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# International Organisations I

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# Structure

- International organisations and IR theory
- Definitions
- Types of international organisations
- International security organisations (part I)
  - United Nations
  - NATO

# International organisations and IR theory

## Liberalism

- neo-liberal institutionalism → institutions created to maximize shared interests
- the role of international institutions in mitigating conflict
- can change the character of the international environment by influencing state preferences and state behaviour

## Realism

- institutions are basically a reflection of the distribution of power in the world
- based on the self-interested calculations of the great powers
- established to realize and maintain domination

# International organisations: definition

## International organisations

- “*organization established by a treaty or other instrument governed by international law and possessing its own international legal personality*“
- promotes voluntary cooperation and coordination among its members

## International regimes

- “*principles, norms, rules, and decision-making procedures around which actors' expectations converge in a given area of international relations*“ ([S. Krasner, 1982](#))
- less institutionalised, narrow focus

# Types of international organisations

## **Collective defence organisations [NATO, ANZUS]**

- protection against a common enemy (usually a commitment to respond jointly to an external threat)

## **Collective security organisations [UN]**

- maintaining peace and security → states will not resolve common disputes by force (or threat of force)

## **Cooperative security organisations [OSCE]**

- efforts to reduce the risk of war and increase international security
- limiting and regulating armed force, arms control, relationship and trust building

# United Nations: History



# United Nations: History

## DECLARATION BY UNITED NATIONS

**DECLARATION BY UNITED NATIONS:**

**A JOINT DECLARATION BY THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND, THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS, CHINA, INDIA, BRAZIL, BELGIUM, CANADA, COSTA RICA, CUBA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, EL SALVADOR, GREECE, GUATEMALA, HAITI, HONDURAS, INDIA, IRELAND, NETHERLANDS, NEW ZEALAND, NICARAGUA, NORWAY, PANAMA, POLAND, SOUTH AFRICA, YUGOSLAVIA.**

The Governments signatory hereto,

Having subscribed to a common program of purposes and principles embodied in the Joint Declaration of the President of the United States of America and the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland dated August 14, 1941, known as the Atlantic Charter.

Being convinced that complete victory over their enemies is essential to defend life, liberty, independence and religious freedom, and to preserve human rights and justice in their own lands as well as in other lands, and that they are now engaged in a common struggle against savage and brutal forces seeking to subjugate the world, DECLARE:

(1) Each Government pledges itself to employ its full resources, military or economic, against those enemies of the Tripartite Pact and its adherents with whom such government is at war.

(2) Each Government pledges itself to cooperate with the Governments signatory hereto and not to make a separate armistice or peace with the enemies.

The foregoing declaration may be adhered to by other nations which are, or which may be, rendering material assistance and contributions in the struggle for victory over Hitlerism.

*Done at Washington  
January First, 1942*

*The United States of America  
by Franklin D. Roosevelt  
The United Kingdom of Great Britain  
by Winston Churchill*

*on behalf of the Government  
of the Union of Soviet Socialist  
Republics*

*Stjepan Cvijetić  
Minister of Foreign Affairs*

*The Commonwealth of Australia  
by W. B. Stanger*

*The Kingdom of Belgium  
by P. P. Schryver  
Minister of Foreign Affairs*

*by L. de Meir  
Minister of Foreign Affairs*

*The Republic of Cuba  
by Fulgencio Batista*

*The Republic of Cuba  
by Fulgencio Batista*

*by V. S. Kerebetov  
The Dominican Republic  
by J. M. Cabral*

*The Republic of Haiti  
by J. P. Duménil*

*The Republic of Honduras  
by J. M. Cabral*

*The Republic of Guatemala  
by J. M. Cabral*

*The Republic of El Salvador  
by J. M. Cabral*

*The Republic of Nicaragua  
by J. M. Cabral*

*The Republic of Costa Rica  
by J. M. Cabral*

*The Republic of Panama  
by J. M. Cabral*

*The Grand Duchy of Luxembourg  
by J. M. Cabral*

*The Kingdom of the Netherlands  
by J. M. Cabral*

*The Republic of the Philippines  
by J. M. Cabral*

*The Republic of Indonesia  
by J. M. Cabral*

*The Republic of Thailand  
by J. M. Cabral*

*The Republic of India  
by J. M. Cabral*

*The Republic of Ceylon  
by J. M. Cabral*

*The Republic of Sri Lanka  
by J. M. Cabral*

*The Republic of Malaya  
by J. M. Cabral*

*The Republic of Singapore  
by J. M. Cabral*

# United Nations: Key facts

- founded in 1945 - 51 member states
- membership: 193 member states
- symbols: flag + “UN blue” colour
- founding document: UN Charter
- main bodies: the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council, the Trusteeship Council, the International Court of Justice, and the UN Secretariat





# United Nations: Purpose

## UN Charter - Article 1

1. *To maintain international peace and security*
2. *To develop friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples*
3. *To achieve international co-operation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural, or humanitarian character, and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all*
4. *To be a centre for harmonizing the actions of nations in the attainment of these common ends*

# United Nations: Principles

## UN Charter - Article 2

- The principle of the sovereign equality of all its members
- Settlement of international disputes by peaceful means
- No threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state
- Providing assistance to the UN in any action
- (...)

