INTERNATIONAL SECURITY - IRE107

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Conflict management

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STARTING DISCUSSION

- How have the causes of war and changing character of war impacted on conflict management/resolution?

- What makes conflicts intractable / harder to manage?

"A mediator hasn't worked, so I brought in everyone's moms."

COLLECTIVE SECURITY

- or **why we should care about managing conflict** (addressing conflict to be more precise)

- the necessary assumption of collective security is simply that war are likely occur and that they ought to be prevented

- collective security is not a design for organizing coalition warfare in the twentieth-century sense, but a plan for organizing international police action in an unprecedented sense

  - *the conflicts may be the fruit of unreflective passion or of deliberate planning; they may represent efforts to settle disputes. effects of undefinably broad situations of hostility, or calculated means to realize ambitious designs of conquest. They may be launched by the irresponsible dictate of cynical autocrats or the democratic will of a chauvinistic people-although the champions of collective security have frequently evinced the conviction that most wars are likely to stem from the former type of initiative. The point is that the theory of collective security is not invalidated by the discovery that the causes, functional purposes and initiatory mechanisms of war are varied.* (Claude 1984)

THE SPECTRUM OF TASKS

- **conflict prevention:**
  - Activities aimed at preventing the occurrence and escalation of conflicts into their armed stage.

- **conflict management:**
  - Activities aimed at the armed aspects of crises with the objective of stopping active combat, containing crisis spillover and minimizing destructive impacts.
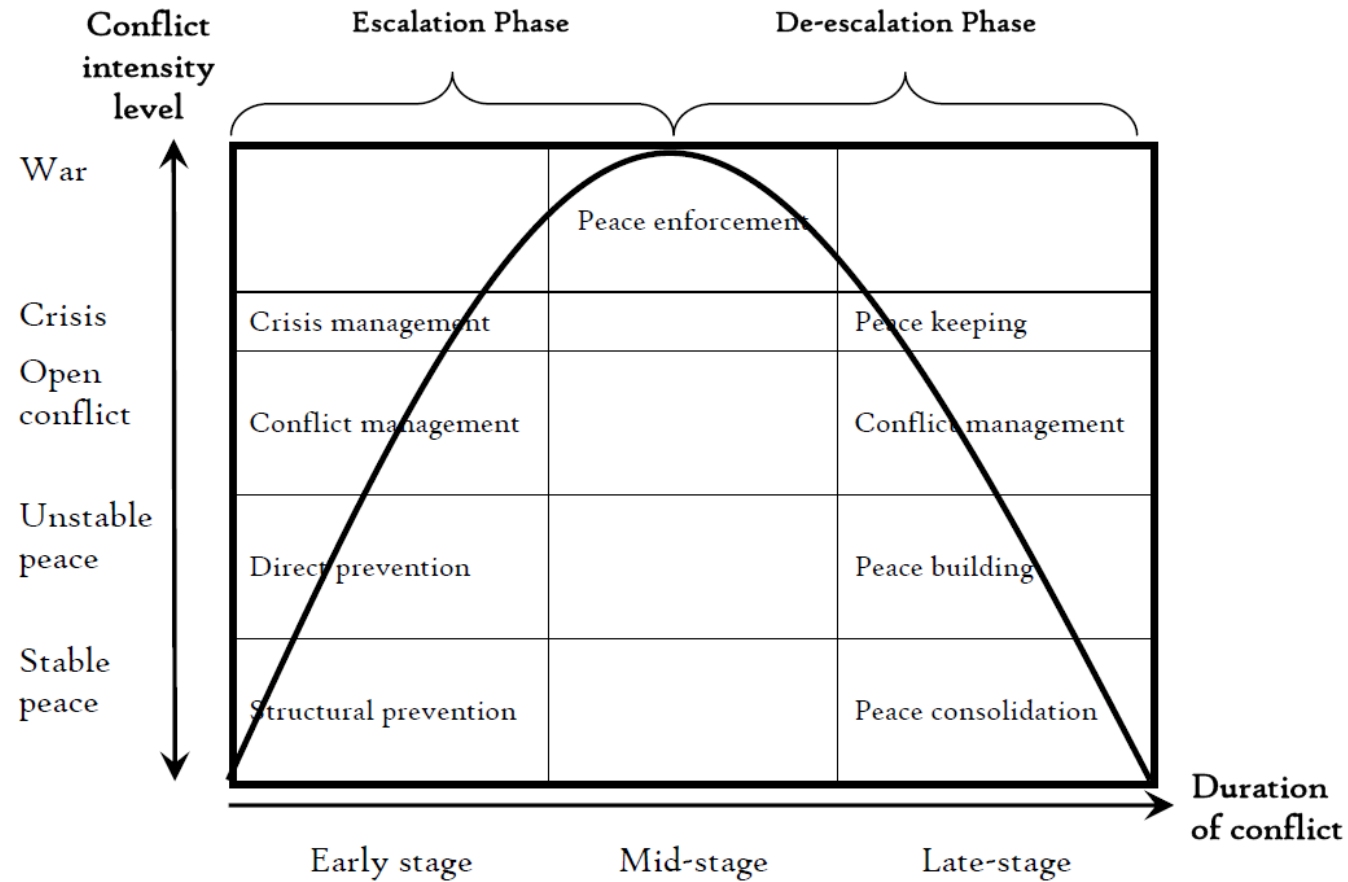
- **conflict resolution:**
  - Activities aimed at achieving a voluntary mutual peaceful solution to common incompatibilities and a cessation of hostilities.

