

Need for restructuring International institutions for global peace

Outlines

1- Introduction

2- Understanding international institutions

- a- Definition of international institution
- b- Historical context

3- Why global peace is under threat

- a- Ris of multipolarity and power competition.
- b- Proliferation of inter-state conflicts and proxy wars.
- c- Economic inequality and debt crisis
- d- Climate change and resource scarcity.

e Weak global response to humanitarian crisis

4- Limitations of existing international institutions

a- outdated power structure
veto power of P5 and
concentrated decision-making

b Representation deficit.

c Ineffective conflict resolution

d Institutional inertia

e Erosion of credibility.

5- Need for restructuring international institutional

a- Ensuring equitable global representation

b Strengthening collective security

c- Enhancing conflict prevention mechanism

d- Addressing non-traditional security threats

e- Restoring legitimacy and ~~trust~~ trust.

b- Key Areas requiring reforms

a- United Nations Security Council: expansion and veto reforms

b- Global financial institutions: fair lending and debt relief, mechanisms.

c- Peacekeeping framework: neutrality and effectiveness.

d- International law enforcement: stronger compliance mechanism.

7- Challenges to restructuring

a- Resistance from status quo powers.

b- Geopolitical rivalries

c- Divergent national interest.

d-

Lack of political will

8- Way forward

a-

Gradual consensus-based reforms.

b-

Greater role for regional organizations.

c-

Strengthening international law

d-

Empowering middle and emerging powers.

9- Conclusion

The Essay

We are trying to run today's world with the ideas of the 1940s.

The ideas are fine but the system is no longer adequate [Jan Eliasson Former-deputy Secretary-General of UN.]

These lines aptly demonstrates the realities of international institutions, established in the aftermath of WWII to ensure global peace and security.

However, the global peace in the 21st century faces multidimensional threats encompassing wars, economic inequalities, climate change, cyber insecurities and humanitarian crisis.

While the existing international institutions struggle to address these contemporary realities. Therefore, the key institutions including UN, IMF, WB, ICI requires structural and functional reforms

in their operational mechanism. Hence restructuring international institutions has become imperative to ensure effective global peace, justice and collective security. In the following paragraphs, need for restructuring international institutions for global peace will be discussed, along with brief history of international institutions, their limitations and need for restructuring.

International institutions are formal organizations established to regulate state behaviour, manage conflicts and promote cooperation. For example, United Nations, International Monetary Fund and World Bank. These were developed after the failure of League of Nations and WWII by the great powers in 1945. Their main purpose is to ensure peace, security,

economic and social cooperation and providing negotiation mechanisms to halt state rivalries

Before proceeding further, it is imperative to understand why global peace is under threat. First of all rise of multipolarity and power competition is 21st century as world is moving from unipolarity to multipolarity. The economic and militaristic rise of China, resurgence of Russia under Putin and growing economic influence of BRICS powers are threatening US led global order. This new power competition has paralyzed collective actions of international institutions. UNSC resolutions over Ukraine are vetoed by Russia. As result, ineffective enforcement of resolutions are threatening global peace due to rise of multipolarity and power competitions.

Besides, proliferation of interstate conflicts are proxy wars are other threat to global peace. Currently, ^{large scale} direct power war may be rare, but proxy war, where major powers support rival factions in third country, are major tool of competition. Interstate conflicts like **India-Pakistan**, **Israel-Palestine**, **Russia-Ukraine** are threatening global peace along with rise of proxy wars.

The Syrian civil war was proxy war led by USA, KSA on one hand and Iran, Russia on otherhand. UN led peace made little progress in these conflicts and as result threaten global security norms and peace.

Additionally, economic inequality and debt crisis is also major threat to global peace. in this regard, global financial institutions play key role

to exacerbate these inequalities, IMF
Structural Adjustment Program as condition
for loans is criticized for worsening social
and economic instability in developing countries.
These institutions serves the interests of
Western state by keeping developing states
in debt trap hence worsen economic inequality
and threatening global peace.

Another threat to global peace
is climate change and resource scarcity.
In this manner climate change is major
driver of conflicts like resource scarcity,
displacement, food insecurity. Although various
international programs are developed to
reduce GHGs emission, global warming
and protection of natural resources but
the lack of enforcement of these
mechanisms has made climate change
and scarcity of resources as major
threat to global peace.

