Conflict

A selection of charts and data visualisations from *The Little Book of Data* on the social, economic and environmental costs of war
Fighting, shouting, fleeing
Conflict migrants around the world

Millions of people forcibly displaced worldwide, 2021
Even before the Russian invasion of Ukraine, over 90 million people were displaced around the globe, of whom 41 per cent were under 18. Some conflict hotspots relate to food and water scarcity, others are rooted in religious differences. They include areas in and around Syria, Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Nigeria, Myanmar and Democratic Republic of Congo.
The quest for home
Human disruption around Ukraine

Conflicts are fluid, which makes managing the human dimensions challenging. The flow of people out of Ukraine has been dominated by working-age women and children (89 per cent), while martial law has ensured men stay to fight. Some that left Ukraine have already returned, including a significant number from Poland.
Border crossings, February 24 to August 30, 2022

- **Poland**
  - Exit: 5,796,748
  - Return: 3,834,530

- **Belarus**
  - Exit: 16,701
  - Return: Unknown

- **Russia**
  - Exit: 2,414,075
  - Return: Unknown

- **Slovakia**
  - Exit: 736,387
  - Return: 474,864

- **Hungary**
  - Exit: 1,292,632
  - Return: Unknown

- **Moldova**
  - Exit: 417,650
  - Return: 232,313

- **Romania**
  - Exit: 1,127,998
  - Return: 783,091

- **Ukraine**
  - Total border crossings
    - Exit: 11,976,498
    - Return: 5,324,798
The dragon and the black bear
China and Taiwan’s military assets

China is becoming bolder in military exercises around Taiwan, an island it first claimed as its own in AD 239. China’s military capability far outstrips Taiwan’s; it is open about its desire for reunification and has boosted defence spending every year for more than two decades.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total ground force personnel</th>
<th>Tanks</th>
<th>Artillery pieces</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1,040,000</td>
<td>6,300</td>
<td>7,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>88,000</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>1,100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 = 5,000 soldiers
1 = 100 tanks
1 = 100 artillery pieces
Aircraft carriers
1
0

Destroyers
32
21
1 = 2 destroyers

Frigates
48
41
1 = 2 frigates

Submarines
71
2
1 = 3 submarines

Fighter planes
1,600
400
1 = 50 fighter planes

Bombers
450
0
1 = 20 bombers

China
Taiwan
Combat is costing the earth
Counting carbon

Military carbon emissions are typically not included in national carbon accounts, despite the fact big spenders like the US Department of Defense generate more carbon dioxide than many small countries. Multi-billion dollar budgets and fuel-guzzling combat technologies make achieving net zero an even bigger challenge than is widely appreciated.

Annual emissions: US Department of Defense versus selected countries (million Mt CO₂e)
What happened to the peace dividend?

Spending for defending

Global defence spending has fallen sharply since the 1970s. The fall post-1990 meant more revenue could be directed elsewhere – a ‘peace dividend’ to benefit everyone.

Global defence spending

Per cent of GDP

Cold War  Peace dividend  Post 9/11  Post global financial crisis

Developing economies  Advanced economies  World
However, military spending is increasing again and expected to grow around 2.5 per cent in 2022. But the top-20 spenders, including Saudi Arabia, Oman and Democratic Republic of Congo, have been on this track for a while. The latest proposed increase from Taiwan is close to 14 per cent.

Global defence spending by segment

- Group 1 (20 countries)
- Group 2 (77 countries)
- Group 3 (41 countries)
**Who’s buying Russian fuel?**

**Satisfying voracious energy appetites**

Despite the tough talk and supposedly even tougher sanctions, European countries are finding it difficult to shake their dependency on Russian fuel. It’s estimated Europe has spent more than €109 billion acquiring essential energy at elevated prices in well under a year.

Largest Russian fossil-fuel takers, February 24 to October 5, 2022

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>US$ billions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Region</td>
<td>Count</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>-------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UK</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Korea</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turkey</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The economic front line
Do sanctions pack a punch?

The fallout from sanctions flows both ways. Sweeping action against Russia has triggered a sovereign default and shortages of essentials, from microchips to pesticides. Meanwhile, former import partners have their own energy, food and materials crises to grapple with.

Number of sanctions on Russia by country, 2022
13 April | Switzerland
Controls on Russian energy imports and exports of robotics equipment and industrial chemicals

19 April | UK
Moscow Stock Exchange has status as recognised exchange removed

30 May | G7
Agrees to phase out Russian oil imports

2 June | Europe
Restrictions on imports of crude oil and other petroleum products by sea, effective December 2022

02 August | UK
Extended asset freezes for defined sanctions list
34-35 Fighting, shouting, fleeing ‘Global trends force displacement in 2021’, UNHCR, June 16, 2022. Note: Refugees under UNHCR mandate = Refugees and people in refugee-like situations; Stateless people = While in total UNHCR reports 4.3 million stateless people, 1.3 million are also forcibly displaced from Myanmar. These 1.3 million are only counted as forcibly displaced when calculating the total population of concern to UNHCR to avoid double counting; Internally displaced people returnee = Only included in UNHCR’s population of concern for a period of 12 months; Refugee returnees = Only included in UNHCR’s population of concern for a period of 12 months.

36-37 The quest for home ‘Ukraine refugee situation’, Operational Data Portal, data as of September 5, 2022. Note: Figures reflect cross-border movements, not individuals. An additional 105,000 people moved to the Russian Federation from the Donetsk and Luhansk regions between 18 and 23 February. Movements back to Ukraine may not necessarily indicate sustainable returns as the situation remains volatile and unpredictable.


42 What happened to the peace dividend? Benedict Clements, et al., ‘Military spending in the post-pandemic era’, International Monetary Fund, Summer 2021. Note: Based on IMF classification. Military expenditure as a percentage of GDP is calculated as the unweighted country average within each country group. Data for 1991 is not available due to the breakup of the former Soviet Union. Advanced economies = The IMF World Economic Outlook classifies 39 economies as “advanced” based on factors including high per capita income, exports of diversified goods and services, and greater integration into the global financial system. Developing economies = Remaining countries are classified as “emerging market and developing” economies.

43 What happened to the peace dividend? Benedict Clements, et al., ‘Military spending in the post-pandemic era’, International Monetary Fund, Summer 2021. Note: Group 1 = In 20 countries experiencing a high degree of conflict, defence spending is substantially above the global trend. Members include Armenia, Azerbaijan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Oman, and Saudi Arabia. Group 2 = In 77 countries accounting for 90 percent of global military spending, outlays have plateaued at about 2–2.5 percent of GDP. Members include China, India, Russia, UK and US. Group 3 = The majority of the lowest spenders are developing nations, where spending is averages just under one per cent of GDP.

44-45 Who’s buying Russian fuel? ‘Payments to Russia for fossil fuels since 24 February 2022’, Russia Fossil Tracker, data as of October 5, 2022. Note: Others = Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Benin, Bonaire, Saint Eustatius and Saba, Brazil, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Congo Republic, Cote d’Ivoire, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Georgia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Honduras, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Iraq, Israel, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mexico, Morocco, Myanmar, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United States Virgin Islands, Uruguay, Vietnam, Yemen. Fossil fuel breakdown by destination in US$bn is as follows: EU = Coal: 3; Gas: 49; Oil: 57. China = Coal: 3; Gas: 3; Oil: 35. Others = Coal: 4; Gas: 3; Oil: 14. Turkey = Coal: 1; Gas: 6; Oil: 8. India = Coal: 2; Oil: 8. South Korea = Coal: 2; Oil: 1. US = Oil: 2. UK = Oil: 1.
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