



Yemen's Humanitarian Crisis

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Introduction of Speaker



Ambassador (ret.) Barbara K. Bodine is Distinguished Professor in the Practice of Diplomacy and concurrent Director of the Institute for the Study of Diplomacy at Georgetown University. Prior to joining Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service, she taught and directed policy task forces and policy workshops on US diplomacy in the Persian Gulf region, including Iraq and Yemen for seven years at Princeton University's School of Public and International Affairs and served as Director of the School's Scholars in the Nation's Service Initiative, a fellowship program for students pursuing careers in federal service.

Ms. Bodine's over 30 years in the U.S. Foreign Service were spent primarily on Arabian Peninsula and greater Persian Gulf issues, specifically US bilateral and regional policy, strategic security issues, counterterrorism, and governance and reform. Her tour as Ambassador to the Republic of Yemen, 1997-2001, saw enhanced support for democratization and increased security and counterterrorism cooperation. Ms. Bodine also served in Baghdad as Deputy Principal Officer during the Iran-Iraq War, Kuwait as Deputy Chief of Mission during the Iraqi invasion and occupation of 1990-1991, and again, seconded to the Department of Defense, in Iraq in 2003 as the senior State Department official and the first coalition coordinator for reconstruction in Baghdad and the central governorates. Her first assignment in the Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs was as Country Officer for the two Yemens and security assistance coordinator for the peninsula. She later returned to that office as Deputy Director.

In addition to several other assignments in the State Department's Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs, she was Deputy for Operations, Office of the Coordinator for Counterterrorism and subsequently acting overall Coordinator for Counterterrorism, Director of East African Affairs, Dean of the School of Professional Studies at the Foreign Service Institute, and Senior Advisor for International Security Negotiations and Agreements in the Bureau of Political-Military Affairs. Ambassador Bodine is the recipient of a number of awards, including the Secretary's Award for Valor for her work in Occupied Kuwait. She is a former member of the Board of Directors of the American Academy of Diplomacy, co-chair of the International Forum on Diplomatic Training, an associate fellow of the Geneva Centre for Security Policy, and a member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

Since leaving the government, Ambassador Bodine has been founding Director of the Governance Initiative in the Middle East and Senior Fellow at the Kennedy School of Government and the Robert Wilhelm Fellow at MIT's Center for International Studies. She is a past president of the Mine Awareness Group, America, a global NGO that provides technical expertise for the removal of remnants of conflict worldwide.

A native of St. Louis, Mo., Ms. Bodine is a Phi Beta Kappa and magna cum laude graduate of the University of California, Santa Barbara in Political Science and East Asian Studies and earned her Master's at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy. A recipient of distinguished alumni awards from both UC Santa Barbara and the Fletcher School, she is a Regent Emerita of the University of California. She resides in Alexandria, VA.

Introduction to the Moderator



Payton Knopf is a senior advisor to the Africa program where his work focuses on the intersecting political, economic and security dynamics in the Red Sea. He is concurrently an advisor to the European Institute of Peace.

Knopf is a former U.S. diplomat with expertise in sub-Saharan Africa, North Africa, and the Middle East. Immediately prior to joining USIP, Knopf was the first coordinator the United Nations Panel of Experts on South Sudan, from its inception in 2015 until April 2017. He was also formerly a senior advisor at the Crisis Management Initiative (CMI)/Martti Ahtisaari Centre and the PeaceWorks Foundation.

Before leaving government, he was spokesman at the U.S. Mission to the United Nations under then-Ambassador Susan E. Rice, having previously served as a policy advisor to U.S. Special Envoy for Middle East Peace George Mitchell. From 2006 to 2008, he was based at the U.S. Embassy in Khartoum, where he advised the then-U.S. Special Envoys for Sudan Andrew Natsios and Richard Williamson on issues related to the conflict in Darfur and to the implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement for Sudan.

His other State Department assignments included in the Office of Egypt and the Levant and at the U.S. Consulate General in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. He was an International Affairs fellow in residence at the Council on Foreign Relations from 2010-2011 where his research focused on diplomatic engagement with non-state armed groups.

A Note on Learning Standards Presented in this Guide

Three sets of standards have been linked to each of the learning objectives in this packet. The **Washington State K-12 Social Studies Learning Standards** and the accompanying Grade Level Requirements are the social studies standards for WA State.

The College, Career, & Civic Life C3 Framework for Social Studies State Standards are the standards published by the National Council for the Social Studies. Guiding the packet as a whole is the Framework for Global Learning created by the Asia Society and the Council of Chief State School Officers titled *Educating for Global Competence: Preparing Our Youth to Engage the World* (2011).

Cross-objective standards are listed at the beginning of the packet, and content-specific standards can be found after each learning objective.

The standards provided have been selected for relevance, but are not exclusive: many other standards, such as Common Core, may be applicable to the resources and learning objectives identified in this packet. The intention for this packet's organization is to provide educators with an idea of resources available and possible uses for resources. Users should feel free to create their own learning objectives and to select resources according to the specific needs of their classrooms.

WASHINGTON STATE K-12 SOCIAL STUDIES LEARNING STANDARDS

There are five EALRs in Social Studies, one for each of the discipline areas: civics, economics, geography, and history, and a fifth for social studies skills.

(1) Social Studies EALR 1: CIVICS

The student understands and applies knowledge of government, law, politics, and the nation's fundamental documents to make decisions about local, national, and international issues and to demonstrate thoughtful, participatory citizenship.

(2) Social Studies EALR 2: ECONOMICS

The student applies understanding of economic concepts and systems to analyze decision-making and the interactions between individuals, households, businesses, governments, and societies.

(3) Social Studies EALR 3: GEOGRAPHY

The student uses a spatial perspective to make reasoned decisions by applying the concepts of location, region, and movement and demonstrating knowledge of how geographic features and human cultures impact environments.

(4) Social Studies EALR 4: HISTORY

The student understands and applies knowledge of historical thinking, chronology, eras, turning points, major ideas, individuals, and themes on local, Washington State, tribal, United States, and world history in order to evaluate how history shapes the present and future.

(5) Social Studies EALR 5: SOCIAL STUDIES SKILLS

The student understands and applies reasoning skills to conduct research, deliberate, and form and evaluate positions through the processes of reading, writing, and communicating.

COLLEGE, CAREER, & CIVIC LIFE C3 FRAMEWORK FOR SOCIAL STUDIES STATE STANDARDS

The C3 Framework is organized into the four Dimensions, which support a robust social studies program rooted in inquiry.

The four Dimensions are as follows:

- (1) Developing questions and planning inquiries;
- (2) Applying disciplinary concepts and tools;
- (3) Evaluating sources and using evidence;
- (4) Communicating conclusions and taking informed action

DIMENSION 1:	DIMENSION 2:	DIMENSION 3:	DIMENSION 4:
DEVELOPING QUESTIONS AND PLANNING INQUIRIES	APPLYING DISCIPLINARY TOOLS AND CONCEPTS	EVALUATING SOURCES AND USING EVIDENCE	COMMUNICATING CONCLUSIONS AND TAKING INFORMED ACTION
Developing Questions and Planning Inquiries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Civics • Economics • Geography • History 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gathering and Evaluating Sources • Developing Claims and Using Evidence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communicating and Critiquing Conclusions • Taking Informed Action

Dimension 2 has four disciplinary subsections: (1) **Civics**; (2) **Economics**; (3) **Geography**; (4) **History**. Each disciplinary subsection has three to four additional categories, which provide an organizing mechanism for the foundational content and skills within each discipline.

C3 Framework Organization

CIVICS	ECONOMICS	GEOGRAPHY	HISTORY
Civic and Political Institutions	Economic Decision Making	Geographic Representations: Special Views of the World	Change, Continuity, and Context
Participation and Deliberation: Applying Civic Virtues and Democratic Principles	Exchange and Markets	Human-Environment Interaction: Place, Religions, and Culture	Perspective
Processes, Rules, and Laws	The National Economy	Human Populations: Spatial Patterns and Movements	Historical Sources and Evidence
	The Global Economy	Global Interconnections: Changing Spatial Patterns	Causation and Argumentation

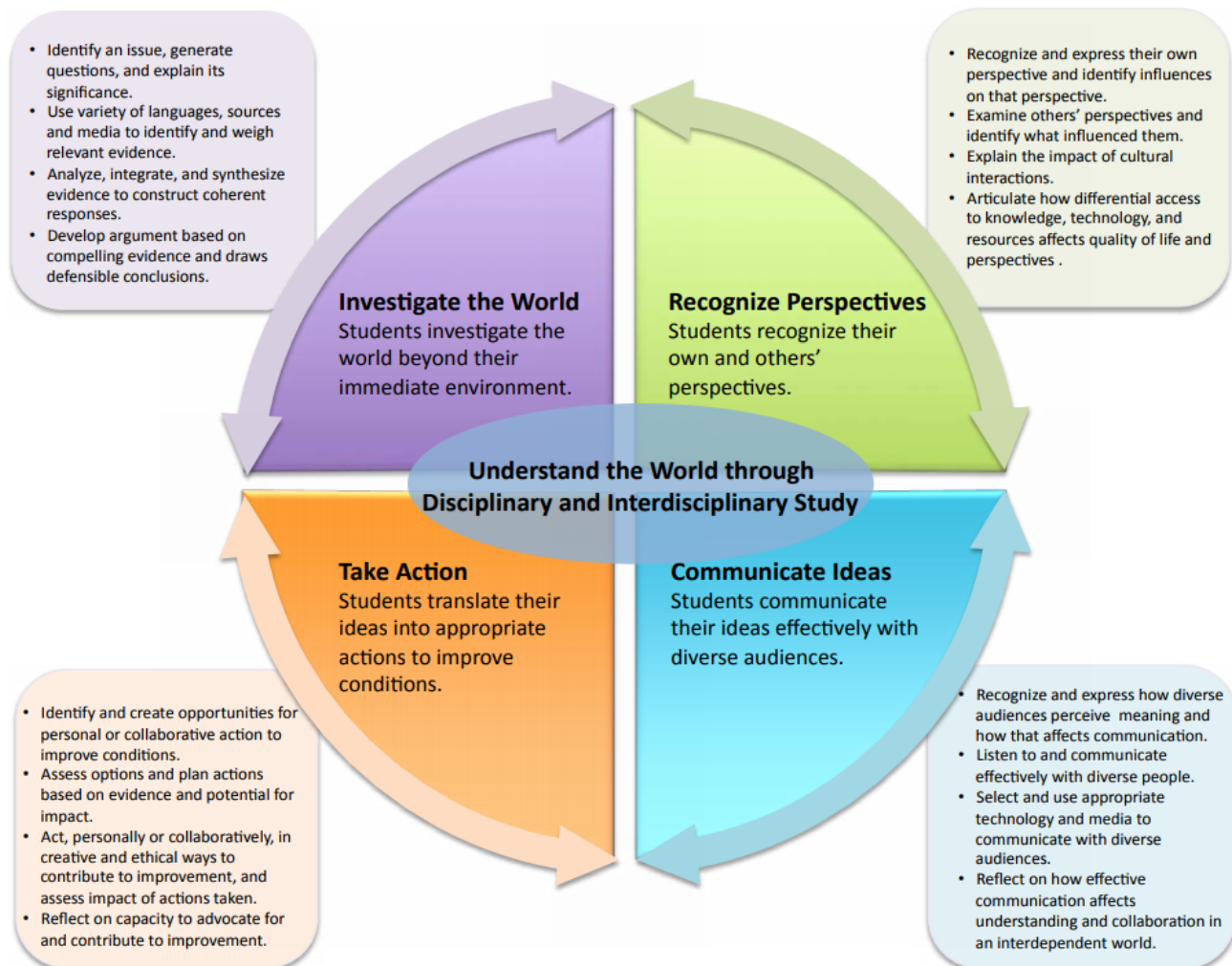
EDUCATING FOR GLOBAL COMPETENCE

Frameworks taken from *Educating for Global Competence: Preparing Our Youth to Engage the World* (Asia Society and the Council of Chief State School Officers 2011).

