Security in the 21ˢᵗ Century

The concept of security and stability in the 21ˢᵗ century has broadened and includes aspects beyond the sheer military:

- ✓ economic security;

- ✓ energy security;

- ✓ environmental security etc.

Environment, development and security are fully interconnected.

- The **end of the Cold War** is often regarded as marking the beginning of a fundamentally different political environment.

- This has been especially pronounced within Security Studies as pressure to **redefine** its most important concept, that of '**security**' itself, has become a preoccupation for the past decade.

- As a result, several academics have reconsidered what is, and what should be, included within this concept and whether a **broader definition** constitutes a more accurate depiction of reality.
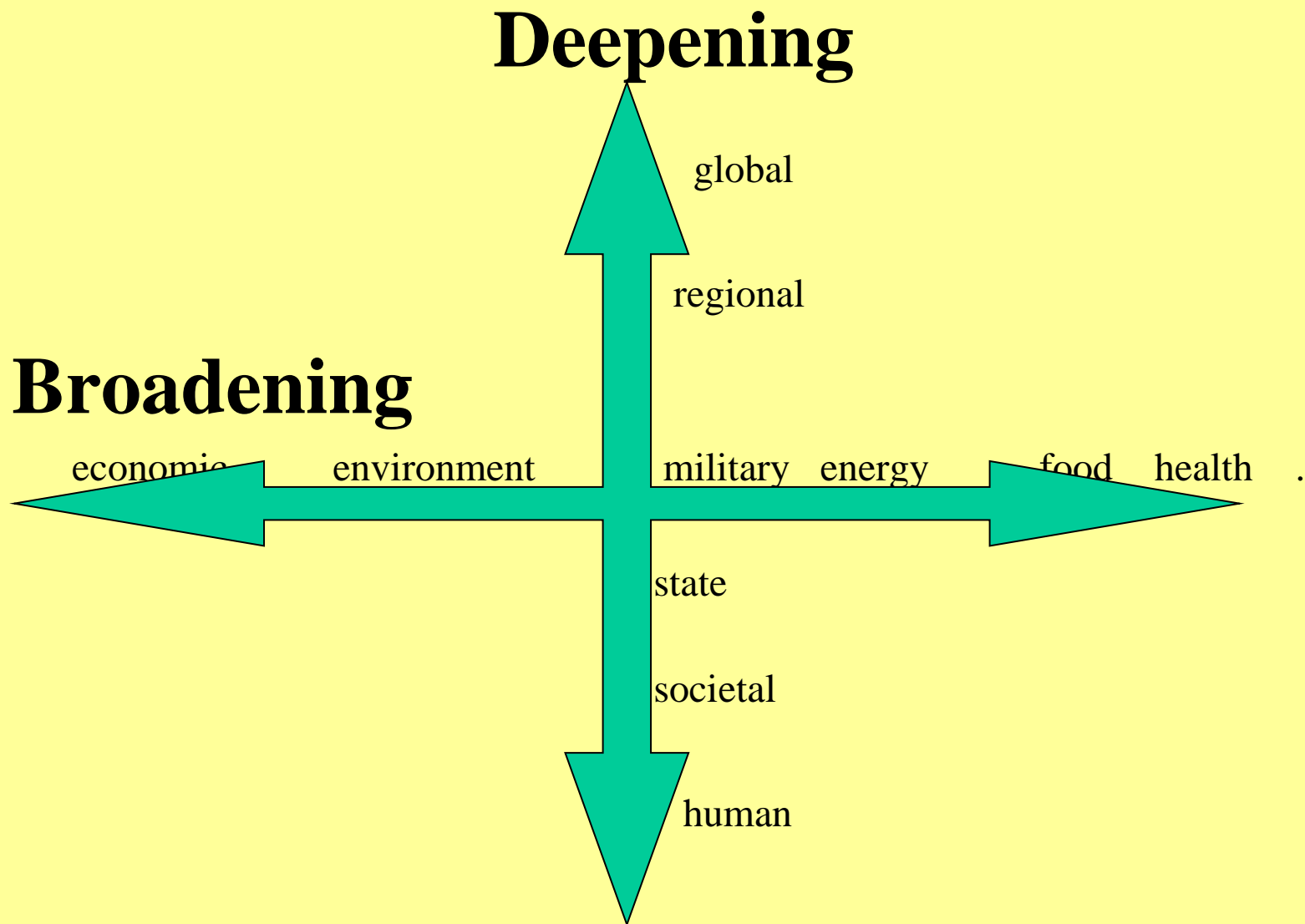
The "traditional" conception of "national" security

