

## **Chronology of Conflicts**

*The following conflicts, arranged chronologically by commencement date, are listed by name, along with any alternative names, followed by the dates, the parties involved, and the locations.*

### **Mexican-American War**

Mexican War; War of the United States against Mexico  
April 1846–February 1848  
Conflict between the United States and Mexico.  
Mexico, Texas, Arizona, New Mexico, and California

### **French Revolution of 1848**

February 1848  
Revolt against the Orleans monarchy.  
France

### **Crimean War**

Oriental War  
1853–56  
France, Great Britain, the Ottoman Empire, and Sardinian-Piedmont versus the Russian Empire and the Bulgarian Legion.  
The Balkans, the Baltic Sea, the Black Sea, Caucasus, and the Crimean Peninsula

### **Second Opium War**

Anglo-French War in China; Arrow War; Second Anglo-Chinese War  
1856–60  
Britain and France versus China.  
China

### **Indian Mutiny**

Great Rebellion; Indian Rebellion of 1857; India's First War of Independence; Indian Mutiny; Revolt of 1857; Sepoy Mutiny  
May 10, 1857–July 8, 1858  
Mutinous East India Company Sepoy troops supported by the Mughal Empire versus Great Britain, loyal Sepoys, and twenty Princely States (including Kashmir, Nepal, and others).  
India

### **United States Civil War**

War between the States; War of the Rebellion; War of Northern Aggression  
April 12, 1861–April 26, 1865  
Conflict between the U.S. government and the Confederate States of America: a confederation of eleven southern states that attempted to secede from the United States of America.  
United States

### **End of the Second Mexican Empire**

French Occupation of Mexico

1861–67

Mexico versus the French Empire and Mexicans loyal to Archduke Maximilian.  
Mexico

### **The Siege and Commune of Paris**

September 1870–May 1871

Prussia versus rebellious Parisians.

Paris, France

### **Second Anglo-Afghan War**

1878–80

Great Britain versus Afghanistan.

Afghanistan

### **Mahdist War**

Anglo-Sudan War; Sudan Campaign; Sudanese Mahdist Revolt

1881–89

Mahdist Sudanese versus Egypt and Great Britain.

Present-day Egypt and Sudan

### **Tirah Expedition**

Indian Frontier War; Tirah Campaign

1897–98

Afridi and Orakzai tribes versus Great Britain.

India

### **Spanish–American War**

The Splendid Little War

April 24–July 17, 1898

United States and the Republic of Cuba versus Spain.

Caribbean Sea, including the islands of Cuba and Puerto Rico, and Guam and the Philippine Islands

### **Philippine–American War**

Philippine Insurrection; Philippine War of Independence

1899–1902

Filipino insurgents versus the United States.

The Philippines and Southeast Asia

### **Moro Rebellion**

1899–1913

Moro insurgents versus the United States.

Southern Philippines

**Russo-Japanese War**

1904–5

The Russian Empire versus the Japanese Empire.

Manchuria, the Yellow Sea, and Korea

**Mexican Revolution**

1910–c. 1920

Mexican revolutionary insurgents versus the Mexican government

Mexico

**World War I**

The First World War; The Great War; The War to End All Wars

June 28, 1914–November 11, 1918

Conflict between the Allied powers (or the Entente) composed of Belgium, the British Commonwealth, France, Italy, Japan, Portugal, Serbia, Romania, and the United States, and the Central powers, composed of Austria-Hungary, Bulgaria, and the Ottoman Empire.

Africa, Europe, the Middle East, China, and all the world's oceans

**Arab Revolt**

1916–18

Hashemite Arabs and Great Britain versus the Ottoman Empire.

Lebanon, Iraq, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, and Syria

**Third Anglo-Afghan War**

Third Afghan War

1919

Great Britain versus Afghanistan.

Afghanistan

**Second Sino-Japanese War**

c. 1931–September 9, 1945

China versus the Japanese Empire.

China

**Spanish Civil War**

July 17, 1936–March 28, 1939

Spanish Republicans and the Soviet Union versus Spanish Nationalists and Germany.

Spain and its colonial territories

**World War II**

Second World War

September 1, 1939–September 2, 1945

The Allied powers and the United Nations versus the Axis powers and Bulgaria, Hungary, Romania, and Finland.

Worldwide conflict

## **Cold War**

1946–91

The Soviet Union, and Warsaw Pact and Soviet satellites versus the United States, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization), the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization, and pro-Western powers.  
Worldwide conflict

## **French Indochina War**

Anti-French War; Anti-French Resistance War; First Indochina War; Franco-Vietminh; Franco-Vietnamese War; Indochina War

1946–54

Communist Viet Minh and Viet Cong versus the French Empire and anti-Communist Vietnamese.

Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam

## **Korean War**

June 25, 1950–July 27, 1953

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea) and the People's Republic of China versus the Republic of Korea (South Korea) and the United Nations (including the United States, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Colombia, Ethiopia, France, Greece, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, New Zealand, the Philippines, South Africa, Thailand, and Turkey).

Korean Peninsula

## **Cuban Revolution**

1953–59

Communist insurgents versus the Cuban government.

