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Lotta Harbom & Peter Wallensteen

Uppsala Conflict Data Program (UCDP)

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Abstract

In 2009, UCDP recorded 36 active armed conflicts, down by one from 2008. Having remained fairly stable over the past few years, the number of armed conflicts is now substantially lower than during the peak years of the early 1990s. But compared to the early years of this decade, the figure has increased by 24%. Six of the conflicts reached the level of war (more than 1,000 battle-related deaths) in 2009, up by one from 2008. No interstate conflict was recorded, but seven intrastate conflicts were internationalized, in the sense that one or both of the conflict parties received troops support from an external state. The most intense war in terms of fatalities was that in Sri Lanka. Eight of the armed conflicts listed for 2008 were not active in 2009, but during the year, one entirely new conflict erupted in Myanmar (Kokang), two were restarted by previously recorded actors in Angola (Cabinda) and in Rwanda and four previously recorded conflicts were restarted by new actors in Central African Republic, India (Bodoland), Nigeria and Yemen. Only one peace agreement was concluded during the year, which is decidedly lower than the annual average recorded for the past 20 years.

Keywords

conflict, data, dyad, peace agreement

Since the end of World War II, a total of 244 armed conflicts have been active in 151 locations worldwide. The annual incidence of conflict and conflict dyads¹ since 1989 is recorded in Tables I and II and Figure 1 shows the trend in the number of armed conflicts since 1946. Furthermore, Table I contains information about the intensity of the armed conflicts, whereas Table II focuses on their regional distribution. In addition, Figure 1 gives information about the different types of armed conflict over the time period.

In 2009, 36 armed conflicts were active in 27 locations. This is one conflict less than recorded in 2008, but the same number of locations.² At 36, the figure remains substantially lower than during the peak years of the early 1990s, when over 50 conflicts were recorded. However, compared to the early years of this decade, the figure has increased by 24%. UCDP recorded 45 active dyads in 2009, down by three from 2008.

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¹ A dyad is defined as a pair of warring parties. In interstate conflicts, these warring parties are governments of states, whereas in intrastate conflicts, one is the government of a state and the other is a rebel group. For more information about the dyadic dimension of armed conflicts, see Harbom, Melander & Wallensteen (2008). The UCDP dyadic dataset can be downloaded from http://www.pcr.uu.se/research/UCDP/data_and_publications/datasets.htm.

² Last year (Harbom & Wallensteen, 2009) we reported 36 conflicts for 2008. Based on new information, we have added the conflict between the Ugandan government and the rebel group LRA. Tables I–II, Figure 1, the UCDP database (www.ucdp.uu.se/database), the UCDP Dyadic Dataset and the UCDP/PRIO Armed Conflict Dataset have been amended accordingly.

In seven of the 36 armed conflicts, two dyads were active and in one conflict, three. Thus, a little over one-fifth of the armed conflicts active in 2009 saw more than one rebel group challenging the government.

Six conflicts reached the intensity of war in 2009, meaning that there were 1,000 or more battle-related deaths. Up by one since 2008, this figure is still considerably lower than during the peak years of the late 1980s and early 1990s, when the annual figure ranged between 12 and 16 for 11 consecutive years. As the wars, the number of battle-related deaths has declined substantially but erratically since the early 1990s, with one big peak in 1999–2000, caused by the conflict between Eritrea and Ethiopia.³ In 2009, as in 2008, the conflict between the Sri Lankan government and the LTTE caused the highest number of deaths, followed by the conflicts in Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iraq, Rwanda and Somalia. In fighting in the Sri Lankan conflict – which in 2009 resulted in the defeat of the LTTE rebels after more than 24 years of conflict – UCDP recorded somewhere between 7,400 and 9,000 battle-related deaths. As these deaths were solely incurred in fighting between January and mid-May, they give an indication of how intense the confrontation was.⁴

³ This has been shown by Lacina and Gleditsch (2005). New data from UCDP also demonstrate this decline. UCDP has coded specific fatality figures in all three categories of organized violence (armed conflicts of the type reported here [i.e. where at least one of the parties is the government of a state], non-state conflict and one-sided violence) for the years 1989–2009. The data will be released in a geo-referenced event format in early 2011.

