



Shifting Bases, Shifting Perils

Security Implications of Climate Change in the OSCE Region

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Structure of Presentation and Scoping Study

The Scoping Study was implemented by **Adelphi Research** in cooperation with **Chatham House** and **CIMERA**

- Climate Change and Security**
- Mapping Security Implications of Climate Change**
- An Emerging Response**
- Recommendations**

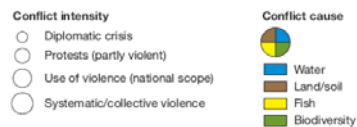
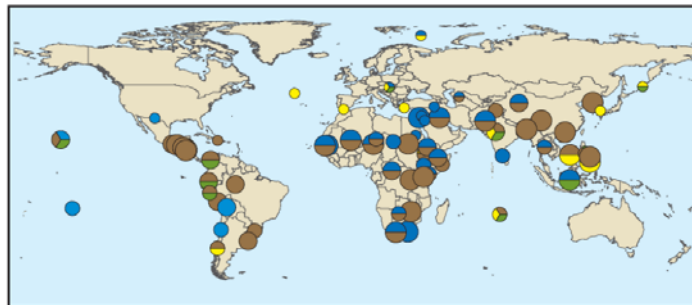
1. Climate Change and Security: Interlinkages, Concepts and Scenarios

Environment & Conflict: Known interlinkages

That **environment is a factor** in contributing to outbreak, duration and termination of violent conflict is not new.

Climate change will intensify and multiply environmental drivers of conflict, but will also add new qualities to environmental conflict.

World Map of Environmental Conflicts 1980-2005



Source: Carius et al. 2006



Climate change: Transformer of Constants...

Infrastructure: Grafted on a stable environment, thawing of permafrost and related impacts will **challenge planning**.

Territory: Sea-level rise will **reshape borderlines of countries** and thus their territory.

Environmental Patterns: Economies and institutions are **adapted to certain patterns** – such as river flows and monsoons – which will change due to climate variability.



... and Multiplier of Threats

Resources: **Competition over resources** (land, water, energy, food, labour, income, ...) may increase.

Climate-fuelled migration: **States may vanish and economies contract** – and population forced to leave.

Fragility: Changing **distribution of resources** and **inadequate management** of climate impacts may **erode the social contract** – and may **destabilise states**.



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Security Implications Plausible – But certain?

Security consequences from climate change are plausible, but questions remaining are: When, where and what to expect and hopefully predict?

Migration: Number ranges are huge, with few serious estimates. How will climate change **drive migration** and where will it be a sui generis cause of it?

Psycho-Cultural Aspects: How do individuals and societies **adapt to climate change** – and where may it trigger what type of violence?

Institutions and governance: How climate change is managed by **institutions will greatly affect if conflicts turn violent.**



Scenarios on Climate Change and Security

Scenarios: Coherent, systematically developed **statement of a likely future.**

Reducing Uncertainties: Identifying **key risks** and where additional **research** is needed – providing a **framework for action.**

Policy Pathways: **Developing responses and indicators** to assess progress – foundations for a **early warning mechanism.**

2. Mapping Potential Security Implications of Climate Change

Mapping Potential Security Implications

Aim:

- ▶ Providing a first overview to potential security implications of climate change in four regions of interest for the OSCE

Approach:

- ▶ Desk-based scoping study based on available literature
- ▶ Focus on security implications
- ▶ Focus on climate change

Framework:

- ▶ The OSCE Dimensions



The Arctic

Environment and Economic Dimension

- ▶ Livelihood Challenges
- ▶ Environmental Degradation
- ▶ Resource Claims
- ▶ Transportation Routes

Politico-Military Dimension

- ▶ Territorial Claims
- ▶ Militarisation of the Arctic

Human Dimension

- ▶ Impacts on Indigenous Communities



Southern Mediterranean

Environment and Economic Dimension

- ▶ Decreasing Food and Water Security
- ▶ Displacement of Large Populations
- ▶ Economic Stagnation

Politico-Military Dimension

- ▶ Militarisation of Water Disputes
- ▶ Weakening of Civil Authorities
- ▶ Intensifying Extremism

