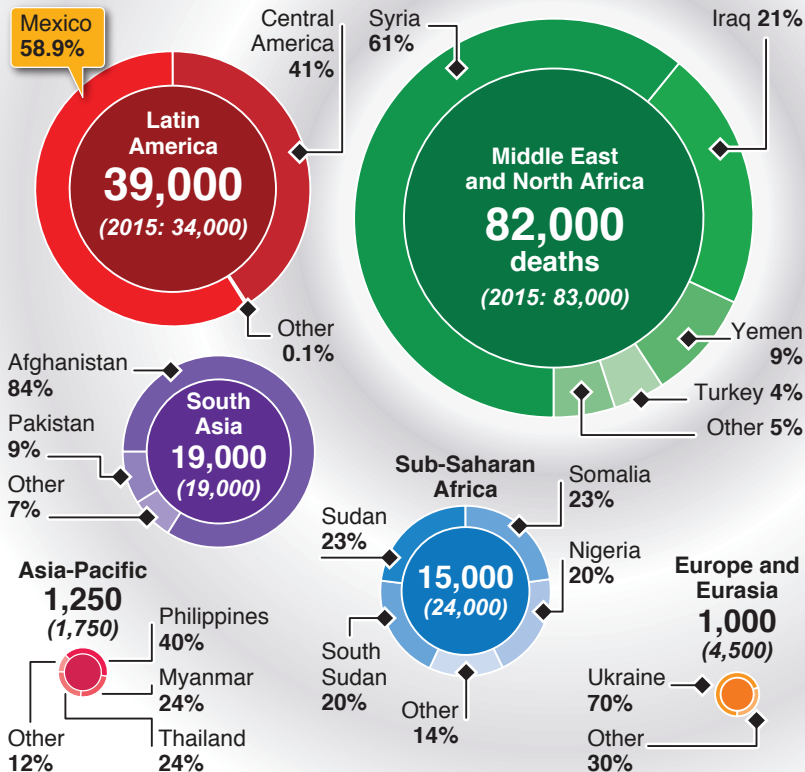


# Mexico is second deadliest conflict zone

Mexico has surpassed Iraq and Afghanistan to become the world's second-most lethal conflict after Syria. Mexico's drug wars claimed 23,000 lives in 2016, behind only Syria, where 50,000 people died



■ **Fatalities in world's conflicts fell for second successive year in 2016, to 157,000, from 167,000 in 2015 and 180,000 in 2014**

■ **Number of homicides, virtually all caused by small arms, rose in 22 of Mexico's 32 states**

■ **Syria's 50,000 deaths bring total since 2011 to around 290,000 – more than twice number killed in Bosnia's four-year conflict in 1990s**

■ **Wars in Iraq and Afghanistan claimed 17,000 and 16,000 lives respectively in 2016**