Table I. Armed conflicts and conflict locations, 1989–2009

Level of conflict	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	1989–2009 ^a
Minor	30	34	38	41	33	36	35	32	33	26	26	26	26	25	24	25	27	28	31	32	30	84
War	13	16	13	12	11	11	7	8	7	13	13	11	10	7	5	7	5	5	4	5	6	47
All conflicts	43	50	51	53	44	47	42	40	40	39	39	37	36	32	29	32	32	33	35	37	36	131
All dyads	61	67	66	64	56	57	48	50	55	53	51	49	48	46	40	44	38	46	44	48	45	263
All locations	36	37	38	39	31	34	31	30	29	32	31	28	29	24	23	24	23	24	25	27	27	80

^a At the highest level recorded.

Table II. Armed conflicts by region, 1989–2009^a

Region	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	1989–2009
Europe	2	3	7	8	9	5	5	1	0	2	3	1	2	1	1	2	2	1	2	2	1	23
Middle East	4	7	8	7	7	6	6	7	4	3	3	3	3	2	2	3	5	5	4	4	5	13
Asia	16	21	15	20	15	16	16	18	19	16	15	17	14	12	16	14	16	15	14	15	15	39
Africa	12	13	16	14	10	16	11	11	15	16	16	15	15	15	9	10	7	10	12	13	12	41
Americas	9	6	5	4	3	4	4	3	2	2	2	1	2	2	1	3	2	2	3	3	3	15
All conflicts	43	50	51	53	44	47	42	40	40	39	39	37	36	32	29	32	32	33	35	37	36	131

^a For data back to 1946, see www.pcr.uu.se/research/UCDP/data_and_publications/datasets.htm or www.prio.no/csw/ArmedConflict.

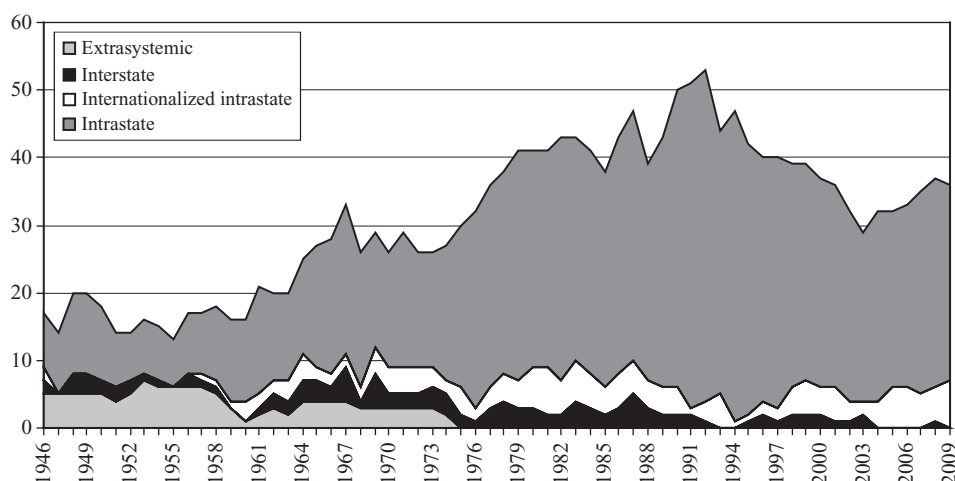


Figure 1. Number of armed conflicts by type, 1946–2009

In 2008, UCDP recorded the first interstate conflict since 2003 – Djibouti vs. Eritrea – but in 2009, as in 2004–07, all 36 registered conflicts were fought within states. However, as many as seven of these intrastate conflicts were internationalized, in the sense that they involved troops sent from external states in aid of one of the warring parties. These conflicts were in Afghanistan, Algeria, Iraq, Rwanda, Somalia, Uganda and USA.⁵ The names of these conflicts do not necessarily indicate where the actual fighting takes place. Their names reflect the location of the incompatibility – which government it is that is being disputed, or in which country a disputed territory is located. For instance, in the case of the Ugandan conflict, the incompatibility concerns governmental power in Uganda,⁶ but no fighting took place in this country in 2009. Instead, all conflict activity was located in the neighbouring countries –

Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Southern Sudan, as well as in the Central African Republic (CAR).