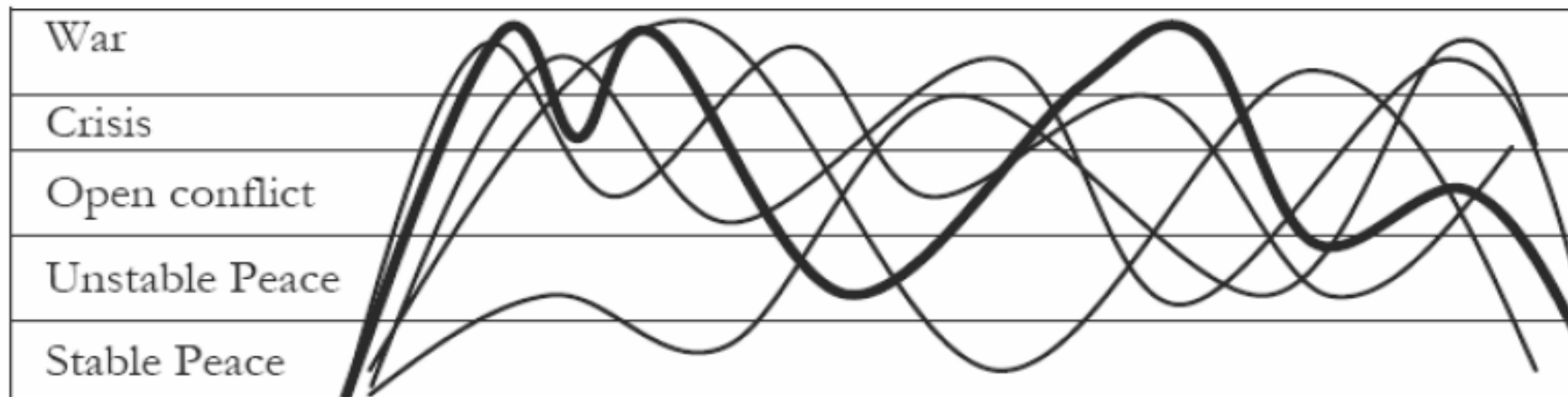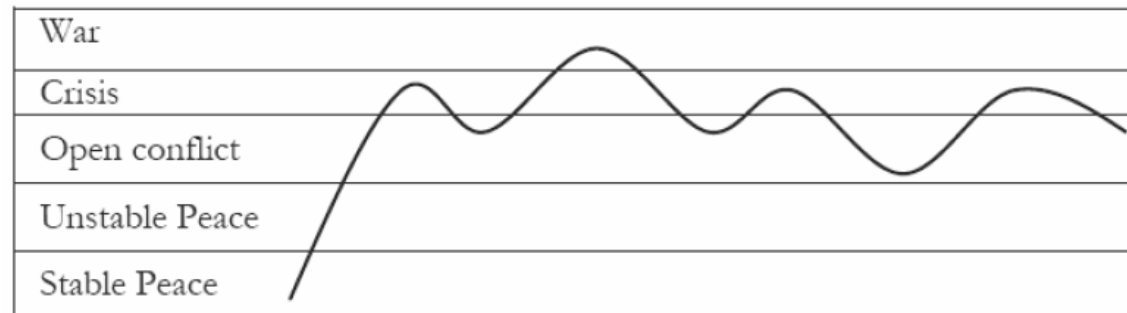- **post-conflict reconstruction:**
  - Activities aimed at rebuilding the socioeconomic structure and conditions for stable peace.

