

The Costs of Violence and the Benefits of Building a Culture of Peace and Non Violence.

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11 million killed in WW1





20th Century Violence is continuing with even more ferocity into the 21st

- 161,000 killed in Syria in the last three years
- 607,000 killed directly in Iraq.
- 1,030,000 million killed directly and indirectly in Iraq as a result of the war and rising
- 2,160 Palestinians killed in Gaza 2 months ago
- 1.5 million killed in the Congo
- South Sudan is on the verge of a new civil war that will be devastating in its consequences





The Incalculable

- How do we cost emotional and physical injury, loss, suffering, death, and grief?
- How do we cost persistent and transferred traumatic memories?
- How do we cost the loss of innocence?
- How do we cost emptiness, sorrow, desolation?
- How do we explain this violence?

Emotional and Material costs

- There are material costs of violence but we need to be mindful of **the political economy of emotions** which are never captured in cost benefit analysis.
- The psychological and emotional costs of violence persist through time and subvert peaceful and just possibilities.

Powerlessness and Violence

- “Peace is a competition between despair and hope, between disempowerment and committed persistence. To the degree that powerlessness takes root in people's consciousness, there is a greater tendency to resort to force. Powerlessness breeds violence” .
Daisaku Ikeda



Terrorism and Over Reaction

- The whole point of terrorist politics is to precipitate an enemy over-reaction that will justify and widen the political and military struggle.



Civility and Barbarism

- "The real struggle of the twenty-first century will not be between civilizations, nor between religions. It will be between violence and nonviolence. It will be between barbarity and civilization in the truest sense of the word." Daisaku Ikeda

Indirect Violence

- The costs of direct violence are enormous. The costs of indirect violence are equally enormous.

Poverty is
the worst
form of
violence.

Mahatma Gandhi





Xenophobic Nationalism

- A standard response to:
- A perceived loss of national power, influence, prestige.
- Enhanced social and economic precarity
- Is

Global Cost of Violence

Economic impact of violence in 2013 was estimated to be **US\$9.8 trillion or 11.3% of Gross World Product**

The Institute for Economics and Peace defines violence containment spending as economic activity that is related to the consequences or prevention of violence where the violence is directed against people or property.

Global Cost of Violence in 2013

- This amount is equivalent to around **US\$1,350 per person**
- Compared to estimates for 2012, it represents an increase of direct costs of **US\$179 billion** or a **3.8 percent rise** in violence containment costs globally.
- The increase in the global economic impact of violence **equates to 0.4 percent of global GDP.**

