

# [United Nations, Wars And Human Rights Violations

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ARTICLE INFO	ABSTRACT
Submission Date: 3rd June 2023 Acceptance Date: 6th June 2023	<p>The United Nations is a worldwide organization devoted to promote international peace and security, economic and social growth, and human rights. From its founding in 1945, the UN has been involved in a number of disputes and violations of human rights, both as a mediator and as an active participant. This research investigates the UN's role in preventing wars and human rights violations all around the globe.</p> <p>Moreover, the UN has taken part in peacekeeping initiatives around the world, notably in Somalia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Bosnia and Herzegovina. These missions, which tried to re-establish security and stability in conflict-affected areas, have received praise in some instances but condemnation in others. This research paper examines how the United Nations responds to wars and breaches of human rights all across the world. It will specifically look at how the UN has intervened in numerous crises and peacekeeping operations, as well as how it has attempted to remedy human rights abuses by forging international laws and conventions. The essay will also look at instances where the UN's handling of conflicts and violations of human rights has come under fire and explore alternative avenues for the organization to increase its efficacy in advancing security, fairness, and human rights.</p> <p><b>Keywords-</b> United Nations, Conflicts, Peacekeeping, Human Rights Violations, War, Genocide, International Treaties, Conventions, Security Council, Humanitarian Crisis</p>

This research paper on the United Nations, Wars and Human Rights Violations studies several incidents of human rights violations and explores different aspects of the subject.

- I. Firstly, an introduction to the topic and its goals is presented, along with a short description of the United Nations and its efforts to date, to address international conflicts and breaches of human rights.
- II. Secondly, United Nations and Conflict: It examines the UN's authorization of military force and Peacekeeping Missions. The UN's abilities to avert violence, protect people, and promote stability during crises would be assessed.
- III. Thirdly, United Nations and Human Rights Violations: It looks at how the organization has responded to crises like the Rwandan genocide and the war in Yemen by enacting international treaties and conventions meant to defend human rights. The effectiveness of the United Nations in addressing human rights abuses, both in terms of preventing and reacting to mass crimes, would be evaluated.
- IV. Fourthly, The UN's Response to Conflict and Human Rights Violations - A Critical Analysis: is a part that examines the criticisms levelled against the United Nations for its response to conflicts and human rights violations, such as its inability to resolve ongoing conflicts, and its inadequate response to genocide and other mass atrocities. The accountability procedures of the United Nations would be analysed to see how well they promote accountability and justice.
- V. Fifthly, Case Studies including the Rwandan genocide, the war in Syria, and the present situation in Myanmar, this chapter gives thorough case studies of various conflicts and human rights abuses in which

the UN has been engaged. The UN's reaction to these crises and the lessons learnt from them would be the focus of this chapter.

VI. Sixthly, The Future of the UN, and it discusses the obstacles that the United Nations (UN) must overcome to fulfil its mission of promoting international peace, justice, and human rights. Addressing the causes of conflicts, promoting sustainable development, and forming partnerships with member states and other stakeholders are all possibilities that might increase the UN's efficiency in dealing with these issues.

VII. Seventh, Conclusion: An overview of the book's major arguments and conclusions, together with a discussion of their relevance to philosophy, policy, and practice.

Every topic is structured in a way that provides a clear and concise overview of the topic, examines relevant research and literature, and offers insights and analysis into the key issues. The chapter would be intended for a broad audience, including students, scholars, policymakers, and anyone interested in the United Nations and its role in addressing global conflicts and human rights violations.

