Humanitarian Intervention

Determining the Effectiveness of Outsourcing Humanitarian Intervention during Humanitarian Crises

Clarissa Caola Bemidji State University

Why?

* "This year the UN marks its seventieth anniversary. Sadly, there is little time for reflection or celebration. More pressing are the competing demands and challenges fuelled by an upsurge in conflict, disease and human suffering... the international community must rise to the moment."

Ban Ki-moon, UN Secretary-General

Failed Humanitarian Intervention

- Somalia-1991
- Bosnia-1992
- Rwanda-1994

The UN...

- Lacked built in strategy
- Failed to condemn or acknowledge genocide
- Was slow to respond

Brahimi Report

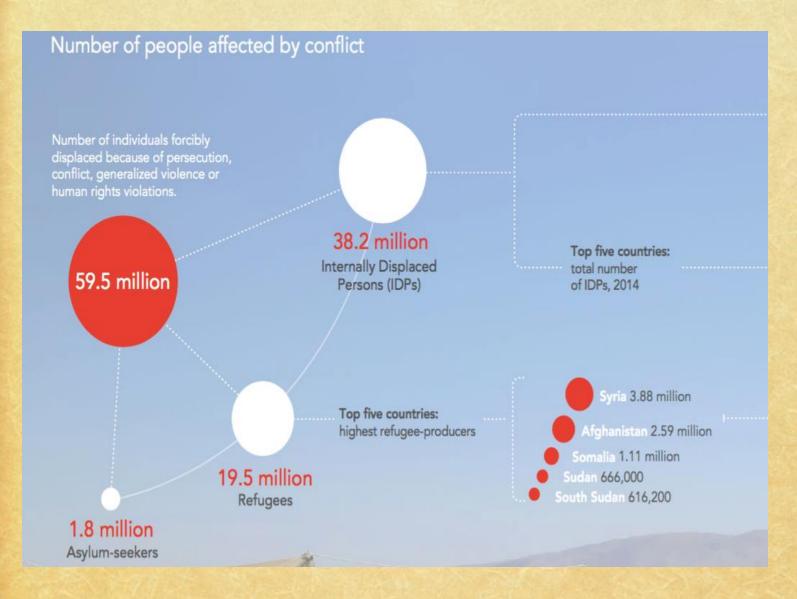
Issued in August of 2000

 Identified Effects within UN that they could implement to better prepare for military intervention and peaceful operations

 Improvements would not be possible without an increase in support from permanent members of UN

The Responsibility to Protect (R2P)

- R2P Doctrine was issued in 2001 by International Commission on Intervention and State Sovereignty (ICISS)
- Re-characterization of the notion of Sovereignty from authority to responsibility
- International community has 'responsibility to react'
 - Responsibility to prevent
 - Responsibility to rebuild
- Proposed basic criteria that would legitimize the authorization of the use of force by the UN Security Council



Source: UN, OCHA 2015 Humanitarian Data

Issues within UN and NGOs

- UN Security Council requires 9 confirming votes among members and 5 confirming votes from permanent members (China, France, Russia, the UK and the US) to apply military force legally
- "selective interveners"
- Takes crucial time to deploy forces
- Often lack necessary funding, equipment and training



Issues within UN and NGOs

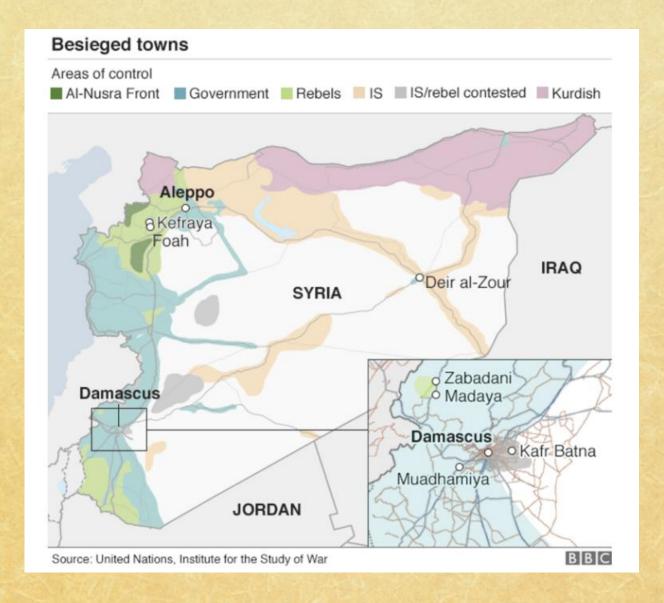
- While involved in an intervention they work off of a foundation of four principles
 - Neutrality
 - Impartiality
 - Humanity
 - Independence
- Working under these principles can allow UN/NGOs to fall under control in some cases of the entity creating conflict (i.e. Syria)

Syrian Conflict

- Started in March 2011, after pro-democracy protests erupt
- By June 2013 over 90,000 killed, that doubled by 2014
- Political and Financial Relationship with Russia and China has prevented UN action
- 40 years of Syrian Human Development have been lost, country went from the Medium to Low human development group
- 4 in every 5 Syrians are now living in poverty

