

SOS POLITICAL SCIENCE & PUBLIC
ADMINISTRATION
M.A POLITICAL SCIENCE II SEM
INDIAN FOREIGN POLICY(203)
UNIT-IV

TOPIC NAME- The United Nations

INTRODUCTION

- The **United Nations (UN)** is an organization between countries established on 24 October 1945 to promote international cooperation. It was founded to replace the League of Nations following World War II and to prevent another conflict. When it was founded, the UN had 51 Member States; there are now 193. Most nations are members of the UN and send diplomats to the headquarters to hold meetings and make decisions about global issues.

HOW DID THE UN START?

- The Formation of the **United Nations**, 1945. On January 1, 1942, representatives of 26 nations at war with the Axis powers met in Washington to sign the Declaration of the **United Nations** endorsing the Atlantic Charter , pledging to use their full resources against the Axis and agreeing not to make a separate peace.

HOW MANY COUNTRIES ARE IN THE UN?

- 54 countries are in Africa
- 48 in Asia
- 44 in Europe
- 33 in Latin America An the Caribbean
- 14 in oceania
- 2 in Northern America

WHO IS THE HEAD OF THE UNITED NATIONS?

- The **secretary-general of the United Nations (UNSG or just SG)** is the head of the United Nations Secretariat, one of the six principal organs of the United Nations. The secretary-general serves as the chief administrative officer of the United Nations. The role of the United Nations Secretariat, and of the secretary-general in particular, is laid out by Chapter XV (Articles 97 to 101) of the United Nations Charter.

WHAT ARE THE OBJECTIVES OF THE UN?

- **1.** To take all necessary measures for establishing international peace
- **2.** To establish friendly relations among the nations
- **3.** To enhance international security by solving international disputes
- **4.** To safeguard and foster human rights and freedom
- **5.** To enhance economic cooperation at the international level

WHAT ARE THE 8 GOALS OF THE UN?

- to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger;
- to achieve universal primary education;
- to promote gender equality and empower women;
- to reduce child mortality;
- to improve maternal health;
- to combat HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases;
- to ensure environmental sustainability; and
- to develop a global partnership for development

HOW DOES THE UN WORK?

- **MAINTAIN INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY**

- The United Nations came into being in 1945, following the devastation of the Second World War, with one central mission: the maintenance of international peace and security. The UN does this by working to prevent conflict; helping parties in conflict make peace; peacekeeping; and creating the conditions to allow peace to hold and flourish. These activities often overlap and should reinforce one another, to be effective. The UN Security Council has the primary responsibility for international peace and security. The General Assembly and the Secretary-General play major, important, and complementary roles, along with other UN offices and bodies.

- **PROTECT HUMAN RIGHTS**

- The term “human rights” was mentioned seven times in the UN's founding Charter, making the promotion and protection of human rights a key purpose and guiding principle of the Organization. In 1948, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights brought human rights into the realm of international law. Since then, the Organization has diligently protected human rights through legal instruments and on-the-ground activities.

HOW DOES THE UN WORK?

- **DELIVER HUMANITARIAN AID**

- One of the purposes of the United Nations, as stated in its Charter, is "to achieve international co-operation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural, or humanitarian character." The UN first did this in the aftermath of the Second World War on the devastated continent of Europe, which it helped to rebuild. The Organization is now relied upon by the international community to coordinate humanitarian relief operations due to natural and man-made disasters in areas beyond the relief capacity of national authorities alone.

- **PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

- From the start in 1945, one of the main priorities of the United Nations was to “achieve international co-operation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural, or humanitarian character and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion.” Improving people’s well-being continues to be one of the main focuses of the UN. The global understanding of development has changed over the years, and countries now have agreed that sustainable development – development that promotes prosperity and economic opportunity, greater social well-being, and protection of the environment – offers the best path forward for improving the lives of people everywhere.

HOW DOES THE UN WORK?

- UPHOLD INTERNATIONAL LAW

- The UN Charter, in its Preamble, set an objective: "to establish conditions under which justice and respect for the obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law can be maintained". Ever since, the development of, and respect for international law has been a key part of the work of the Organization. This work is carried out in many ways - by courts, tribunals, multilateral treaties - and by the Security Council, which can approve peacekeeping missions, impose sanctions, or authorize the use of force when there is a threat to international peace and security, if it deems this necessary. These powers are given to it by the UN Charter, which is considered an international treaty. As such, it is an instrument of international law, and UN Member States are bound by it. The UN Charter codifies the major principles of international relations, from sovereign equality of States to the prohibition of the use of force in international relations

HOW POWERFUL IS THE UN?

