

Annex 1. Summary of armed conflicts in 2023¹

Conflict ² -beginning-	Type ³	Main parties ⁴	Intensity ⁵
			Trend ⁶
AFRICA			
Burundi -2015-	Internationalised internal	Government, Imbonerakure Youth branch, political party CNDD-FDD, political party CNL, armed groups RED-Tabara, FPB (previously FOREBU), FNL	1
	Government		↑
Cameroon (Ambazonia/ North West and South West) -2018-	Internationalised internal	Government of Cameroon, government of Nigeria, political-military secessionist movement including the opposition Ambazonia Coalition Team (ACT, including IG Sako, to which the armed groups Lebialem Red Dragons and SOCADEF belong) and the Ambazonia Governing Council (AGovC, including IG Sisiku, whose armed wing is the Ambazonia Defence Forces, ADF), different militias and smaller armed groups	2
	Self-government, Identity		=
CAR -2006-	Internationalised internal	Government, armed groups that are members of the Coalition of Patriots for Change (CPC, made up of anti-balaka factions led by Mokom and Ngaïssona, 3R, FPRC, MPC and UPC), Siriri ethnic armed opposition coalition AAKG, other local and foreign armed groups, France, MINUSCA, Rwanda, Russia, Wagner Group	2
	Government, Resources		=
DRC (east) -1998-	Internationalised internal	DRC, Angola, Burundi, MONUSCO, EAC Regional Force (Burundi, Kenya, Uganda and South Sudan), SAMIDRC (SADC Regional Force composed by South Africa, Malawi and Tanzania); pro-government militias Volunteers for the Defence of the Homeland (VDP, known as Wazalendo, composed of dozens of former Mai Mai militias and other armed groups from North Kivu and South Kivu, like APCLS, PARECO-FF, Nyatura, Raïa Mutomboki), FDLR, FDLR splinter groups (CNRD-Ubwiyunge, RUD-Urunana), private security companies (Agemira RDC and Congo Protection); March 23 Movement (M23), Twirwaneho, Rwanda; other armed groups not part of Wazalendo, Burundian armed groups; ugandan armed group LRA; Ituri groups and community militias (including CODECO/URDPC, FPIC, FRPI, MAPI, Zaire-FPAC)	3
	Government, Identity, Resources		↑
DRC (east – ADF) -2014-	Internationalised internal	DRC, Uganda, Mai-Mai militias, armed opposition group ADF, MONUSCO	3
	System, Resources		=

