endpoints are as follows:

- GET All Countries: <https://api.armedconflicts.today/api/countries>
 - Returns all countries stored in the database.
- GET Country by ID: <https://api.armedconflicts.today/api/countries/{countryId}>
 - Returns a specific country by an arbitrarily assigned ID.
- GET Charities by Country: <https://api.armedconflicts.today/api/countries/{countryId}/charities>
 - Gets the charities associated with a certain country.
- GET Sorted Countries by Name: https://api.armedconflicts.today/api/countries/?sort_by=name
 - Sorts the list of countries by name.

The News endpoints are as follows:

- GET All News Articles: <https://armedconflicts.today/api/news>
 - Returns all news articles stored in the database.
- GET News Articles by ID: <https://armedconflicts.today/api/news/{newsId}>
 - Returns a specific news article by an arbitrarily assigned ID.
- GET Sorted News Articles by Name: https://armedconflicts.today/api/news/?sort_by=name
 - Returns a list of news articles sorted by name.
- GET News Articles by Conflict: <https://armedconflicts.today/api/news/{conflict}>
 - Returns all news articles for a specified conflict.

- GET News Articles by Country: <https://armedconflicts.today/api/news/{country}>
 - Returns all news articles pertaining to a specified country.

Models:

Each conflict contains information related to said conflict. This will be structured in the following format:

- Image URL
- Name
- Description
- Year Started
- Related Countries
- Deaths
- Recent Deaths
- More Info (Wiki link)
- Additional News (List of News IDs (used internally))

Each country contains information related to said country. This will be structured in the following format:

- Name
- Image (URL)
- Region
- Language
- Number of Ongoing Conflicts
- Related Conflicts

- Related Charities
- Google Maps Link
- Related News

Each news article contains information related to said new article. This will be structured in the following format:

- Title
- Image (URL)
- Content (Restricted to x characters)
- Date
- Source
- Author
- Related Conflicts
- Related Countries
- Source Article

Tools - Web Development (HTML5, CSS3, Bootstrap, Ajax, JavaScript):

We are Bootstrap as our CSS framework to create our static website. A few template items were taken from the official documentation and used (such as the slideshow on the home page and the card models). Ajax is used for asynchronous calls to Gitlab to update the number of commits and closed issues for each developer.

Tools - Other (Postman, Git, GitLab, Sublime Text, Slack)

Designing and documenting the RESTful API was done using Postman. Git was used for version control. GitLab was used for our repo as well as for coordinating issues

with both our developers and customers. We also integrated the repo with Slack using the GitLab Slack app to help keep everyone up to date with commits and issues.

Hosting:

Hosting for the website is done through Amazon Web Services Simple Storage Services (S3). We used two buckets, armedconflicts.today which hosts the pages, and www.armedconflicts.today which only redirects. The domain was bought from NameCheap.

We will need to use EC2 and RDS for the next phases, but for the first phase which only requires a static website, using S3 was easy to do and fulfilled our needs.