

Political Instability Task Force (PITF) Consolidated Problem Set, Historical State Armed Conflicts and Regime Crises, 1955-2018¹

Country	Type of Conflict	Began	Ended	Brief Description
Afghanistan	Complex ²	4/1978	— ³	In wake of unrest stemming from assassination of prominent opposition leader, Daoud regime is overthrown in left-wing military coup, followed by political purges of ruling circles and Soviet invasion (ARC ⁴ 4/1978-12/1979). Widespread insurgency by Mujahedeen (REV 4/1978-4/1992) factions provokes Soviet and Afghan Government tactics of systematic terror, destruction of villages, and execution of prisoners (GEN 4/1978-4/1992). Soviet-supported Najibullah regime falls after defection of General Dostam and his Uzbek militia. Mujahedeen forces enter Kabul and establish interim Taliban-controlled central government (ARC 4/1992-9/1996). Civil war continues among political factions based on Pashtun, Tajik, Uzbek, and Hazara ethnic groups, first, as Taliban attempts to extend its authority and, then, after Northern Alliance militias, backed by strong US and British air support, displace the collapsed Taliban regime in November 2001 (ETH 5/1992-10/2001, ARC 11/2001-6/2002). Mainly ethnic-Pashtun Mujahedeen and Taliban fighters continue to challenge secular central authorities from strongholds in south and east regions (REV from 11/2001).
Albania	Complex	5/1996	5/1997	Third post-Communist parliamentary elections are marked by bloody police repression and electoral fraud. President Berisha attempts to consolidate political power but regime is undermined by poor performance (ARC 5/1996). Collapse of pyramid investment schemes ignites simmering dissatisfaction. Capital and southern half of country engulfed in fighting, looting, and rioting. Tension is defused somewhat when Barisha is forced to resign and new elections are called (REV 3/1997-5/1997); war in neighboring Kosovo diverts attention from internal politics to external events.
Algeria	Complex	7/1962	12/1962	In wake of independence from France, Algerian militants attack Europeans and Muslim civilians who collaborated with French colonial authorities (REV 7/1962-9/1962, ETH 7/1962-9/1962, GEN 7/1962-12/1962).
	Complex	5/1991	12/2004	Efforts by ruling FLN (National Liberation Front) to ensure its electoral success through legislative gerrymandering trigger mass protests. Military increases its political influence in effort to prevent election of Islamists. When Islamic Salvation Front wins elections, government cancels results (ARC 1/1992). Islamic militants and military-government initiate intense terror campaigns designed to undermine each other's support bases (REV 5/1991-12/2004).
Angola	Complex	1/1975	3/2002	Post-independence civil war between Mbundu-dominated central government, Bakongo and Cabindan rebels, and UNITA (Union for the Total Independence of Angola), based on Ovimbundu people of south Angola (ETH 1/1975-3/2002, REV 1/1975-3/2002). Both UNITA rebels and government forces perpetrate destructive campaigns and atrocities against civilians throughout conflict (GEN 11/1975-11/1994). Internationally brokered peace plan leads to multi-party elections but UNITA's Savimbi rejects results and establishes rival government in Huambo (ARC 5/1992-4/1997). 1994 Lusaka protocol ends conflict for a short time but intense fighting erupts again in late 1998. Targeting of civilian populations resumes with the break down to civil war (GEN 12/1998-3/2002). Death of UNITA leader, Jonas Savimbi, in February 2002 is followed by a cessation of fighting in March and the signing of a new peace agreement in August 2002.
Argentina	Regime Change	6/1966	6/1966	Civilian government ousted by military coup in attempt to stem increasing influence of Peronists in electoral arena. State repression increases as urban violence escalates and falters.
	Complex	3/1976	12/1980	Domestic instability forces military regime to hold elections. Peronist victory ushers in period of political and social anarchy and military intervenes again (ARC 3/1976). Military declares state of siege and death squads target suspected leftists in campaign of kidnappings, torture, murder, and "disappearances" (GEN 3/1976-12/1980).
Armenia	Regime Change	7/1995	9/1996	President Ter Petrossian suspends country's most influential opposition party. Electoral malpractice and government intimidation tarnish subsequent legislative and presidential elections.
Azerbaijan	Complex	8/1991	6/1997	Armenian rebellion to secure independence of Nagorno-Karabakh enclave checked by 6/97 ceasefire (ETH 2/1988-6/1997). ⁵ Post-Soviet democratic transition undermined by government instability, rebellion, and fraudulent presidential and legislative elections (ARC 6/1993-11/1995).

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Bangladesh	Complex	12/1974	6/1991	Floods, famine, and breakdown of law undermine parliamentary democracy. Brief experiment with strong presidential rule ends as anti-Mujib officers stage coup (ARC 12/1974-11/1975). Separatist war waged by Shanti Bahini resists encroachments by Bengali settlers in the Chittagong Hills (ETH 8/1976-6/1991); fighting ends with autonomy agreement, followed by formal peace accord in November 1992.
	Regime Change	1/2007	1/2007	Increasing tensions between the ruling Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) and the main opposition Awami League (AL) over the conduct of new parliamentary elections leads to a paralysis of the caretaker government and imposition of a military-backed State of Emergency on January 11, 2007. New elections are delayed while military government conducts "anti-corruption" campaign to diminish patronage structures built by party leaders Hasina and Zia.
Bangladesh	Regime Change	2/2018	12/2018	Bangladeshi politics has long been characterized by the personal rivalry between Sheikh Hasina Wazed, leader of the Awami League, and Khaleda Zia, leader of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP). The BNP boycotted the 2014 parliamentary elections, leaving the Awami League in control of the government. The Awami League capitalized on its political advantage to neutralize the leadership of rival parties. Khaleda Zia was convicted of corruption on 8 February 2018 precluding her from standing in 2018 elections and her son was similarly convicted. With the opposition in disarray, the Awami League easily won elections held on 30 December 2018 and consolidated its control of government.
Belarus	Regime Change	4/1995	11/1996	President Lukashenko orders troops to storm parliament building and dissolves legislature. Electoral regulations prohibit legislature from convening for eight months. Once quorum is achieved, President Lukashenko restricts its action.
Benin	Regime Change	10/1963	12/1965	Labor and ethnic tensions undermine fragile democracy. In attempt to quell political instability, military intervenes twice before finally abolishing democratic institutions and institutionalizing military rule.
	Regime Change	10/1972	10/1972	Regional rivalries force military to transfer power to civilian government. Ethnically diverse civilian coalition falls in second successful coup in three years and a Marxist-Leninist state is proclaimed.
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Complex ⁵	4/1992	12/1995	The breakup of the Yugoslav Federation leads to ethnonational conflict among Serb, Croat, and Muslim inhabitants of Bosnia and Herzegovina and failure of central authority (ETH 4/1992-11/1995, ARC 4/1992-12/1995). Muslim residents of Bosnia are subject to "ethnic cleansing" measures including destruction of property, forced resettlement, and execution mainly by Serb and some Croat forces (GEN 5/1992-11/1995). Dayton peace accord ends fighting after country has been de facto partitioned along ethnic lines; central government is established under international supervision.
Brazil	Regime Change	9/1961	10/1965	Inflation and radical reforms proposed by new President Joao Goulart trigger overthrow of a weakly institutionalized democratic government by the armed forces. Bureaucratic-authoritarian regime forcefully represses left-wing opposition.
Burkina Faso	Regime Change	11/1980	11/1980	Leader of former military regime, President Lamizana, elected as head of civilian government. Subsequent economic crisis and labor unrest triggers military coup and suspension of Constitution.
Burma (Myanmar)	Complex	3/1948	—	Karen, Kachin, Shan, Mon, Chin, and other non-Burman peoples fight for greater regional autonomy (ETH from 3/1948). In 1962 political factionalism within ruling party and regional ethnic rebellions undermine democratic institutions and trigger military intervention. Military rule institutionalized in one-party socialist state (ARC 3/1962-7/1962, GEN 1/1978-12/1978). In 1988 students in Rangoon organize increasingly violent protests against military rule and make an unsuccessful attempt to form revolutionary coalition with ethnic rebels (REV 3/1988-6/1989). Rebels claiming to represent the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army (ARSA) attacked a government garrison in Rakhine State in August 2017 triggering a brutal offensive by Myanmar armed forces against Rohingya settlements and a mass exodus of over half a million "illegal Bengali immigrants" (ETH from 8/2017).

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Country	Type of Conflict	Began	Ended	Brief Description
Burundi	Complex	6/1963	12/1973	Unstable political alliance between Tutsis and Hutus produces democratic stalemate. King increases his authority but is unable to resolve ethnic tensions and is overthrown by the Tutsi-dominated military (ARC 6/1963-11/1966). Attempted coup by Hutu units in 1965 results in massacres of Tutsis in countryside, prompting Army to eliminate Hutu leaders, and in 1972 Hutus insurgents launch a coordinated attack against government authorities in the south and east (ETH 4/1972-7/1972). Challenges to Tutsi-dominated government by ethnic-Hutus results in ethnic massacres (GEN 10/1965-12/1973).
	Complex	8/1988	5/2005	Attempted democratic reforms prompt violence between historically dominant Tutsis and Hutu challengers (ETH 8/1988-5/2005). As result of rural violence against local Tutsi officials, Tutsi-dominated army conducts unpremeditated massacres of Hutus (GEN 8/1988). In 1993, Hutu opposition forces win first multi-party presidential and legislative elections, provoking disaffected Tutsi military forces to revolt and assassinate the Hutu president (ARC 10/1993-7/1996). Subsequent armed clashes and massacres occur in three waves: Tutsi soldiers against Hutu civilians, Hutus against Tutsis, and Tutsi against Hutus (GEN 10/1993-12/1993). Arusha peace accords are signed by all parties except the FNL in July 2001 and establish an interim government. Most fighting has ended by May 2005 and elections are held that set up a power-sharing government.
	Regime Change	7/2015	7/2015	The ruling CNDD-FDD party announced on 25 April 2015 that they were naming President Pierre Nkurunziza as their candidate for scheduled presidential elections despite a constitutional two-term limit, triggering widespread protests and a 13 May 2015 coup attempt. The government proceeded with the controversial election and, despite an opposition boycott and low turnout, the incumbent was re-elected. Most opposition parties reject the outcome and violence persists in the aftermath.
Cambodia	Complex	3/1970	5/1991	Khmer Rouge insurgents, supported by North Vietnam, battle royalist government forces (REV 3/1970-4/1975). Once in power they initiate restructuring of society and central authority leading to massive deaths by starvation, deprivation, executions, and massacres of old regime supporters, city dwellers, and tribal peoples, particularly Muslim Chams (ARC 4/1975-3/1976; GEN 4/1975-1/1979). Vietnamese forces invade Cambodia in December 1978, drive out the Khmer Rouge, and install a new government. Khmer Rouge continues armed resistance, eventually joining forces with other opposition groups (REV 1/1979-5/1991). Resistance continues until a cease-fire is brokered in May 1991, followed by a peace settlement in October 1991.
	Regime Change	7/1997	7/1997	Hun Sen ousts coalition partner and ends fractious coalition government installed following UN-supervised elections in 1993. Hun Sen consolidates power in a new coalition.
	Regime Change	8/2017	8/2017	In the run up to parliamentary elections scheduled to be held in July 2018, the government of Prime Minister Hun Sen arrested the leader of the opposition Cambodian National Rescue Party (CNRP) on charges of treason and used that arrest as a pretext for having the Supreme Court dissolve the CNRP (former leader of the CNRP, Sam Rainsy, had earlier been forced to flee the country). the dissolution of the CNRP is considered evidence of an auto-coup by Hun Sen and backed by his Cambodian People's Party (CPP).

