



The Recovery and the War

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At the completion of [The Five Act Drama](#) we will see the beginnings of economic recovery. This will be a long and slow process as people seek to renew their confidence and plan for the future. We can calculate the global recovery lasting between nine years and 3 months to eleven years and 2 months at a minimum. The nature of the recovery will determine if it continues longer or is part of an ongoing economic correction lasting several decades.

The recovery will be characterised by the economic rebuilding necessary following on from “The Five Act Drama”. Economic activity may well be patchy. There will be lots of recriminations between business, government and politicians over the how and the why of the economic meltdown. As to the why, you can read about it in “[Why It Had To Happen?](#)” in the Free Articles section of this website. At the same time financial markets and businesses will climb a wall of worries as business and economic conditions slowly improve. (Following on from the GFC we saw various government enquiries in western countries into what went wrong and who was to blame. Banks in particular were targeted and penalised for their role in the meltdown. This reflects the characteristic reactive social mood of those times rather than an attempt at real change; namely, punish the perpetrators!)

Sometime between 2015 and 2022 we can expect a war to break out that will capture the focal point of people around the world. Given the severity of the economic downturn and the size of the economic cycles involved, we can also anticipate this war will be severe, either in terms of its implications and/or in terms of its size.

Predicting which countries the war involves is quite difficult to foresee, especially since the war is still 6 to 12 years away. Geopolitics changes fast even though countries themselves may not change so rapidly. The focus of our predictions is on potential emerging events and the driving forces behind them. The people and the events involved in the change themselves are irrelevant in terms of unfolding world history. We can say however, that at time of writing this essay, several scenarios present themselves that offer high probabilities. As circumstances demand we will update our forecasts and this essay when required.

One risk is that the war will go nuclear. The war represents an expression of negativity people will still carry having come through an economic depression. People will still be angry and frustrated and war acts as a focal point and release of this negativity. World War II was one such war following on from the Great Depression (1929 – 1936). The US led invasion of Iraq in 2003 was a direct consequence of 9/11. Listed below are some potential scenarios that, given the right circumstances, could escalate into major conflicts in 6 -12 years time:

- 1) Frustrated by the economic depression unfolding, we will see increasing tensions between China and the US. Increasing polarisation will occur over trade issues, currency manipulations and other issues as political leaders on both sides are pressured by their respective economic environments and populations.

At some stage after the end of the Five Act Drama, the Chinese government may seek to focus the minds of their people and a potential military adventure may occur. A conflict with

the US over, say Taiwan, and we could see what I am calling the “the last great naval battle” in which Chinese and US navies “face off” over an invasion of Taiwan. Given that both sides have nuclear weapons and the intensity of the engagement, we may see the conflict escalate to the use of battlefield nuclear weaponry.

- 2) We have observed the rise of Iran as a regional power in the Middle East and acknowledge that Iran has long been a thorn in the side of US geopolitical interests and policymaking. If you can envision a world economy where oil prices have fallen to around US\$12 - \$15 per barrel, very high unemployment in many countries including the US potential clashes of rhetoric in Iran or the US may result in war.
- 3) Israel and Its Neighbours. As global social moods become more and more negative, we can anticipate growing racial and religious intolerance at both domestic and international levels. Combine this with what population experts call a “youth bubble”, i.e., a high proportion of young adult males in Palestine, Syria, Jordan, Gaza, Lebanon and The risk of an escalating war in this region will become extremely high.
- 4) The region known as North Caucasus is a volatile area bounded by the Black and Caspian Seas. Containing a group of ten small countries (Abkhazia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Chechnya, Dagestan, Georgia, Ingushetia, Karbadino-Balkaria, North Ossetia, South Ossetia). These countries are also surrounded by the large powerful states of Russia, Turkey and Iran each of them rising in regional influence and seeking to project influence further. The North Caucasus has always been viewed by Russia as a gateway to Russia, one that must be kept locked at all times.

Furthermore, this region is a hub for oil and gas pipelines flowing through to Europe and is a fast growing area of Islamic fundamentalism. This region remains a powder keg ready to go off at any time.

The nature of futurism is probabilistic and so predicting who and the where is difficult as the nature of geopolitical and economic events progress quickly. This article will be updated and predictions finetuned in light of the prevailing evidence and circumstances as and when they change.

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