1. Table from Escola de Cultura de Pau, *Alert 2024! Report on conflicts, human rights and peacebuilding*. Barcelona: Icaria 2024.
2. This column includes the states in which armed conflicts are taking place, specifying in brackets the region within each state to which the crisis is confined or the name of the armed group involved in the conflict
3. This report classifies and analyses armed conflicts using two criteria: on the one hand, the causes or clashes of interests and, on the other hand, the convergence between the scenario of conflict and the actors involved. The following main causes can be distinguished: demands for self-determination and self-government (Self-government) or identity aspirations (Identity); opposition to the political, economic, social or ideological system of a state (System) or the internal or international policies of a government (Government), which in both cases produces a struggle to take or erode power; or the struggle for the control of resources (Resources) or territory (Territory). In respect of the second type, the armed conflicts may be of an internal, Internationalised internal or international nature. An internal armed conflict is defined as a conflict involving armed actors from the same state who operate exclusively within the territory of this state. Secondly, an internationalised internal armed conflict is defined as that in which at least one of the parties involved is foreign and/or in which the tension spills over into the territory of neighbouring countries. Another factor taken into account in order to consider an armed conflict as internationalised internal is the existence of military bases of armed groups in neighbouring countries (in connivance with these countries) from which attacks are launched. Finally, an international conflict is one in which state and non-state parties from two or more countries confront each other. It should also be taken into account that most current armed conflicts have a significant regional or international dimension and influence due, among other factors, to flows of refugees, the arms trade, economic or political interests (such as legal or illegal exploitation of resources) that the neighbouring countries have in the conflict, the participation of foreign combatants or the logistical and military support provided by other states.
4. This column shows the actors that intervene directly in the hostilities. The main actors who participate directly in the conflicts are made up of a mixture of regular or irregular armed parties. The conflicts usually involve the government, or its armed forces, fighting against one or several armed opposition groups, but can also involve other irregular groups such as clans, guerrillas, warlords, armed groups in opposition to each other or militias from ethnic or religious communities. Although they most frequently use conventional weapons, and more specifically small arms (which cause most deaths in conflicts), in many cases other methods are employed, such as suicide attacks, bombings and sexual violence and even hunger as a weapon of war. There are also other actors who do not directly participate in the armed activities but who nevertheless have a significant influence on the conflict.
5. The intensity of an armed conflict (high, medium or low) and its trend (escalation of violence, reduction of violence, unchanged) are evaluated mainly on the basis of how deadly it is (number of fatalities) and according to its impact on the population and the territory. Moreover, there are other aspects worthy of consideration, such as the systematisation and frequency of the violence or the complexity of the military struggle (complexity is normally related to the number and fragmentation of the actors involved, to the level of institutionalisation and capacity of the state, and to the degree of internationalisation of the conflict, as well as to the flexibility of objectives and to the political will of the parties to reach agreements). As such, high-intensity armed conflicts are usually defined as those that cause over 1,000 fatalities per year, as well as affecting a significant proportion of the territory and population, and involving several actors (who forge alliances, confront each other or establish a tactical coexistence). Medium and low intensity conflicts, with over 100 fatalities per year, have the aforementioned characteristics but with a more limited presence and scope. An armed conflict is considered ended when a significant and sustained reduction in armed hostilities occurs, whether due to a military victory, an agreement between the actors in conflict, demobilisation by one of the parties, or because one of the parties abandons or significantly scales down the armed struggle as a strategy to achieve certain objectives. None of these options necessarily mean that the underlying causes of the armed conflict have been overcome. Nor do they exclude the possibility of new outbreaks of violence. The temporary cessation of hostilities, whether formal or tacit, does not necessarily imply the end of the armed conflict.
6. This column compares the trend of the events of 2023 with those that of 2022. The escalation of violence symbol (↑) indicates that the general situation in 2023 has been more serious than in the previous year; the reduction of violence symbol (↓) indicates an improvement in the situation; and the unchanged (=) symbol indicates that no significant changes have taken place.