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Central African Republic	Complex	3/2003	—	Following his dismissal as commander, troops loyal to Gen. Bozize mount challenge to elected government of President Patasse. Gen. Bozize succeeds in seizing power in March 2003 while Patasse is out of the country (ARC 3/2003). Supporters of ousted President Patasse in the north face retribution from the Bozize regime which draws its support from southerners. Open rebellion breaks out in the northwest in June 2005 and, then, in October 2006 in the northeast (ETH 6/2005-2/2013). In December 2012, Islamist militant groups form a coalition called Seleka and begin to seize territories in the northeast (ETH from 12/2012). Despite a peace agreement in February 2013, Seleka rebels forcibly oust the Bozize regime (ARC from 3/2013) but are unable or unwilling to assert central authority and, instead, engage in predatory actions. Christian "anti-balaka" militias form in response and attempt to oust the Seleka rebels from the capital in December 2013. The Seleka rebels withdraw but "anti-balaka" militias systematically target Muslim communities for retribution (GEN from 12/2013).
Chad	Complex	10/1965	10/1994	Recurring civil war among Chad's many communal groups with shifting alliances, but mainly along north-south lines (ETH 10/1965-10/1994). Failed attempt at national unification in 1978 leads to collapse of governance, intensified conflict, and international intervention (ARC 2/1979-6/1984).
	Revolutionary War	10/2005	4/2010	Dominance of the central government by President Déby's clan and ethnic-Zaghawa supporters led to a mutiny by elements of the army in October 2005, a coup attempt in March 2006, and an attack on the capital in April 2006. Failing to unseat the government, FUC rebel forces took refuge in border regions with Sudan and Central African Republic. A peace agreement with the rebels was reached in December 2006 and fighting largely ended in January 2007. The agreement quickly broke down and fighting resumed in areas bordering the Sudan; this round included a split in Déby's support base. A second attack on the capital was mounted in February 2008 but this attack also failed to unseat the Déby government. An agreement was reached between Chad and Sudan in late 2009 to normalize relations and cooperate in increasing security along their mutual border; armed clashes subsequently have diminished on both sides of the border.
Chile	Complex	9/1973	12/1976	President Allende's democratically elected socialist government is overthrown in military coup. General Pinochet consolidates power, dissolves Congress, and suppresses left and center opposition (ARC 9/1973). Supporters of former regime and other leftists are arrested, tortured, disappeared, exiled, and summarily executed (GEN 9/1973-12/1976).
China	Complex	2/1956	12/1959	Armed resistance to Chinese occupation of Tibet breaks out in February 1956 and spreads throughout the region. Rebellion is suppressed by Chinese forces by April 1959 (ETH 2/1956-4/1959). In 1959, Army and security forces suppress counter-revolutionary elements of society, including Tibetan Buddhists, landowners, and supporters of former Chiang Kaishek regime (GEN 3/1959-12/1959).
	Complex	5/1966	3/1975	In 1966, Red Guard youth gangs under loose direction of a Party faction target a wide spectrum of society for arrest, harassment, reeducation, torture, and execution (GEN 5/1966-3/1975). Red Army wars with Red Guards in an attempt to control the Cultural Revolution (REV 8/1966-7/1969).
	Complex	7/1988	12/1998	Episodic violent protests by Uighurs in Xinjiang Province against Han Chinese control escalate by 1996 into terror campaign; government repression ends open opposition (ETH 7/1988-12/1998). In 1989 students occupy Tiananmen Square demanding democratic reforms; government violently suppresses them and their supporters (REV 4/1989-6/1989).
	Ethnic War	7/2009	6/2015	Sporadic violence and attacks by ethnic-Uighurs in Xinjiang province against local government and ethnic-Han Chinese; attacks spread to include targets outside Xinjiang.
Colombia	Revolutionary War	4/1948	12/1960	A protracted civil war breaks out between the Conservative and Liberal parties vying for state power. The period known as "la violencia" begins in earnest with riots in Bogota following the assassination of Liberal leader Gaitan in April 1948. The violence begins to decrease with the election of a moderate Liberal-Conservative coalition, the National Front, in 1958 and continues to diminish through 1960.

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	Revolutionary War	6/1975	—	Landless peasants are organized by various left-wing groups espousing "liberation theology", including ELN, FARC, ELP, MAO, and M-19. Right-wing militias form in early 1982, including MAS and AUC. Increasingly widespread and lucrative drug trafficking permeates both rural and urban society. General amnesty, truce, and entry of Patriotic Union as legal party in 1984 fail to integrate leftist groups. Late in 2004, AUC demobilized nearly 3,000 fighters; government increases military pressure on leftist rebels.
Comoros	Regime Change	1/1976	1/1976	Twenty-eight days after the declaration of independence a coalition of six political parties known as the United National Front ousts the Abdallah government. Democratic governance ends with the designation of Ali Soilih as head of state.
	Complex	9/1995	4/1999	Foreign-led mercenaries and disaffected Comorian troops overthrow elected government of President Djohar. French troops sent to the island one week later arrest mercenaries, reinstall elected prime minister, and arrest Djohar (ARC 9/1995-3/1996). Army Chief of Staff, Col. Assoumani Azzali, leads April 30, 1999 coup that dissolves constitution and government; promised transition to new elections based on Antananarivo agreement do not materialize (ARC 4/1999).
Comoros	Regime Change	4/2018	7/2018	On 12 April 2018, President Azali Assoumani suspended the Constitutional Court due to its "incompetence." A constitutional referendum, boycotted by the opposition and held amid a crackdown on dissent and a general strike, was approved on 30 July 2018; the provisions ended Comoros power-sharing arrangement symbolized by the rotating presidency among its three main islands, effectively removed presidential term limits, granted the president authority to remove political constraints, and replaced a clause on secularism with a statement confirming Islam as the "religion of state."
Congo-Brazzaville	Regime Change	12/1963	12/1963	Fragile democracy weakened by ethnic and labor tensions. Military forces President Youlou to resign. Interim government established prior to popular approval of new constitution that creates one-party Marxist-Leninist state.
	Complex	6/1997	12/1999	Civil war erupts amid pre-election tensions when President Lissouba's army attacks the residence of former dictator Sassou-Nguesso. Rebels, backed by Angolan troops, take Brazzaville by force; fighting continues through September 1999. Pointe Noire Peace Agreement ends fighting in December 1999 (REV 6/1997-12/1999). Transition to democracy ends when Sassou-Nguesso rallies supporters, backed by Angolan Troops, and ousts Lissouba (ARC 10/1997).
Congo-Kinshasa	Complex	6/1960	11/1965	Independence is followed by intense political and tribal factionalism and the emergence of secessionist movements. Failed attempt at democracy ends in establishment of military dictatorship under General Mobutu (ARC 6/1960-11/1965). Mutiny within ranks of military escalates into full-scale civil war. Rebels expel remnants of Belgian colonial apparatus (REV 7/1960-8/1965). Katanga and South Kasai secede from newly independent Congo (1960) followed by secession of Orientale and Kivu (1961) and rebellions in Stanleyville and Kwilu (1964) (ETH 7/1960-11/1965). To consolidate control, rebels massacre counter-revolutionaries, including educated Congolese, missionaries, and other Europeans (GEN 2/1964-1/1965).
	Complex	3/1977	12/1979	Independence movement of Lunda/Yeke (FNLC--Zaire National Liberation Front) invades Shaba (Katanga) Province, their traditional homeland (ETH 3/1977-5/1978). Episodic rebellions and agitation are countered by killings of political opponents, dissident tribesmen, and prisoners (GEN 3/1977-12/1979)

