State Capacity: The Cure or The Disease?

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Outline

• Evolution in Conflict Theorizing
• The Greatest Threat
• Old IR Metaphor Applied Anew: Deterrence
• Deterrence and Assurance
• What Are We Doing?
Recent Evolution

Ethnic Security Dilemma

Greed vs. Grievance

Opportunity, State Capacity
The Greatest Threat?

- Not Ethnic Groups
- Not Insurgents
- **Governments!**
  - Repress
  - Commit **Mass Killings** including Genocide
  - **Motivate** Ethnic Conflict and Civil War

- Who Presents the **Biggest Threat in Iraq**?
- What is the **Biggest Challenge in Afghanistan**?
Next Step

Ethnic Security Dilemma

Greed Vs. Grievance

State Capacity

Deterrence/Affurance
Deterrence

- **Capability** to Harm Violators (Rebels, Thugs)
- **Resolve** to Implement Threat

- **Ability to Detect & Punish Violators Only**
- **Restraint:** Harm Violators Only and Proportionately

- **Acceptable Status Quo**
Deterrence Requires Assurance

- **Democracy**
  - Capabilities, Credible Commitments
  - Incentives to Discriminate
  - Satisfactory Status Quo

- **Rule of Law**
  - Accountability
  - Due Process → Discrimination

- **Civilian Control of Professional Military**
  - Capability and Restraints
  - To Enforce Discrimination
What Are We Doing?

• Building State Capacity
  - Iraqi Security Forces
  - ANA, ANP
  - Promoting Security Forces to Do Counter-Terrorism

• How we doing on Rule of Law?

• Are We Building Civilian Control over these Militaries? Are these Professional Militaries?

• Are We Building the next Junta?