ABSTRACT

The Spanish provinces, Vizcaya, Alava, Guipuzcoa, and Navarra are currently housing Basque nationalists that seek the secession of the Basque territory. The following discussion focuses upon this particular secessionist movement and the role of violence in the hindrances of its settlement. In order to approach solving the conflict, I am going to look at the history of the territory in conjunction with Basque nationalism. I will focus on three events in which violence played a critical role in establishing precedents that have affected the settlement of the dispute. Violence, whether utilized by the challenger, the defendant, or outside parties, plays an important role in international relations. The Basque secessionist movement is comparable to a multitude of other nationalist struggles currently on-going throughout the globe. We must recognize our past faults in order to achieve progress through peaceful means.