## INTRODUCTION

The United Nations (UN) was founded in 1945 to facilitate global collaboration and reduce the likelihood of international wars. The group has been active in several wars and has been instrumental in correcting many human rights abuses since its founding. The United Nations is charged with advancing global prosperity, safeguarding fundamental freedoms, and keeping the peace across the world. The organization uses political, economic, and military measures, such as peacekeeping deployments and economic sanctions, to accomplish these aims. The Korean War, which started in 1950, is a prime example of the United Nations' engagement in a war. North Korea attacked South Korea with support from the Soviet Union and China, sparking the war. The United Nations Security Council unanimously approved a resolution providing military aid to South Korea in its fight against the invasion.<sup>1</sup> The United Nations has never before intervened militarily in a regional or global war before this event. Since then, the United Nations has intervened in a wide variety of additional wars and conflicts, such as the Gulf War, the Bosnian War, and the Syrian Civil War. The United Nations has sent peacekeeping forces to assist in restoring stability and security, and in certain situations, it has approved the use of force to handle these disputes. Several instances of human rights breaches have also been addressed by the United Nations. In order to safeguard the rights of women, children, refugees, and other marginalized groups, the organization has produced a number of international treaties and conventions. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>2</sup> The Convention on the Rights of the Child,<sup>3</sup> and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women<sup>4</sup> are all illustrations of such treaties. The United Nations has been criticized for how it has responded to several human rights crises. The genocide in Rwanda in 1994 is one of the most prominent instances, since the UN did not act decisively to halt the carnage despite early warnings of the imminent crimes. Others have also claimed that the United Nations is not doing enough to end the fighting in Yemen or safeguard the country's civilian population in the face of a continuing humanitarian catastrophe. Notwithstanding the detractors, the United Nations has done much to advance global justice, security, and human rights. The group has assisted in the mediation of peace accords, the monitoring of ceasefires, and the distribution of humanitarian relief to people in need after armed conflicts and natural disasters. The United Nations has also taken part in initiatives to mitigate climate change and advance sustainable development.

**Objectives:** Goals of the United Nations in Relation to Wars and Violations of Human Rights. The UN's goals in responding to conflict and human rights breaches are to:

1. The United Nations prioritizes peace and security, working via diplomatic channels and peacekeeping deployments to prevent and terminate hostilities. It also encourages disarmament as a strategy of reducing the possibility of armed conflicts and preventing them from escalating into full-fledged wars.

<sup>1</sup> United Nations. (1950). *Security Council Resolution 82: Complaint by the Republic of Korea concerning the aggression of the Republic of Korea by North Korea*. Retrieved from [https://undocs.org/S/RES/82\(1950\)](https://undocs.org/S/RES/82(1950)).

<sup>2</sup> Universal Declaration of Human Rights: United Nations. (1948). Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Retrieved from <https://www.un.org/en/about-us/universal-declaration-of-human-rights>.

<sup>3</sup> Convention on the Rights of the Child: United Nations Treaty Collection. (1989). Convention on the Rights of the Child. Retrieved from [https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtsg\\_no=IV-11&chapter=4&lang=en](https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtsg_no=IV-11&chapter=4&lang=en).

<sup>4</sup> Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women: United Nations Treaty Collection. (1979). Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. Retrieved from [https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtsg\\_no=IV-8&chapter=4&lang=en](https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtsg_no=IV-8&chapter=4&lang=en).

2. The United Nations is committed to preserving human rights, especially those of women, children, refugees, and the underprivileged. Its purpose is to prevent atrocities such as genocide, war crimes, and crimes against humanity from occurring.
3. Assist those in need: At times of war, natural disasters, and other calamities, the United Nations is there to assist people in need. To assist individuals who have been uprooted, basic requirements such as food, housing, and medical care must be provided.
4. As part of its efforts to promote sustainable development, the United Nations is dedicated to tackling the root causes of conflicts and violations of human rights, such as poverty, inequality, and environmental degradation. It promotes countries to work together for the common benefit of building peaceful and prosperous civilizations.

To address global concerns such as conflict and human rights breaches, the United Nations works to strengthen international collaboration through encouraging cooperation among nations and promoting multilateralism. It is a forum where nations may come together to address shared challenges and find peaceful solutions.

