

# CONFLICTS IN ECA REGION

0 500 1000 KILOMETERS

This map was produced by the Map Design Unit of The World Bank. The boundaries, colors, denominations and any other information shown on this map do not imply, on the part of The World Bank Group, any judgment on the legal status of any territory, or any endorsement or acceptance of such boundaries.

**GROUP I (OVER 40,000 FATALITIES)**

- Bosnia and Herzegovina (1995: 250,000 killed; 800,000 displaced)
- Chechnya (Russian Fed.) (1996: 40,000 killed; 600,000 displaced) (2000: ? killed, 216,000 displaced)

**GROUP II (20,000-40,000 FATALITIES)**

- Tajikistan (1994: 40,000 killed; 500,000 displaced)
- Nagornyi Karabakh (Azerbaijan, Armenia) (1994: 30,000 killed; 1,034,000 displaced)
- Abkhazia (Georgia) (1993: 20,000 killed; 200,000 displaced)

**GROUP III (10,000-20,000 FATALITIES)**

- Kosovo (FRY) (1999: 11,000 killed; 848,100 displaced)
- Croatia (10,000 killed)

**GROUP IV (1,000-2,000)**

- Dagestan (Russian Fed.) (1999: 1,000 killed; 11,000+ displaced)
- South Ossetia (Georgia) (1992: 2,000 killed; 11,000 displaced)
- Albania (1997: 2,000 killed)
- Transdnestr (Moldova) (1992: 1,000 killed; 100,000 displaced)

**GROUP V (100-1,000 FATALITIES)**

- Ferghana Valley (Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyz Rep.) (1989: 100 killed in Uzbek part of the Valley; 300,000 displaced) (1998: 300 killed in Tajik part of the Valley)
- Ingushetia (Russian Fed.) (1992: 400 killed; 60,000 displaced)
- Dagestan (Russia) (1999: 1,000 killed, 11,000+ displaced)

**CROATIA (10,000 killed)**

Croatia declared independence from the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in June 1991, which was followed by a protracted conflict in Croatia between the newly independent government in Croatia and the Serbian minority in Croatia ("Krajina Serbs"), supported by the Yugoslav military. By the end of 1991, the Krajina Serbs had gained control of nearly one-third of the country. By late spring and summer of 1995 Croatia regained control over much of the territories occupied by Serbs. NATO responded by expanding the range for air strikes into Serb-controlled Croatia. In October 1995, the Dayton agreement was signed, according to which the reintegration of Eastern Slavonia, after a two-year transitional period with international administration was successfully completed on January 15, 1998. The newly elected Croatian president welcomed Croatian Serb refugees to return to the country, however, the tensions between returning Serbs and Croats are high.

**BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA (1995: 250,000 killed, 800,000 displaced)**

Following its declaration of independence from the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in March 1992, Bosnia and Herzegovina suffered from a brutal war between the Croats, Bosnians, and Serbs of the former Yugoslavia. The conflict lasted until October 1995, when a Peace Agreement was reached at Dayton, Ohio, leading to an immediate cease-fire. The direct toll of the war on Bosnia and Herzegovina was enormous. An estimated 250,000 people were killed, more than 200,000 wounded, and 13,000 permanently disabled. Some 800,000 people are still refugees, and an additional 800,000 were internally displaced in Bosnia and Herzegovina. In addition, the presence of over 400,000 landmines in 17,000 mine fields along the frontlines continues to extract a heavy toll on the population.

**KOSOVO (FRY) (1999: 11,000 killed, 848,100 displaced)**

In 1989, Milosevic abrogated Kosovo's constitutional autonomy, launching a wave of purges of ethnic Albanians from the province's civil service and curtailing government funding for public institutions. The Kosovars responded by declaring independence and electing a parallel government which conducted campaign of non-violent resistance. After repeated warnings NATO started air strikes on Yugoslavia, which went on for 78 days and ceased only after Yugoslav officials accepted peace plan proposed by EU and Russia, and started withdrawing its troops on 10 June 1999 according to the NATO accord. Estimated 11,000 Kosovars were killed by Serbian security forces during the conflict, and total of 848,100 ethnic Albanians fled or were expelled (UNHCR). As Kosovar Albanians started to return, estimated 200,000 Kosovar Serbs and Roma amid rising incidents of revenge crimes. Despite the presence of NATO-led international peace-keeping forces, the situation in Kosovo remains volatile, as reports of crimes based on ethnicity continue.

**ALBANIA (1997: 2,000 killed)**

In January 1997, civil unrest broke out in Albania after the collapse of pyramid investment schemes in which more than 3 million people lost their savings. About 2,000 people were killed over the two-month long violent upheaval. Italian-led security forces were invited by Albania to ensure stability. Assassination of a prominent opposition leader in September 1998 provoked violent protest by opposition supporters in the capital, in which 3 people were killed, and 14 injured. However, in contrast to 1997, special police forces were able to restore order within two days. Both parties expressed desire to avoid violence. However, there is general state of lawlessness in the Southern regions controlled by fully armed gangs.

**TRANSNISTR (MOLDOVA) (1992: 1,000 killed, 100,000 displaced)**

In June 1992, the demands for sovereignty by the Transnistrian region of eastern Moldova resulted in an armed conflict between the secessionist region and the Republic of Moldova. A week-long fierce fighting was ended through the intervention of the Russian troops. While not recognized by any other country, the region has been operating as a de facto sovereign state. Moldovans, Russians, and Ukrainians each make up about third of the region's population, and the region controls some 40% of Moldovan industrial resources. It is estimated that about 1,000 people were killed and some 100,000 were forced to flee from their homes as a result of the conflict. About 80% of the displaced were Moldovans, 8% Russians, and 7% Ukrainian.