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	Complex	3/1992	—	Communal violence erupts in Shaba (Katanga) between Luba-Kasai minority and dominant Lunda; regional governments become more autonomous (ETH from 3/1992). In reaction to absolute power wielded by Mobutu's military-backed government, pro-democracy opposition pressures him to appoint new prime minister and government (ARC 12/1992-7/2003). Tutsis residing in eastern Zaire form core of rebel army that, with substantial help from Rwanda, defeats government troops and ousts Mobutu's regime (REV 10/1996-7/2003). Disaffection with the policies of the nascent Kabila regime leads to the polarization of ethnic-militias, failure of central authority, and the widening of the conflict to include armed forces from regional states. Power-sharing agreement reestablishes central authority in July 2003 and integrates key militias in the central army but sporadic, ethnic armed conflict continues in outlying regions, especially the north and east. Armed conflict in the Kasai region began as a communal conflict involving an attempt by a local leader to gain recognition as a tribe by his followers, calling themselves the Kamwina Nsapu. The conflict escalated when a government-linked militia group attacked and killed the group's leader in August 2016 (REV from 8/2016). President Joseph Kabila's term in office expired on 19 December 2016; he was constitutionally barred from seeking reelection. His government refused to hold new elections to choose his replacement, citing various reasons why the conditions for holding elections were inadequate. Various attempts have been made to set up a caretaker government while elections could be prepared but these have not been implemented. President Kabila's refusal to vacate his office, government actions to repress opposition to his continuing rule, and failure to implement mechanisms for a transitional authority to govern the country indicate an auto-coup by default (led by regime authorities) (ARC 12/2017).
Croatia	Ethnic War ⁵	6/1991	12/1995	Serbs in eastern Croatia and Krajina fight newly independent Croat government for autonomy, fighting checked in 1992 by UN peacekeeping force.
Cuba	Complex	3/1952	12/1961	Fulgencio Batista, supported by the military, stages a successful coup that ousts President Carlos Prío Socarras just before scheduled general elections (ARC 3/1952-6/1955). Rural-based insurgents led by Fidel Castro overthrow military-backed Batista regime (REV 12/1956-1/1959). Single-party socialist state established by 1961 (ARC 1/1959-12/1961).
Cyprus	Complex	12/1963	4/1968	Constitutional amendment proposed by President Makarios is unacceptable to Turkish-Cypriots and the democratic coalition of Greek and Turkish parties collapses, leading to intense communal fighting, de facto separation by ethnic-Turks in the north, and intervention by UN peacekeepers (ETH 12/1963-4/1964; ARC 12/1963-4/1968).
	Complex	7/1974	8/1974	Coup by ethnic-Greek nationalists triggers communal fighting and intervention by armed forces from Turkey. Democracy restored in southern half of island while Turkish Cypriots establish de facto government in north (ARC 7/1974-8/1974; ETH 7/1974).
Czechoslovakia	Regime Change	8/1968	9/1969	Communist reformers lead popular movement for political and economic liberalization known as "Prague Spring." Hardliners, supported by Soviet troops, crush reform movement and reinstall hard-line government.
Djibouti	Ethnic War	11/1991	6/1994	A rebellion led by the Front for the Restoration of Unity and Democracy (FRUD), comprised mainly of ethnic-Afars, breaks out in November 1991. Government offensive in July 1993, supported by French forces, recaptures much of the territory controlled by rebels. Negotiations lead to recognition of FRUD as a legitimate party and an end to the fighting in June 1994. A formal peace agreement is concluded in December 1994. FRUD registered as a political party in March 1996; militant splinter group continues sporadic violence through 1999.
Dominican Republic	Complex	9/1963	7/1966	President Trujillo, de facto ruler since 1930, is assassinated. Military overthrows newly elected democratic government, establishes junta, and restricts leftwing parties (ARC 9/1963-7/1966). Insurrection by supporters of the deposed president results in external intervention in support of Wessin regime (REV 4/1965-5/1965).
Ecuador	Regime Change	6/1970	2/1972	President Velasco suspends Constitution, dissolves legislature, and assumes dictatorial powers to cope with financial emergency. Military deposes Velasco's authoritarian-democratic regime.

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Egypt	Revolutionary War	2/1992	3/1999	Terror campaign by militant Islamic groups against secular government; largely suppressed by mid-1996. Widespread arrests of activists result in March 1999 renunciation of violence by the Gamaat-I-Islamiya (Egypt's largest resistance group).
	Revolutionary War	1/2011	—	Inspired by popular protests in Tunisia, Egyptian liberal and Islamist activists hold mass demonstrations against the Mubarak regime and are met with lethal repression. The protests lead to Mubarak's resignation on 11 February 2011 and initiate a democratic transition; presidential elections result in a victory for Muslim Brotherhood candidate Mohamed Morsi but legislative elections won by the Muslim Brotherhood are overturned by the courts. President Morsi tries to push through a new constitution but is ousted by a military coup on 3 July 2013. The military violently represses protests against the coup and outlaws the Muslim Brotherhood. As a result, an Islamist insurgency begins in the Sinai and southern Egypt.
El Salvador	Complex	2/1977	1/1992	Amid widespread labor unrest, unprecedented levels of military intimidation and voter fraud characterize presidential elections. President Romero ushers in era of increased political repression (ARC 2/1977). Leftwing FMLN (Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front) insurgency ensues (REV 10/1979-1/1992). In face of widespread insurgency, military, security units, and death squads harass, imprison, and kill leftists among clergy, peasants, urban workers, and intellectuals (GEN 1/1980-12/1989).
Equatorial Guinea	Complex	2/1969	8/1979	Following elections that brought President Macias to power in the newly independent, former Spanish colony, a crisis arose in February 1969 when the new president demanded that Spain abandon its control over the domestic economy. A state of emergency was declared on March 1. A failed coup followed on March 4. President Macias used the crisis to consolidate his power and eliminate opposition leaders, ethnic-Bubi separatists, and potential rivals (ARC 2/1969-3/1969; GEN 3/1969-8/1979). Macias' reign of terror ended with a successful coup in August 1979 led by his nephew Obiang, who became chief executive.
Ethiopia	Complex	7/1961	5/1993	Eritrean secessionists led by ELF (Eritrean Liberation Front) and EPLF (Eritrean People's Liberation Front), joined by Afars, Oromos, and others in mid 1970s, fight civil wars for independence from successive imperial and Marxist regimes in Addis Ababa (ETH 7/1961-5/1991). Ethnic-Somalis in Ogaden rebel twice (ETH 10/1963-4/1964; ETH 2/1977-5/1978). In 1974, Emperor Selassie is deposed by left-wing military government and the Derg establishes repressive one-party socialist state (ARC 9/1974-3/1975). Army, internal security units, and civilian defense squads massacre political and military elites, workers, students, bureaucrats, and others thought to oppose the revolutionary regime (GEN 7/1976-12/1979). In 1975 Tigrean Liberation Front joins regional separatists in war to seize control of the central government (REV 7/1975-5/1991). Eritrean-Tigrean coalition movement defeats military-backed Derg government in May 1991; transitional government accepts Eritrean independence in May 1993 (ARC 5/1991-5/1993).
	Ethnic War	2/1999	6/2000	Border war with Eritrea provides opportunities for multiple Oromo ethnic factions, including the Oromo Liberation Front, the United Oromo Peoples Liberation Front (or Tokuchuma), the Al Ittihad, and the Islamic Oromo Liberation Front, to challenge Ethiopian government. Fighting escalates in February 1999 and again in May 1999 as Oromo factions gain support from Eritrea channeled through the Aided faction in Somalia. Rebellion diminishes with the June 2000 cease-fire between Ethiopia and Eritrea.
	Ethnic War	1/2007	—	Ethiopia's invasion of southern Somalia in support of the transitional national government triggers a backlash in the ethnic-Somali Ogaden region. Government forces launch offensive against rebels in June 2007
Fiji	Regime Change	12/1987	12/1987	Parliamentary elections in 1987 bring ethnic-Indian party to power. Elected government is ousted by a military coup led by Lt. Col. Sitiveni Rabuka on May 21, 1987.

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	Regime Change	12/2006	12/2006	The ethnic Fijian-dominated Qarase government is ousted by a military coup led by Commodore Frank Bainimarama on December 5, 2006. Bainimarama, an ethnic Fijian, claimed to oppose the racially biased policies of the Qarase government and its decision to offer clemency to those individuals behind the 2000 coup and subsequent attacks against the country's Indo-Fijian population. The 2000 coup attempt had been put down by forces loyal to Bainimarama
France	Regime Change	6/1958	6/1958	New constitution institutes the (Gaulist) Fifth Republic, a very strong Presidential system that grants extraordinary powers to the president over parliament.
The Gambia	Regime Change	7/1994	7/1994	Longstanding multiparty system, dominated by President Dawda, is overthrown in military coup. Military rule reaffirmed with controversial elections of 1996.
Georgia	Complex	6/1991	12/1993	Abkhaz and South Ossetian regional governments fight for independence with backing from Russian military and political elements, effective autonomy secured in both regions by 1993 (ETH 6/1991-12/1993). While ethnic wars are underway, ousted Pres. Gamsakhurdia fights an unsuccessful civil war (REV 12/1992-3/1993).
Ghana	Regime Change	1/1972	1/1972	Reformist military regime permits multiparty elections. Inflation, corruption, and ethnic tension trigger military coup and suspension of party politics.
	Regime Change	12/1981	12/1981	Jerry John Rawlings leads a successful coup that ousts the ineffective, elected government led by Limann's People's National Party on December 31, 1981; Rawlings establishes personalistic rule backed by the Armed Forces Revolutionary Council (AFRC).
Greece	Regime Change	4/1967	4/1967	Conflict between King Constantine II and Prime Minister Papandreou over control of military triggers government instability, social unrest, and, ultimately, a right-wing military coup.
Guatemala	Complex	7/1966	12/1996	Communist insurgents battle military-dominated government forces in protracted revolutionary conflict ended by negotiated settlement in 1996 (REV 7/1966-12/1996). Indigenous Mayans who support populist and revolutionary causes join the insurgency (ETH 6/1975-3/1994). Military-dominated governments use severe repression including indiscriminate use of death squads against leftists and indigenous people (GEN 7/1978-12/1990).
Guinea	Revolutionary War	9/2000	3/2001	Rebel groups attack Guinean forces in the Parrot's Beak region from bordering areas of Sierra Leone and Liberia. Rebellion is crushed in March 2001.
Guinea-Bissau	Complex	6/1998	9/2003	Civil war breaks out when President Vieira dismisses General Mane and rebel soldiers, led by Mane, attempt coup; central authority collapses coup (REV 6/1998-5/1999; ARC 6/1998-5/1999). On May 7, 1999 President Vieira and his government are ousted by rebel factions led by Gen. Mane; a transitional government is established and Yalla is elected president in January 2000. Instability persists as Gen. Mane is killed following a coup attempt in late 2000 and President Yalla is ousted in September 2003 coup led by Gen. Seabre (ARC 9/2003-9/2003).
	Regime Change	4/2012	4/2012	Following first round presidential elections held on 18 March 2012 because of President Sanha's death from illness on 9 January 2012, military leaders seized control of the government to prevent the apparent election of former-Prime Minister Carlos Gomes Junior. The military rulers set up a sham civilian administration as a cover for increasing drug-trafficking.
Guyana	Regime Change	4/1978	10/1980	Political domination of black-based PNC (People's National Congress) consolidated with abrogation of democratic constitution and use of electoral fraud. President is granted unlimited powers in new one-party state.
Haiti	Regime Change	9/1991	9/1991	Populist priest Jean Bertrand Aristide, elected president by large majority, is unwilling to govern within political system and alienates elite and foreign community. He is overthrown and replaced by military-supported puppet government.
	Regime Change	1/1999	11/2000	Following two years of stalemate between the executive and the opposition-led legislature. President Preval dissolves the legislature and rules by decree. The President uses unchecked executive power to ensure electoral victory for his party, Fanmi Lavalas, in 2000 legislative and presidential elections.

