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STRÖM
FRANK**

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Editorial Toolbox Focus



ENGLISH EDITION

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WORLD CONFLICTS 2009

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Editorial team:

Rikard Frank

Concept developer, art director, news graphics,
cartographer and researcher.

Jacob Nordström

Concept developer and design.

Ingela Rutberg

Research and texts. Journalist, Kristianstadsbladet.

Pär Jansson

Cartographer.

Lars Arvestål

Military Silhouettes (p. 7).

Udo Spongberg

Checking of facts. Researcher, Göteborgs Posten.

Tobias Regnell

Proof-reading. Editor in Chief, football magazine Offside.

Helene Murdoch

Translation.

The World's Conflicts Focus Contents

With the help of journalists, graphic artists and experts, Nordström & Frank has put together this compendium of all the world's conflicts. You'll find country flags, maps and background facts on every conflict – a manual that provides the basis for a long-term look into the future.

The material is designed so that it is easy to read and use, either as a whole or by selected chapters.

Updated January 2009.

Afghanistan	8	Iraq	38	Northern Ireland	68
Angola	12	Israel-Palestine	40	Pakistan	70
Basque Region	14	Kashmir	46	Senegal	72
Central African Republic	18	Kyrgyzstan	50	Sierra Leone	74
Chad	20	Congo-Kinshasa	52	Somalia	76
Chechnya	22	Korea	54	Sri Lanka	78
Colombia	24	Kosovo	56	Sudan	80
Cyprus	26	The Kurds	58	Thailand	82
Eritrea	28	Lebanon	60	Uganda	84
Ethiopia	30	Liberia	62	Uzbekistan	86
Georgia	32	Macedonia	64	Zimbabwe	88
Indonesia & East Timor	36	Burma (Myanmar)	66		

The World's conflicts

– often a question of oil and water

Many of the world's conflicts are rooted in religious and ethnic divisions, but they can also be rooted in the battle for oil and water.

Iraq invaded Kuwait on the suspicion that Kuwait was pumping oil that belonged to Iraq. Kurds are demanding that oil-rich Kirkuk should be part of a future Kurdistan. In Sudan, Burma (Myanmar), Liberia and Indonesia, people are unwilling to share the income from oil – which is creating tensions. In Sudan's case, the government is using oil revenues to buy weapons, while guerillas are trying to sabotage the oil industry.

Even the most important element of life – water – is creating conflict. The Mursi and Bodi tribes in Ethiopia lay claim to highlands that catch the most rainwater. In the Central African Republic, local farmers squabble with nomads about access to water.

