

political violence a glance

political violence a glance offers a concise overview of the complex phenomenon that has shaped societies throughout history. Political violence encompasses a range of aggressive acts carried out to achieve political objectives, often resulting in social disruption, loss of life, and long-term instability. This article examines the definitions, causes, forms, and impacts of political violence, providing a clear understanding of its dynamics. It also explores the various factors that contribute to the emergence of political violence and the challenges involved in addressing it. By analyzing both historical and contemporary examples, this overview highlights the importance of recognizing political violence as a critical issue in global affairs. The following sections break down the subject into key components for a comprehensive examination.

- Understanding Political Violence
- Causes and Drivers of Political Violence
- Forms and Manifestations of Political Violence
- Impacts of Political Violence on Societies
- Prevention and Response Strategies

Understanding Political Violence

Political violence refers to acts of aggression or coercion executed to influence or achieve political goals. It encompasses a wide spectrum of violent behaviors, ranging from peaceful protests that escalate into violent confrontations to organized armed conflicts and terrorism. Political violence often arises in contexts where groups seek to challenge authority, resist oppression, or alter power structures. Understanding this concept requires consideration of various dimensions including the actors involved, motivations behind the violence, and the socio-political environment in which it occurs. The term covers both state and non-state violence, highlighting its complexity and multifaceted nature.

Definition and Scope

The definition of political violence extends beyond physical harm to include psychological intimidation, disruption of civil order, and efforts to influence political decision-making through force. It involves actors such as governments, rebel groups, extremists, and sometimes civilians caught in the crossfire. Political violence can be either targeted—such as assassinations or kidnappings—or indiscriminate, affecting broader populations. The scope of political violence is vast, ranging from localized incidents to widespread civil wars and genocides.

Historical Context

Throughout history, political violence has played a pivotal role in shaping nations and ideologies. From revolutions and coups to colonial resistance and civil rights struggles, violence has been used as a tool for political change. Historical examples include the French Revolution, the American Civil War, anti-colonial uprisings, and twentieth-century ideological conflicts. Understanding these events offers insight into the recurring patterns and triggers of political violence over time.

Causes and Drivers of Political Violence

The causes of political violence are multifaceted and often interconnected. They include structural inequalities, political exclusion, economic deprivation, ethnic or religious tensions, and the presence of weak governance. Identifying the drivers behind political violence is essential for comprehending why certain societies experience higher levels of conflict and unrest. These causes can be categorized into immediate triggers and deeper root causes that evolve over extended periods.

Structural and Socioeconomic Factors

Structural inequalities such as poverty, lack of access to education, and discrimination often create fertile ground for political violence. When marginalized groups feel excluded from political processes or economic opportunities, frustration can escalate into violent resistance. Socioeconomic disparities exacerbate grievances, making political violence a means of expressing discontent and demanding change.

Political and Institutional Causes

Authoritarian regimes, corruption, electoral fraud, and repression contribute significantly to political violence. When political institutions fail to provide inclusive representation or maintain law and order, opposition groups may resort to violence. Weak rule of law and ineffective governance create power vacuums that violent actors exploit. Additionally, political transitions and contested elections can trigger outbreaks of violence.

Identity and Ideological Factors

Ethnic, religious, and ideological differences often fuel political violence by intensifying group identities and rivalries. Identity-based conflicts can become deeply entrenched, leading to cycles of retaliation and prolonged violence. Extremist ideologies promote intolerance and dehumanization of opponents, justifying violent actions as necessary for political goals.

Forms and Manifestations of Political Violence

Political violence manifests in various forms, each with distinct characteristics and implications. Recognizing these forms helps in analyzing specific incidents and designing appropriate responses. The types of

political violence include but are not limited to terrorism, civil wars, state repression, political assassinations, and riots.

Terrorism

Terrorism involves the use of violence or threats against civilians to create fear and coerce governments or societies. It is often employed by non-state actors with political, religious, or ideological motives. Terrorism is characterized by its strategic targeting of symbolic locations or populations to maximize psychological impact.

