Welcome to this week's presentation and conversation
hosted by the
**Canadian Association for the Club of Rome**,
a Club dedicated to intelligent debate and action on global issues.

# *Human security: Its past, its present, and a more relevant future.*

Our speaker today is David Harries, a nuclear engineer who has worked in the public and private sectors as a senior military officer, consultant on personal and corporate security, and advisor and professor in heavy engineering, national development, humanitarian aid, post-conflict and post-disaster response and recovery, executive development in strategic foresight, and post-graduate university education. He is currently active as a Principal of the Security and Sustainability Guide, a Fellow of the World Academy of Art and Science, Foresight Lead at Ideaconnector.net, and Member/former Chair (2013-17) of Canadian Pugwash. Human Security has had a checkered history since its formal announcement in the 1994 UNDP HDR. Current circumstances should be exploited to recontextualize security to better acknowledge global realities. A brief overview of the history of the Human Security field briefly notes two high points; HS1 in the late 1990s and early 2000s, and HS2 following the 2013 UNGA announcement of the Human Security First campaign is followed by a brief description of five suggestions for improving the likelihood of more promising and therefore durable global security.

The presentation will be followed by a conversation, questions, and observations from the participants.

CACOR acknowledges that we all benefit from sharing the traditional territories of local Indigenous peoples (First Nations, Métis, and Inuit in Canada) and their descendants.

2022 Nov 09

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# HUMAN SECURITY

PASTS, PRESENCE, PROPOSALS

David Harries

for CACOR

09 November 2022



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# SECURITY, after ~1993, became…

…everybody's business… everywhere. Once-clear and strong boundaries between the *military* and *civilian* communities, between the *public* and *private* sectors, between *private profits* and *public well-being*, between *combatant* and *non-combatant* individuals, and even between *war* and *peace* are history. For better or worse, everyone is now a *security stakeholder* and more often than is acknowledged, a *security participant*.

Security is

….what you need to be able to be and to do what you want .

….freedom from fear and want


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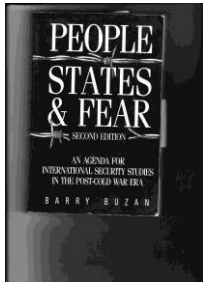
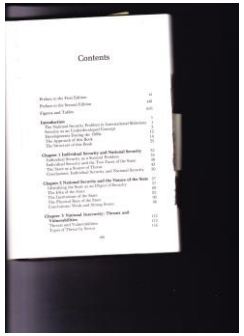
# HS in the PASTs

…a forever issue

First Heard? 1974 At HQ UNFICYP early evening of Day 1 of Turkish Invasion of Cyprus

First Read? 1991




**HS1** 1990s>>>200xs (overwhelmed by 2008 economic meltdown)

**HS2** 2013…2015 (SDGs)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# HS 1

## 1994 UNDP HDR -

" safety from….threats and protection from….disruptions to….."
Economics
Food
Health
Environment
Person
Community
Politics

Security of the individual
…above* the state
…and the state
…in the state

*** above* = priority focus**

Empowered well-being
Safety and dignity above* power and authority
Justice and emancipation above* order and stability