- 🔥 Countries/regions arguing over oil
- 💧 Countries/regions arguing over water

COLOMBIA

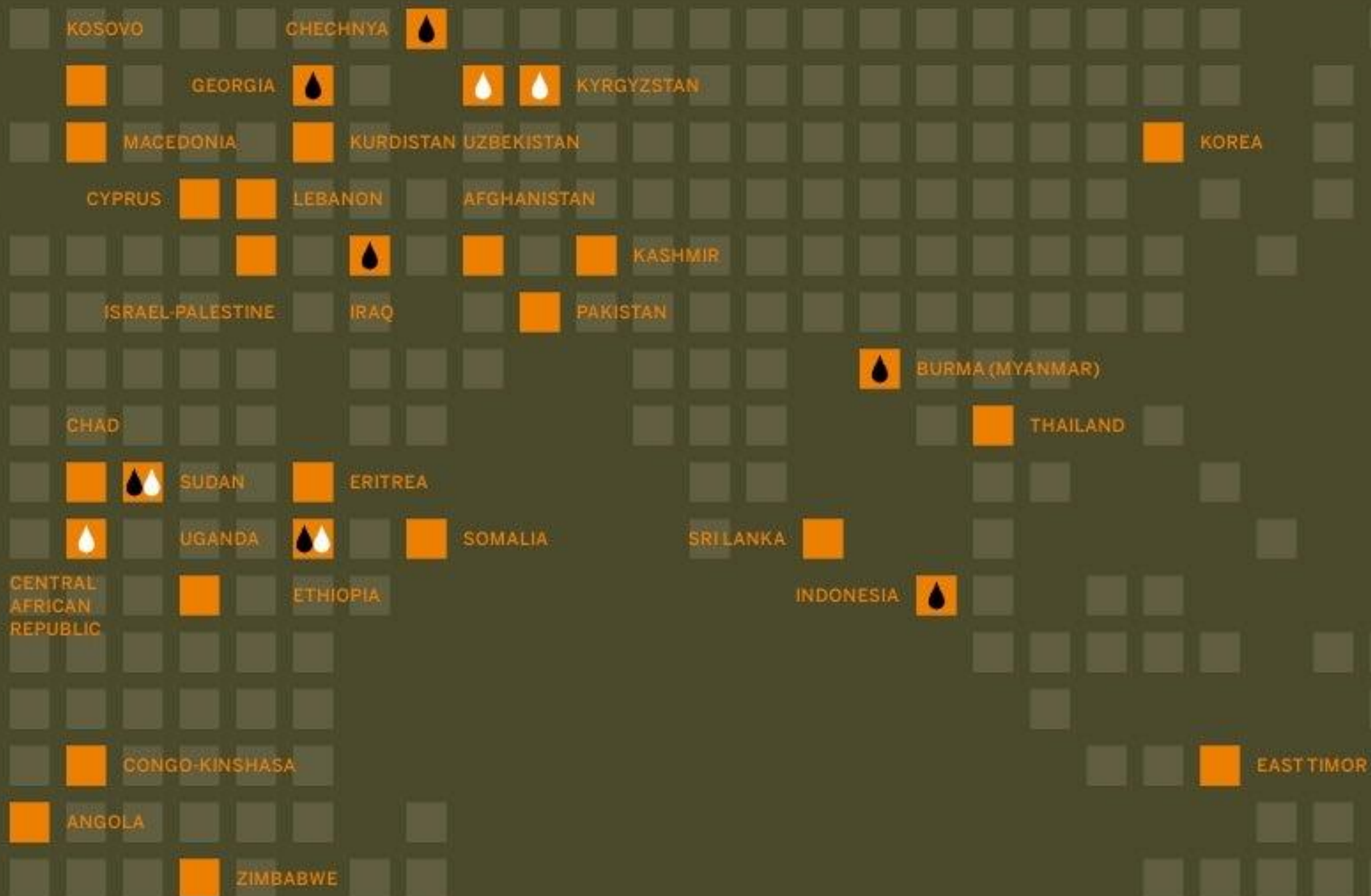
NORTHERN IRELAND

BASQUE REGION

SENEGAL

SIERRA LEONE

LIBERIA

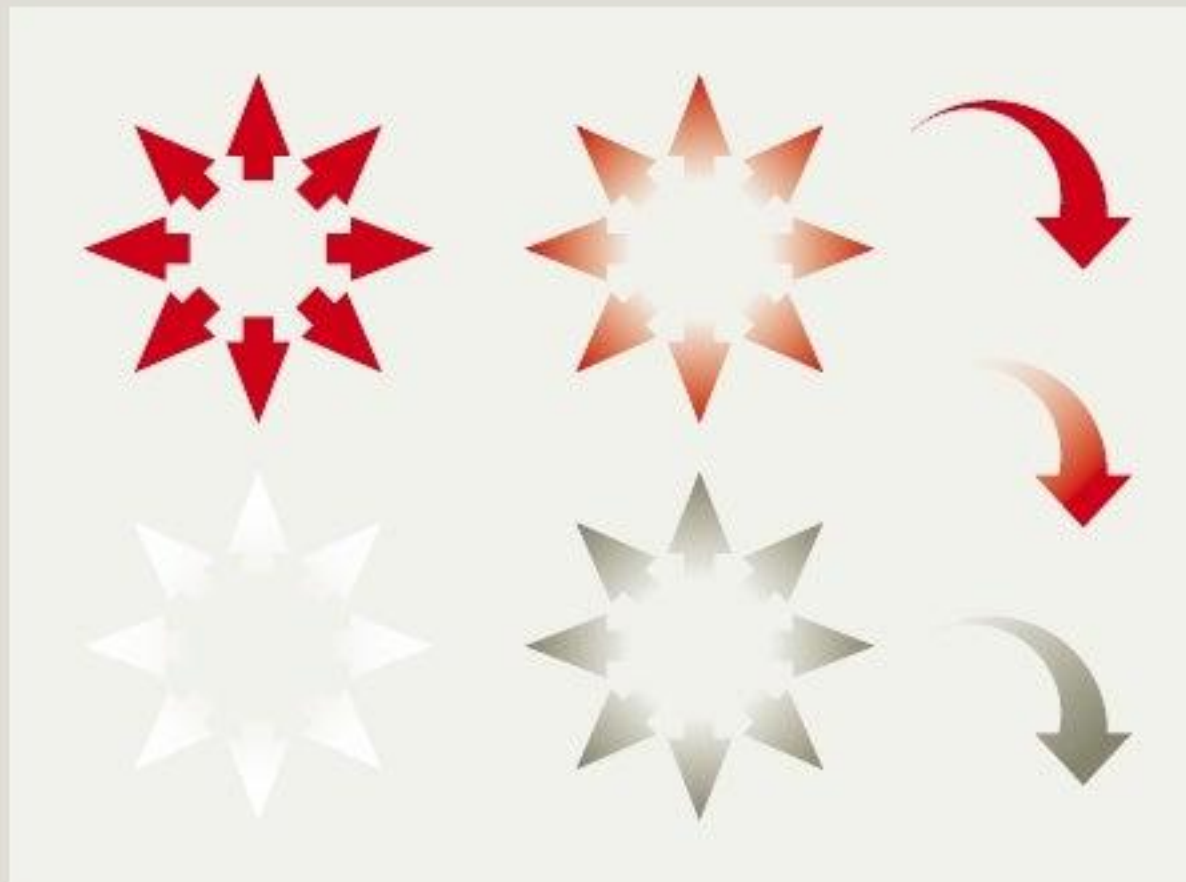


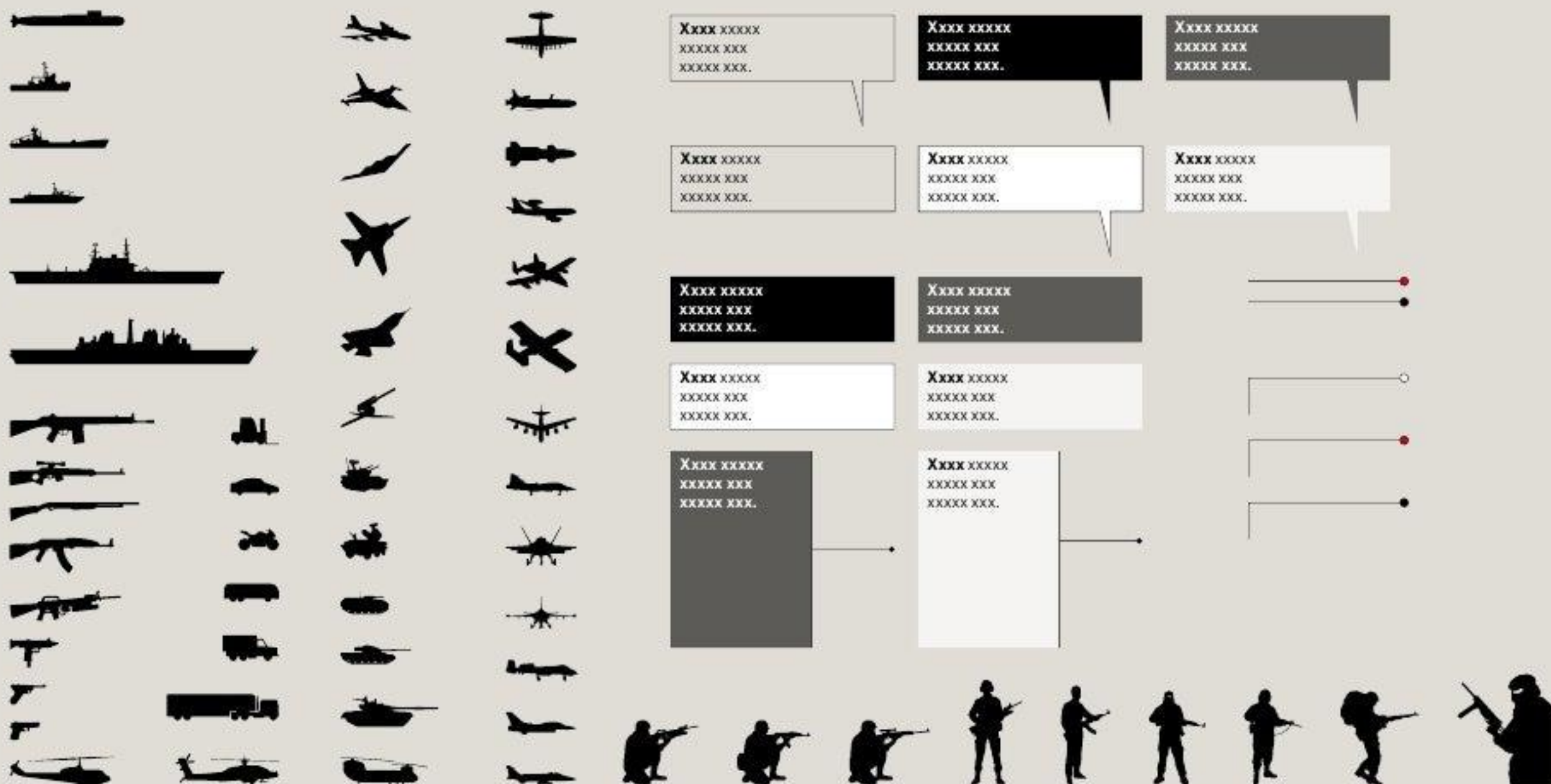
Map symbols

Arrows, points and silhouettes



- 1
 - 2
 - 3
 - 4
 - 5
 - 6
 - 7
 - 8
 - 9
 - 10
- 1
 - 2
 - 3
 - 4
 - 5
 - 6
 - 7
 - 8
 - 9
 - 10





The World's conflicts

Afghanistan



Violence increases in Afghanistan

Despite billions on dollars in humanitarian aid and a huge international security effort, violence is increasing in Afghanistan. In the first seven months of 2008, some 3,800 people died, including 1,500 civilians. Not since the overthrow of the Taliban regime in 2001 have so many died. One reason for this is the return of the Taliban and the strengthening of their position with the help of al-Qaida. Among other things, they have bombarded the national army and international security force with rockets. And the number of suicide bombings has increased from 123 in 2006 to 160 in 2007.



SOURCES: SWEDISH INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, UN, DNI, SWEDISH MILITARY SERVICE AND SÄKERHETSPOLITIK, SE

INFO GRAPHICS: NORDSTRÖM & FRANK

Forces in Afghanistan

Members: 41 countries
Total: 50,700 personnel



ISAF
International
Security
Assistance
Force (FN)



Jordan
Personnel on
site: 0



Singapore
Personnel on
site: 0



**United Arab
Emirates**
Personnel on
site: 0



Austria
Personnel on
site: 1



Georgia
Personnel on
site: 1

The number of personnel on site changes daily. Information from ISAF 2008.