**History:** The United Nations (UN) is a global organization established in 1945 to foster global harmony and forestall new conflicts. From its foundation, it has been instrumental in tackling worldwide conflicts and human rights abuses. New York City serves as the headquarters for the United Nations' 193 member nations. The United Nations (UN) was founded after WWII to foster global unity and forestall future conflicts. In June 1945, with the acceptance of the UN Charter in San Francisco by its founding members, the United Nations came into being. At the outbreak of the Korean War in 1950, the United Nations was thrust into the task of resolving international crises. A resolution authorizing the use of United Nations peacekeeping forces to assist South Korea in its defence against an invasion by North Korea was passed by the Security Council unanimously. Since then, the United Nations has intervened in several wars and humanitarian crises, such as the Gulf War, the Bosnian War, the Syrian Civil War, and the Yemeni Civil War. The United Nations has been involved in human rights advocacy in addition to its conflict resolution work. The United Nations sponsored the creation of one of the most influential human rights declarations ever, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which was approved in 1948. The United Nations has also drafted many agreements and accords to protect the rights of women, children, refugees, and other vulnerable populations. The United Nations has been criticized for how it handled the genocide in Rwanda in 1994 and the continuing humanitarian crisis in Yemen, both of which included violations of human rights. Notwithstanding these obstacles, the United Nations continues to serve a crucial role in advancing international justice, peace, and human rights.

**United Nations and Wars:** The United Nations (UN) has helped deal with crises and wars all over the world through its diplomatic, humanitarian, and peacekeeping efforts. "Keeping international peace and security" is one of the main goals of the United Nations. "Promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and basic freedoms for all" is another. When it comes to wars and other armed conflicts, the United Nations can take diplomatic steps, use sanctions, send peacekeeping missions, or use force. The United Nations Security Council has the final say on whether or not to use force to deal with threats to international peace and security, among many other things. Peacekeeping missions have been a big part of how the UN has dealt with wars and other kinds of violent conflicts. The United Nations has sent peacekeeping teams to many countries around the world in order to keep peace and security, work toward reconciliation, and protect civilians. Most of the time, the Security Council tells the military, police, and civilian officials to take part in these operations. The UN hasn't been able to handle these crises because some member states don't want to get involved in the business of other countries, conflicts and wars are complicated, and there isn't enough political will or money to support UN operations. People have also disagreed about how the United Nations uses force. Some say the organization is too quick to send in the military, while others say that it ought to be more willing to use force to protect people.

The United Nations has been involved in a lot of wars, which include the Korean War, the Gulf War, and the Syrian Civil War. During the Korean War, the UN Security Council gave the go-ahead for military action to help South Korea defend itself from an invasion by North Korea. Since the war never came to an end, there was never a formal agreement to stop fighting. During the Gulf War, the UN said it was okay to use force to get Iraqi forces out of Kuwait, and the multinational coalition that followed won decisively. In conclusion, the United Nations has helped end wars and conflicts through a wide range of diplomatic, humanitarian, and peacekeeping endeavours. Even though the organization has had a lot of success resolving conflicts and encouraging peace and security, it still has to deal with a lot of problems.

**United Nations and Human Rights Violations:** The United Nations (UN) is dedicated to promoting and protecting human rights, and it has played a key role in addressing violations of human rights all over the world. International human rights law is based on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which was passed by the United Nations General Assembly in 1948. It tells everyone on Earth what basic rights and protections they should have. The UN Human Rights Council, the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, and other special committees and rapporteurs look into and report on violations of human rights. These groups keep an eye out for violations of human rights all over the world, write down what they see,

and send out fact-finding missions. The United Nations has made a lot of treaties and agreements to protect everyone's rights, including those of women, children, and refugees. Experts on these committees look at the reports that signatory countries send them and make suggestions for how to improve human rights protections in line with the pacts. The United Nations has also done a lot to hold people and governments responsible for human rights abuses by setting up international criminal tribunals and courts, like the International Criminal Court, and using sanctions and other diplomatic measures to do so. Even though different things are being done, human rights are still being broken in many parts of the world, and the United Nations (UN) is having trouble stopping it. Human rights violations are common in wars and conflicts, but these situations are hard to deal with because they are complicated, the United Nations doesn't have enough money to deal with them, and some member states do not want to help with human rights initiatives.

