

**Council on Foreign Relations – Global Conflict Tracker**

**Americas**

**Asia**

**Europe and Eurasia**

**Middle East and North Africa**

**Sub-Saharan Africa**

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**Americas**

Criminal Violence in Haiti

1. Updated 4 December 2025
2. In response to a surge in gang violence, which led to gang control of 80% of the capital, Port-au-Prince, by 2023, the United Nations Security Council authorized a multinational security force to deploy to Haiti. The first Black-led republic, Haiti has many development challenges, including being the poorest country in the western hemisphere.

Criminal Violence in Mexico

1. Updated 16 December 2025
2. Kidnappings, disappearances, and violence by the state, drugs cartels, and gangs have led to 30,000+ deaths since 2018.

Instability in the Northern Triangle (El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras)

1. Updated 19 September 2025

2. More than 2 million people have been displaced – from poverty, violence, and natural disasters – since 2019, and El Salvador and Honduras launched mass incarceration initiatives to control gang violence.

#### U.S. Confrontation with Venezuela

1. Updated 9 January 2026
2. In Operation Absolute Resolve, the United States removed Venezuelan leader Maduro from power, following months of a military build-up in the Caribbean, concerning narcotics trafficking and a migration crisis. Politicians are considering the geopolitics of the nation's crude oil reserves and possible democratic future.

### **Asia**

#### Civil War in Myanmar

1. Updated 1 October 2025
2. A junta's coup in 2021 has resulted in the military control of 21% of the country, while 42% is controlled by rebel forces largely divided among ethnic groups. The United Nations reported the conflict has displaced 3+ million people and resulted in 75,000+ deaths.

#### Conflict Between India and Pakistan

1. Updated 12 May 2025
2. On 22 April 2025, in Pahalgam, India, an attack in Kashmir by Pakistan-based militant groups led to a response in Operation Sindoor, targeting 9 sites in Pakistan.

#### Confrontation over Taiwan

1. Updated 30 October 2025

2. In 2022, the PRC reiterated its political interest in the reunification of Taiwan with China, whether by diplomatic or military means, while western democracies have supported Taiwanese independence.

#### Instability in Afghanistan

1. Updated 16 December 2025
2. With more than 23 million citizens in need of humanitarian aid, the Afghan government faces crises in “displacement, poverty, and food insecurity.”

#### Instability in Pakistan

1. Updated 26 March 2025
2. The Afghan Taliban aids the TTP militant group in the destabilization of the Pakistan government, and the civilians of Pakistan endure economic and environmental hardship from inflation and flooding.

#### North Korea Crisis

1. Updated 17 October 2024
2. 2022–2023 saw an increase in ballistic missile testing by North Korea, while western nations consider diplomacy and military options like missile defense systems.

#### Territorial Disputes in the South China Sea

1. Updated 17 September 2024
2. Chinese military “assertiveness in the South China Sea has steadily increased,” especially around the Spratly Islands, causing tension with the Philippines.

#### Europe and Eurasia

## War in Ukraine

1. Updated 16 December 2025
2. After 4 years of occupation, Russia controls 20% of Ukraine and continually attacks its cities, while Ukraine attacks the Russian military. More than 50,000 civilian casualties and 10 million displaced people have been reported.

## Middle East and North Africa

### Civil Conflict in Libya

1. Updated 15 July 2024
2. In 2020, a cease-fire ended a 6-year civil war, and since then, rival factions' disputes about elections have led to a dysfunctional government with 1+ million in need of humanitarian assistance.

### Civil War in Sudan

1. Updated 16 December 2025
2. With 400,000+ people killed since 2023 in a civil war, and 4+ million displaced and 30+ million currently in need of humanitarian assistance, the civil war in Sudan is one of the worst disasters in the world.

### Conflict in Syria

1. Updated 19 November 2025
2. After a 2024 conflict that removed then leader al-Assad, the Hayat Tahrir al-Sham (HTS) political faction has led a government amid conflicting sectarian militant coalitions.

### Conflict in Yemen and the Red Sea

1. Updated 12 November 2025

2. Houthi rebel attacks against the “Saudi coalition that backs Yemen’s internationally recognized government” has declined, yet the context is difficult, without a durable peace and with sporadic violence and 20+ million in need of humanitarian aid.

#### Conflict with Hezbollah in Lebanon

1. Updated 1 December 2025
2. The Israel Defense Forces have been in conflict with Hezbollah in Lebanon since 2023, and, in response to attacks against the civilians in the north of Israel, Israel has offensively moved into Lebanon, with approximately 25% “now under Israeli evacuation orders.”

#### Instability in Iraq

1. Updated 13 February 2024
2. With large populations of displaced and in need of humanitarian aid, Iraq also contends with the demobilization of militant groups and the social integration of sectarian groups.

#### Iran’s conflict with Israel and the United States

1. Updated 5 January 2026
2. Operation Midnight Hammer was a major U.S. military strike on three key Iranian nuclear facilities – Fordow, Natanz, and Isfahan – that took place on 22 June 2025 during the Iran-Israel war. A truce has been maintained since late June 2025.

#### Israeli-Palestinian conflict

1. Updated 18 December 2025
2. A peace deal drafted by the United States is being implemented by Israel and Hamas, with the first phase nearly complete, as approximately half of the territory has been

returned to Palestinian control, and the more difficult second phase about to begin: In phase 2, Hamas is to disarm and an International Stabilization Force is to guard a Board of Peace transition government.

#### Violent extremism in the Sahel

1. Updated 4 September 2025
2. Violent extremist organizations in the Sahel, both religious and mercenary, attack governmental forces and civilians, creating a destabilized international context.

### **Sub-Saharan Africa**

#### Conflict in Ethiopia

1. Updated 20 March 2025
2. In 2022, the Pretoria Agreement ended a 2-year war with Eritrea, but an incomplete implementation of the agreement and a dispute among political factions in Ethiopia has complicated the context.

#### Conflict in the Central African Republic

1. Updated 9 July 2024
2. Islamic “Seleka” forces fight against Christian “anti-balaka” militant groups amid a population that is 70% extremely impoverished and of whom 3+ million need humanitarian assistance.

#### Conflict in the Democratic Republic of Congo

1. Updated 16 December 2025
2. In 2025, the M23 rebel group captured eastern DRC from the Congolese military, while 21+ million people in the nation are in need of humanitarian assistance.

### Conflict with Al-Shabaab in Somalia

1. Updated 15 September 2025
2. The al-Shabaab militant group fights against the government of Somalia and an international coalition of the United Nations and African Union – to replace the Somalian government.

### Instability in South Sudan

1. Updated 21 March 2025
2. In 2018, after 5 years of a civil war, political parties in South Sudan agreed to a peace treaty that has been implemented slowly and imperfectly, while a significant humanitarian crisis increases in severity.