



Resource Guide on SECURITY SECTOR REFORM

The Resource Guides constitute a continuously evolving project initiated by the Institutional Learning and Research Division (ILR) to enable SFCG staff to quickly and easily access and review a selection of practical and useful resources. Therefore, it is not meant to be a comprehensive bibliography. We welcome contributions of resources to ILR (ilr@sfcg.org).

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What is Security Sector Reform (SSR)?

SSR can cover a wide range of topics, including non-proliferation of weapons, the global war on terror (GWOT), weapons of mass destruction (WMD), intelligence, nuclear disarmament, small arms flow, land mines, armed non-state actors, child soldiers, women, civilian-military (“civ-mil”) relations, military/police training, etc. The “formal” security sector involves the armed forces, police, intelligence services, judiciary, and state oversight bodies.

SSR is “the transformation of security institutions so that they play an effective, legitimate and democratically accountable role in providing external and internal security for their citizens. (It) requires broad consultation and includes goals such as strengthening civilian control and oversight of the security sector; professionalization of the security forces; demilitarization and peace-building; and strengthening the rule of law (*see below*, “*Must Read*” #3, *Clingendael*, pp 1-2).

Security sector reform is more than the oft-heard acronym, “DDR” (demobilize, disarm, reintegrate), and traditionally, the security challenge has been to limit the spread of weapons and resolve conflicts before they become violent. Indeed, some progress has been made in this area; for example, the 1997 landmark international treaty against anti-personnel land mines, and the International Criminal Court (to which the U.S. has not signed on). However, the bulk of foreign aid to developing countries continues to go to support the military, and while regular armies have shrunk in size, warlords, crime networks, and private military companies “signal a growing privatization of violence and forms of insecurity that are not necessarily picked up in war statistics” (Renner, *State of the World*, p. 13).

More recently, SSR has become more integrated not only into conflict resolution and peacebuilding, but also into the area of development, with current opinion (read: donors) recognizing that good governance, a key developmental pillar, functions hand-in-hand with SSR.

SSR can be linked to three categories of factors that contribute to violent conflict: structural, trigger and perpetuating (*see “Must Read” #3, Clingendael, pp 2-3*). Structural causes are those that are not easily changed but can lead to social disparities, such as the society’s ethnic make-up, the distribution of wealth, and political representation. In the security sector, this can be seen in military and police forces being drawn from certain ethnic and social groups, or the military controlling the real political and economic power in highly authoritarian governments.

Trigger factors are events that bring underlying tensions to the surface and cause an escalation of violence. In the security sector, this may include military coups or offences by state security forces that frequently enforce state repression and commit human rights abuses.

Perpetuating factors are those that contribute to the continuation of violence and make the conflict “intractable” – such as the existence of war economies, the ready availability of small arms and light weapons, various types of trafficking and the manipulation of natural resources.

These factors are typically characterized by a security sector that operates independent of a political state structure.

*****MUST READS*****

1. **Title:** *State of the World 2005: Redefining Global Security*
By: Worldwatch Institute, Washington, D.C. www.worldwatch.org
Language: English
Description: 237 pp. Foreword by Mikhail S. Gorbachev, Chairman, Green Cross International. A compilation of articles providing a comprehensive overview of the expanse of “security” issues, including post-9/11 counter-terrorism, transnational crime, population growth and movement, food, water conflicts, the oil economy, nuclear proliferation, disarmament, and building peace through environmental cooperation. Of particular interest to SFCG might be Chapters 1 (“Security Refined”, pp 3-19) and 7, (“Disarming Postwar Societies”, pp. 122-139) by Michael Renner.
Location: <http://www.worldwatch.org/pubs/sow/2005/> (available for ordering)
2. **Title:** *Security Sector Reform: Issues, Challenges and Prospects*
By: Jane Chanaa (2002). Adelphia Paper 344. Oxford University Press for The International Institute for Strategic Studies, London. www.iiss.org
Language: English
Description: 76 pp. Excellent overview of the UK’s “SSR Agenda” and its challenges, focusing on four contexts of SSR: political, institutional, economic and social. Includes overview of UN, World Bank, USAID and EU involvement in SSR and development, plus policy recommendations for key elements for engagement. The “Notes” section in the back is a particularly useful bibliography.
3. **Title:** *Towards a Better Practice Framework in Security Sector Reform: Broadening the Debate*
By: Netherlands Institute of International Relations (Clingendael”), International Alert, Saferworld, Occasional SSR Paper No. 1 August 2002.
Language: English
Description: 25 pp. Comprehensive overview of SSR concentrating on police/community relations, civilian oversight of military, and small arms reduction and control. Includes glossary of SSR-related acronyms and annex of case studies in Northern Ireland, Guatemala, former Soviet Union, Malawi, Kenya and Tanzania, and Albania, plus a useful bibliography.
Location: <http://www.international-alert.org/publications/90.php>

Specific Topics

- 1.a) **Topic:** **Africa**
Title: *Africa and the Challenges of Security Sector Reform*

