

“hd

Centre for
Humanitarian
Dialogue

Mediation for peace

MEDIATION IN TODAY'S WORLD (DIS)ORDER

DAVID HARLAND

CENTRE FOR HUMANITARIAN DIALOGUE

- I. CONFLICT IS ON THE RISE**
- II. CONFLICT MANAGEMENT TOOLS ARE LIMITED**
- III. MEDIATION MUST ADAPT AS CONFLICT CHANGES**

“hd

Centre for
Humanitarian
Dialogue

Mediation for peace

I. CONFLICT IS ON THE RISE

All going wrong?

Major Civil Wars in 2014

Syria

Ukraine

Libya

Iraq

South Sudan

Somalia

Nigeria

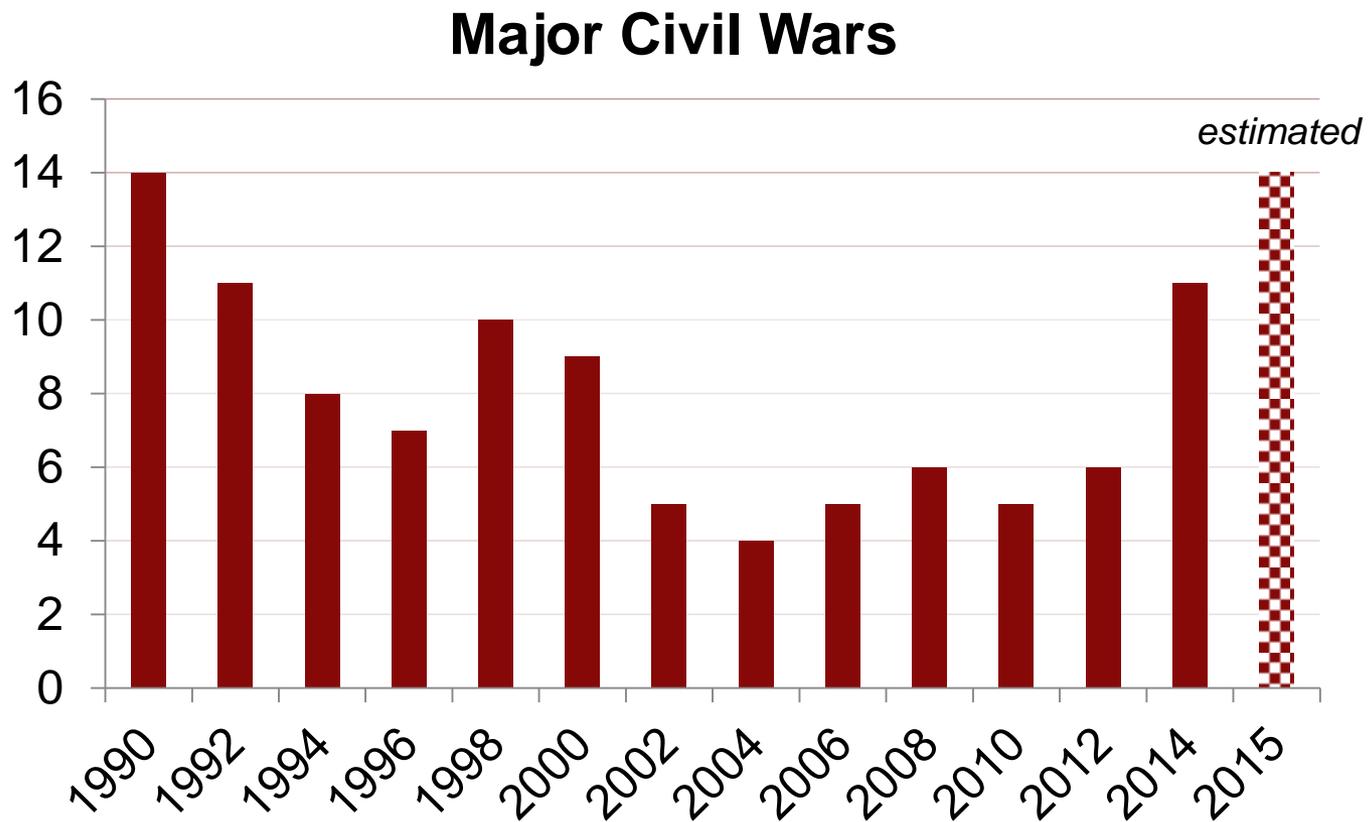
Pakistan

CAR

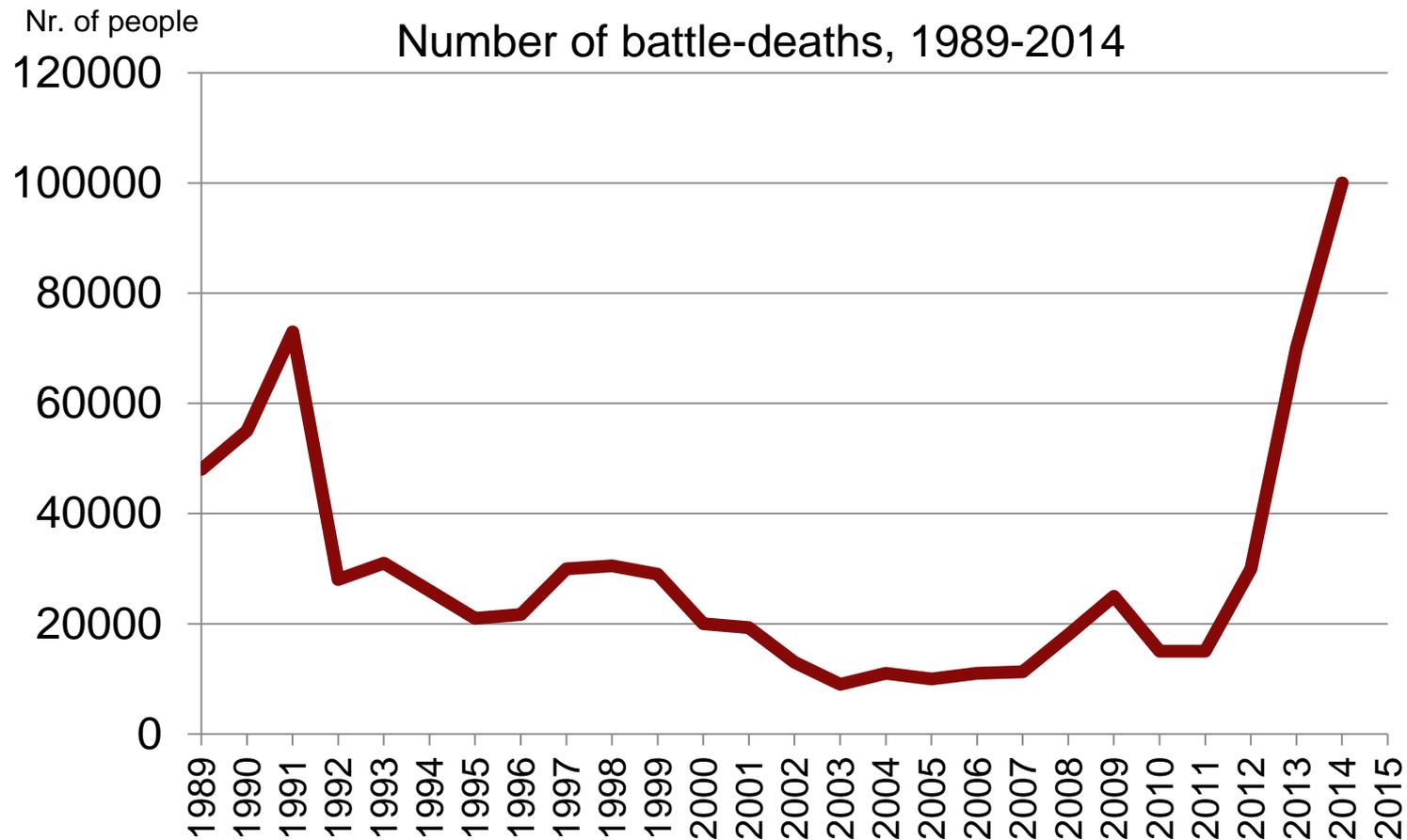
DRC

Afghanistan

The Post - Cold War Peace Reversing?



