

Framework to Global Peace in the Era of Globalization and COVID-19

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Abstract

Global security landscape is unthinkable different than what it was about 60 years ago. Non-state actors, the creations of new states and access to information technology and globalization have made the world a more dangerous place. Human security is people-centered. It is concerned with how people live and breathe in a society, how freely they exercise their many choices, how much access they have to market and social opportunities-and whether they live in conflict or in peace. Human security is adversely affected when economic marginalization of the general population is fueled by the rising militancy of local strongmen who have forfeited an economically advantageous patron-client infrastructure due to economic and political liberalization measures. Terrorism as a mega threat affecting the decline of global peace is exacerbated by the lack of concrete international frameworks governing cyber-security and the development of information and communication technology (ICT), which is fully autonomous systems that can select and fire upon targets on their own without any human intervention. Climate change challenges, civil unrest, environmental pollution and now the ravaging power of Corona virus pandemic (COVID-19) have added to the security threats of our time. These multi-facets securities challenges no doubt are increasingly becoming serious threats to global socio-economic and political development of our world. However, with the increasing power of globalization, ICT to connect the world, availability of enormous data (big data) around us and with the rapid changes in the world around us, it is more important now than ever to establish the framework for sustainable approaches to mitigate these global security threats. Therefore, this research aim at surveying various threats to global peace security, it causes, and it effects and provides various frameworks for sustainable approaches to mitigate its effect on the global world.

Keywords: *Global Security, Human security, COVID-19, Globalization, and Global peace*

Introduction

The term human security apparently had its origins in policy statement emanating from the United Nations in the mid-1990s. According to the report, Human security means protecting vital freedoms. It means protecting people from critical and pervasive threats and situations, building on their strengths and aspiration. It also means creating systems that give people the building

blocks of survival, dignity and livelihood [1]. Human security could be grouped into two categories; the first is safety from such chronic threats as hunger, disease and repression (man-made induced security threats). The second one is known as the protection from sudden and hurtful disruption in the patterns of daily life whether in homes, in jobs or on the communities caused by natural occurrences such as earth quakes, diseases and pandemics. Human security is people-centered. It is concerned with how people live and breathe in a society, how freely they exercise their many choices, how much access they have to market and social opportunities-and whether they live in conflict or in peace [1]. In other words, human insecurity broadly affects not just economic security but other areas of existence as well. This is why the first major reference to human security in 1994 identified seven areas of concern namely: Economic security (e.g., assurance of a basic income); Food security (e.g., access to food); Health security (e.g., access to health care and protection from diseases); Environmental security (e.g., protection from harmful effects of environmental degradation); Personal security (e.g. freedom from threats by the state, groups, or individuals); Community security (e.g., freedom from harmful community practices); Political security e.g. enjoyment of human rights, and freedom from political oppression [2]

1.1 Globalization and Human Security

Human societies across the globe have established progressively closer contacts over many centuries, but recently the pace has dramatically increased. Jet airplanes, cheap telephone service, email, computers, huge oceangoing vessels, instant capital flows, all these have made the world more interdependent than ever. Multinational corporations manufacture products in many countries and sell to consumers around the world. Money, technology and raw materials move ever more swiftly across national borders. Along with products and finances, ideas and cultures circulate more freely. As a result, laws, economies, and social movements are forming at the international level. Many politicians, academics, and journalists treat these trends as both inevitable and (on the whole) welcome. But for billions of people around the world, business-driven globalization means uprooting old ways of life and threatening livelihoods and cultures. Recently, the pace of global integration has dramatically increased. Unprecedented changes in communications, transportation, and computer technology have given the process new impetus and made the world more interdependent than ever. As globalization increases the level of

prosperity, so also is poverty becomes globalized. The developing nations are perennially at the receiving end of economic models emanating from industrialized states and international financial institutions. The transmitted models and their elements of profit maximization, the invisible hand, rugged individualism, and the like have often destabilized and confused many developing states [3]. In other words, the impact of economic globalization on many developing economies has often resulted in limited benefits to the majority of individuals, groups, or society. Human security is adversely affected when economic marginalization of the general population is fueled by the rising militancy of local strongmen who have forfeited an economically advantageous patron-client infrastructure due to economic and political liberalization measures. Often armed warlords or bandits fight against the government for control of natural resources. Such control provides a substantial political base for these local strongmen as various economically disadvantaged groups begin to regard them as better able to support their economic needs [4].

