

UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATION

This is an international organization that is saddled with the responsibility of promoting international cooperation and to create and maintain international order.

- The organization replaced the League of Nations that was considered to be ineffective.
- UNO was established on 24 October 1945 after World War 11 in order to prevent another conflict.

- The organization is currently made up of 193 member states.
- It is a global organization that brings together its member states to confront common challenges.
- On 31 May 2017, the General Assembly of the United Nations elected H.E. Miroslav Lajcak of Slovakia as President of its seventy-two session, which spans from Sept. 2017 to Sept. 2018

HISTORY OF UNO

- The name “United Nations”, was coined by US President , Franklin D. Roosevelt in the Declaration by UN of 1 January 1942 during the 2nd World War, when representatives of 26 nations pledged their governments to continue fights together against the Axis powers.

- In 1945, representatives of 50 countries met in San Francisco at the UN conference on International organization to draw up the UN Charter.
- The Charter was signed on 26 June 1945 by the representatives of 50 countries.
- Poland, which was not represented at the conference, signed it later and became one of the original 51 member states.

AIMS OF UNO

- To maintain international peace and security, and to develop friendly relations among nations.
- To ensure international cooperation in solving problems of economic, social and humanitarian nature.
- To promote and encourage respect for human rights and fundamental freedom.
- To be a center for harmonizing the actions of nations.

ORGANS OF UNO

- **The General Assembly**

It is the main organ of the UN consisting of representatives of all the members of the U.N. Each member state has a single vote and all members are equally placed, unlike in the case of the Security Council.

- It generally holds regular annual session in September. Decisions are taken based on simple majority, but in cases of peace, security, election of new UN members and budget, a two-thirds majority vote is required.

- UN General Assembly elects the ten non-permanent members of the Security Council. It elects members of The Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and Trusteeship Council. It elects along with the Security Council Judges of the International Court of Justice.

- It appoints UN Secretary General, based on the recommendation of the Security Council. It approves the UN budget. It receives and considers reports from the other UN organs.

THE UN SECRETARY GENERALS

❖ Name: Trygve Lie

Country: Norway

Term of office: 1945-1953

❖ Name: Dag Hammarskjold

Country: Sweden

Term of office: 1953-1961

❖ Name: Uthant

Country: Burma

Term of office: 1961-1971

❖ Name: Kurt Waldheim

Country: Austria

Term of office: 1972-1981

❖ Name: Javier Perez de Cuellar

Country: Peru

Term of office: 1982-1991

❖ Name: Boutros Boutros-Ghali

Country: Egypt

Term of office: 1992-1995

❖ Name: Kofi Annan

Country: Ghana

Term of office: 1997-2005

❖ Name: Ban Ki-moon

Country: South Korea

Term of office: 2007-2015

❖ Name: Antonio Guterres

Country: Portugal

Term of office: 2017-incumbent

UN SECURITY COUNCIL

- It is the main organ of the UN with the basic responsibility for the maintenance of World Peace. It has 15 countries as members. Five of them are permanent members - the United States of America, the United Kingdom, Russia, France and China. The remaining ten are non-permanent members, who are elected for a two-year term by a two-thirds majority of the General Assembly.

- Out of these ten seats, five are allocated to Afro-Asian region, two seats to Latin America, one seat to Eastern Europe and remaining two seats to Western Europe and others.

- The five permanent members of the Security Council have special voting rights known as 'Veto' power. Any decision in the Security Council can be taken only with the support of at least nine members including that of five permanent members. Thus, no decision can be taken in the Council, even if one permanent member votes against the proposal.

- Decisions taken by the UN Security Council are binding on all the members of the UN, since the UN charter provides that the Council's decisions are made in the name of all UN members.

POWERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

- ❑ To settle disputes among member states, requisitioning military forces; from the members for peace keeping operations;
- ❑ To approve the admission of countries as new members;
- ❑ To recommend to the General Assembly on appointment of Secretary General, etc.,

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

This is the Chief Coordinating Agency of the UN in the economic and social sectors between the UN and the specialized institutions of the UN. It consists of 54 members, meets twice a year.

