

WHAT'S THE DISTINCTION BETWEEN...

CONFLICT RESOLUTION



This concentration focuses on understanding the root causes of conflicts and how they escalate between nations and peoples, and considers local, national, regional, and international methods for resolving such conflicts. These methods include prevention, peacemaking, peacekeeping, and peacebuilding initiatives.

SECURITY POLICY



This concentration focuses on a wide range of national, transnational, and international security challenges and the way these challenges affect individuals, groups, states, and international organizations. Examples of security challenges include weapons of mass destruction, terrorism, territorial and maritime disputes, regional and ethnic conflicts, cyberattacks, international crime, and the security implications of a globalized economy, immigration, climate change, and pandemic disease.

DISTINCTION

Conflict Resolution differs from Security Policy in that it is less about policy and more about understanding conflict dynamics and how to disrupt cycles of violence. This can involve policy but also includes various methods of trying to improve relationships between conflicting groups.

Security Policy is more of a macro-level activity, whereas conflict resolution incorporates the roles of actors at various levels, including grassroots communities and organizations. Security Policy is broader than Conflict Resolution, which is specifically about how various kinds of actors intervene at different conflict stages to end killing and violence, maintain peace, or rebuild societies.



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