

The that new wars need to be known

[Finance](#)



The greatest victory is that which requires no battle" (The Art of War; Sun Tzu) Yet, the typical concept of a war implies an armed conflict between political entities to obtain peace. This is the shape taken by the two greatest wars in history, opposing two political blocks and mobilizing over 700 million soldiers/troops together. However, in recent decades new forms of combat have emerged. The cold war, for example has applied unprecedented forms of battle while conflicts of decolonization expand their horizons to new shapes and actors. More recently, wars have further evolved, adopting new shapes and aspects which fascinate the media.

This transforms terrorism into today's most infamous form of war. " New Wars" is an expression that represents warfare in the Post-Cold war era. New Wars is a term that Mary Kaldor developed.

Mary Kaldor is a professor at the London school of economics. She is an author's who's books study the different aspects of war. Throughout the 1980's and the 1990's, notably in Africa and Eastern Europe, new forms of violence began to prevail.

Terrorism was described under the term " low intensity" conflict by U. S military during the cold war. What differentiates the cold war from the previous ones? First of all, cold wars distinguish themselves by their nature as they are based on indirect conflict rather than physical combat such as shooting and bombing. Whereas during WWI and WWII, there has been direct armed conflict between 2 political entities, the Cold War opposed 2 nations, the Americans and the Soviets with no set battle-ground. While the United States functioned on the basis of a democratic government and its

economy on free enterprise, the Soviet Union was a communist State where property and production are controlled by a single party.

The opposition of the democratic system and the communist system engaged the respective nations in a conflict involving several spheres of society: economic, political, cultural. Old wars were fought by armed forces of states. New Wars are fought by a mix of non-state and state actors. Kaldor states that new wars need to be known in terms of today's process of globalization (Mary Kaldor New and Old War). Mary Kaldor defines old war as a traditional warfare, where conflicts are usually between interstates, these states play an important role in running and funding the war.

According to Mary Kaldor, "new wars" were not in fact "new". What's different from 'old wars' and 'new wars' are that globalization and technology are growing. Kaldor states that the war in Iraq is indeed a 'new kind of war' and uses new technologies like satellite system. New Wars are the wars of the era of globalization, usually, they happen in places that were significantly weakened. New wars are the wars of the era of globalization, usually they happen in places that were significantly weakened.

Also, old wars and new wars were not fought for the same reasons. Kaldor stated the differences between the old wars and new wars by stating for what reasons the conflict happened (Methods, goals, finance, actors). Old wars were fought by regular armies from different states, new wars are a combination of non-state and state actors. Old wars were fought for geopolitical matter (socialism or democracy), whereas, new wars were fought

for ethnic , religious or tribal reasons. In old wars, the method of pursuing war was taking over territory across military means. Violence was used towards civilians to control territory rather than enemy forces.

Kaldor stated that the forms of finance were different in old wars and new wars. Old wars were mainly financed by states (tax). New wars , especially weaker states tax revenue is falling which created new forms of finance that include kidnapping, smuggling diamonds, drugs etc... The most common criticism of ' new wars' discusses that new wars are not new. It can be said that the Cold war made it hard to analyze ' small wars', many of the features of new wars related with weak states are found in early modern period and that occurrences like mass rape, banditry forced the population to move.

Many of the same features of new wars are found in previous wars. It can be argued that there are some new elements. The main elements are of course globalization and technology, which has made it a symmetrical war (war between opponents that have the same armory) An example of a symmetrical war is the first Gulf war between Iran and Iraq.