HYDRO-DIPLOMACY AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION

UNU-EHS/CRIM-UNAM and COLTLAX

Brainstorming in Yautepec

13-15 March 2006

Úrsula Oswald Spring
CRIM-UNAM/Coltlax
UNU-EHS
Contents

1. HUGE: some conceptual ideas
2. Globalized economy, postmodern state (Giddens, Habermas), multinational enterprises and “risk society” (Beck)
3. Culture with social vulnerability
4. Hydro-diplomacy
5. Peace building
   • 5.1. New trends in social movements: Another world is possible?
   • 5.2. Public arena: Integrated, systemic co-operative, sustainable development with solidarity and peace-building
## 1. Human, Gender and Environmental Security (HUGE)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level of expansion</th>
<th>Determination</th>
<th>Mode of expansion</th>
<th>Value at risk</th>
<th>Source(s) of threat</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Without expansion</strong></td>
<td>National security (political, military dimension)</td>
<td>The State</td>
<td>Sovereignty, territorial integrity</td>
<td>Other States, terrorism, sub-state actors, guerrilla</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Increased</strong></td>
<td>Societal security</td>
<td>Nations, social groups</td>
<td>National Unity, national identity</td>
<td>(States), Nations, Migrants, Alien cultures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Radical</strong></td>
<td>Human security</td>
<td>Individuals (Humankind)</td>
<td>Survival, quality of life, cultural integrity</td>
<td>The State, globalization, nature, GEC, poverty, fundamentalism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ultra-radical</strong></td>
<td>Environmental Security</td>
<td>Ecosystem, urban and agricultural system</td>
<td>Sustainability</td>
<td>Nature Humankind</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Trans-radical</strong></td>
<td>Gender security</td>
<td>Gender relations, indigenous, minorities</td>
<td>Equity, identity, social relations</td>
<td>Patriarchy, totalitarian institutions (élites, governments, religions, culture), intolerance</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Source:** Bjørn Møller, 2003:279 and Úrsula Oswald, 2001, 2004
1.1. Gender Security and Identity

- Gender security refers to the process of **raising consciousness** to be a human being as a **man or a woman** or a bisexual, depending on the position in the social structure.

- **Gender security** is normally **taken for granted**. The relationship to the model of reference is linked to the **status as gender** – understood as indigenous, poor, minority, women, elders and children.

- **Equity and identity are values at risk.** The source of threats emerges from the **patriarchal, hierarchical and violent order**, characterized by exclusive and totalitarian institutions such as non-democratic governments, churches and élites.

- The symbolic distribution assigns to the **man** the **public space**: production, *res publica, homo sapiens*; and to the **woman** the **private** one: reproduction, home, *homo domesticus*.

- The distribution of power acquires also generic forms. Men exercise a hierarchical and vertical power of domination and superiority.
2. Globalized Economy, Culture and Postmodern Contradictions

Heritage of a world model based on military progress of a superpower, economically supported by Multinational Enterprises (MNE), strong competition and ideologically sustained by consumerism, mass media manipulation (Castells), and resource exploitation leaves four conflictive nuclei:

1. **structural violence**: poverty, inequality and misery;
2. **physical violence**: wars, armed conflicts, genocide, ethnocide, drug trafficking, organized crime, illegal immigrants and public insecurity;
3. **cultural violence**: gender discrimination of women, youth, elders, ethnic, religious, sexual and ideological minorities;
4. **environmental violence**: environmental destruction, loss of biodiversity, urbanization and irrational management of natural resources.
2.1. Postmodern State, Globalization and HUGE

- Blair-Giddens’ Third Way; 2 ½ Way of Alain Tourain; Ecofeminism; Regional Development; Local Sovereignty; trilateral world order (USA, Europe, Far East: China-India-Japan), BRIC (Brazil, Russia, India, China) countries?

- New threats for global and personal security (terrorism) offer scientists and peace researchers **renewed opportunity** to develop models of human and environmental security and promote peace processes.

- Development paradigm is getting more complex (Küng, 2003); and homogenized by the globalization process:
  - instant world communications (Castells, 2002, Habermas, 2001)
  - homogenized financial flows (Mesiasz, 2003)
  - increasing trade interdependence (Solis and Diaz, 2004, WTO, 2005)
  - control and arbitration by multinational enterprises and scientists (Beck, 1992)
  - reinforcement through multilateral institutions: Security Council, Breton Woods, WTO

- The “growth motors” are free-market ideology, private competition, deregulation, increasing privatization processes and merging of enterprises. The nation state is shrinking.

