The Organization of the UN

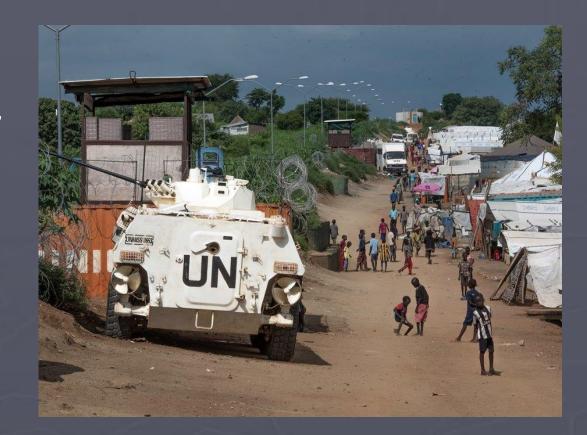
Basics of the United Nations

- Established in October 1945
 - Goals to promote world peace and prevent conflict
- Operations overseen by Secretary-General
- UN provides forum for countries to voice opinions
- The UN can not makes laws for countries
 - Establishes International Law, which individual states must then put in place
- Mission of UN outlined the Three Pillars of its mission in its Charter
 - Peace and Security
 - Development
 - Human Rights



The Three Pillars of the UN: Peace and Security

- The United Nations works to resolve conflicts between states in a peaceful manner and works against the forces that create instability
 - Economic and social threats, including poverty, infectious diseases and environmental degradation
 - Inter-State conflict
 - Internal conflict, including civil war, genocide and other large -scale atrocities
 - Nuclear, radiological, chemical and biological weapons
 - Terrorism
 - Transnational organized crime
- UN also makes sure states uphold obligations from treaties and other international agreements



The Three Pillars of the UN: Development

- The UN helps countries achieve Sustainable Development
 - Development that promotes prosperity and economic opportunity, greater social well-being, and protection of the environment
 - Regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, language, religion, or sexual identity
 - Recognizes that all must have equal access to resources and rights in order to promote growth



The Three Pillars of the UN: Human Rights

- The UN Charter affirms the "faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small."
 - Accepted in 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights
 - Acknowledges the unalienable rights of all individuals as the foundations of freedom
 - Promotes development of economic, social and cultural rights



Membership to the United Nations

- Currently there are 193 members in the UN
- Membership Requirements
 - "is open to all peace-loving States that accept the obligations contained in the United Nations Charter and, in the judgment of the Organization, are able to carry out these obligations"

• Membership Process

- Submit an Application and a Letter to the Secretary-General
- Security Council considers application
 - Must be approved by 9 or 15 members (including all 5 permanent members)
- Vote is passed on to General Assembly who must vote 2/3 in favor of admission
- Membership date accepted the day the resolution passes the General Assembly
- Possible to have non-member observing states
 - Holy See and Palestine

The General Assembly

• Comprised of 193 members

- Each member gets on vote
- Operates on a majority vote for most issues
 - 2/3 vote needed for budget, peacekeeping, and membership issues
- Powers of General Assembly
 - Makes recommendations to Security Council
 - Over see international collaboration in the economic, social, humanitarian, cultural, and educational and health fields
 - Develops international laws
 - Receives and considers decisions on issues



The Security Council

- 15 member council
 - 5 permanent members
- Primarily responsible for maintaining peace and security
 - Attempts to secure peace through:
 - Negotiating Ceasefires
 - Sending Peacekeepers
 - Imposing Sanctions or Embargos
- Also makes recommendations for new Secretary General and new member states



Organizations of the UN

- Economic and Social Council
 - ECOSOC sets UN development goals and crafts UN policy on economic, social, and environmental topics
- The International Court of Justice
 - The ICJ decides questions of international law and adjucates disputes between member states. The Court has 15 judges, elected to nine-year terms, and sits in The Hague

