

Has the UNO become irrelevant in the modern world

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b-

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The Essay

The United Nations was not created to take mankind to heaven, but to save humanity from hell [Dag Hammarskjöld].

Established in the aftermath of the WWII, the United Nations organization (UNO) embodied humanity's collective resolve to prevent another global catastrophe. It is obligated to maintain international peace and security and promote human rights. The UNO was expected to rise above power politics and ensure peace and justice. However, more than several decades later, the world continues to witness devastating wars, gross human rights violations. It ignited debates over whether the UNO has become irrelevant in the modern world. Critics

argued that it has failed to prevent genocides in various regions, UNO has selective interference in conflicts and selective enforcement of international law. The veto power of great powers and alternative blocs have reduced its centrality. However proponents argued its effective role in ceasefire, inclusivity, peace-keeping operations still ensure its relevancy. So, balanced analysis shows that UNO is not irrelevant but constrained by power politics and structural weaknesses.

Before proceeding forward, it is imperative to understand the United Nations and its structure. The UNO was established in 1945 by sovereign and great powers. It consists of five organs each has distinctive function. Its security council has

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five permanent members; US, China, Russia, France and UK. UN has peacekeeping operations, agencies and UN programs and funds. It has intricate network

The obligations of the United Nations delineates its purpose. It aimed to maintain international peace and security, preventing aggressive states, promoting social and economic development and works to promote human rights

After gaining an insight of the United, the arguments supporting the irrelevant role of the UN in the modern world are discussed below.

First of all, the United Nations has failed to prevent global genocide. It was once believed to be the end of all conflicts, but it has failed to fulfilled its obligations.

Despite passing resolutions, it has been unable to take substantial actions against brutal states and preventing the ethnic cleansing. For instance, Israel's genocide in Gaza has taken 80,000 lives and UNO has failed to enforce its resolutions to halt Israel aggression. Thus it has failed to fulfill its obligation of international peace and security.

Moreover, veto power and great power politics made it irrelevant at global level. UNSC is dominated by five permanent members with veto powers which became an instrument of obstruction. It paralyzes the decision making in the UNO. US repeated vetoes have blocked Israel-condemning resolutions, rendering it ineffective. The UNSC often serves as a arena of

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rivalry rather than cooperating, hence leading to irrelevancy of UNO.

Besides, the UN's policy of selective interference in many conflicts has exposed the inequalities in its structure and making it irrelevant. The UN charter prevent it from its interference in states domestic affairs but it selectively participate to serve the interests of major powers. UN's interference in Libya to protect protestors is recognized selective interference which led to regime change that was proved to be political instability for Libya. Thus its selective interference prevents its obligation to respect state sovereignty.

Further more, the centrality of the UN has reduced due to alternative power blocs. States shows

preference to abide by these blocs than United Nations. Rise of NATO, G20, BRICS and regional forums

This trend reflects declining confidence in the decision making ability of the UN making it irrelevant in the modern world.

Next to these, the changing nature of global threats challenges the relevancy of the UN in the modern world. The threats are more complex and non-traditional including terrorism, climate issues, transnational crimes and cyberattacks. These new threats require quick flexible and coordinated actions, however UN's slow, consensus-based decision making and dependency on member states reduce its effectiveness and increase its irrelevance in the global affairs.

Lastly, the selective enforcement of international law has eroded its authority and relevancy. UN's sanctions on Iran and North Korea for nuclear ambitions and no sanctions on Assad and US regime change operations. These double standards reinforce the perception that UN serves the powerful states not the universal justice.

Nevertheless, the proponents of the UNO argued its maintenance of relevant status in the modern world.

First and foremost, the United Nations is the only institution that has global legitimacy and inclusivity. It is the only truly universal organization where nearly all states are represented. It provides the crucial diplomatic platform to

the small and developing countries.
This status can not be replaced by
exclusive alliances.

Apart from the above,
the UN has observed numerous ceasefires
between warring groups. Its effective
ceasefires are manifestation of obligations
of peace and security. **UN'S**
Ceasefire between civilian war
groups and ensuring free and fair
elections in Mozambique, ended Portugal
control over the region. Hence, UN
maintained its obligations and upheld
in regional stability.

Besides, UN has crucial
role humanitarian and developmental agenda.
Its agencies continue to save
millions of lives worldwide. **UN'S**
folio eradication and health,

initiatives, food aid in Sub-Saharan Africa. These roles show continued relevance of the UN beyond geopolitics. Its agencies UNDP, WHO and UNICEF illustrate its humanitarian effort around the globe.

In addition, the peacekeeping operations of UN play vital role in reducing violence, protecting civilians. They provide support to post-conflict reconstruction in countries like Liberia, Sierra Leone.

These missions prevent local conflicts from spreading into regional wars, in fragile states where no other neutral force is acceptable to all parties.

Lastly, UN has been mitigating environmental and climate challenges. It has special agency. **UN Environmental Program**, takes actions to reduce the

level of GHGs emission. It is actively fulfilling obligation to guide and finance nations towards social development by addressing environmental and climate challenges. Hence, it has maintained its relevant status in the modern world.

The critical evaluation of the perception of relevance of UN in modern world shows that it reflects global power realities rather than transcending them. Structural constraints especially veto-power of security council limits its actions in the conflicts involving major powers. Additionally, slow bureaucratic process reduce its effectiveness, yet UN contribution in humanitarian, peacekeeping remains vital. It is not the institution that has failed, but the political will of member

of states.

To conclude, The UN has not become irrelevant in the modern world, but it is increasingly constrained by outdated structure and great-power rivalries. Former Secretary-

General Kofi Annan aptly noted, "The UN is only as strong as its member states allow it to be" while its

failures in conflict resolution and security are notable, the UN plays critical role in peacekeeping, ceasefires humanitarian and environmental developments

In a world facing transnational challenges, the UN remains indispensable. The real challenge is not abandoning the organization but reforming and empowering it to meet the demands of modern world, and safeguarding humanity from conflicts.