What are the causative factors that allow militant movements to renounce their paramilitary wing?

An examination of the IRA and the Egyptian Muslim Brotherhood
“The study of history is a study of causes.” –E.H. Carr
Methods of Identifying Causality

• Careful reasoning
• Comparative reasoning
• Statistical reasoning
Seven Potential Causal Factors

1. Worldwide and sometimes state-specific, non-political factors, some beyond the control of humans and others beyond the control of a single state.
2. Factors involving worldwide and sometimes region-specific systems and behavior patterns.
3. Factors that arise directly from the relations among the states and other actors.
4. Non-political factors that arise internally to the states and other actors.
5. Political factors that are due to the form of the political system.
6. Factors that arise in the context of decision-makers and implementers working in groups, organizations, and institutions.
7. Factors that are the result of individual traits, socialization, psychology, and personality.
The IRA

“The IRA strategy is very clear. At some point in the future, due to the pressure of the continuing and sustained armed struggle, the will of the British government to remain in this country will be broken. That is the objective of the armed struggle...we can state confidently today that there will be no ceasefire and no truces until Britain declares its intent to withdraw and leave our people in peace.” – IRA spokesperson, 1989
The Egyptian Muslim Brotherhood

“God is our purpose, the Prophet our leader, the Qur’an our constitution, Jihad our way and dying for God’s cause our supreme objective.”

– The Egyptian Muslim Brotherhood slogan
Anonymous protesters hold up a sign with Arabic writing which reads: "I refuse to give you a pass for Allah." (photo: Reuters)
Causative Factors as Applied to the IRA and the Egyptian Muslim Brotherhood

Worldwide and Sometimes State Specific Systems and Sometimes Region-Specific Systems and Behavioral Patterns—such as how power is distributed among the states and other players, the dominant international economic system, and the political diplomatic system
Factors that Arise Directly from the Relations among the States and Other Actors—bilateral and multilateral state-to-state relations
Non-political factors that arise internally to states and the other players—such as culture, social system, and economic system.
Political factors that are due to the form of the political system, such as the decision making process, how leaders are chosen, the distribution of power, and the ability of people to influence the government. For example: the individual states’ political systems and the corresponding systems of the other players.
Factors that arise in the context of decision-makers and implementers working in groups, organizations, and institutions. For example: the individual decision-making and implementing processes of the states and other actors.
Factors that are the result of individual traits, socialization, psychology, and personality. For example: leaders and individual people
What are the implications of study causal factors as applied to militant movements?
Bibliography