Only one peace agreement was concluded in 2009. On 23 March, the Congolese rebel group CNDP signed the Ihussi accord with the government, after its leader Laurent Nkunda came under house arrest in Rwanda and was replaced with the more pro-talks Ntaganda Bosco (see more below). Over the past two decades, the signing of peace accords has become a common occurrence in armed conflict, especially in Africa. Some 183 peace agreements have been signed since 1989, with an annual average of almost 9.⁷ However, as previously observed (Harbom, Melander & Wallensteen, 2008) many of the conflicts now recorded are unusually protracted and involve a number of actors. Thus, peacemaking may have become more difficult as the conflicts are more complex, and may require a highly concerted international effort.

Two conflicts (in Angola and Rwanda) were restarted by previously recorded actors. The conflict between the Angolan government and the rebel group FLEC–FAC, fighting for independence for the Cabinda exclave, became active again after a relatively quiet 2008. This conflict has hovered around the 25 battle-related deaths threshold for inclusion for a number of years.

After seven years without serious fighting between the Rwandan government and the rebel group FDLR, based in neighboring DRC, the conflict escalated in 2009. On 20 January 2009, Rwandan government troops crossed into the DRC and launched Operation Umoja Wetu ('Our unity') alongside the Congolese Army. Aspiring to destroy the FDLR's bases as well as to generally weaken the hard core of the group, the operation was deemed a success by the

⁴ Estimating the number of battle-related deaths in Sri Lanka in 2009 was a difficult task. Almost no casualty figures could be independently verified since the Sri Lankan government banned all journalists from the conflict zone and only ICRC (International Committee of the Red Cross) was allowed to operate to some extent in the area. UCDP's figure is based on reports from different aid agencies and news services and is likely to be too low. It is best viewed as a baseline estimation of the number of battle-related deaths; we know that at least this many people were killed in the fighting.

⁵ See Appendix 1 for information on the states contributing troops to these conflicts.

⁶ Many observers and analysts claim that the Ugandan rebel group LRA does not have a political agenda, arguing that any political aims and goals that the group may have had at its foundation have been abandoned and that the rebellion has turned into banditry. However, UCDP continues to record the conflict between the Ugandan government and the LRA as one over governmental power, since the program records 'stated goals of incompatibility', and the group's leader Joseph Kony has announced numerous times that his aim is to replace the Kampala regime. UCDP's coding rule is to rely on the goals that the group itself announces, rather than trying to evaluate or interpret these aims. This rule is strictly enforced so as to avoid any bias and arbitrariness in the data. For more information, see Harbom & Sundberg (2010).

⁷ UCDP Peace Agreement Dataset (dynamic dataset version), downloaded from www.pcr.uu.se/database/dataset.php.

Rwandan side when the country's troops withdrew in late February. However, the FDLR recovered sooner than anticipated, and in March, the Congolese Army, assisted by the United Nations Organization Mission in the DRC (MONUC), launched Operation Kimia II against the rebels. Starting in Nord-Kivu, the operation moved south during the remains of the year. By the end of 2009, the rebels appeared to have been significantly weakened, but this came at a considerable cost for the civilian population in the area, who had become the target of attacks from both sides in the conflict.

In 2009, one new conflict erupted, between the government of Myanmar and the MNDAA, concerning the status of the territory of Kokang in the country's eastern Shan state. Having been granted temporary autonomy in 1989, the MNDAA controlled the territory for the following 20 years. However, in 2009, the government demand, that MNDAA be transformed into a Border Guard force and renounce control of Kokang, spawned the outbreak of the conflict.

Four previously recorded conflicts were restarted by new actors: in the Central African Republic, India (Bodoland), Nigeria and Yemen. In the Central African Republic a conflict was last recorded in 2006, when some of the persons that had helped the country's president, François Bozize, to power in 2003 broke away from the president's fold and created the rebel group UFDR. After sporadic clashes throughout 2006, a peace agreement was concluded in April 2007. During the rest of the year and in 2008, no large-scale fighting erupted in the country, even though the situation remained tense. In January 2009, the new rebel group CPJP emerged in the north-eastern part of the country. In its first official statement, the group demanded the resignation of the president, claiming that he had betrayed his own people. Intermittent fighting between the CPJP and government troops was subsequently reported through the rest of the year.

The conflict between the Indian government and rebels striving for the creation of a separate Indian state of 'Bodoland' (the area north of the river Brahmaputra in Assam in north-eastern India) was active during most of the 1990s and the first years of the 2000s. In 2004, the rebel group NDFB and the government agreed on a truce, and this was followed by a period of relative calm. However, in 2009 fighting erupted again. This was preceded by the ousting of one of NDFB's top leaders from the main, pro-talks faction of the group in 2008, as a result of his alleged involvement in a bombing campaign against civilian targets. The leader, Ranjan Daimary, subsequently resumed the armed struggle with a faction of the original group, loyal to him (NDFB–Ranjan Daimary faction).