“Global competence is the capacity and disposition to understand and act on issues of global significance” (Chapter 2).

Globally competent students are able to perform the following four competences:

1. **Investigate the world** beyond their immediate environment, framing significant problems and conducting well-crafted and age-appropriate research.
2. **Recognize perspectives** others’ and their own, articulating and explaining such perspectives thoughtfully and respectfully.
3. **Communicate ideas** effectively with diverse audiences, bridging geographic, linguistic, ideological, and cultural barriers.
4. **Take action** to improve conditions, viewing themselves as players in the world and participating reflectively.



Key Terms

United Arab Emirates (UAE)

<https://www.britannica.com/place/United-Arab-Emirates>

United Arab Emirates, [is a] federation of seven emirates along the eastern coast of the Arabian Peninsula.

Proxy War

<https://www.brookings.edu/blog/order-from-chaos/2018/05/21/why-engage-in-proxy-war-a-states-perspective/>

A proxy war occurs when a major power instigates or plays a major role in supporting and directing a party to a conflict but does only a small portion of the actual fighting itself.

Secessionist/Secessionism

<https://www.collinsdictionary.com/us/dictionary/english/secessionist>

Secessionists are people who want their region or group to become separate from the country or larger group to which it belongs.

Cease-fire

<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/us/dictionary/english/ceasefire>

An agreement, usually between two armies, to stop fighting in order to allow discussions about peace

Sectarianism

<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/us/dictionary/english/sectarian>

A person who very strongly supports the religious or political group that they are a member of, in a way that may cause problems with people from other groups

MENA Region

<https://www.investopedia.com/terms/m/middle-east-and-north-africa-mena.asp>

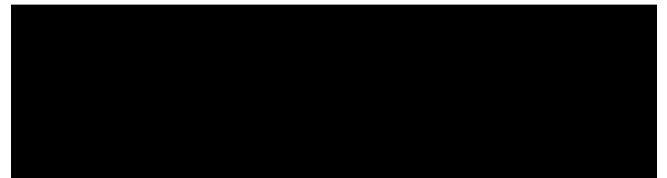
MENA is an acronym for the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region. The region includes approximately 19 countries, according to World Atlas. The MENA region accounts for approximately 6% of the world's population, 60% of the world's oil reserves, and 45% of the world's natural gas reserves.

Subsidy Reform

<https://blogs.worldbank.org/energy/fossil-fuel-subsidy-reforms-we-know-why-question-how#:~:text=To%20reform%20subsidies%20means%20to,subsidy%20reform%20to%20sustainable%20development.>

To reform subsidies means to understand and gauge economic and political trade-offs, to mitigate adverse effects on vulnerable households, to assist firms with implementing efficiency enhancing measures, and to ensure the long-term contribution of subsidy reform to sustainable development

Geography



Official Country Name: Al-Jumhūriyyah al-Yamaniyyah

Capital City: Sana'a

Language: Arabic

Main Religion: Islam

Ethnic Groups: Arab 92.8%, Mahra 1.4%, Somali 3.7%, Indo-Pakistani 1.0%, Black 1.1%

Population: 29,282,000

Borders: Most of the Northern border with Saudi Arabia is the Rub' al-Khali desert. The eastern border with Oman made up of the Mahrat Mountains. To the south, Yemen is bordered by the Gulf of Aden and the Arabian Sea and to the west by the Red Sea.

Land Regions: Tihāmah, the western highlands, the Yemen Highlands, the eastern highlands, and finally the eastern and northeastern desert regions.

Climate: Yemen has a subtropical dry, hot desert climate with low annual rainfall, very high temperatures in summer and a big difference between maximum and minimum temperatures, especially in the inland areas. Cities in the mountains (like Sana'a) usual have higher winds and lower temperatures and lower humidity than the rest of the country.

Did you know? At the legendary port city of Mocha, Yemen became the birthplace of coffee cultivation and the first in the world to commercialize coffee production.

Historical Context and Background



Mapping the Yemen Conflict

<https://www.ecfr.eu/mena/yemen>

Yemen's northern Yemen Arab Republic (YAR) and southern People's Democratic Republic of Yemen (PDY) were split until their unification in 1990. Zaidi Shi'ism predominates in the northern highlands with the Sunni forming the majority elsewhere. Still, sectarianism was not an issue as people intermarried and used the same Mosque. The rise of political Islam threatened this cohesion and was a key factor in the emergence of the Houthi movement.

Yemen: A Civil War Centuries in the Making

<http://origins.osu.edu/article/yemen-civil-war-houthi-humanitarian-crisis-arabia-zaydi>

Yemen's current conflict has deep roots in how the country emerged as a nation. Experts have found different origins of the conflict, with one going back as far as the country's first civil war during the 1960s. For nearly 1000 years until 1962, Yemen was ruled by an imam, or religious leader who controlled the country's northern highlands and western coast. Conversely, South Yemen had been occupied by the British empire since 1839 with its port of Aden gradually becoming a colonial epicenter in the region. After its independence in the 1960s, episodes of cross-border violence erupted between northern and southern Yemen.

Yemen: The North-South Divide

<https://www.aljazeera.com/programmes/aljazeeraworld/2017/11/yemen-north-south-divide-171129152948234.html>

The North and South divide in Yemen goes back hundred of years when Islam first arrived in Northern Yemen. The Shia presence in the north remained for the next thousand years while the south of Yemen was divided and eventually ran by the British. With the independence of North Yemen becoming a republic and the formation of The People's Republic of South Yemen, the conflict continued. It was not until 1990 that Yemen was finally unified with Sanaa as the new capital. But problems continued to arise as the new state did not have a clear framework for how the power would be shared between North and South Yemen.

2011 Arab Spring



What Was The Arab Spring and How Did It Spread?

<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/culture/topics/reference/arab-spring-cause/>

The Arab Spring is a wave of protests, uprisings, and unrest that started in late December, 2010 in Tunisia and spread across the MENA region. These pro-democratic protests seemed to inspire citizens to call for and expect reform, but some led to armed conflict in countries like Syria, Iraq, Libya, and Yemen.

Yemen's Arab Spring | A Bitter Legacy

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QVlr1Kksnxs>

When the Arab Spring spread throughout the Middle East and reached Yemen, its founding principles were contrary to the ideals and rule of Ali Abdullah Saleh, who had been ruling Yemen for more than three decades. He constantly manipulated alliances and milked international aid in the name of fighting terrorists. He and his allies joined with the Houthi rebellion, subsequently leading to the collapse of the Yemeni food supply.

The Youth of Yemen In The Arab Spring

<https://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/TheYouthOfYemenInTheArabSpring.aspx>

The Arab Spring uprising is largely driven by Yemeni youth, where they share information and hopes and demands about their rights.

2011 Arab Spring

Yemen and the Arab Spring: Elite Struggles, State Collapse and Regional Security

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0030438713000276>

Multiple challenges have exacerbated the various issues in Yemen, including its economic situation. Its dwindling reserves of oil and water have been attributed to conflict over their control. Houthis have encroached their control over northern parts of Yemen and seem to be continuing plans of further control. With the South emboldening the Hirak to call for greater autonomy or independence, worries mount that southerners will not want to participate in the rebuilding of the country.

Spring Trap

<https://newrepublic.com/article/86043/yemen-tunisia-egypt-arab-uprising>

The unifying narrative of the 'Arab Spring' should be avoided, according to the Obama administration, as each country poses a set of unique challenges and ramifications. This opinion is that these unique challenges should not be dealt with in the same manner or for the same reasons as in other countries like Afghanistan or Egypt. In order to secure Yemen, objectives include pursuing political reforms, defeating AQAP, and better addressing enduring secessionism.



Podcast: "Unfinished Revolutions: Yemen, Libya, and Tunisia after the Arab Spring" with Ibrahim Fraihat

<https://www.belfercenter.org/publication/podcast-unfinished-revolutions-yemen-libya-and-tunisia-after-arab-spring-ibrahim>

An audio recording of a book talk by Ibrahim Fraihat, Senior Fellow in Foreign Policy, Brookings Institution Doha Center and Affiliate Scholar, Georgetown University in Qatar, on his most recent book *Unfinished Revolutions: Yemen, Libya, and Tunisia after the Arab Spring* from Yale University Press.

Did you know? The Arab Spring, wave of pro-democracy protests and uprisings that took place in the Middle East and North Africa beginning in 2010 and 2011, challenging some of the region's entrenched authoritarian regimes.

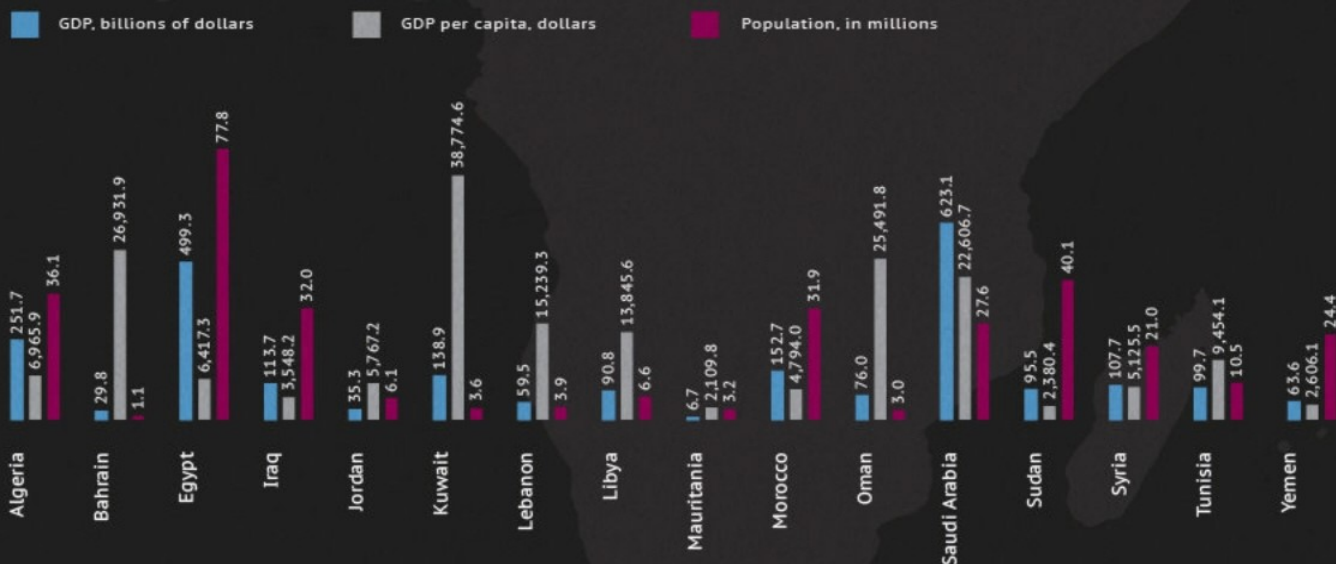
Unrest in the Arab countries

Throughout 2011 the Arab world was marked by riots and protests.