Human Dimension

- ▶ Violation of Human Rights
- ▶ Impacts on Civil Liberties



South East and Eastern Europe

Environment and Economic Dimension

- ▶ Energy Insecurity
- ▶ Food Insecurity
- ▶ Economic Deterioration
- ▶ Population Movements

Politico-Military Dimension

- ▶ Ethno-Political Tensions

Human Dimension

- ▶ Social Tensions
- ▶ Authoritarian Governance



South Caucasus and Central Asia

Environment and Economic Dimension

- ▶ Decrease in Food and Water Availability
- ▶ Disasters and Health Impacts
- ▶ Migration
- ▶ Aral Sea Deterioration

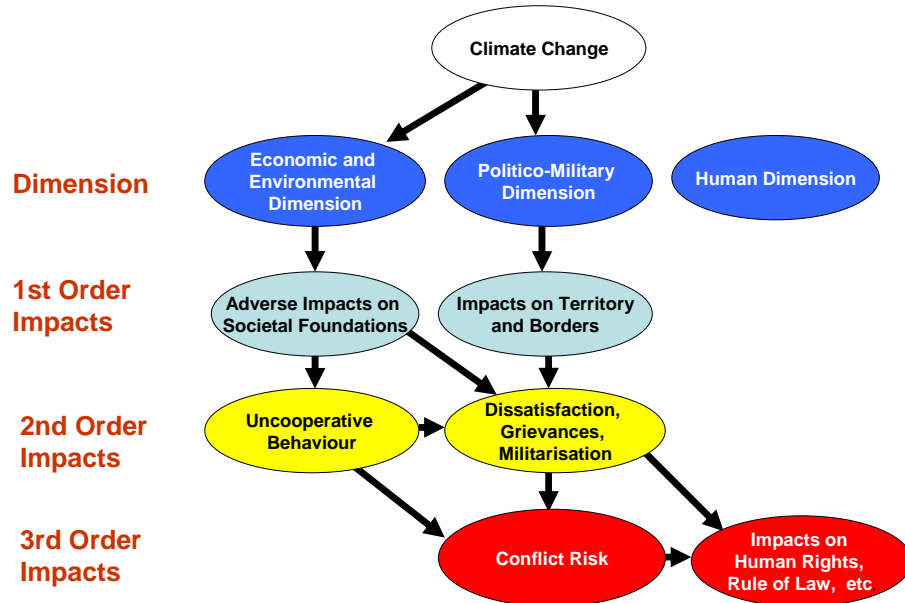
Politico-Military Dimension

- ▶ Escalating Water Tensions
- ▶ Increase in Extremism
- ▶ Disputes over the Caspian Sea

Human Dimension

- ▶ Impacts on Human Rights and Minorities

Potential Impacts of Climate Change on Security



3. An Emerging Response



The UN Process

Political Level

- Debate at UN Security Council in 2007
- Debate at UN General Assembly in 2009, GA Resolution 63/281 adopted
- Debate at other bodies, such as UN Human Rights Council in 2008

Technical Level

- Report by UN Secretary-General
- Studies, guidance notes and assessments by specialised agencies
- First projects commencing, e.g. in the Pacific



The EU Process

- Commenced during **German EU Council Presidency in 2007**
- **Joint Paper** by High-Representative Solana and European Commission in 2008
- **Roadmap** on Climate Change and International Security for 2008 and 2009
- General Affairs Council welcomed results of the Roadmap in **December 2009**

The Added Value of OSCE

- **Inclusive** body
- **Comprehensive** mandate and approach
- **Established** forum for **dialogue**
- **Field** presences

4. Recommendations



Recommendations – Political Level

- **Climate change survey**
- **Joint sessions of key bodies**
- **International partnering**
- **Approaching non-OSCE stakeholders**
- **Follow-up on Bucharest**



Recommendations – Technical Level

- **Coordination and cooperation**
- **Disseminating information**
- **Improving networking and communication**
- **Conducting regional consultation and assessments**
- **Building capacity**
- **Improving research and analysis**



Thank you for your attention!

You can find further information on

www.adelphi-research.de/ecc

www.chathamhouse.org.uk

www.cimera.org



www.ecc-platform.org

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