2.0 The Seven Major threats to Global Security in our world

The world at present are face with seven threats to human peace, these are:

2.1 COVID-19 Pandemic Threat

Corona Virus (COVID-19) is a new global health Challenge. The World Health Organization (WHO) has declared the new COVID-19 outbreak a global pandemic. The first transmission to humans was in Wuhan, China. Since then, the virus has mostly spread through person-to-person contact. COVID-19 has killed over 900,000 people and infected nearly 25 million globally number still counting. The name “coronavirus” comes from the crown-like projections on their surfaces. “Corona” in Latin means “halo” or “crown.” Among humans, coronavirus infections most often occur during the winter months and early spring. The pandemic is tipping the world into a dangerously volatile new phase. The world is entering a volatile and unstable new phase. Scientists are increasingly confident that the COVID-19 pandemic threat will persist, possibly for years. The global economy is headed for an economic nose dive that could rival, even exceed, the Great Depression. With supply chains fragmenting, food supplies coming under strain, and prices rising, the lights are flashing red. Not only will this translate into rising

unemployment and food insecurity, but it could quickly escalate into political unrest, violence, and conflict. While some forms of crime have decreased, tensions are already flaring around the world, and not just in war zones. Protests, many of them violent, have broken out from Brazil and India to Kosovo, Malawi and South Africa. Police repression is also increasing from Kenya to the Philippines. Signs of fragility are not confined to poorer countries or even to marginalized communities in wealthier cities. The yellow vests movement has taken to the streets of Paris, while armed protesters have marched on state assemblies in the US denouncing the lock-down. COVID-19 is putting hard security threats between nations back into the spotlight. The geopolitical rivalry between the great powers is likely to worsen as the American and Chinese economies become less interdependent. The next tier of major powers poses risks as well. Europe has been hit hard by the virus, once again fraying ties between the Eurozone's stronger and weaker economies. At the same time, the fragility agenda that got underway during the 1990s and 2000s is going global. In the past few years, the World Bank and United Nations have converged on an analysis where violent conflict is driven by a combination of failing government institutions and the grievances that fester when groups feel excluded and neglected. As the pandemic and ensuing economic crisis unfold, these conditions will increasingly be found in many, if not most, countries in the world. This is not an agenda limited to poor countries at war, but is much broader and more insidious. At the very least, the risks of violence will rise in the most vulnerable countries and cities. Violence against women and human rights abuses has already spiked – both of which are harbingers of other forms of violence. The risk of an upsurge in violence is both obvious and highly destructive. Lives will be lost, futures ruined. Governments – already playing an exhausting game of whack-a-mole – will be further undermined if security is in short supply. Spiraling insecurity and conflict will also undermine the collective willingness to work together to tackle shared challenges. In the wake of more protectionism and decaying supply chains, the global depression will be longer and more painful. The real economy is also under unprecedented strain with massive numbers of small and medium-sized businesses closing down as a result of locked-down.

2.2 The threat of terrorism

Terrorism also continues to make headlines and annual death tolls are rising. Acts of terrorism that killed more than 100 civilians averaged about 4.2 annually from 1978 to 2013; in 2014 that figure rose to 26 million, a jump of more than 500%. In fact, in 2014 the acts of terrorism have killed more people than any other years—roughly nine times more people were killed in terrorist attacks than in 2000. Far outweighing the death tolls of the assorted attacks on Westerners in Tunisia, France and Egypt, the five countries that have suffered the most are Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan, Nigeria and Pakistan. The militant Islamist group has destabilized the North-East of Nigeria. Since 2009 the group killed tens of thousands of people and displaced millions more. About 2.5 million people fled their homes and towns, and the direct consequence of the conflict was that the North-East was plunged into a severe humanitarian crisis - as of 2018, one of the worst in the world - which has left about 7.7 million people in need of humanitarian aid

2.3 The threat of civil unrest

Civil wars last many years longer on average than inter-state conflicts, and have a much higher civilian death count. Civil conflicts have rumbled on in Syria, Yemen, Afghanistan, Ukraine, the Central African Republic, Nigeria and South Sudan to name but a few. The Syrian conflict was the world's most bloody ever, and according to the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights has claimed the lives of well over 210,000 people so far. Then there's the refugee crisis the war has created, which has displaced more than 7.6m people within Syria and made refugees of 4m more. Many of these people are dying in attempts to escape danger – on the Mediterranean Sea alone; at least 3,329 people were killed fleeing their homelands. The Middle Belt region of Nigeria has faced prolonged violent clashes between the predominantly Christian farmers and the mostly Muslim cattle herders. At the core of the conflicts are disputes over access and rights to land and water resources and rapid desertification which has changed the grazing patterns of cattle. These clashes are not necessarily new, but since 2015, the disputes have become more frequent and violent. In 2018 alone, more than 2,000 people were killed in such clashes - more than the number killed in the past two years combined. The conflict now claims an estimated six times

