

World Affairs Challenge



Suggested Topics

2006

Conflict in the Contemporary World

“In all things it is better to hope than to despair”

Goethe

University of Denver, Center For Teaching International Relations

Project Spera

San Francisco Competition: March 18, 2006

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2006: Conflict in the Contemporary World Causes and Types of Conflict



- Genocide in Rwanda, Sudan or Bosnia
- Nationalism/self-determination movements: Kashmir, Sri Lanka, Northern Ireland, Spain (Basque), East Timor, Taiwan or Chechnya
- Indigenous people's movements in Chiapas, Guatemala, Ecuador or Tibet

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Causes and Types of Conflict



- Israeli/Palestinian conflict
- Hindu/Sikh/Muslim conflict in India
- Falun Gong-China
- Shiite/Sunni Muslim conflict
- Catholic/Protestant conflict in Northern Ireland
- Muslim/Christian conflict Nigeria
- Orthodox/Catholic/Muslim conflict in former Yugoslavia

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Causes and Types of Conflict

RELIGIOUS

- Muslim/Christian conflict Ivory Coast
- Christian/Muslim conflict Cyprus
- Christian/Muslim conflict East Timor
- Hindu/Muslim conflict Kashmir
- Russian Orthodox, Christian, Muslim conflict Chechnya
- Buddhist/Hindu conflict Sri Lanka
- Religious conflicts in South Africa
- Religious conflicts in Pakistan

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2006: Conflict in the Contemporary World Causes and Types of Conflict



- Trade disputes
- Conflicts over limited resources (oil, water, etc.)
- Drug wars in Colombia, Afghanistan, Burma
- Economic factors in the Ivory Coast conflict
- Poverty and a cause/effect of conflict
- The effect of the war on the economy of Iraq, Afghanistan or Colombia

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Causes and Types of Conflict

CIVIL AND INTERNATIONAL

- Civil war in Lebanon
- Civil war in Somalia
- Civil war in Congo
- The Gulf War
- War in Iraq

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2006: Conflict in the Contemporary World Causes and Types of Conflict

THE FIGHT AGAINST TERRORISM

- Afghanistan
- Uganda
- Philippines (Abu Sayef)
- Colombia
- Great Britain-bombings
- Chechnya
- Northern Ireland (Irish Republican Army)

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Causes and Types of Conflict

**INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE
INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNALS**

- **The Israeli Security Wall**
- **Charges against Sudanese war criminals**
- **Case against Slobodan Milosevic**

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Consequences of Conflict

DEATH OF CIVILIANS



- Civilians in the former Yugoslavia
- Hutu and Tutsi casualties in Rwanda
- Civilian casualties in Iraq
- Civilian casualties in Afghanistan

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Consequences of Conflict

ECONOMIC DAMAGE

A world map is shown in a light green color, centered on the Atlantic Ocean. The text 'ECONOMIC DAMAGE' is written in a bold, dark green font across the middle of the map, specifically over the Americas and Europe.

- The effect of landmines on economic recovery in Cambodia and Liberia
- Demise of the Iraqi economy and infrastructure after the Gulf War
- Famine as a result of war

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2006: Conflict in the Contemporary World Consequences of Conflict

REFUGEEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS

- Liberian/Sierra Leone
- North and South Korea
- Burundi

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Consequences of Conflict



HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS

- The use of child soldiers
- Abuse of women during war
- The Geneva Convention relative to the treatment of POW's (Prisoners of War)

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2006: Conflict in the Contemporary World Consequences of Conflict

ENVIRONMENTAL & HEALTH ISSUES

- Pollution in the former Yugoslavia
- Chemical weapons in Iraq
- Threats to water supplies
- Threats to indigenous species due to conflict
- Environmental destruction as a result of armed conflict
- Health effects of different weapons of war

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2006: Conflict in the Contemporary World Preventing Conflict

THE ROLE OF DIPLOMACY



- The road to United Nations Resolution 1441
- The middle East Roadmap
- The Darfur Peace Agreement
- Good Friday Accord
- Peace accord between Indonesian government and Aceh Rebels
- The role of the United Nations

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Preventing Conflict



- Iraq
- Cuba
- North Korea
- Iran

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2006: Conflict in the Contemporary World

Preventing Conflict



MANAGING CONFLICT

- International Atomic Energy Agency
- Recent reviews of peacekeeping operations
- The Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty
- The North Korea Agreed Framework
- Iran-European Union Nuclear Talks

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2006: Conflict in the Contemporary World

Preventing Conflict

MANAGING CONFLICT

- The United Nations Security Council
- United Nations Peacekeeping in Sudan or East Timor
- NATO peacekeeping in Kosovo
- The Dayton Accords on Bosnia
- Northern Ireland peace agreements
- The role of aid workers (Red Cross, CARE, Doctors without Borders, etc.)
- African Union, NATO or ASEAN as mediators

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Managing Conflict

POLITICAL ISSUES

- The role of international organizations in managing internal conflicts
- Intervention and sovereignty
- The future of the United Nations as global peacekeeper
- The controversy over the jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court
- The role of the United States in mediating global conflicts
- How international law has evolved to address war and conflict

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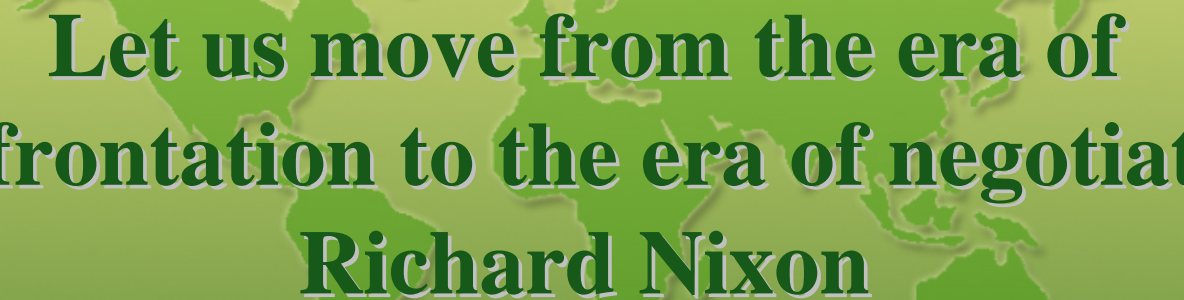
Weaponry

TYPES AND SOURCES OF WEAPONS

- Supply of light arms in civil wars
- Development of chemical weapons
- Development of biological weapons
- Weapons made from depleted uranium
- Proliferation of nuclear weapons (WMD's)

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2006: Conflict in the Contemporary World



**Let us move from the era of
confrontation to the era of negotiation
Richard Nixon**

**If we cannot end our differences at least
we can make the world safe for diversity
John F. Kennedy**