Conflict -beginning-	Type	Main parties	Intensity
			Trend
AFRICA			
DRC (west) -2023-	Internal	DRC, Teke community militias, Yaka community militias (including the armed group Mobondo) and other allied community militias	2
	Identity, Resources, Territory		↑
Ethiopia (Amhara) -2023-	Internationalised internal	Government of Ethiopia, government of Amhara Region, Amharic Fano militia	3
	Government, Self-government, Identity		↑
Ethiopia (Oromia) -2022-	Internal	Government of Ethiopia, government of Oromia Region, armed group Oromo Liberation Army (OLA), Amharic Fano militia	3
	Self-government, Identity, Resources		=
Ethiopia (Tigray) -2020-	Internationalised internal	Government of Ethiopia, government of Eritrea, security forces and militias of the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF), security forces of the Amhara and Afar regions, Amharic Fano militia	End
	Government, Self-government, Identity		↓
Lake Chad Region (Boko Haram) - 2011-	Internationalised internal	Government of Nigeria, pro-government militia Civilian Joint Task Force, Boko Haram factions (ISWAP, JAS-Abubakar Shekau, Ansaru, Bakura), civilian militias, Multinational Joint Task Force (MNJTF – Benin, Nigeria, Cameroon, Chad, Niger)	3
	System		=
Libya -2011-	Internationalised internal	Government of National Unity based in Tripoli; government based in Tobruk; various armed groups, including the Libyan National Army (LNA, also called the Arab Libyan Armed Forces, ALAF); ISIS; AQIM; mercenaries; Wagner Group; Turkey	1
	Government, Resources, System		=
Mali -2012-	Internationalised internal	Government, Permanent Strategic Framework for Peace, Security and Development (CSP-PSD), which brings together the armed groups affiliated with CMA (MNLA, MAA faction, CPA, HCUA) and Platform (GATIA, CMPFPR, MAA faction); Group for the Support of Islam and Muslims (JNIM or GSIM); Islamic State in Greater Sahara (ISGS), also known as Islamic State's West Africa Province (ISWAP); Katiba Macina; MINUSMA; Russia; Wagner Group	3
	System, Self-government, Identity		↑
Mozambique (North) -2019-	Internationalised internal	Government, Islamic State's Central Africa Province (ISCAP) or Islamic State's Mozambique Province (ISMP), previously known as Ahlu Sunnah Waljama'a (ASWJ), al-Qaeda, South African private security company Dyck Advisory Group (DAG), Tanzania, Rwanda, South Africa; Southern African Development Community Mission in Mozambique (SAMIM); "Naparama" local militias	1
	System, Identity		↓
Somalia -1988-	Internationalised internal	Federal government, pro-government regional forces, Somaliland, Puntland, clan and warlord militias, Ahlu Sunna Waljama'a, USA, France, Ethiopia, Turkey, ATMIS, EU NAVFOR Somalia (Operation Atalanta), Combined Task Force 151, al-Shabaab, ISIS	3
	Government, System		↑
Somalia (Somaliland-SSC Khatumo) -2023-	Internal	Republic of Somaliland, SSC Khatumo administration (Khatumo State)	1
	Self-government, Identity, Territory		↑
Sudan -2023- ⁷	Internationalised internal	Government (Sudan Armed Forces), Rapid Support Forces (RSF), armed coalition Sudan Revolutionary Front (SRF, composed of JEM, SLA-AW, SLA-MM and SPLM-N), various SLA factions, Eastern Sudan Liberation Forces, United People's Front for Liberation and Justice, Beja National Congress, Beja Armed Congress, community militias, Wagner Group	3
	Government, Self-government, Resources, Identity		↑
South Sudan -2009-	Internationalised internal	Government (SPLM/A); armed group SPLA-in Opposition (Riek Machar faction), SPLA-IO dissident Kitgwang factions led by Peter Gatdet, Simon Gatwech Dual and Johnson Olony ("Agwalek"), SPLM-FD, SSSLA, SSDM/A, SSDM-CF, SSNLM; REMNASA, NAS, SSUF (Paul Malong), SSOA, community militias (SSPPF, TFN, White Army, Shilluk Agwalek), armed coalition Sudan Revolutionary Front (SRF, composed of JEM, SLA-AW, SLA-MM and SPLM-N), Non-Signatory South Sudan Opposition Groups (NSSSOG, previously known as the South Sudan Opposition Movements Alliance, SSOMA), which includes the rebel organisations NAS, SSUF/A, Real-SPLM, NDM-PF, UDRM/A, NDM-PF, SSNMC), Sudan, Uganda, UNMISS	3
	Government, Resources, Identity		↓

7. In previous years, two distinct armed conflicts were identified in Sudan: Sudan (Darfur), which began in 2003, and Sudan (South Kordofan and Blue Nile), which started in 2012. Both conflicts, characterised as internationalised internal and motivated by self-government, resources and identity, were analysed jointly in this edition as part of the Sudanese armed conflict. This is because the dynamics of the armed conflict that began in April 2023 between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF) affect a large part of the country and particularly the regions of Darfur, South Kordofan and Blue Nile. Irregular armed actors from these regions are also actively involved in the conflict.