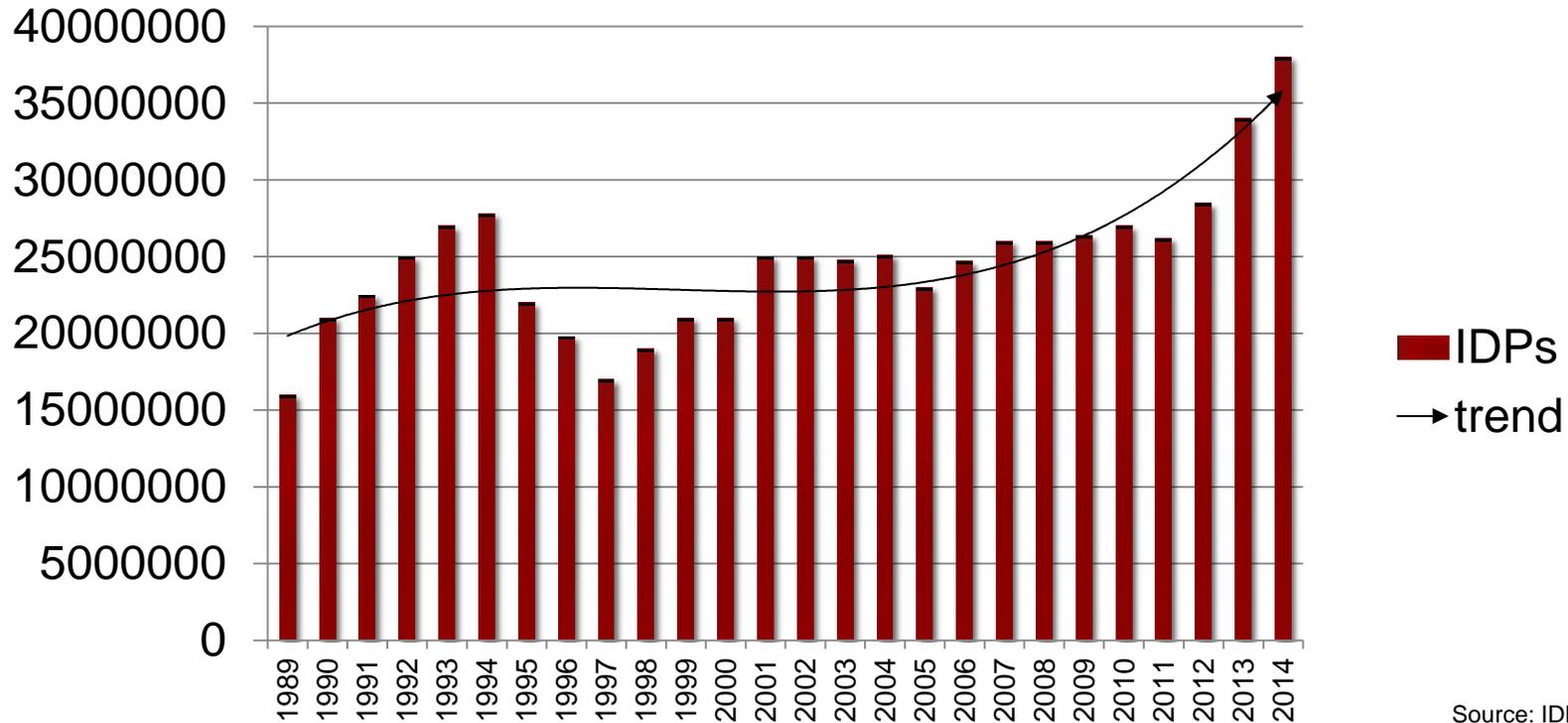
MORE BATTLE DEATHS



Source: UCDP,
PRIO Battle-
related deaths
Dataset 2015

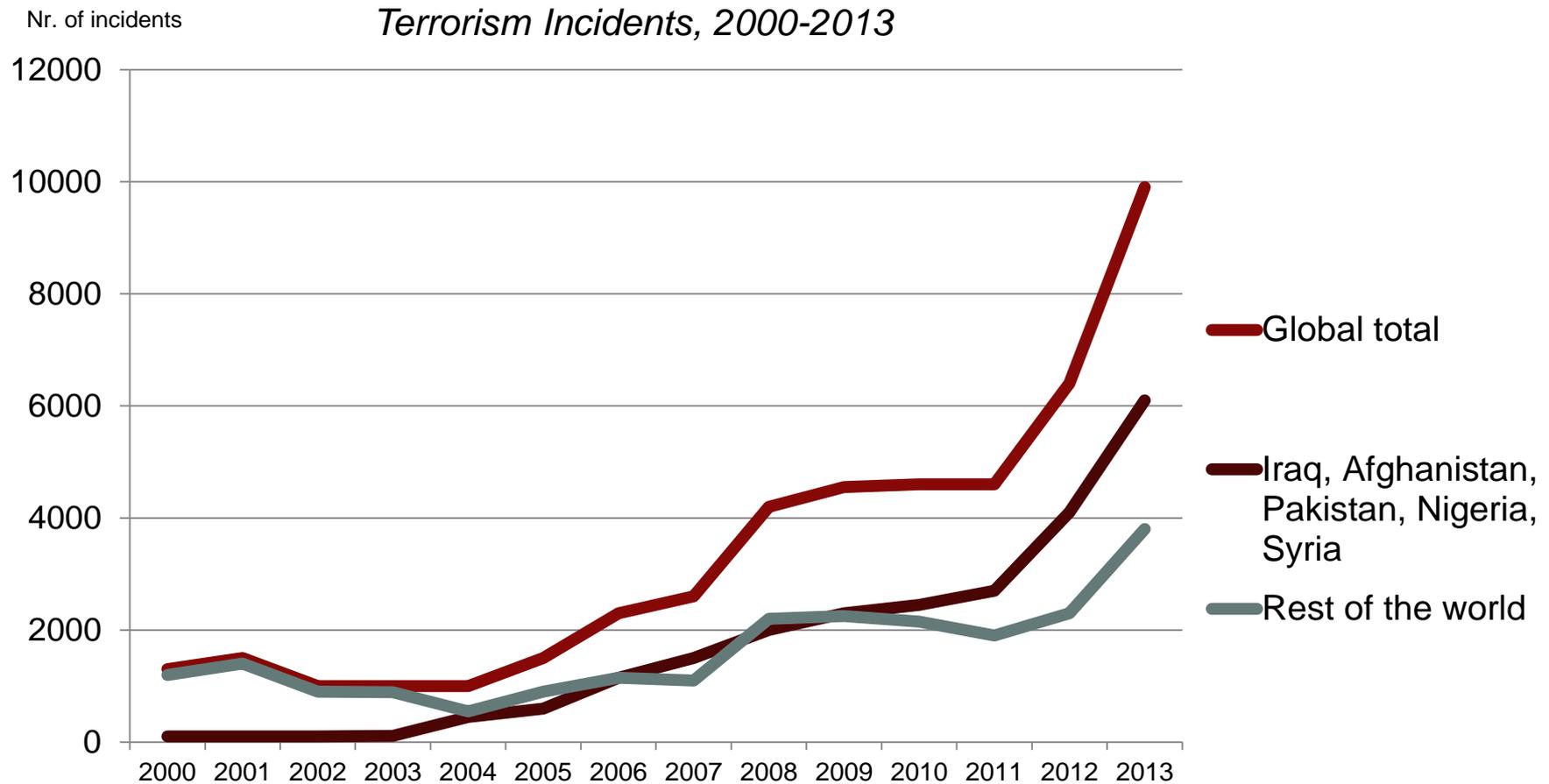
MORE DISPLACEMENT

Internally Displaced Persons



Source: IDMC Global Figures, based on USCR, UNHCR, UNRWA

MORE TERRORISM



II. CONFLICT MANAGEMENT TOOLS ARE LIMITED

What to do?

Conflict Management Tools

1. Norms
2. Force
3. Deterrence
4. Information wars
5. Development
6. Sanctions
7. Diplomacy and Mediation

1. Norms

Not so universal

Democracy

**Gender
Equality**



**Human
Rights**

Justice

Eleanor Roosevelt with the English version of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1949/ Source: Wiki Commons