In 2009, Nigeria saw the first outbreak of an intrastate conflict over governmental power since 1966, as the Islamic sect Boko Haram emerged as a fighting force. The group had already in 2005 stated its aim of carrying out an armed struggle to set up a puritanical Islamic government, but no fighting erupted until July 2009. Following four days of heavy clashes,

the group's leader, Mohammed Yussuf, was killed and the fighting abated. Although some Boko Haram leaders managed to escape and later made threats of renewed violence, no more attacks were reported during 2009.

In Yemen, an intrastate conflict over government was last recorded in 1979–1982, when the leftist National Democratic Front challenged the then North Yemeni government.⁸ In 2009, a conflict was again recorded in the country as the local al-Qaida branches in Yemen and Saudi Arabia merged and announced the formation of AQAP (al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula). In response, the Yemeni government intensified its military efforts to prevent al-Qaida from gaining more ground in the country, and the end of the year saw several attacks on AQAP strongholds.

Eight conflicts listed in 2008 were no longer active in 2009. In Burundi, the rebel group Palipehutu–FNL did not take up arms again in 2009 after having signed a peace agreement in December 2008. Instead, as a first step to implement the new peace accord, the group was renamed FNL on 8 January – thus removing the controversial reference to ethnicity in its name – and could begin the process of registering as a political party. On 21 April, the Ministry of the Interior approved the FNL's registration, and the group's formal transformation from a rebel group to a political party was completed (HRW, 2008).

In the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), neither the conflict over governmental power nor the one over territory was active in 2009. On the latter, in which the politico-religious movement BDK was fighting the government for independence for the Bas-Congo province, very little information is available. It appears as if activity simply dropped in the already low-intensity conflict, and that it subsequently fell below the 25 battle-related deaths threshold. In the former, the government had fought the rebel group CNDP in the eastern part of the country for three consecutive years when conflict activity dropped in 2009. The decrease in hostilities was mainly tied to the initiation of cooperation between DRC and Rwanda in January 2009. Rwanda had been CNDP's main supporter, but as a part of its deal with DRC – which was mainly focused on targeting the Rwandan FDLR rebels (see above) – Kigali turned on their former patrons and placed CNDP leader Lauren Nkunda under house arrest. The group's new leader, Ntaganda Bosco, was more open to negotiations with the Congolese government, and on 23 March the Ihussi peace accord was concluded between the regime in Kinshasa and the rebel group.

The 2008 interstate conflict between Djibouti and Eritrea, fought over the two countries' common border, which is neither delineated nor demarcated, was not active in 2009. The fighting ceased in mid-2008 and has not recurred since then. The countries remain locked in a tense stand-off, and

⁸ North and South Yemen merged into the Republic of Yemen (simply referred to as 'Yemen' in UCDP data) in 1990.

Eritrea has failed to comply with international calls – including threats of sanctions – to withdraw its forces to status quo ante.

After a week of heavy fighting in August 2008, conflict activity between the breakaway, self-proclaimed Republic of South Ossetia and Georgia came to an end when a ceasefire was signed in mid-August. Only minor violations of the truce were reported through the rest of the year and the conflict did not become active in 2009. With the core question of the status of South Ossetia still unresolved, the situation remained tense, however, and negotiations during the year failed to lead to any tangible results.

Fighting in the conflict between the Indian government and the rebel group DHD–BW did not reach the required threshold for inclusion in 2009, and the conflict was subsequently recorded as not active. DHD–BW, which demands an ethnic homeland for the Dimasa population in parts of Assam and Nagaland in north-eastern India, suffered a heavy blow in June, when its founder and leader Jewel Garlossa was arrested. Over the subsequent months, hundreds of fighters surrendered to the security forces.

Another conflict in north-eastern India also fell below the level for inclusion in 2009: that between the Indian government and the Muslim rebel group PULF. Fighting for the protection of the Muslim community in the north-east, PULF has also stated an aim of wanting to create an Islamic state in the region. Although a few clashes took place during the year, the level of fighting had decreased compared to 2008 and did not reach the level required for an armed conflict in 2009.