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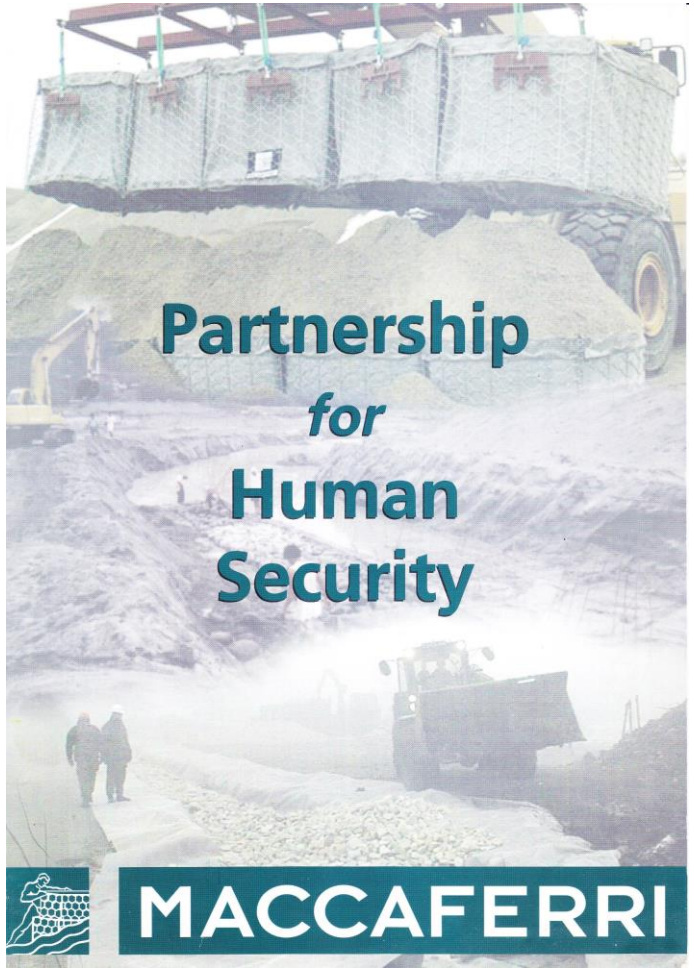
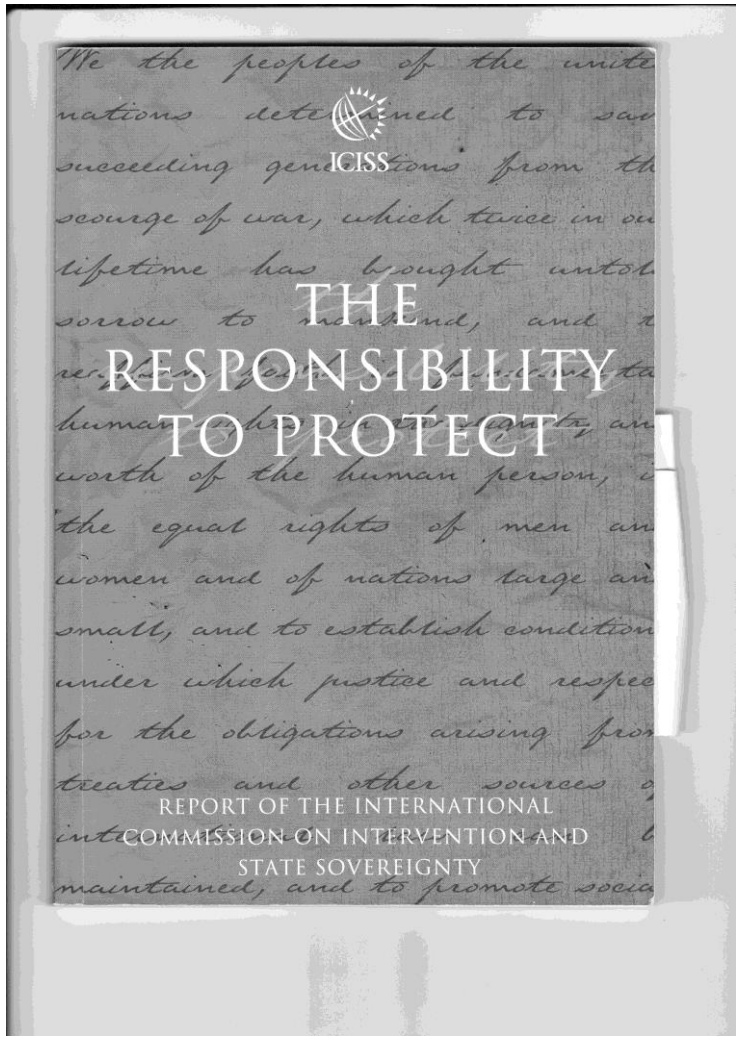
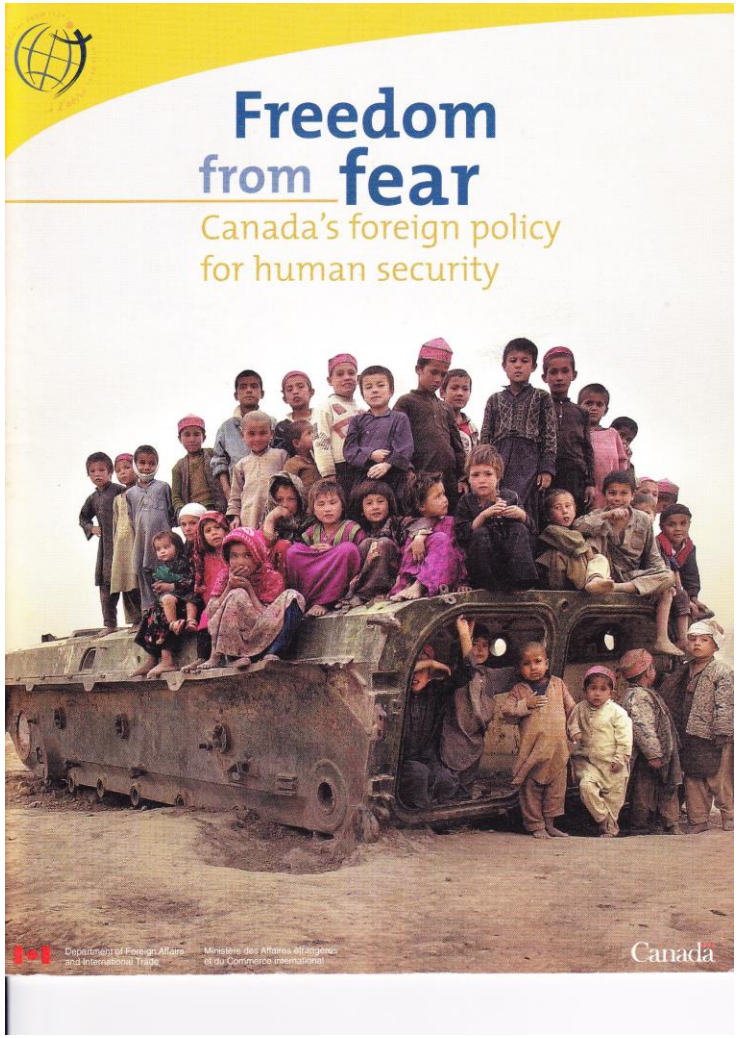