Political Instability Task Force (PITF) Consolidated Problem Set, Historical State Armed Conflicts and Regime Crises, 1955-2018¹

Country	Type of Conflict	Began	Ended	Brief Description
	Regime Change	1/2010	—	A devastating earthquake struck the capital city, Port-au-Prince, and surrounding areas on 12 January 2010, leading to a collapse of central governance of an already weak and divided regime. International assistance provided crucial administration in the aftermath of the earthquake but recovery has been slow; severely limited general elections were held in November 2010 and March 2011 under international auspices but the regime has been unable to assert its authority or guide recovery. New elections have been delayed.
Hungary	Complex	10/1956	5/1957	Factionalism within the ruling Hungarian Workers' Party leads to an outbreak of popular insurrection against hardliners in late October 1956 (REV 10/1956-11/1956). Hardliners, supported by Warsaw Pact forces, crush the insurrection and reinstate hard-line government (ARC 11/1956-5/1957).
India	Ethnic War	5/1956	10/1958	In May 1956, militant Naga separatists begin an armed rebellion that is brutally repressed by Indian armed forces.
	Ethnic War	5/1967	12/1971	The Jharkhand separatist movement, otherwise known as the Naxalite rebellion, spreads through eastern Bihar and West Bengal in May 1967; the rebellion involves ethnic-Santal scheduled tribes. The rebellion is largely contained by brutal repression and is finally overwhelmed by events surrounding neighboring Bangladesh's independence war in 1971.
	Complex	4/1983	—	Sikh militants declare a "war of independence" for Khalistan (Punjab and Haryana) in April 1983. Violence continues through the early 1990s until it is finally contained through concessions, elections, and repression (ETH 4/1983-10/1993). Mass protests against Indian rule in Kashmir erupt in violence in January 1990. Separatists of the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front, with support from neighboring Pakistan, continue to fight Indian authorities (ETH from 1/1990). The Maoist People's War Group (PWG) rekindles an insurgency among "dalits" (Scheduled Tribes) in the forested regions in the east, mainly in Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, and Andhra Pradesh. The PWG joined forces with a second group, the Maoist Communist Centre (MCC), to form the People's Liberation Guerrilla Army in late 2004 (REV from 2/2001).
Indonesia	Complex	12/1949	8/2005	Islamic rebels in West Java, Aceh, and South Sulawesi challenge the secular state led by President Sukarno in an attempt to set up an Islamic regime, Darul Islam (REV 12/1949-10/1961). On March 14, 1957, Sukarno declares martial law and ends Indonesia's liberal parliamentary system (ARC 3/1957-7/1959). Opponents to Sukarno's regime attempt to set up an alternative government, the Revolutionary Government of the Republic of Indonesia (PRRI), in February 1958. The PRRI, or "Permesta," rebellion is defeated by loyalist forces and an amnesty is declared in August 1961 (REV 2/1958-8/1961). Following an attempted communist coup, Muslim vigilantes and military forces massacre suspected Communists and ethnic-Chinese suspected of supporting the coup (GEN 10/1965-7/1966). Indonesian armed forces use indiscriminate force to subdue the Free Papua Movement (OPM) in the former Dutch-administered territory of West Irian (ETH 1/1967-12/1971). Revolutionary Front for an Independent East Timor (Fretilin) rebels fight to regain autonomy after Indonesian forces invade the former Portuguese colony in November 1975; large numbers of suspected Fretilin supporters are killed in massacres and by induced famines (ETH 11/1975-6/1991; GEN 12/1975-7/1992). Indonesia's "transmigrasi" policy of resettling people from overcrowded Java rekindles OPM rebellion (ETH 3/1981-12/1984). East Timor (Fretilin) rebels resume autonomy fight in 1997; a popular referendum for the independence of East Timor in 1999 triggers intense violence and the introduction of international peacekeepers in September 1999 (ETH 2/1997-9/1999). Following the withdrawal of Indonesia armed forces from Aceh in August 1998, a repressed rebellion by the Free Aceh Movement (GAM) flares into open violence. The Aceh region was devastated by the December 2004 tsunami and, under international pressure, a peace settlement was reached in August 2005. (ETH 9/1998-8/2005). General economic decline in Indonesia leads to mass demonstrations and rioting in Jakarta. Suharto resigns but rebellion continues until a parliamentary government is instituted in October 1999 (REV 5/1998-10/1999).
Iran	Regime Change	8/1953	3/1955	Limited democratic rule ends as coup ousts increasingly autocratic prime minister. Shah bans political competition and gradually assumes absolute power.

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Country	Type of Conflict	Began	Ended	Brief Description
Iraq	Complex	10/1977	12/1992	Islamic and political groups stage massive demonstrations against Shah Reza Pahlavi's government, efforts at repression and reform fail, and Ayatollah Khomeini establishes new Islamicist government (REV 10/1977-2/1979; ARC 1/1979-1/1982). Kurds rebel for regional autonomy, fighting declines after 1984 to sporadic guerrilla activity (ETH 4/1979-8/1985). Moderates (National Front) and conservatives (IRP Islamic Revival Party) use terror and repression in competition for political control (REV 6/1981-1/1983). To consolidate Islamic revolution, Khomeini government violently suppresses dissident Muslims (Mujahedin) and rebel Kurds, selectively executes prominent Baha'is (GEN 6/1981-12/1992).
	Regime Change	1/2004	5/2004	Under increasing internal and external pressures related to US military operations in neighboring Afghanistan and Iraq, the theocratic Council of Guardians prohibits reformist candidates from standing for election. Legislative elections consolidate seizure of control of government by religious conservatives.
	Complex	3/1959	3/1975	Rebellious army units allied with members of the Shammar tribe seize Mosul; subsequent violence erupts in Kirkuk involving Kurdish elements in the communist party. Both rebellions are crushed by loyalist forces (REV 3/1959-4/1959). Barzani's Kurdish Democratic Party revolts against General Qassim's regime and its successors in quest for regional autonomy (ETH 7/1961-3/1970). Fighting resumes in April 1974 as Kurds reject government autonomy plan that falls short of their demands (ETH 4/1974-3/1975). In order to suppress repeated rebellions for independent Kurdistan, military engages in large-scale massacres (GEN 6/1963-3/1975).
Israel	Complex	9/1980	—	Some Iraqi Kurds take advantage of Iran-Iraq war and Iranian support to mount new rebellion for autonomy (ETH 9/1980-3/1988). In 1988 military and security forces launch Al-Anfal campaign of indiscriminate violence to eliminate or neutralize guerrillas and their supporters (GEN 3/1988-6/1991). Kurdish rebels take advantage of Iraq's defeat in Gulf war to establish a de facto Kurdish state, protected by US and British-led coalition forces, while Shi'ite rebellion in the south is repressed by Iraqi forces (ETH 3/1991-12/1998). US-led invasion in March 2003 succeeds in causing the collapse of the Saddam Hussein-led Ba'athist regime in early April 2003 (ARC 4/2003-4/2003), however, insurgent Sunni and Shia forces challenge new transitional regime and foreign occupation (ETH from 8/2003). After the withdrawal of US forces, Sunni militants allied with Sunni militants in neighboring Syria begin to escalate attacks in the west and, in 2014, seize control of large areas. Sunni extremists organized under the banner of the Islamic State systematically target Yazidis and Christians in territories under their control (GEN from 8/2014).
	Ethnic War	12/1987	—	Palestinians rebel against Israel's repressive authority in the occupied territories of Gaza and West Bank and in Israel proper (the "intifada"). Violent mass demonstrations and systematic terrorist campaign is largely suspended in October 1998 awaiting the final implementation of the Wye River Accords. Violence begins again in September 2000 as implementation falls short of expectations.
Ivory Coast	Complex	9/2002	6/2011	Tensions had remained strong since a December 1999 military coup and a subsequent attempt by coup leader Gen. Guei to thwart new elections in October 2000. An army mutiny against President Gbagbo's government in September 2002 quickly spread and polarized the country. The main rebel faction, the Patriotic Movement of Ivory Coast (MPCI), took control of the largely Muslim north and two smaller rebel factions emerged in the west. Fighting largely ends in stalemate in April 2005 with French intervention and outside mediation (ETH 9/2002-4/2005). Ouagadougou peace accords are signed in March 2007 and establishment of a power-sharing government ends stand-off in April 2007. Disputed results of December 2010 presidential elections lead to a resumption of armed violence (REV 3/2011-4/2011). Rebel forces supporting the winning candidate in the December 2010 election, Allasane Ouattara, converge on the regime stronghold of Abidjan and capture President Gbagbo; Ouattara is installed as president in May 2011 (ARC 9/2002-6/2011).
Jordan	Regime Change	4/1957	4/1957	King Hussein demands resignation of his prime minister on suspicion of maneuvering to abolish monarchy. Multiparty elections for National Assembly rescinded as King bans all political parties.