CONFLICT CYCLE

Model 2: The Conflict Cycle

ACTUAL CONFLICT CYCLES

management
(peacekeeping, arms embargo)

resolution
(mediation, negotiated settlement)

post-conflict reconstruction
(DDR, SSR)

structural prevention
(stabilization projects, HR support)

direct prevention
(crisis diplomacy)

ceasefire

peace

develop

instability

violence

escalation
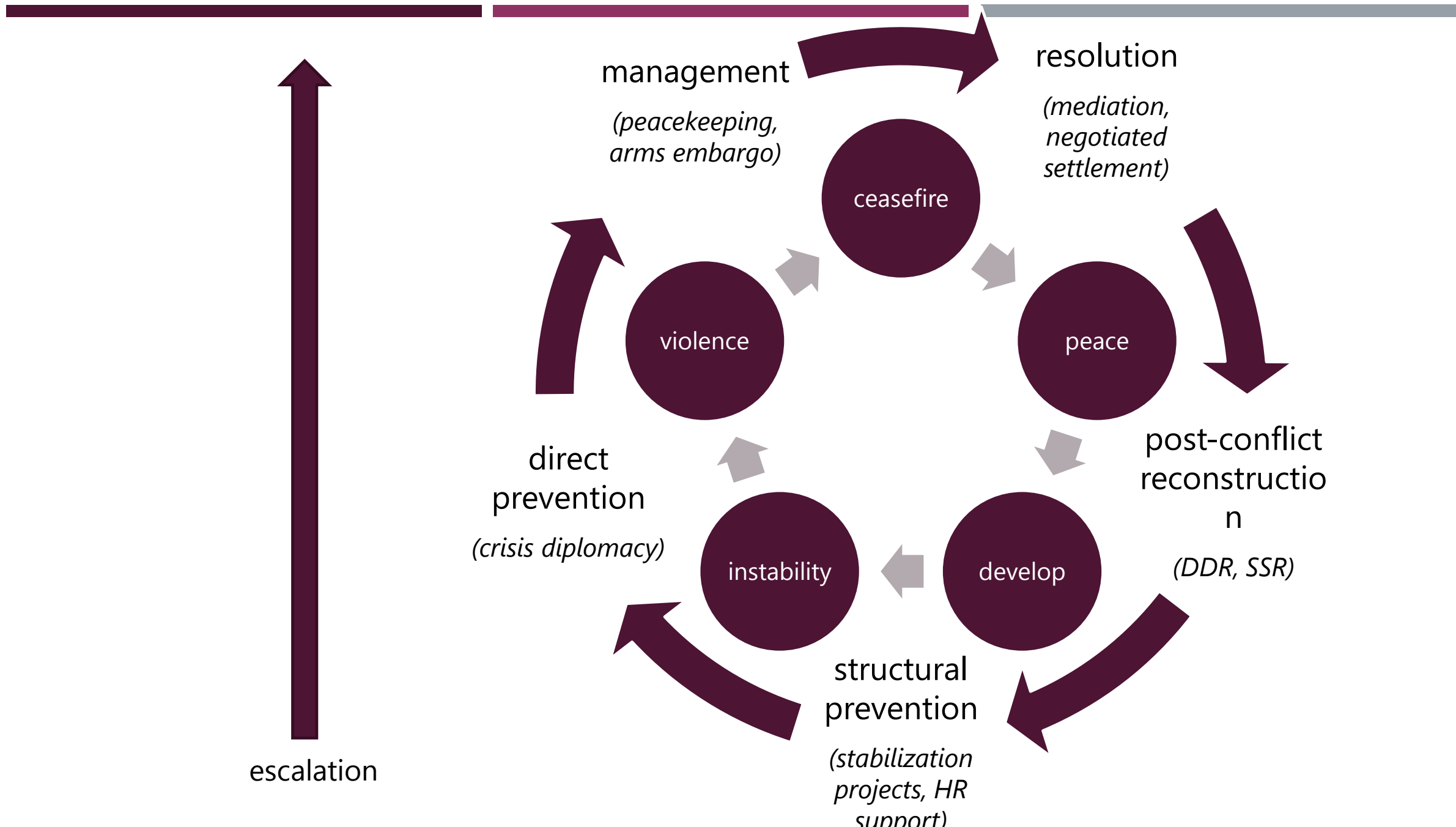
CONFLICT PREVENTION

- **Structural prevention**
  - Long-term efforts on political, economic, developmental, cultural, civil society level
  - Emphasis on the indivisibility of security
  - IO membership, association agreements, cooperation, development programmes

- **Direct prevention**
  - Immediate efforts during initial crisis phases
  - Early warning, mediation and shuttle diplomacy
  - Lackluster in practice

- **Early warning systems**
  - Global and regional initiatives to identify crises prior to potential escalation
  - UN – 1998 primary initiative, 2000 Prevention team
  - IGAD – 2002 – CEWARN in the Horn of Africa
  - AU – 2009 – CEWS Continental EWS

- **Indicators to watch (WB):**
  - past conflict, low income, high export dependence, political instability, human rights, militarization, ethnic dominance, regional conflict, unemployment rate among young adults, distribution of access to natural resources

CONFLICT PREVENTION - PREVENTIVE DIPLOMACY

- Problem with precise definition

- **Could possibly encompass all of diplomacy** (in the structural segment) by way of "building stable societies/states" argument

