

Civil Wars

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Note sur le contenu : Introduction A short history of civil wars and why civil wars matter What is a civil war? Causes of civil war Consequences Transnational effects External involvement Ending civil wars The past, present, and future of civil wars

Résumé ou extrait : Civil wars are the most common form of large-scale political violence. They are usually nasty, brutish, and long. Their causes are complex; ranging from fights over access to housing, jobs, and arable land or other resources, to political contests over offices, rights, and representation. Monica Duffy Toft explains how the study of civil wars has evolved, from in-depth, one-off case studies, to sophisticated statistical analysis and formal modeling. Although much of the actual fighting in civil wars remains the same, other factors have changed; including the actions of the international community.

"Prior to the 1990s most scholars approached civil wars as one-off events, with little general theorizing

across them. That is no longer the case. In fact, in the past 30 years, the study of civil wars has been one of the largest growing segments of the international relations field. Civil wars are nasty, brutish and long. Their causes are complex; ranging from fights over access to housing, jobs, access to arable land or other resources, to political contests over offices, rights, and representation. Because civil wars tend to drag on, motives and relevant actors shift. Groups form, collapse, coalesce, align and realign, and then fight among themselves. Governments themselves change through elections, coups, military defeats, or revolutions. Understanding the origins of civil wars and their trajectories therefore demands some appreciation of the economic, political, social-cultural, and geographic order of societies. If there is one factor that best predicts why a civil war erupts, it is a prior civil war. That's why knowledge of a country's history of political violence, and associated narratives about who is to blame and why, are critical to understanding where a civil war might next occur. Moreover, once we have an understanding for why civil wars happen where and when they did, we have a much better sense for how a civil war might cross borders or eventually end." (éd.)

Sujet - Nom commun : Guerre civile -- 20e siècle

Guerre civile -- 2000-....

Guerre -- Origines -- 20e siècle

Gestion des conflits -- 20e siècle

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