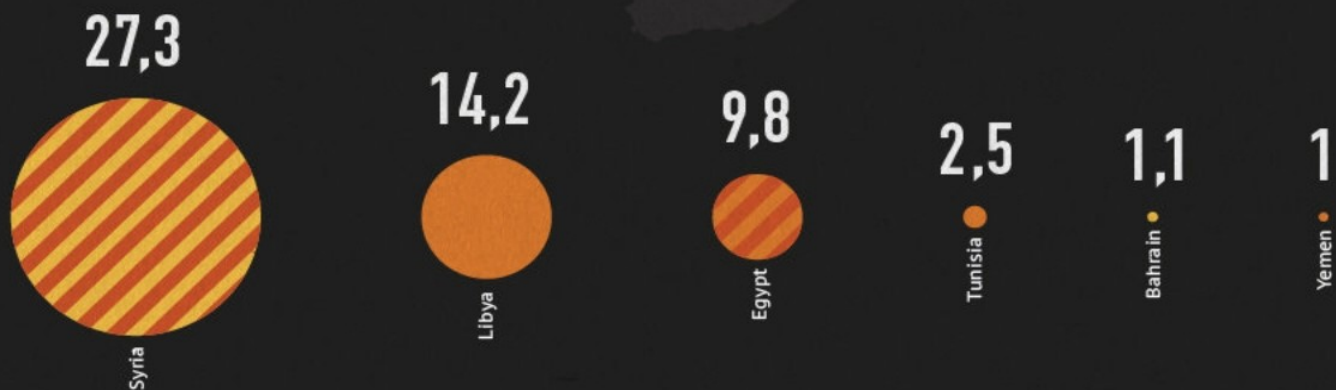
- Countries where localized protests took place
- Countries where protests took place but did not lead to regime change
- Countries where the unrest led to regime change.
- Countries where unrest is continuing



Macroeconomic indicators and the size of the population*



Damage to the economy, billions of dollars**



2011 Arab Spring

How Yemen's 'Arab Spring' Turned Into A Proxy War

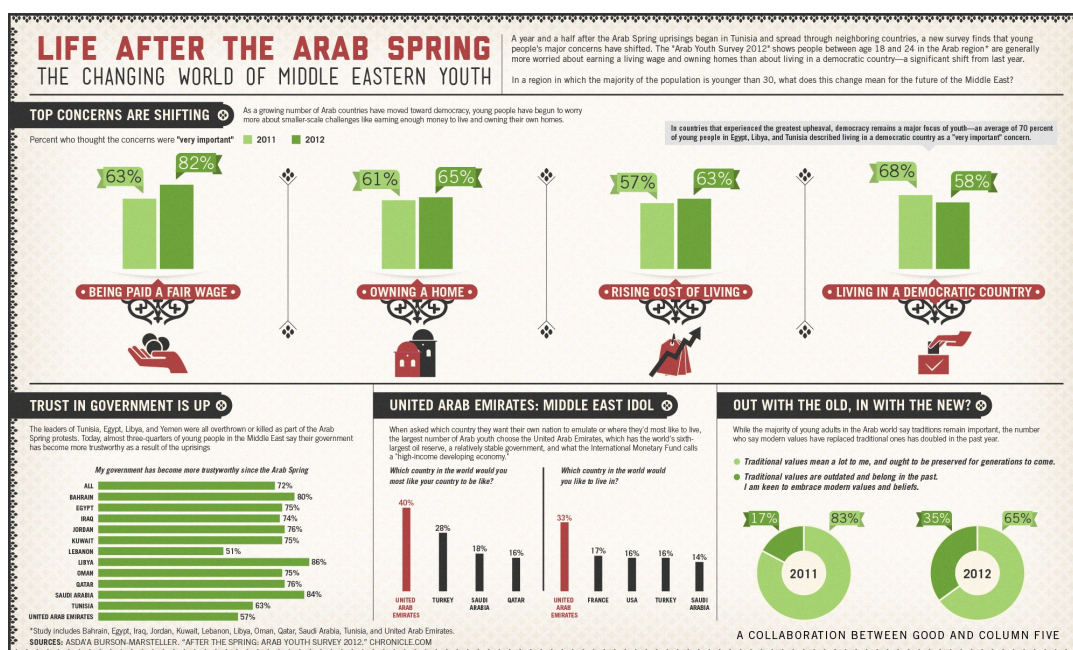
<https://www.trtworld.com/middle-east/how-yemen-s-arab-spring-turned-into-a-proxy-war-22361>

Disenfranchised Yemeni citizens voiced their concerns during the protests of the Arab Spring, but their demands were not met. Although protests succeeded in forcing the long-ruling President Ali Abdullah Saleh to give up power, he was still involved in politics whilst Saudi Arabia decisively intervened. On November 23 2011, the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) had an agreement with Saleh that he would be safe in Yemen and that Abd Rabbuh Mansur Hadi would become an interim head of state for one year. The deal suffered from exclusivity as only Yemen's elite won access to the new interim government and people became more discontented with the political process.

Explained: How The Arab Spring Led to an Increasingly Vicious Civil War In Yemen

<https://theconversation.com/explained-how-the-arab-spring-led-to-an-increasingly-vicious-civil-war-in-yemen-55968>

The uprising in Yemen during the Arab Spring illuminated political problems within the country that needed to be dealt with. Yemen's political system denied many the access to political power as it depended on a web of tribal and regional patronage. The protests thus allowed those denied access to political power to demand redress. Therefore, the Yemeni Civil war can be understood as political conflict about the terms of government-ordained exclusion and inclusion.



New President Abdrabbuh Mansour Hadi



Yemen's president Ali Abdullah Saleh cedes power

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-17177720>

After mass protests across Yemen, Ali Abdullah Saleh formally handed over his power to his deputy Abdrabbuh Mansour Hadi as a part of a Gulf Cooperation Council-brokered agreement. He was expected to serve for two years until the parliamentary elections in 2014, but the Arab Spring upended the timeline.

President Hadi and the future of legitimacy in Yemen

<https://www.mei.edu/publications/president-hadi-and-future-legitimacy-yemen>

Concern over Yemen's exiled President Hadi and health problems have brought up questions over what the future of Yemen can be expected to look like. Looking at the legitimacy of certain actors and how the law plays a part in determining legitimacy, the passing of Hadi or his continued actions could bring both into question, to the detriment of the Yemeni people.

Profile: Yemen's Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/middleeast/2012/02/2012219133034774204.html>

After spending 17 years as vice president, Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi assumed office in 2012 following the Arab Spring uprising. However, faith in Hadi was shaky due to Yemeni security forces which were still under the control of former-president Saleh's sons and nephews.

New President Abdrabbuh Mansour Hadi

Yemen Leader-In-Exile Hadi Returns For Meeting of Divided Parliament

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-yemen-security-election/yemen-leader-in-exile-hadi-returns-for-meeting-of-divided-parliament-idUSKCN1RPoCS>

President Hadi, based in Riyadh after being exiled when the Houthis took over Yemen's capital Sanaa, visited loyalist city Aden for a meeting of the divided Parliament. Hadi's internationally recognized government and the Houthis both supported UN involvement in the crisis, though both sides have competing parliamentary elections.

President Hadi and The Future of Legitimacy in Yemen

<https://www.mei.edu/publications/president-hadi-and-future-legitimacy-yemen>

Concern over Yemen's exiled President Hadi and health problems have brought up questions over what the future of Yemen can be expected to look like. Looking at the legitimacy of certain actors and how the law plays a part in determining legitimacy, the passing of Hadi or his continued actions could bring both into question, to the detriment of the Yemeni people.

Yemen's Hadi Flees to Aden and Says He Is Still President

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-yemen-security/yemens-hadi-flees-to-aden-and-says-he-is-still-president-idUSKBNLPo8F20150221>

After the Houthi militia invaded the Yemen capital city of Sanaa, President Hadi escaped house arrest and fled to Aden, where he said that all agreements made with Houthi rebels were illegitimate. Western countries fear that Hadi's flee and subsequent unrest in Yemen could allow al-Qaeda to facilitate future attacks across the Middle East.

Did you know? Yemen is the second largest country in the Arab peninsula, with a population of 28.5 million people

Subsidy Backlash

Yemen Fuel Subsidy Cut Drives Poorest Deeper Into Poverty

<https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2014/aug/26/yemen-fuel-subsidy-cut-drives-poorest-poverty>

Since fuel subsidies were one of the few public goods in Yemen, the government's 2014 decision to cut subsidies sparked public outrage over the increased prices of fuel, transportation, and food. The government's commitment to using the savings from the cuts to strengthen the welfare system did not materialize, resulting in welfare payments that were up to six months late. This increased the severity of poverty within the country.

Yemen: Protests and Mistrust of Government Hamper Another Arab Struggle Toward Stability

<https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/new-atlanticist/yemen-protests-and-mistrust-of-government-hamper-another-arab-struggle-toward-stability/>

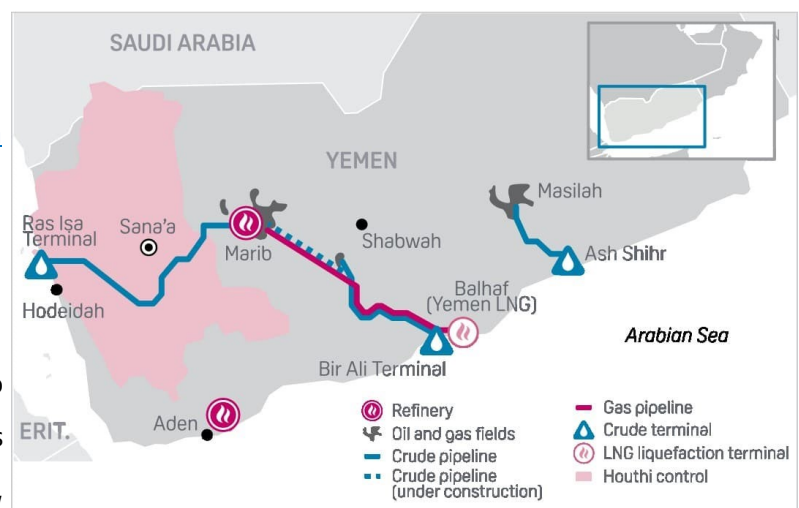
The Houthi protests against the government's attempts to implement subsidy reform illuminate a critical lack of trust and unraveling of the social contract in Yemen. Many Yemenis feel unheard and isolated from the government, preventing any real reform or pursuit of stability within the country.