Ukraine
Personnel on
site: 3



Ireland
Personnel on
site: 7



Iceland
Personnel on
site: 8



Luxemburg
Personnel on
site: 9



Azerbaijan
Personnel on
site: 45



Latvia
Personnel on
site: 70



Portugal
Personnel on
site: 70



Slovakia
Personnel on
site: 70



Slovenia
Personnel on
site: 70



Finland
Personnel on
site: 80



Estonia
Personnel on
site: 120



Greece
Personnel on
site: 130



Macedonia
Personnel on
site: 135



Albania
Personnel on
site: 140



New Zealand
Personnel on
site: 155



Lithuania
Personnel on
site: 200



Hungary
Personnel on
site: 240



Croatia
Personnel on
site: 280



Sweden
Personnel on
site: 280



**Czech
Republic**
Personnel on
site: 415



Belgium
Personnel on
site: 420



Norway
Personnel on
site: 455



Bulgaria
Personnel on
site: 460



Romania
Personnel on
site: 725



Denmark
Personnel on
site: 750



Spain
Personnel on
site: 780



Turkey
Personnel on
site: 800



Australia
Personnel on
site: 1 080



Poland
Personnel on
site: 1 130



Netherlands
Personnel on
site: 1 770



Italy
Personnel on
site: 2 350



Canada
Personnel on
site: 2 500



France
Personnel on
site: 2 730



Germany
Personnel on
site: 3 310



**United
Kingdom**
Personnel on
site: 8 330



USA
Personnel on
site: 20 600

Opposition grows

Opposition to the international peacekeeping force is growing among inhabitants following the deaths of civilian Afghans on suspected terrorist strongholds.

A critical problem is the deeply-rooted corruption and drug trade in which even regional leaders are involved.

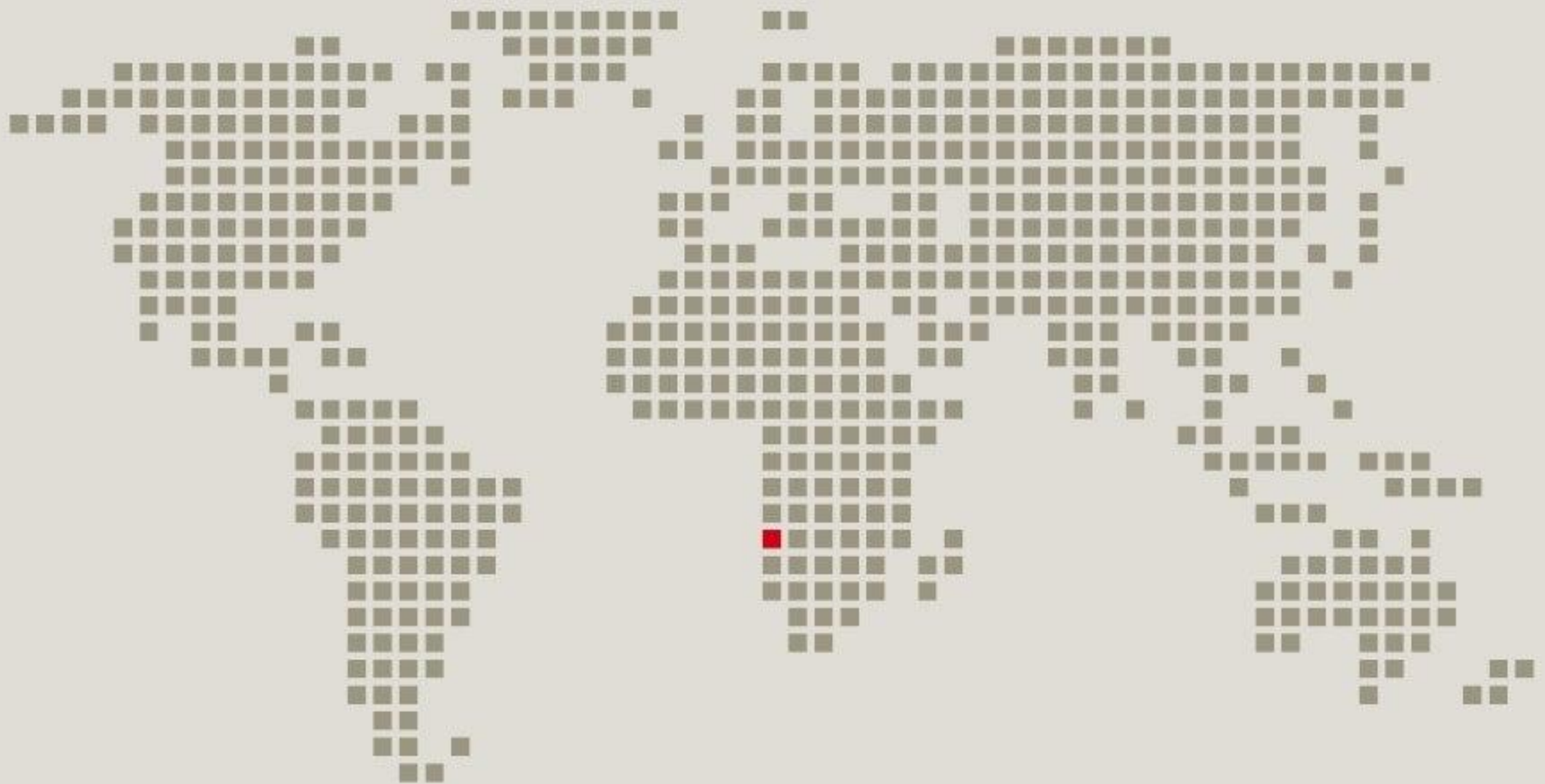
If president Karzai and the international peacekeeping force intervene too strongly, the government will make itself more unpopular.

INFO GRAPHICS:
NORDSTRÖM & FRANK



The World's conflicts

Angola



On the road to democracy

Angola is both one of Africa's largest oil producers, and one of the world's poorest countries. It gained independence from Portugal in 1975. But even before independence, the MPLA and Unita rebel groups were in conflict with each other. After independence, the MPLA occupied the capital and civil war broke out. The communist MPLA was supported by the Soviet Union; Unita by the USA.