more than the Boko Haram crisis. The dispute is being politicized and is stirring ethnic and religious tensions, which is very dangerous in a deeply divided country like Nigeria. In 2016, one of the most prominent armed groups in the region, the Niger Delta Avengers (and other smaller groups), destroyed oil production infrastructure reducing production from 2.2 million barrels per day to the two decades low of 1.4 million barrels a day. The infrastructure vandalism contributed to the onset of one of Nigeria's worst economic recessions on record.

2.4 The threat of environmental pollution

It may seem peculiar that the threats posed by nuclear and biological weapons have negative effect on human security. But in spite of the devastation that could be caused by non-conventional weapons, the chances of dissemination are still relatively low – and fears that these weapons could be acquired by “rogue” nations such as Iran or groups such as Islamic State are overblown. It must not be forgotten that the most serious existential threats to humanity are diseases and deaths due to environmental pollution. Millions die each year due to disease and environmentally related illnesses – air pollution alone reportedly kills more people than HIV and Malaria combined. Though survey research indicates that many citizens of Western nations live in fear of acts of terrorism, it is important to take a glance at what is truly the most threatening to our security.

2.4 Organized crime threat

Even higher than the death toll due to acts of terrorism is the body count from organized crime. In Mexico alone, 20,000 people were killed in 2015 – and this is in fact an improvement on the 27,000 who were killed in 2011. Mexico's challenges are in fact so great that they're starting to resemble an all-out war. Certain parts of Mexico, such as Acapulco, have some of the highest murder rates in the world at more than 100 per 100,000 civilians. Organized crime in Mexico has captured parts of the Mexican state and has made it nearly impossible for law enforcement to function. Organized criminal groups have become ever more brazen, bold and bloody. Gangs are another huge security challenge. Though gang violence is a global phenomenon, the threats posed are especially overwhelming in Central America: gangs in El Salvador, Honduras and

Guatemala have sent homicide rates skyrocketing. Honduras's unhappy claim to fame for 2015 was that it hosted the world's most murderous city, San Pedro Sula – which stood at 171 homicides per 100,000 people. Tiny El Salvador sees a murder every hour. Another particularly dramatic case is Brazil, where the already sky-high homicide rates have risen again in spite of all the attention from the hosting the World Cup and Olympics. It has lost 58,000 people to homicide in a single year, many of them killed in gang-related violence and by police responses. This is the leading cause of death for Brazilians between the ages of 15 and 29.

2.6 Small arms and light weapons threat

Small arms and light weapons are still an enormous problem, whether in the hands of insurgent groups, terror networks, organized criminal groups, gangs or rogue citizens. This is hardly a threat confined to chronically insecure countries or those facing civil conflict. While readily accessible small arms have long posed a major threat to countries enduring civil wars (in Angola, an AK-47 can be had for the same price as a chicken), the US continues to have terrible trouble confronting its longstanding problem with gun crime. In the US in 2015 there were more than 50,000 injuries sustained in domestic gun violence alone and 12,666 deaths from gun violence overall. Mass shootings perpetrated by sufferers of mental illness have garnered media attention, but most deaths were not executed by the “mentally ill”. Lax gun control laws continue to wreak havoc, while some gun rights advocates still argue that more widespread gun ownership would make all Americans safer. Meanwhile Europe was rudely awoken to the risks of loose weapons control by the Paris attacks of November 13, when a number of attackers rampaged through the French capital carrying assault rifles killing 130 people. Around half a million lost or stolen firearms remain unaccounted for within the EU area.

2.7. Climate change threat

Agriculture is important for food security in two ways: it produces the food people eat; and it also provides the primary source of livelihood for 36 percent of the world's total workforce. In May 2007, at the 33rd Session of the Committee on World Food Security, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) issued a statement to reaffirm its vision of a food – secured world: “FAO's

vision of a world without hunger is one in which most people are able, by themselves, to obtain the food they need for an active and healthy life, and where social safety nets ensure that those who lack resources still get enough to eat” [5].