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Country	Type of Conflict	Began	Ended	Brief Description
	Revolutionary War	2/1970	7/1971	Government crackdown in February 1970 on Palestinian guerrilla groups operating in Jordan triggers intense fighting that ends with Jordanian military victory.
Kenya	Complex	1/1964	10/1969	Kenya's independence ignites ethnic-Somali separatism in Northern Frontier District (ETH 1/1964-10/1966). President Kenyatta bans the opposition party (KPU), dissolves the National Assembly, and institutes one-party rule under the Kenya African National Union (KANU) (ARC 7/1969-10/1969).
	Ethnic War	10/1991	9/1993	Kalenjin and Masai supporters of the government are encouraged in attacks aimed at driving Kikuyu, Luo, and other rival groups from their villages in highlands.
Korea, South	Regime Change	5/1961	5/1961	Military coup ends brief experiments with civilian-led parliamentary democracy. Military-dominated democratic government gradually established.
	Regime Change	10/1972	10/1972	President Park Chung Hee declares a martial law regime.
Laos	Complex	1/1960	6/1979	Kong Le seizes power in an attempt to form a neutralist government; government remains locked in bitter struggle between neutralist, rightists, and communists until the ending of the war in neighboring Vietnam provides opportunity for the Lao People's Revolutionary Party (LPRP; Pathet Lao) to establish one-party rule (ARC 1/1960-12/1975). Military coup sparks sustained conflict as rebels fight unsuccessfully to overthrow rightist Somsanith regime (REV 9/1960-5/1962). Hmong (Meo) rebels encouraged to fight Pathet Lao; rebellion is suppressed after Pathet Lao takeover in 1975, no significant guerrilla activity after 1979 (ETH 7/1961-6/1979). Neutralists and Conservatives join forces to oppose Communist Pathet Lao forces; resistance by rightist forces continues until 1979 (REV 3/1963-3/1979).
Lebanon	Revolutionary War	5/1958	7/1958	Muslim opposition groups rebel against Christian-dominated government.
	Complex	4/1975	7/1991	Christian-dominated government collapses in civil war among Druze, Shi'i, Maronite, and Sunni militias; civil warfare is further complicated by Israeli invasion and partial occupation from 1985 (ETH 4/1975-7/1991). New power-sharing constitution is eventually established and elections are held under Syrian supervision (ARC 5/1975-9/1990).
Lesotho	Regime Change	1/1970	1/1970	Westminster-styled democracy brought to abrupt end after opposition wins narrow victory in first post-independence election. Prime Minister Jonathan invalidates vote, imprisons opposition leaders, dissolves parliament and assumes dictatorial powers.
	Regime Change	5/1998	1/1999	Mass protests against results of May 1998 elections are joined by mutiny of soldiers and shutdown of government by civil servants; foreign troops impose order and new elections are proposed.
Liberia	Complex	11/1985	8/2003	Brig. Gen. Quiwonkpa leads the National Patriotic Front (NPF) in a failed coup against Samuel Doe following contested elections; Doe executes coup leader and targets supporters of the NPF in Monrovia (REV 11/1985). Repression by military against supporters of Charles Taylor leads to widespread civil war, collapse of Monrovia government, and assassination of President Doe. National Patriotic Forces of Liberia (NPFL) and militias of rival tribally based political groups compete for control of devastated society (REV 12/1989-7/1993; ARC 9/1990-8/1996). A loose coalition of forces, Liberians United for Reconciliation and Democracy (LURD), initiate an armed rebellion in Liberia from bases in neighboring Guinea in November 2000 with the expressed aim of toppling Charles Taylor from power (REV 11/2000-8/2003). Taylor resigns and leaves country on August 11, 2003, under intense international pressure; peace agreement is signed on August 14 and transitional government is established.

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Country	Type of Conflict	Began	Ended	Brief Description
Libya	Complex	2/2011	—	Encouraged by popular uprisings in neighboring Arab countries Tunisia and Egypt, protests against Col. Gaddafi's autocratic regime take place in eastern urban centers in January 2011 and quickly escalate to armed insurrection as regime forces are deployed to repress dissent (REV 2/2011-10/2011). NATO warplanes are deployed against regime armed forces and command structures in support of a UN Security Council mandate to "protect the civilian population." Gaddafi's forces were driven from the capital, Tripoli, by rebel forces in early August 2011; the regime collapsed and Gaddafi was captured and killed by rebel fighters on 20 October 2011 (ARC from 8/2011). A National Transitional Council (NTC) proved unable to unite local militias leading to the emergence of rival authorities in the east, west, and south and an Islamist/secular contention for power (REV from 5/2014).
Madagascar	Regime Change	3/2009	3/2009	President Marc Ravalomanana resigned on 17 March 2009, following two months of popular protests against his presidency; executive power was transferred to opposition leader Andry Rajoelina who enjoyed the support of the military. The resulting "caretaker" regime is clearly unconstitutional but its real nature remains unclear. The opposition appears muted, probably due to restrictions imposed by the military.
Malaysia	Regime Change	5/1969	5/1969	Malaysia's third general election accentuates growing ethnic-Chinese dissatisfaction with ruling Alliance Party. Violent communal rioting in Kuala Lumpur leads to State of Emergency and political disenfranchisement of ethnic-Chinese.
Mali	Ethnic War	6/1990	1/1995	Rebellion by nomadic Tuaregs seeking regional autonomy.
	Complex	1/2012	—	Ethnic-Tuareg militants of the National Movement for the Liberation of Azawad (MNLA) supported by Islamist Ansar Dine militants attacked government forces in the north beginning in January 2012 and on 6 April 2012 declared an independent Islamic state in the north which subsequently fell under the control of the Ansar Dine (REV from 1/2012). A mutiny by government forces escalated to an armed coup on 22 March 2012 led by Capt. Amadou Haya Sanogo; central authority quickly collapsed, leaving Islamist forces in control of the north (ARC 3/2012-9/2013).
Mauritania	Regime Change	8/2008	8/2008	On 6 August 2008, members of the Presidential Guard arrested President Abdallahi and proclaimed the formation of a military junta led by Gen. Abdelaziz.
Mexico	Revolutionary War	5/2007	—	Shortly after gaining office in 2006, President Calderon deployed federal law enforcement personnel and federal troops in an attempt to control increasingly violent competition among drug traffickers enabled by corrupt local authorities, particularly in areas bordering the United States.
Moldova	Ethnic War	3/1992	12/1992	President Snegur attempts to forcibly disarm Gagauz and Russian (Trans-Dniestr) ethnic militias. A more conciliatory strategy is adopted in December and violence subsides in political stalemate.
Morocco	Regime Change	6/1965	6/1965	King Hassan resumes full legislative and executive powers after brief experiment with limited parliamentary rule.
	Ethnic War	10/1975	11/1989	Saharawis seek independence in southwestern part of country (Western Sahara) annexed by Morocco after Spanish colonial rule ends.
Mozambique	Revolutionary War	7/1976	10/1992	Anti-Communist RENAMO (Mozambique National Resistance) rebels, supported by Rhodesia and South Africa, challenge Marxist regime, war ends with 1992 peace agreement.
Nepal	Regime Change	12/1960	12/1960	Constitutional monarch uses emergency powers to dissolve Nepali Congress, dismiss cabinet, and abolish political parties; establishes "National Guidance" system led directly by the king.

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Country	Type of Conflict	Began	Ended	Brief Description
	Complex	2/1996	4/2006	Militants associated with the Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist) initiate armed insurrection. Following the assassinations of the Nepalese royal family and the ascension of King Gyanendra, Prime Minister Deuba initiates peace talks in July 2001 but the conflict intensifies once again in November 2001 as the talks fail (REV 2/1996-4/2006). The entire Nepalese Royal family was killed on June 1, 2001, under suspicious circumstances and the former King's brother Gyanendra ascended to the throne. Peace talks with insurgent groups broke down in November 2001 and a state of emergency was declared. Under increasing challenges, the legislature was dissolved and, on Oct 4, 2002, King Gyanendra dismissed the entire government and replaced it with royalists. New elections were postponed indefinitely (ARC 10/2002), however, the royalist regime is unable to establish order. Civilian government is reinstated on April 24, 2006, and rebel forces immediately declare a cease-fire. A comprehensive peace agreement was signed on November 21, 2006
Nicaragua	Complex	2/1978	3/1988	Leftist Sandinistas (FSLN--Sandinista National Liberation Front) lead popularly supported revolution that ends 42-year rule of Somoza family (REV 2/1978-6/1979). Sandinista-dominated junta consolidates one-party rule by eliminating opposition members from government (ARC 7/1979-3/1981). Anti-Sandinista forces (Contras) fight protracted civil war (REV 2/1981-3/1988). Indigenous Miskitos of Atlantic coast region also rebel against Sandinista government (ETH 8/1981-12/1984).
Niger	Regime Change	1/1996	1/1996	Military coup overthrows democratically elected government and suspends 1992 Constitution. Coup leader Col. Ibrahim Mainassara Barre is elected president in seriously flawed elections.
	Regime Change	5/2009	5/2009	President Mamadou Tandja effectively seized power in Niger on 26 May 2009 when he dissolved the National Assembly for obstructing his plan to organize a referendum to extend his rule beyond the two-term limit codified in the constitution. The referendum was held on 4 August 2009 and boycotted by the opposition; Tandja, thus, gained a "mandate" to promulgate a new constitution and stronger presidential system.
Nigeria	Complex	12/1964	1/1970	Ethnic violence sparked by democratic elections triggers military coup and abandonment of state's federal structure. Counter-coup by mostly Muslim officers from north results in reestablishment of federal system (ARC 12/1964-1/1966). Counter-coup and retaliatory massacres of Ibos in north precipitate secessionist civil war by Biafra, based on Ibos of eastern region (ETH 1/1966-1/1970). In response to the Biafra separatist rebellion, the Federal government imposes a blockage on May 30, 1967, that prevents food, medical supplies, and other forms of relief assistance from reaching affected populations. Large death toll result mainly from starvation and disease caused by severe deprivation (GEN 6/1967-1/1970).
	Complex	12/1980	4/1985	Militant Islamic cult, the Maitatsine, battle government forces in north (REV 12/1980-4/1985). Ethnic competition, widespread corruption and electoral malpractice weaken democratic institution of Second Republic. Successful military coup bring Second Republic to an end and establishes military rule (ARC 1/1984).
	Complex	1/2006	—	Ethnic militias had been organized in Nigeria's Niger delta states mainly due to communal rivalries. The exploitation of oil resources in the region increased tensions and contributed to the formation of the militant Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND). Systematic attacks on oil infrastructure began in January 2006. A major government offensive was launched in the area in May 2009; a government offer to reintegrate fighters was largely successful in limiting attacks in the Delta region since October 2010 (ETH 1/2006-10/2010). The emergence of "Boko Haram" Islamic militancy in the northeast triggers a government crackdown in July 2009; militants reorganize and continue attacks (REV from 7/2009).
Oman	Revolutionary War	6/1970	3/1976	Dhofar tribal insurrection escalates to ideological struggle between rebels and autocratic regime; rebels defeated by 1976.
Pakistan	Regime Change	10/1958	10/1958	Decade-long experiment with parliamentary and presidential systems ends when democratic constitution is abrogated, political parties dissolved and government handed over to coalition of military officers and bureaucrats.