**Business** 1997-2000




**Civil Society** 2001




**Government** 2002



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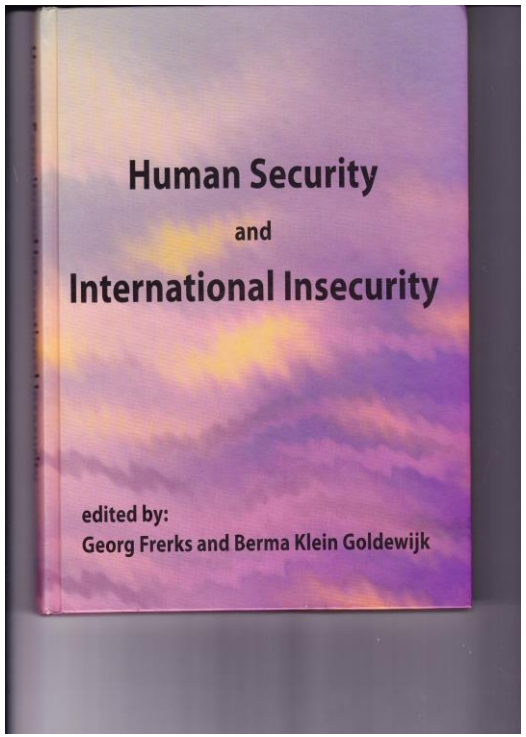
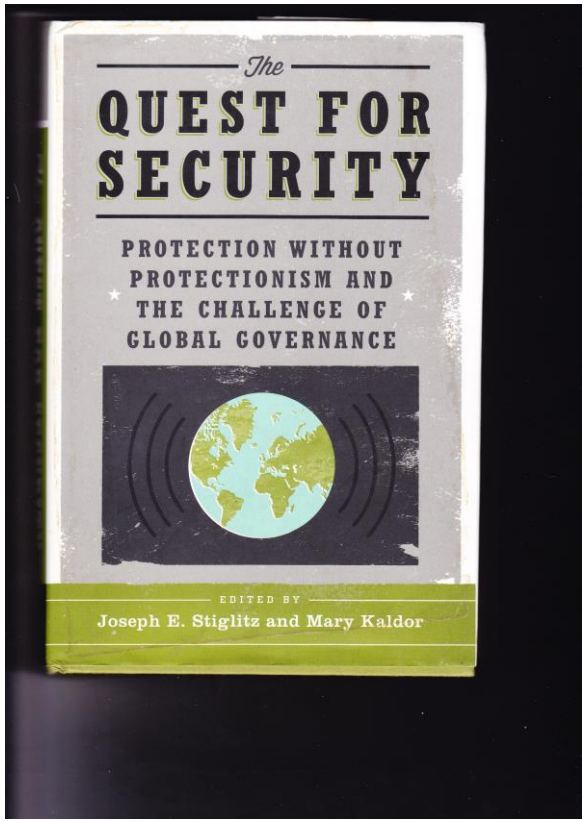
# ACADEME, during HS 1