2. Force

Futility of military intervention

Iraq

Somalia



Libya I

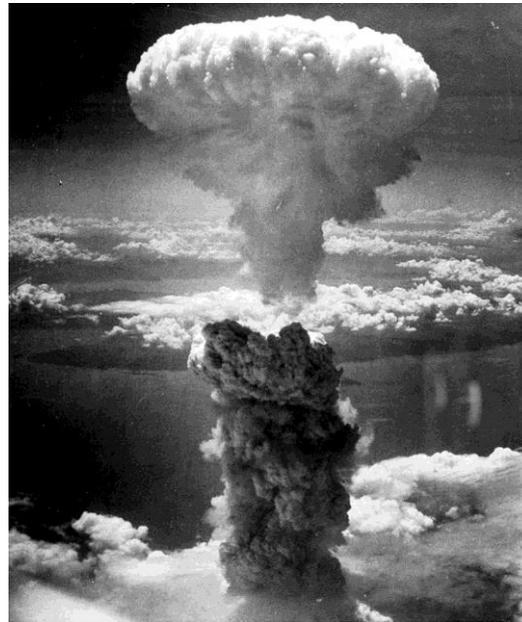
Afghanistan

The last British troops leave Afghanistan after combat operations in Helmand Province officially ended. October, 2014. Getty Images

3. Deterrence

Assumes rationality

MAD

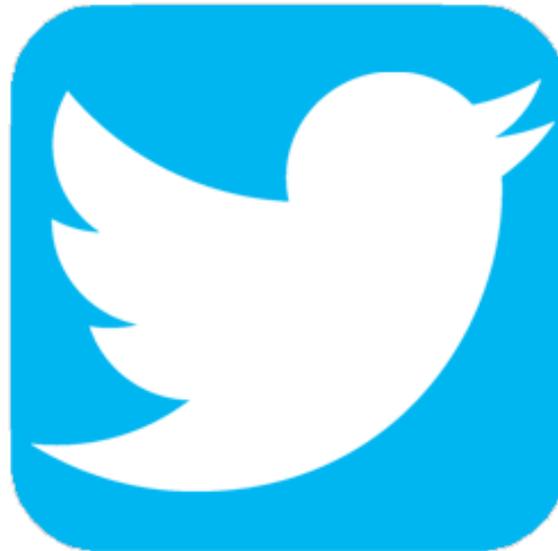


ISIS ?

Atomic bombing of Nagasaki, 1945. Source: Wiki Commons

4. Information Wars

More destabilizing than stabilizing



Twitter

5. Development

Long-term priority, but not short-term solution



6. Sanctions

Only very few actors can apply these



Illustration: Iran sanctions by Greg Groesch for The Washington Times

7. Diplomacy & Mediation

Most viable of remaining tools, but not panacea



Photo: Signing of the Comprehensive Agreement on the Bangsamoro, 27 March 2015. Courtesy of OPAPP www.opapp.gov.ph

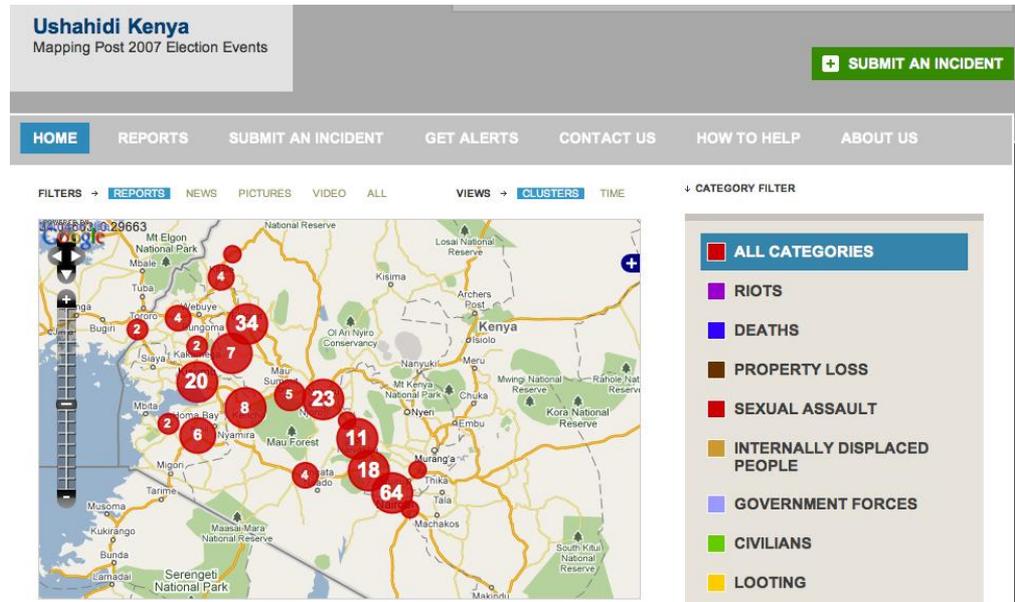
III. MEDIATION MUST ADAPT AS CONFLICT CHANGES