ACTIVITIES OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

☐ To conduct studies and making recommendations on social, economic, educational, health and related matters in the world with special focus on the least developed countries.

□ To carry activities through nine functional commissions, five regional commissions and various standing committees. The nine functional commissions were set up to focus on specific areas like human rights, population and development, social development, status of women., etc.,

□ The main purpose of these commissions are to assist in raising the level of economic activity in their respective regions and to strengthen the economic relations of the States among themselves and with others.

FIVE REGIONAL COMMISSIONS OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

- ❖ Economic Commission for Africa (ECA): It was established in 1958 with its headquarter in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. It has 53 member states.
- ❖ Economic Commission for Europe (ECE): It was formed in 1947 and has its headquarter at Geneva, Switzerland. It consists 56 member states.

- ❖ Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC): It was established in 1948 with its headquarter at Santiago, Chile. It has 44 member states.
- ❖ Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP): It came into existence in 1947 and has its headquarter in Bangkok, Thailand. It is made up of 53 member states.

- Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA): It was formed in 1973 with its headquarter at Beirut, Lebanon. It has 14 member states.

International Court of Justice

❑ The ICJ is Established in 1945 by the UN Charter. It is the main judicial organ of the UNO. It is also commonly known as the World Court. ICJ has its headquarters at Hague, the Netherland.

□ It is composed of fifteen judges elected to six year terms by the United Nations General Assembly and the United Nations Security Council.

ACTIVITIES OF ICJ

- ❑ To adjudicate disputes referred to it by the members
- ❑ To give advisory opinion on matters referred to it by the UN Security Council or General Assembly.
- ❑ As stated in the UN Charter, all 192 member states of UN are parties to the Court's statute. Non-UN members too can become parties to the Court's statute under the Article 93(2) procedure.

UN SECRETARIAT

- The United Nations Secretariat is one of the six principal organs of the UNO. It is headed by the UN Secretary General.

ACTIVITIES OF UN SECRETARIAT

- ❑ It provides studies, information, and all facilities needed by United Nations bodies for their respective meetings.
- ❑ It also carries out tasks as directed by the United Nations Security Council, the United Nations General Assembly, the United Nations Economic and Social Council, and other U.N. bodies.

UN TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL

- ❑ The United Nations Trusteeship Council is one of the six principal organs of the U.N formed in 1945. It was established to ensure that non-self-governing territories were governed in the best interests of the people living in there and of international peace and security.

□ Most of the trust territories were those former mandates of the League of Nations or the territories taken from nations defeated at the end of the World War II and which have now attained independence or self-governments, either as separate countries or by joining their neighbouring independent nations.

- The Trusteeship Council was suspended from operation on 1 November 1994 as its mission was fulfilled. Its future role and existence remains uncertain

SOME PEACE KEEPING ACTIVITIES OF THE UNO

❖ **Name of the mission:** UN mission for Ethiopia and Eritrea (UMEE)

Year of Establishment: 2002

Objective: To monitor ceasefire between Ethiopia and Eritrea as part of a deal signed by the two countries and end their border conflict.

❖ **Name of the Mission:** UN Mission in East Timor (UNMISET)

Year of Establishment: 2002

Objective: To help East Timor, the newly formed independent country in taking overall operational responsibilities

❖ **Name of the Mission:** UN operation in Burundi (ONUB)

Year of Establishment: 2004

Objective: To assist in bringing national reconciliation and lasting peace among Burundians as provided in Anusha Pact

**❖ Name of the Mission: UN
Stabilization Mission in Haiti
(MINUSTAH)**

Year of Establishment: 2004

**Objective: To restore normalcy in
Haiti**

❖ **Name of the Mission:** UN Mission in the Sudan

Year of Establishment: 2005

Objective: To assist in implementing peace agreement between Sudan government and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement

MEMBER STATES CONTRIBUTION TO THE UN BUDGET

- United State of America: 25.00%
- Japan: 17.98%
- Germany: 9.63%
- France: 6.49%
- Italy: 5.39%
- U.K: 5.07%

➤ Russia: 2.87%

➤ Canada: 2.82%

➤ Spain: 2.57%

THE WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

- ❖ The World Trade Organization came into existence in 1995 and it is the successor to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) established in the wake of the second World War

- ❖ GATT as a multilateral trading system in the past 50 years have seen an exceptional growth in world trade.
- ❖ WTO is the only international organization dealing with the global rules of trade between nations.