THE GLOBAL ECONOMIC IMPACT OF VIOLENCE IS \$US 9.8 TRILLION OR 11.3% OF GLOBAL GDP

= 2 X TOTAL GDP OF AFRICA



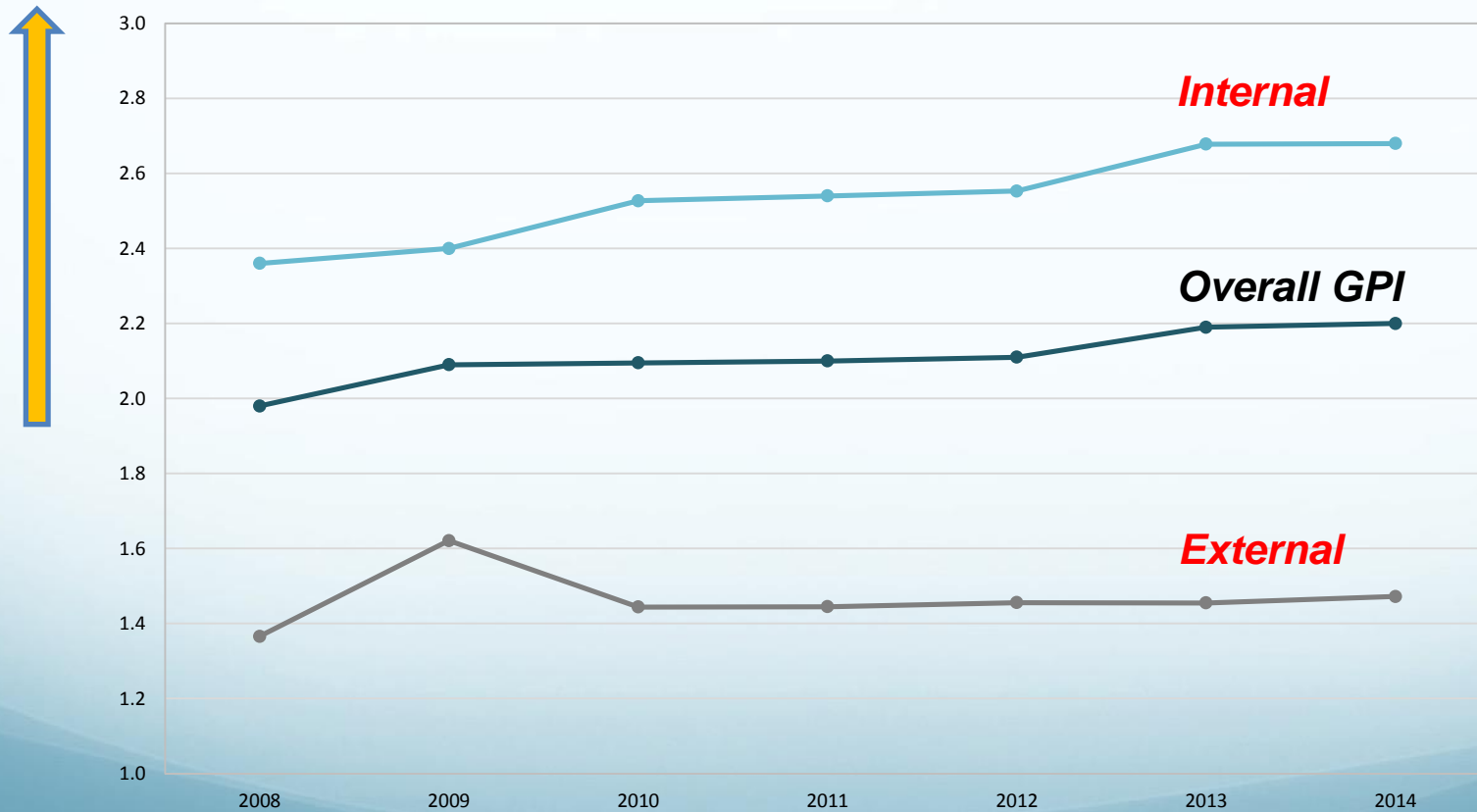
Global Cost of Violence in 2013 – broken down

Violence Type	Total Direct Cost (\$ Billion)
Military expenditure	\$ 2,535
Homicides	\$ 720
Internal Security	\$ 625
Violent crime	\$ 325
Private Security	\$ 315
Incarceration	\$ 185
GDP losses from conflict	\$ 130
Deaths from Internal conflict	\$ 30
Fear	\$ 25
Terrorism	\$ 10
UN Peacekeeping	\$ 5
IDPs and Refugees	\$ 2
Deaths from External conflict	\$ 1
<i>Total (direct only)</i>	<i>\$4,908</i>
<i>Total (including 1 for 1 peace multiplier)</i>	<i>\$9,816</i>

One of the large areas of increase is related to Chinese Military expenditure

The fall in global peacefulness is largely driven by changes in internal peacefulness