Tens of Thousands of Yemeni Houthis Protest Against Fuel Reform, Government

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-yemen-protests/tens-of-thousands-of-yemeni-houthis-protest-against-fuel-reform-government-idUSKBN0G1O420140818>

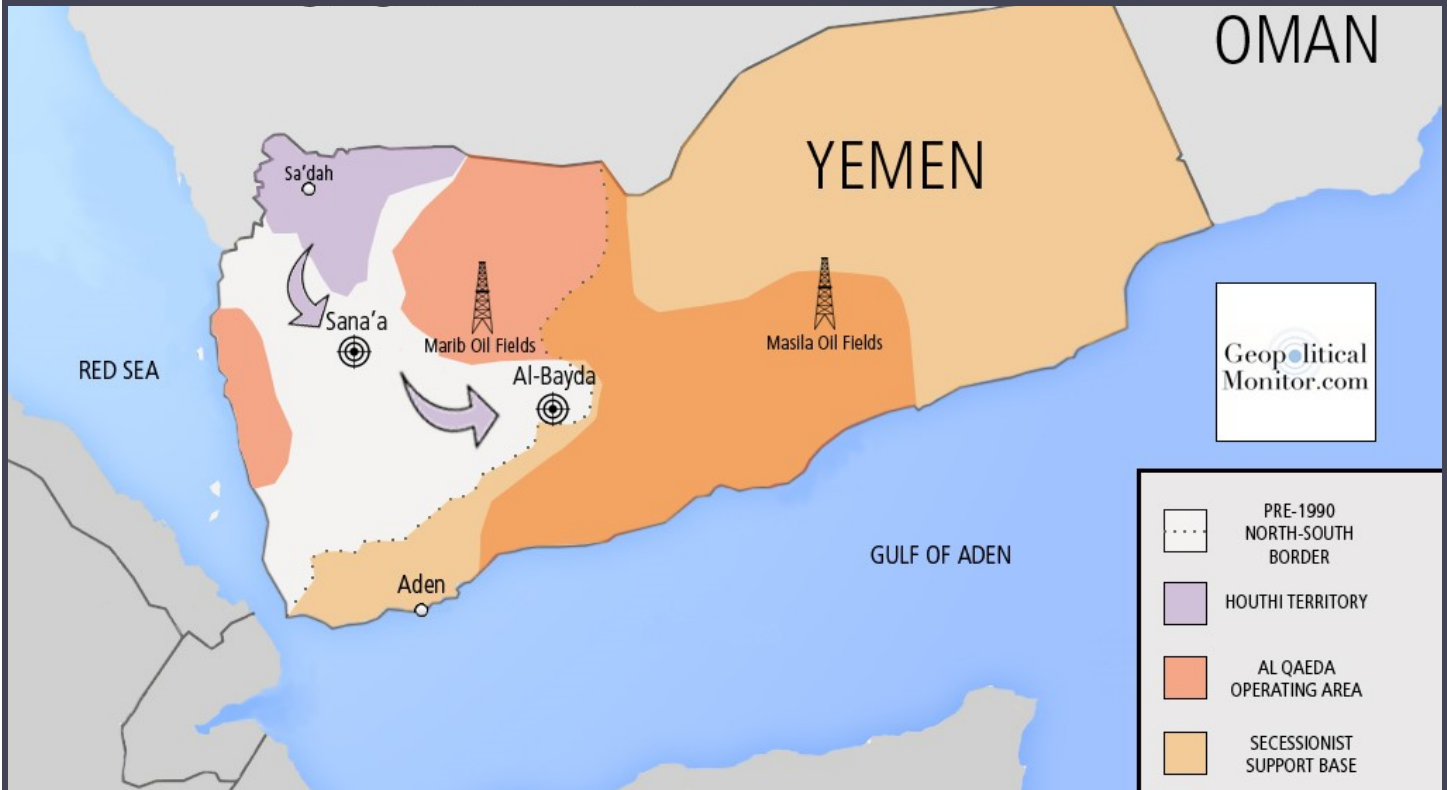
After the Yemeni government decided to curb fuel subsidies in July 2014, thousands of protestors, mostly Shi'ite Muslims, demonstrated for three hours in Yemen's capital Sanaa. This protest was organized by the Houthi movement and came as another challenge to President Hadi and his administration.

YEMEN'S OIL AND GAS INFRASTRUCTURE



Source: S&P Global Platts, European Council on Foreign Relations

Houthi Movement



What is the Houthi Movement?

<https://institute.global/policy/what-houthi-movement>

The Houthis are a Zaydi Shiite movement that first emerged in the northern parts of Yemen, in response to growing Salafi influence in the region. In the summer of 2014, the movement advanced south and captured the capital Sanaa in September. To date, the conflict has continued at a deadlock between the Houthis and the Saudi-led coalition backing Yemen's government. The aim of the Houthi movement is primarily to gain substantial autonomy from (or control over) the central Yemeni government.

Yemen's Houthi Takeover

<https://www.mei.edu/publications/yemens-houthi-takeover>

In September 2014, the Houthi movement took control of the capital city Sanaa, after anger towards the 2011 power shift as a result of the Arab Spring. Houthi supporters see the movement as an attempt to reform the government, while their opponents deem the movement an Iranian-backed militia that only seeks to gain power. Due to the Houthi takeover, separatists in Yemen are increasingly calling for separation and independence for southern Yemen, fearful of the sectarian conflict that could emerge as the Houthis deal with al-Qaeda.

Houthi Movement



Who Are the Houthis in Yemen?

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c_KGSOoMBcc

Houthis are a group of Yemen that make up 25% of the population, and belong to Shia Zaidism. The Houthi movement was born under the leadership of Hussein Badreddin al Houthi. The 2003 war in Iraq made them more politically active where they began to protest against former president Saleh. Where Saudi Arabia backed the government, Iran backed the Houthis. After the new president Hadi failed to stabilize the country, the Houthis allied with their previous enemy Saleh.

Who are the Houthis and Why Are We at War With Them?

<https://www.brookings.edu/blog/markaz/2017/12/18/who-are-the-houthis-and-why-are-we-at-war-with-them/>

A simplified account of the Houthis and the complexity of their involvement in the war. Highlights include the sectarian conflict between Sunni and Shi'ite Muslims, the American Invasion of Iraq in 2003, and the current battle over the control of Yemen.

Who Are the Houthis

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2015/3/29/who-are-the-houthis-in-yemen>

Officially known as Ansar Allah (Partisans of God), the Houthi rebels began as a theological movement that preached tolerance and peace in the early 1990s ...The group started as a gathering called the 'Believing Youth Forum' in the early nineties," Addaghashi said. "Then, it fell into internal strife between two lines; the first called for more openness, while the second urged sticking to the traditional legacy of the Shia sect."

Did you know? The capital of Yemen, the City of Sanaa, (now under Houthi control) is located in a mountain valley at an altitude of 2,200 meters, and has been inhabited for more than 2,500 years.

Military Division



Yemen's Fragile Military Balance

<https://www.washingtoninstitute.org/policy-analysis/view/yemens-fragile-military-balance>

The Yemen conflict is a multifaceted one with multiple actors, but three broad divisions stand out: The Houthis, The Hadi government, and Southern secessionists. The Houthi-led government is currently in control of the capital and the majority of north and central Yemen. The internationally-recognized Hadi government in Aden are supported by the Saudi government and is spread across Marib, Aden, Seiyun, and other Yemeni cities, as well as Riyadh. The Southern Transitional Council have participated against the Houthis while simultaneously seeking to overthrow the Hadi government. It originally had support from the UAE before they withdrew military offenses.

Shuyukh, Policemen and Supervisors: Yemen's Competing Security Providers

<https://carnegie-mec.org/2020/03/27/shuyyukh-policemen-and-supervisors-yemen-s-competing-security-providers-pub-81385>

With three main political forces acting in Yemen, the question of security seems like an oxymoron. Security providers like policy officers differ in their presence based on geopolitics. For example, in rural areas of Yemen, it is the tribesmen that provide security. Where policy offers are active, many lack equipment and expertise.

Proxy War



Iran's Backing of the Houthis

Iran's Role in Yemen and Prospects for Peace

<https://www.mei.edu/publications/irans-role-yemen-and-prospects-peace>

Although Iran historically has not been significantly involved in Yemen, its Shia identity aligns with the rising Houthi movement in the country. Stemming from the political turmoil caused by the Arab Spring in 2011, there has been increasing evidence that Iran supports the Houthi movement with military and financial assistance, though it has denied these allegations. Iranian support of the Houthis against the Saudi Arabian-backed Yemeni government is emblematic of the bitter rivalry between the two countries, thus turning Yemen's conflict into a proxy war.

War in Yemen: The View From Iran

<https://www.cmi.no/publications/file/5654-war-in-yemen-the-view-from-iran.pdf>

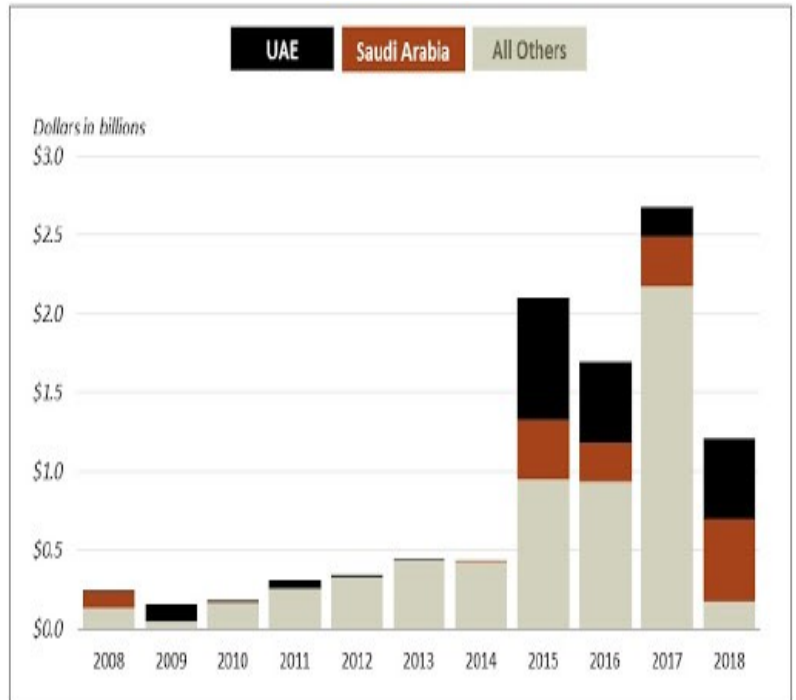
Iran sees the Houthi takeover as a natural consequence of the Yemeni government's repression. They view the Huthi Zaydi creed as religiously different, but are still united due to an association of political causes.

Proxy War

Iran's Post-Conflict Vision in Yemen

<https://carnegieendowment.org/sada/80557>

Iranian officials largely see Yemen's war as a frontier of Saudi Arabia's expansionist vision. As such, they wish to contain Saudi Arabia's political influence. Reflected in this tension is Iran's rejection of peace settlements conducted on Saudi Arabia's terms. Instead, they propose an alternative power-sharing agreement that demands the inclusion of the Houthis in Yemen's government and rejects any changes made to Yemen's constitutional structure, including the country's formal division.



War by Proxy: Iran's Growing Footprint in the Middle East

<https://www.csis.org/war-by-proxy>

Iranian military involvement in Yemen and across the Middle East is not random; it is a calculated curriculum based on their involvement in the 1980's Iran-Iraq War. In Yemen, Iran's Islamic Guards Corps-Quds Force (IRGC-QF) has provided arms to the Houthis to conduct attacks on targets in the UAE and Saudi Arabia, as well as retain and possibly increase their own presence against Iranian influence near the Red Sea and the above countries.

Five Years of Yemen Conflict Yield Muddled Picture for Saudi Coalition

<https://carnegie-mec.org/2020/03/31/five-years-of-yemen-conflict-yield-muddled-picture-for-saudi-coalition-pub-81406>

Saudi Arabia's military involvement in Yemen's conflict is in its sixth year and still has not achieved its goal of defeating the Houthi rebels and restoring peace and stability. Throughout the conflict, the Saudi coalition has become internally divided, which has enabled the Houthis to continue their expansion.

Proxy War

Iran's Arms Shipments to Houthis Fuel War in Yemen

<https://www.arabnews.com/node/1697466/middle-east>

In June 2020, the Saudi-led coalition seized a shipment from Iran to the Houthis, carrying hundreds of weapons, including missiles, sniper rifles, and ammunition. They declared it proof of Iran's involvement in Yemen's conflict. The impact of Iran's support of the Houthis is evident on the battlefield, allowing the Houthis to become increasingly more destructive. This has prolonged the war and also made it more dangerous for civilians.