- HUGE is affected worldwide by global change (climate change, poverty) and regional effects (desertification).
2.2. Multinational Enterprises and Risk Society with Global Inequality (Beck, 2003)

- Cosmopolitan Realpolitik permits to understand the positive sum game of pooled sovereignties
- Third World countries are obliged to repay their international debts, threatening legitimacy of their political system. Their debt service transferred annually US $200 billion to the North, thus increasing social polarization
- Cultural homogeneity induces migration and consumerism, confronting the vulnerable with a survival dilemma
- Fragmentation of political action by nation state laws and interests (G-8) avoids accountability for global inequity
- Only global contexts permit political action for poverty alleviation guaranteeing dignity to humankind (MDG).
2.3. Climate Change as a New Security Challenge: Water Wars: Climate change may spark conflict

- Britain's Defence Secretary, John Reid, pointed to violent collision between a rising world population & shrinking world water resource: global warming. Climate change may spark conflict between nations and British armed forces must be ready to tackle violence.
- “We see uncertainty growing … about the geopolitical and human consequences of climate change.”
- Impacts such as flooding, melting permafrost & desertification could lead to loss of agricultural land, poisoning of water supplies & destruction of economic infrastructure.
- "More than 300 million people in Africa currently lack access to safe water; climate change will worsen this dire situation..."
Tropical Depression Stan
October 5, 2005
4 AM CDT Wednesday
NWS TPC/National Hurricane Center
Advisory 17
Current Center Location 16.9 N 97.3 W
Max Sustained Wind 30 mph
Current Movement WSW at 6 mph

- Current Center Location
- Forecast Center Positions
- D Sustained wind < 39 mph
- Potential Day 1-3 Track Area
2.5. Stan

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE/NATIONAL HURRICANE CENTER ADVISORY NUMBER 17

PROBABILITY THAT CENTER OF STAN WILL PASS WITHIN 75 STATUTE MILES
DURING THE 72 HOURS STARTING AT 1:00 AM CDT WED OCT 05 2005

- Yellow: 10-19%
- Green: 20-49%
- Orange: 50-99%
- Red: 100%

Approx. Distance Scale (Statute Miles)
2.7. Hurrican Wilma
2.9. Growing Contradictions

- Migration rejuvenates the population of industrialized countries and reinforces their economic development with brain drain from the South.
- Unseen and unwanted side effects of modernity and social differences require new open spaces for negotiation, cooperation and global strategies, to avoid survival dilemmas (refugees), contradictions, violence escalation and terrorism.
- Cosmopolitan perspective of global power pushes new actors and networks to organize civil society beyond borders, regions, disciplines and ideology.
- HUGE approach promotes cooperation and nonviolent resolution of conflicts.
2.10. Avoiding a Survival Dilemma Caused by Social and Natural Hazards

Leading global risk factors and contributions to burden of disease (% of disability-adjusted life years lost)

- Underweight infants & mothers
- High blood pressure
- Alcohol
- High cholesterol
- Iron deficiency

Source: United System Standing Committee on Nutrition/ The Lancet, 2004
2.11. Loss of Livelihood

MOST IMPORTANT PROBLEMS IN LA

What do you consider to be the country’s most important problem?
% of respondents 2004, (unweighted average of all countries)

Unemployment
Poverty, inflation or Low wages
Crime/public security
Corruption
Other*

Source: Latinobarómetro, 2004
*Includes political problems, terrorism, education, health and others
2.12. Reduction of Poverty in Latin America
(Millions of persons)

Source: CEPAL, 2004,
b) Data for 2002 and 2003 are projections
2.13. Poverty and Gender Support in Latin America (%)
### Social Differences

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Social Differences</th>
<th>% of Population</th>
<th>% of Income</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very rich and rich</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>59.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>3.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regular</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>37.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Similar to Nicaragua**, **Burundi, Bolivia, Jamaica, Pakistan**

World Bank 2004
2.15. Neomalthusian Model: Risks of Urbanization and Migration in Mexico

Source: SEMARNAT, INEGI, 2004
3. Culture and Social Vulnerability

- ‘Social vulnerability’ is used in the hazard research community to distinguish social and cultural factors from manifold physical, economic, political and human aspects.

- For the British development agency (DFID, 2003) social vulnerability is the complex set of characteristics that include a person’s:
  - initial well-being (nutritional status, physical and mental health, morale);
  - livelihood and resilience (asset pattern & capitals, income & exchange options, qualifications);
  - self-protection (degree of protection afforded by capability & willingness to build safe home, use safe site);
  - social protection (forms of hazard preparedness provided by society more generally, building codes, mitigation measures, shelters, preparedness); and
  - social and political networks and institutions (social capital, but also role of institutional environment in setting good conditions for hazard precautions, peoples’ rights to express needs and of access to preparedness).
3.1. Vulnerability as a Political and Scientific Concept in the Hazard Research Community


- It involves a combination of factors that determine the degree to which someone’s life and livelihood is put at risk by a discrete and identifiable event in nature or in society.

