

Abstract

Failed state

Failed states are one of the serious problems in the contemporary world, significantly impacting the lives of many people. The collapse of a state inevitably brings chaos and violence. Key challenges in this issue include inconsistent terminology, variations in individual cases, and the difficulty of precise examination. The motivation behind this work is to explore the methodology used to classify states as failed and to examine ways to prevent collapse, which is closely related to assessing state strength and predicting failure.

The work is divided into three parts and eight chapters. It begins by examining fundamental concepts related to states and statehood, along with the inconsistent terminology used for weak and failed states. To address the lack of uniformity in terminology, a consistent framework is established. The work then delves into the category of failed states, including brief descriptions of two collapsed states: Somalia and Sierra Leone. This section emphasizes the general characteristics of states commonly labeled as failed, as well as prevention strategies and insights for restoring already collapsed states. Additionally, the work discusses the international legal aspects of failed states.

The methodology for assessing state strength and indicators of weakening or collapse is explored, with a specific focus on the Fragile States Index (FSI) compiled by the Fund for Peace. The index's methodology is tested by applying it to the current situation in Slovakia, leading to the conclusion that it has some limitations for ranking states, particularly in the process of numerical assessment used as the basis for the rankings. Finally, the work includes a case study of Haiti, describing its history and the ongoing crisis, which remains relatively underexplored academically. Some insights from the previous chapters are then applied to Haiti's current state.

Key words: Collapsed state, indicators of state collapse, Fragile States Index, Haiti