Also, the united Nation has its number one Sustainable Development Goal (SDG #1) of No Poverty Global World which is, Agriculture and Food Security. The question to be asked is how do we make production of food like maize, rice, and wheat, etc., available in abundant, in the face of excessive temperature, limited or excessive rainfall, and low or sometimes high humidity? World food production must increase by approximately 1% annually to meet the growing demand for food that will result from population growth and economic development. Global mean surface air temperature increased by $\approx 0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ in the 20th century and is projected to further increase by 1.5°C to 4.5°C this century. According to estimates of the FAO, the global number of undernourished people is 795 million. This shows a decline of nearly 200 million over the last 20 years [5]. South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa constitute most of the world’s hungry population [6]. More importantly, nearly 18% of the region’s GDP is comprised of agriculture, and the industry employs more than 50% of the population [7]. Studies reveal that increasing temperature and the changing pattern of rainfall have a substantial impact on food production [8, 9, 10]. A recent study anticipates that the wheat production of South Asia will decline by 50% by 2050—equal to almost 7% of the global crop production [11]. The Peterson Institute states that agricultural production in developing countries will further fall between 10% to 25% and global warming will decrease the agricultural capacity of India by 40% if it continues unabated [12]. Hence, climate change causes serious threats to food security [9, 10 –12], negative impacts on productivity of different crops, the food supply [13,14], and the cost of adoption of climate change is high [15]. A researcher predicts that the rainfall pattern, river flows, and sea levels all over the world will be affected due to climate change over the next century [16]. The increase in climate change is recognized as a global anomaly with potentially long – lasting implications, corresponding with more frequent extreme weather episodes [17]. According to a report on production, financial, marketing, legal, environmental, and human resources are significant sources of risk factors in agriculture [18]. There are five major risk factors, as follows:

Production risks linked with changes in crop yields and livestock from many sources (i.e., unpredictable weather conditions, disease incidence, and pests); Secondly, there are financial risks, such as a farmer's capacity to pay their bills to sustain farming and avoid liquidation; Thirdly, marketing risks, which involve variations in the prices of agricultural products; Fourth, there are legal and environmental risks, and Finally, there are narrow human resources (i.e., a lack of family members to play the role of labor and farm management).

3.0 Global Security Threats: The Causes

Our world is changing rapidly from analogue system to digital system, from traditional survey data collection to the emergency of mass volumes of data (big data), from regional government to globalization. As our world keeps changing so the threats to human security keep increasing. These threats could be viewed in three contextual factors that are responsible for human insecurity.

3.1 Greater complexity in the post-world war era

Due to the growing number of independent international and transnational actors playing power games on multiple levels revolving around national, regional, and global dynamics, the range of threats has become highly complex.

3.2 The level of uncertainty has increased in the world after the end of the world- War

Current threats are less predictable than traditional state-centric threats and come from more diverse sources: computer hackers and criminals, disaffected domestic groups, natural and man-made viral borne illnesses, and radical terrorists, including those motivated by Muslim fundamentalism.

3.3 Decentralized and regionalized of international affair after the world-War

More nations than previously are involved in managing international affairs, albeit often only on a regional basis. Regional issues have proliferated and threaten wider international peace and security. Non-state actors – such as terrorist groups – have taken advantage of regional conflicts and insecurities.

4.0 Global frameworks: The future we want

In ensuring human security, there are seven-pronged approaches that need to be address which are; economic security, food security, health security, environment security, personal security, community security, and political security. To secure our world from these threats there is need to present global framework that could help to reduce it effect on global world peace thereby given world the future it deserves.

4.1 Security of life must be Priotised

An urgent and clear signal is needed from global institutions and major powers that security and safety are key priorities. The UN Security Council must do everything it can to de-escalate tensions between the US and China. The current batch of non-permanent members and those that will be elected in future bear a heavy responsibility, given deep divisions among the P5. The G20, G7 and NATO – along with the African Union, the EU, BRICS and other regional bodies - must also contribute to deescalating geopolitical tensions and set out strategies to ensure peace and security on the ground. The Security Council should rally to support the Secretary General's call for a global ceasefire. Wars contribute immensely to societal instability and environmental degradation. Wars represent a form of carelessness which we no longer can afford. Nuclear weapons should be disassembled and wars halted. Military disciplines must be regulated by an international force, and expenditure of large sums of money for military must be prevented. Such uses of our resources are archaic and obsolete. We have more important problems to face and conquer.

