**Global Armed Conflicts**

**Aim of activity:**

* To identify regions of the world in armed conflict.
* To study one current conflict taking place in the world.

**Resources:**

* Blank world map
* Colouring pencils/markers
* Copy of [armed conflict map](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_ongoing_armed_conflicts#/media/File:Ongoing_conflicts_around_the_world.svg) to project
* Projector
* Computer/tablet with internet access
* A selection of international and Irish current newspapers
* Student Activity C3 – Conflict Review Sheet
* Student learning journal

**Time:** 40-50 minutes

**Instructions:**

1. Think pair share activity: Pass out a blank map of the world to each student and ask students to shade in areas of the world where armed conflict is taking place. Allow the students 3-4 minutes to complete the activity.
2. Ask students to work in pairs to discuss the regions they have shaded.
3. Students are then asked to feedback to the class by holding up their maps.
4. Project an image of the armed conflicts around the world up on the board.
5. Ask students to compare their maps with the projected map.
6. Bring in a selection of current newspapers and distribute between groups of students.
7. Alternatively, students could use the following websites to research current armed conflicts;

* BBC News – world news | <http://www.bbc.com/news/world>
* The Guardian – world news <http://www.theguardian.com/world>
* Al Jazeera – war and conflict | <http://www.aljazeera.com/topics/categories/war-conflict.html>

1. In pairs ask the students to find out how many news stories they can find on conflict.
2. Write the conflicts up on the board.
3. Focus on one conflict such as the Syrian war using the [BBC link](http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-26116868).
4. Ask students to fill out the conflict review sheet (Student Activity C3)

**Reflection activity:**

Each student to choose one conflict from the board to research the conflict based around the 5 W’s methodology:

* 1. *Who is involved,*
  2. *What is happening,*
  3. *Why is it happening,*
  4. *Where is it happening,*
  5. *When did it start,*

**Extension Activity:**

Read [Zlata’s Diary](http://www.bookdepository.com/Zlatas-Diary-Zlata-Filipovic/9780140374636), a book by Zlata Filipowić, a Bosnian woman who grew up during the Bosnian war and documented the siege of Sarajevo in her diary. Zlata luckily escaped the conflict and now lives in Ireland with her parents. | for reference, see the [review of Zlata’s Diary](http://www.irishtimes.com/culture/breaking-the-siege-1.1208180) on the Irish Times (May 30th, 2007)