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Country	Type of Conflict	Began	Ended	Brief Description
	Complex	3/1971	12/1971	Post-election tensions between East and West Pakistan erupt into massive resistance by Bengali nationalists; intervention by India leads to establishment of independent Bangladesh (ETH 3/1971-11/1971). Military imposes martial law and uses tanks, airpower, and artillery to indiscriminately attack civilians (GEN 3/1971-12/1971). Deepening political divide between East and West Pakistan results in the dissolution of the Pakistani union (ARC 7/1971-12/1971).
	Complex ⁶	2/1973	7/1977	Baluchi rebellion against central authority, backed by opposition National Awami Party (ETH 2/1973-7/1977) is suppressed by military using indiscriminate violence against civilians (GEN 2/1973-7/1977). Surprise parliamentary elections called by democratic government in 1977, lead to escalating political violence. General Zia leads military coup, dissolves legislature, arrests politicians and declares martial law (ARC 7/1977).
	Complex	8/1983	—	Violent campaign by Sindhis seeking autonomy; violent attacks on Muhajirs in Karachi (ETH 8/1983-11/1998). General Musharraf leads military coup on 12 October 1999, arrests democratically-elected Prime Minister Sharif, suspends constitution, dissolves Parliament, and imposes rule by National Security Council (ARC 10/1999). Ethnic-Pashtuns in the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) along the border with Afghanistan provide safe harbor for co-ethnic Taliban fighters and allied al Qaeda fighters. Government offensives against militants in March 2004 are met with local resistance, mainly in South and North Waziristan (ETH from 3/2004). Ethnic-Baluch nationalists had been pressing the central government for greater regional autonomy for many years amid scattered attacks by separatist militants. In August 2006, Pakistani armed forces moved against the local leadership and killed the leader of the Bugti tribe, triggering open rebellion by ethnic separatists (ETH from 8/2006).
Panama	Regime Change	10/1968	10/1968	Oligarchic democracy replaced by direct military rule after threatened shakeup of National Guard. Party activity suspended as Col. Torrijos consolidates power.
Papua New Guinea	Ethnic War	5/1989	5/1997	Bougainvillean Revolutionary Army fights PNG forces to end large-scale mining and gain independence for the island of Bougainville. New government takes a more conciliatory stance that leads to a cessation of fighting in May 1997 and a permanent cease-fire agreement in January 1998.
Peru	Regime Change	7/1962	7/1962	Presidential elections are held in July 1962 pitting multiple candidates, including those from the three main parties; none of the candidates gains the required one-third of the vote. In a move to prevent an agreement between Odría and Haya de la Torre that would have resulted in Odría being named president by Congress, the military's Joint Chiefs of Staff oust President Prado on July 19, 1962, and install a junta led by (Chairman) Gen. Perez Godoy. Moves by Gen. Perez Godoy to gain personal power lead to his ouster by the other members of the junta on March 19, 1963, and a rescheduling of presidential elections for July 1963.
	Regime Change	10/1968	10/1968	President Belaunde's gridlocked democratic government overthrown in populist military coup. Congress dissolved and statist policy of socioeconomic reform pursued.
	Complex	3/1982	4/1997	Maoist guerrillas of Sendero Luminoso (Shining Path) attack government troops, terrorize rural and urban supporters of government (REV 3/1982-4/1997). Facing internal warfare and recession, President Fujimori, backed by military, dissolves Congress and suspends Constitution (ARC 4/1992).
Philippines	Complex	11/1969	—	Six decades of elite-based democracy come to end as President Marcos, confronted by growing class and ethnic conflict, declares martial law and assumes dictatorial powers (ARC 11/1969-9/1972). Leftist NPA (New People's Army) fights protracted guerrilla war aimed at overthrowing Manila regimes of Marcos and his elected successors (REV 7/1972-12/1996). Muslim Moros mount guerrilla war for independence; autonomy agreement largely ends fighting. Militant factions continue to wage low-level insurgency (ETH from 10/1972). Moro resistance to Christian settlement and support for separatist guerrillas results in military and paramilitary terror tactics in which many Moros die in massacres and napalm bombings (GEN 9/1972-6/1976).
Romania	Revolutionary War	12/1989	12/1989	Broad anti-Ceausescu coalition (National Salvation Front) overthrows Stalinist regime.

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Country	Type of Conflict	Began	Ended	Brief Description
Russia	Complex	8/1994	—	In August 1994, the Provisional Council of Chechnya attempts a coup to oust nationalist leader of Chechnya, President Dudayev. Civil war ensues and Russian troops are called in to restore order. Intense fighting results in military stalemate; truce agreement is reached in August 1996 (ETH 8/1994-8/1996). Attempts by Chechen fighters to extend control to neighboring Dagestan in August 1999 trigger new war in Chechnya as Russian forces attempt to impose central authority over the autonomous province (ETH 8/1999-7/2006). The September 2004 terrorist attack on a school in Beslan leads to a decline in support for the extremists and armed conflict largely abates by July 2006. Islamist militants in the eastern Trans-Caucasus region of Russia bordering on Georgia (Chechnya, Dagestan, and Ingushetia) regrouped and have been conducting systematic and sustained attacks in the region since May 2008 (ETH from 5/2008).
Rwanda	Complex	11/1963	11/1966	Cross-border incursions by Tutsi rebels prompt local Hutu officials to orchestrate vengeance attacks and massacres by Hutus, leading to flight of 200,000 Tutsi refugees (ETH 11/1963-11/1966; GEN 12/1963-6/1964).
	Complex	10/1990	7/2001	Tutsi exiles of RPF launch successive attacks from Uganda prompting escalating violence between Hutu and Tutsi fighters (ETH 10/1990-12/1998). Hutu-dominated military government promises return to democratic rule, and transitional government is established. When President Habyarimana's aircraft is shot down in April 1994, Hutu government deploys military and armed gangs to systematically slaughter Tutsis and Hutu moderates (GEN 4/1994-7/1994). Ethnic-Tutsi RPF (Rwandan Patriotic Front) invades and seizes control of government by July 1994 (ARC 4/1994-7/1994). Hutu militias (Inter-a-hamwe) are driven into neighboring regions, namely the DRC and Uganda, and fighting within Rwanda largely subsides by end of 1998. Hutu fighters launch a major attack in northwestern Rwanda from bases in the DRC in May 2001 but the attack is quickly crushed by the Rwandan Patriotic Army (ETH 5/2001-7/2001).
Senegal	Regime Change	12/1962	3/1963	Increasing tensions between President Senghor and his prime minister lead to failed coup attempt by Prime Minister Dia. Senghor arrests Dia, strengthens constitutional powers of presidency, and establishes one-party rule.
	Ethnic War	9/1992	12/1999	Violence increases in Casamance region as Casamancais (MFDC) rebels intensify separatist campaign. Government talks with Movement of Casamance Democratic Forces (MFDC) produce December 1999 ceasefire.
Sierra Leone	Complex	3/1967	4/1971	Regional factionalism within two-party democratic system triggers successful military coup after Siaka Stevens (a Limba) defeats Albert Margai (a Mende) (ARC 3/1967). President Stevens declares himself executive president and systematically restricts democratic opposition (ARC 4/1971).
	Complex	3/1991	3/2002	Revolutionary United Front (RUF) mobilizes rural peoples, mainly Temne, in armed rebellion that devastates much of country. Various peace agreements and strong international pressure eventually lead to an end of fighting and disarmament of the RUF rebels (REV 3/1991-7/2001). Mutinous soldiers side with RUF guerrillas to overthrow President Kabbah in May 1997. Junta is defeated by ECOWAS troops in February 1998 but the new government was unable to establish central authority due to ongoing civil warfare. Mutinous soldiers side with RUF guerrillas to overthrow President Kabbah. Junta is defeated by ECOMOG in February 1998 but violence continues. Brokered peace agreement is reached between Kabbah government and RUF forces in May 2001 and State of Emergency is lifted in March 2002. (ARC 5/1997-3/2002).
Singapore	Regime Change	9/1963	8/1965	Singapore became a self-governing parliamentary republic in 1959; in 1963 it joined the Malaysian Federation. Singapore's ethnic-Chinese majority became uncomfortable with the ethnic-Malay dominated government of Malaysia and left the federation in 1965. Lee Kwan Yew, head of the People's Action party establishes one-party, personalistic rule.

