

DYSTOPIAN CONFLICTS OF THE MODERN WORLD

The intensity of conflicts increases yearly: according to the latest study, 183 conflicts were recorded as of 2023, the highest figure in the last 30 years. Some states often support authoritarian regimes and disregard the fundamental principles of international humanitarian law. There are many frozen or semi-frozen conflicts in the world, which sometimes go into a hot phase. Such world conflicts are like dormant volcanoes, which at any moment can wake up and have global consequences. In today's digital world, we are all virtual witnesses to numerous world conflicts.

No matter how far we look into the history of humankind's past, we can always observe contradictions, conflicts, and crises. They were constant companions of social development. Where there are people, there is an interaction between people; there is a conflict (socio-political, labour, religious, ethnic, etc.). Their wide distribution and their significant role (positive or negative) in public life have attracted attention since ancient times. The traditional perception of the conflict is the perception of the conflict as a power confrontation, where there is one solution: "win-lose" or "lose-win," with another "lose-lose," that is, a zero-sum game. Another perception of conflict is that it is a way of communication-based on cooperation, a game where everyone can win. The modern world is a world of not only conflicts but also communications. However, today, conflict can be seen as one way of communication.

Conflicts should not be destroyed or suppressed but perform their functions: initiating new social norms, forming alliances, groups, and coalitions, and creating a balance of interests. It is a source of innovation and social change but has the prospect of evolutionary change. One of the most critical functions of conflict is the ability to prevent more acute conflicts that turn into crises. Since the primacy of this idea belongs to Georg Simmel, Lewis Alfred Cozer formulated this position in the form of the so-called Simmel paradox, the essence of which is conflict as a means of preventing conflict since any conflict makes it possible to gain knowledge of the equal strength of both sides.

Authoritative in the West is the theory of political instability of Samuel Phillips Huntington, who proposed a "clash of civilizations" idea. He argued that the primary source of conflict in the emerging world would no longer be ideology or economics. The borders that divide humanity will be determined by culture. The most significant conflicts of global politics will unfold between nations and groups belonging to different civilizations. The clash of civilizations will become the dominant factor in world politics.

New times dictate new rules. While the "classical" conflicts between states are receding into the past, state conflicts provoked by separatism, nationalism, religious fundamentalism, and global inequality are coming to the fore. Criminal gangs, diasporas, and ethnic parties have begun to appear on the stage.

All this causes the consequences of the "black swan," which is impossible or extremely difficult to calculate. A "Black Swan" is a problematic or impossible-to-predict event that radically changes everything. Nassim Nicholas Taleb coined this term in his book "Black Swan: The Influence of Too Incredible." This event breaks all plans and scenarios (or at least the part of them that is somehow present in the information space).

So, modern politics, relying on conflict, increasingly uses business technologies and game elements because today, the winner is not the one who is stronger than everyone but the one who has strategic thinking and information and knows how to read steps several moves ahead, as in a chess game.

However, the best way to stop international conflicts forever and change the world society for the better is to be guided by one always relevant slogan that was said by the father of the Turks Mustafa Kemal Atatürk: "PEACE AT HOME, PEACE IN THE WORLD."