Less Peaceful



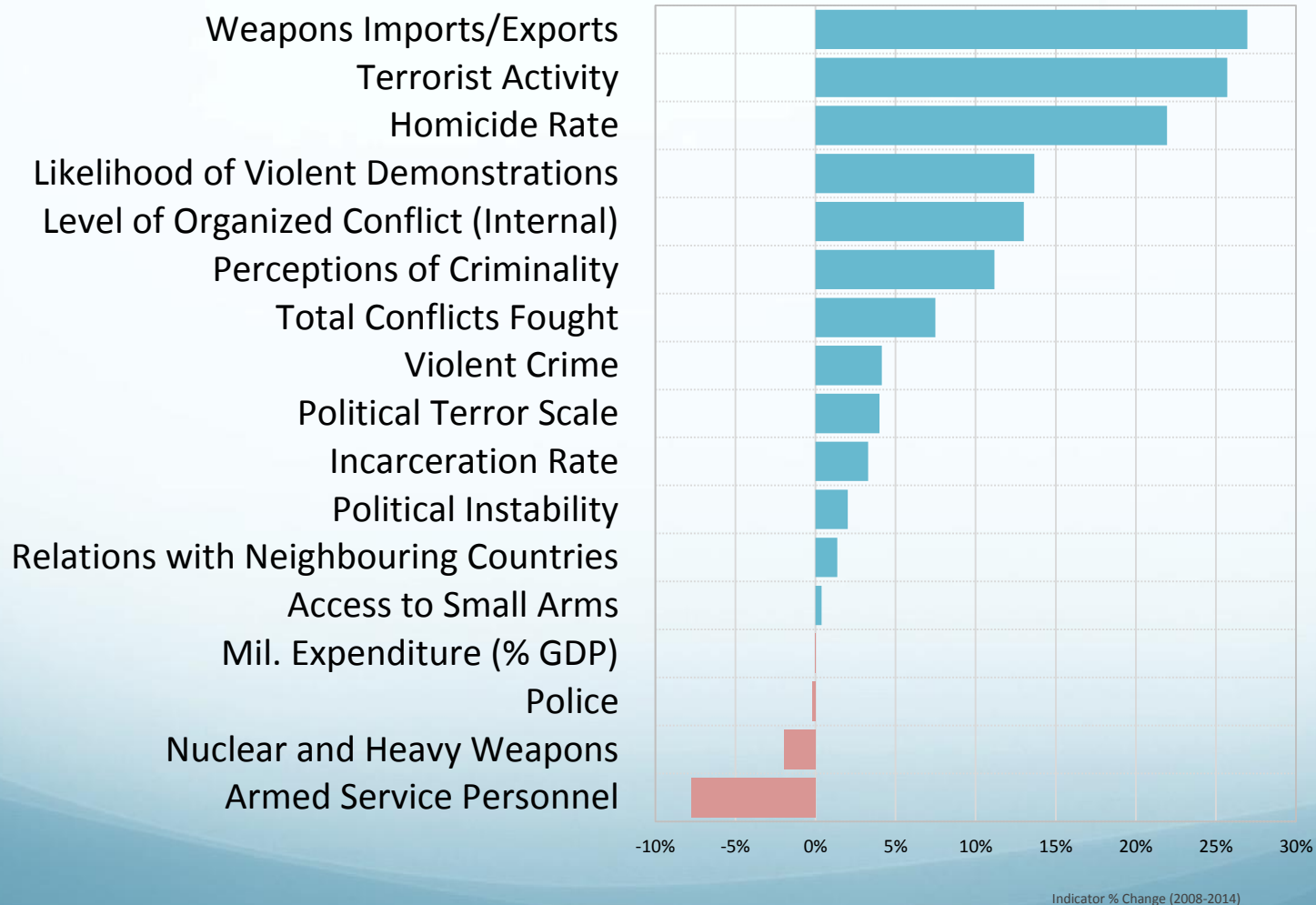
Top Ten Most Peaceful Countries

- 1 Iceland 1.189 2
- 2 Denmark 1.193 3
- 3 ↑1 Austria 1.200 4
- 4 ↓New Zealand 1.236
- 5 Switzerland 1.258
- 6 ↑1 Finland 1.297
- 7 ↑1 Canada 1.306
- 8 ↓2 Japan 1.316
- 9 ↑2 Belgium 1.354
- 10 ↑4 Czech Republic 1.381 10 ↓1 Sweden 1.381

