WHY INTERVENTIONS?

(AND WHICH TYPES? HOW TO POSITION ONESELF TOWARDS LOCAL ACTORS?)
Root Causes: Breakdown of Societies
Root Causes, Contributing Factors & Justifications: Breakdown of Societies
Topics Last Week

- Sources of Conflict
- Continuation of Conflict

Main Conclusion:
Be specific about the meaning of political (structural factors, economic, ethnic, religious, etc.)

Today, we do the same for the word intervention.
TOPICS

- On the course:
  - Paper (Contents & set-up)
  - Bulletin Boards
  - Readings for next week
- Types of Intervention:
  - Military (different types)
  - Civilian (different types)
- Alex de Waal’s book (& other literature)
Common Themes:

- legal
- moral
- differences between military and civilian interventions
- evolution of intervention
- positioning of intervening actors towards the actors in the field
- lots of debate; lack of clarity
- Next classes: distinguishing different types of actors and their roles (e.g., different types of NGOs, such as ICRC, MSF, OXFAM)
TYPES OF INTERVENTIONS

Military
- Security Council decision
- Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO)
- all other organizations
- ++ Legal (Moral)

Civilian (UN mainly)
- Secretary General initiative
- Department of Political Affairs (DPA)
- all other organizations
- ++ Moral (Legal)

Civilian (NGO mainly)
- no central decision (state sovereignty)
- all organizations (but not SC or SG)
- ++ Moral (- Legal)
MILITARY INTERVENTION

- Double nature of the military: due to its power and technology, it is
  - a decisive threat to life & order, and
  - the instrument to protect both

- When to use force?
  - Non-intervention is the norm:
    - non-intervention to prevent wars of religion;
    - non-intervention to protect self-determination and/or communal autonomy
    - non-intervention to prevent the subordination of small states to large states
MILITARY INTERVENTION

- Conclusion: non-intervention to contain powerful states and protect sovereignty
- One big exception (allow use of force):
  - Genocide (but no force used to stop Rwandan genocide)
  - Human Rights abuses?
- Hehir wants to broaden the possibilities for intervention in case of human rights abuse in failed states (little int. law on it, common art. 3)
MILITARY INTERVENTION

- If one uses force, distinguish:
  - *jus ad bellum* (defining the conditions under which force can be used)
  - *jus in bello* (defining how force is to be legitimately employed) Practical problems will come in future class on actors!)
MILITARY INTERVENTION

- Normally, the Security Council decides, one big exception:
  - NATO action in Serbia/Kosovo

- Different types of military intervention:
  - peacekeeping:
    - the deployment of a UN presence in the field, hitherto with the consent of all parties concerned … that expands the possibilities for both the prevention of conflict and the making of peace (first and second generation)
MILITARY INTERVENTION

- **peace-building:**
  efforts to identify and support structures which will tend to consolidate peace and advance (development actors play a big role)

- **peace-making:**
  action to bring hostile parties to an agreement (diplomats play a big role)

- **peace enforcement:**
  emplacement of UN personnel in conflict situations without the parties’ consent
MILITARY INTERVENTION

- In all but peace-enforcement, consent of the parties is crucial.
- Peace enforcement has been the least successful in practice, e.g., Somalia.
MILITARY INTERVENTION

Kofi Annan’s article:

- problem of overlap (a different form of mission creep)
- importance of clear criteria for action
  - mandates
  - consent (political will, negotiations)
  - impartiality
  - the use (or threat of use) of force: can it be effective. In Bosnia mix up peacekeeping and peace-enforcement
  - selectivity (disparities in allocation)
- consent, impartiality, selectivity also important in other types of interventions
CIVILIAN INTERVENTION WITH UN SECRETARIAT

- Ideal once there is, or is a reasonable hope on a peace accord
- Focus is on rebuilding after peace
- Lead agency for the whole country and/or specific agency

Don’t forget other instruments;
- sanctions/conditionality
- denunciations
- denial of problematic privileges
- development cooperation
CIVILIAN INTERVENTION (WHO DECIDES? HOW?)

- No peace accord
- No military
- These actors are poised to intervene, no such distinction as jus ad bellum and jus in bello
- What do the criteria in action become, in other words how does an organization position itself in conflict
CIVILIAN INTERVENTION (WHO DECIDES? HOW?)

Hugo Slim’s article
- looks at four points:
  - humanity
  - neutrality
  - impartiality
  - solidarity
- He describes the problems with each term and how the discussion have evolved
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