Conflict -beginning-	Type	Main parties	Intensity
			Trend
AFRICA			
Western Sahel Region -2018-	International	Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, Côte d'Ivoire, Togo, Benin, G5-Sahel Joint Force (Mauritania, Chad, Mali, Niger and Burkina Faso), Joint Task Force for the Liptako-Gourma Region (Mali, Niger and Burkina Faso); MINUSMA, France (Operation Barkhane), USA, Group for the Support of Islam and Muslims (JNIM or GSIM), Islamic State in Greater Sahara (ISGS), also known as Islamic State's West Africa Province (ISWAP), Katiba Macina, Ansaroul Islam, other jihadist groups and community militias, Russia, Wagner Group	3
	System, Resources, Identity		↑
AMERICA			
Colombia -1964-	Internationalised internal	Government, ELN, Estado Mayor Central (EMC), Segunda Marquetalia, narco-paramilitary groups	2
	System		=
ASIA			
Afghanistan -2001-	Internationalised internal	Government, National Resistance Front (NRF), ISIS-KP, Afghanistan Freedom Front (AFF)	2
	System		↓
Philippines (NPA) -1969-	Internal	Government, NPA	1
	System		=
Philippines (Mindanao) -1991-	Internationalised internal	Government, Abu Sayyaf, BIFF, Islamic State of Lanao/Dawlah Islamiyah/ Maute Group, Ansarul Khilafah Mindanao, Toraiife Group, MILF and MNLF factions	1
	Self-government, System, Identity		↓
India (Jammu and Kashmir) -1989-	Internationalised internal	Governments, Lashkar-e-Toiba (LeT), Hizb-ul-Mujahideen, Jaish-e-Mohammed, United Jihad Council, Jammu Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF), The Resistance Front (TRF)	1
	Self-government, Identity		↓
India (CPI-M) -1967-	Internal	Government, CPI-M (Naxalites)	1
	System		↓
India (Jammu and Kashmir) -1989-	Internationalised internal	Government, Jammu Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF), Lashkar-e-Toiba (LeT), Hizb-ul-Mujahideen, United Jihad Council, The Resistance Front (TRF)	1
	Self-government, Identity		=
Myanmar -1948-	Internationalised internal	Government, armed groups (signatories of the ceasefire: ABSDF, ALP, CNF, DKBA, KNU, KNU/KNLA-PC, PNLO, RCSS, NMSP, LDU; non-signatories of the ceasefire: KIA, NDAA, MNDA, SSPP/SSA, TNLA, AA, UWSA, ARSA, KNPP); PDF	3
	Self-government, Identity		↑
Pakistan -2001-	Internationalised internal	Government, Tehrik-e Taliban Pakistan (TTP), ISIS-KP	3
	System		↑
Pakistan (Balochistan) -2005-	Internal	Government, BLA, BNA, BLF and BLT; LeJ, TTP, ISIS-KP	2
	Self-government, Identity, Resources		↑
Thailand (south) -2004-	Internal	Government, BRN and other armed separatist opposition groups	1
	Self-government, Identity		↓
EUROPE			
Turkey (southeast) -1984-	Internationalised internal	Government, PKK, TAK, ISIS	1
	Self-government, Identity		↓
Russia - Ukraine -2022-	International	Russia, Wagner Group, Donbas militias, Ukraine	3
	Government, Territory		=
MIDDLE EAST			
Egypt (Sinai) -2014-	Internationalised internal	Government, Ansar Beit al-Maqdis (ABM) or Sinai Province (SP, branch of ISIS), pro-government militia Sinai Tribal Union (STU)	1
	System		↓
Iraq -2003-	Internationalised internal	Government, Iraqi military and security forces, Kurdish forces (peshmergas), Shia militias, Popular Mobilisation Units (PMUs) and Saraya Salam, Sunni militias, ISIS, US-led international anti-ISIS coalition, USA, Iran, Turkey	3
	System, Government, Identity, Resources		↓

Conflict -beginning-	Type	Main parties	Intensity
			Trend
MIDDLE EAST			
Israel-Palestine -2000-	International	Israeli government, settler militias, PA, Fatah (Al Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades), Hamas (Ezzedin al Qassam Brigades), Islamic Jihad, FPLP, FDLP, Popular Resistance Committees, Salafist groups, Jenin, Brigades, Nablus Brigades, Tubas Brigades, Lion's Den	3
	Self-government, Identity, Territory		↑
Israel – Hezbollah	International	Israel, Hezbollah	1
	System, Government, Territory, Resources		↑
Syria -2011-	Internationalised internal	Government, pro-government militias, Free Syrian Army, Ahrar al-Sham, Syrian Democratic Forces (coalition led by the Kurdish militias YPG/YPJ of the PYD), Jabhat Fateh al-Sham (formerly al-Nusra Front), Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham (HTS), ISIS, US-led international anti-ISIS coalition, Turkey, Hezbollah, Iran, Russia, Group Wagner Israel	3
	Government, System, Self-government, Identity		↑
Yemen -2004-	Internationalised internal	Armed forces loyal to the internationally recognised government, followers of the cleric al-Houthi (al-Shabaab al-Mumen/Ansar Allah), tribal militias linked to the al-Ahmar clan, Salafist militias (including Happy Yemen Brigades), armed groups linked to the Islamist Islah party, separatist groups under the umbrella of the Southern Transitional Council (STC), Joint Forces (including the Giant Brigades), AQAP, ISIS, international Saudi Arabian-led coalition, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates (UAE), USA and international military coalition Guardian of Prosperity	3
	System, Government, Identity		↓

1: low intensity; 2: medium intensity; 3: high intensity;

↑: escalation of violence; ↓: decrease of violence ; = : unchanged; End: no longer considered an armed conflict