



# CONIAS RISK INTELLIGENCE

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## CONIAS Newsletter March 2019

Dear Reader

in the past weeks, U.S.-President Donald J. Trump failed to secure a diplomatic victory in Hanoi and the crisis in Venezuela continues to concern observers and investors alike. However, this month, all eyes are on Europe: Elections for the European Parliament loom large and on March 29, the United Kingdom will most likely leave the European Union. How this will happen and what the consequences might be, remains a mystery to many. While this Newsletter No. 3 is a great reminder to read our Risk Report "[United Kingdom](#)", it also aims at giving you an overview of other things that kept us thinking and busy in the past weeks. You don't want to wait another month for new insights from our CONIAS experts or have comments and suggestions? Then please engage with us directly via [Twitter](#) and [Linkedin](#).

*Hinweis: Ab sofort gibt es den monatlichen CONIAS Newsletter auch in deutscher Sprache. Eine Anmeldung hierfür ist ab sofort möglich und benötigt nur einen [Klick](#).*

For now, we hope you enjoy the read and look forward to further exchanges!

Your CONIAS-Team

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## CONIAS Blog: What made us think last month

### India and Pakistan at the Brink of a War: Will new Tensions threaten Regional Stability?

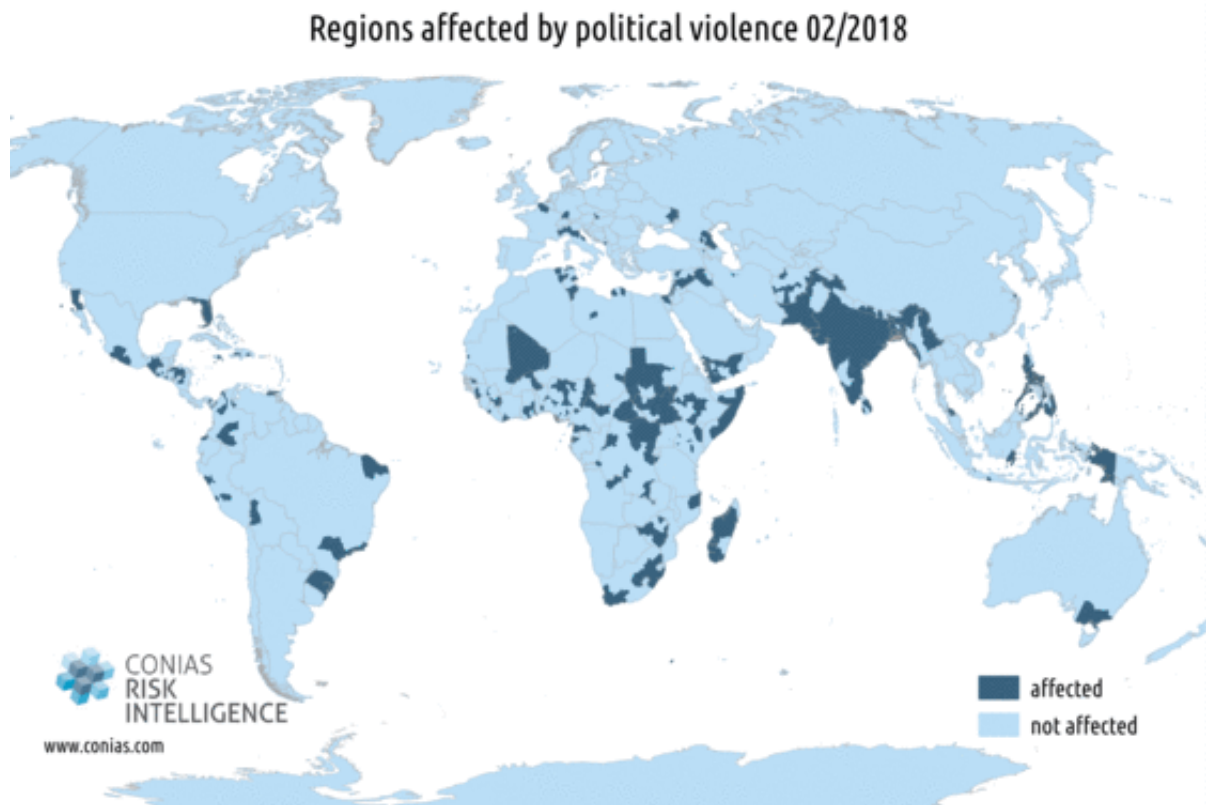


For a truly breathtaking day in late February, [India and Pakistan, South Asia's nuclear powers, appeared to head towards another military confrontation](#), sparked by resumed terrorist violence in the contested Kashmir region. In response to a counterterrorist strike near the Pakistani city of Balakot by the Indian Air Force, the Pakistani military shot down two Indian fighter planes. Although a captured pilot had been released rather quickly by Pakistani authorities, a number of questions remain: What caused this dangerous escalation, were these events even predictable? Which grievances and interests drive the "Kashmir conflict" and why did its parties continue to fail to reconcile and deescalate for decades? With parliamentary elections looming large in India this Spring, what's does this all mean for stability in the region?