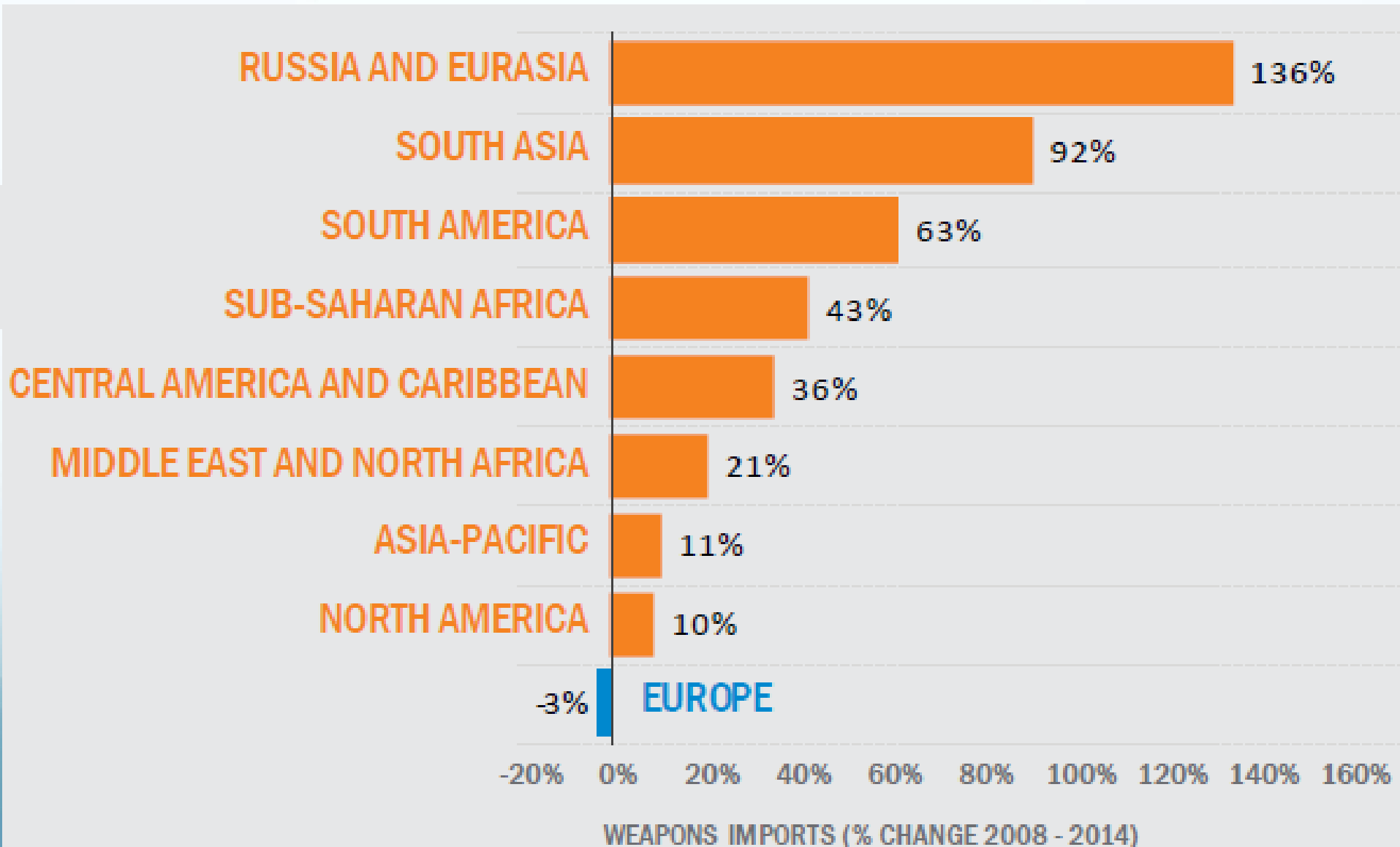
10 Most Unpeaceful Countries

- 153 ↑1 Russia
- 154 ↑3 Pakistan
- 155 ↑1 Democratic Republic of the Congo 156 ↓3 Central African Republic
- 157 ↑1 Sudan
- 158 ↑2 Somalia
- 159 Iraq
- 160 ↓16 South Sudan
- 161 ↑1 Afghanistan
- 162 ↓1 Syria