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Country	Type of Conflict	Began	Ended	Brief Description
Solomon Islands	Regime Change	6/2000	7/2003	Since being brought in by US forces to help drive out remnants of the Japanese army from Guadalcanal in 1942, Malaita Islanders remained politically and economically active on the island and in the capital city Honiara. Native Isatabu Islanders (their name for Guadalcanal) mobilized their resentment in the 1990s and demanded special compensation from the central government for hosting the capital. When that was denied, local militias (Isatabu Freedom Fighters) were formed to intimidate and drive Malaitans out of the island. Many Malaitans fled to Honiara and a militant group formed to protect them: the Malaita Eagles Force (MEF). Clashes between the militias in the late 1990s culminated in a MEF seizure of the capital on June 5, 2000, and the forced resignation of Prime Minister Ulufa'alu. Anarchy ensued until Australia agreed to lead a peace-keeping force reestablish security and disarm the militias; the Regional Assistance Mission to the Solomon Islands (RAMSI) deployed on July 24, 2003.
Somalia	Regime Change	10/1969	10/1969	Increasingly autocratic style of elected government triggers clan-based violence. Military intervenes and establishes one-party socialist state.
	Complex	5/1988	—	Siad Barre regime is increasingly challenged by rebellions of Somali National Movement, based on northern Issaq clan, and United Somali Congress, based on southern Hawiye clan. The rise of Islamist militias prolonged the fighting and, in 2006, the Islamic Courts Union briefly seized control of the capital and attempted to establish an Islamic regime (ETH from 5/1988; REV 5/1988-8/1994). Repression and anti-insurgency operations by Barre forces cause large-scale civilian deaths (GEN 5/1988-1/1991). Barre regime collapses but chronic violence among clan-based warlords in south prevented establishment of effective central government. Combined military interventions by AU, Ethiopian, and Kenyan forces succeeded in dislodging the remaining al Shabab Islamist militants from major cities, allowing the formation of a new central government in September 2012. (ARC 1/1991-9/2012).
South Africa	Complex	8/1984	6/1996	Violent protests in black townships over poor economic conditions and lack of political rights lead to dismantling of apartheid policies and democratic elections won by ANC (African National Congress) (REV 8/1984-7/1990). Zulu Inkatha movement wars with ANC supporters for political control in Natal, initially with clandestine support from Afrikaner government's security forces (ETH 1/1987-6/1996).
South Sudan	Complex	7/2011	—	With the country's independence, tribal rivalry between ethnic-Murle and ethnic-Nuer tribes in Jonglei state escalated into organized communal clashes. A dissident officer in the Sudan People's Liberation Army, David Yau Yau, organized a largely ethnic-Murle rebel group to challenge central authority (ETH from 7/2011). A long-standing rivalry between President Salva Kiir, an ethnic-Dinka, and Vice President Riek Machar, an ethnic-Nuer, led to the President's decision to remove Machar from office and dismiss the unity cabinet that had governed since the country's independence in July 2011. Fighting between army factions loyal to the rival leaders broke out on 15 December 2013 and armed violence quickly spread across the country (ETH from 12/2013 leading to a collapse of central authority (ARC from 12/2013).
Sri Lanka	Complex	7/1983	5/2009	Ethnic-Tamil grievances against pro-Sinhalese governmental policies erupt into secessionist civil war in the northeast (ETH 7/1983-5/2009). Revolutionary campaign by Marxist Sinhalese JVP prompts government to unleash military and police death squads to eliminate JVP challenge (REV 7/1987-12/1989; GEN 7/1989-1/1990). Fighting ends with a ceasefire agreement in February 2002 and peace negotiations but re-ignites in April 2004 with fighting involving the government-backed "Karuna faction" among Tamil militias. In January 2008, the government unilaterally withdrew from the cease-fire agreement and began an offensive to reclaim LTTE-controlled territories. In September 2008, the government informed the UN that it would no longer guarantee the safety of humanitarian organizations in Tamil areas and most withdrew. The final offensive began in January 2009 and ended in May 2009 with the indiscriminate decimation of the LTTE who had taken refuge in civilian "safe zones" (GEN 9/2008-5/2009).

Political Instability Task Force (PITF) Consolidated Problem Set, Historical State Armed Conflicts and Regime Crises, 1955-2018¹

Country	Type of Conflict	Began	Ended	Brief Description
Sudan	Complex	10/1956	3/1972	Anyanya rebellion by non-Muslim population of southern Sudan against Muslim-dominated government ends with 1972 autonomy agreement (ETH 10/1956-3/1972). Government uses indiscriminate violence against civilian Southerners thought to support secessionist movement (GEN 10/1956-3/1972). Parliamentary democracy overthrown in 1958 military coup. Constitution abrogated and opposition parties banned as General Abbud consolidates political power (ARC 11/1958). Democratic government reestablished in 1964 but overthrown by leftwing military officers in 1969. Col. Numeiri establishes one-party state after failed coup by Communist elements within ruling military coalition (ARC 5/1969-10/1971).
	Complex	7/1983	—	Southern rebellion resumes under SPLA (Sudan People's Liberation Army) leadership after Muslim government violates autonomy agreement; in 1991 SPLA's breakup leads to new inter-communal violence within south (ETH 7/1983-10/2002). Non-Muslim supporters of secession are targeted for destruction by indiscriminate military attacks, massacres by government-supported tribal militias, and government-induced privation and population displacement; targeting of civilian population ends in October 2002 as part of peace talks and opening of conflict areas to relief agencies (GEN 9/1983-10/2002). In 1989 military overthrows democratic government after attempts to reduce the influence of religion in politics. Legislature is dissolved and non-fundamentalist parties banned as Islamic state is established (ARC 6/1989). Peace process leads to effective cease-fire in south in October 2002 and progressive agreements on power and revenue sharing. Rebellion breaks out in Darfur region in western Sudan in February 2003 followed by army offensive in March; violence quickly escalates as local Arab militias take over anti-insurgency role (ETH from 2/2003). Government backs local, Arab janjaweed militias and encourages them to terrorize suspected supporters of separatist rebels; victims groups include Fur, Zaghawa, Masaleit, and other non-Arab peoples of the Darfur region (GEN 7/2003-8/2011). With South Sudan preparing for independence in July 2011, the Sudan government ordered the disarmament of all fighters belonging to the Sudan People's Liberation Army-North (SPLA-N); these forces were concentrated in Blue Nile and South Kordofan states on the border between north and south. Leaders of the militias refused and Sudan armed forces initiated an offensive to disarm the fighters in June 2011 (ETH from 6/2011).
Suriname	Regime Change	2/1980	3/1982	Deep-rooted ethnic divisions, patronage, poor economic performance, high unemployment, interference by émigré groups, and serious political disagreements over policies and governance had rendered the newly independent country nearly ungovernable; the elected parliamentary government was forced out by military forces on 24 February 1980. Similarly sharp divisions in the military contributed to the eventual emergence of a personalistic, military dictatorship under Col. Bouterse, who imposed a martial regime on 17 March 1982.
Swaziland	Regime Change	4/1973	4/1973	King Sobhuza dissolves parliament, outlaws all forms of political organization, and assumes all powers of government.
Syria	Regime Change	9/1961	2/1966	Syria's experiments with parliamentary government and union with Egypt (United Arab Republic) end with a September 1961 military coup. Following that initial coup, there are several attempts to reestablish a parliamentary system but the process is thwarted by severe factionalism. The situation is not stabilized until a February 1966 coup puts Hafiz in power and leads to establishment of one-party state under neo-Ba'athist rule.
	Complex	6/1979	2/1982	Militants of the Muslim Brotherhood initiate a terror and assassination campaign against the Alawite-dominated, Baathist regime. Following a coup attempt in January 1982, government forces move to crush the militants' stronghold in Hama in February 1982 (REV 6/1979-2/1982; GEN 4/1981-2/1982).
	Ethnic War	3/2011	—	Popular protests among Syria's majority Sunni population broke out in March 2011 against the minority Alawite-dominated regime of Bashar al Assad. Protests were answered by a violent crackdown by security forces. The opposition countered by forming a Free Syria Army. Violence escalated despite international efforts to broker reforms.
Tajikistan	Revolutionary War	4/1992	12/1998	Post-Soviet government transition halted as civil war plagues ethnically and regionally diverse country. Most of the fighting decreases with 1997 peace accord and largely ends by December 1998.

Political Instability Task Force (PITF) Consolidated Problem Set, Historical State Armed Conflicts and Regime Crises, 1955-2018¹

Country	Type of Conflict	Began	Ended	Brief Description
Thailand	Complex	11/1965	12/1983	A Maoist insurgency begins in November 1965 in outlying regions and increases through the 1970s (REV 11/1965-12/1983). Insurgency collapses in 1983 amid mass defections. Prime Minister Thanom executes coup against his own government, thereby ending three-year experiment with limited parliamentary democracy (ARC 11/1971). Persistent guerrilla insurgency and open warfare between leftist students and rightist paramilitary groups triggers military coup; military establishes hard-line civilian government that restricts political liberties and civil rights (ARC 10/1976).
	Complex	1/2004	—	Although sporadic attacks had occurred since 2001, the long-simmering conflict between Thai authorities and Muslim separatists in provinces along the southern border with Malaysia escalated to serious violence in January 2004 (ETH from 1/2004). A growing division between the rural, populist support base of Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra and the urban elites becomes highly factionalized following the January 23, 2006, sale of the Thaksin family's interests in the Shin Corporation for US\$1.6 billion. On February 24, 2006, Thaksin dissolved the National Assembly and called new elections in response to increasing protests demanding his resignation; the opposition quickly announced that they would boycott the elections. The confrontation continued to escalate following the victory by Thaksin's Thai Rak Thai party in the uncontested April 2 elections, which was subsequently declared invalid by the Constitutional Court. After Thaksin failed to honor his promise to resign his leadership, the Thai military ousted his government on September 19, 2006, while Thaksin was out of the country on an official visit (ARC 9/2006). Civilian government is re-established; however, near continuous confrontations between "red shirts" and "yellow shirts" leads to paralysis of the government led by Yingluck Shinawatra. The military declared martial law on 20 May and took control of the government on 22 May 2014; a military government led by Gen. Prayuth Chan-ocha was imposed (ARC 5/2014).
Turkey	Regime Change	4/1971	4/1971	Amid widespread social unrest, military oversees resignation of leftwing civilian government and initiates period of "guided democracy" under "above party" administrators.
	Complex	9/1980	—	Parliamentary instability and widespread social unrest triggers military coup. Political activity banned as military lays groundwork for restoration of democracy under military supervision (ARC 9/1980). Kurds of militant PKK (Kurdistan Workers' Party) engage in protracted conflict with Turkish authorities in quest for independence, provoking deadly counterinsurgency campaigns (ETH 8/1984-2/2000). Following the capture of leader Ocalan, PKK renounces violence in February 2000. Emboldened by the establishment of an autonomous Kurdish area in neighboring Iraq (which provides refuge and support), Kurdish militants renounce their unilateral cease-fire in June 2004 and renew attacks in Turkey (ETH from 6/2004). Having voiced his desire to alter the constitution to make Turkey a presidential system, the leader of the Islamic Justice and Development Party (AKP) Recep Tayyip Erdoğan has concentrated personal authority after gaining election as president on 28 August 2014 and used a failed coup attempt on 15 July 2016 as a pretense to continue, widen, and deepen his systematic elimination of opposition to his personal ambitions for Turkey (ARC 8/2014-7/2016).