- **Pre-emptive diplomacy** might suit as a better term, but is disused

- **Definition:**

  - **Action <u>taken in vulnerable places and times to avoid the threat or use of armed force</u>** and related forms of coercion by states or groups to settle the political disputes that can arise from the destabilizing effects of economic, social, political, and international change. (Lund 1996)

- Instruments:

  - International appeals – suasion, Fact-finding missions, on-site monitoring, Good offices, Early warning systems, Official diplomacy, Two-track diplomacy, Conciliatory gestures, Mediation, Incentive offerings, Negotiation forums

  - **Note that they do not contain coercive measures**

CONFLICT MANAGEMENT

- **Conflict management de-escalation strategies**

- GRIT graduated reciprocation in tension-reduction
  - One-sided announcement of conciliatory measures, which continues even without immediate reciprocity

- TFT Tit for Tat
  - Simulation and game theory based
  - Initiate cooperative stance, and then reciprocate consistently depending adversary's response (positive or negative)

- Mutually enticing opportunity
  - Third party creation of conditions with pull-factor from current deadlock or Mutually Hurting Stalemate

Negotiation and Conflict Management
Essays on theory and practice

I William Zartman

Security and Conflict Management
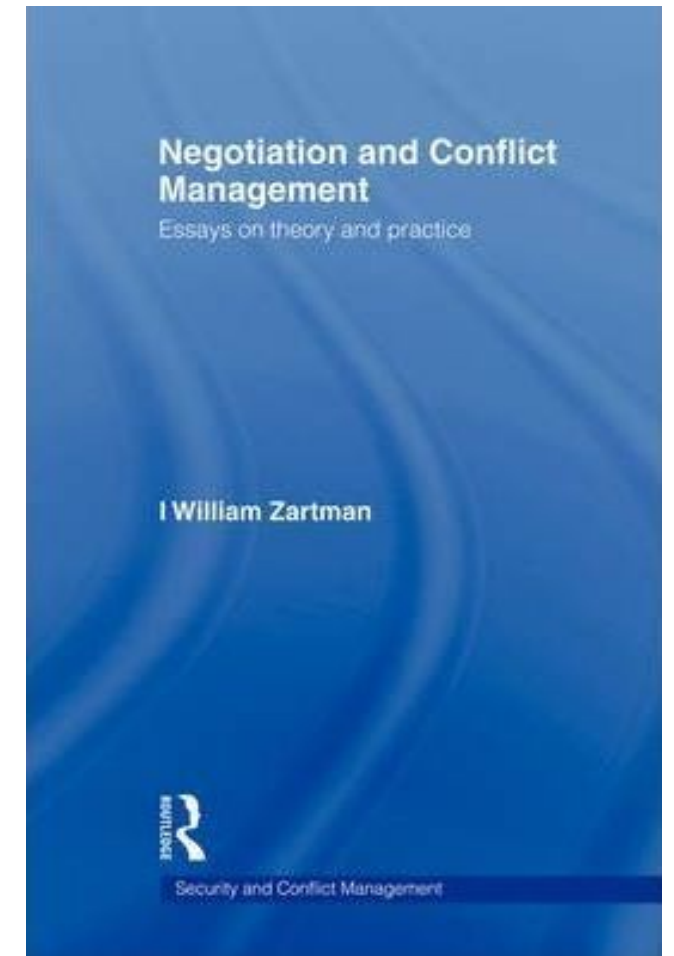
CONFLICT MANAGEMENT - MEDIATION