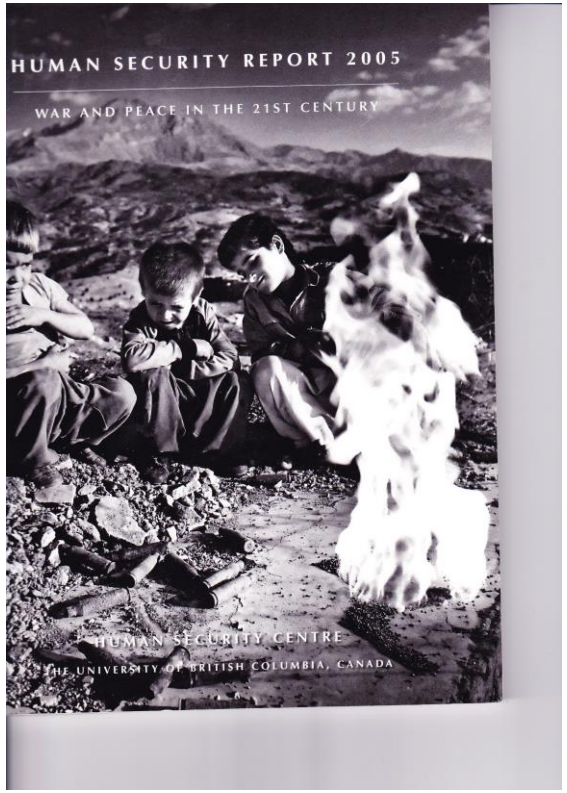
*DISCUSSION*, DEBATE, DISAGREEMENT



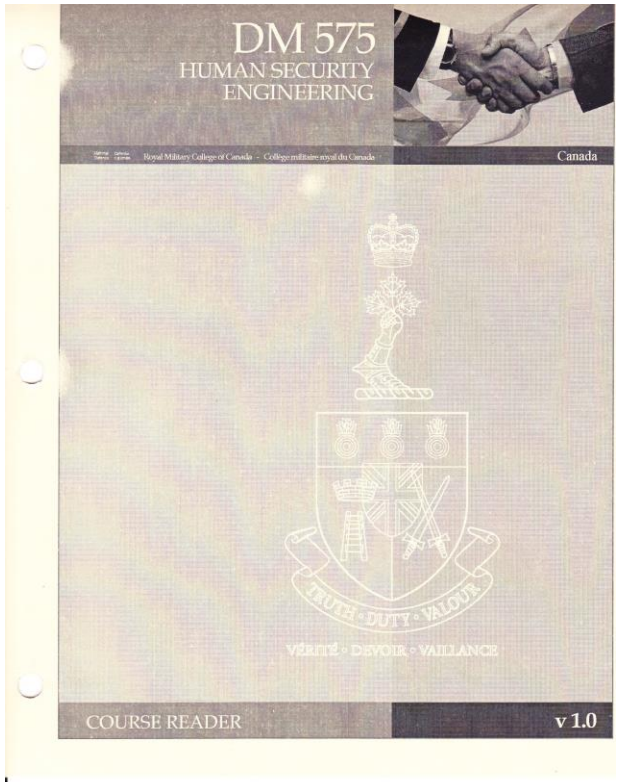

2007




2013




2005




200X s



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(from Dorn, 2001)

