being analysed. It is thus very important to include a consideration of conflict-specific indicators such as local political history, unique political groups that may be organised around ideological identity (such as some millenarian religious movements), the variations in popular support for different factions/groups, and overall trends in inter-group cooperation vs. hostility. In a sense this is a residual category, but it is very important for some consideration to be given to possible local exceptions to the "rule".

To recap the main points made above, officers should orient their analysis in terms of discerning: 1) <u>patterns</u> of relative deprivation and sociopolitical discrimination; 2) the dynamic interaction/overlap of indicator categories; and 3) the critical presence of category A - political process breakdown. A dynamic conflict profile which presents these elements, rather than an unstructured listing of multiple unranked indicators, should provide a reasonably clear warning of high potential for escalation and protracted violence. This approach prioritises certain conflict factors such that they may be targeted for specific operational responses, and matches indicator categories with common current policy frameworks, such as those in use in the DFAIT Global and Human Issues Bureau. This addresses the process link issue by matching analysis with operational capacity. Where such respose-oriented early warning takes place in the context of inter-agency coordination, strategic targeting of analysis at the relevant operational organisations will be crucial for the promotion of effective early action.