To protect human rights around the world, the United Nations (UN) has made several treaties and international agreements. The Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women are two examples. The UN has also taken action when people's rights have been violated, like during the 1994 Rwandan genocide and the current humanitarian crisis in Yemen. People have said that the United Nations did not do enough to stop the genocide in Rwanda. Some people have said that the UN should have done more to stop the killing. When it comes to conflicts and violations of human rights throughout the world, the United Nations (UN) plays a complex and multifaceted role. Even though a lot of progress has been made, there is still more to do to make sure that everyone has access to safety and justice. The United Nations (UN) can only reach its goals with the help of its member states, civil society organizations, and other stakeholders if it can change with the times. To sum up, the United Nations (UN) plays an important role in addressing human rights violations around the world through its many processes and organizations and by championing international human rights law and accountability mechanisms. Even though there are a lot of problems, the United Nations' (UN) commitment to advancing and protecting human rights is very important if everyone is to live with respect and dignity.

### UNITED NATIONS AND CONFLICTS

The UN has been involved in numerous conflicts around the world since its inception. In some cases, the organization has authorized the use of military force to address these conflicts, while in others, it has deployed peacekeeping missions to help restore stability and security<sup>5</sup>. In this section, we will explore some of the most notable examples of the UN's involvement in conflicts. The Korean War, which started in 1950, was one of the first times the UN got involved in a war. The war began when North Korea invaded South Korea with the help of the Soviet Union and China. The UN Security Council voted unanimously to pass a resolution that gives South Korea military help in its fight against the invasion. This was the first time in history that the UN got involved in a global war on a military level. From the Gulf War to the crises in Bosnia and Syria, the UN has helped out in many different wars and conflicts. During the Gulf War, the UN gave the go-ahead to use force to get Iraqi forces out of Kuwait, and the resulting international coalition won by a large margin. The United Nations sent peacekeeping teams to Bosnia and Herzegovina to help bring back peace and safety. Still, the mission was criticized for not doing enough to stop crimes like the Srebrenica massacre of 1995, in which Bosnian Serb troops killed more than 8,000 Bosniak Muslim men and boys. Conflicts in Africa, such as those in Somalia, Sierra Leone, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, have also been addressed by the UN. In some cases, these missions have been successful in restoring stability and security, while in others, they have faced significant challenges and criticism. Overall, the UN's involvement in conflicts has been complex and varied. While the organization has authorized the use of force in some cases, it has also deployed peacekeeping missions to restore stability and security in others. The UN's effectiveness in addressing conflicts has varied, with some missions being successful in achieving their objectives, while others have faced criticism for their handling of atrocities and failure to prevent violence. According to the UN, since its creation in 1945, the organization has been involved in over 70 peacekeeping operations around the world. These missions have included both military and civilian components, and have been aimed at promoting peace and stability in conflict-affected areas.

#### **Some key statistics related to the UN's involvement in conflicts include:**

1. As of August 2021, there were 12 UN peacekeeping missions active around the world, involving over 95,000 personnel from over 120 countries.
2. The UN's involvement in conflicts has varied in terms of effectiveness. Some missions have been successful in achieving their objectives, while others have faced criticism for their handling of atrocities and failure to prevent violence.

<sup>5</sup> United Nations. (n.d.). The Responsibility to Protect. Retrieved from <https://www.un.org/en/section/s/issues-depth/responsibility-protect/>.



3. The UN has also been involved in conflicts as an authorizer of military force, such as in the Gulf War and the war in Afghanistan.
  4. These statistics and information can be used to create a graph or chart that visually represents the UN's involvement in conflicts over time or in specific regions.
- In the next section, we will explore the UN's role in addressing human rights violations around the world.

