
Election Day Phase – Electoral Conflict Triggers and Inhibitors

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Triggers and Inhibitors

- **Electoral Security Administration Capacity**
  - Joint Election Operations Center
  - Quick Reaction Forces
  - Rules of Engagement

- **“Generating Legitimacy” in Electoral Practices**
  - Confidence in Voter Registry
  - Political Campaign Practices
  - Impartiality of EMBs and Poll Workers
  - Electoral Fraud or the Perceptions of Fraud

- **Political Marginalization**
  - Victims and Spoilers

- **De-Militarizing Politics**
  - Post-Conflict Elections
Joint Election Operations Centers

- Locus for coordinated electoral security administration

- Participation and Staffing
  - EMB, Police, and Other Security Forces
  - Civil Society and Political Parties

- Services
  - Communications
  - Incident Tracking
  - Coordinated Deployments
Quick Reaction Forces (QRFs)

- QRFs - civilian or military, constabulary, or local police
- EMBs can deploy QRFs to address Election Day disputes at polling stations
- Judicial QRFs to quickly adjudicate Election Day disputes
- Fire and ambulance workers - advanced voting for full strength on Election Day
- Security forces QRFs - specialized capabilities such as hostage negotiation, bomb squad, among others
Rules of Engagement can Manage or Exacerbate Electoral Conflict

Enforcement but Respect for Human Rights – Limit Damage and Injury

Heavy-Handed Tactics by Security Forces
- Armenia (2008)
- Mongolia (2008)
- Pakistan (2008)

Hands-Off Tactics by Security Forces
- Post-Consultation Violence in East Timor (1999)
Political Marginalization and Conflict

- **Marginalized Electorates – Victims and Spoilers**
  - **Victims**
    - Individuals or classes of individuals who possess electorale rights, but because of the legal framework, administrative deficiencies, or intentional exclusion, they cannot participate in an election
  - **Spoilers**
    - Outside of the electoral process and leverage this marginalization to defraud, disrupt, or deny the election

- **Military forces can be either victims or spoilers**
Managing Boycotts

• Electoral Boycotts and Conflict
  • Thailand (2006) – Low Turnout, Protests, Coup

• “Open Door” for 11th Hour Inclusion
  • Inkatha Freedom Party – South Africa

• Grievances for Boycotts
  • Iraq (2005)

• Intimidation into Boycotting
  • Kosovo (2000)
De-Militarizing Politics

- **Post-Conflict Elections**
- **Parallel goals of war termination and democratization**
  - Angola (1992)
  - Cote D’Ivoire (2010)
- **Incentives and Sanctions**
  - Encouraging Peacebuilding
- **On-Going Insurgencies**
  - Colombia
  - Philippines
Thank you...

...QUESTIONS?