# United Nations: Structure

## Secretariat

- Secretary-General + staff members
- departments with different areas of responsibility

## General Assembly

- main policymaking and representative organ
- purely deliberative - a forum for multilateral discussion
- universal representations - equal vote
- appoints Secretary-General, elects non-permanent members of the SC (2/3 majority)



# United Nations: Structure

## Security Council

- 5 permanent + 10 non-permanent members (2-year term), each member = 1 vote
- decisions - vote of 9 members, including permanent members
- primary responsibility - maintenance of international peace and security (Chapters VI, VII)
- may establish subsidiary bodies (Counter-Terrorism Committee, Non-Proliferation Committee, Military Staff Committee, Sanctions Committee...)



# United Nations: International Peace and Security

## Chapter VI: Pacific Settlement of Disputes

- parties to any dispute - shall seek a solution by peaceful means
- SC can call upon the parties to settle the dispute by peaceful means
- SC investigates a dispute → to determine a risk to international peace and security

## Chapter VII: Action with Respect to Threats to the Peace, Breaches of the Peace, and Acts of Aggression

- SC determines the existence of threat to peace / breach of the peace / act of aggression
- SC decides on the use of non-military measures
- SC can take military action to maintain or restore international peace and security
- undertake to make available to SC armed forces, assistance, and facilities

## UN Charter, Article 51

“Nothing in the present Charter shall impair the inherent right of individual or collective self-defence if an armed attack occurs against a Member of the United Nations, until the Security Council has taken measures necessary to maintain international peace and security. Measures taken by Members in the exercise of this right of self-defence shall be immediately reported to the Security Council and shall not in any way affect the authority and responsibility of the Security Council under the present Charter to take at any time such action as it deems necessary in order to maintain or restore international peace and security.”

## ***Zelensky Tells U.N. Security Council It's Useless While Russia Has a Veto***

The Ukrainian president joined many world leaders in calling for changes at the Security Council, where five permanent members wield veto power — a high barrier to taking action.

 Share full article



President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine speaking at the Security Council on Wednesday. Justin Lane/EPA, via Shutterstock

[VIDEO](#)

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# United Nations: Structure

- **Economic and Social Council** - principal body for economic, social and environmental issues (54 members)
- **Trusteeship Council** - international supervision for 11 Trust Territories
- **International Court of Justice** - (1) settlement of legal disputes among states, (2) advisory role on legal questions (15 judges)
- **International Courts and Tribunals**
  - International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY, 1993)
  - International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR, 1994)





# Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide

## Article IX

Disputes between the Contracting Parties relating to the interpretation, application or fulfilment of the present Convention, including those relating to the responsibility of a State for genocide or for any of the other acts enumerated in article III, shall be submitted to the International Court of Justice at the request of any of the parties to the dispute.

## Russia, Ukraine Clash Over Genocide Charges at World Court

International Court of Justice hears arguments on whether Russia's invasion can be challenged under 1948 treaty



# United Nations: Activities

## Core tasks

- maintenance of international peace and security [Preventive diplomacy and mediation, Peacekeeping, Peacebuilding, Disarmament, Countering Terrorism]
- human rights protection [[Universal Declaration of Human Rights/UDHR](#)]
- sustainable development (SDG) and climate action
- humanitarian aid delivery
- upholding int. law [ICJ, Courts and Tribunals]

## Specific issues:

- hate speech, rule of law, refugees and migrants, children and armed conflict, violence against children, sexual violence in conflict, countering disinformation...

## Ad hoc activities and initiatives

(Black Sea Grain Initiative... )

# United Nations: Funds and programmes

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## UNDP

### Headquarters: New York City, USA

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) works in nearly 170 countries and territories, helping to eradicate poverty, reduce inequalities and build resilience so countries can sustain progress. As the UN's development agency, UNDP plays a critical role in helping countries achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

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## UNEP

### Headquarters: Nairobi, Kenya

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) established in 1972, is the voice for the environment within the United Nations system. UNEP acts as a catalyst, advocate, educator and facilitator to promote the wise use and sustainable development of the global environment.