Civil Wars and Armed Insurgencies

Civil wars and insurgencies represent large-scale political violence where organized groups engage in prolonged armed conflict against governments or rival factions. These conflicts typically result in massive casualties, displacement, and destruction, severely affecting state stability and civilian life.

State Repression and Political Oppression

State-sponsored violence includes actions by government forces to suppress dissent, control populations, or maintain power. This may involve torture, extrajudicial killings, disappearances, and mass arrests. Political repression is a form of violence that often goes hand in hand with authoritarianism.

Riots and Political Protests

While protests often begin peacefully, they can escalate into violent riots due to clashes with security forces, provocations, or underlying tensions. Riots are generally spontaneous and less organized but can cause significant damage and loss of life.

Political Assassinations and Targeted Killings

Targeted killings of political figures, activists, or opponents are a form of political violence aimed at destabilizing or intimidating political entities. These acts often have profound effects on political dynamics and can provoke wider conflicts.

Impacts of Political Violence on Societies

The consequences of political violence extend beyond immediate loss of life and property, affecting social cohesion, economic development, and political stability. Understanding these impacts is crucial for policy formulation and conflict resolution efforts.

Human and Social Costs

Political violence results in casualties, displacement, psychological trauma, and the breakdown of community relations. Victims often include civilians, exacerbating humanitarian crises. The social fabric of affected societies frequently suffers long-term damage, with mistrust and polarization persisting well after violence subsides.

Economic Consequences

Violence disrupts economic activities by damaging infrastructure, reducing investment, and diverting resources to security. Prolonged conflicts hinder development, increase poverty, and limit access to education and healthcare. Recovery from political violence requires substantial economic and social rebuilding efforts.

Political and Institutional Effects

Political violence can weaken state institutions, erode legitimacy, and provoke cycles of authoritarianism or further conflict. It may lead to government collapses, shifts in power, or international interventions. In some cases, political violence catalyzes reforms, but the process is often fraught with instability.

Prevention and Response Strategies

Addressing political violence requires comprehensive strategies that combine prevention, mitigation, and resolution efforts. Effective responses involve collaboration between governments, civil society, and international actors to promote peace and security.

Conflict Prevention Measures

Preventing political violence involves addressing root causes such as inequality, exclusion, and poor governance. Early warning systems, inclusive political processes, and community engagement are vital components. Education and dialogue initiatives help reduce polarization and foster understanding among diverse groups.

Security and Law Enforcement Approaches

Maintaining security through law enforcement and military means is often necessary to contain violence. However, these measures must respect human rights and avoid exacerbating grievances. Professional, accountable security forces play a critical role in stabilizing conflict zones.

Peacebuilding and Reconciliation

Post-conflict peacebuilding focuses on rebuilding institutions, promoting justice, and reconciling divided communities. Truth commissions, reparations,

and inclusive governance reforms contribute to sustainable peace. Long-term commitment to these processes is essential for breaking cycles of political violence.

International Role and Cooperation

International organizations and states often assist in conflict resolution, humanitarian aid, and peacekeeping. Multilateral cooperation enhances the capacity to respond to political violence, support dialogue, and enforce legal norms. Global efforts aim to prevent escalation and protect human rights worldwide.

- Political violence encompasses various forms and actors, driven by complex causes.
- Its impacts are profound, affecting human security, economies, and political systems.
- Effective prevention and response require multifaceted, inclusive strategies.
- Understanding political violence is essential for fostering stable and peaceful societies.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is political violence?

Political violence refers to the use of force by individuals or groups to achieve political goals. This can include acts such as terrorism, riots, assassinations, and armed conflict aimed at influencing government policies or power structures.

What are the main causes of political violence?

The main causes of political violence include political oppression, social inequality, ethnic or religious tensions, economic disparities, lack of political representation, and competition for resources or power.

How does political violence impact societies?