Lastly, weak global response to humanitarian crisis is a threat to global peace. The selective application of international laws and humanitarian assistance has weakened the international architecture.

UN led Responsibility to Protect (R2P) has been applied inconsistently, revealing a crisis of credibility and human sufferings. **Genocide in Gaza** and failed global response to humanitarian aid has revealed the shaky foundations of international norms and peace efforts.

The current international institutions faces key limitations which effectively reduce their capabilities to respond peace and security. Some of these limitations are unmentioned.

firstly, outdated power structure has led to concentration of decision making power in a few states.

Permanent veto powers undermine collective ^{security} UNSC dominated by five permanent members fail to represent 21st century and its veto mechanism enables obstructions to ensure global peace.

Another limitation is the deficit representation of member states in decision making. Underrepresentation of developing and global south countries and muslim world lack proportional voice. The voting power in IMF is based on economic quotas which gives US a de facto veto in decisions. As result the underrepresentation of all states increases the influence of US and European powers over the policies of international institutions.

Moreover, ineffective conflict resolution mechanism has led to

Day: _____

Date: ___/___/20

failure to prevent prolonged conflicts and selective enforcement of international law. The veto powers of states, no adequate resources and no political backing while deploying peacekeeping missions by UNSC has failed to address root causes of conflicts. They just freeze conflicts rather than resolve it.

Lastly, erosion of credibility is a major limitation to international institutions. The perceived hypocrisy of powerful states, as they violate international law for their national interests and avoiding accountability for allies has led to global trust deficit. As result developing states and the global south are voicing for the reforms of these institutions.

Based on above mentioned arguments these advise need for the restructuring of international institutions. following paragraphs illustrates this need for restructuring.

firstly, ensuring global representation by expanding the UNSC to include permanent members from underdeveloped areas. enhanced global representation provide legitimacy to the institutions. It will ensure that those states that are governed by global rules have a meaningful voice in making them

Furthermore, strengthening global and collective security. It cannot be held hostage to veto powers. It can be done by empowering UN General Assembly, and investing in regional security organizations. The UN must provide support, legal authority

Day: _____

Date: ___/___/20

and funding to make them capable regional bodies. Hence new multilayered security system would be less vulnerable to blockade and insecurity at any point.

Next to these, enhancing conflict prevention mechanisms is the need to maintain global peace. For this, UN must establish new prevention and mediation committees comprising of seasoned diplomats, humanitarian and ceasefire policy makers. It is essential to prevent the state conflict from arising and increase the trust on international institutions. Early warning systems and preventive diplomacy would play key role in global peace.

Lastly, non-traditional security threats can be addressed by the restructuring of international institutions.

The horors of climate change, financial shocks, smuggling and cyber attacks do not respect the bureaucratic boundaries of the UN. For the prevention of these threats climate security, global health security based on financial stability board should established. They must monitor non-traditional threats and coordinate research and policies. Hence institutions must be wired to connect the dots between non-traditional threats and traditional insecurity.

To ensure global peace, there are certain key areas that require restructuring. These include UN Security Council expansion and reforms in its veto power mechanism. Global financial systems must be reformed to provide fair lending and debt relief. Neutrality of peacekeeping frameworks and developing stronger compliance

mechanism for the effective enforcement of international law is imperative for the restructuring of institutions.

However, the restructuring of international institutions faces certain challenges from great powers. These include resistance from states quo powers specially in realm of their veto powers, additionally the geopolitical situations, divergent national interests of states and their lack of political will to reform all the key restrictions in the process of restructuring in order to ensure global peace.

The international institutions can be restructured by taking certain pragmatic steps. The reforms must be based on consensus of states and proceed in gradual manner. Regional organizations

should be provided more involvement in relation with UN and IMF. Moreover middle and emerging powers of the global south should be empowered in international institution's policy-making. Lastly international law and multilateral diplomacy should be strengthened to ensure the collective security and prevention of hegemonic power.

In a nutshell, Restructuring of international institutions for ensuring the global peace has paramount significance in the contemporary world of 21st century in order to provide collective resolve to traditional and non-traditional security threats. Sustainable peace can not be achieved through these outdated institutions. Restructuring of international institutions is not a choice

Day: _____

Date: ___/___/20

but a necessity. A fair, inclusive and responsive global governance framework is essential to manage conflicts, promote cooperation and ensuring lasting peace in a interconnected world. Hence the restructuring of current international institutions is imperative to ensure global peace and security.