- **Mediation**
- Defined as negotiation facilitated by third, presumably impartial, parties, to help seek a solution the direct parties cannot find themselves
- Voluntary
  - in selecting mediation, mediator, presence, progress, and most of all propositions and results
- Dynamic process

- concession, compensation, and construction OR positive-sum negotiations and bargaining negotiations
- Cheap
  - cheaper than any other form of third party involvement
- Absence of coercion
  - Although possibility of "mediation with muscle"

the process of combining conflicting positions into a joint agreement... and is the most common (although not the only) way of preventing, managing, resolving, and transforming conflicts

# MILITARY CONFLICT MANAGEMENT

- intervention by mainly **military**, usually **multinational force**

- activities aimed at creating/maintaining a **secure environment** in order to end a crisis and/or enable **peace to be established/maintained**

- MCM includes:
    - peacekeeping missions
    - conflict prevention missions
    - stabilization and reconstruction missions
    - humanitarian missions
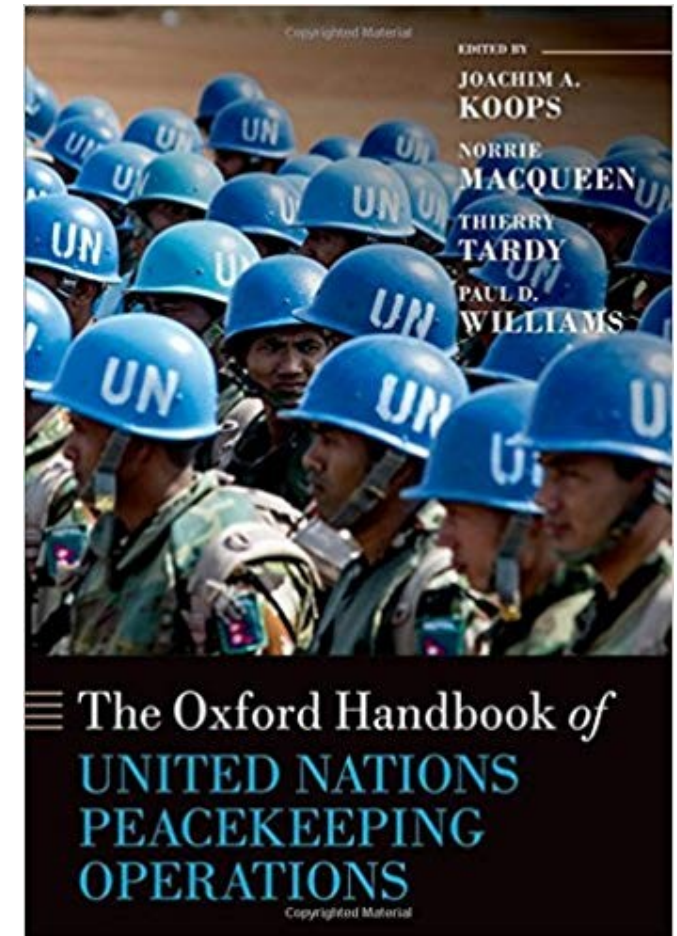
MILITARY CONFLICT MANAGEMENT