"Safeguarding the population and core values of a nation":

- Securing the nation-state

- Against external threats

- Of a military/forceful nature

- While **<u>traditionalists</u>** favour the maintenance of the Cold War conception of security - defined in <u>military and state-centric terms</u> –

- the **<u>non-traditionalists</u>** have attempted to broaden and deepen the definition.

  They argue that other issues, such as **<u>economic, environmental and social threats, endanger the lives of individuals</u>** rather than strictly the survival of states.

Non-traditionalists

▸ **_Disagreement_** between two sub- groups - the so-called 'wideners' and 'deepeners' about the concept

▸ The **wideners** argue that a predominantly military definition does not acknowledge that the **greatest threats** to state survival may not be military, but **environmental, social and economic**.

▸ The **deepeners**, on the other hand, ask the question of **whose security is being threatened** and support the construction of a definition that allows for **individual** or **structural referent objects**, as opposed to the state.

Deepening

Broadening

global

regional

economic   environment   military   energy   food   health   .

state

societal

human

Types of Security			
	Military	Non Military	
Referent object of Security		Using military means	Unsolvable by military
State	Narrow	Wide	
Non - state actor			Copenhagen School
Individual			Human Security

Table: Narrow, wide and deep conceptions of security

Threats	The threatened			
	Individuals	Societal groups	Government	The world
Individuals	Crime/ "hate crimes"			
Societal groups	"Hate crimes"	Genocide	Civil war	
Government	Human rights abuses	Genocide, politicide	War, economic sanctions	Nuclear war
Global	Poverty, industrial accidents, pollution	Global warming	Global Warming	
Non-human	Disease, natural disasters			Asteroid/ comet collision

Table: Security Threats

Human Security and State Security

Since the end of the Cold War, **armed conflicts have increasingly taken place <u>within</u>**, and <u>not between</u>, **states**

