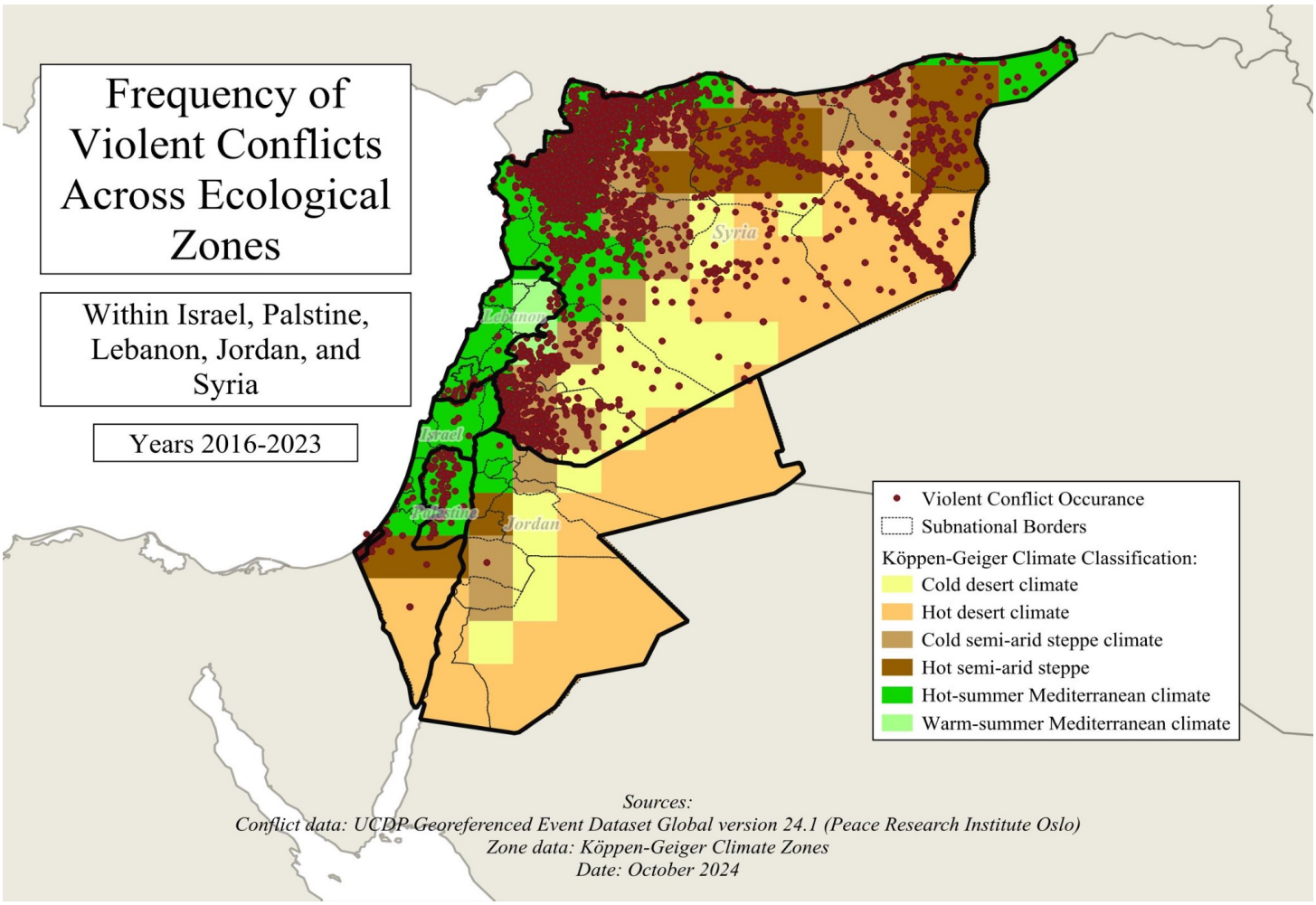

Conflict_Count_Table

KG Zone	Conflict Count
BWk - Arid, Desert, Cold arid	573
BWh - Arid, Desert, Hot arid	4069
BSk - Arid, Steppe, Cold Arid	5169
BSh - Arid, Steppe, Hot Arid	3601
Csa - Warm temperate, Summer dry, Hot summer	11813
Csb - Warm temperate, Summer dry, Warm summer	2782

Steps taken for table calculation

In order to make the table of conflict count by climate zone, various steps were needed. First, the "Count Points in Polygon" tool was accessed via Vector > Analysis Tools > Count Points in Polygon. For "Polygon Layer", the Koppen-Geiger zones layer was selected, and for "Points Layer", the GED conflict events layer was selected. After clicking "Run" to execute the analysis, it was necessary to aggregate the rows by Koppen-Geiger zones. Using the Group Stats plugin, the layer created by the previous steps was selected as the target. Koppen-Geiger zones were chosen for the "Rows" section, and GED conflict events count was chosen for the "Value" section. "Sum" was also added to the "Value" section, in order to ultimately calculate the total number of conflicts per each unique zone.

Summary

In examining the patterns of conflict across climate zones within Israel, Palestine, Lebanon, Jordan, and Syria, it has become clear that conflict is not equally distributed across ecologically distinct regions. Drier, more agriculturally dependent regions, especially those vulnerable to water scarcity and socioeconomic challenges, tend to experience higher conflict risks. Broader findings confirm that climate-related challenges like drought and water scarcity, particularly prevalent in Jordan and Palestine, exacerbate existing vulnerabilities, increasing potential for conflict (Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, 2021) which can ensue as agricultural productivity declines, worsening poverty and discontent and providing the catalyst for such conflicts to arise. When these places are faced with deepening impacts of climate change, the stability of these areas could be further threatened. Another issue as seen in Lebanon, is that economic collapse and poor governance can hinder a nation's capacity to tackle climate-related issues, thus increasing its vulnerability to conflicts tied to resource scarcity (Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, 2021). Overall, interplay between environmental stressors, economic instability, and inadequate governmental action are key variables that fuel conflict within this region, underscoring an urgent need for proactive approaches to address climate resilience and resource management.

Sources

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