



Globalisation of Insecurity





Factors

making for insecurity

in

today's world

(1) Economic factors

- **Adverse terms of trade**
 - **High debt burden**
 - **IMF structural adjustment programmes**
 - **Reduced social spending**
- ➔ Greater impoverishment & widening gap**

(2) Break-up of old states

**Eruption of hitherto latent conflicts
based on:**

- **ethnicity**
- **nationalism**
- **religion**

(3) Proliferation of new states

End of Cold War →

Proliferation of new states in:

- **Central Asia**
- **Southern Europe**
- **Africa**

(4) Regional arms races

Regional arms races = result of:

- **demand-side pressures (e.g. tensions between neighbours in South Asia, the Horn and Southern Africa, Northeast Asia), and**
- **supply-side pressures (competition among the world's arms suppliers)**

(5) Privatisation of security

The privatisation of security (along with education, finance, health, transport, industry, services) →

- private guards**
- private intelligence**
- private soldiers/mercenaries**
- selling of statutory forces**

(e.g. African armies in UN peacekeeping operations)

– in conflicts like Cambodia, Congo and Sierra Leone, mercenary private companies finance themselves through mining activities.

(6) Criminalisation of Conflict

- **Gangs and mafias take advantage of unstable situations to escalate conflict for their own short-term financial and political reasons**
- **Organised crime now operates on a transnational scale which far exceeds the surveillance and enforcement capacities of states to control, let alone eradicate**

Other factors making for insecurity

■ Environmental degradation

- Global warming
- Acid rain
- Desertification
- Deforestation

■ Piracy

■ Refugee flows

■ Epidemics

- HIV/AIDS



**What are the implications
of all this?**

The Globalisation
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Insecurity