Finally, in the conflict fought in northern Niger between the government and the Touareg rebel group MNJ, no fighting was reported in 2009. During the first two years of MNJ activity, 2007 and 2008, the government had refused to open negotiations with the rebels, referring to them as simple bandits. However, in 2009 a peace process was initiated, and many rebels handed in their weapons.

Overall, developments in 2009 do not point clearly in the direction of either the waning of war or its resurgence (Väyrynen, 2006). However, there has been a gradual increase in numbers since 2003. On the aggregate level, the conflict map remains virtually unchanged from year to year. Also, there are many conflicts just above or just below the violence threshold for inclusion. The ‘new’ conflicts in 2009 generally represent fresh outbreaks of violence in old conflicts. The recorded ‘new’ one, the Kokang conflict in Myanmar, has its roots in events in the 1960s and occurred in a country where the government was already fighting two other separatist movements. The most disturbing sign for 2009 is that there was only one new peace agreement. This may not bode well for the future.

Replication data

The complete datasets (UCDP/PRIO Armed Conflict Dataset and UCDP Dyadic Dataset) updated to 2009 are found at

www.pcr.uu.se/research/UCDP/data_and_publications/datasets.htm. Older versions of the dataset can be found both at www.pcr.uu.se/research/UCDP/data_and_publications/datasets_archive.htm and www.prio.no/cscw/armedconflict. The tables and figures in this article were created directly from the Excel sheet at www.pcr.uu.se/research/UCDP/data_and_publications/datasets.htm. Detailed descriptions of the individual conflicts are found at www.ucdp.uu.se/database. Replication data for this article can be found at www.prio.no/jpr/datasets.

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Appendix 1. Armed conflicts active in 2009

This list includes all conflicts that exceeded the minimum threshold of 25 battle-related deaths in 2009 and fulfilled the other criteria for inclusion.¹ The column 'Year' shows the latest range of years in which the conflict has been active without interruption. The start year is found in parenthesis in the 'Incompatibility' column, which indicates when the armed conflict reached 25 battle-related deaths for the first time. If a conflict has been inactive for more than ten years or if there has been a complete change in the opposition side, the start year refers to the onset of the latest phase of the conflict. For more complete information on the conflict history, see (a) the list of armed conflicts 1946–2009, at http://www.pcr.uu.se/research/UCDP/data_and_publications/datasets.htm and (b) the Uppsala Conflict Data Program's online database at <http://www.ucdp.uu.se/database>. For a list of all conflicts *and* dyads 1946–2009, see http://www.pcr.uu.se/research/UCDP/data_and_publications/datasets.htm. The column 'Intensity in 2009' displays the aggregated conflict intensity.² Thus, if more than one dyad is active in the conflict, the intensity column records their aggregated intensity.

<i>Location</i>	<i>Incompatibility</i>	<i>Opposition organization(s) in 2009</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Intensity in 2009</i>
EUROPE				
Russia	Territory (Caucasus Emirate) (2007)	Forces of the Caucasus Emirate	2007–09	Minor
MIDDLE EAST				
Iran	Government (2005)	PJAK (Parti Jiyani Azadi Kurdistan: The Free Life Party of Kurdistan), Jondollah (God's Soldiers)	2005–09	Minor
Iraq	Government ³ (2004)	ISI (Dawlat al-Iraq al-Islamiyya: Islamic State in Iraq)	2004–09	War
Israel	Territory (Palestine) (1949)	Hamas (Harakat al-Muqawama al-Islamiyya: Islamic Resistance Movement), PIJ (Al-Jihad al-Islami fi Filastin: Palestinian Islamic Jihad)	2000–09	Minor
Turkey	Territory (Kurdistan) (1984)	PKK (Partiya Karkezan Kurdistan: Kurdistan Workers' Party) ⁴	1984–2009	Minor
Yemen	Government (2009)	AQAP (al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula)	2009	Minor
ASIA				
Afghanistan	Government ⁵ (1978)	Taliban, Hizb-i Islami-yi Afghanistan (Islamic Party of Afghanistan)	2003–09	War
India	Territory (Assam) (1990)	ULFA (United Liberation Front of Assam)	1994–2009	Minor
	Territory (Bodoland) (1989)	NDFB – RD (National Democratic Front of Bodoland – Ranjan Daimary faction)	2009	Minor
	Territory (Kashmir) (1989)	Kashmir insurgents ⁶	1989–2009	Minor
	Territory (Manipur) (1982)	KCP (Kangleipak Communist Party), PREPAK (People's Revolutionary Party of Kangleipak), UNLF (United National Liberation Front)	2003–09	Minor
	Government (1990)	CPI–M (Communist Party of India–Maoist)	1996–2009	Minor

¹ See p. 8 for further information regarding definitions.