National security remains important, <u>but</u> in a world in which war between states is the rare exception, and many more people are killed by their own governments than by foreign armies, **the concept of 'human security' has been gaining greater recognition**.
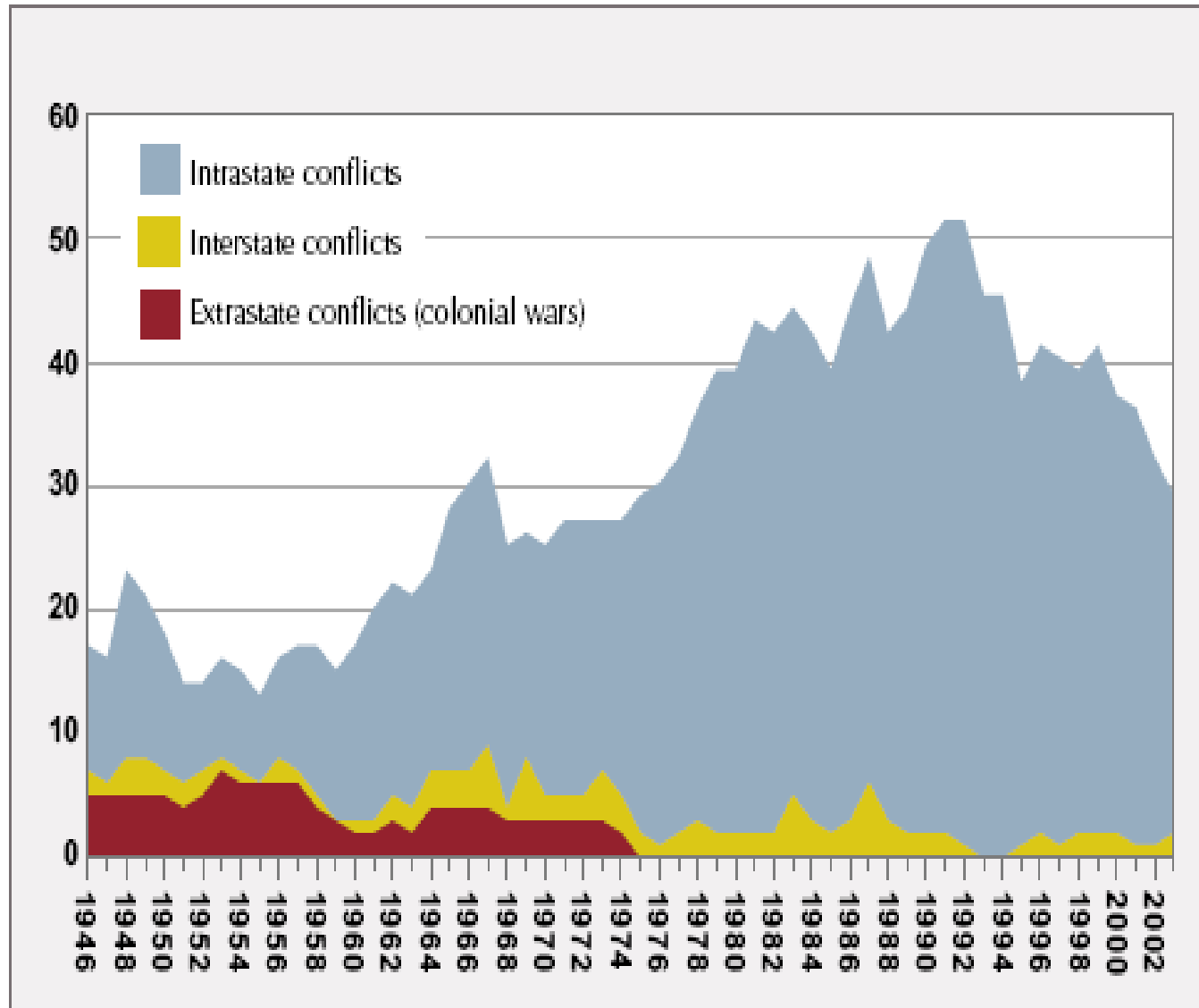
Unlike traditional concepts of security, which focus on defending borders from external military threats, **human security is concerned with the security of individuals**
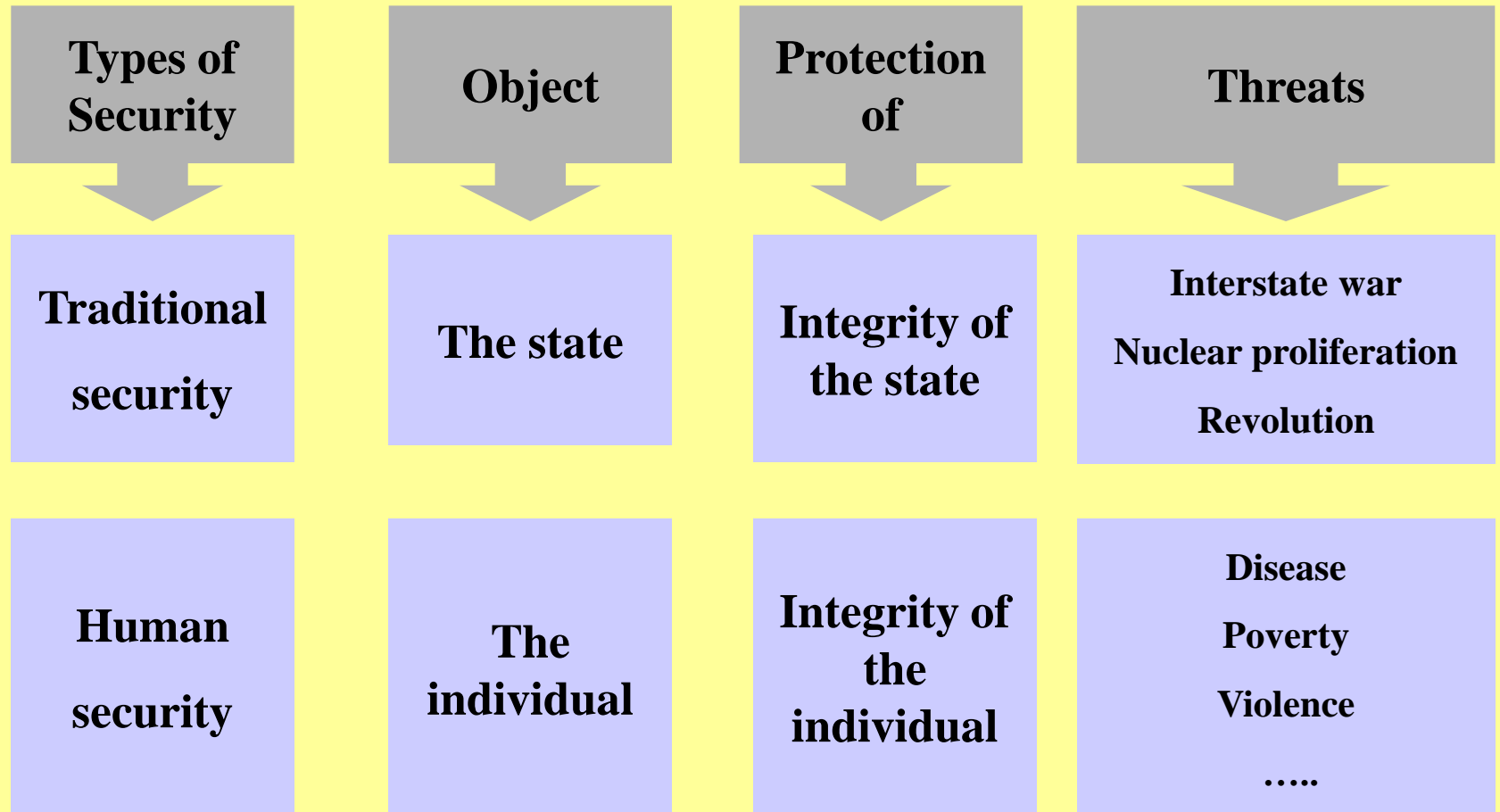
A less violent world, but …