1992 A first election is held, but the result goes against Unita. Fighting breaks out.

1994 New peace talks were initiated with the UN overseeing the peace process.

1999 UN peacekeepers leave the country after fighting breaks out.

2002 Civil war ceases when Unita leader Jonas Savimbi is killed.

2006 Angola is a member of OPEC and producing 1.9 million barrels of oil a day.

2008 The first election

since 1992 is held. Opposition parties protest at the governing MPLA party's voting campaign. The election result shows that the MPLA has collected nearly 82 percent of the vote; Unita barely 10 percent. EU monitors endorse the result, but note that there are irregularities at the polling stations: for example, not all people casting their votes are properly registered, and that MPLA has large amounts of coverage in the state-controlled media.

2009 The first presidential vote since 1992 is held.



ANGOLA



MPLA (PARTY)



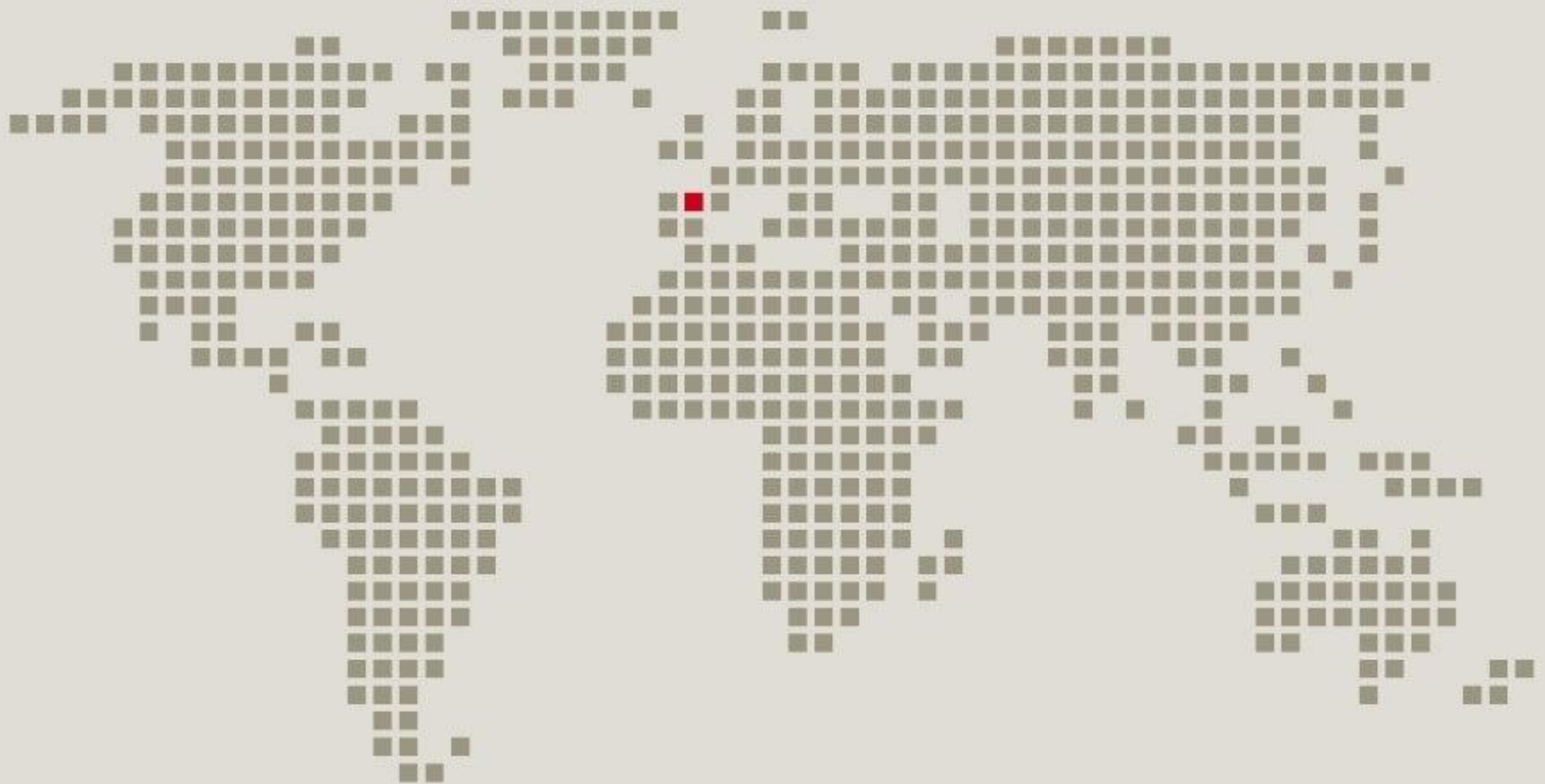
UNITA (PARTY)



INFO GRAPHICS: NORDSTRÖM & FRANK
SOURCES: SWEDISH INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, BBC WORLD, CIA WORLD FACT BOOK, WWW.EUROPA.EU.INT, SÄKERHETSPOLITIK.SE

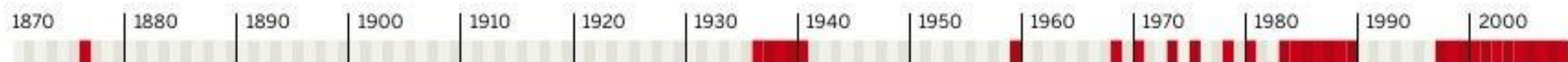
The World's conflicts

The Basque region



The Basque region's bloody history

The struggle for an independent Basque region has been going since the end of the 1800s. And the Basque nationalist party, EAJ/PNV, also wants the Basque region in France to be included. Today, the Spanish region has its own parliament and is autonomous; but French Basques are governed from Paris.



