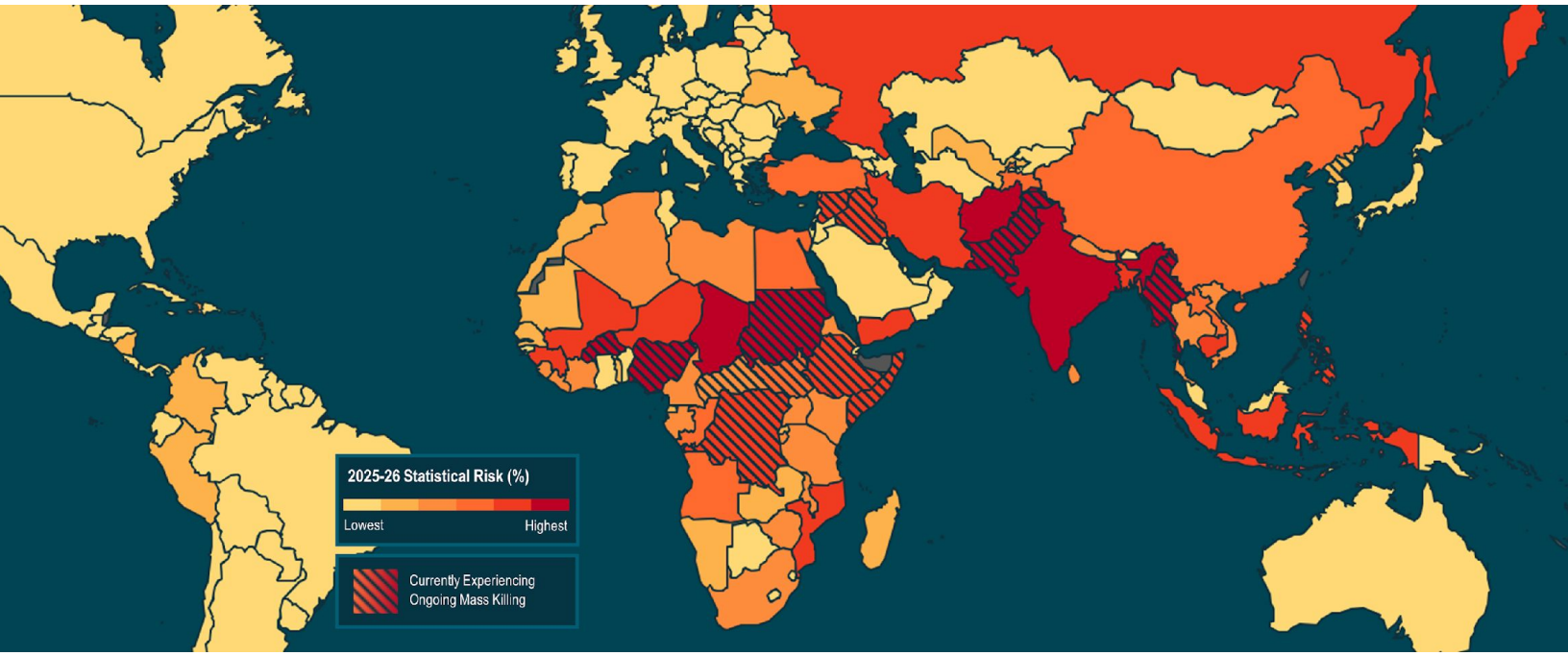
EARLY WARNING PROJECT



Countries at Risk for a New Intrastate Mass Killing

2025–26 Statistical Risk Assessment

1.	Burma/Myanmar	10.4%
2.	Chad	8.1%
3.	Sudan	8.1%
4.	India	7.5%
5.	Burkina Faso	7.5%
6.	Pakistan	7.2%
7.	Afghanistan	6.2%
8.	Nigeria	6.0%
9.	Yemen	5.5%
10.	Guinea	5.5%
11.	Niger	5.2%
12.	Indonesia	4.8%
13.	Ethiopia	4.8%
14.	Dem. Rep. of Congo	4.4%
15.	Iran	4.2%
16.	Cambodia	4.0%
17.	Mali	3.9%
18.	Bangladesh	3.8%
19.	Iraq	3.6%
20.	Syria	3.6%
21.	Philippines	3.3%
22.	Russia	3.3%
23.	Somalia	3.2%
24.	Mozambique	3.2%
25.	Turkey	3.0%
26.	Angola	3.0%
27.	China	2.8%
28.	Laos	2.7%
29.	Republic of Congo	2.7%
30.	Tajikistan	2.6%

Note: Countries in orange have ongoing mass killing episodes

Intrastate mass killing = deliberate actions of armed groups in a country that result in the deaths of at least 1,000 noncombatant civilians in the same country, targeted as part of a group, in 12 months or less

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Key Questions Users Should Ask

- Are countries at high risk receiving enough attention?
- What additional analysis would help shed light on the level and nature of atrocity risk in the country?
- Have there been additional events or changes that are likely to further increase or decrease risk?
- What accounts for the discrepancy between the statistical results and experts' expectations?