² See p. 8 for definitions of the two levels of intensity.

³ Supported by a USA-led multinational coalition which in 2009 included troops from Australia, El Salvador, Estonia, Romania and the United Kingdom.

⁴ The PKK has changed names three times in as many years: in 2002 to Kadek (Kurdish Freedom and Democracy Congress), in 2003 to the Conference of the People's Congress of Kurdistan (KONGRA-GEL), and in 2005 back to its previous name, PKK.

⁵ Supported by the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) that in 2009 included troops from: Albania, Australia, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, the UK and the USA. While all these countries contributed troops to ISAF, some did not have a mandate to fight. All the countries are listed here because information on the mandates of individual states' troops is often sensitive and hard to find.

⁶ A large number of groups have been active. Sixty groups were reported active in 1990, 140 in 1991, and 180 in 1992. Some of the larger groups have been JKLF (Jammu & Kashmir Liberation Front), the Hizb-ul-Mujahideen and, in recent years, also the Harkat-ul-Mujahideen, Lashkar-e-Taiba, and Jesh-e-Mohammad.

Myanmar	Territory (Karen) (1949)	KNU (Karen National Union)	2005–09	Minor
	Territory (Kokang) (2009)	MNDAA (Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army)	2009	Minor
	Territory (Shan) (1996)	SSA-s (Shan State Army – South Command)	2005–09	Minor
Pakistan	Territory (Baluchistan) (2004)	BLA (Baluchistan Liberation Army), BRA (Baluchistan Republican Army)	2004–09	Minor
	Government (2007)	TTP (Tehrik-i-Taleban Pakistan: Movement of the Taliban in Pakistan)	2007–09	War
Philippines	Territory (Mindanao) (1970)	ASG (Abu Sayyaf Group), MILF (Moro Islamic Liberation Front)	1993–2009	Minor
	Government (1969)	CPP (Communist Party of the Philippines)	1999–2009	Minor
Sri Lanka	Territory (Eelam) (1984)	LTTE (Thamil Eelam Viduthala Puligal: Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam)	2005–09	War
Thailand	Territory (Patani) (2003)	Patani insurgents	2003–09	Minor
AFRICA				
Algeria	Government ⁷ (1991)	AQIM (Al-Qaeda Organization in the Islamic Maghreb) ⁸	1991–2009	Minor
Angola	Territory (Cabinda) (1991)	FLEC-FAC (Frente da libertação do enclave de Cabinda—Forças armadas de Cabinda: Front for the Liberation of the Enclave of Cabinda—Armed Forces of Cabinda)	2009	Minor
Central African Republic	Government (2001)	CPJP (Convention des patriotes pour la justice et la paix: the Convention of Patriots for Justice and Peace)	2009	Minor
Chad	Government (2005)	UFR (Union des Forces de la Résistance: Union of Forces for the Resistance)	2005–09	Minor
Ethiopia	Territory (Ogaden) (1994)	ONLF (Ogaden National Liberation Front)	2004–09	Minor
	Territory (Oromya) (1977)	OLF (Oromo Liberation Front)	1998–2009	Minor
Mali	Territory (Azawad) (2007)	ATNMC (Alliance Touareg Nord Mali pour le Changement: North Mali Tuareg Alliance for Change) ⁹	2007–09	Minor
Nigeria	Government (2009)	Boko Haram (Western civilization is forbidden)	2009	Minor
Rwanda	Government ¹⁰ (1997)	FDLR (Forces Démocratiques de Libération du Rwanda: Democratic Liberation Forces of Rwanda)	2009	War
Somalia	Government ¹¹ (2006)	Al-Shabaab (The Youth), Hizbul Islam (Islamic Party) ¹²	2006–09	War
Sudan	Government ¹³	JEM (Justice and Equality Movement), SLM/A (Sudan Liberation Movement/Army)	1983–2009	Minor
Uganda	Government ¹⁴ (1979)	LRA (Lord's Resistance Army)	2008–09	Minor
AMERICAS				
Colombia	Government (1964)	FARC (Fuerzas armadas revolucionarias colombianas: Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia)	1964–2009	Minor
Peru	Government (1982)	Sendero Luminoso (Shining Path)	2007–09	Minor
USA	Government ¹⁵ (2001)	Al-Qaida (The Base)	2004–09	Minor

⁷ In 2009 the Algerian government was supported by troops from Mali.