Saudi Arabia



Saudi Arabia vs. Iran: The Sunni-Shiite Proxy Wars

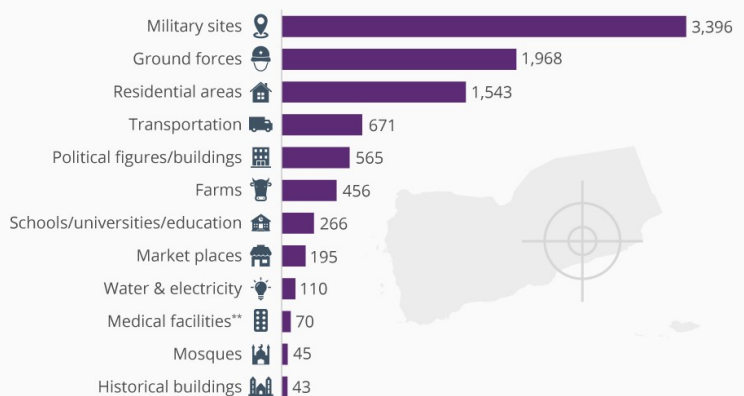
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l7cdBjYd2Bo)

[v=l7cdBjYd2Bo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l7cdBjYd2Bo)

The Sunni-Shiite divide has been present for over 1400 years, and Saudi Arabia and Iran are two major Middle East countries that are a manifestation of the sectarian conflict. With religion as a backdrop, alongside economic, governmental, and other guiding influences, the Saudi and Iranian religious conflict serves as a mechanism to aid in proxy wars across the Middle East.

What The Saudi-Led Coalition Is Striking In Yemen

Selected targets of air raids in Yemen (from 26 Mar 2015–25 Mar 2018)*



CC BY-SA
@StatistaCharts

* Selection of total targets. At least 5,460 fall into the category of 'unknown'.
** Hospitals, medical centres, clinics and other healthcare.
Source: Yemen Data Project

statista

Does Saudi Arabia Want to Break Up Yemen?

<https://www.theglobalist.com/saudi-arabia-break-up-yemen-united-states/>

It took about a year for Saudi Arabia to offer any reason behind their involvement in the war in Yemen. The prince himself said it was hardly obvious why the attack was launched during his time out of government service. The conventional wisdom explains that similar to the U.S. strategy, Saudi Arabia overestimated the power of warfare to break up Yemen into its former two halves. A reason in support of this hypothesis is that Saudi Arabia never supported the amicable unification of north and south Yemen in 1990. This loss of regional stability would have devastating consequences giving rise to another ISIS-style group.

Proxy War

Saudi Arabia Looks For An Exit to the War in Yemen

<https://www.economist.com/middle-east-and-africa/2020/04/18/saudi-arabia-looks-for-an-exit-to-the-war-in-yemen>

While Saudi Arabia, a Sunni nation, has been backing the Hadi forces against Shia Iran's support for the rebels, Prince Muhammad is now seeking to disengage and lock the Houthis inside Yemen. There is also the looming threat of coronavirus, which has already destroyed much of Yemen's clinics and hospitals.

Saudi Arabia and The Civil War Within Yemen's Civil War

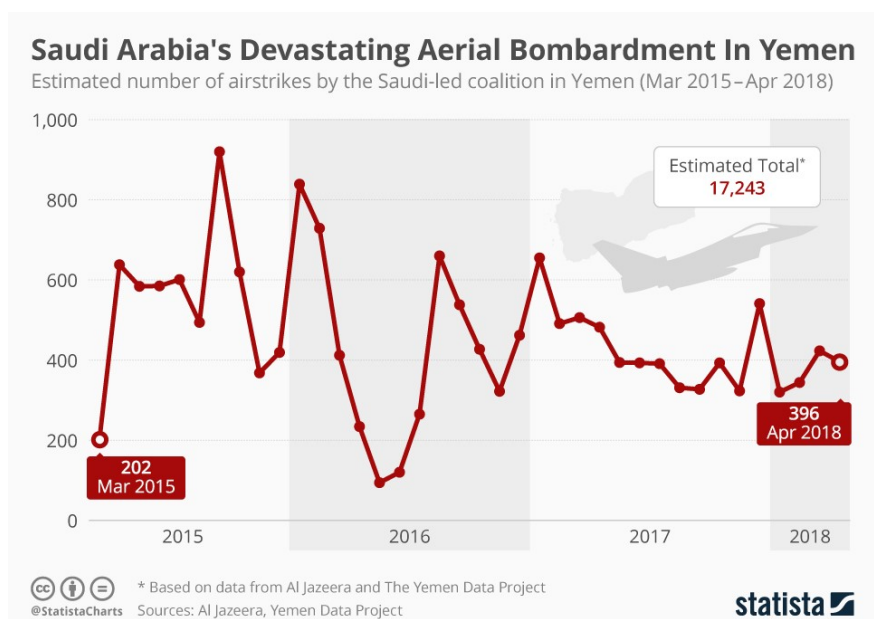
<https://www.brookings.edu/blog/order-from-chaos/2019/08/15/saudi-arabia-and-the-civil-war-within-yemens-civil-war/>

The Saudi government's support for plots against the southerners is due to the perceived threat of having the PDRY in their southern border allied with the Soviet Union. It has been intertwined with Yemen since the start of the Saudi state in the 1740s. After the Arab Spring, Saudi Arabia backed Hadi, who lost control of Aden, with the separatists having created a civil war within a civil war.

Saudi Arabia's Proposal to End Standoff Between Allies in Yemen

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/06/saudi-arabia-proposal-standoff-allies-yemen-200618074350449.html>

The Saudi proposal calls for a ceasefire in Abyan province, whereby the Saudi-backed President Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi would appoint a governor and security head for Aden. Riyadh's goal to exit the multifaceted war is being met with mistrust.



Proxy War

United States

A Brief History of America's Troubled Relationship With Yemen

[https://www.brookings.edu/](https://www.brookings.edu/blog/order-from-chaos/2018/10/22/a-brief-history-of-americas-troubled-relationship-with-yemen/)

[blog/order-from-](https://www.brookings.edu/blog/order-from-chaos/2018/10/22/a-brief-history-of-americas-troubled-relationship-with-yemen/)

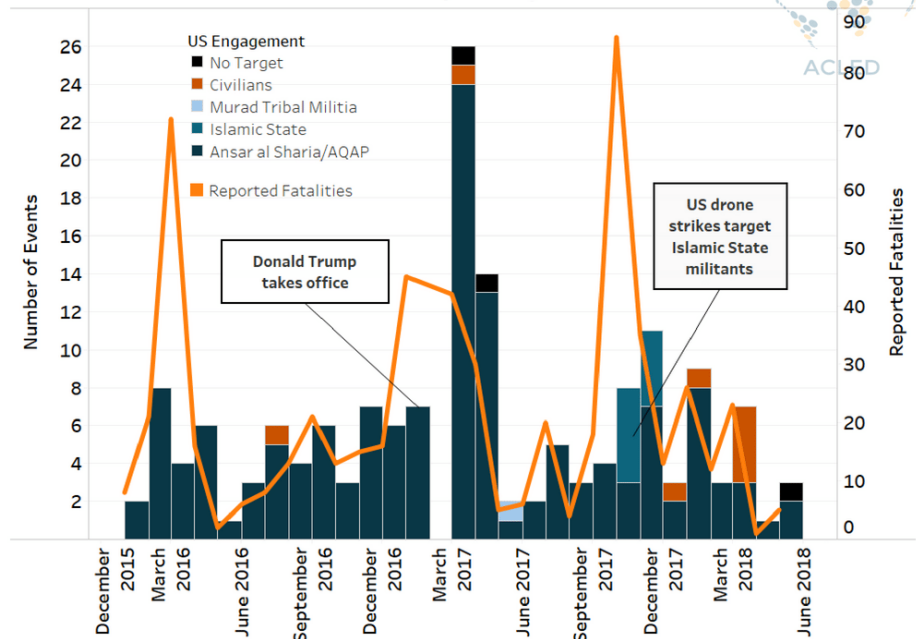
[chaos/2018/10/22/a-brief-](https://www.brookings.edu/blog/order-from-chaos/2018/10/22/a-brief-history-of-americas-troubled-relationship-with-yemen/)

[history-of-americas-troubled-](https://www.brookings.edu/blog/order-from-chaos/2018/10/22/a-brief-history-of-americas-troubled-relationship-with-yemen/)

[relationship-with-yemen/](https://www.brookings.edu/blog/order-from-chaos/2018/10/22/a-brief-history-of-americas-troubled-relationship-with-yemen/)

While the U.S. does not technically have a Yemen policy, it does through its relationship with Saudi Arabia and its support for Saudi intervention. It supported the passage of United Nations Security Council Resolution 2216, which sanctions the Houthis and provides intelligence and crucial logistical support for the Saudis.

Figure 1: United States Military Operations in Yemen (January 2016 - May 2018)



Why and How the US is Involved in the Conflict in Yemen

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X4DXHBlj_jo

US involvement in Yemen is focused more on the actions and involvement of the countries nearby, such as Saudi Arabia and Iran, rather than the Houthis. Wanting to support the Saudi allies and counter the growing regional presence of Iran, the Trump administration is advocating for a continued presence to hopefully end the conflict sooner than if they were not there.

The U.S. and the War in Yemen

<https://www.npr.org/2019/08/29/755323036/the-u-s-and-the-war-in-yemen>

Podcast with NPR's Michelle Kelemen, who covers the actions of Washington and the State Department, and Senator Chris Murphy. Murphy details his urging to involve the US to become more involved with the crisis.

Proxy War

The U.S. and the War in Yemen

<https://www.npr.org/2019/08/29/755323036/the-u-s-and-the-war-in-yemen>

Podcast with NPR's Michelle Kelemen, who covers the actions of Washington and the State Department, and Senator Chris Murphy. Murphy details his urging to involve the US to become more involved with the crisis.

Yemen is America's War Too

<https://www.cato.org/publications/commentary/yemen-americas-war-too>

Despite years of strife in Yemen, America and the Trump Administration are focused more on the sale of arms than aiding in the severe humanitarian crisis. Choosing to back Saudia Arabia, a country who has conducted mass acts of grievances over Yemeni soil, they are ignoring the human rights crises that they have stated to the UN that they will fight against.

UAE

Yemen On The Brink: How The UAE is Profiting From The Chaos of Civil War

<https://www.theguardian.com/news/2018/dec/21/yemen-uae-united-arab-emirates-profiting-from-chaos-of-civil-war>

A shift in power dynamics has unfolded in the Arab world, where Gulf countries have been projecting their power by intervening in conflicts in the region. This article discusses how the UAE forces prevail with direct examples of people being detained and posters and graffiti in Aden.

UAE's Military Priorities in Yemen: Counterterrorism and the South

<https://www.ispionline.it/it/pubblicazione/uaes-military-priorities-yemen-counterterrorism-and-south-15573>

The UAE has been focusing on security dimensions in its role in Yemen fighting against counterterrorism. It has also joined the Saudi coalition against the Houthis to restore the government.

Proxy War

Analysis: The Divergent Saudi-UAE Strategies in Yemen

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2019/08/analysis-divergent-saudi-uae-strategies-yemen-190830121530210.html>

Abdul baqi Shamsan, a Yemeni academic and political analyst argued that there is an obvious understanding between Saudi Arabia and the UAE in that both countries shared the same objective to keep Yemen weak in order to implement their own different plans. The UAE wants Yemen to be weak and divided to enable the South to secede," he said. He also said that Saudi Arabia plans on taking control of parts of Yemen closer to its southern borders.

