

General Discussion Questions on Political Violence

How is political violence defined, and what distinguishes it from other forms of violence?

What are the main theoretical frameworks used to explain the causes of political violence (e.g., grievance theory, rational choice, social identity)?

How do structural factors like poverty, inequality, and state capacity contribute to the outbreak of political violence?

To what extent are political violence and terrorism driven by ideology versus material interests?

How do identity and group dynamics, such as ethnicity or religion, influence the likelihood and form of political violence?

Can political violence ever be justified as a means to achieve social or political change? What do different theories say about this?