

Crisis Diplomacy

Post-War Peace

April 14, 2015

Recap

- **Security dilemma**
- **Theories of commitment**
- **Role of third parties**

Fortna: "Scraps of Paper?"

Central question: Why does peace sometimes last and sometimes fall apart?

Central answer: How to keep peace:

- 1. Change incentives**
- 2. Reduce uncertainty**
- 3. Manage accidents**

Why We Care

- **Peacemaking policy**
- **Commitment theory**

Theory

The big obstacle—why do ceasefire agreements do *anything*?

Theory: Premises

- 1. State leaders consider costs and benefits when choosing how to act.**
- 2. War is costly.**
- 3. Each state may be tempted to take advantage of the other.**

Changing Incentives

- **Physical constraints**
 - **Troop withdrawals**
 - **Demilitarized zones**
 - **Arms control**
- **Formalization**
- **Third parties**

Reducing Uncertainty

- **Monitoring**
 - **Physical constraints**
- **Signaling**
 - **Formalization**
 - **Third parties**

Controlling Accidents

- **Prevention**
 - **Physical constraints**
- **Management**
 - **Responsibility for internal violations**
 - **Peacekeepers**

Empirical Analysis

- **Unit of analysis: Ceasefire**
- **Dependent variable: Duration of peace**
 - **Peace = absence of war**
- **Independent variables: aforementioned factors**

Potential Confounding Factors

- **How war ended**
- **How costly it was**
- **Stakes of conflict**
- **Belligerents' history and relationship**
- **Belligerents' military capabilities**

Findings

- **"Stronger" agreements → Longer peace**
- **Important factors**
 - **Demilitarized zones**
 - **Third-party guarantees**
 - **Peacekeepers**
- **Unimportant factors**
 - **Arms control**
 - **Mediation**
 - **Responsibility for internal violations**

Questions

- Causes or effects?**
- How to distinguish mechanisms?**
- Where's regime type?**
- Why so little attention to political settlement?**

Image Sources

— **Korean DMZ: Wikimedia Commons user Kilroy-was-here**