- ❖ WTO main function is to ensure that trade flows as smoothly, predictably and freely as possible.
- ❖ WTO has helped to create a strong and prosperous trading system contributing to unprecedented growth.

❖ The system was developed through a series of trade negotiations, or rounds, held under GATT. The first rounds dealt with tariff reductions but later negotiations included other areas such as anti-dumping and non-tariff measures.

❖ The last round was the Uruguay Round between 1986 and 1994 which led to the creation of WTO.

Other negotiations include:

❖ February 1997 agreement on telecommunication services, with 69 governments agreeing to wide-ranging liberalization measures that went beyond those agreed in the Uruguay Round

❖ Negotiation was concluded by 40 governments for tariff-free trade in information technology products and 70 members concluded a financial services deal covering more than 95 % of trade in banking, insurance, securities and financial information.

WTO AGREEMENTS

- ❑ The agreements are the result of negotiations between the members. The Uruguay Round created new rules for dealing with trade in services, relevant aspects of intellectual property, dispute settlement, and trade policy reviews.

□ Through these agreements, WTO members operate a non-discriminatory trading system that spells out their rights and their obligations.

□ Each country receives guarantees that its exports will be treated fairly and consistently in other countries' markets.

GOODS: It started with trade in goods, from 1947-1994. GATT was the forum for negotiating lower customs duty rates and other trade barriers. Since 1995, the updated GATT has become the WTO's umbrella agreement for trade in goods.

SERVICES: Banks, insurance firms, telecommunications companies, tour operators, hotel chains and transport companies looking to do business abroad can now enjoy the same principles of free and fairer trade that originally only applied to trade in goods.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY: The WTO's Intellectual Property Agreement amounts to rules for trade and investment in ideas and creativity.

The rules state how copyrights, patents, trademarks, geographical names used to identify products, industrial designs, integrated circuit layout designs and undisclosed information such as trade secrets- "intellectual property" should be protected when trade is involved.

DISPUTE SETTLEMENT: Countries bring disputes to the WTO if they think their rights under the agreements are being infringed. The system encourages countries to settle their differences through consultation.

- Judgment by specially appointed independent experts are based on interpretations of the agreements and individual countries commitments.

- **TRADE POLICY REVIEW:** The trade policy review mechanism's purpose is to improve transparency, to create a greater understanding of the policies that countries are adopting, and to assess their impact . Many members also see the reviews as constructive feedback on their policies.

WTO AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

- ✓ Over three-quarters of WTO members are developing or least developed countries. All WTO agreements contain special provision for them, including longer time periods to implement agreements and commitments.

- ✓ Measures to increase their trading opportunities, provisions requiring all WTO members to safeguard their trade interests and support to help them build the infrastructure for WTO work, handle disputes, and implement technical standards.

- ✓ A WTO committee on trade and development assisted by a sub committee on least developed countries, looks at developing countries' special needs. Its responsibility includes implementation of the agreements technical cooperation, and the increased participation of developing countries in the global trading system.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING

- ✓ The WTO organizes hundreds of technical cooperation missions to developing countries annually. It holds an average three trade policy courses each year in Geneva for government officials.

✓ Regional seminars are held regularly in all regions of the world with a special emphasis on African countries. Training courses are also organized in Geneva for officials from countries in transition from central planning to market economies.

WORLD BANK OR INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT

- World Bank is one of the Bretton Woods Institutions that was established on July 22, 1944 during a Monetary and Financial Conference held at Bretton Woods, New Hampshire, United States of America.