1876 After two Spanish civil wars, the Basques autonomy was annulled.

1936–39 During the Spanish civil war, the Basques who struggled against Franco declared their own independence in Guipúzcoa and Viscaya, where the bombing of Guernica took place in 1937.

1940 With the end of the civil war, many Basques are imprisoned, tortured and killed. It is forbidden to speak Basque, and all areas are given Spanish names.

1959 ETA evolves as a student movement. The name stands for Euskadi Ta Askatsuna – Basque Homeland and Freedom. It starts at first with information and underground teaching, but grows increasingly militant.

1968 ETA carries out its first murder; a member of the Spanish civil guard.

1970 16 militant Basques are tried by military court. Several are sentenced to death, but reprieved. ETA receives widespread support.

1973 The Spanish prime minister is murdered by ETA, which increases their popularity among those who struggle against the dictatorship.

1975 The dictator Franco dies.

1978 Spain becomes a democracy. The region becomes independent. Hundreds of ETA detainees are released from detention, but ETA seeks greater autonomy, and commences new attacks.

1980 ETA's bloodiest year to date, with 92 people killed. The movement is at its strongest, with around 1000 active members. ETA's political wing, Herri Batasuna, wins 16 percent of the vote in Basque regional elections.

1983–87 27 Basques are tried for suspected ETA murders.

1986 Herri Batasuna is allowed as a political party although the party hasn't denounced the violence of ETA.

1988–89 The socialist government tries for high-level talks with ETA.

1997 More than six million people demonstrate over four days against the ETA murder of a Basque politician.

1998 A former interior minister, his colleague and the socialist party's head of security are sentenced to long prison sentences for the suspected murder of ETA members during the 1980s. ETA declares a ceasefire.



SPAIN



FRANCE



BASQUE (REGION)



EAJ/PNV (PARTY)



ETA, Euskadi ta Askatasuna (GROUP)

1999 ETA ends its ceasefire.

2000 In the first post-ceasefire murder, a car bomb kills a high-ranking Spanish officer in Madrid. The motive is that the government will not negotiate over its political demands.

2001 The Spanish government intensifies its hunt for ETA members after the 9/11 terror attack in New York. Some 200 ETA members are arrested after a ceasefire breaks down.

2002 Parties that support terrorism are banned. The party's bank funds are seized by the central court because they refused to pay damages to victims of ETA violence. This sparks fresh outbreaks of violence in the Basque region.

2003 The EU and the USA officially classify ETA as a terrorist organization.

2004 191 people die and over 1000 are injured in a terrorist attack on a train in Madrid. The Spanish government accuses ETA over the attack, but Islamic extremists are behind the attack.

2005 The government is willing to talk with ETA, but the various factions within ETA cannot agree; a car bomb is detonated several days later.

2006 ETA is weakened: leaders are arrested and violence is reduced following the attack in Madrid. ETA is willing to announce a permanent ceasefire and talks begin, but are abandoned following an attack on Madrid airport, in which two people are injured.

2007 Spain's highest court bans 300 candidates from two Basque parties from standing in local elections; ETA cancels its ceasefire. Six people die in attacks between summer 2007 and May 2008. Spain and France announce stronger measures for controlling ETA.

2008 ETA's key political leader, Javier Lopez Pena (known as Thierry), is arrested for his part in the Madrid airport bombing in 2006. In November, ETA's suspected military leader, Garikoitz Aspiazu Rubina (known as Txeroki) is also arrested.

INFO GRAPHICS: NORDSTRÖM & FRANK
SOURCES: SWEDISH INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, BBC WORLD, CIA WORLD FACT BOOK, WWW.EUROPA.EU.INT, SAKERHETSPOLITIK.SE