Number of armed conflicts,

1946-2003

Source:
Human Security
Report 2005.

Uppsala/PRIO,
2004.

Number of armed conflicts, 1946-2003

- Intrastate conflicts
- Interstate conflicts
- Extrastate conflicts (colonial wars)

Human Security and State Security

Types of Security	Object	Protection of	Threats
Traditional security	The state	Integrity of the state	Interstate war Nuclear proliferation Revolution
Human security	The individual	Integrity of the individual	Disease Poverty Violence …..

National Security and Human security
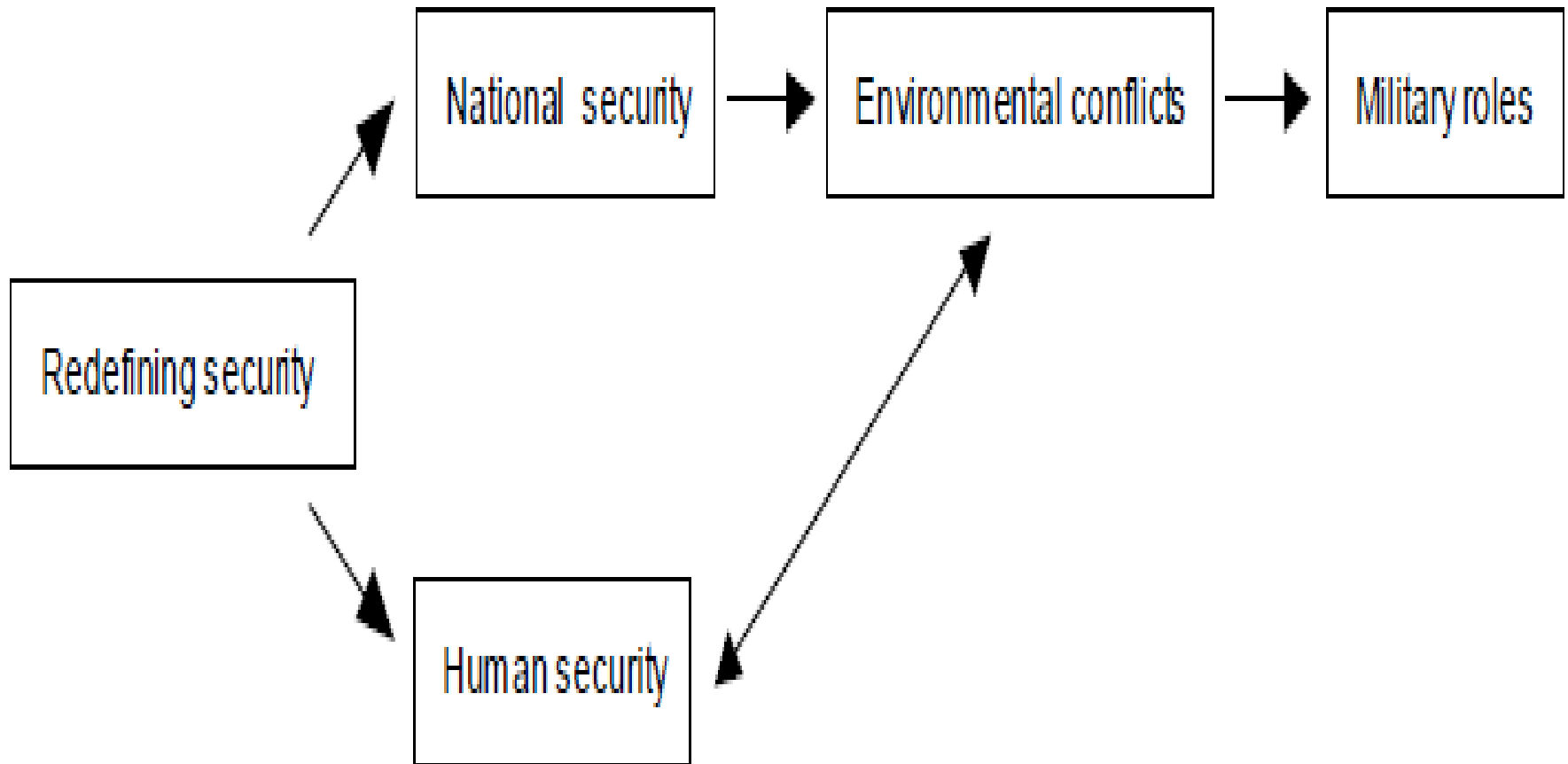
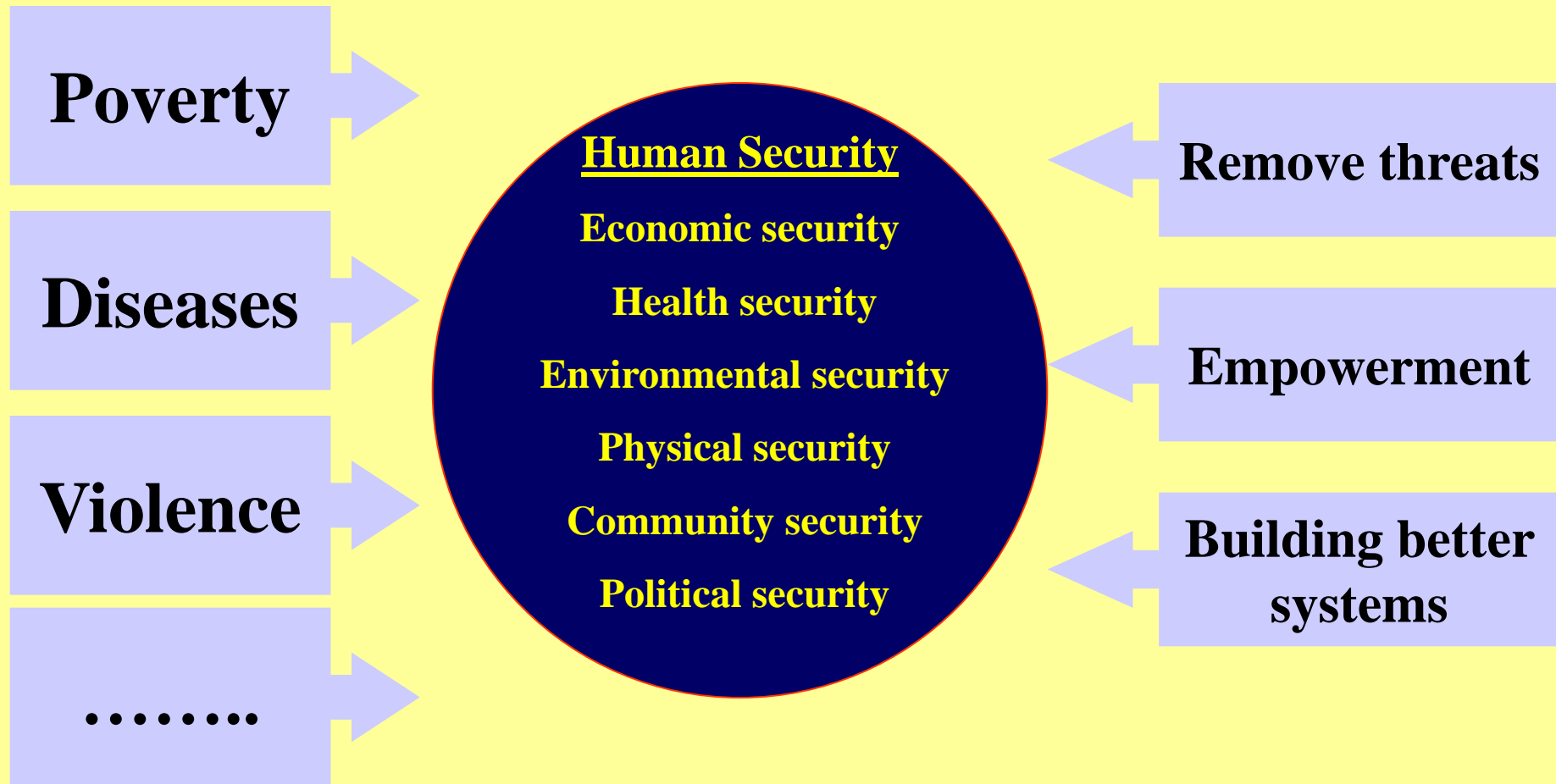Figure 1: A Guide to Environment – Security Linkages