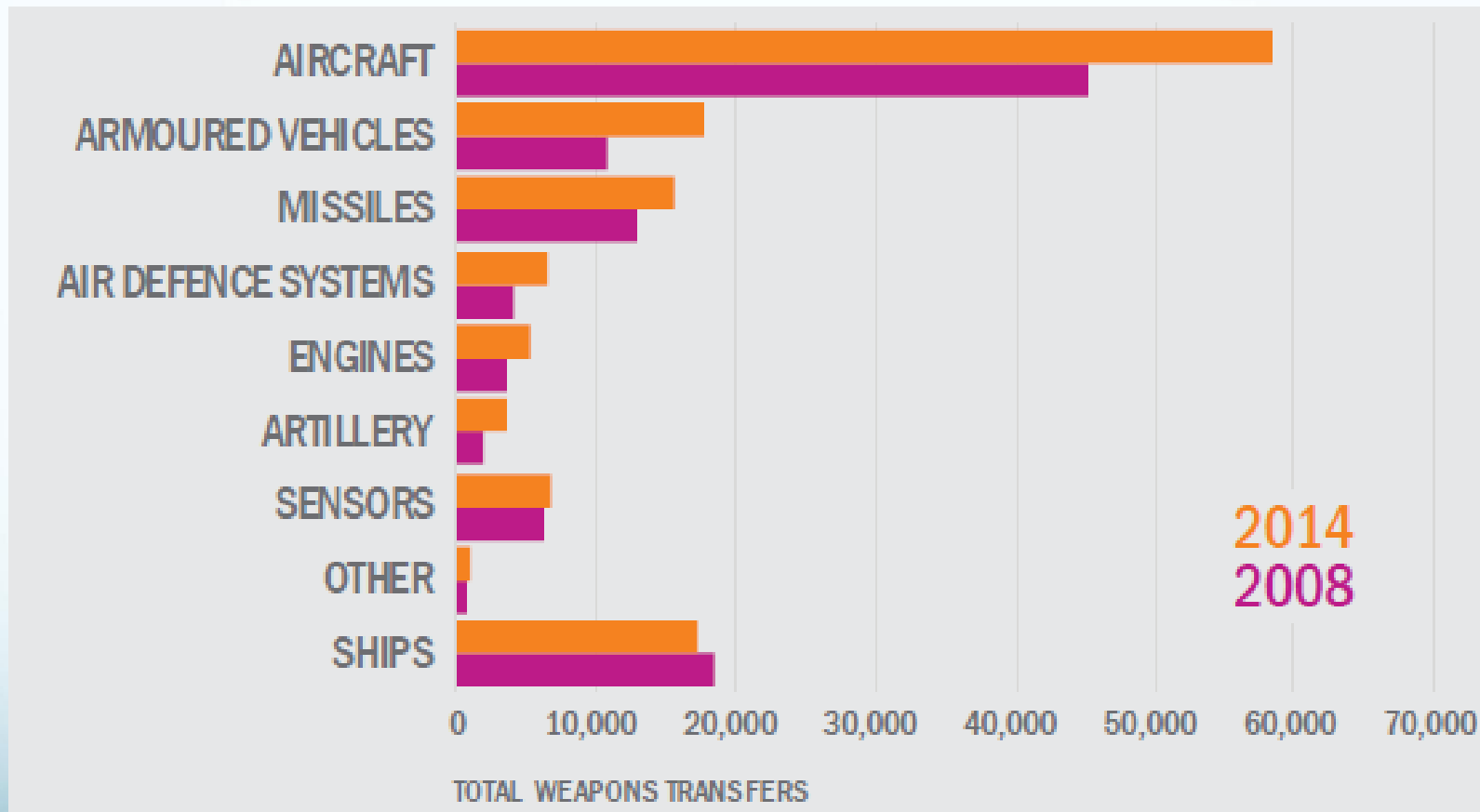
Deterioration in Peace by Indicator – 2008 - 2014