- The implied opposite of vulnerable is indicated by ... the term secure. ... Since it is damage to livelihood and not just life and property that is at issue, the more vulnerable groups are those that also find it hardest to reconstruct their livelihoods following disasters. Vulnerability is closely correlated with socio-economic position.”

- Many concepts & no consensus. Specification is needed.
4. The Hydro-Diplomatic & Political Approach
5. Paradigmatic Change: Peace-Building, Cooperation and Solidarity for Conflict-Resolution

- Thomas Kuhn found a paradigmatic shift when growing anomalies exist inside a determined conceptual system.
- Undesirable behaviors in social interaction and history are changed (Cold War period is over, but “axis of devil” exists).
- The paradigmatic change affects the “social matrix”, which is only later defined by political means (Bolivia, Argentina).
- Individual and scientific significances are changed; new values come up (absolutism vs. democracy).
- Transformative dialogues with wider social networks are established, maintaining the equilibrium of the system (altermundism with neoliberalism). Actions are implied, causing consequences and affecting existing social orders.
5.1. New Trends in Social & Civil Movements

1. 1970-1980: cosmopolitan values associated with new social movements and poverty eradication result in social development agenda

2. 1990s: Cold War termination, political openness, abolition of military regimes, democratic forms of governance, lost decade in LA, and economic growth in Asia favored an institutional expansion of global economy and civil society: political agenda of democratization

3. 2000: Value changes promoted by consolidated civil society, code of conduct to TNE, transparency to governments, preference for diversity, human rights, tolerance and traditional knowledge: ethical agenda in process
5.2. New Social Movements

Based on global mobilization and values:

1. Peace and antiwar movements
2. Women against intrafamiliar and external violence, right for equity
3. Transnational peasant organization
4. Indigenous movements
5. Religious movements
6. New movements, based on values of equity of gender, race and color, pluralism, diversity and freedom
7. Research and scientific movements for peace and new world order
5.3. World Social Fora

- New political opportunity
- Shift from: There is No Alternative (TINA, Thatcher) and promotion of There Are Many Alternatives (TAMA)
- Intermediary step between International NGO (INGO) and internet anonymity
- Explosion of social fora, initially linked to anti-globalization and anti-capitalistic movements, later with alternative proposals
- New agenda: ATTAC: restructuring financial networks;
- Via Campesina: food sovereignty; indigenous: anti-NAFTA and FTAA; social: privatization of water, health, education; an other world is possible with ethics of care, cooperation and HUGE
5.4. Public Arena

Communicational Action: understanding/consensus?

Ideal Public Arena

Deliberation
[Normalization: pure force of arguments (Habermas)]

Social Influence

Strategic Action: efficiency, success

Corrupt Public Arena

[Majorities; minorities; landlords; populism]

Based on Martin Bauer, LSE, 2004
5.5. From a False System of Conflict Resolution to an Effective One

What is false?

What should we do?

in theory

Power

Rights

interests

in reality

Power

Rights

Interests

Source: Ury, Brett, Goldberg, 1993
5.6. Circular Diagramme of Mediation

First Step: Problem
- ¿What is false?
- ¿What are the symptoms?
- Which are the facts opposed to change the situation for solution?

Second step: Analysis
- Diagnosis of the problem
- Categorization of symptoms
- Determination of missing processes
- Existing obstacle avoiding solution

Third step: Go further
- Possible strategies & concrete receipts
- Theoretical help
- Global idea for future actions

Fourth step: Ideas of Resolution
- What can be done?
- Development of concrete steps oriented to conflict resolution

¿What is false?
¿What should we do?

in theory

in reality

5.7. Ethics of Sustainable Peace-Building
Security with Cooperation and Solidarity

GS – Gender Security
ES – Environmental Security
HS – Human Security

Ecofeminism
Ecoindigenism
Sustainable Development
Descentalized, Multicultural & Diverse
Environmental, Cultural & Social Diversity

Equity with Lifequality and Peace-Building

Multiculturalism
Dissipative System
Technological Diversity
Pleasure, Happiness
Creative Efforts
Agathos & Kalos
Local Self-Sufficiency

Civilizational Process
Globalization/Solidarity
Nets and Relations
Ethics to Care
Multiplicity /Plurality
Transversal Polícy
Plural Decision-making

Bottom-up Political Participation
Bio-Socio Cultural Collaboration
Care for Vulnerable
Permanent Evaluation & Adaption
Regional Peace Building
Global Well-being
Healthy and Beautiful Environment