- World Bank was established to ensure reconstruction of European state immediately after the devastating effects of the Second World War. Its current membership is over 150 member nations.
- The Articles of Agreement were formally accepted by a majority of the participants on December 27, 1945.

- Only countries that are members of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) can be considered for membership in the World Bank.
- Based on each country's relative economic strength, subscriptions by member countries to the capital stock of the World Bank are related to each member's quota in the IMF.

LENDING CRITERIA OF WORLD BANK

- ❖ The Bank lends out strictly only on economic consideration, not on political character of a member country. Therefore, it does not lend in support of military or political objectives.

- ❖ Its loan could be used to purchase goods and services from member countries.
- ❖ World Bank criteria for borrowing are a replica of IMF conditionalities which include:
 - Trade liberalization
 - Debt servicing
 - Establishment of a foreign exchange market to determine the current value of the recipient's currency.

- Privatisation of government parastatals and corporations
- Rationalisation of tariffs and excise duties
- Removal of subsidies.

OWNERSHIP

- World Bank is owned and directed by its member countries
- Each country subscribes to shares in an amount based on its relative economic strength.
- Each has 250 votes plus one vote for each share of stock it holds.

DIRECTION

- Direction is through a board of Governors, consisting of one Governor for each member's country and twenty one full time executive directors.
- The Governors meet once annually to review operations and basic policies.

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES (ECOWAS)

- The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) is a regional group of fifteen West African countries, namely Benin, BurkinaFaso, CapeVerde, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo formed for the promotion of the economic and trade interests of its members.

- Two members, Guinea and Niger have had their memberships suspended following the 2008 and 2009 coup d'états in those countries respectively.
- In 1976 Cape Verde joined ECOWAS, and in December 2000 Mauritania withdrew.

- ECOWAS was founded on May 28, 1975, with the signing of the Treaty of Lagos.

The treaty declares that the organization's aim was *to promote co-operation and integration, leading to the establishment of an economic union in West Africa in order to raise the living standards of its peoples, and to maintain and enhance economic stability, foster relations among Member States and contribute to the progress and development of the African Continent*

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- ECOWAS member states signed a non-aggression protocol in 1990 and a Protocol on Mutual Defence Assistance, in Freetown, Sierra Leone, on May 29, 1981, that provided for the establishment of an Allied Armed Force of the Community called the Economic Community of West African States Monitoring Group (ECOMOG).

- ECOMOG is multilateral armed force established by a formal arrangement for separate armies to work together. Its backbone was Nigerian armed forces and financial resources, with sub-battalion strength units contributed by Ghana, Guinea, Sierra Leone, Gambia, Liberia, Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger, and others.

- Its most successful deployments were in Sierra Leone where it helped to end a 10 year old civil war. ECOMOG soldiers were also deployed in Liberia and Guinea to help end the conflicts in those countries.

- The ECOWAS Commission, The ECOWAS Community Parliament, and The ECOWAS Community Court of Justice are the main institutions that implement policy in the region.

- The ECOWAS Fund became the ECOWAS Bank for Investment and Development in 2001 and is responsible for enhancing growth by financing programmes and projects of ECOWAS.

- The ECOWAS Community Court of Justice was created by a protocol signed in 1991 and its jurisdiction includes ruling on disputes between states over interpretations of the Revised Treaty and providing the ECOWAS Council with advisory opinions on legal issues. It also has jurisdiction over gross human rights breaches.

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS

- Non-governmental organizations are international organizations and generally non profit organizations independent of specific governments.

NON STATE NATIONS

- These are nationalist entities that are not recognized as independent states but which claim rights to national sovereignty.
- These polities have sought diplomatic recognition from the international community as **de jure sovereignty** states, but have not been universally recognized.