## GOALS

### CONTRASTING HUMAN & NATIONAL SECURITY

| HUMAN SECURITY | NATIONAL SECURITY |
|---|---|
| Goal: Protection of human beings everywhere | Goal: Protection of the home state and its citizens |
| Favoured by *liberal internationalists*, who stress that:<br>- Individuals are the primary actors & the basis of democratic governance<br>- Governments created to serve the people not vice versa<br>- Seek empowerment of the individual, civil society<br>- Governments not monoliths but to be viewed in relation to people both inside and outside of nation<br>- "Sovereignty is responsibility"<br>- Value sanctity of human life<br>- Seeks system of universal rules & laws and their enforcement | Favoured by the *real politique* school, who stress that:<br>- States are the primary actors (e.g., friend or foe)<br>- Concerned with maintenance and centrality of state power<br>- "Sovereignty is primacy"; rests with the state<br>- Importance placed on military forces and alliances<br>- Balance of power sought<br>- Individual life can be sacrificed for the sake of the nation |

Human Security

≠

National Security

## PRIORITIES & INITITIVES

| HUMAN SECURITY | NATIONAL SECURITY |
|---|---|
| PRIORITIES & INITIATIVES<br>- Saving human lives and alleviation of human suffering<br>- Protection of people<br>- Peacekeeping<br>- Humanitarian intervention<br>- Refugees assistance<br>- Minority rights<br>- Prevention, deal with causes of violence<br>- Control weapons causing most human damage e.g., AP Mines, small arms<br>- Global standards for treatment of people, e.g., human rights & int. humanitarian law<br>- Punish deserving individuals only<br>- e.g., International Criminal Court<br>- Integration of consistent laws, nationally & globally | PRIORITIES & INITIATIVES<br>- Protection of the state, including its borders, independence, traditions, values, ideologies<br>- Strong reliance on weaponry<br>- Formation of alliances with other states<br>- Identify and confront enemies<br>- Seek to "win" wars and "defeat" enemies, isolate "rogue states"<br>- "An increase in my enemy's security is a threat to mine" |

## HOPES for 'COMPATABILITY'

### CONVERGENCE OF HUMAN & NATIONAL SECURITY

| ORGANIZED HUMAN SECURITY | ENLIGHTENED NATIONAL SECURITY |
|---|---|
| - States are essential actors in the promotion of human security | - "Enlightened self-interest" enhances contributions of people & nations alik |
| - Military forces can be key to defence of human security | - Peace is in the national interest in ar interdependent world |
| - International organizations for peace to be strengthened | - Preventing war is best; everyone loo after war |
| - International peace is indivisible | - Respect and promote democracy at home and abroad |
| "When one person suffers we all share in the suffering" | - States exist to serve the interests and concerns of people; recognizes humanitarian imperative/intervention |
| - Collective action is indispensable | - State seek high moral/ethical standards |
| "All for one and one for all" | - Soldiers and citizens educated in human rights and human security |
| - Responsible national citizenship means organizing for the welfare of others, global governance | - Citizen soldiers respect international laws and universal/local values |
| - "Above all, humanity" | |
| Organized human security and enlightened national security are ONE AND THE SAME. | |



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# HS 1 TRACTION *OUTSIDE* ACADEME ?

# M I X E D

- NO NATIONAL LEADER called for/campaigned on HS
- MPI 'implied' some interest

- Several major international initiatives on 'security' and well-being little exploited the term *human security, if it was mentioned at all*.

**Millennium Development Goals** – 8 Goals

**Responsibility To Protect** – p 15 KOFI ANNAN 54TH UNGA 'INTENTION'

**UN Global Compact** – 10 Principles

**UN Framework for Business and Human Rights**; *Protect, Respect, Remedy*

~ nothing on HS in the voluminous literature on the "surely imminent" post Cold War's **'peace dividend'**


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# Seen in 2008, as HS 1 faded

‘The world  is getting better and better, worse and worse, faster and faster’.

The problem with life is there are no rehearsals; life is live.



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# HS 2

## Human Security First - December 2013

launched by Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC), a network of civil society organizations which actively promotes a more comprehensive approach to conflict prevention based on their claim "there can be no development without human security".

## Sustainable Development Goals for 2030 -2015)

**17 GOALS** 169 Targets 3526 Events 1327 Publications 6615 Actions

#16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

? ""Security"" ? THE WORD DOES NOT APPEAR in either Goal Titles or sub-titles


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# The PRESENT

A polycrisis, with elements of a permacrisis* (Collins Dictionary WotY)…

..Headlined by the probably now** unstoppable climate change, a ‘force multiplier’ of all other mutually reinforcing elements.