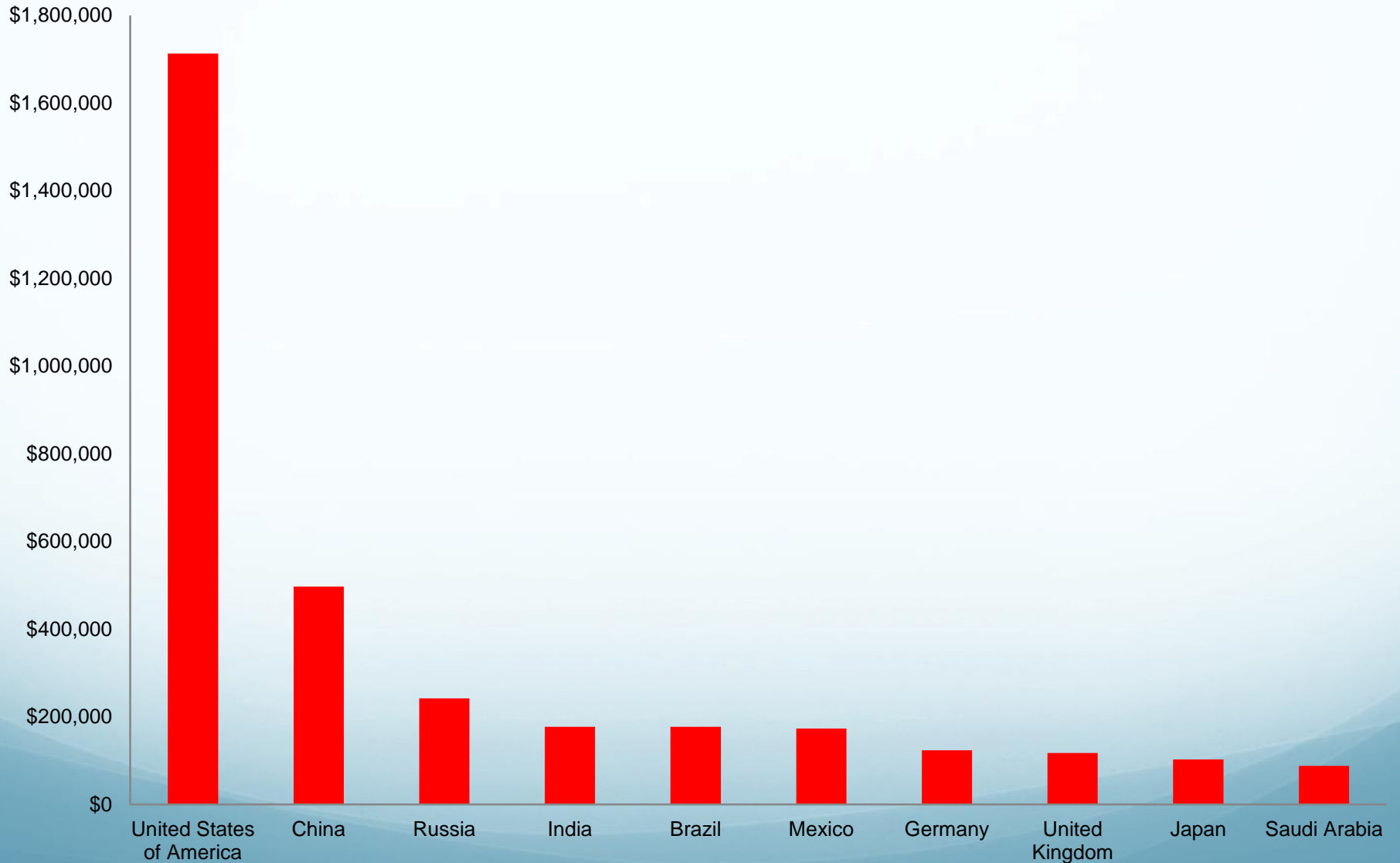
Weapons Imports Change – (2008 – 2014)