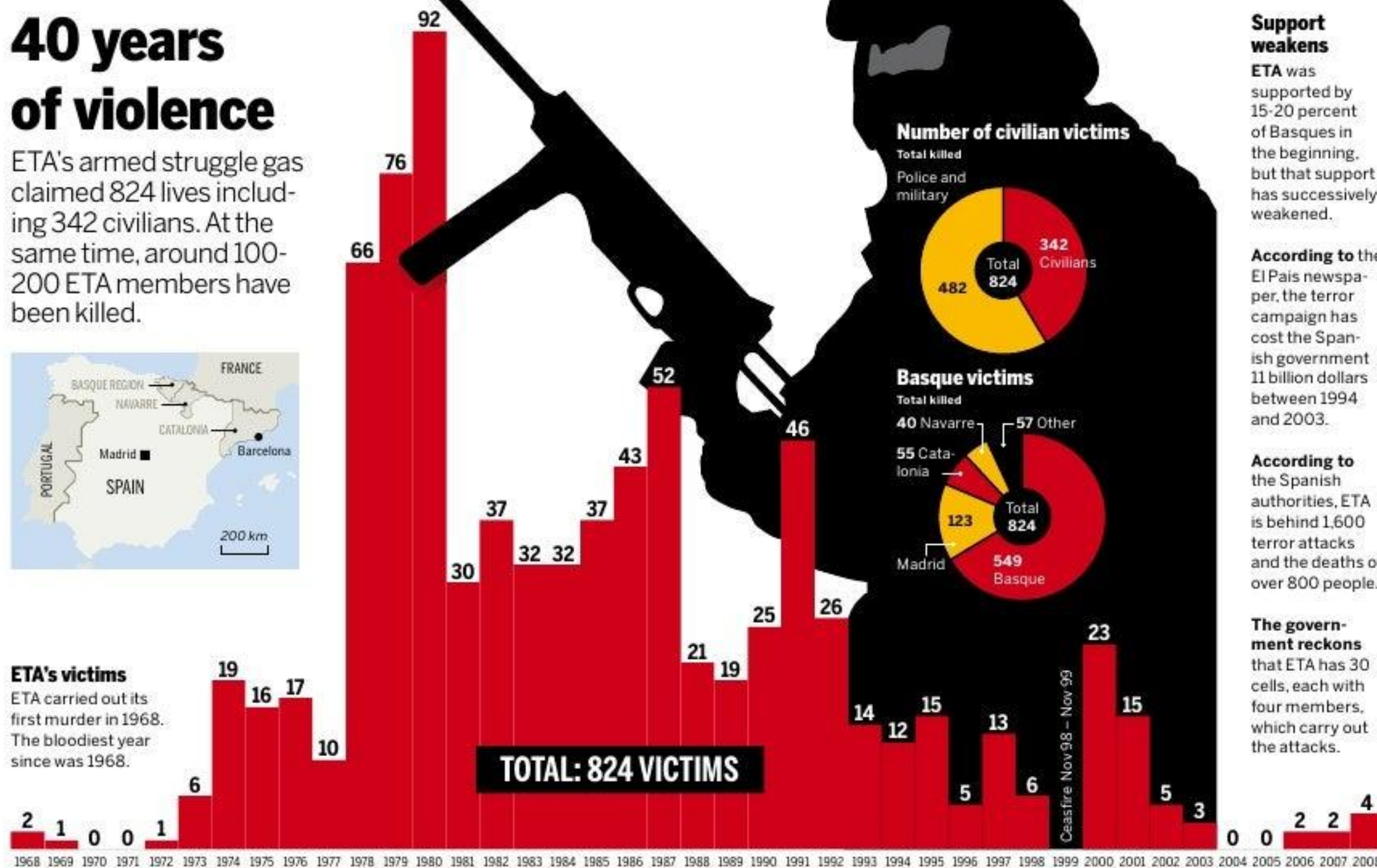
40 years of violence

ETA's armed struggle has claimed 824 lives including 342 civilians. At the same time, around 100-200 ETA members have been killed.



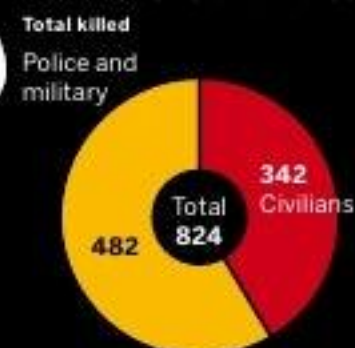
ETA's victims

ETA carried out its first murder in 1968. The bloodiest year since was 1968.



SOURCES: MINISTERIO DE INTERIOR ESPAÑA

Number of civilian victims



Basque victims



Support weakens

ETA was supported by 15-20 percent of Basques in the beginning, but that support has successively weakened.

According to the El Pais newspaper, the terror campaign has cost the Spanish government 11 billion dollars between 1994 and 2003.

According to the Spanish authorities, ETA is behind 1,600 terror attacks and the deaths of over 800 people.

The government reckons that ETA has 30 cells, each with four members, which carry out the attacks.

INFO GRAPHICS: NORDSTRÖM & FRANK

Attacks in '08

7 March

A former advisor to the socialist is shot dead outside his home in Mondragón.

14 May

Bomb in Legutiano. 1 dead and four injured.

19 May

Car bomb in Bilbao. No injuries.

20 July

Bombings in Neguri, Laredo (2) and Noja (2). One in a bank, four at tourist sites. No injuries.

21 September

Car bomb in Ondarroa, injuring at least 11 people. Car bomb in Vitoria.

22 September

Car bomb in Santona.

4 October

Bombing in Tolosa.

30 October

Car bomb in Pamplona. 15 people injured.

3 December

Businessman shot dead in Azpeitia.



Basques in seven provinces

The autonomous Basques can be found in the regions of Viscaya, Guipúzcoa, and Álava, and can also be found in nearby area of Navarre.

In France, there is no recognized Basque region, but Basque people live in the departments of Labourd, Basse-Navarre and Soule.