* A cascade of ‘tipping points’

**Economist of November 5th to 11th: “Say good-bye to 1.5 C”

Elements?

COVID-19 + RSV +Monkeypox, democracy in freefall, obscene inequality of wealth, opportunity, and freedom, more than 30 conflicts headlined by the war for Ukraine, weaponization of food and health and energy, 100,000,000 + displaced, veracity impossible to ascertain, cyberattacks impossible to defend or attribute, aging infrastructure no longer fit-for purpose, a seven decade old unchanged UN incapable of its mandate for peace and security, the almost universal absence of rigorous accountability, uncontrollable weather events, US civil unrest, European unpredictably uncertain energy security, Taiwan under threat,the 17 Sustainable Development Goals falling ever farther behind schedule, mental distress, addiction, domestic violence, massively uneven deficient learning opportunities, falling spp to lmw safely. ……

# THE PRESENT, THIS WEEK

- 5TH International Academic Conference on Human Security*
- COP 27 335 (and COP 14 Wetlands )
- US Mid-term elections democracy under threat?
- UN SG statements "…highway to hell." , "chronicle of crisis"
- State of Canada: 'fit-for-purpose' ?
    - Emergencies Act Inquiry evidence Rex Murphy intel
    - RCMP leadership chaos
    - NSIC report on GAC lacks…..the hallmarks of a mature security and intelligence organization
    - Via Rail 'existential crisis', buffer cars, freight first regardless


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# CONTEXT – *THE POLYCRISIS* - RULES

- It is what ***is***.
- It determines *what can be done, and not done,* ***now***.
- It is the PRESENT start point for *what can be done, and not done,* ***next and thereafter***.

**WILLFUL BLINDNESS**

**TUNNEL VISION**

**SELECTIVE HINDSIGHT**

**UNNECESSARY IGNORANCE**

**POLICY-BASED EVIDENCE**

**have all proven unwise and are increasingly *costly***


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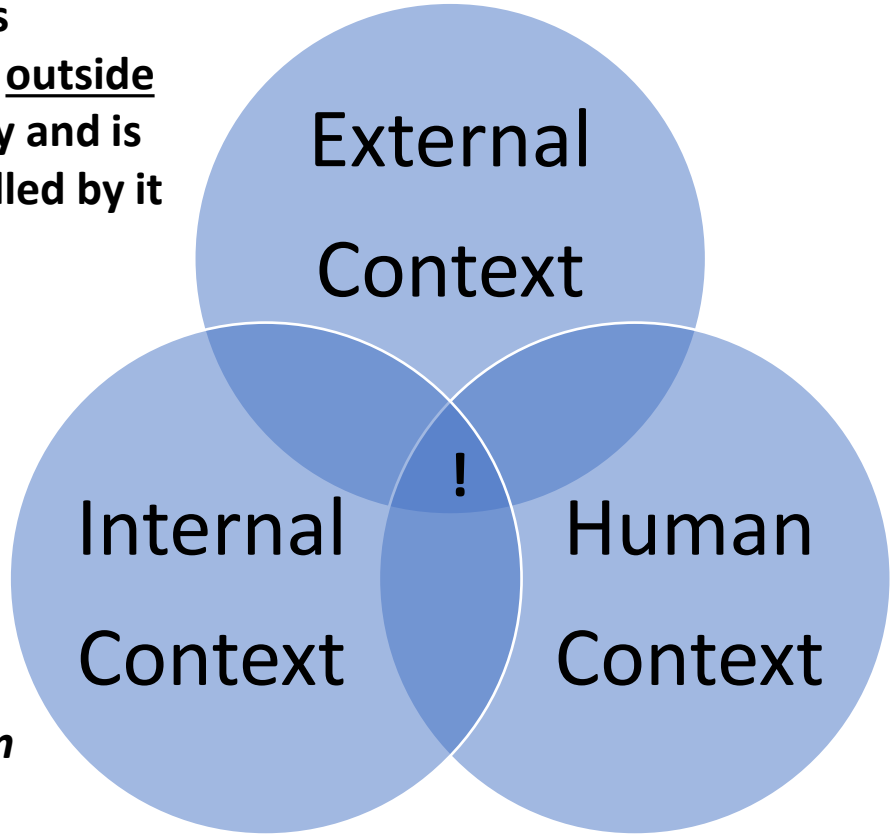
# CONTEXT is **PLURAL**