4.2 International Solidarity and Coordination

There must be levels of international solidarity and coordination that are on par with the Second World War. The crisis underlines the importance of ensuring redistribution and especially supports for the most vulnerable - not least the unemployed, underemployed and working poor. At the very least, this is about enlightened self-interest. These are often the very same groups that deliver essential health services, maintain food supplies, and keep utilities operating. A global fund for social protection that supports the poorest of countries and a concerted focus on tackling

inequality is essential. This is not just a matter of need. Billions of people that are facing joblessness are not going to sit idly by while elites—who ignored the warning signs of this crisis—carry on. To complicate the situation, we also need to consider existing and emerging infectious diseases. There is a paucity of global infrastructure that is required to combat them. No one will feel secure when global epidemics hit again.

4.3 The world needs Responsible Government

The world needs responsible governmental at all levels who respect and obey international law. They must recognize that the needs of the world community must supersede national interests. Most of the problems of insecurity experience in the world today could be attributed to weak and irresponsible leadership who pursuit personal ambition rather than national interests, inability of some leaders to obey laws and orders. Leaders who refuse must be expelled from office. Impeachment followed by severe punishment must become a standard consequence of dishonesty, corruption and activities based on self-interest rather than the public interest. If billions of dollars had not been spent on military, just think what we could have accomplished. Universal human rights, birth control, healthcare and education could have been guaranteed for the same cost. Only if dealt with at the global level can we effectively counteract the consequences of climate change? This will require moving cities inland, managing an immense refugee population, relocating agriculture, and implementing conservation measures to prevent species extinction. Humans will need to have energy and food security as well as cyber security if conservation efforts in our declining world are to succeed.

4.4 Law on Population Growths

Worldwide terrorism could be a direct consequence of overpopulation, limited resource availability and the resultant poverty and personal frustration. Terrorists often flourish where conditions cause the young to outnumber the older, more staid members of society, and where opportunity is restricted. It can be a transnational activity without borders, as is the case today in many Arab nations. This is one reason why terrorism is so widespread in our current world, and

why this threat is continuously growing. No single country can be held responsible, but some are more responsible than others. UN member nations could come together to enact laws on population growth in form of declarations.

4.5 Improve Environmental/Ecological security

Environmental/Ecological security can be improved by using scientific knowledge and experimentation to shape public policy. This is pressing because of the increasing rate of global climate change. The opportunity to act may be short lived. Current droughts, extreme weather fluctuations, floods and elevated temperatures all indicate that the time period to prevent disaster may have already passed. Imbalances in public health and economic provisions must be corrected. Reduced energy usage coupled to increased energy efficiency and the development of alternative energy sources will help alleviate the current imbalance.

4.5 Global insecurity monitoring system

The international system needs a global insecurity monitoring system to track grievances and signal unrest before they escalate into violence. A shared platform for analyzing conflict risk has long been promised but not delivered. The World Bank and UN have agreed in principle to undertake shared analysis of conflict risks. It is now time for them to draw on external expertise to gain access to the real-time mapping, remote sensing and digital data they need to deliver a comprehensive assessment tool. The monitor can then feed other early-warning systems, especially those for food insecurity and hunger, so that they become more sensitive to triggers such as spiraling unemployment, rising mistrust of government, unrest in prisons and more.

4.6 Data solution is the key

The omnipresence of data in the daily lives of most people in the world gives rise and support to the view that data will change the world. With the unprecedented rate of data creation, and the increasing role data plays in most of our lives, it is easy to assume that the digital revolution could be the most important life-changing event of this era. There is need for the world through

UN data forum to employ the option of data revolution to tackle these global threats. Scientists could be called to look into how to take advantages offers by this data revolution to solve the problem probe to human being by these security threats.

4.7 Greater Commitment

The world needs to commit to massively ramping-up programs to prevent and respond to violence against women and children, cyber-crime, COVID-19 pandemic, climate change challenge, poverty and hunger, environmental pollution and small and light weapon threats. The UN Secretary-General has called for urgent action to protect women and children during the pandemic. The evidence for how to respond to this call is compelling. Indeed, WHO, UNICEF, UN Women, the World Bank and others are already united behind a common set of strategies and are working with governments on their implementation. The Spotlight Initiative to eliminate violence against women and the Global Partnership to End Violence against Children provide a “shovel ready” route for accelerated action.

In conclusion, the COVID-19 pandemic, hunger/poverty, climate change, cyber-crime, civil unrest, environmental pollution and organized crime are revealing the fault lines in every country, not just those already struggling with conflict, violence and fragility. Through the Sustainable Development Goals, every country in the world promised its people that they would live free from fear and that they would deliver significant reductions in all forms global peace security. We now all fear for our futures but must take the choice to use this decade to put humanity back on a peaceful, healthy and sustainable path this will guarantee the future we want.

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