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## UNFPA

### Headquarters: New York City, USA

The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) is the lead UN agency for delivering a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every birth is safe, and every young person's potential is fulfilled.

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## UN-HABITAT

### Headquarters: Nairobi, Kenya

The mission of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT) is to promote socially and environmentally sustainable human settlements development and the achievement of adequate shelter for all.

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## UNICEF

### Headquarters: New York City, USA

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) works in 190 countries and territories to save children's lives, to defend their rights, and to help them fulfil their potential, from early childhood through adolescence.

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## WFP

### Headquarters: Rome, Italy

The World Food Programme aims to eradicate hunger and malnutrition. The world's largest humanitarian agency, WFP helps almost 100 million people in approximately 88 countries with assistance every year through food or cash distributions and more. The World Food Programme was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2020.

# United Nations: Specialised agencies

- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
- International Atomic Energy Agency
- International Criminal Court
- International Fund for Agricultural Development
- International Labour Organization
- International Monetary Fund
- International Organization for Migration
- International Seabed Authority
- International Telecommunication Union
- International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea
- Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty Organization
- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
- United Nations Industrial Development Organization
- World Bank
- World Health Organization
- World Intellectual Property Organization
- World Meteorological Organization

## NATO: Key facts



- political and military alliance - established in 1949 (April 4)
  - based on the Western European Alliance (UK, France, Belgium, Netherlands, Luxembourg) + US, Canada, Denmark, Iceland, Italy, Norway, Portugal
- founding document: North Atlantic Treaty (signed in Washington DC)
- principle: a collective defence organization (Art. 5 of the Washington Treaty)
- 31 members + security partners in around 40 countries
- 2 official languages (English + French)
- France left the NATO military command in 1966, rejoined in 2009
- one member does not have a standing army (Iceland)

# NATO: Membership

– 31 member countries

## Alphabetical list of NATO member countries

 <b>Albania</b> 2009	 <b>Belgium</b> 1949	 <b>Bulgaria</b> 2004	 <b>Canada</b> 1949
 <b>Croatia</b> 2009	 <b>Czechia</b> 1999	 <b>Denmark</b> 1949	 <b>Estonia</b> 2004
 <b>Finland</b> 2023	 <b>France</b> 1949	 <b>Germany</b> 1955	 <b>Greece</b> 1952
 <b>Hungary</b> 1999	 <b>Iceland</b> 1949	 <b>Italy</b> 1949	 <b>Latvia</b> 2004
 <b>Lithuania</b> 2004	 <b>Luxembourg</b> 1949	 <b>Montenegro</b> 2017	 <b>Netherlands</b> 1949
 <b>North Macedonia</b> 2020	 <b>Norway</b> 1949	 <b>Poland</b> 1999	 <b>Portugal</b> 1949
 <b>Romania</b> 2004	 <b>Slovakia</b> 2004	 <b>Slovenia</b> 2004	 <b>Spain</b> 1982
 <b>Türkiye</b> 1952	 <b>United Kingdom</b> 1949	 <b>United States</b> 1949	

# NATO Enlargement

- Art. 10 - "open door policy"
- 1995 Study on Enlargement - requirements to be fulfilled by potential members

- ✓ a functioning democratic political system based on a market economy
- ✓ the fair treatment of minority populations
- ✓ a commitment to the peaceful resolution of conflicts
- ✓ the ability and willingness to make a military contribution to NATO operations
- ✓ a commitment to democratic civil-military relations and institutional structures



## How does a country join NATO?

1. Accession talks with a NATO team
2. Invitees send letters of intent to NATO (timetables for completion of reforms)
3. Accession protocols are signed by NATO countries
4. Accession protocols are ratified by NATO countries
5. The Secretary General invites them to accede to the North Atlantic Treaty
6. Invitees accede to the North Atlantic Treaty (national procedures)
7. Deposition of their instruments of accession with the US State Department [VIDEO](#)

# NATO: Purpose

1. Safeguard the freedom and security of all its members by political and military means (collective defence)
2. Secure a lasting peace in Europe, based on common values of individual liberty, democracy, human rights and the rule of law
3. Contribute to peace and stability through crisis prevention and management, partnerships



# NATO: Washington Treaty

## Article 5 and Collective defence

- *The Parties agree that an armed attack against one or more of them in Europe or North America shall be considered an attack against them all and consequently they agree that, if such an armed attack occurs, each of them, in exercise of the right of individual or collective self-defence recognised by Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations, will assist the Party or Parties so attacked by taking forthwith, individually and in concert with the other Parties, such action as it deems necessary, including the use of armed force, to restore and maintain the security of the North Atlantic area.*
- invoked only once after the 9/11 terrorist attacks

