Peace-keeping, Peace-making, and Peace-building

On October 24, 1945, the international organization, United Nations was founded after World War II. It is a diverse organization of 193 member states that are able to convey existing concerns through the General Assembly and the Security Council. The United Nations was created for the specific purposes to keep and promote peace, develop friendly relationships among nations, better living standards and human rights for all people, and to be a vessel for each nation to achieve these goals across the globe.

Through the specific goals the United Nations has ordained for its purpose, peacekeeping, peace-making, and peace-building are very important and revolving factors to maintain peace among all nations.

Since 1945, the United Nations has been successful and continuing in its mission to help nations prevent and resolve conflicts peacefully.

Through United Nations Peacekeeping, troubled nations are able to create peace. The Department of Peacekeeping Operations is a contributed military force by Member States of the United Nations composed of police, military personnel and civilians. The Department of Peacekeeping Operations provides guidance and support on military, police, mine action and other relevant issues to other UN political and peace-building missions. In addition to maintaining peace and security, peacekeepers are increasingly charged with assisting in political processes; reforming judicial systems; training law enforcement and police forces; disarming and reintegrating former combatants; supporting the return of internally displaced persons and refugees. UN Peacekeeping is guided by the principles of consent of the parties, Impartiality and non-use of force except in self-defense and defense of the mandate.

Peace-making contributions in the United Nations have also made major strides to reduce conflict in countries and uphold peace. With the assistance of the United Nation’s Member States and the strengthening of the Department of Political Affairs, the United Nations is able to increase effectiveness of peace-making by having a more portable and responsive platform for crisis within nations. Also, through peace-making strides the United Nations is able to provide mediation experts and other peace-making expertise to countries with conflicts.

The Peace-building Commission is an intergovernmental advisory body that supports peace efforts in countries emerging from conflict. The Peace-building Commission plays a unique role in bringing together international donors, the international financial institutions, national governments, and troop contributing countries; marshalling resources; and advising
integrated strategies for post-conflict peace-building and recovery and where appropriate, highlighting any gaps that threaten to undermine peace.

Since 1988, there have been 67 peacekeeping operations by the United Nations. During these times, there have been hundreds of thousands of military personnel, as well as tens of thousands of United Nations police and other civilians from more than 120 countries have participated in United Nations peacekeeping operations. More than 3,000 United Nations peacekeepers from some 120 countries have died while serving under the United Nations flag.

Efforts are ongoing to strengthen UN peace-making capacity. The United Nations has committed itself to moving from a culture of "reaction" to "prevention", to work Member States as well as civil society to pursue comprehensive strategies that address more immediate as well as deep-rooted structural causes of conflict.

The Peace-building Commission is currently making strides to resolve conflicts and keep peace in many different countries such as Burundi, Sierra Leone, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia and Central African Republic. All Peace-building agenda’s are contributed by Member States of the United Nations.

The efforts of peacekeeping, peace-making and peace-building are still a part of the mission of the United Nations. Success is never guaranteed, because UN Peacekeeping almost by definition goes to the most physically and politically difficult environments. There are major issues amongst nations that continue to exist such as, human rights, protection of civilians, conduct and discipline, rule of law, field support, electoral assistance and children in conflict.

Significant Treaties:

• I-23431; Convention on Special Missions
  o United Nations Peacekeeping Assistance; Concluded August 12, 1969