

Tracking the Potential for Political Instability in a Foreign Country								
Topics	Indicators	1999				2000		
		I	II	III	IV	I	II	III
Government Capacity	Quality of leadership/organizational capabilities	●	●	●	■	●	●	●
	Responsiveness to popular demands	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
	Ability to deliver basic goods and services							
	Internal Security Capabilities							
	Effectiveness of civil/criminal justice systems							
Legitimacy of Regime	Breadth and depth of political participation	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
	Perceived level of corruption	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
	Human rights violations	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
	Weakness of civil society							
	Pervasiveness of transnational criminal organizations							
	External support for government							
Opposition Activity	Ethnic/religious discontent	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
	Military discontent with civilian government	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
	Popular demonstrations/strikes/riots							
	Insurgent/separatist/terrorist group activity							
	External support for opposition							
	Threat of conflict with or in neighboring state							
Economic Factors	Weakness of domestic economy/unemployment/inflation							
	Degree of income disparity							
	Capital flight							
	Decreased access to foreign funds							
	Reduced trade openness							
Environmental Issues	Extent of environmental degradation							
	Food/energy shortages							
	Ability to respond to natural disasters							

#### Presence of Trigger Mechanisms ( ► if present)

Contested elections				►		
Unpopular changes in food/energy prices			►			
Sudden imposition of unpopular policies						
Coup plotting				►		
Government mismanagement of natural disaster or national emergency						
Death of key figure						

- Serious concern
- Substantial concern
- Moderate concern
- Low concern
- Negligible concern

**Tracking the Potential for Political Instability in an Indicators Matrix.** Analysts tracked the potential for regime change in 2000 and identified a list of indicators, to which they posed the question, "Is this occurring or not?" Analysts also went further and developed a list of "trigger mechanisms" that might bring about a political shift.