"Tools like the Early Warning Project's global forecasting can and should help governments, international organizations, and NGOs determine where to devote resources for additional analysis, policy attention, and, ultimately, preventive action… Rather than waiting until lives are lost, we should aim to prevent such tragedies before they occur."

– Senator Todd Young

"Our top priority needs to be to use the tools that we have to prevent these types of atrocities from taking place. What you are releasing today—the statistics on countries that are vulnerable to these types of atrocities—is a critically important tool for us to have." ***– Senator Ben Cardin***

Methods

The Early Warning Project's Statistical Risk Assessment uses publicly available data and statistical modeling to produce a list of countries ranked by their likelihood of experiencing a new episode, or onset, of state-led or non-state-led intrastate mass killing.

Learn more at https://earlywarningproject.ushmm.org/

Data Sources

Basic Country Characteristics
- Infant Mortality Rate (United Nations World Population Prospects 2024)
- New Country (Early Warning Project, based on Kristian Skrede Gleditsch's list of independent states)
- Number of Years Since Independence (Early Warning Project, based on Kristian Skrede Gleditsch's list of independent states)
- Population Size (World Bank World Development Indicators; Maddison Project)
- Region (US Department of State)

War and Conflict
- Any Coup Attempts In Past Five Years (Powell and Thyne Coup d'Etat Dataset)
- Any Mass Killing (since 1945) (Early Warning Project)
- Average Annual Rate of Mass Killing Onsets (Early Warning Project)
- Battle-Related Deaths (Peace Research Institute Oslo; Uppsala Conflict Data Program)
- Mass Killing Onset in 2023 (Early Warning Project)
- Number of Ongoing Mass Killings (Early Warning Project)
- Ongoing Mass Killing(s) Targets Multiple or Broad Groups (Early Warning Project)
- Ongoing Mass Killing(s) Targets Exactly One Protected Group (Early Warning Project)

Human Rights and Civil Liberties
- Civil Society Repression (Varieties of Democracy (V-Dem))
- Freedom of Discussion (V-Dem)
- Freedom of Religion (V-Dem)
- Government Censorship (V-Dem)
- Inequality in Civil Liberties—Geographic Region (V-Dem)
- Inequality in Civil Liberties—Social Group (V-Dem)
- Percentage of Population Discriminated Against (Ethnic Power Relations Dataset)
- Political Killing (V-Dem)
- Prevention of Women's Participation in Civil Society Organizations (V-Dem)
- State Signatory of First Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Jay Ulfelder's Country Memberships in Selected Intergovernmental Organizations and Accession to Selected Regional and Global Treaty Regimes; Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights)

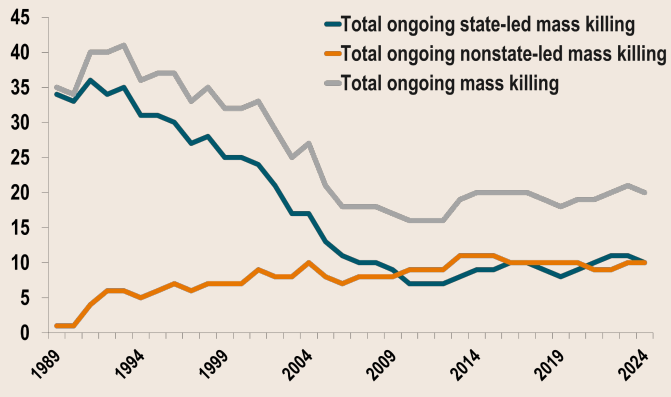
Governance
- Judicial Reform (V-Dem)
- Minority Control (V-Dem)
- Party Ban (V-Dem)
- Power Distributed by Social Group (V-Dem)
- Power Distributed by Socioeconomic Position (V-Dem)

Socioeconomic
- Annual Percentage Change in GDP Per Capita (World Bank World Development Indicators; Maddison Project)
- Ethnic Fractionalization (Historical Index of Ethnic Fractionalization Dataset; UCLA Anderson School of Management's Ethnic Fractionalization Data)

The Global Fragility Act of 2019

"The President, in coordination with the Secretary of State…and the Secretary of Defense…shall select certain countries as 'priority countries' and certain regions as 'priority regions' for the purpose of implementing the Global Fragility Strategy…on the basis of (A) the national security interests of the United States; (B) clearly defined indicators of the levels of violence or fragility in such country or region, such as the country's or region's (i) ranking on recognized global fragility lists, such as…the **Holocaust Museum Early Warning Project Risk Assessment**."

Historic Trends



DARTMOUTH

UNITED STATES HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL MUSEUM
SIMON-SKJODT CENTER FOR THE PREVENTION OF GENOCIDE