Political violence destabilizes societies by causing loss of life, displacement, destruction of infrastructure, economic downturns, and erosion of trust in political institutions. It can also lead to cycles of retaliation and prolonged conflict.

What measures can be taken to prevent political violence?

Preventative measures include promoting inclusive governance, ensuring equal

political representation, addressing social and economic grievances, fostering dialogue and reconciliation, strengthening rule of law, and improving security and intelligence mechanisms.

How is political violence different from other forms of violence?

Political violence specifically aims to achieve political objectives or influence government actions, unlike other forms of violence that may be motivated by personal, economic, or criminal reasons. It is often organized and directed towards systemic change or maintaining power.

Additional Resources

1. On Political Violence by Arno J. Mayer

This book offers a comprehensive historical analysis of political violence, exploring its causes, manifestations, and consequences. Mayer delves into the motivations behind revolutions, riots, and state repression, providing a nuanced understanding of how violence shapes political landscapes. The work combines theoretical insights with historical case studies, making it essential for students of political science and history.

2. Violence: A Micro-sociological Theory by Randall Collins

Collins presents a detailed theory explaining the dynamics of violent encounters on a micro level. He examines how emotions, social interactions, and situational factors contribute to the outbreak of violence. This book is notable for its interdisciplinary approach, blending sociology, psychology, and criminology to shed light on the mechanics of political violence.

3. Political Violence: A New Guide to Actors, Concepts, Data Sets, and Theories by Marie-Joëlle Zahar and Jonathan Wilkenfeld

This book serves as a comprehensive guide to the study of political violence, offering readers an overview of key actors, theoretical frameworks, and empirical data sets. It covers topics such as terrorism, insurgency, and civil wars, providing tools for both scholars and practitioners to analyze violent political conflict. The guide is particularly useful for those seeking to understand the complexity and diversity of political violence.

4. The Logic of Violence in Civil War by Stathis N. Kalyvas

Kalyvas explores the patterns and logic behind violence during civil wars, arguing that violence is often strategic rather than chaotic. He emphasizes the role of local dynamics and the interaction between insurgents, civilians, and state forces. The book provides a rigorous theoretical framework supported by detailed case studies from various conflicts.

5. States and Social Revolutions: A Comparative Analysis of France, Russia, and China by Theda Skocpol

Skocpol analyzes major social revolutions, focusing on the structural conditions and state breakdowns that lead to political violence. Her comparative approach highlights the interplay between social forces, state institutions, and international pressures. The work is foundational for understanding how revolutions emerge and the role of violence in political transformation.

6. Terrorism and Political Violence by Audrey Kurth Cronin and James M. Ludes

This book examines the phenomenon of terrorism as a form of political violence, discussing its causes, strategies, and impacts. The authors provide

a balanced perspective on counterterrorism efforts and the ethical dilemmas involved. It is a valuable resource for policymakers, students, and anyone interested in contemporary security challenges.

7. *Repertoires and Cycles of Political Violence* by Christian Davenport
Davenport investigates the patterns and cycles of political violence, emphasizing how collective action and repression evolve over time. He draws on quantitative data and case studies to illustrate how political violence can escalate or de-escalate under varying conditions. The book contributes to a deeper understanding of the temporal dynamics of violent political conflict.

8. *Political Violence in Latin America: Theories and Cases* edited by Elizabeth J. Zechmeister and Eric L. Olson
This edited volume offers a regional perspective on political violence, focusing on Latin America's unique historical and political contexts. Contributors analyze guerrilla movements, state repression, and transitional justice efforts. The collection is valuable for understanding how political violence manifests in diverse settings and the challenges of post-conflict reconciliation.

9. *The Anatomy of Fascism* by Robert O. Paxton
Paxton explores the rise of fascist movements and regimes, highlighting the role of political violence in their ascent and maintenance of power. The book examines how violence was used both as a tool of coercion and as a means to mobilize supporters. It provides critical insights into the relationship between ideology, violence, and authoritarianism.