For our [#ExpertInsight](#) series, we asked [Julia Nelles](#), South Asia specialist here at CONIAS, to provide more information on current events and what – and whom – to watch in the next months.

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## CONIAS Insight: What you might have missed



On the occasion of the 55th [Munich Security Conference](#) in mid-February, we asked our database - comprising at least 1,800 political worldwide: "[How are violence and political conflict distributed in the world?](#)". Hence, according to our Security Balance 2018, one in four of 3,800 subnational administrative entities monitored by CONIAS have been affected by political violence at least one time in 2018 - most of them are located in the global South. In some countries, like for instance the Philippines, some 90 % of the state territory experienced violence driven by political motives. CONIAS founder and CEO, [Dr. Nicolas Schwank](#), concluded amid these numbers that the extent of political violence continues to remain a major impediment for international investments and a key cause of displacement and migration from these areas.

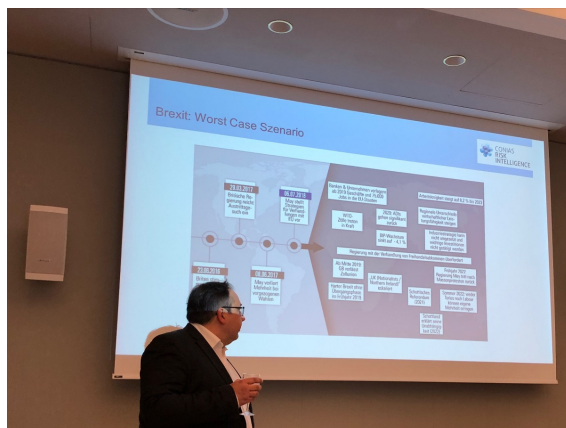
Whether scenario and forecasting techniques can help to manage and mitigate political risk was one of the many questions Nicolas Schwank tackled in his presentation "[Szenario-technik und politische Gefahrenanalyse – Wie Sie mit Länderberichten Chancen und Risiken richtig einschätzen](#)" on February 21 in Bonn. One particular scenario, namely the US withdrawal from Syria, had been the topic of the roundtable [US Withdrawal Decision: What's Next for Turkey in Syria?](#), organized by the German Marshall Fund in Brussels, that

Dr. Magdalena Kirchner spoke at on February 26. In an interview with [Arab Weekly](#), she also elaborated on the pressing question of Western Islamic State fighters and their likely return. Her analysis of civil-military relations in Turkey's Erdogan-Era had been published in the latest issue of the Journal Osteuropa "[Vergleichende Toxikologie. Herrschaft in Russland und der Türkei](#)".

## Upcoming Events

On March 26, we are happy to join forces with the [German-Arab Friendship Association \(DAFG\)](#) in Berlin to take a closer look at [Tunisia before the 2019 elections](#) and economic policies in particular. In our [Risk Report Tunisia](#), we examined the question, which opportunities the only Arab country to be described as "free" by the [Freedom House Index](#), provides for international business and investments, and which challenges and risk should still be taken into consideration. Hence, we are particularly excited about both the opportunity to present our findings yet also to discuss recent developments in the country. [Register today](#) and join us in Berlin!

For those interested in our [Risk Report Series](#), we recommend a visit to the [Hamburg Risk Management Forum](#), on March 28. Also here, Nicolas Schwank will represent CONIAS and deliver a talk on [political risk analysis and our 25 country studies](#) as well as main takeaways and developments. We are looking forward to seeing you there!



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## About CONIAS

In our [daily business](#), we combine hands-on [consulting](#) on political landscapes with the steady and research-based improvement of our [methods](#). We think that learning from [partners](#) and customers alike and growing with challenges is essential for start-ups like us, seeking to stay agile and customer-oriented. Curiosity and open-mindedness also drive the way we develop our products - the digital solutions from CONIAS help clients to evaluate and monitor suppliers in real-time. Our [maps and charts](#) support our partners in presentations for target audiences, customers and co-

workers alike. Last but certainly not least, we provide deeper insights and understandings through background [reports](#), webinars and [workshops](#).

## Contact us



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CONIAS Risk Intelligence GmbH Newsletter

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