Human Development Report (1994)

Safety from chronic threats and protection from sudden hurtful disruptions in the pattern of daily life

Seven types of security

- economic security
- food security
- health security
- environmental security
- physical security
- community security
- political security

Human security: Definition

Safety for people from both violent and non-violent threats.

A condition or state of being characterized by freedom from pervasive threats to people's rights, their safety, or even their lives

Climate Change

- Social, economic and political consequences.

- Affects human health, human security, food security, development, energy security, production and its output.

- Its adverse effects on economy and society pose significant threats to security.

Climate Change

✓According to the European Commission and the High Representative, climate change is best viewed as **a threat multiplier** which **exacerbates existing trends, tensions and instability**.

✓With the resolution A/64/350 the United Nations Assembly acknowledged that climate change **could affect security**.

✓Climate change will affect food production through its **effects** on **land, water and weather patterns** and will **alter** the four dimensions of food security: **food availability, food accessibility, food utilization and food systems stability**.

UN-Climate Change as a Security Threat
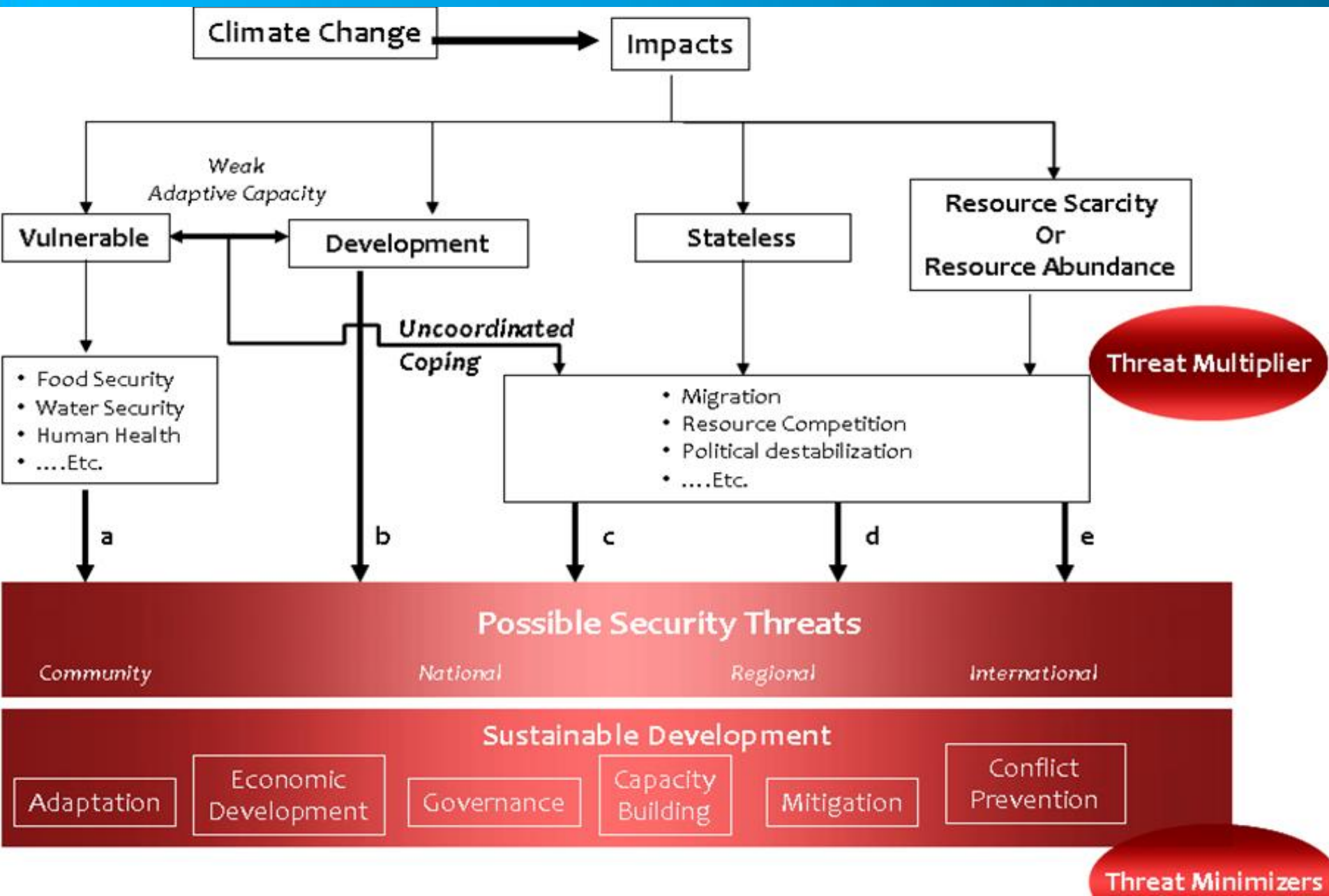
MEDITERRANEAN SECURITY: A THEORETICAL MODEL

INTERSTATE LEVEL

STATE LEVEL

REGIONAL-INTERNATIONAL INSTABILITY

DOMESTIC INSTABILITY

WMD

TERRORISM

REGIONAL CONFLICTS

NATURAL RESOURCES

TRANSNATIONAL CRIME

POPULATION INCREASE

UNDER-DEVE-LOPMENT

POLLUTION

RELIGIOUS RADICALISM

LACK OF DEMOCRACY