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political violence a glance: The Oxford Handbook on Atrocity Crimes Barbora Holá, Hollie Nyseth Nzitaira, Hollie Nyseth Brehm, Maartje Weerdesteijn, 2022 The *Oxford Handbook on Atrocity Crimes* surveys and further develops the evolving field of atrocity crime studies through interdisciplinary research on war crimes, crimes against humanity, and genocide in one comprehensive volume encompassing contributions of leading scholars.

political violence a glance: Research as More Than Extraction Annie Bunting, Allen Kiconco, Joel Quirk, 2023-10-24 This volume offers practical, detailed guidance and case studies on how to avoid exacerbating inequalities while researching gender-based violence and other related issues in Africa. Wartime violence and its aftermath present numerous practical, ethical, and political challenges that are especially acute for researchers working on gender-based and sexual violence. Drawing upon applied examples from across the African continent, this volume features unique contributions from researchers and practitioners with decades of experience developing research partnerships, designing and undertaking fieldwork, asking sensitive questions, negotiating access, collecting and evaluating information, and validating results. These are all endeavors that also raise pressing ethical questions, especially in relation to retraumatization, social stigma, and even payment of participants. Ethical and methodological questions cannot be separated from political and institutional considerations. Systems of privilege and marginalization cannot be wished away, so they need to be both interrogated and contested. This is where precedents and power relations established under colonialism and imperialism take center stage. Europeans have been extracting valuable resources from the African continent for centuries. Research into gender-based violence risks being yet another extractive industry. There are times when committed individuals can make valuable contributions to a more equitable future, but funding streams, knowledge hierarchies, and institutional positions continue to have powerful effects. Accordingly, the contributors to this volume also concentrate upon the layered effects of power and position, relationships between researchers, organizations, and communities, and the political economy of knowledge production; this brings into focus questions about how and why information gets generated, for which kinds of audiences, and for whose benefit.

political violence a glance: Militants, Criminals, and Warlords Vanda Felbab-Brown, Harold Trinkunas, Shadi Hamid, 2017-11-28 Conventional political theory holds that the sovereign state is the legitimate source of order and provider of public services in any society, whether democratic or not. But Hezbollah and ISIS in the Middle East, pirate clans in Africa, criminal gangs in South America, and militias in Southeast Asia are examples of nonstate actors that control local territory and render public services that the nation-state cannot or will not provide. This fascinating book takes the reader around the world to areas where national governance has broken down—or never really existed. In these places, the vacuum has been filled by local gangs, militias, and warlords, some with ideological or political agendas and others focused primarily on economic gain. Many of these actors have substantial popularity and support among local populations and have developed their own enduring institutions, often undermining the legitimacy of the national state. The authors show that the rest of the world has more than a passing interest in these situations, in part because transborder crime and terrorism often emerge but also because failed states threaten international interests from trade to security. This book also poses, and offers answers for, the question: How should the international community respond to local orders dominated by armed nonstate actors? In many cases outsiders have taken the short-term route—accepting unsavory local actors out of expediency—but at the price of long-term instability or damage to human rights and other considerations. From Africa and the Middle East to Asia and Latin America, the local situations highlighted in this book are, and will remain, high on today's international agenda. The book makes a unique contribution to global understanding of how those situations developed and what can be done about them. This title is part of the Geopolitics in the 21st Century series.

political violence a glance: Cascades of Violence John Braithwaite, Bina D'Costa, 2018-02-01 As in the cascading of water, violence and nonviolence can cascade down from commanding heights of power (as in waterfalls), up from powerless peripheries, and can undulate to spread horizontally (flowing from one space to another). As with containing water, conflict cannot be contained without asking crucial questions about which variables might cause it to cascade from the top-down, bottom up and from the middle-out. The book shows how violence cascades from state to state. Empirical research has shown that nations with a neighbor at war are more likely to have a civil war themselves (Sambanis 2001). More importantly in the analysis of this book, war cascades from hot