- By:** Rocklyn Williams, Institute for Security Studies (In Monograph 46, “Building Stability in Africa: Challenges for the New Millenium”), February 200.
- Language:** English
- Location:** <http://www.iss.co.za/Pubs/Monographs/No46/Africa.html>
- 1.b) Topic:** **Sierra Leone**
- Title:** *Peace Education, Human Rights and Democratic Governance Capacity Building Curriculum Development Workshop for the Military and Security Forces in Post-War Sierra Leone*
- By:** Africa Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies, Department of Peace Studies, University of Bradford
- Language:** English
- Description:** Report from Conference hosted by Ministry of Defence, Freetown, Sierra Leone, 3-5 November, 2003.
- Location:** http://www.upeace.org/documents/news/Bradford_MilitaryWorkshop-Report.pdf
- 2. Topic:** **Arab world**
- Title:** *Security Sector Reform: the Final Frontier?*
- By:** Henry L. Stimson Center (D.C.), Ellen Laipson (March 10, 2005)
- Language:** English and Arabic
- Description:** Article; originally appeared in March 2005 edition of the Arab Reform Bulletin. Signs of greater willingness among Arab countries to discuss this issue.
- Location:** <http://www.stimson.org/pub.cfm?id=224>
- 3. Topic:** **Armed non-state actors**
- Title:** *Choosing to Engage: Armed Groups and Peace Processes*
- By:** Conciliation Resources (London, UK), Accord Programme, 2005. Rob Ricigliano, Ed. (www.c-r.org)
- Language:** English
- Description:** 101 pp, part of CR’s Accord series narrating and analyzing specific war and peace processes. Introductory interview with former U.S. President Jimmy Carter. Document offers extensive case studies from Burma, Chechnya, El Salvador, the Middle East, Sudan, the Phillippines and elsewhere, describing and analyzing third party engagement (“interaction” or “participation”) with armed non-state actors. These are defined as groups that “challenge the state’s monopoly on coercive force; operate outside effective state control; and/or are capable of preventing, blocking or endangering humanitarian action or peace initiatives.”
- Location:** <http://www.c-r.org/accord/ansa/index.shtml>
- 4. Topic:** **Child soldiers**
- Title:** *Child Soldiers: Implications for U.S. Forces*
- By:** Center for Emerging Threats and Opportunities, Marine Corps Warfighting Laboratory
- Language:** English
- Description:** 40 pp. November 2002. Report on the Cultural Intelligence Seminar held June 11, 2002.
- Location:** <http://www.ceto.quantico.usmc.mil/studies/ChildSoldiersFinal.pdf>

5. **Topic:** **International security (U.S., Russia, China)**
Title: *Prospects for Security Transformation*
By: John Steinbruner and Nancy Gallagher (July 2004)
Language: English
Description: Working paper (20 pp.) for Center for International and Security Studies at University of Maryland. Focus is on China's role in global security.
Location: <http://www.cissm.umd.edu/documents/securitytransformation07-04.pdf>
6. **Topic:** **Intervention**
Title: *The Responsibility to Protect*
By: International Commission on Intervention and State Sovereignty (ICISS), 2001.
Language: English and French
Description: 107 pp. This report deals with when, if ever, it is appropriate for states to take coercive (particularly military) action against another state for the purpose of protecting people at risk in that other state, and if there is a right of intervention, how and when it should be exercised and under whose authority.
Location: <http://www.iciss.ca/pdf/Commission-Report.pdf>
7. **Topic:** **Iraq**
Title: *The Coalition Provisional Authority's Experience with Public Security in Iraq*
By: Robert M. Perito
Language: English
Description: USIP Special Report on "important lessons for future U.S. peace and stability operations (that) can be found in the civil upheaval that occurred in Iraq following the collapse of Saddam Hussein's regime (including public order, street crime, border control, and police recruitment, training and combat)."
Location: <http://www.usip.org/pubs/specialreports/sr137.html>
8. **Topic:** **Light weapons**
Title: *Light Weapons and Civil Conflict: Controlling the Tools of Violence*
By: Boutwell, Jeffrey and Klare, Michael T., Eds. (1999) Carnegie Commission on Preventing Deadly Conflict, New York: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc. ISBN 0-8476-9484-4
Language: English
Description: 244 pp. Contributions by a variety of field researchers and experts in light weapons and international conflict, controlling the supply of light weapons, regional efforts to control light weapons, international cooperation, human rights and social development.
9. **Topic:** **Police reform**
Title: *Police Reform in Post-Conflict Societies: What We Know and What We Still Need to Know*
By: William G. O'Neill
Language: English
Description: 15 pp. police paper; International Peace Academy