- These entities often have **de facto** control of their territory. Non state nations lack recognition from at least one UN member state. For example:

- South Korea independent since 1948 is not recognised by one UN member, North Korea.
- Republic of Cyprus independent since 1960, is not recognized by one UN member (Turkey) and one UN non-member (Northern Cyprus), due to the ongoing civil dispute over the Island.

- North Korea, independent since 1948 is not recognized by three UN members (France, Japan, South Korea) and one non-UN member (Taiwan).

MULTINATIONAL CORPORATION

- This is usually a large corporation incorporated in one country which produces or sells goods or services in various countries.
- They are large in size and their activities are centrally controlled by the parent companies.
- It is also called transnational corporation, international enterprise. Examples are Bata corporation, Coca-Cola corporation, Unilever, Pepsi corporation, Philips, Suzuki, Cardbury.

FEATURES

- ❖ **Huge assets and turnover:** They have huge physical and financial assets. This also results in huge turnover of MNCs. Many MNCs are bigger than national economies of several countries in terms of assets and turnover.

❖ **International operations through a network of branches:** MNCs have production and marketing operations in several countries, operating through a network of branches, subdivisions and affiliates in host countries.

❖ **Unity of control:** MNCs control business activities of their branches in foreign countries through head office located in the home country. Management of branches operate within the policy framework of the parent corporation.

❖ **Mighty economic power:** They are powerful economic. They keep on adding to their economic power through constant mergers and acquisitions of companies in host countries.

❖ **Advanced and sophisticated technology:** MNC has at its command advanced and sophisticated technology. It employs capita intensive technology in manufacturing and marketing.

❖ **Professional management:** It employs professionally trained managers to handle huge funds, advanced technology and international business operations.

❖ **Aggressive advertising and marketing:**
They spend huge sums of money on advertising and marketing to secure international business. This is perhaps, the biggest strategy of success of MNCs. Because of this strategy, they are able to sell whatever products or services they produce.

❖ **Better quality of product:** MNC has to compete on the world level. It therefore has to pay special attention to the quality of its products.

THEORIES OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION

- REALIST THEORY

- ❖ The central focus is the acquisition, maintenance and exercise of power by states. Realists are pessimistic about the independent role of IOs, arguing that IOs can neither constrain nor prevent war. IOs are tools that powerful states use to control weaker countries.

ASSUMPTIONS

- ❖ The state is the most important actor in international relation.
- ❖ The state is a unitary and rational actor
- ❖ International relations are essentially conflictual.

- ❖ International relation is characterized by anarchy. Authority resides with each individual state.
- ❖ Security and high politics dominate the international agenda.

- Neorealists modify the traditional realist position by ascribing greater importance to economic issues. They classify states in terms of hierarchy such as super-great-middle-lesser powers. Hegemonic theory is an explanation for the creation and behaviour of IOs.

LIBERAL THEORY

- Liberals see international relation as a mixture of cooperation and conflict, and argue that IOs can play a positive role in promoting international stability and global welfare. For liberals, the nature of international relation has changed during the latter half of the 20th century for three reasons.

- ❖ The importance of military force in international has waned.
- ❖ Spread of democracy has instilled values of compromise and the rule of law in governments i.e. values that inhibit decision makers from resorting to war to settle disputes.

❖ Societies are not isolated from each other as they were in the past.

ASSUMPTIONS

- ❖ Both state and non-state actors are important in international relation. Liberals see non state actors as important because those actors have independent as well as indirect influences on the domestic and foreign policies of state.

❖ State is not necessarily a unitary and rational actor. Governments are composed of individuals, bureaucratic agencies, judicial and legislative bodies that can have competing interests.

- ❖ The nature of international relation is a composite one i.e. a combination of conflict and cooperation.
- ❖ A variety of issues can come to dominate the international agenda.

MARXIST THEORY

- Karl Marx saw capitalism as a progressive force because it had an endogenous dynamism which earlier socio-economic systems lacked.

- The survival of capitalism hinged on its continuing ability to revolutionize its means of production.
- To Marx, the labour input was the source of value. He saw the extraction of surplus and the immiseration of wage labour as the basis for class conflict. Such conflict would result in the eventual overflow of the bourgeoisie and the abolition of private property.

