

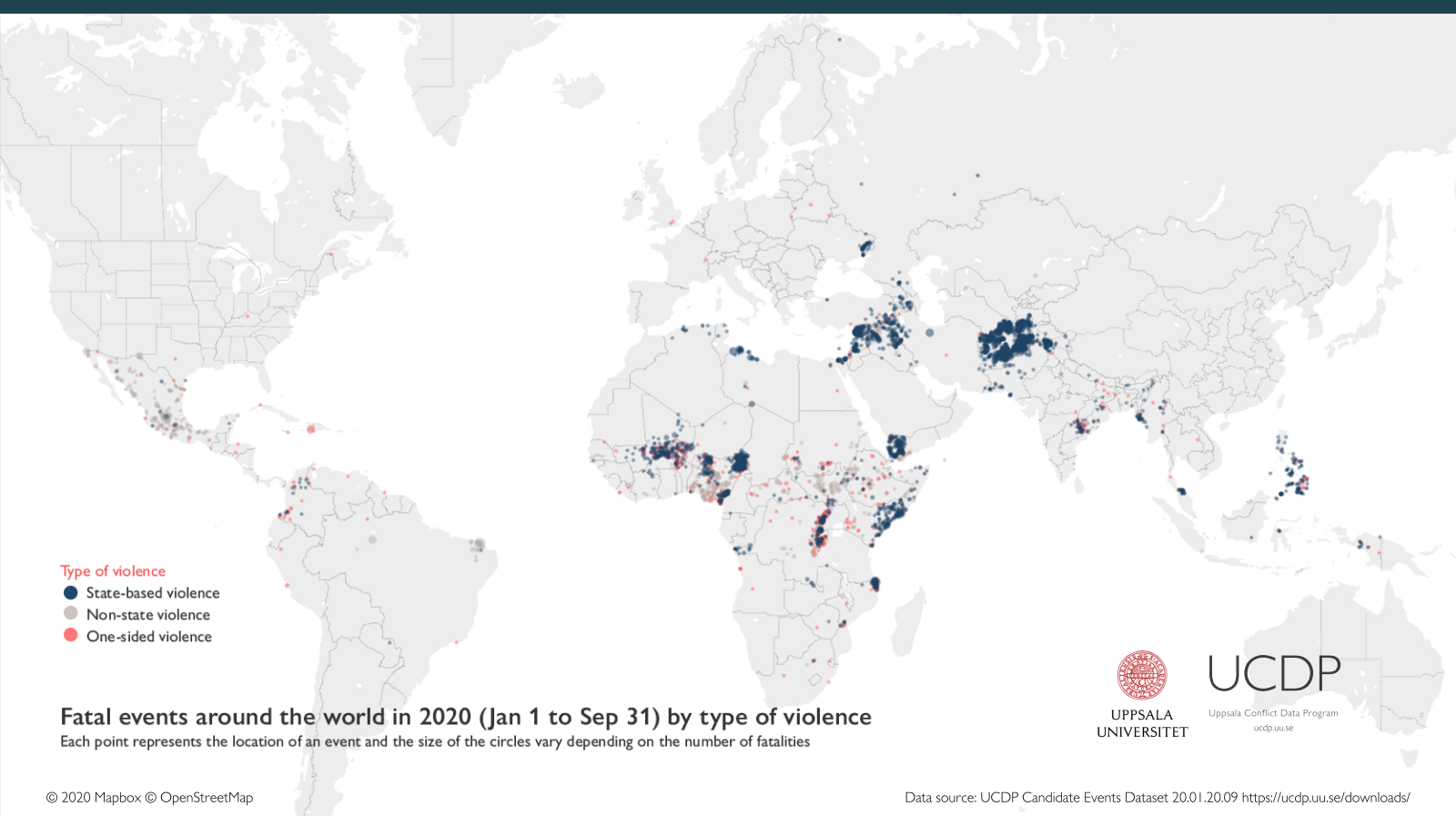


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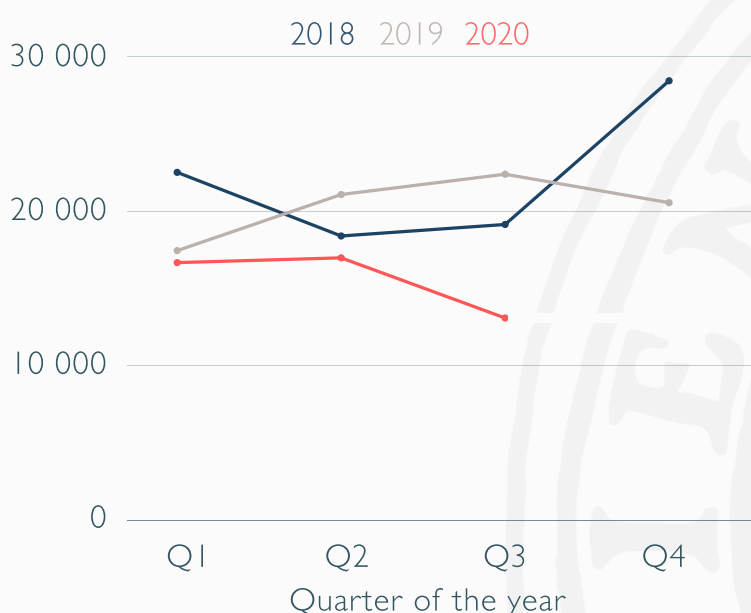
ORGANIZED VIOLENCE DURING THE PANDEMIC

Insights from the UCDP Candidate Events Dataset covering the first three quarters of 2020



Following UN Secretary-General Guterres' appeal for global ceasefire, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, in March 2020, several ceasefires were announced. Most of them, however, failed to halt the fighting. Africa continues to be the region worst hit by violence, with over 19.000 reported fatalities. This is an escalation compared to the first three quarters of 2019. IS has continued to spread to new areas, and violence increased in countries such as Mozambique. The second worst hit region, Asia, saw a major decline in fatalities in 2020 compared to 2019. While Afghanistan continues to be the deadliest conflict in the world, violence decreased during the first half of 2020 following peace talks in February. In recent months, violence has again escalated and attacks against so-called soft targets have killed many civilians. The violence in Middle East, with Syria driving the trend, continued to de-escalate. Americas has also seen a major decline in fatality numbers, although the toll for Mexico is still uncertain. Due to escalating violence in Nagorno-Karabakh which started at the end of September, fatality figures in Europe were higher in the first three quarters of 2020 than in 2019.

Estimated deaths from organized violence



Five countries with the highest number of fatalities in the first three quarters of 2020:

- 1) Afghanistan
- 2) Nigeria
- 3) Syria
- 4) DR Congo
- 5) Yemen

Regions with the highest number of fatalities in the first three quarters of 2020:

- 1) Africa
- 2) Asia
- 3) Middle East
- 4) Americas
- 5) Europe



Data source: UCDP Georeferenced Dataset 20.1 & UCDP Candidate Events Dataset 20.01.20.09 <https://ucdp.uu.se/downloads/>

The Uppsala Conflict Data Program (UCDP) is the world's main provider of data on organized violence and the oldest ongoing data collection project for civil war, with a history of almost 40 years. Its definition of armed conflict has become the global standard of how conflicts are systematically defined and studied.

UCDP

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