spot to hot spot within and between states (Autesserre 2010, 2014). The key to understanding cascades of hot spots is in the interaction between local and macro cleavages and alliances (Kalyvas 2006). The analysis exposes the folly of asking single-level policy questions like do the benefits and costs of a regime change in Iraq justify an invasion? We must also ask what other violence might cascade from an invasion of Iraq? The cascades concept is widespread in the physical and biological sciences with cascades in geology, particle physics and the globalization of contagion. The past two decades has seen prominent and powerful applications of the cascades idea to the social sciences (Sunstein 1997; Gladwell 2000; Sikkink 2011). In his discussion of ethnic violence, James Rosenau (1990) stressed that the image of turbulence developed by mathematicians and physicists could provide an important basis for understanding the idea of bifurcation and related ideas of complexity, chaos, and turbulence in complex systems. He classified the bifurcated systems in contemporary world politics as the multicentric system and the statecentric system. Each of these affects the others in multiple ways, at multiple levels, and in ways that make events enormously hard to predict (Rosenau 1990, 2006). He replaced the idea of events with cascades to describe the event structures that 'gather momentum, stall, reverse course, and resume anew as their repercussions spread among whole systems and subsystems' (1990: 299). Through a detailed analysis of case studies in South Asia, that built on John Braithwaite's twenty-five year project Peacebuilding Compared, and coding of conflicts in different parts of the globe, we expand Rosenau's concept of global turbulence and images of cascades. In the cascades of violence in South Asia, we demonstrate how micro-events such as localized riots, land-grabbing, pervasive militarization and attempts to assassinate political leaders are linked to large scale macro-events of global politics. We argue in order to prevent future conflicts there is a need to understand the relationships between history, structures and agency; interest, values and politics; global and local factors and alliances.

political violence a glance: *Handbook of Research on Promoting Peace Through Practice, Academia, and the Arts* Lutfy, Mohamed Walid, Toffolo, Cris, 2018-09-07 Academic disciplines perceive tranquility and a sense of contentment differently among themselves and therefore contribute to peace-building initiatives differently. Peace is not merely a function of education or a tool that produces amicable systems, but rather a concept that educational contributions can help societies progress to a more peaceful existence. The Handbook of Research on Promoting Peace Through Practice, Academia, and the Arts aims to provide readers with a concise overview of proactive positive peace models and practices to counter the overemphasis on merely ending wars as a solution. While approaching peace-building through multiple vantage points and academic fields such as the humanities, arts, social sciences, and theology, this valuable resource promotes peace-building as a cooperative effort. This publication is a vital reference work for humanitarian workers, leaders, educators, policymakers, academicians, undergraduate and graduate-level students, and researchers.

political violence a glance: Global Politics and Violent Non-state Actors Natasha Ezrow, 2017-03-13 Moving beyond terror groups to examine non-state actors including warlords, gangs and private security companies, Violent Non-State Actors: Guides you through the core theories and concepts, taking a multidisciplinary approach Examines different explanations for the emergence of violent non-state actors as well as strategies for dealing with them Weaves in international case studies from groups including the Islamic State, Los Zetas, Hamas, and Al Qaeda, as well as discussion questions, further reading and definitions of key terms A must read for upper-level undergraduate and postgraduate students in politics, international relations, security and terrorism studies.

political violence a glance: Islamic Exceptionalism Shadi Hamid, 2016-06-07 In Islamic Exceptionalism, Brookings Institution scholar and acclaimed author Shadi Hamid offers a novel and provocative argument on how Islam is, in fact, exceptional in how it relates to politics, with profound implications for how we understand the future of the Middle East. Divides among citizens aren't just about power but are products of fundamental disagreements over the very nature and purpose of the modern nation state—and the vexing problem of religion's role in public life. Hamid argues for a new

understanding of how Islam and Islamism shape politics by examining different models of reckoning with the problem of religion and state, including the terrifying—and alarmingly successful—example of ISIS. With unprecedented access to Islamist activists and leaders across the region, Hamid offers a panoramic and ambitious interpretation of the region's descent into violence. Islamic Exceptionalism is a vital contribution to our understanding of Islam's past and present, and its outsized role in modern politics. We don't have to like it, but we have to understand it—because Islam, as a religion and as an idea, will continue to be a force that shapes not just the region, but the West as well in the decades to come.