Cuba

## **Vietnam War**

American War; Resistance War against America; Second Indochina War; Vietnam Conflict  
c. 1955–April 30, 1975

The Republic of South Vietnam, the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization (including the United States, Australia, New Zealand, the Philippines, South Korea, and Thailand), the Khmer Republic and the Kingdom of Laos versus North Vietnam, the Khmer Rouge, Pathet Lao, the Viet Cong, the People's Republic of China, and the Soviet Union.

Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam

## **Hungarian Revolution of 1956**

Hungarian National Uprising

October 1956

Hungarian anti-Communists versus the Soviet Union and Hungarian pro-Communists.

Hungary

## **Congo Crisis**

1960–64

A conflict surrounding the First Republic of Congo's independence from Belgium and turmoil surrounding the assassination of Patrice Lumumba, concluding with Joseph Mobutu's rise to

power.

Democratic Republic of Congo, formerly Zaire, formerly Belgian Congo

### **Venezuelan Communist Insurgency**

1960–c. 1964

Substantial guerrilla movements, including members of the Armed Forces of National Liberation (FALN) and the Revolutionary Left Movement (MIR), with support from Fidel Castro, staged a number of insurrections against the administration of President Rómulo Betancourt. Venezuela's protest of Castro's support of the violent extremist groups led to an embargo of Cuba by the Organization of American States in 1964.

Venezuela

### **Nicaraguan Revolution**

1961–79

Series of conflicts between the Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN) and the authoritarian Somoza-controlled Nicaraguan National Guard.

July 19, 1979–1990

The Sandinista-led, Marxist-revolutionary government directly encountered consistent attacks from Contras (a counter-revolutionary exile army funded by the United States and run by army officers from the Somoza regime) until the election of Violeta Barrios de Chamorro to the presidency.

Nicaragua

### **Colombian Armed Conflict**

Colombian Civil War

c. 1964–present

An enduring conflict between the Colombian government and guerrilla groups such as the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) and the National Liberation Army (ELN) and paramilitary groups, such as United Self-Defense Forces of Colombia (AUC) and drug cartels.

Colombia

### **Nigerian Civil War**

Nigerian Biafran War

1967–70

Conflict spurred by the attempted secession of Biafra, the name of the republic formed by several southeastern provinces in Nigeria.

Nigeria

### **“The Troubles” in Ireland**

c. 1968–98

The Irish Republican Army versus Great Britain and pro-British Irish.

United Kingdom, Ireland and Northern Ireland

### **Bangladesh Liberation War**

1971

Conflict between East Pakistan with Indian support and West Pakistan. The conflict resulted in the secession of East Pakistan, which became Bangladesh.

East Pakistan

### **Khmer Rouge Control of Cambodia**

1974–79

Khmer Rouge was the name given to the followers of the Communist Party of Kampuchea, who, under the leadership of Pol Pot, were responsible for mass deportations and genocide in Cambodia while in control of the country.

Cambodia

### **Angolan Civil War**

1975–2002

The long-term period of civil conflict following the Angolan War of Independence from Portugal, primarily centered on a power struggle among former liberation movements such as the National Front for Liberation of Angola (FNLA), the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA), and the People's Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA).

Angola

### **Lebanese Civil War**

1975–90

Syria, Muslim factions, Islamic terrorist groups and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) versus Christian factions and Israel, including brief intervention by the United States, England, and France.

Israel, Lebanon, and Syria

### **Argentinean Civil War**

The Dirty War

1976–83

A period of state-sponsored violence carried out primarily under the military dictatorship of Jorge Rafael Videla against left-wing activists, journalists, guerrillas, and alleged sympathizers.

Argentina

### **1979 Iranian Revolution**

Islamic Revolution

1977–79

The Iranian government versus Iranian revolutionaries.

Iran

### **Soviet War in Afghanistan**

1979–89

The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union versus Afghan Mujahideen.

Afghanistan

**Salvadoran Civil War**

1980–92

The El Salvadoran government versus the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front (FMLN).  
El Salvador

**Iran-Iraq War**

1980–88

Iraq versus Iran.

Border of Iran and Iraq

**Falklands Conflict**

Falklands Crisis; Guerra de las Malvinas

April 2–June 20, 1982

Argentina versus Great Britain.

Falkland Islands and South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands

**South Lebanon Conflict**

1982–2000

The Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) and anti-Israeli Arab groups versus Israel.

Israel and Lebanon

**First Intifada**

1987–93

Conflicts between Palestinians and Israelis.

Gaza, West Bank, and East Jerusalem

**Nagorno-Karabakh War**

1988–94

Conflict between ethnic Armenians (with support of the Republic of Armenia) and the Republic of Azerbaijan. The majority of the conflict persisted in the landlocked region of Nagorno-Karabakh, which is located within the borders of Azerbaijan.

Republic of Azerbaijan

**Zulu/African National Congress Conflict**

July–September 1990

A violent conflict between Zulus displaced from their homes in areas loyal to the African National Congress (ANC) in Natal and supporters of the ANC.