Clashing UAE and Saudi interests are keeping the Yemen conflict alive

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/mar/26/clashing-uae-and-saudi-interests-are-keeping-the-yemen-conflict-alive>

Saudi Arabia and the UAE are competing over Southern Yemen. Saudi Arabia has engaged with the Houthis recognizing that they are here to stay. The UAE has pushed for the offensive in part against the Islah party, the Muslim Brotherhood-linked bloc of the Yemeni government. "What gets underestimated is how high the level of antagonism is between Riyadh and Abu Dhabi, particularly when it comes to support for Islah. The personal rapport between [Saudi crown prince] Mohammed bin Salman and [ruler of Abu Dhabi] Mohammed bin Zayed is what keeps the relationship together. If it were left to institutional channels the coalition would collapse," said Abdulghani al-Iryani, an analyst at the Sana'a Center thinktank.

The UAE may have withdrawn from Yemen, but its influence remains strong

<https://www.mei.edu/publications/uae-may-have-withdrawn-yemen-its-influence-remains-strong>

After five years of involvement in the civil war, the UAE completed its military withdrawal from Yemen. However, this does not mean they are no longer involved, but a shift from direct to indirect involvement. They continue to have control over several non-state armed groups. Still, the UAE's withdrawal has been met with several implications including further isolating Saudi Arabia in Yemen. Local groups are in possession of heavy weapons left behind by the UAE. It is likely that the UAE will continue to play an active role in counterterrorism engagement in cooperation with the US and in conflict resolution efforts.

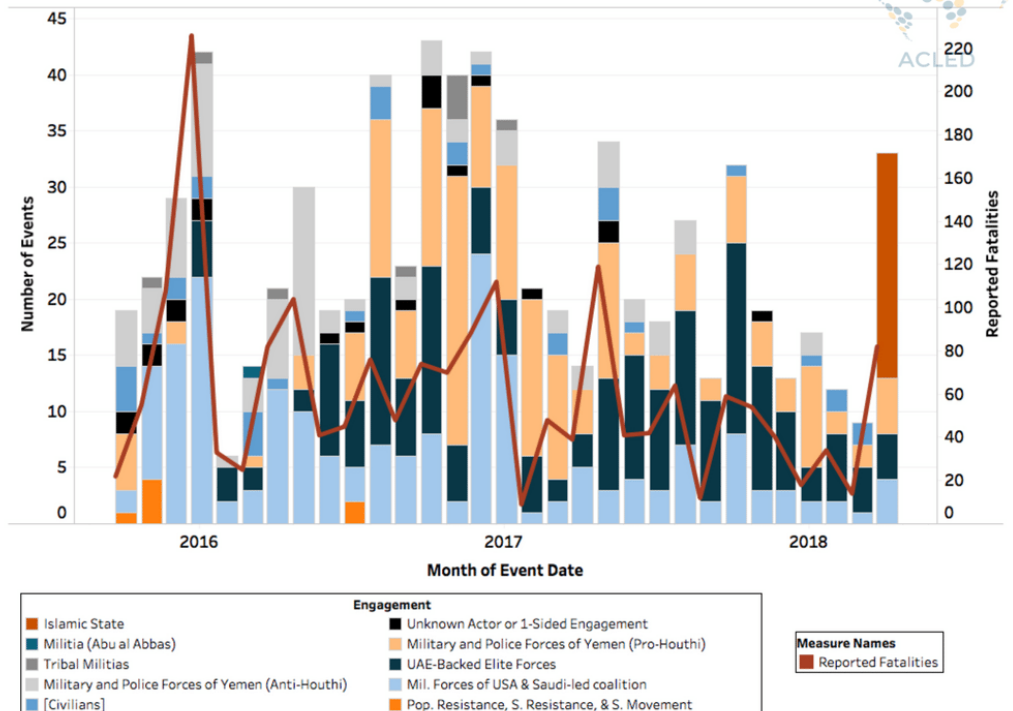
Crisis—Al Qaeda

Yemen's War Opens Way for Al Qaeda's Revival

<https://www.wsj.com/articles/yemens-war-opens-way-for-al-qaedas-revival-1542895200>

Al Qaeda is benefitting from the war in Yemen, as some residents begin to experience nostalgia for the extremist group after being ousted in Al Mukalla in 2016.

Events involving Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) by Engagement (1 January 2016- 28 July 2018)



Al-Qaeda is Rising in the Wake of the Yemen Crisis

<https://mesc.osu.edu/news/al-qaeda-rising-wake-yemen-crisis>

The majority of the territory owned by Al-Qaeda is in southern parts of the country. It has continued to enmesh with local tribes, refined governance, and public appeal physically and ideologically.

Yemen: Coping With Terrorism and Violence in a Fragile State

<https://www.crisisgroup.org/middle-east-north-africa/gulf-and-arabian-peninsula/yemen/yemen-coping-terrorism-and-violence-fragile-state>

Incidents of terrorism happening in Yemen have continuously revealed its current state of lawlessness and a sanctuary for al-Qaeda training camps. The U.S. sent special forces to Yemen in order to pursue this security threat against Al-Qaeda members and other associated organizations.

MAIN FACTIONS IN YEMEN'S CRISIS

Yemen's crisis cuts through the country's political, tribal, regional and sectarian layers to create a complex conflict.



● The Houthis, or Ansarullah

The group began as a movement of young men called the Believing Youth set up in 1992 to back the rights of the Zaydi Shi'ite sect that makes up around a fifth of Yemenis and it fought the government from 2003-09.

● Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi

Elected as an interim president in 2012 to lead a political transition towards democracy, Hadi's residence was besieged by the Houthis after they seized Sanaa. He then fled to Aden.

● Ali Abdullah Saleh

The ruler of north Yemen from 1978 and of the unified state from 1990 was forced to concede power in 2011 after mass protests, although he stayed ceremonial president until 2012. Western countries accuse him of using his wide influence.

● Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula

Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula. AQAP has been the most active wing of the Islamist militant movement for years. It has carried out a string of deadly attacks against Yemen's security forces.

● Southern Hirak

The movement is an unwieldy coalition of groups who want to reverse the state's 1990 reunification and revive the old South Yemen. Hirak can mobilize large numbers of people in the streets of southern cities such as Aden.

● Islah

A party which combines Islamist and tribal interests, Islah has widespread support across Yemen and looked poised to win more power during the transition, but it lost out in the Houthi advance.

Crisis—Al Qaeda

Yemen's Al-Qaeda: Expanding the Base

<https://www.crisisgroup.org/middle-east-north-africa/gulf-and-arabian-peninsula/yemen/174-yemen-s-al-qaeda-expanding-base>

Yemen's civil war, with widening regional and sectarian gaps, have allowed Yemen's branch of al-Qaeda to insert themselves and thrive in the multi-faceted conflict. Through insertion into trade and smuggling, finding Sunni allies, and entering militias, the Yemeni al-Qaeda branch has been able to control territory in both the North and South, including various ports.

Al-Qaeda's Future in a War Torn Yemen

<https://carnegieendowment.org/sada/77334>

AQAP, Al-Qaeda's strongest franchise, continues to have a strong foothold in Yemen despite U.S.-backed Saudi crackdowns. Many of their members have even been absorbed into Emirati forces indicating a willingness to cooperate with the coalition against the Houthis.



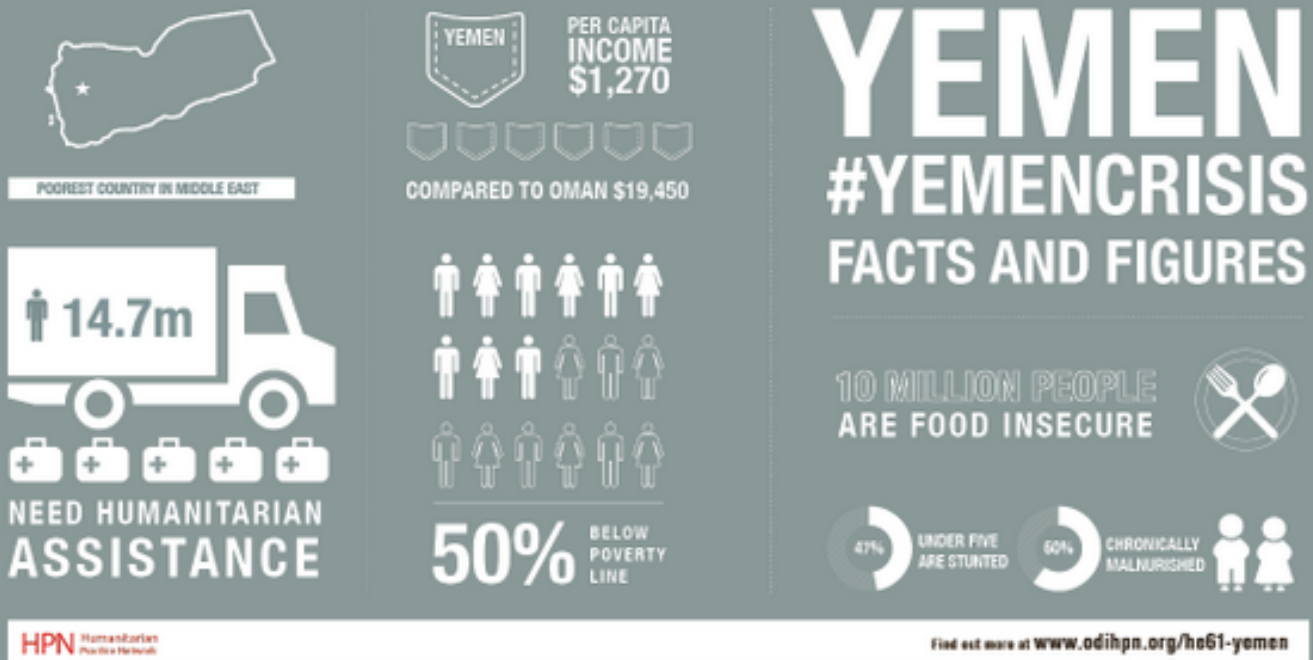
AQAP has been gearing its focus towards taking control of Yemen rather than any international attacks.

Are the US and UK Empowering Al-Qaeda in Yemen?

<https://www.middleeasteye.net/opinion/are-us-and-uk-empowering-al-qaeda-yemen>

Militias in Yemen have allegedly been recruiting al-Qaeda militants to fight Houthi forces in order to achieve their political gains of having Abd Rabbuh Mansour Hadi's government reinstated. This raises the question of how Washington and London are a part of this narrative due to their arming of Saudi Arabia.

Humanitarian Crisis



Escalating Conflict in Yemen Worsens Humanitarian Crisis | DW News

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ln5MrAN83n8>

The situation in Yemen is dire as hospitals are destroyed and civilian casualties rise. Even with Saudi Arabian and Emirati Aid, things are said to be bleak as long as the fighting continues.



How Children are Starving in Yemen's War - BBC News

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zCS118rvWsM>

Doctor explains that cases are being seen of malnourished children from both poor and middle class families. Hudayda, Yemen's main port city is barely operating after it was bombed and blocked the replacements. "95% of the food we use to feed the people comes through this port", explains David Beasley from the World Food Programme.

Yemen

<https://www.internal-displacement.org/countries/yemen>

Displacement in Yemen drastically increased in 2015 and has not stopped since. An average of 26,449 number of displaced people are expected to happen per year due to sudden-onset hazards.