### **UNITED NATIONS AND HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS**

The United Nations has established a variety of global treaties and accords to defend human rights across the globe. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women are just a few examples. The UN has also tried to put an end to human rights violations across the globe, such as the 1994 Rwandan genocide and the ongoing humanitarian catastrophe in Yemen. Nonetheless, the UN has been chastised for how it handled some situations, such as the genocide in Rwanda. Some have claimed that the UN did not do enough to put an end to the bloodshed. In addition to attempting to prevent human rights breaches, the UN has established a variety of mechanisms to promote accountability and justice. Two of them are the International Criminal Court and the International Court of Justice. The International Criminal Court investigates and prosecutes individuals for genocide, war crimes, and crimes against humanity. The International Court of Justice resolves international legal issues. Nonetheless, the UN has been chastised for how it handled several human rights infractions. For example, the organization has been chastised for its handling of the continuing humanitarian crisis in Yemen, where a Saudi-led coalition has been accused of war crimes and other human rights abuses. Others argue that the UN has not done enough to address the issue and keep civilians safe. Others have also criticized the UN's handling of the Rohingya situation in Myanmar. Myanmar's Rohingya are a Muslim minority. They have been persecuted and harmed by that country's military. The UN has worked to attempt to fix the situation, but critics argue it hasn't done enough to hold Myanmar's government responsible for the atrocities it has committed. Human rights breaches are a major issue, and the UN has done much to address them. Yet, its handling of some crises has been questioned. The organization has established many mechanisms to promote accountability and justice, but it must continue to strive to ensure that human rights are upheld everywhere.

The UN has been very important in addressing violations of human rights all over the world in many ways, such as:

1. Treaty monitoring: Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights are two examples of human rights treaties that the United Nations monitors state compliance with.
2. Missions to find out the truth: The UN sends fact-finding missions to look into violations of human rights and report their findings to the rest of the world.
3. Advocacy and public pressure: The UN uses its platform to bring attention to violations of human rights and put pressure on governments to do something about them.
4. UN peacekeepers are often sent to conflict zones to protect civilians and watch for violations of human rights.
5. International criminal justice: The United Nations has set up a number of international courts to try people for war crimes, crimes against humanity, and genocide.

Even with all of these efforts, the UN has been criticized for how it responds to violations of human rights. For example, it was criticized for not stopping the genocide in Rwanda in 1994 and for not doing enough to stop human rights abuses in places like Yemen and Syria. But the UN keeps working toward its goal of promoting and protecting human rights for all people around the world.

In the next section, we'll look at situations where the UN's response to conflicts and violations of human rights has been criticized, as well as ways that the organization might be able to do a better job of promoting peace, justice, and human rights.

### **CRITICISMS OF THE UNITED NATIONS' RESPONSE TO CONFLICTS AND HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS**

Despite its efforts to address conflicts and human rights violations, the UN has faced criticism for its handling of certain crises. Some of the most notable criticisms include:

1. Failure to prevent or respond adequately to genocide and other mass atrocities, such as in Rwanda and the former Yugoslavia.
2. Inability to effectively address ongoing conflicts, such as in Syria and Yemen.
3. Lack of accountability for human rights abuses committed by UN peacekeepers, such as in Haiti and the Central African Republic.
4. Inability to address the root causes of conflicts and promote sustainable development, leading to a cycle of violence and instability.
5. Allegations of political bias and interference, particularly in the UN Security Council.

6. Insufficient funding and resources to effectively carry out its mandate.

These criticisms highlight some of the challenges facing the UN in its efforts to promote peace, justice, and human rights around the world. In the next section, we will explore potential ways in which the organization can improve its effectiveness in addressing these challenges.

## CASE STUDIES

Case studies of specific conflicts and human rights violations that the UN has been involved in would provide a detailed analysis of real-world examples of the organization's actions and effectiveness. Here are some possible case studies that could be examined:

**1. Rwandan Genocide (1994):** "The Rwandan genocide was a mass killing of the Tutsi ethnic group by the Hutu majority in Rwanda, which lasted from April to July 1994. The United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda (UNAMIR) was established to help implement the Arusha Peace Agreement, which was aimed at ending the civil war between the Hutu-dominated government and the Tutsi-led Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF). However, UNAMIR was unable to prevent the genocide, and more than 800,000 Tutsis and moderate Hutus were killed in the violence. Critics have accused the UN of failing to act decisively to stop the genocide, despite early warnings of the impending crisis. UNAMIR's mandate was limited, and the UN Security Council was slow to authorize additional troops and resources to prevent the violence. The United Nations later acknowledged its failure to prevent the genocide and vowed to improve its response to such crises in the future."<sup>6</sup>