**It is what is happening <u>outside</u> the country and is *not* controlled by it**




**It is what is happening <u>within</u> the country and *can* be controlled by it**

**It is the *competing* suites of Biases, Assumptions and Interests (BAI) *unique* to every individual everywhere regarding**

Social and
Technological and
Economic and
Environmental and
Political and
Legal and
Ethical and
Security **issues**



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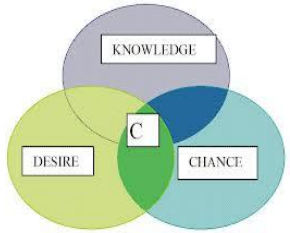
# CONTEXT is being **COMPRESSED**

The ‘future’ (good and bad)
is arriving faster and faster
as the ‘present’. (ACCELERATING CHANGE)

The present includes more and more
‘new’ history, a messy  combination of
what is being exposed from and added to ‘past’
history, and the histories – *true and false* - being
created today. (VERACITY WARS)

Countries’ ‘competence’ has fallen farther
 behind what is necessary now
and will *probably* be sufficient next, and thereafter,
to do what is needed *when it is needed* (FITNESS FOR PURPOSE)





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# CONTEXT'S **COMPRESSION**

***demands* we 'think'**

# T.O.W.S.

***NOT S.W.O.T.***


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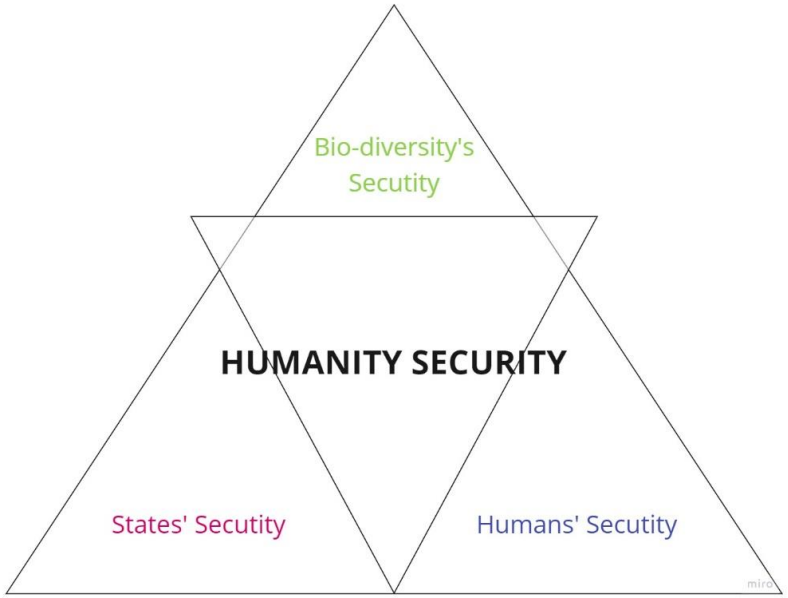
# PROPOSALS >>HS 3

## Job 1. Recontectualize the PLANET's security as **Humanity Security**

It is past time to recognize the *reality* that security means more than just of and for 'humans', but of and for **all planetary life**; for air, land and oceans healthy enough for all living things to inhabit 'without fear or want'.

Humanity Security should intellectually and materially underpin all action for all aspects of security.





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# HS 3 PROPSALS #2,3,4,and 5

2. **Strategy Foresight.** T.O.W.S.

*"The* only *relevant discussions about the future are those where we succeed in shifting the question from whether something will happen to what would we do if it did happen."*

Arie de Geus,
Principal in Royal Dutch Shell Group Planning
Architect of Energy Futures Scenarios

3. Establish a **Under-Secretary-General for the Sustainable Development Goals** at **UNHQ in New York**.**

4. **Interoperability,** not integration.

5. **Leadingship**.


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# CONCLUDING* REMARK

Humanity and its planet "=" **ONE system of systems**

All systems are complex, dynamic and interconnected.

**Humanity** Security for all, or **Human** security for none


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# No promises today

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