**ABKHAZIA (GEORGIA) (1993: 20,000 killed, 200,000 displaced)**

The northwestern province of Georgia that enjoyed an autonomous status in Soviet times, declared independence in 1992. The separatists, with an unofficial Russian political and military assistance, defeated Georgian troops and expelled over 200,000 ethnic Georgian civilians from Abkhazia. The 13-month war (1992-1993) led to deaths of about 15,000 Georgians and more than 5,000 Abkhazians. Although not acknowledged by the international community and suffering from harsh economic conditions, the self-proclaimed Republic of Abkhazia has been enjoying de facto independence.

**SOUTH OSSETIA (GEORGIA) (1992: 2,000 killed, 11,000 displaced)**

At the end of 1990, after Gamsakhurdia's nationalist government came to power in Georgia, the Georgian parliament abolished South Ossetian autonomous region. Armed conflict between South Ossetians and Georgians erupted shortly thereafter. About 1,000 people from each side were killed, and around 11,000 Georgians fled the region and settled mainly in Gori and Tbilisi. Tens of thousands of South Ossetians moved to North Ossetia (a part of Russia) and other parts of the Russian Federation. Self-proclaimed Republic of South Ossetia, whose population is 62% Ossetian and 33% Georgian, is not officially recognized by the Georgian authorities who maintain that it is Tskhinvali region of Georgia. The situation remains unresolved and the tension is high.

**INGUSHETIA (RUSSIA) (1992: 400 killed, 60,000 displaced)**

Situation is tense between Ingushetia and neighboring North Ossetia over the disputed Prigorodny Rayon, where several hundreds of people were killed and 60,000 Ingush were displaced as a result of clashes in late 1992. The social tension is escalating as newly displaced populations from Chechnya are putting further pressure on the country's limited resources already strained by previous IDPs from Prigorodny. Ingushetia is heavily militarized and its relations with Russia have been tense, as parts of Ingushetia on the border with Chechnya were about to come under Russian military attack in pursuit of Chechen rebels.

**DAGESTAN (RUSSIA) (1999: 1,000 killed, 11,000+ displaced)**

In August 1999, estimated 1,200 Chechen militant separatists along with Dagestani Wahabis and international force of mercenaries invaded Botlikh and Tsumada regions of Dagestan. The militants proclaimed themselves the Islamic Liberation Forces and the region they occupied the independent Islamic State of Dagestan. Russian-Dagestani troops forced the insurgents back across the Chechen border in late August. Heavy fighting resumed on 5 September with the second insurgency of about 2,000 militants. The conflict provoked inter-ethnic hostilities within Dagestan largely aimed at Wahabis blamed for joining the Chechen invaders. Official Russian death toll is at 280 servicemen.

**NAGORNYI KARABAKH (AZER., ARMENIA) (1994: 30,000 killed, 1,034,000 displaced)**

In 1987, the majority Armenian-populated enclave of Nagorno Karabakh in Azerbaijan expressed its desire for unification with Armenia. In 1988 the conflict escalated into a war as a result of which estimated 30,000 people were killed, and 278,000 ethnic Armenians and 756,000 ethnic Azeris were displaced. The cease-fire agreement in May 1994 gave Armenia control over N. Karabakh and six other districts constituting together 20% of Azerbaijan's territory. The situation of refugees and IDPs on both sides, surviving in poor conditions, remains unresolved, and the situation in the region is highly volatile.

**FERGHANA VALLEY (TAJIKISTAN, UZBEKISTAN, KYRGYZ REP.) (1989: 100 killed in Uzbek part, 300,000 displaced)**

Occupying 22,000 square meters, with the population of 9 million (predominantly Uzbeks), the Ferghana Valley is divided among Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan. Ferghana has been a site of numerous political and ethnic conflicts. In early November 1998, heavy fighting left 300 dead and hundreds more wounded due to hostilities between warring factions on the Tajik side which heightened tensions between Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. Earlier on, at the end of the Soviet period, the valley witnessed ethnic violence between local Uzbek nationalists and Meshketian Turks who were deported there from Georgia by Stalin. The conflict led to about 100 people getting killed, and 300,000 Meshketian Turks were forced to flee.

**TAJIKISTAN (1994: 40,000 killed, 500,000 displaced)**

Shortly after achieving independence in 1991 Tajikistan plunged into civil war in 1992. The conflict was waged between the Tajik government of primarily former Communists and the United Tajik Opposition (UTO), made up of mainly the Islamic Renaissance Party. The war raged for five years, during which about 40,000 people were killed and more than half a million displaced. In 1997 the two sides signed a General Agreement on Peace and National Accord under the auspices of the UN and the OSCE. The Commission supervised the demobilization of UTO forces and the return of refugees, implementation of a general amnesty, constitutional referendum and presidential elections in 1999.

**CHECHNYA (RUSSIA) (1996: 40,000 killed, 600,000 displaced; 2000: ? killed, 216,000 displaced)**

Chechen unilateral declaration of independence in June 1991 led to military conflict. The Chechen capital Grozny sustained heavy damage from Russian bombing and shelling. Estimated 40,000 people, mostly civilians, have been killed, and more than 600,000 people fled their homes during the first round of war that ended in 1996 with the withdrawal of the Russian troops from Grozny. The invasion of the Chechen opposition militants into neighboring Dagestan in August 1999 provoked the second round of attacks by the Russian military forces. After shelling Grozny to the rubble, the Russian military went on to pursue the rebel forces into the South of Chechnya. An estimated 180,000 people displaced from Chechnya fled to Ingushetia, 5,000 fled to Georgia, and 31,000 moved to other regions of the Russian Federation including North Ossetia, Kabardino-Balkaria, Stavropol Krai and Dagestan. Russian official estimates of their losses stand at over 1, 100 soldiers.