4 YEARS OF WAR IN YEMEN

AS SEEN BY WOMEN & GIRLS

7.2M

in need of
humanitarian
assistance and
protection ¹

65%

the rate of child
marriage is 3x
higher than
before the war ²

63%

increase in incidents of
gender-based-violence ²

120,000

at risk of
gender-based-violence ³

3.2M

women of reproductive
age facing increased
health risks ³

75,000

pregnant women are
without access to
proper medical care. ³



The war in Yemen
has been raging
since 2015.



Hospitals are
damaged.



Schools are
destroyed.



Clean water
is scarce.

[1] OCHA Yemen Humanitarian Update 20 February – 6 March 2019

[2] UNICEF Report: Falling Through the Cracks (The Children of Yemen) - March 2017

[3] CARE International: "More than 3 million women and girls suffering the brunt of the ongoing conflict" - March 2018

Humanitarian Crisis

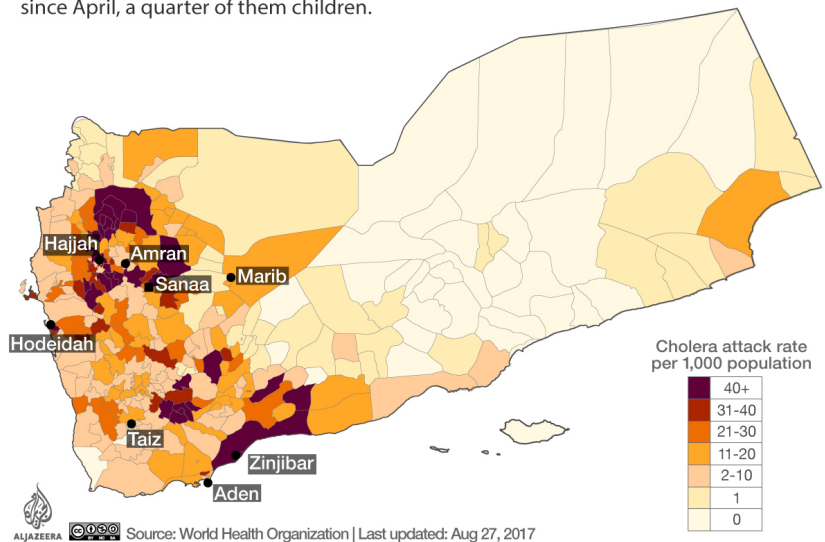
Largest Cholera Outbreak On Record Continues

<https://www.outbreakobservatory.org/outbreakthursday-1/1/16/2020/large-cholera-outbreak-on-record-continues-in-yemen>

The cholera epidemic began in Yemen in 2016 which continues to this day even as the world currently pays more attention to the novel coronavirus and other health crises. The outbreak doubled in size from 1 million to 2 million cases, since January 2018.

Cholera outbreak in Yemen

The "worst cholera outbreak in the world" has claimed more than 2,000 lives since April, a quarter of them children.

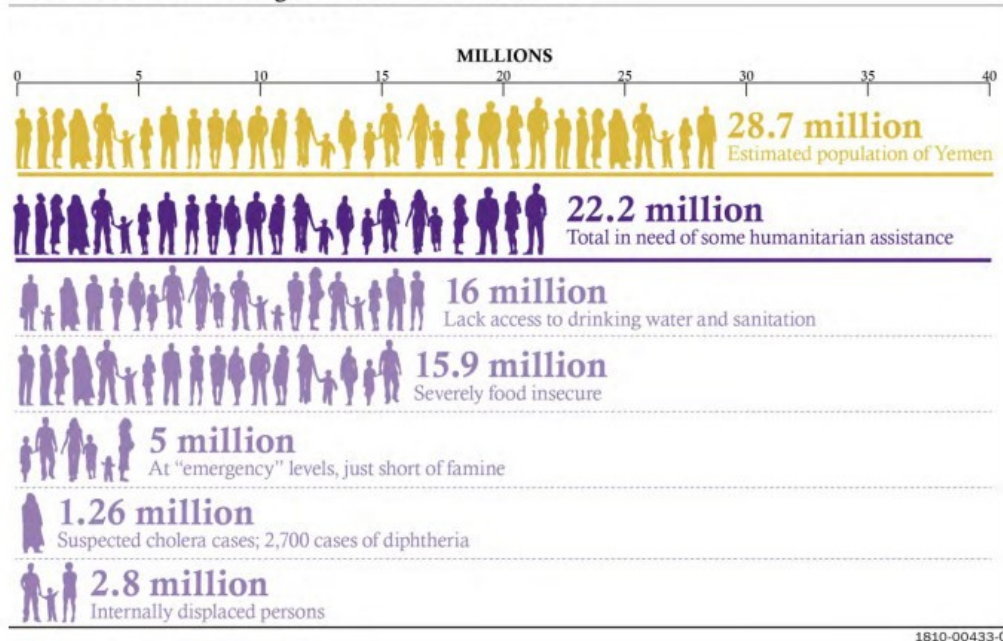


Health Crisis in Yemen

<https://www.icrc.org/en/where-we-work/middle-east/yemen/health-crisis-yemen>

Cholera and other diseases like Diphtheria are infecting the people of Yemen where they do not have an adequate health care system and need to treat them. The healthcare system has been destroyed by the war.

Yemen Humanitarian Figures as of 3 December 2018



Impact of Covid-19



Yemen's botched pandemic response and fragile conflict dynamics allow COVID-19 to spread undetected

<https://www.mei.edu/publications/yemens-botched-pandemic-response-and-fragile-conflict-dynamics-allow-covid-19-spread>

With nearly one-fifth of Yemen's districts without doctors, and an already failing medical infrastructure prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, the fatality rate of the coronavirus is expected to be "nearly four times the global average".



Yemen Ravaged By Coronavirus — Intensifying World's Worst Humanitarian Crisis - BBC News

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fhBz4aloigc&t=1s>

The true death toll is impossible to determine as the healthcare system in Yemen has collapsed. Coronavirus has added another toll on Yemen. Zahra, a doctor in Aden, explains that the suffering is everywhere and there is little they can do.

Impact of Covid-19

Yemen and Covid-19 Impacts

<https://www.brookings.edu/blog/future-development/2020/06/15/yemen-and-covid-19-the-pandemic-exacts-its-devastating-toll/>

Covid-19 has only exasperated the already failing healthcare system in Yemen. “Around 20 percent of the country’s 333 districts have no medical doctors and the numbers are getting thinner as the war and now the pandemic force doctors and other medical staff to leave the country or avoid working for fear of infection with little available protection. The country currently has only 500 ventilators (60 for children) and 700 intensive care unit beds. According to the U.N. more than 30 of 41 major U.N. programs in Yemen will close in the next few weeks if additional funding is not available. Some 10,000 health care workers have already lost the United Nations payments that for many were their only salary. The U.N. has also had to halt health services for women giving birth in 150 hospitals. As the UNHCR says, the country’s health system “has in effect collapsed.”



Podcast - Yemen and Covid-19

<https://www.csis.org/podcasts/csis-events/crisis-and-survival-amidst-covid-19-yemen>

“The spread of the pandemic in the war-torn country threatens to be the most catastrophic in the world. Yemen’s healthcare system has collapsed, over 3.6 million Yemenis are internally displaced, and 24 million Yemenis—85 percent of the population—are in need of humanitarian aid. Lise Grande, the UN humanitarian coordinator for Yemen, and CSIS’s Jon Alterman, Steve Morrison, and Jacob Kurtzer discuss the implications of Covid-19 in Yemen.”



Podcast - Conflict and Covid in Yemen

<https://intercrossblog.icrc.org/intercross-icrc-podcast-episodes/episode-109-covid-conflict-yemen-audio-diaries#sthash.UFFAZkuK.dpbs=>

“Intercross the Podcast has a special two-part episode. First, we have a special Audio Diary from Yemen. It features Tobias Ehret, ICRC’s Field Team Leader, and Samar Al-Aghbari, ICRC’s Protection Field Officer as they travel from Aden to the Ad Durayhimi district, a remote area very close to the frontlines for a distribution. The trip took some ten days, and their diaries give insight into the intense work and collaboration needed in providing humanitarian aid in a time of COVID.”

YEMEN COVID-19

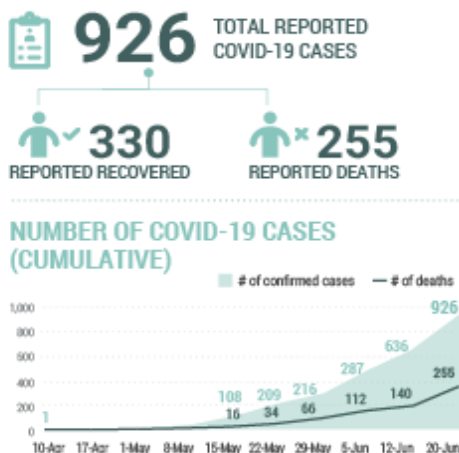
PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE SNAPSHOT

AS OF 20 JUNE 2020

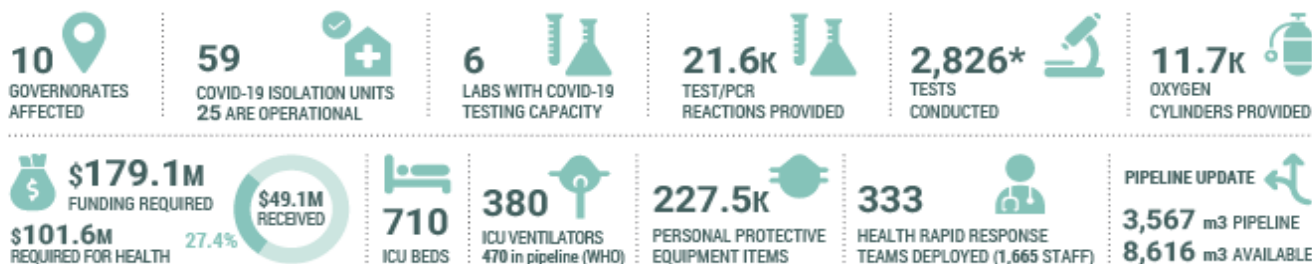
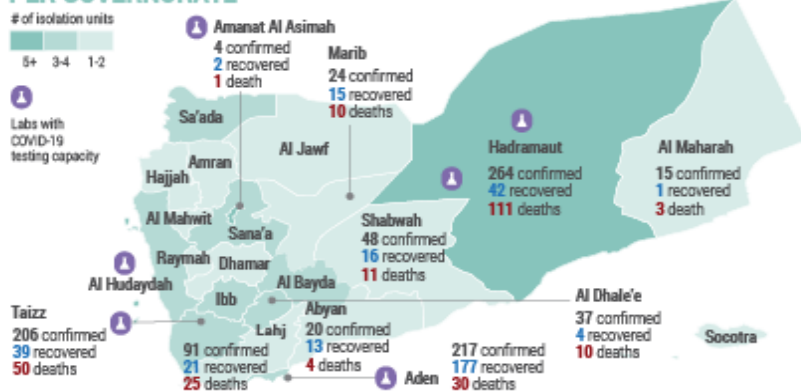


HUMANITARIAN COUNTRY TEAM

As of 20 June, the number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in Yemen had reached 926, with 255 related deaths and 330 recoveries. Men constitute 75 per cent of reported cases. All indications suggest that COVID-19 is spreading rapidly across the country. The authorities have imposed restrictions on movement in some areas and closed some public offices as precautionary measures against COVID-19. Despite this, and although capacities and resources are limited, aid agencies continue to ramp up efforts to suppress the transmission of the virus through community engagement; to procure and distribute medical supplies and equipment; to save lives by supporting COVID-19 clinical readiness; and to safeguard the public health care system. During the week, 43 metric tons of medical supplies and equipment were airlifted to Yemen, a donation to WHO facilitated by Hayel Saeed Anam Foundation on behalf of the International Initiative on COVID-19 in Yemen (IICY), with transport organized by WFP. IICY is an innovative collaborative public-private partnership between multinational companies and the United Nations.



