

# THE SEVEN CAUSAL FACTORS POTENTIAL CAUSES OF OUTCOME

**1. Worldwide and sometimes state-specific, non-political factors, some beyond the control of humans and others beyond the control of a single state.** For example: technology, the climate, globalization, geography, disease.

**2. Factors involving worldwide and sometimes region-specific systems and behavioral patterns,** such as how power is distributed among the states and other players, the dominant international economic system, and the political/diplomatic system. These are generally caused by humans, but can be taken as fixed for most policy issues.

**3. Factors that arise directly from the relations among the states and other actors.** For example: bilateral and multilateral state-to-state relations.

**4a. Non-political factors that arise internally to the states and the other players** – such as culture, social system, ethnicity, and economic system. These may show up in the behavior of groups of people, non-political institutions, and the society in general

**4b. Political factors that are due to the form of the political system,** such as decision making process, how leaders are chosen, the distribution of power, and the ability of people to influence the government. For example: the individual states' political systems and the corresponding systems of the other players.

**5. Factors that arise in the context of decision-makers and implementers working in groups, organizations, and institutions.** For example: the individual decision-making and implementing processes of the states and other actors.

**6. Factors that are the result of individual traits, socialization, psychology, and personality.** These arise within the individuals, such as leaders and individual people in the society.