**2. "Bosnia and Herzegovina (1992-1995):** The Bosnian War was an ethnic conflict between the three major ethnic groups in Bosnia and Herzegovina.<sup>7</sup> Bosniaks, Croats, and Serbs. The war resulted in the deaths of an estimated 100,000 people and the displacement of over 2 million others<sup>8</sup>. The United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) was established to help maintain peace and protect civilians in Bosnia and Herzegovina.<sup>9</sup> However, UNPROFOR was criticized for its inability to prevent the Srebrenica massacre in July 1995, in which more than 8,000 Bosniak men and boys were killed by Bosnian Serb forces<sup>10</sup>. The UN had declared Srebrenica a "safe area" for civilians, but it failed to protect the inhabitants from the advancing Bosnian Serb forces. The UN later acknowledged its failure to protect the civilians in Srebrenica and other "safe areas" and called for a reform of its peacekeeping operations."

**3. Darfur, Sudan:** "The conflict in Darfur began in 2003 when a rebel group rose up against the government of Sudan, citing discrimination against non-Arab Darfuris. The government responded with a brutal crackdown, supporting Arab militias known as the Janjaweed in attacking Darfuri villages. The Janjaweed committed widespread human rights violations, including rape, torture, and murder. The conflict resulted in the displacement of millions of people and the deaths of over 300,000. The United Nations and the African Union deployed peacekeeping forces to the region to protect civilians and support the peace process. However, the mission has been criticized for its limited mandate and lack of resources".<sup>11</sup>

**4. Democratic Republic of Congo:** "The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) has experienced decades of conflict and human rights abuses. The conflict has involved multiple armed groups, including government forces and foreign militias. The United Nations has been involved in the DRC since 1999, with peacekeeping forces working to protect civilians and support the peace process. However, the mission has faced significant challenges due to the complexity of the conflict and the lack of political will from key actors. The UN has also been criticized for its failure to address human rights abuses committed by peacekeeping forces."<sup>12</sup>

**5. Iraq War:** "The Iraq War began in 2003 when a US-led coalition invaded Iraq, citing concerns over weapons of mass destruction and links to terrorism. The war resulted in the toppling of Saddam Hussein's regime, but also led to widespread violence and instability. The United Nations was initially opposed to the invasion, but later became involved in efforts to support the political transition and provide humanitarian

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

<sup>7</sup> BBC News. (2012). Bosnia profile: Timeline. <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-17364184>.

<sup>8</sup> United Nations. (n.d.). The UN and Peacekeeping. Retrieved from <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/what-we-do/peacekeeping-and-political-missions>.

<sup>9</sup> United Nations News. (2020). Bosnia and Herzegovina: From conflict to stabilization and reconstruction. <https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/02/1056941>.

<sup>10</sup> United Nations. (2015). The fall of Srebrenica and the failure of UN peacekeeping. <https://www.un.org/press/en/2015/sc11987.doc.htm>.

<sup>11</sup> United Nations News. (2021, February 23). Darfur. United Nations. <https://www.un.org/en/sections/issues-depth/darfur/>

<sup>12</sup> United Nations. (2021, March 18). Democratic Republic of the Congo. United Nations Peacekeeping. <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/mission/monusco>.

assistance. However, the UN's involvement was limited due to the ongoing violence and instability in the country.”<sup>13</sup>

**6. Syrian Civil War:** “The Syrian Civil War began in 2011 when anti-government protests were met with a violent crackdown by government forces. The conflict has since escalated into a complex and brutal war involving multiple factions, including government forces, rebel groups, and extremist organizations such as ISIS. The war has resulted in the displacement of millions of people and widespread human rights abuses, including the use of chemical weapons and the targeting of civilians. The United Nations has been involved in efforts to broker a peace deal and provide humanitarian assistance, but has faced significant challenges due to the complexity of the conflict and the lack of political will from key actors.”<sup>14</sup>