- The United Nations Security Council is the most powerful body of the United Nations. The Security Council can authorize the deployment of troops from United Nations member countries, mandate cease-fire during conflicts and can impose economic penalties on countries.

STRUCTURE OF THE UN

- General Assembly
- This is the UN's main deliberative body, where all members have equal representation. It is headquartered in New York City, and its responsibilities include setting the UN's budget, appointing rotating members to the Security Council, and passing non-binding resolutions that express the opinions of the international community.
- UN Secretariat
- The UN Secretariat is the executive wing of the UN, charged with implementing policies set by its deliberative bodies. Its head, the Secretary-General, is the UN's top official. The Secretariat, which is based in New York City, includes the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, which dispatches UN soldiers—known as "blue helmets"—on missions authorized by the Security Council.
- International Court of Justice
- The International Court of Justice is based in The Hague and has two main functions: to settle disputes submitted by member states according to international law and to issue advisory opinions on legal questions submitted by UN agencies.
- The U.S., Russia, and China have not joined the court, so their citizens are not subject to its decisions unless the Security Council votes to make them. Since all three countries have veto power on the Security Council, that is all but impossible. Most of the court's high-profile cases have focused on African heads of state, leading several African states to pull out of its jurisdiction or threaten to do so.

STRUCTURE OF THE UN

- UN Security Council
- The UN Security Council is charged with maintaining international security. It authorizes peacekeeping missions, accepts new UN members, and approves changes to the UN charter. The Security Council's structure allows a few powerful member states to dominate the UN: Russia, the UK, France, China, and the U.S. hold permanent seats on the council and enjoy veto power. The Security Council's other 10 seats rotate on a staggered two-year schedule; as of 2019 they are occupied by Belgium, Côte d'Ivoire, Dominican Republic, Equatorial Guinea, Germany, Indonesia, Kuwait, Peru, Poland, and South Africa.
- UN Economic and Social Council
- The UN Economic and Social Council coordinates the activities of the UN's 15 specialized agencies. These include the Food and Agriculture Organization, which leads efforts to improve food security; the International Atomic Energy Agency, which attempts to ensure compliance with nuclear nonproliferation agreements; the International Labour Organization, which promotes workers' interests; and the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, two of the Bretton Woods institutions, which were founded to shore up international financial stability.

ROLE OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

- The Security Council responds to crises around the world on a case-by-case basis and it has a range of options at its disposal. It takes many different factors into account when considering the establishment of new peace operation, including:
- Whether there is a ceasefire in place and the parties have committed themselves to a peace process intended to reach a political settlement;
- Whether a clear political goal exists and whether it can be reflected in the mandate;
- Whether a precise mandate for a UN operation can be formulated;
- Whether the safety and security of UN personnel can be reasonably ensured, including in particular whether reasonable guarantees can be obtained from the main parties or factions regarding the safety and security of UN personnel.

WHAT ARE THE PRINCIPLES OF THE UN?

- **Human Rights**
- [Principle 1](#): Businesses should support and respect the protection of internationally proclaimed human rights; and
- [Principle 2](#): make sure that they are not complicit in human rights abuses.
- [Principle 3](#): Businesses should uphold the freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining;
- [Principle 4](#): the elimination of all forms of forced and compulsory labour;
- [Principle 5](#): the effective abolition of child labour; and
- [Principle 6](#): the elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation.

WHAT ARE THE PRINCIPLES OF UN?

- **Environment**
- [Principle 7](#): Businesses should support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges;
- [Principle 8](#): undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility; and
- [Principle 9](#): encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies.
- **Anti-Corruption**
- [Principle 10](#): Businesses should work against corruption in all its forms, including extortion and bribery.

WHAT DID UN DO FOR INDIA?

- The United Nations provides strategic support to India to help the country achieve its aspirations to end poverty and inequality and to promote sustainable development in line with the globally agreed SDGs. The UN also supports India, as the world's largest democracy, in the country's ambitious commitments to rapid change and development priorities.

SUPPORTING INDIA'S DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES

- The UNSDF was framed following a highly participative process, in consultation with government entities, civil society representatives, academia, and the private sector. The seven focus areas include:
 - – Poverty and Urbanisation
 - – Health, Water, and Sanitation
 - – Education and Employability
 - – Nutrition and Food Security
 - – Climate Change, Clean Energy and Disaster Resilience
 - – Skilling, Entrepreneurship, and Job Creation
 - – Gender Equality and Youth Development
- Across outcome areas, the UN also supports the Government of India on south-south cooperation, in partnership with the Ministry of External Affairs.
- The UNSDF serves as a partnership framework between the Government of India and the UN System and is being nationally executed under the overall coordination of NITI Aayog.

THANK YOU