- first, the **spectrum of tasks has expanded**

- from **traditional peacekeeping** (containment and reduction of military escalation) to **social, political, and economic transformation** (conflict resolution)

- **from consenting states to hostile environments**

- **from buffer zones to active engagement**

- from single actors to multinational coalitions and IOs in **cooperation to cover the spectrum**

- "Comprehensive Approach" to complex political emergencies
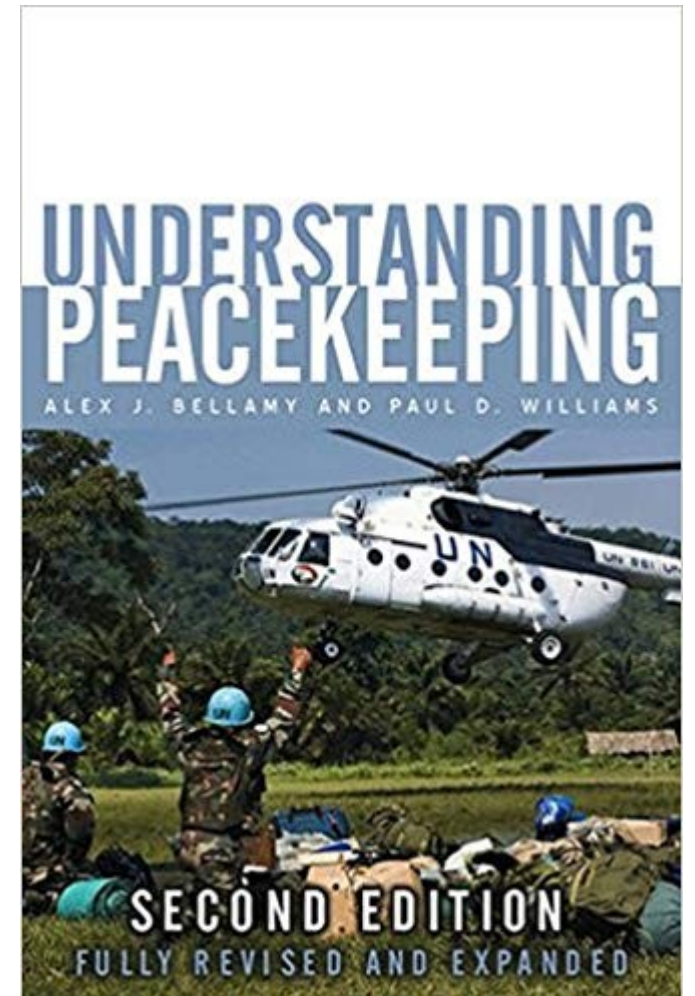
CONFLICT RESOLUTION

- Peacemaking in the narrow definition

- unless victory is achieved stems from negotiation

- **resolution options revolve around**
  - Priority change
  - Division of subject of contention (part in the executive)
  - Barter exchange
  - Joint control (coalition)
  - Delegated control
  - Arbitrage
  - Deferral