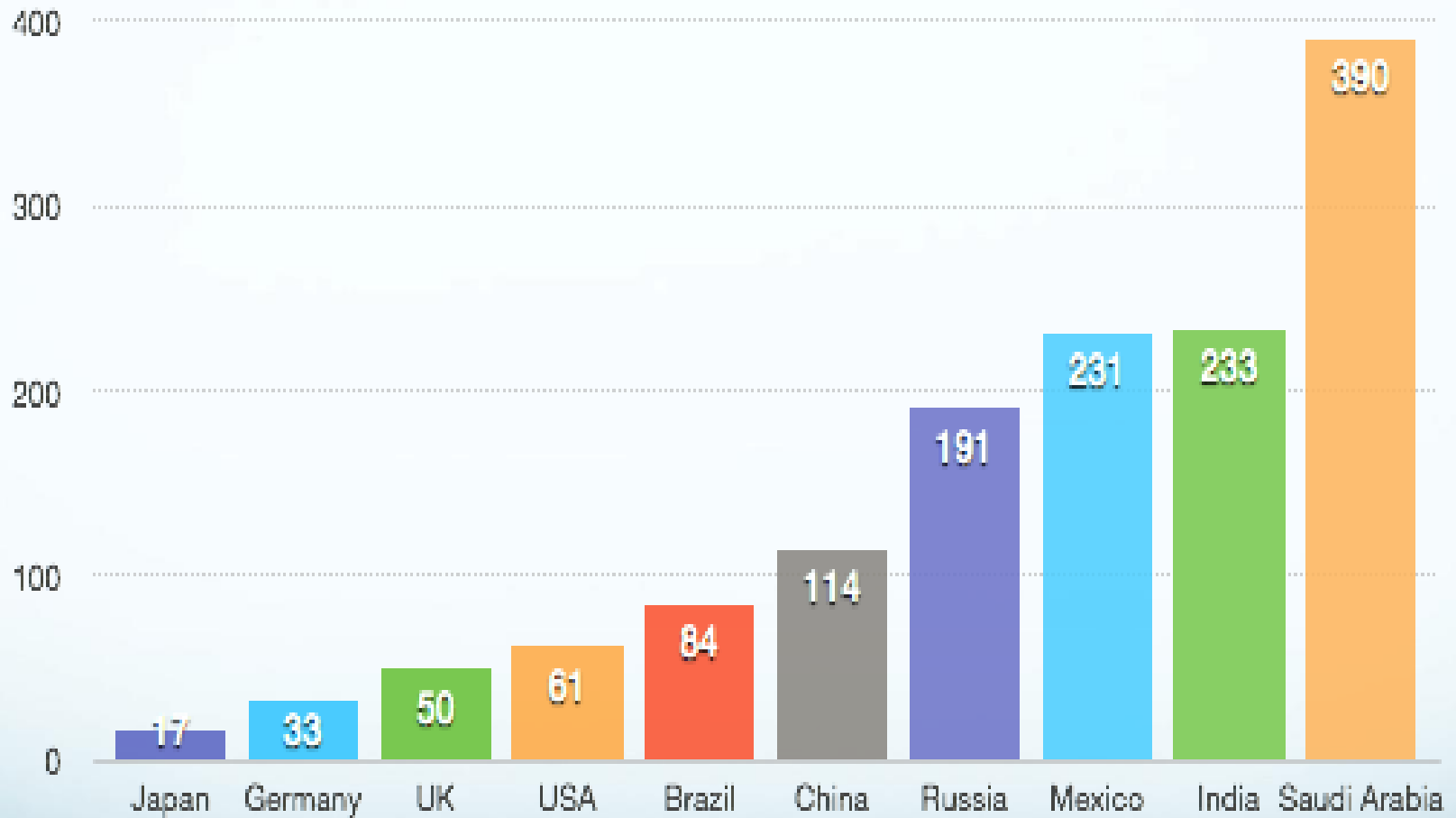
...driven by aircraft transfers



10 countries with the biggest expenditures on Violence in \$ Millions (PPP)



