



WHERE CIVILIZATION ENDS AND REALISM BEGINS

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Topics to be Covered

- 1. Paradigms
 - Clash of Civilizations
 - Realism
- 2. Concepts
 - Conflict
 - Crisis
 - War
- 3. Discussion of Findings
 - Clash of Civilization thesis more prominent when violence less likely
 - Realism more prominent as (likelihood of) violence increases

Clash of Civilizations

- Broadest level of cultural identity:
 - Language
 - History
 - Religion
 - Customs
 - Institutions
 - Self-identification



Realism

- Core Principles:
 - States most important actors
 - States maximize “national interests”
 - States are unitary, rational actors



Conflict

- Defining Principles:
 - Incompatible values
 - Fundamental ideas about right and wrong



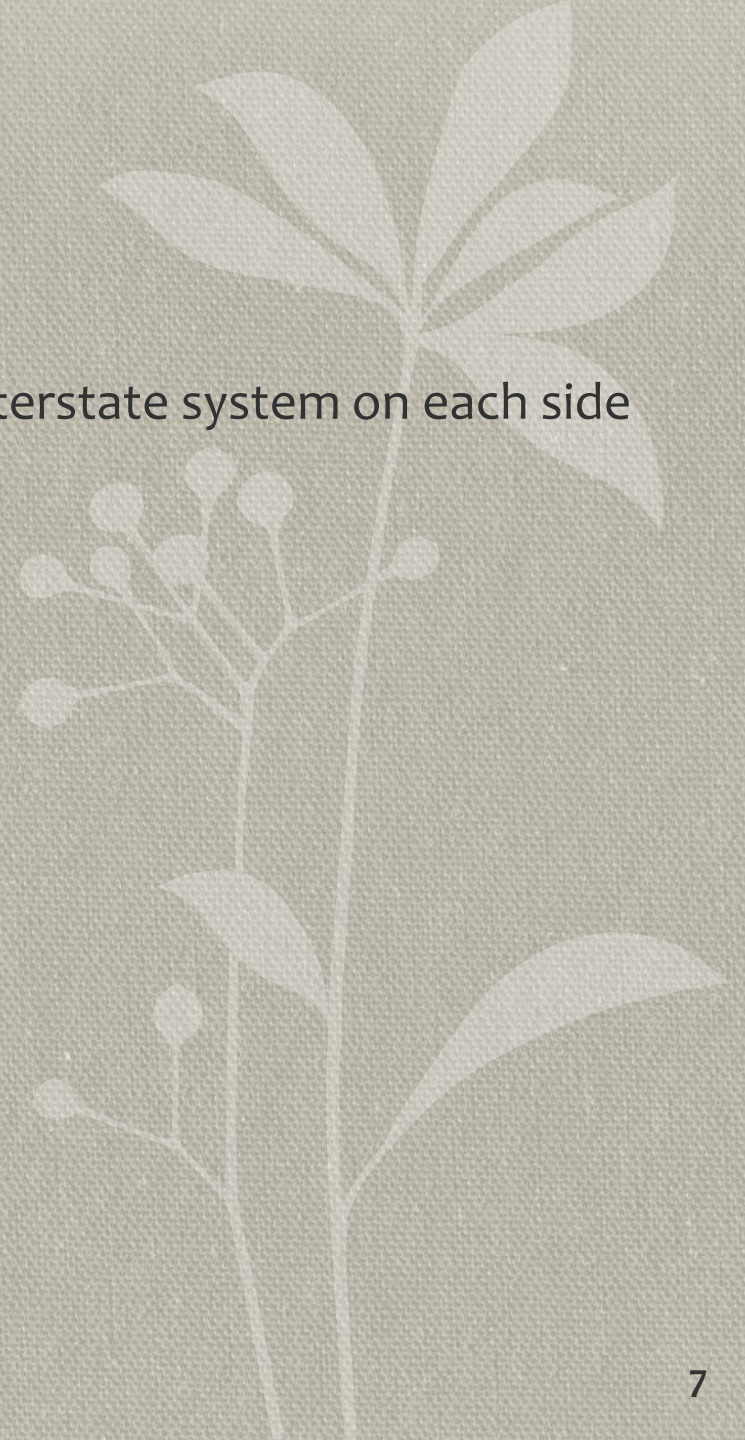
Crisis

- Defining Principles:
 - Increase in threat to one or more basic values
 - Finite time for response
 - Heightened probability of war



War

- Most widely-accepted definition:
 - Conflict involving at least one member of interstate system on each side
 - Total of 1,000 or more battle deaths



Conflict before the Crisis

- Clash of Civilizations thesis predominant:
 - Less likelihood of violence, therefore ...
 - Less need for rationality (realism)



Crisis Period - States

- Realism starts to play increasing role:
 - Concern about damage to people and/or economy
 - This is especially so in democracies



Crisis Period – Non-state Actors

- Nationalist
 - More similar to state governments, therefore ...
 - Realism more likely to play a large role
- Transnational
 - The less the similarity to state governments ...
 - The more likely that the main constraints will be civilizational
 - Main rational calculus:
 - Cost of an action is low for transnational organization and high for other side
 - Even so, role of rationality should increase from conflict period

War

- States
 - Realism becomes even more important
- Non-state Actors
 - Realism become more important
 - Concern about reaction of local government
 - Concern about support from local population



Findings – War on Terror

- US:
 - Clash of Civilizations thesis more important in Conflict Phase
 - Realism more important in crisis and war phases
- Al-Qaeda
 - Clash of Civilizations dominant throughout crisis, but ...
 - Realism played increasing role in crisis and war phases
- Overall, there is evidence supporting theory

Areas for Future Research

- Other factors influencing decisions
- Time-horizon for non-state actors



Q's?????

- What questions do you have?

