

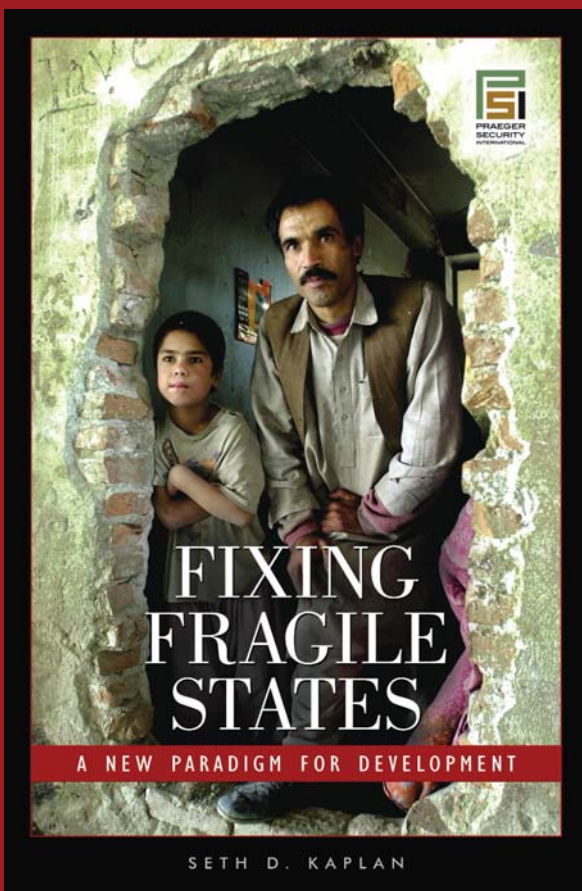
# What Fragile States Really Need

## A Ground-Breaking Approach To Fixing Fragile States And Building Stable, Prosperous Societies

Breeding grounds for poverty and corruption, terrorism and war, fragile states are a disaster for their own people and a menace not only to their neighbors but to the entire world.

Western efforts to help fragile states have persistently failed.

The only way to give these places a chance at peace and prosperity is to rethink how development really works.



- Dissects the reasons why some states prosper and others sink into poverty and violence.
- Lays bare the fatal flaws in current policies.
- Examines alternatives to Western attempts to reform these benighted places—options that help their peoples build governments and states that actually fit the local landscape.
- Includes case studies of seven deeply dysfunctional places—Pakistan, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Syria, Somaliland, Bolivia, Azerbaijan, and West Africa—and explains how even the most desperate of these can be transformed.
- Offers a roadmap for those working with fragile states to follow—whether they are policymakers, NGO's, academics, or within the business community.

# What People Are Saying

“A timely and provocative volume, *Fixing Fragile States* offers a seldom voiced perspective on why international efforts to repair broken countries tend to fail. Seth Kaplan argues that instead of dispatching troops or sending more aid, policymakers should focus on what these desperate and dangerous places really need: long-term help in building strong institutions to foster social cohesion, responsive and accountable government, and locally-driven economic dynamism. Kaplan’s focus deals with one of the great challenges of our time, and his analysis deserves a wide hearing.”

— *Dr. Chester A. Crocker, Professor of Strategic Studies at Georgetown University and former Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs*

“*Fixing Fragile States* presents a bold and innovative approach to development, one that emphasizes the need to customize governing bodies to suit local customs and the capacity of local institutions. For we Africans, tired of being told to emulate Western models of governance, this book is a breath of fresh air.”

— *Edna Adan Ismail, former Foreign Minister, Somaliland*

“This widely ranging and deeply penetrating analysis . . . will enrich our flagging debate about failing states by focusing us not only on good ideas but also on their specific application (or lack of it) in seven cases. An insightful view by a man who knows his business.”

— *Professor I. William Zartman, SAIS, The Johns Hopkins University*

SETH D. KAPLAN is a business consultant who has run multinational firms and founded successful local corporations in Asia, Africa, and the Middle East. His articles on fragile states and development have appeared in the *Washington Quarterly*, *Journal of Democracy*, *Orbis*, the *Wall Street Journal*, the *New York Times*, and the *International Herald Tribune*.

*Fixing Fragile States* is available in bookstores nationwide and on websites such as [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) and [www.barnesandnoble.com](http://www.barnesandnoble.com).

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