political violence a glance: Jihadist Insurgent Movements Paul B. Rich, Richard Burchill, 2017-09-01 This path-breaking collection of papers examines the phenomenon of jihadist insurgent movements in the Middle East and North, East and West Africa. It argues that military and strategic analysts have paid insufficient attention to the phenomenon of jihadism in insurgent movements, partly due to a failure to take the role of religion sufficiently seriously in the ideological mobilisation of recruits by guerrilla movements stretching back to the era of national liberation after World War Two. Several essays in the collection examine Al Qaeda and ISIL as military as well as political movements while others assess Boko Haram in West Africa, Al Shabaab in Somalia and jihadist movements in Libya. Additionally, some authors discuss the recruitment of foreign fighters and the longer-term terrorist threat posed by the existence of jihadist movements to security and ethnic relations in Europe Overall, this volume fills an important niche between studies that look at Islamic fundamentalism and global jihad at the international level and micro studies that look at movements locally. It poses the question whether jihadist insurgencies are serious revolutionary threats to global political stability or whether, like Soviet Russia after its initial revolutionary phase of the 1920s, they can be ultimately contained by the global political order. The volume sees these movements as continuing to evolve dynamically over the next few years suggesting that, even if ISIL is defeated, the movement that brought it into being will still exist and very probably morph into new movements. Jihadist Insurgent Movements was originally published as a special issue of Small Wars & Insurgencies.

political violence a glance: Globalization and Social Movements Valentine M. Moghadam, 2020-02-17 What is the connection between globalization and social movements? How have people collectively responded to globalization's economic, political, and cultural manifestations and challenges? And how are contemporary social movements and networks affecting the progression of globalization? This clear and concise book answers these questions by examining social movements and transnational networks in the context of globalization in all its forms—economic, political, cultural, and technological alike. Deftly combining nuanced theory with rich empirical examples, leading scholar Valentine M. Moghadam provides four in-depth case studies: global feminism and transnational feminist networks; global Islamism ranging from parliamentary to extremist; the global justice movement and the World Social Forum; and varieties and gender dynamics of populisms. In a new chapter, she draws attention to the emergence and growth of right-wing populist movements, political parties, and governments, not only in Europe but in the Global South as well. Defining globalization as a complex process in which the movement of capital, peoples, organizations, movements, and ideas takes on an increasingly international form, the author shows how growing physical and electronic mobility has helped to create dynamic global social movements. Exploring the historical roots of Islamism, feminism, global justice, and populism, Moghadam also shows how these movements have been stimulated by relatively recent globalization processes. She reveals their similarities and differences, internal differentiation, relationship to globalization and states, and the opportunities and challenges that the movements face. Assessing the extent to which the movements contribute to democracy, or—conversely—endanger it, she considers prospects for a renewed and more robust form of democracy. Informed by feminist, world-systems, world polity, and social movement theories in a seamlessly integrated framework, her work will be essential reading for all students of globalization.

political violence a glance: The Emergence and Evolution of Religion Jonathan Turner,