- Location:** http://www.ipacademy.org/PDF_Reports/POLICE%20REFORM_final.pdf
- 10. Topic:** **U.S. Military**
Title: "Winning the Peace" Syllabus (working draft), Term 05-2.
By: United States Military Academy, Department of Social Sciences, Curriculum: MAJ Christina Schweiss, 845-938-4015 for more information. AY2005-06 Course Director is MAJ Matt Abbruzzese, 845-938-2811 (x3559 eff Jun 05)
- Language:** English
Description: "Winning the Peace", is designed to educate company grade officers to act as "warrior diplomats" in the field and covers numerous military and civilian topics. Course was designed collaboratively by personnel from eight academic departments) and OIF (Iraq), as well as interagency actors and NGOs, represented by Search for Common Ground (Executive Director Sandra Melone. Syllabus includes an extensive reading list.
- Location:** <http://www.dean.usma.edu/departments/sosh/Academic%20Program/Courses/SS490B/>
- 11. Topic:** **Women**
Title: *Women, Peace and Security*
By: Fact Sheet, No. 6 (2004), Canadian Research Institute for the Advancement of Women (CRIAOW)
- Language:** English & French
Description: 12-pp newsletter format covers women as victims of violence, Canadian peacekeeping missions; militarism mindset; security for indigenous people; refugees, militarism and the media, women in decision-making and organizing for change, etc. Impressive bibliography of Canadian and international organizations, plus resource notes.
- Location:** http://www.criaw-icref.ca/indexFrame_e.htm(English)
http://www.criaw-icref.ca/indexFrame_f.htm (French)

Additional Readings:

- 1. Title:** *Resource Wars: The New Landscape of Global Conflict* (2001).
 NY: Henry Holt & Co.
By: Klare, Michael T.
Language: English
Description: Book by leading scholar in conflict studies (professor in Peace and World Security Studies [PAWSS], the Five College Consortium of Amherst College, Hampshire College, Mount Holyoke College, Smith College, and the University of Massachusetts at Amherst) that analyzes in depth interrelated resource factors (e.g., food, water, oil, grazing land, etc.) that stimulate or threaten to produce global conflict. See other books by same author, e.g.: *Light Weapons & Civil Conflict*;

Controlling the Tools of Violence; Peace and World Security Studies; World Security: Challenges for a New Century.

2. **Title:** *Berghof Handbook for Conflict Transformation Security Sector Reform – Dialogue Series*
By: Berghof Center
Description: Variety of online papers on SSR from key theorists in the field
Language: English & German
Location: <http://www.berghof-handbook.net/ssr.htm>

3. **Title:** *Understanding and Supporting Security Sector Reform*
By: Conflict and Humanitarian Affairs Department, Department for International Development, United Kingdom
Language: English
Description: 43-pp. paper on guidelines for UK work in security sector reform. Although this is British-specific, it nevertheless covers a range of useful topics.
Location: <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/pubs/files/supportingsecurity.pdf>

4. **Title:** *Security Sector Reform in Developing Countries: An EU Perspective*
By : Malcolm Chalmers, Saferworld/University of Bradford (January 2000)
Language: English
Description: Joint report published by Saferworld and the Conflict Prevention Network
Location: <http://www.saferworld.org.uk/publications/pubsecu.htm>

5. **Title:** *Security Sector Reform*
By: National Democratic Institute for International Affairs
Language: English
Description: One-page overview of the field
Location: http://www.ndi.org/globalp/civmil/civmil_pf.asp

6. **Title:** *Security Sector Reform & Post-Conflict Peacebuilding* (July 2005)
By: Schnabel & Ehrhart, Eds.

7. **Title:** *Security Sector Reform: A Bibliography*
By: Pearson Peacekeeping Centre Library
Language: English
Description: 4 page bibliography of readings in SSR.
Location: <http://www.peaceoperations.org/downloads/pdf/bibliographies/en/PPC%20Bibliography%20-%20Security%20Sector%20Reform.pdf>

Training:

School: Pearson Peacekeeping Center
Location: Three venues in Canada
Curriculum: Foundation and specialized courses in civilian, police and military peace operations. Specialized courses include humanitarian operations,

peacebuilding, negotiation, civil-military cooperation, disarmament, demobilization and reintegration, UN logistics and human rights.

Language: French and English

Web site: <http://www.peaceoperations.org/>

Websites:

Center for Peace & Security Studies

Georgetown University, Washington, D.C.

<http://cpass.georgetown.edu/>

Global Facilitation Network for Security Sector Reform

<http://www.gfn-ssr.org/home.cfm>

International Peace Academy

(Independent, international, nonprofit institution dedicated to promoting the prevention and settlement of armed conflicts between and within states through policy research and development)

<http://www.ipacademy.org/>

Monterey Institute, Monterey Institute of International Studies

Basic Sources – Security and Development

<http://www.miis.edu/>

Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE)

<http://www.osce.org/>

United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security

<http://www.peacewomen.org/un/sc/1325.html>

USAID Security Sector Reform Q&A

<http://www.policia.gov.co/inicio/portal/unidades/ProgramasDirop.nsf/paginas/Security>

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USIP Publications

<http://www.usip.org/pubs/catalog/loneranger.html>

<http://www.usip.org/pubs/catalog/nato.html>

<http://www.usip.org/pubs/catalog/glchaos.html>

<http://www.jofssm.org/index.cfm>

Women in International Security

<http://wiis.georgetown.edu/>

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Institutional Learning and Research Division, Search for Common Ground (June 2005)