NUMBER OF COVID-19 CASES, LABORATORIES AND ISOLATION UNITS PER GOVERNORATE



SUPPRESS AND AWARENESS

- Estimated **16M** people reached via multiple platforms.
- Ramadan drama series reached an estimated **5M** people via TV and **10M** views through social media
- Religious leaders raised awareness reaching **3.6M** in 5,000 mosques, with **531,100** reached via WhatsApp
- **451** mobile cars with megaphones reached over **8.5M** people
- **10M** views recorded of COVID-19 visuals on various social media platforms
- COVID-19 messages sent to **13.5M** subscribers
- Over **5,600** hotline calls received by Ministry of Public Health and Population
- Over **14,350** calls received via radio phone-in programmes
- **2.59M** people were reached through **449,927** house-to-house visits and Mother-to-Mother sessions.
- Physical distancing practiced at almost **40%** out of over **950** mosques surveyed
- **2,695** hand-washing stations installed.



SUPPLY CHAIN

- Aid agencies are scaling up logistics and supply capacity.
- **8,616 m3** of supplies have been transported into the country, while **3,567 m3** are in the pipeline. These include:
 - **376** ICU beds
 - **> 600** PCR test kits
 - **28,000** swabs
 - **> 5 million** gloves
 - **> 600,000** masks
 - **8,000** metric tons of medical supplies in warehouses
 - **> 447** containers with medical supplies at ports ready to be offloaded
 - **24,000** PPE purchased for frontline partners
 - **100,000** reactions in pipeline
- The below has arrived Yemen,
 - **100** oxygen cylinders
 - **22** ventilators
 - **62** patient monitors
 - **200** hospital beds
- **Air**
Arrived: **517 m3**
In Pipeline: **1,780 m3**
- **Sea**
Arrived: **6,836 m3**
In Pipeline: **3,050 m3**



SAVING LIVES

- The UN and partners are urgently expanding hospital capacity in key population centres. This includes establishing **21** new intensive care units (ICUs) in COVID-19 designated hospitals, adding to 38 existing ICUs; deploying two high capacity mobile field hospitals with nearly **100** beds and providing salaries to frontline health care workers.
- **9** isolation centres installed with solar systems and fully operationalized; **2** systems are being installed in 2 more centres



SAFEGUARDING THE PUBLIC HEALTH SYSTEM

- Protecting the public health system at **4,300** non-COVID health care facilities is a priority. These will continue to provide non-COVID health care services to prevent deaths from deadly causes including cholera, diphtheria, dengue and malaria as well as providing nutrition treatment to pregnant women and malnourished children.
- **5,049** number of health facilities (HFs)
- **2,528** number of HFs fully functioning
- **1,865** number of HFs partially functioning
- **2,779** number of HFs partially or fully providing malaria health services (testing, treatment, referral and follow up)
- **1,257** number of HFs providing cholera response services

*These are the confirmed tests but there could be more.

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

Creation date: 22 June 2020 Feedback: ochayemen@un.org www.unocha.org/yemen www.reliefweb.int/country/yem www.humanitarianresponse.info

Complications for Peace Prospects

Addressing the Crisis in Yemen: Strategies and Solutions

<https://www.mei.edu/resources/transcript/addressing-crisis-yemen-strategies-and-solutions>

The transcript of a conversation with former US Ambassador to Yemen David Newton, speaking on his personal experiences with the Yemeni people, including the sectarian issues and regional conflicts.



Yemen Situation Will Still Need A Political Solution

<https://www.thenational.ae/opinion/yemen-situation-will-still-need-a-political-solution-1.31990>

This opinion sees the solution to the conflict to be one that almost certainly requires the breaking the Saleh-Houthi alliance in order to make progress. The greatest setback to this is that it would need to give Mr. Saleh's camp rewards so that the Houthis work on their own areas without attempting to expand to other parts of Yemen.

The Coronavirus Pandemic Could Be the Key to Peace in Yemen

<https://foreignpolicy.com/2020/04/09/coronavirus-pandemic-peace-talks-yemen-houthi-saudi-arabia/>

With the rise of the Coronavirus across the globe, the UN has requested a cease-fire between the Yemeni Houthis and the Saudi Arabian coalition. While an official agreement has yet to have been signed upon by the Houthis, the pandemic has provided a rare opportunity for de-escalation, which could allow the UN to broker a peace deal to end the five-year war.

United Nations

'Signs of hope' toward a political settlement in Yemen, UN special envoy tells Security Council

<https://news.un.org/en/story/2019/11/1052001>

Mr. Griffiths reported in closing that Yemen's leaders "must now ask themselves what peace should look like". He credited the improvements to developments such as the Riyadh Agreement, which was signed between the Government and the Southern Transitional Council and the Stockholm Agreement.

Yemen can't survive war on two fronts, top UN envoy tells Security Council, as coronavirus outbreak looms

<https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/04/1061942>

UN Special Envoy Martin Griffiths revealed that it is impossible for Yemen to confront both a war and a pandemic at the same time, and with attention towards the pandemic being all-consuming, the only thing that can be done is to halt the war and turn attention towards the COVID-19 pandemic. Following this statement came the Yemeni government request for a two-week ceasefire, though violence and hostility continues to rampage through the country. Without the utmost attention towards combating the virus and reinforcing UN aid initiatives that are at risk for shutting down, Yemen will continue to plunge into disarray.

End of Fighting in Yemen 'within Close Reach', despite Rising COVID-19 Cases, Special Envoy Tells Security Council

<https://www.un.org/press/en/2020/sc14186.doc.htm>

Special Envoy Griffiths revealed that progress has been made towards a possible ceasefire between the Government of Yemen and the Houthis, also referred to as Ansah Allah. However, economic and humanitarian measures still need to be fulfilled in order to help the country combat the Covid-19 pandemic. The five wider-UN pillars for the humanitarian strategy in Yemen ("protection of civilians; humanitarian access and delivery; funding; support for the economy; and progress towards peace") were highlighted by Griffiths, with emphasis on their to be accomplished with the aid of the international community. Several council members delivered statements upon Griffiths update, including Estonia, Indonesia, Niger, France, China and more.

Saudi Arabia - Iran Rivalry

Saudi Arabia and Iran Make Quiet Openings to Head Off War

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/10/04/world/middleeast/saudi-arabia-iran-talks.html>

Several officials have reported that Saudi Arabia and Iran have taken steps to reduce their growing tension that had raised the prospects for war.

Iran's Role in Yemen and Prospects for Peace

<https://www.mei.edu/publications/irans-role-yemen-and-prospects-peace>

The question of peace was put directly to Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif in 2017, who at the time had insisted that he would support putting an end to the conflict, but there is little evidence to support the reality of a political agreement happening. It is suggested that the conflict poses little cost and risk to sustain political, economic, and military pressure on the Saudis.

Saudi-Iran Dispute Jeopardizes Yemen Peace Talks

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-iran-nuclear-saudi-yemen-idUSKCN0UZ22l>

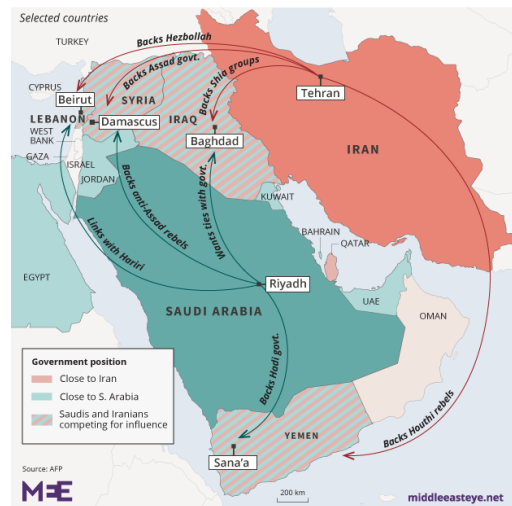
"Worsening enmity between rivals Saudi Arabia and Iran is jeopardizing peace prospects in Yemen where a nine-month-old war has given Islamist militants a foothold in Riyadh's backyard...the Riyadh government cut diplomatic ties with Shi'ite Iran in a row sparked by Saudi Arabia's execution of Saudi Shi'ite cleric Sheikh Nimr al-Nimr on Jan. 2."

Saudi Leverage Not Enough to Achieve Peace in Yemen

<https://www.washingtoninstitute.org/policy-analysis/view/saudi-leverage-not-enough-to-achieve-peace-in-yemen>

Despite the hopeful signing of the Riyadh Agreement to integrate the opposing Southern Transitional Council and the Yemeni government, 6 months later, the agreement has crumbled. With the STC's declaration of unanimous political and militaristic control over Southern Yemen, it is clear that despite Saudi Arabian influence, the conflict in Yemen continues.

Saudi Arabia and Iran: Rivals in the Middle East



Curriculum



Yemen: The North-South Divide | Al Jazeera World

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tXk-k5oA1rs>

North Yemen became a republic in 1962 but it was not until 1967 that the British colonial rule ended in the south and The People's Republic of South Yemen was formed...The National Liberation Front took power in 1969 and formed a Marxist republic, leaning heavily on support from the Soviet Union. The push-pull between north and south also continued.



The Sectarian Struggle Within South Yemen

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WGlk31oIWck>

A unique and exclusive on the ground view of one week in the battle for Aden. Renowned Guardian journalist Ghaith Abdulahad reports on South Yemen's fight for independence.



Yemen Crisis: Why Is There A War?

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-29319423>

Comprehensive article detailing how the war started, what has been happening since, and the human cost. Includes several videos.

Curriculum



U.S. & World Affairs Lesson Plan—War in Yemen Conflict Simulation

<https://cmes.arizona.edu/sites/cmes.arizona.edu/files/War%20In%20Yemen%20Conflict%20Simulation.pdf>

This lesson is best used in a Current Events or Geography course. The goal is for students to analyze key current issues in the Arab and Muslim world (the conflict is not strictly an Arab one since Iran is a Muslim country, but not an Arab one).



Yemen Study Guide: How to Explain Images of War to Your Students

<https://www.pbs.org/newshour/extra/daily-videos/yemen-study-guide-how-to-explain-images-of-war-to-your-students/>

The segment provides a breakdown of the Yemeni Civil War and where it stands now. Here you will find background on the history of Yemen, discussion questions, and additional resources to share with your students.



Depicting War: Examining the Conflict in Yemen

<https://pulitzercenter.org/builder/lesson/depicting-war-examining-conflict-yemen>

Comprehensive lesson plan for High School and College Educators. Includes outline, lesson plan, and educator notes.



A Crisis in Yemen: A Brief History

<https://origins.osu.edu/teacher-tools/crisis-yemen-brief-history>

This lesson covers the beginnings of the political movements in Yemen, the Houthi movement, the fall of the USSR and the Unification of Yemen, the Arab Spring, and the conflict with Saudi Arabia. After the lecture, the students will complete a brief Partner Writing about the content in the lecture. The lesson then moves into a Primary Source Analysis of four maps of Yemen. The students will work in groups to complete the analysis. The lesson then comes to an end with a discussion with the class and a brief exit ticket.

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