Alexandra Maryanski, Anders Klostergaard Petersen, Armin W. Geertz, 2017-08-10 Written by leading theorists and empirical researchers, this book presents new ways of addressing the old question: Why did religion first emerge and then continue to evolve in all human societies? The authors of the book—each with a different background across the social sciences and humanities—assimilate conceptual leads and empirical findings from anthropology, evolutionary biology, evolutionary sociology, neurology, primate behavioral studies, explanations of human interaction and group dynamics, and a wide range of religious scholarship to construct a deeper and more powerful explanation of the origins and subsequent evolutionary development of religions than can currently be found in what is now vast literature. While explaining religion has been a central question in many disciplines for a long time, this book draws upon a much wider array of literature to develop a robust and cross-disciplinary analysis of religion. The book remains true to its subtitle by emphasizing an array of both biological and sociocultural forms of selection dynamics that are fundamental to explaining religion as a universal institution in human societies. In addition to Darwinian selection, which can explain the biology and neurology of religion, the book outlines a set of four additional types of sociocultural natural selection that can fill out the explanation of why religion first emerged as an institutional system in human societies, and why it has continued to evolve over the last 300,000 years of societal evolution. These sociocultural forms of natural selection are labeled by the names of the early sociologists who first emphasized them, and they can be seen as a necessary supplement to the type of natural selection theorized by Charles Darwin. Explanations of religion that remain in the shadow cast by Darwin's great insights will, it is argued, remain narrow and incomplete when explaining a robust sociocultural phenomenon like religion.

political violence a glance: Conflict Intervention and Transformation Ho-Won Jeong, 2019-03-14 This book is aimed at both professionals and students who desire to deepen their understanding of the processes involved in conflict intervention and resolution effectively. Reflecting on multi-disciplinary traditions, it throws new light on discursive processes that facilitate or hamper a dialogue, essential for conflict transformation. The book covers a broad range of topics and themes for those studying introductory and advanced level courses on conflict resolution, including the principles of intervention, prevention of violence, local practice of peacemaking, identify politics and conditions for conflict resolution as well as peace negotiation. While comprehensive in scope, this edited volume's main theme is a transformation of inter-group dynamics as well as the process for conflict resolution. It gives a systematic coverage of ways people try to overcome the limitations of the existing approaches to conflict management and peacemaking.

political violence a glance: Jihadi Terrorism, Insurgency, and the Islamic State Robert J. Bunker, 2017-02-16 This work is the third Small Wars Journal anthology focusing on radical Sunni Islamic terrorist and insurgent groups. It covers this professional journal's writings for 2015 and complements the earlier Global Radical Islamist Insurgency anthologies that were produced as Vol. I: 2007-2011 (published in 2015) and Vol. II: 2012-2014 (published in 2016). This anthology, which offers roughly five hundred pages of additional analysis, follows the same general conceptual breakdown as the earlier works, and is divided into two major thematic sections—one focusing on jihadi terrorism, insurgency, and the Islamic State in context and the other focusing on US-allied policy and counter-jihadi and counter-Islamic State strategies.

political violence a glance: The Cost of Bearing Witness Nena Močnik, Ahmad Ali Ghouri, 2024-04-04 This highly interdisciplinary volume fills the gap in research ethics that has so far omitted to address the psychological, physiological, and socio-political impacts on researchers conducting field-based social research in traumatic environments. The chapters in this book discuss various facets of secondary trauma from different methodological and theoretical perspectives, geographic, and historical contexts, and address a wide range of questions spanning from recent complex topics to semi-historical events and future concerns causing traumatic anxiety. While most chapters explore the process of healing and recovery from traumatic experiences during fieldwork-based research, few chapters also propose constructive approaches for developing personal and institutional methodologies and techniques to better prepare researchers to cope with

secondary trauma. The book offers useful insights and concrete changes in research methodologies that can help minimize the risk of trauma and new approaches to preventing and handling the consequences of conducting field-based social research in traumatic environments. It was originally published as a special issue of *Social Epistemology*.