Cost of Violence Containment as %age of total Health Care



Global Monetary Value of Peace

The value of peace to the global economy

- Assuming the world could be 25% less violent, the total additional or redirected economic activity last year would equal an:

additional US\$2.45 trillion in 2014

- What could this activity finance?
- ✓ Millennium Development Goals **US\$60B p.a.**
- ✓ EU climate change programme **€48B p.a.**
- ✓ The entire cost of the United Nations **US 5,152 B**
- ✓ Repay Greece, Portugal and Ireland's debt **US\$700B**
- ✓ **One trillion dollars remaining**

The Challenge

- How do we the peoples of the world get our political leaders to realise that violence is costly in both material and human emotional terms and that lowering the cost of violence by 25% would liberate huge funds for positive peace ?
- How do we generate a vision of a world where positive peace, social justice, and inclusion should guide all social, economic and political agendas and why are we going in the opposite direction?

Avoiding Extremism: Boosting Accountability: Building International Institutions

In the first place we need to ensure that our political leaders

- (i) Avoid extremism-nationalism, fascism, militarism, totalitarianism and domanatory cultures?
- (ii) Have higher levels of political accountability in relation to issues of war, peace and justice?
- (iii) Build and sustain international institutions capable of building and maintaining peace ?

Need for a Value Change

- **Robust sense of identity and self esteem.**
- **Empathetic consciousness.**
- **Commitment to Social Justice and Equity.**
- **Value and Respect for Diversity.**
- **Concern for the Environment and commitment to sustainable development.**
- **Belief that people can make a difference-Love
Courage and Hope**

Overcoming the Politics of Fear

- In an interdependent world we can no longer afford to have narrow circles of compassion.
- We need to care for others whether they wish to harm us or not. We need to accord them dignity, and build our security in compassionate relationships-both at the interpersonal and trans national levels.
- Instead of basing our decisions on pessimistic scenarios and fear we need to to replace these with optimism and trust and seek our security cooperatively rather than than nationalistically.

Peace and Nonviolence are Imperatives not Optional Extras

- If we are to avoid the military carnage of the 20th century we have no alternative but to reiterate the central importance of peace and non violence as prerequisites for sustainable resilient and equitable development.
- We have to oppose domination wherever we see it at all levels-micro, macro, meso and meta.
- These are not optional extras but are critical to a more just and peaceful world.
- We need courage to take the first step towards removing violence we need courage for a new beginning.

For a New Beginning

For a new beginning

John O Donahue

In out-of-the-way places of the heart,
Where your thoughts never think to wander,
This beginning has been quietly forming,
Waiting until you were ready to emerge.

For a long time it has watched your desire,
Feeling the emptiness growing inside you,
Noticing how you willed yourself on,
Still unable to leave what you had outgrown.

It watched you play with the seduction of
safety
And the gray promises that sameness
whispered,
Heard the waves of turmoil rise and relent,
Wondered would you always live like this.

For your soul senses the world that awaits
you.

Then the delight, when your courage kindled,
And out you stepped onto new ground,
Your eyes young again with energy and
dream,
A path of plenitude opening before you.

Though your destination is not yet clear
You can trust the promise of this opening;
Unfurl yourself into the grace of beginning
That is at one with your life's desire.

Awaken your spirit to adventure;
Hold nothing back, learn to find ease in risk;
Soon you will be home in a new rhythm,