Challenges for Diplomacy and Mediation

III. MEDIATION MUST ADAPT AS CONFLICT CHANGES

1. Adapt as quickly as the drivers of conflict change

Technology
Non-state Actors
Organized Crime



USHAHIDI Kenya: An open source project which allows users to crowdsource crisis information to be sent via mobile

2. Determine best sequence of different mediation roles

State diplomacy

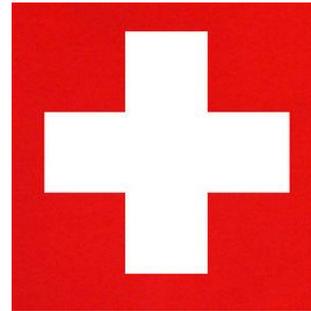
Private diplomacy



Signing of the Aceh Peace Agreement: President Ahtisaari and Indonesia's Justice Minister Hamid Awaludin and Free Aceh Movement Chairman Malik Mahmud, Helsinki August 2015. Photo: Ruben Sprich/ Corbis

3. Define how informal actors can adequately support official actors

Technical Support
Joint Monitoring
Groups of Friends



“hd

Centre for
Humanitarian
Dialogue

Mediation for peace

4. Manage transparency and inclusion

From

Unofficial
Discreet
Elite

To

→ Official
→ Transparent
→ Inclusive



La Charte d'honneur tunisienne pour les élections, The Tunisian Charter of Honour for elections

from [Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue](#) PLUS 1 year ago NOT YET RATED

On 22 July 2014, a large number of Tunisian political parties signed a Charter of Honour for fair, transparent and democratic elections.

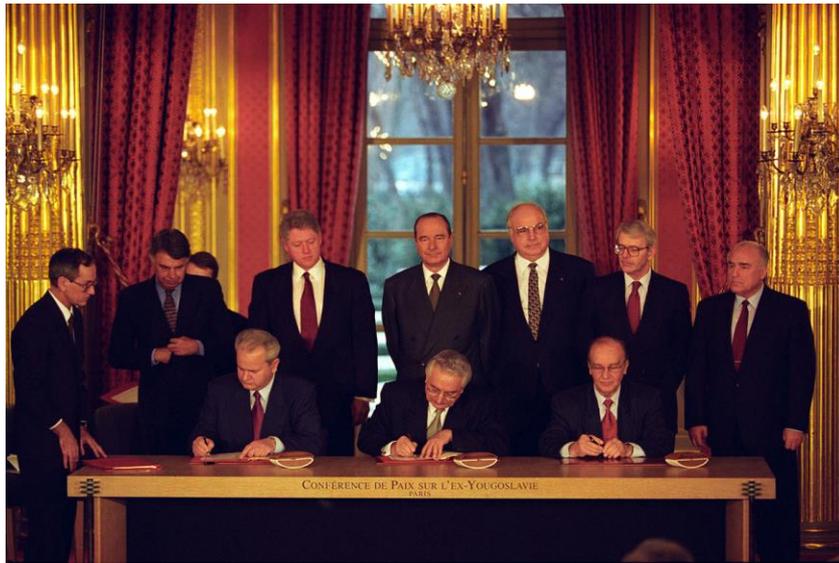
Through this Charter, the signatories commit themselves to abiding by certain detailed and concrete rules, principles and values, in relation to the conduct of elections in their country. Those include:

- Rejecting all forms of violence and working actively to ensure peaceful and non-violent political relations during the electoral process, as well as ensuring a co-ordinated response to any serious event (such as politically-motivated attacks)

III. MEDIATION MUST ADAPT AS CONFLICT CHANGES

5. Learn to modulate

Peace



Justice



Photo: Slobodan Milosevic, Alija Izetbegovic, and Franjo Tudjman sign the Balkan Peace Agreement at the Quai d'Orsay (Foreign Ministry) in Paris. (Credit: William J. Clinton Presidential Library)

Photo: Rex Features

Conclusion

**CONFLICT MANAGEMENT
TOOLS**



CONFLICT