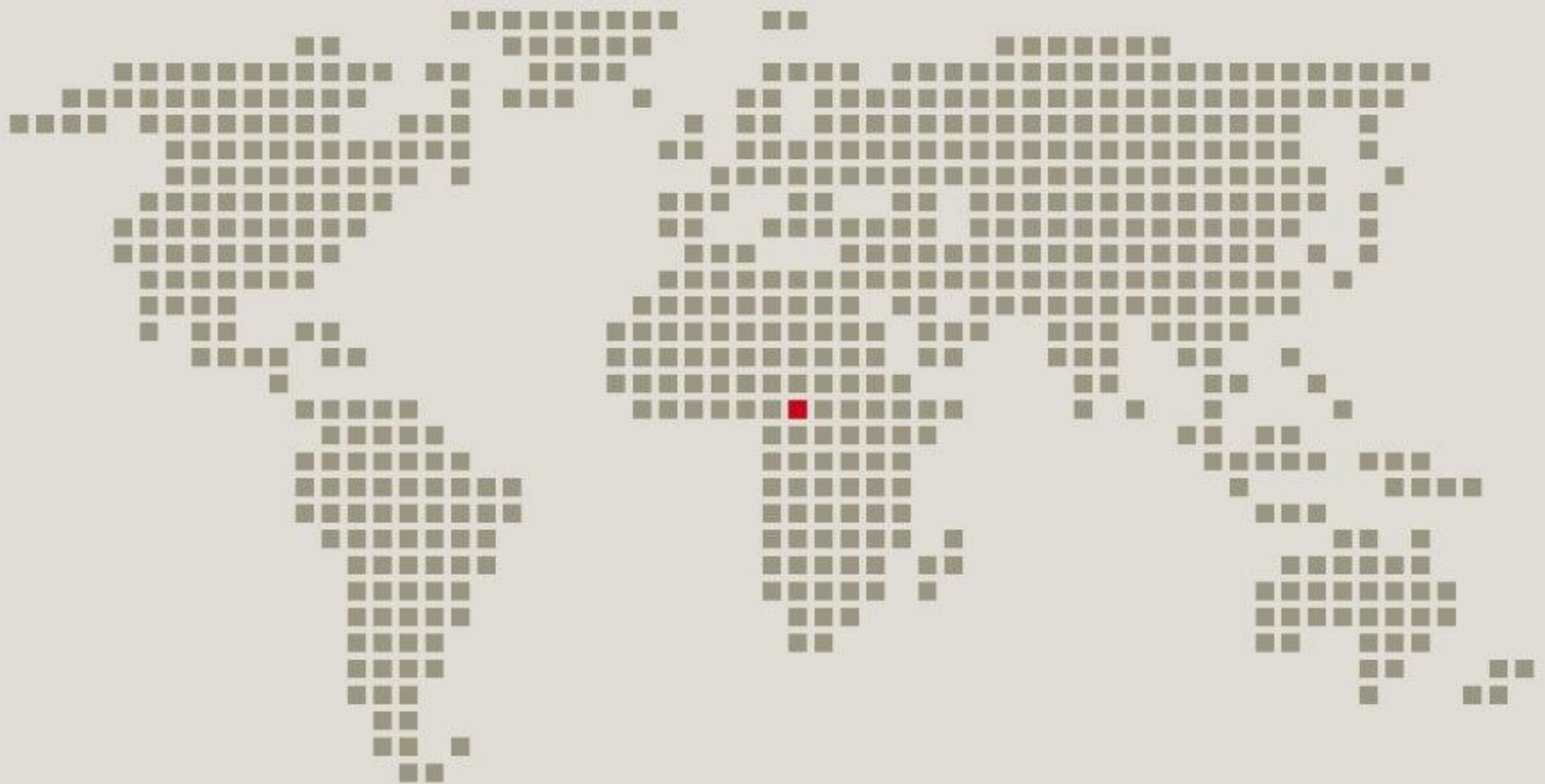
These provinces contain upwards of two million people who claim Basque roots. Many Basques have also emigrated.

INFO GRAPHICS:
NORDSTRÖM & FRANK

SOURCES: SWEDISH INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, BBC WORLD, EU AND COUNCIL OF FOREIGN RELATIONS, USA. WWW.NATIONAL-TERRORALERT.COM

The World's conflicts

Central African Republic



Lawlessness spreads

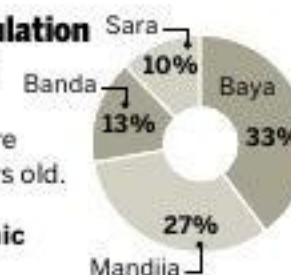
After several quiet years between 2003 and 2005, renewed violence has broken out in one of the world's poorest countries. Ethnic groups are fighting over grazing grounds, byways and water. Outrages are committed both by rebels and the presidential guard.



Young population

Inhabitants:
4.4 million.
40 percent are
under 14 years old.

Largest ethnic groups:



1960 Country gains independence from France.

1962 Country becomes a single-party state.

1965 President David Dacko is overthrown by Corporal Bokassa, who later proclaims himself Emperor.

1979 Fall of Bokassa. Dacko is reinstated as President with help from France.

1981 General André Kolingba takes over after a military coup and begins the slow process of democratizing the country.

1993 Ange-Félix Patassé is chosen as the new president in the first free election. But disturbance break out between riverside dwellers and those who live in the savannah.

2001 A military coup against Patassé is put down. Army chief Francois Bozizé is removed, charged with leading the latest coup.

2003 Francois Bozizé takes power in a new military coup and is elected president in 2005.

2006 Two new rebel groups, the UFDR and the

APRD, are formed. The army and the presidential guard open a new offensive in the north west of the country, supported by France. Civilians suspected of helping the rebels are killed, and thousands of homes are torched. According to the UN, some 220,000 people fled during 2006–2007, and lawlessness spread.

2008 Peacekeeping forces from the EU and the UN arrive to build refugee camps and support peacekeepers in Sudan. Sweden contributed with 120 personnel.



SOURCES: SAKERHETSPOLITIK SE, INTERNATIONAL CRISIS GROUP, INSTITUTE FOR PEACE AND CONFLICT RESEARCH, UPPSALA, CIA WORLD FACT BOOK.

INFO GRAPHICS: NORDSTRÖM & FRANK

The World's conflicts

Chad