# NATO: Washington Treaty

## Article 3 - Resilience

- *In order more effectively to achieve the objectives of this Treaty, the Parties, separately and jointly, by means of continuous and effective self-help and mutual aid, will maintain and develop their individual and collective capacity to resist armed attack.*

## Article 4 - Consultation

- *The Parties will consult together whenever, in the opinion of any of them, the territorial integrity, political independence or security of any of the Parties is threatened.*

# NATO: Decision-making process and consultations

- **Article 4** of the Washington Treaty
  - any member can bring any issue of concern for discussion within the NAC by invoking Art. 4
  - invoked 7 times (last time - [February 24, 2022](#))
- principle of **consensus decision-making**
  - all decisions are made by consensus after consultation and discussion
  - applied at every committee level
  - SecGen facilitates the process



The North Atlantic Council have addressed a request by Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania and Slovakia to hold urgent consultations under Article 4 of the Washington Treaty

# NATO: Core tasks

– enshrined in *Strategic Concept* (2022)

**A. Deterrence and defence**

**B. Crisis prevention and management**

**C. Cooperative security**

**Resilience** - enshrined in Art. 3

– both civil preparedness + military capacity

– 7 baseline requirements for national resilience



1. assured continuity of government and critical government services
2. resilient energy supplies
3. ability to deal effectively with uncontrolled movement of people
4. resilient food and water resources
5. ability to deal with mass casualties
6. resilient civil communications systems
7. resilient civil transportation systems

# NATO: Structure

## **North Atlantic Council** (the Council / NAC)

- principal political decision-making body within NATO
- oversees a wide network of committees and working groups
- member states represented at different levels (Permanent Representatives, foreign or defence ministers, heads of state and government)

## **Secretary General**

- chairs the NAC + all major committees; head of IS; principal spokesperson
- facilitates consultations and decision-making and implementation of decisions



# NATO: Structure

## **Nuclear Planning Group (NPG)**

- senior body on nuclear matters in the Alliance
- reviews the NATO nuclear policy
- discusses specific policy issues (nuclear arms control and nuclear proliferation)
- all Allies members of the NPG, except for France
  
- NATO Organization - [overview](#)
- Organizations and agencies - see the list [here](#)

# NATO: Civilian structure

## **NATO Headquarters (Brussels)**

- home to NAC, national delegations, offices/missions of partner countries = a venue for dialogue and cooperation

## **National delegations to NATO**

- represent member states, contribute to the consultation process
- each headed by an ambassador/permanent representative



## **International Staff**

- supports the NAC and national delegations at NATO HQ, helps implement decisions
- headed by the NATO SecGen
- includes the Office of the SecGen, 8 divisions, independent offices

# NATO: Military structure

## **Military Committee (MC)** - the senior military authority in NATO

- composed of the Chiefs of Defence of member countries / military representatives (Milrep) of the Chiefs of Defence; headed by its Chair
- provides the NAC and the NPG with consensus-based military advice
- provides the Strategic Commanders with guidance (mil matters)

## **International Military Staff**

- executive body of the MC and the mil. command structure, several divisions and offices
- provides strategic and military advice for the MC, ensures decisions/policies' implementation



# NATO: Structure



**NATO Command Structure (NCS)** - composed of ACO and ACT  
(= 2 strategic commands)

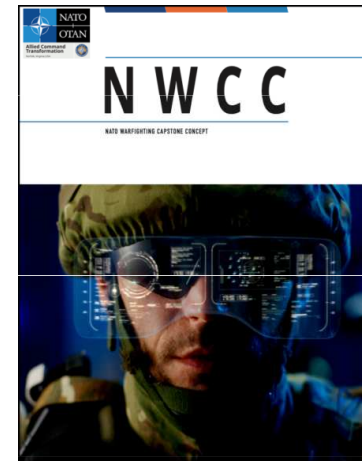
## A. Allied Command Operations (ACO)

- planning and execution of Alliance [operations](#), consists of several permanent HQs - strategic, operational and tactical levels
- Strategic: **Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE)** - headed by **SACEUR** (Supreme Allied Commander Europe)
- Operational: **Joint Force Commands (JFCs)** in Brunssum, Naples and Norfolk
- Tactical: **Single Service Commands (SSCs)** - Izmir (Land), Northwood (Maritime) and Ramstein (Air)

# NATO: Structure

## B. Allied Command Transformation (ACT, Norfolk)

- leads the military adaptation of the Alliance (developing concepts, analysing security environment, defence planning, educating and training... )
- headed by the **Supreme Allied Commander Transformation (SACT)**
- Norfolk HQ + 3 subordinate entities: Joint Warfare Centre, the Joint Force Training Centre and the Joint Analysis & Lessons Learned Centre
- educational and training facilities
- Centres of Excellence and Partner Training and Education Centres



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