- As a departure from Marx, Lenin argued that colonialism would retard development in the colonies. To Lenin, colonialism was the outcome of imperialism, the highest stage of capitalism.

- Colonialism brought much of the non-capitalist world under the control of international capital and locked the new colonies into the international division of labour as suppliers of raw material.

ASSUMPTIONS

- ❑ The historical period of mankind is in essence the history of class struggles and changing modes of production.
- ❑ The state is inherently an instrument of coercion that is used by a ruling class to control and exploit the rest of society, and is therefore incompatible with freedom and justice.

□ The capitalist system of private ownership of the means of production and distribution must result in increasing contradictions, crises, depressions, and impoverishment of the masses.

❑ Increased force and repression may temporarily have to be used to put an end to capitalism and the capitalist state and to build a new and better society.

□ The new and better society that will emerge in the form of communism in the future will be a stateless and classless one.

□ The fundamental changes that occur in the society take place first in the economic base, and then the political and social superstructure changes to conform to the economic base.

THE CONCERT SYSTEM

- The Concert of Europe, also known as the Congress System or the Vienna System dated as far as the end of Napoleonic wars (1815) to the early 1820s. It was a system of dispute resolution adopted by the major conservative powers of Europe to maintain their power, oppose revolutionary movements, weaken the forces of nationalism, and uphold the balance of power.

The Concert of Europe was founded by the powers of Austria, Prussia, Russia and the United Kingdom, which were the members of the Quadruple Alliance that defeated Napoleon and his first French Empire. Later, France was established as a fifth member of the Concert, following the restoration of the Bourbon monarchy.

The leading personalities of the system were British foreign secretary Lord Castlereagh, Austrian Chancellor Klemens von Metternich and Tsar Alexander 1 of Russia. Charles Maurice of France was largely responsible for quickly returning that country to its place alongside the other major powers in international diplomacy.



The Concert of Europe had no written rules or permanent institutions, but at times of crisis any of the member countries could propose a conference.

The Concert's effectiveness came to an end because of many factors such as the British distrust of Russia.

THE HAGUE SYSTEM

The Hague agreement was constituted by two international treaties: The Hague Act of Nov. 28 1960 (i.e. the “1960 Act”) and the Geneva Act of July 2, 1999 (the “1999 Act”).

- The Hague agreement provides a mechanism for acquiring, maintaining and managing design rights in countries and intergovernmental organizations.

- Members of the Hague Union through a single international application filed with the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) that results in a single international registration with individual effort designated therein.

- The Hague agreement allows users to save time and this enables them to easily and swiftly acquire design protection in multiple markets as a single international application replaces a whole series of applications which, otherwise, should have been effected with different national offices.

- The possibility of filing an international application is not open to every one. An applicant must satisfy at least one of the following conditions:
 - ❖ Be a national of a contracting party, or a member state of an intergovernmental organization which is a contracting party, such as the European Union or the African Intellectual Property Organization, or

- ❖ Have a domicile in the territory of a contracting party, or
- ❖ Have a real and effective industrial or commercial establishment in the territory of a contracting party.

The Hague system cannot be used to protect an industrial design in a country which is not party to the Hague Agreement, or which is not a member state of an intergovernmental organization party to the Hague Agreement.

Advantages of the Hague System

- It enables design owners from a contracting party to obtain protection for their designs with a minimum of formalities and expense. In addition, the design owners are relieved of the need to make a separate national application in each of the contracting parties, in which they seek protection.

□ It avoids the need for constant monitoring of the deadline for renewal of a whole series of national registrations, varying from one state to the other. In addition, it avoids the need to pay a series of fees in various currencies.

□ The use of single international application, made in one language, on payment of a single set of fees, in one currency and with one office, the applicant receives a bundle of national rights.

□ By having a single international registration with effect in several contracting parties, the subsequent management of the international registration is considerably facilitated.