⁸ Until January 2007, AQIM was known as GSPC (al-Jama'ah al-Salafiyyah lil-Da'wah wal-Qital: Groupe Salafiste pour la prédication et le combat: Salafist Group for Preaching and Combat).

⁹ ATNMC changed its name from ADC – B (Alliance démocratique de 23 Mai pour le changement – Ibrahim Bahanga faction: May 23 Democratic Alliance for Change – Ibrahim Bahanga faction) in early 2008.

¹⁰ Supported by troops from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

¹¹ Supported by troops from Ethiopia.

¹² Hizbul-Islam was previously coded as the Alliance for the Re-liberation of Somalia/Union of Islamic Courts (ARS/UIC). In line with UCDDP coding rules, the umbrella group Hizbul-Islam is seen as the continuation of ARS/UIC since the latter was the only group entering the alliance that had previously been recorded in UCDDP data.

¹³ While all the groups listed here are based in the Dafur region, their overall goal is to change the political system in the entire country. Thus, the incompatibility is over government, as opposed to territory.

¹⁴ Supported by troops from DRC, Southern Sudan and Central African Republic.

¹⁵ In 2009, the USA was supported by a multinational coalition that included troops from Afghanistan, Pakistan and Romania. Reliable information on states contributing troops is sensitive and hard to find, so this list should be seen as preliminary.

Definitions

An armed conflict is defined by the Uppsala Conflict Data Program (UCDP) as a contested incompatibility that concerns government or territory or both, where the use of armed force between two parties results in at least 25 battle-related deaths in a year. Of these two parties, at least one has to be the government of a state.

The incompatibility is the stated (in writing or verbally) generally incompatible positions.

A more detailed definition can be found on UCDP's webpage, at <http://www.ucdp.uu.se>.

The conflicts are divided according to their intensity into two categories:

- *Minor armed conflicts*: at least 25 battle-related deaths in a year but fewer than 1,000.
- *War*: at least 1,000 battle-related deaths in a year.

Furthermore, the conflicts are divided according to type of conflict.¹⁶

- *Interstate armed conflict* occurs between two or more states.
- *Internationalized internal armed conflict* occurs between the government of a state and internal opposition groups, with intervention from other states in the form of troops.
- *Internal armed conflict* occurs between the government of a state and internal opposition groups.

¹⁶ UCDP has also coded a fourth type, extrastate armed conflict, a conflict that occurs between a state and a non-state group outside its own territory. These conflicts are by definition territorial. The last such conflict ended in 1974, so this category is not applicable in Appendix 1.

Appendix 2. Unclear cases in 2009

Cases that have been completely rejected on the grounds that they definitely do not meet the criteria of armed conflict are *not* included in the list below. For the conflicts listed here, the available information suggests the *possibility* of the cases meeting the criteria of armed conflicts, but there is insufficient information concerning at least one of the three components of the definition: (a) the number of deaths; (b) the identity or level of organization of a party or (c) the type of incompatibility. For unclear cases for the entire 1946-2009 period, see www.pcr.uu.se/uncdp/research/our_data1.htm or www.prio.no/cwp/armedconflict. The unclear aspect may concern an entire conflict or a dyad in a conflict that *is* included in Appendix 1 (e.g. Houmat al-Daawa al-Salafia in the Algeria conflict).

<i>Location/Government</i>	<i>Opposition organization</i>	<i>Unclear aspect</i>
Algeria	DHDS (Djamat Houmat Daawa Salafia: Protectors of the Salafi Call)	Number of deaths
Democratic Republic of Congo	Patriots-Resistance of Dongo	Incompatibility
India	DHD–BW (Dima Haram Daogah–Black Widow)	Number of deaths
Indonesia	OPM (Organisasi Papua merdeka: Organization for a Free Papua)	Identity of organization
Nigeria	MEND (Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta)	Incompatibility
Yemen	Shabab al-Mu'mineen (the Believing Youth)	Incompatibility