Transvaal townships in northeastern South Africa

**Persian Gulf War**

Desert Storm; First Gulf War; Gulf War

August 2, 1990–February 28, 1991

Iraq versus a United Nations coalition (consisting of thirty-four nations, including Egypt, Great Britain, Saudi Arabia, and the United States).

Northern Arabian Peninsula, including Kuwait and Iraq

### **Somali Civil War**

1991–present

An ongoing civil conflict initiated by a series of clashes between tribal factions that generally destabilized the country and continued amid UN and African Union intervention, later transitioning after 2009 into a being more centered on radicalized Islamist militant acts. Ethiopia, Kenya, and Somalia

### **Sierra Leone Civil War**

1991–2002

A civil conflict initiated by an attempt by the Revolutionary United Front with support from Charles Taylor's national Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL). The conflict persisted between the Sierra Leone Army with support from the United Kingdom, the United Nations, and the Revolutionary United Front and its allies until the signing of a peace treaty indicated the government's victory.

Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone

### **Bosnian War**

War in Bosnia and Herzegovina

April 1, 1992–December 14, 1995

Bosnia and Herzegovina, with NATO support, versus the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, Montenegro, and Serbia, as well as Croatia.

Bosnia and Herzegovina

### **Rwandan Genocide**

April–July 1994

Mass killings of Rwanda's Tutsis and political moderates by Hutu Power forces.

Rwanda

### **First Chechen War**

War in Chechnya

December 1994–August 1996

The Russian Federation versus the Chechen Republic of Ichkeria.

Chechnya

### **Afghan Civil War**

1996–2001

Conflict initiated after the Taliban seized Kabul from the Islamic State of Afghanistan and established the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan. The United Front (or Northern Alliance) was created by the Islamic State of Afghanistan in opposition to Taliban. The Taliban continued resistance with support from al-Qaeda along with Pakistan and Saudi Arabia. After the 9/11 attacks, this conflict transitioned into one of international participation.

Afghanistan and Pakistan

### **Second Congo War**

August 1998–July 2003



Angola, Chad, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Namibia, and Zimbabwe, with the armed forces of Mai-Mai and Hutu-aligned forces, versus Burundi, Rwanda, and Uganda as well as the armed forces of the Movement for the Liberation of Congo, Rally for Congolese Democracy, and Tutsi-aligned forces.

Democratic Republic of Congo, formerly Zaire, formerly Belgian Congo

### **Ituri Conflict**

1999–2003, with some degree of conflict continuing until 2007

The Lendu ethnic group, represented by the armed group Nationalist and Integrationist Front (FNI) versus the Hema ethnic group, represented by the Union of Congolese Patriots (UPC). Ituri region, in northeastern Democratic Republic of Congo

### **Second Chechen War**

War in the North Caucasus

1999–2009

Conflict initiated by the Russian Federation to end the de facto independence of the Chechen Republic of Ichkeria.

Chechnya and Russia

### **Second Liberian Civil War**

1999–2003

Liberian government forces versus Liberians United for Reconciliation and Democracy (LURD) with support from Guinea (and with eventual support from members of the Movement for Democracy in Liberia led by Charles Taylor).

Liberia

### **Second Intifada**

Al-Aqsa Intifada

2000–c. 2005

Conflicts between Palestinians and Israelis.

East Jerusalem, Gaza, and the West Bank

### **War in Afghanistan**

2001–present

A U.S.-led coalition (including Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland, and the United States) and the pro-U.S. Afghan government versus the Taliban, al-Qaeda, and other anti-Western Islamic forces.

Afghanistan

### **War in Darfur**

February 2, 2003–present

The Sudanese military with the Janjaweed (Sudanese militia group) versus the Sudan Liberation Movement/Army (SLM/A) and the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM).

Sudan

**Iraq War**

Operation Iraqi Freedom; Occupation of Iraq; Second Persian Gulf War

March 20, 2003–2011

Iraq, al-Qaeda in Iraq, and Iraqi insurgents versus the pro-Western Iraqi government and a U.S.-led coalition (including Australia, Great Britain, Romania, Turkey, and the United States).

Iraq

**Insurgency in South Thailand**

November 2004–present

Ethnic separatists versus Thai government forces.

Malay Patani region, in southern Thailand

**2006 Israel-Hezbollah War**

2006 Lebanon War; July War; Second Lebanon War

July 12–August 14, 2006

Hezbollah paramilitary forces versus the Israeli military.

Israel and Lebanon

**Tuareg Rebellion**

2007–9

Conflict among ethnic Tuareg in the Sahara desert.

Northern Mali and Niger

**2007–8 Kenyan Crisis**

December 2007–February 2008

Violent civil unrest following the December 27, 2007, presidential election in response to election manipulation. The unrest provoked ethnic as well as political conflict and is thought to have been organized by the government to some degree.

Kenya

**2008 South Ossetia War**

Russia–Georgia War

August 2008

Conflict between Georgia and the Russian Federation as well as the Ossetians and Abkhazians.

Georgia

**Arab Spring**

2010–present

A revolutionary wave of protests and antigovernment demonstrations in the Arab world.

Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Syria, Tunisia, and Yemen