political violence a glance: *Understanding Near Crises and Escalation in World Politics* Steven E. Lobell, Patrick James, Scott A. Silverstone, Victor Asal, Kyle Beardsley, Edward Gonzalez, Norrin M. Ripsman, 2025-07-31 This book introduces the near crisis phase of conflict and escalation. These time-sensitive disputes between states, and even with violent non-state actors, do not involve significant risk of military escalation, at least in the moment. Investigating how and why some near crises escalate, while others do not, requires an explanation of the different dynamics of international disputes and the policy tools that states and international institutions can employ. We ask an expanded set of questions about specific cases and general patterns of conflict behavior, such as: why did Israeli leaders respond to Hezbollah's 2006 cross-border raid with escalation, resulting in the Second Lebanon War, while in previous instances the Israelis limited their retaliation? Why didn't the 2015 Iranian Ballistic Missile Test or the 1995 Norwegian Black Brant Missile Launch escalate, while the 2009 North Korea Missile Movement and the 1995 Taiwan Straits dispute tipped into a full-blown crisis, and why did the 2008 Russia-Georgia conflict escalate from near crisis to war? We use primary sources and newly created data on near crises to answer these questions and others. The overall conclusion is that an ounce of prevention at the near crisis phase is worth a pound of cure in averting a full-blown crisis or war. This book will be of great interest to students of security studies, conflict studies, foreign policy, and international relations.

political violence a glance: *Public Influence* Mira Sucharov, 2019-02-04 How can twenty-first-century scholars and other experts engage with wider audiences beyond their peers? In *Public Influence*, Mira Sucharov walks readers through the ins and outs of op-ed writing and social media engagement. Enlivened with discussions of an array of hot-button issues and sharp analysis of the delicate dynamics of social media, this book is essential reading for anyone who wants to harness the opportunities of public engagement in this vital digital age.

political violence a glance: *Finnish Yearbook of International Law, Volume 25, 2015* Tuomas Tiittala, 2019-10-03 The Finnish Yearbook of International Law aspires to honour and strengthen the Finnish tradition in international legal scholarship. Open to contributions from all over the world and from all persuasions, the Finnish Yearbook stands out as a forum for theoretically informed, high-quality publications on all aspects of public international law, including the international relations law of the European Union. The Finnish Yearbook publishes in-depth articles and shorter notes, commentaries on current developments, book reviews and relevant overviews of Finland's state practice. While firmly grounded in traditional legal scholarship, it is open for new approaches to international law and for work of an interdisciplinary nature. The Finnish Yearbook is published for the Finnish Society of International Law by Hart Publishing. Earlier volumes may be obtained from Martinus Nijhoff, an imprint of Brill Publishers.

political violence a glance: *The Global Challenge of Militias and Paramilitary Violence* Paul Rexton Kan, 2019-02-25 This book describes militias as significant and prevalent actors in today's international security environment. To separate them from other types of violent non-state groups, such as terrorists, guerrillas and insurgents, the author describes militias as local guardians that use violence to fill a variety of political, social and security gaps, which have created vulnerabilities for their particular constituencies. Although militias are local in orientation, their effects are not contained to particular countries and have only added to the instability in the international system. This book explores how militias contribute to international security issues by furthering state fragility, undermining human rights and democratization, enabling illicit trafficking, prolonging internal conflicts and fostering proxy wars.

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can researchers navigate secrecy in their fieldwork, when they encounter confidential material, closed-off quarters or bureaucratic rebuffs? This is a particular challenge for researchers in the security field, which is by nature secretive and difficult to access. This book creatively assesses and analyses the ways in which secrecyes operate in security research. The collection sets out new understandings of secrecy, and shows how secrecy itself can be made productive to research analysis. It offers students, PhD researchers and senior scholars a rich toolkit of methods and best-practice examples for ethically appropriate ways of navigating secrecy. It pays attention to the balance between confidentiality, and academic freedom and integrity. The chapters draw on the rich qualitative fieldwork experiences of the contributors, who did research at a diversity of sites, for example at a former atomic weapons research facility, inside deportation units, in conflict zones, in everyday security landscapes, in virtual spaces and at borders, bureaucracies and banks. The book will be of interest to students of research methods, critical security studies and International Relations in general. The Open Access version of this book, available at www.taylorfrancis.com, has been made available under a Creative Commons Attribution-Non Commercial-No Derivatives 4.0 license.

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