- employed instruments involve ALL deployed instruments - MULTITRACK

OLIVER RAMSBOTHAM TOM WOODHOUSE HUGH MIALL

CONTEMPORARY
CONFLICT
RESOLUTION

FOURTH EDITION

FULLY REVISED AND UPDATED
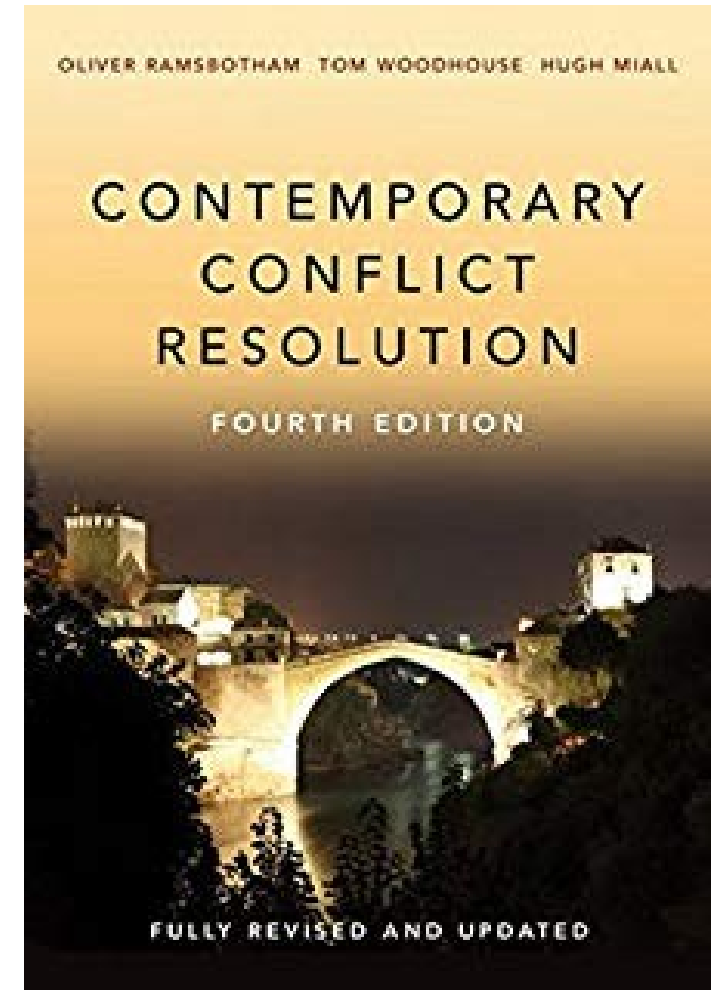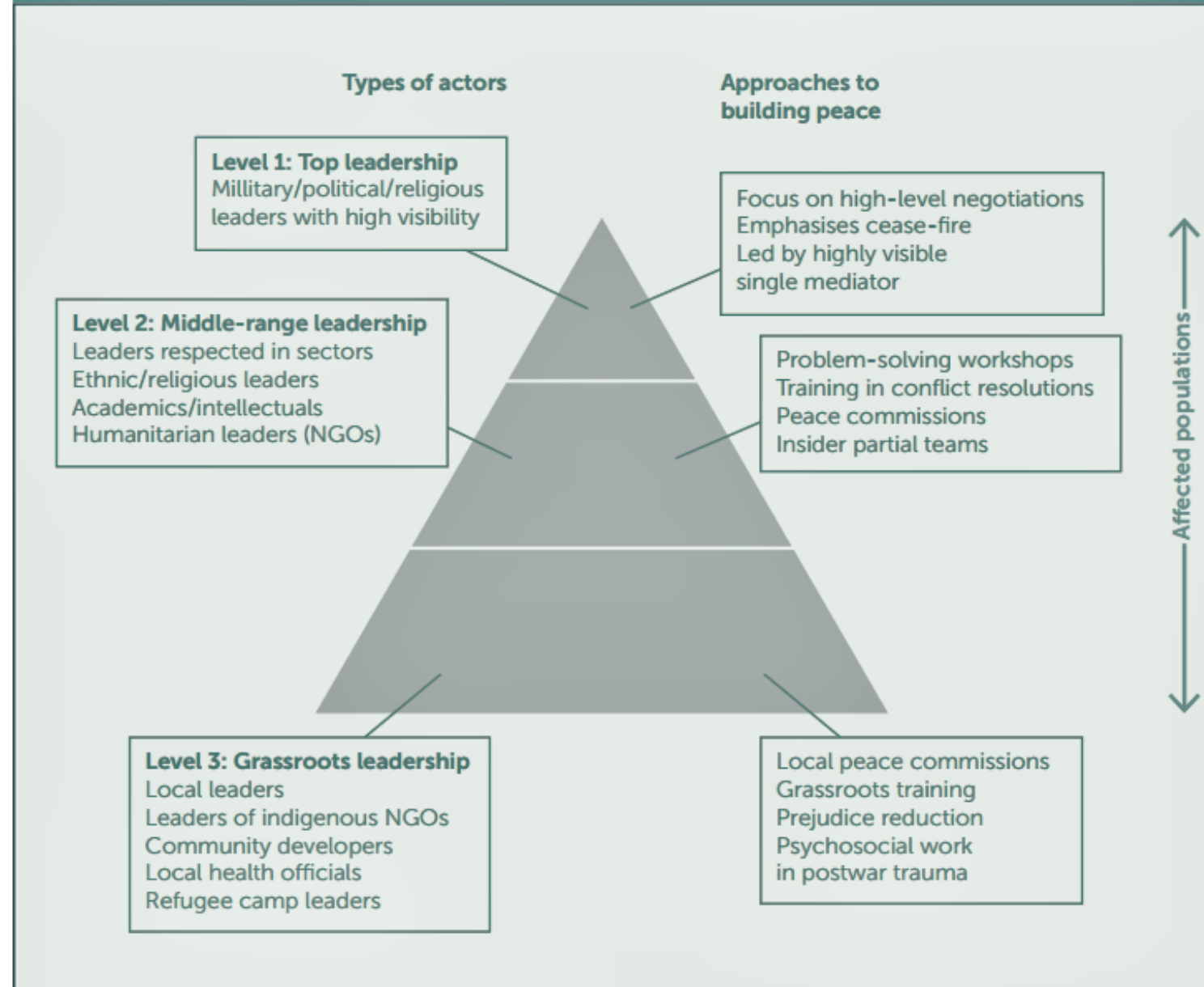
CONFLICT RESOLUTION - NEGOTIATION