Political Instability Task Force (PITF) Consolidated Problem Set, Historical State Armed Conflicts and Regime Crises, 1955-2018¹

Country	Type of Conflict	Began	Ended	Brief Description
Uganda	Complex	4/1966	5/2006	Allegations of corruption and persistent ethnic tensions within federal democracy leads to suspension of constitution, centralization of political authority, and creation of de facto one-party state under control of President Obote (ARC 4/1966-12/1969). A rebellion by followers of the Kabaka of Buganda breaks out in May 1966 over loss of regional autonomy and tribal prerogatives and is quickly suppressed by loyalist forces (ETH 5/1966). Gen. Idi Amin seizes power in 1971 and systematically exterminates political opponents and personal enemies. Tribes closely associated with his predecessor also are targeted (GEN 2/1971-4/1979). After Amin is overthrown by Tanzanian intervention, Obote again takes power. Following ouster of Amin, his tribal supporters begin campaign of banditry and rebellion. Langi and Acholi peoples continue rebellion with support from Sudan; December 1999 agreement between Sudan and Uganda (Nairobi Accords) ends support and rebel activity lessens for a time but reignites when Ugandan troops enter Sudan in April 2002 to attack Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) rebel bases. Peace talks resume and an effective cease-fire is implemented in May 2006 while talks continue (ETH 10/1980-5/2006). Obote's other political and tribal rivals are slaughtered on massive scale (GEN 12/1980-1/1986). Widespread corruption, repression, and ethnic conflict lead to overthrow of Obote's military-backed civilian regime by General Museveni's National Resistance Army (REV 1/1983-12/1985; ARC 7/1985-1/1986).
Ukraine	Complex	3/2014	—	Following the forced resignation of pro-Russian President Viktor Yanukovich on 22 February 2014, the Crimea votes to secede and is annexed by Russia (ARC 3/2014); ethnic-Russians in the eastern regions of Ukraine organize militias to enforce regional autonomy (ETH from 4/2014).
United Kingdom	Ethnic War	1/1971	10/1982	Catholic IRA (Irish Republican Army) uses terror against British forces and militant Protestants in quest for union with Republic of Ireland. Violence begins to subside in late 1970s and early 1980s as all sides search for alternatives to violence, eventually culminating in October 1994 peace agreement.
Uruguay	Regime Change	11/1971	2/1973	Two-party democracy is undermined by Tupamaro's campaign of urban guerrilla warfare. Army mutiny leads to dissolution of Congress and creation of civilian-military rule.
USSR (Soviet Union)	Regime Change	8/1991	12/1991	Popular front movements win control of Baltic republic governments and declare sovereignty. Russian Republic (RSFSR) Congress adopts declaration of sovereignty, and Russian President Boris Yeltsin uses his new position of power to challenge authority of Gorbachev. Failed coup by Communist hard-liners leads to formal dissolution of USSR.
Venezuela	Complex	7/2017	—	Since the death of President Hugo Chavez in March 2013, the ruling United Socialist Party and his successor, Nicolas Maduro, had struggled to maintain control of the government over an increasing activist opposition. After the opposition gained control of the legislature in December 2015 elections, the Maduro government relied on their control of the courts to thwart opposition initiatives. In July 2017, the government and the legislature held "dueling" ballots on a Constituent Assembly to restructure the paralyzed political system. Supporters of President Maduro and the United Socialist Party elected members to a Constituent Assembly which then granted itself legislative authority on 18 August 2017 and acted to supplant the National Assembly, effectively instituting an auto-coup and creating a one-party state (ARC 8/2017). Under intense pressure from urban protests and international criticism, President Maduro created the Special Action Forces (FAES) division within the Bolivarian National Police (PNB) empowered to use lethal force to enforce loyalty to the regime (GEN from 7/2017).
Vietnam, South	Complex	1/1958	4/1975	South Vietnamese communists, supported by North Vietnam, rebel against regime; war becomes internationalized civil war in 1965 (REV 1/1958-4/1975); fighting continues until South Vietnamese government falls and Vietnam is reunified in 1975. Government military and paramilitary forces engage in killings, reprisals, and bombardments against villagers supporting Viet Cong (GEN 1/1965-4/1975).
Yemen, North	Revolutionary War	9/1962	1/1970	Royalist and Republican forces battle for control of government. Rival tribes join on opposite sides.
Yemen, South	Revolutionary War	1/1986	2/1986	Rival factions in the Yemen Socialist Party (YSP) battle for control of government.

Political Instability Task Force (PITF) Consolidated Problem Set, Historical State Armed Conflicts and Regime Crises, 1955-2018¹

Country	Type of Conflict	Began	Ended	Brief Description
Yemen	Revolutionary War	4/1994	7/1994	Transition toward unified Yemen undermined by factional fighting, finally erupting with southern declaration of secession in May 1994. Rebellion quickly collapses when northern forces capture Aden in July 1994.
	Complex	6/2004	—	Followers of dissident cleric Husain Badr al-Din al-Huthi create a stronghold in Saada; government forces attack In June 2004. Leader al-Huthi is killed in September 2004, however, serious fighting flares again in early 2005 (REV 6/2004-12/2014). Widespread discontent with the regime of President Ali Abdullah Saleh sparks major demonstrations beginning in late January 2011. The protests continue and lead to a spilt in the ruling elites and international pressure for Saleh to transfer power to an interim government. Negotiations fail and violence increases, particularly in the south where support for secession has remained strong since Yemen's unification in May 1990. Militants associated with al Qaeda of the Arabia Peninsula (AQAP) and southern secessionists complicate local dynamics and trigger a US military response (REV 5/2011-12/2014). Houthi (Zaydi) rebels join forces with supporters of former President Ali Abdullah Saleh to seize control of the capital, Sanaa, forcing the government of Interim President Mansur Hadi to flee (ARC from 9/2014). Supporters of the Hadi government establish a base in Aden and civil ensues. Hadi forces are supported militarily by a coalition forces led by Saudi Arabia (REV from 1/2015).
Yugoslavia	Complex	6/1991	1/1992	Slovenes and Croats fight wars of independence against Yugoslav federal troops (ETH 6/1991-1/1992). Federated Republic disintegrates after Communist government allows multiparty elections and republic administrations vote to secede from union (ARC 6/1991-7/1991).
	Complex	2/1998	6/1999	President Milosevic rescinds Kosovo autonomy in 1989, leading to a 1990 declaration of independence by ethnic Albanians, who establish shadow government and form Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA) in 1996. KLA mobilizes resistance to Serbian control of Kosovo, precipitating crackdown by Yugoslav Army in February 1998. Sustained NATO bombing campaign forces Yugoslavia to accept ceasefire and NATO administration of Kosovo in June 1999 (ETH 2/1998-6/1999). Serb militias and Yugoslav armed forces target ethnic Albanians (GEN 2/1998-6/1999).
Zambia	Complex	7/1964	12/1972	Fighting breaks out in July 1964 when followers of the militant, anarchist Lumpa Church defy UNLP government. Clashes continue until Lumpa leaders, having voluntarily surrendered, are released in September (REV 7/1964-9/1964). Democratic institutions are weakened when political opposition to President Kaunda is restricted. Kaunda consolidates his political authority with formal establishment of one-party state (ARC 8/1968-12/1972).
	Regime Change	11/1996	11/1996	Constitutional amendments disqualify main opposition leader; President Chiluba easily wins subsequent elections.
Zimbabwe	Complex	12/1972	12/1987	White-dominated government fights black nationalists of ZAPU (Zimbabwe African People's Union) and ZANU (Zimbabwe African National Union), leading to negotiated settlement and black majority government (REV 12/1972-12/1979). Ndebele people initiate rioting and local rebellions against Shona-dominated ZANU governing coalition (ETH 6/1981-12/1987). Ethnic tensions and crackdown on political opposition weaken Zimbabwe's fragile democratic institutions. Merger of ZAPU with ruling ZANU effectively establishes one-party system (ARC 12/1987).

Notes:

1. The PITF Problem Set list of “Historical Conflicts, Crises, and Transitions” is an updated and enhanced version of earlier versions that first appeared in Esty, Gurr, Goldstone, Surko, and Unger, *Working Papers: State Failure Task Force Report* (McLean, VA: Science Applications International Corporation, November 1995), and subsequently in the second (July 1998) and third (September 2000) State Failure Task Force reports. A comprehensive review of cases was undertaken in 2000-2001 and substantial revisions to cases were made, particularly in regard to beginning and end dates. Updates and enhancements were undertaken by researchers under the direction of Monty G. Marshall and the refined version first appeared in Jack A. Goldstone, Ted Robert Gurr, Barbara Harff,

Marc A. Levy, Monty G. Marshall, Robert H. Bates, David L. Epstein, Colin H. Kahl, Thomas M. Parris, John C. Ulfelder, Mark Woodward, and Michael Lustik, *Political Instability Task Force Report: Phase IV Findings* (McLean, VA: Science Applications International Corporation, November 2003) and in all subsequent reports. Area experts have reviewed the list on several occasions; several cases were added, deleted, or modified on their recommendation. Specific information on individual cases and coding rules can be found on the Center for Systemic Peace Web site: <http://www.systemicpeace.org/inscrdata.html>. The current version of the PITF Problem Set covers the years 1955-2018; the accompanying codebook version is dated 2 September 2019.

2. Complex events are made up of two or more temporally linked wars and crises. If events overlap or if five years or less separate the end of one event and the onset of the next distinct event, they are combined into complex events (subsequent flareups of events are considered continuations). The specific types of events and their dates, if different from the dates of the complex event, are shown in parentheses after the description.
3. A dash in place of an ending date indicates a failure that is ongoing as of December 31, 2018.
4. ARC = Adverse Regime Change; ETH = Ethnic War; REV = Revolutionary War; GEN = Genocide/politicide.
5. Some problem cases may have begun prior to the officially recognized date of independence in some former colonial and secessionist states. In general, changes in state structures (i.e., the basic units of analysis) present special difficulties in analyzing issues of continuity and change in political behavior and complex societal conflict processes. Problem cases that coincide with the independence of states are not used in modeling the factors associated with the start of new problems.
6. The dissolution of the Pakistani union (state code PKS) in December 1971 produces a discontinuity in the nature of the Pakistan state. As such, the subsequent complex failure in (formerly West) Pakistan (state code PAK) that begins in February 1973 is considered to be unrelated to the previous complex state failure, despite the fact that it occurs within five years of the ending of the earlier failure and is coded as a separate consolidated event.