

*Development and Security*

Frances Stewart, Queen Elizabeth House, University of Oxford, 2004.

There are three types of connections between development and security

- Immediate impacts of security/insecurity on well being, where security is objective.
- How security/insecurity affects development and growth: where security is in an instrumental role towards another objective within the developmental realm.
- How security is affected by development and growth: where security is or is not the end result and/or intention of development seen here in an instrumental role towards security objectives.

Security is thus an intrinsic aspect of development, and insecurity on the other hand always has heavy development costs: economic growth is almost always negatively affected by conflict, foreign exchange is derailed, and conflict induces general capital destruction and collapse of formal economics, investment and consumption. Using a grid of analysis provided by Amartya Sen, conflict thus induces falls in market and public *entitlements*, with highly unequal distribution of the costs and benefits of conflict.

If development is thus adversely affected by insecurities, security also depends upon development. There are economic explanations for conflict, with horizontal inequalities that can motivate groups within the population to opt for war in order to realign imbalances of power and wealth. There is also an element of private motivation, with the prospect of individual economic advantages to be gained through war. Finally, there can be general failure of the social contract vested inside the state, and violence can erupt from this breakdown.

A clear pattern emerges, which could be called the Security/Development/Security Nexus: indeed “promoting security is a substantial part of what we mean by societal progress, conflict has heavy development costs, so promoting security is instrumental to development, while inclusive patterns of development are an important element in avoiding conflict, development being instrumental to security”. The link is also valid for global insecurities, which do impact growth, with for instance international terrorism which has negatively affected the tourism economies of many countries.

Hence in conclusion there is a need to acknowledge that “both in particular developing countries and in the world as a whole, there are strong three-way connections between security and development”.