- **1. pre-negotiation**
  - our dominant field today, where mediation comes into play the most often
  - aims to frame a possible acceptance of a negotiated settlement or even meeting for negotiations
- **2. agreement formula**
  - within the negotiation or mediation processes this phase entails the establishment of major agreement framework such as recognition, need for concessions, shared rule, or third party assistance
- **3. agreement details**
  - perhaps the longest phase delivers the specifics

- actors readjust their strategies 'phase by phase' according to their subjective consideration of three factors:
  - the **contents of the peace proposal,**
  - the **resources under their control**
  - the **strength of the incentives** and pressures from external interveners.

CONFLICT RESOLUTION

- Dilemmas include:

- Negotiated settlement vs. Victory
  - strenuous debate over more stable and lasting peace

- Inclusivity vs. Spoilers
  - negotiation dilemma of including relevant stakeholders

- Guarantees vs. Non-intervention
  - peace agreement guarantor and guarantees

BOX 2: LEDERACH'S PEACE PYRAMID

Types of actors

Level 1: Top leadership
Millitary/political/religious leaders with high visibility

Level 2: Middle-range leadership
Leaders respected in sectors
Ethnic/religious leaders
Academics/intellectuals
Humanitarian leaders (NGOs)

Level 3: Grassroots leadership
Local leaders
Leaders of indigenous NGOs
Community developers
Local health officials
Refugee camp leaders

Approaches to building peace

Focus on high-level negotiations
Emphasises cease-fire
Led by highly visible single mediator

Problem-solving workshops
Training in conflict resolutions
Peace commissions
Insider partial teams

Local peace commissions
Grassroots training
Prejudice reduction
Psychosocial work in postwar trauma

Affected populations

Source John Paul Lederach, 'Building Peace: Sustainable Reconciliation in Divided Societies,' United States Institute of Peace Press, 4 (1997), p. 39.

POST-CONFLICT RECONSTRUCTION

- Activities aimed at renewing the socio-economic structure of the society and the establishment of adequate conditions for the secure and peaceful development of society

- Key concepts:
  - System inclusion
  - External assistance
  - Sustainability after self reliance

- **Reconstruction serves as structural prevention**

- **Nation building** – synonym for post-conflict reconstruction? Or for democratization and westernization? – only a **part** of post-conflict reconstruction

POST-CONFLICT RECONSTRUCTION

- 4 pillars

  - **Security** – crucial to any success
    - Civilian security, DDR, buffer zones, civilian control over armed forces, training

  - **Justice and Reconcilliation** – establishment of rule of law
    - Preventing reprisals, interim justice, human right legislation, police training

  - **Social and economic well-being** – aid and resources distribution
    - Elementary food and water security, repatriations, infrastructure reconstruction, requalification training, subsidies and investments

  - **Governance and participation** – transitive authority support
    - NGO cooperation, interim government support, election preparations, legislation expertise transfer, civil society support

2002 Post-Conflict Reconstruction (CSIS/AUSA)