Syria's case

- Beginning in February 2016 the UN was able to deliver food Aid to seven cities in Syria
- To bring aid to the maximum number of Syrians in need the WFP have determined the situation "best served by maintaining close relations with the Syrian government and negotiating behind the scenes over access." (Martinez, 2016)
- Assad's manipulation of aid has undermined the resistance and allowed the Regime to maintain control of Syria



Areas receiving aid: Deir el-Zour, Foah, Kefraya, Madaya, Muadhamiya, Kafr Batna, and Zabadani

History of PMSCs

- Composed of Private Military and Security Companies (PMSCs/PSCs/PSFs)
- In the 90s Defense expenditures were cut leading to a market of ex military personnel looking for work
- Following the Cold War the potential use of PMSCs increased with the upsurge of internal conflicts
- PMSCs have brought new services to Global Stage
- Examples: Aegis, KBR, Military Professional Resource Inc (MPRI)

Appeal of Outsourcing to Private Sector of Intervention

- Willingness to intervene
- Military Capacity and expertise
- Support other agents capabilities
- Financial incentive to reconcile conflict

PMSC attempts at intervention

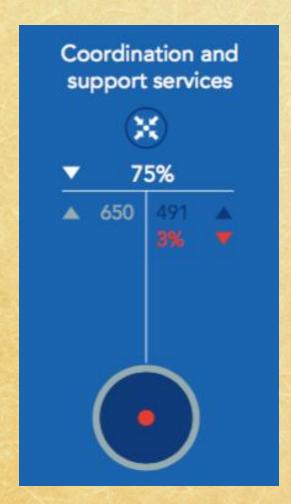
 Darfur Crisis-The PMSC Sandline International called for the UN to consider using private contractors to assist UN troops

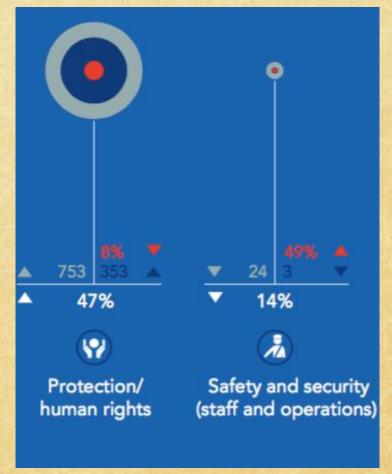
 Rwanda Crisis- The PMSC Executive Outcomes claimed for 150 million dollars they could have troops on the ground in Africa within 2 weeks

PMSC use for Humanitarian Intervention

COUNTRY	PMSC USED	RATIONALE	NUMBER OF PEOPLE AFFECTED	PMSC RESOURCES	DURATION OF CRISIS	BUDGET
SUDAN	PACIFIC A&E	GOV. IS FRAGILE, PLAUGED BY MILITIAS	259,232 DISPLACED	HUMANITARIAN AID (DRILLING WATER HOLES, BUILDING INFRASTRUCTURE)	2013-2015	NOT AVAILABLE
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO	PACIFIC A&E	CONFLICTING POLITICAL AGENDAS, CONFLICTS OVER RESOURCES	5.4 MILLION PEOPLE KILLED	MILITARY PERSONNEL IN AREAS SUCH AS COMMUNICATIONS, LOGISTICS, ENGINEERING	1998-2003	NOT AVAILABLE
SIERRA LEONE	EXECUTIVE OUTCOME (E.O.)	RUF PLAUGED GOV. CREATED INSTABILITY	50,000 KILLED DUE TO RUF	MILITARY COMBAT REINFORCEMENT	1991-1995	\$35 MILLION
EAST TIMOR	KZN SECURITY & EMPOWER LOSS CONTROL SERVICES	TO AID UN TRANSITIONAL ADMINISTRATION	200,000- 300,000 REFUGEES	TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS, AND DEFENCE SYSTEMS	1999-2001	NOT AVAILABLE
ANGOLA	EXECUTIVE OUTCOME (E.O.)	COUNTRY ENGAGED IN CIVIL WAR	500,000 KILLED	COMBAT, LOGISTICS, SECURITY, TRANSPORT, AND COMMUNICATION SERVICES	1992-1997	NOT AVAILABLE
CROATIA	MPRI (MILITARY PROFESSIONAL RESOURCES INC	MILITARY CONSULTING	20,000 KILLED	MILITARY CONSULTING	1994-2003	NOT AVAILABLE
RWANDA	MPRI (MILITARY PROFESSIONAL	REFORM DEFENSE	800,000 KILLED	LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT, AND COMMUNICATION SERVICES	1991-1995	NOT AVAILABLE

UN funding for tasks PMSCs can perform





So what?

- More research is needed to determine the effectiveness of the private sector and whether the use will be more effective than the current agents within humanitarian intervention so we can limit future atrocities
- State sovereignty should no longer be a barrier to humanitarian intervention
- An entity to fill gaps in the UN is crucial in the progress of Humanitarian Intervention

"To reaffirm humanity, we must counteract the politicization of aid. In today's conflicts life saving assistance is often used as a tool or a weapon... All humanitarian action must seek not only to end suffering and meet the immediate needs, but to keep people safe and from harm and enable them to live with dignity."

Stephen O'Brien, Emergency Relief Coordinator and Under-Secretary General for Humanitarian Affairs

Thank You!

Any questions?