



Conflicts/Competitions to Watch in 2025

(U) This infographic provides an overview of World Conflicts to Watch in 2025: The world is experiencing a surge in conflicts, particularly following Hamas's attack on Israel in October 2023, which destabilized the Middle East and weakened Iran's influence. Tensions are rising in Asia, especially in the South China Sea and Taiwan, as China challenges U.S. dominance. Additionally, Russia's invasion of Ukraine continues to pose risks for Europe, while other crises in Myanmar, Afghanistan-Pakistan, African Sahel and the Mexican Cartels affect countless lives.

Russia-Ukraine War



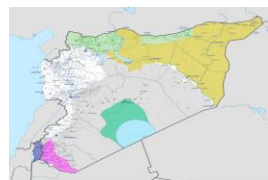
The Russia-Ukraine war is reshaping global power dynamics. Biden supports Ukraine, while Trump proposes a diplomatic solution for Russia's territorial control. North Korean troop deployment raises stability concerns.

Expanded Hamas-Israel War



The Middle East conflict escalated after Hamas attacked Israel on October 7, 2023, involving Iran and its allies. As the Hezbollah ceasefire ends, Iranian-backed groups threaten Israel and U.S. troops, requiring careful navigation of alliances by the new administration.

Syrian Civil War



(Click Map for Info)

The collapse of the Assad regime in Syria marks a turning point, but uncertainty remains. Many displaced people face difficulties returning home, relying on humanitarian aid as winter approaches. There is hope for families to reunite and rebuild, making support for these communities essential.

US-China Relations



U.S.-China relations have improved since the November 2023 summit, but uncertainty surrounds tariffs and Taiwan. Tensions in the South China Sea still concern U.S. allies.

South China Sea



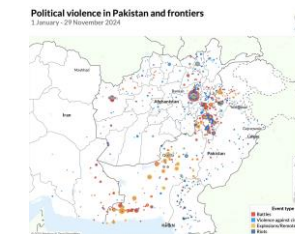
The South China Sea has become one of the most dangerous geopolitical hotspots in recent years, as China strengthens its expansive claims while countries from outside the region become increasingly involved.

Myanmar



Myanmar is in crisis, with strong resistance against the military regime since the civil war began in 2021. Over 3 million have been displaced, and infrastructure has collapsed. Despite Chinese intervention, the military is weak, and violence may worsen with the 2025 elections. A fair resolution is essential for peace.

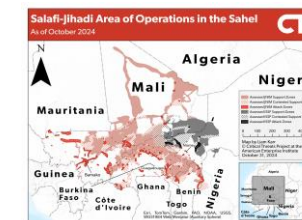
Afghanistan-Pakistan Insurgency



(Click Map for Info)

The U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan in 2021 has intensified threats from Islamist groups like ISIS-K and the Turkestan Islamic Party, highlighting the need to reassess U.S. counterterrorism strategies amid regional instability.

African Sahel Insurgency



ISIS is reemerging in Afghanistan and gaining ground in the Sahel. Burkina Faso, Mali, and Niger formed an alliance to boost counterterrorism and reduce reliance on the West, while Russia's influence grows in the region.

Mexico Cartel Violence



Illegal migration is a priority for the new administration at the southern border. Proposed measures, including mass deportations and military action against cartels, highlight the urgent situation, compounded by violence and instability in Central America.

In 2024, multiple ongoing and emerging conflicts around the world had significant humanitarian, economic, and geopolitical impacts, likely continuing into 2025 and beyond. While numerous other potential hotspots could escalate, the CCoE G-2 Threat Branch is dedicated to keeping the community informed as events unfold.