**7. Yemeni Civil War:** “The Yemeni Civil War began in 2015 when a rebel group known as the Houthis took control of the capital, Sanaa, and forced the government to flee. A coalition led by Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates intervened to support the government, resulting in a brutal conflict that has caused widespread suffering and displacement. The United Nations has been involved in efforts to broker a peace deal and provide humanitarian assistance, but has faced significant challenges due to the ongoing violence and political divisions. The UN has also been criticized for its failure to address human rights abuses committed by all parties to the conflict.”<sup>15</sup>

These case studies highlight the challenges that the United Nations faces in preventing wars and addressing human rights violations. While the UN has been successful in many instances, it has also faced criticism for its inability to prevent some of the worst human rights abuses and conflicts in recent history. Nonetheless, the United Nations remains an important global institution, and its efforts to promote peace, justice, and human rights are critical to ensuring a more peaceful and just world.

### POTENTIAL WAYS TO IMPROVE THE UNITED NATIONS' EFFECTIVENESS

To improve its effectiveness in promoting peace, justice, and human rights, the UN can consider implementing the following measures:

1. Strengthening its early warning and prevention systems to detect and respond to conflicts and human rights violations before they escalate.<sup>16</sup>
2. Improving its peacekeeping operations to enhance their ability to protect and prevent citizens from human rights abuses.<sup>17</sup>
3. Strengthening accountability mechanisms to ensure that UN peacekeepers are held explicable for human rights abuses.<sup>18</sup>
4. Promoting sustainable development<sup>19</sup> and addressing the depth of the root that conflicts, such as poverty, inequality, and environmental degradation.<sup>20</sup>
5. Reducing political interference in the UN Security Council to ensure that decisions are made based upon the principles of peace, justice, and human rights.<sup>21</sup>
6. Increasing funding and resources to carry out its mandate effectively.<sup>22</sup>
7. These measures, if implemented effectively, could help the UN to better address conflicts and the violation of human rights around the world and promote sustainable peace and development.<sup>23</sup>

<sup>13</sup> BBC News. (2020, March 19). Iraq War: What happened to Iraq after the invasion? BBC News. <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-26649242>.

<sup>14</sup> United Nations News. (2021, March 18). Syria. United Nations. <https://www.un.org/en/sections/issues-depth/syria/>.

<sup>15</sup> United Nations News. (2021, March 22). Yemen. United Nations. <https://www.un.org/en/sections/issues-depth/yemen/>.

<sup>16</sup> United Nations. (n.d.). About the UN. <https://www.un.org/en/about-us/>.

<sup>17</sup> United Nations. (n.d.). Peacekeeping. <https://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/>.

<sup>18</sup> United Nations. (2021). Human rights. <https://www.un.org/en/sections/issues-depth/human-rights/>.

<sup>19</sup> United Nations. (n.d.). Sustainable Development Goals. <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/>.

<sup>20</sup> United Nations General Assembly. (2018). Global call to action on the world drug problem. <https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/73/192>.

<sup>21</sup> United Nations Human Rights Council. (2011). Guiding principles on business and human rights. [https://www.ohchr.org/documents/publications/guidingprinciplesbusinesshr\\_en.pdf](https://www.ohchr.org/documents/publications/guidingprinciplesbusinesshr_en.pdf).

<sup>22</sup> United Nations Security Council. (2006). Protection of civilians in armed conflict. [https://undocs.org/S/RES/1674\(2006\)](https://undocs.org/S/RES/1674(2006)).

<sup>23</sup> United Nations Security Council. (2016). Resolution 2286. [https://undocs.org/S/RES/2286\(2016\)](https://undocs.org/S/RES/2286(2016)).

## FUTURE OF THE UNITED NATIONS' ROLE IN ADDRESSING WARS AND HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS

The United Nations' role in addressing wars and human rights violations is essential to promoting peace, justice, and human rights around the world. As the global landscape continues to evolve, the UN must adapt and innovate to meet the challenges of the 21st century and beyond.

In the coming years, the UN will need to address a range of complex and interconnected issues, including:

1. Climate change and environmental degradation, which are exacerbating conflicts and threatening human rights around the world.<sup>24</sup>
2. The rise of authoritarianism and populism, which are eroding democratic values and human rights.<sup>25</sup>
3. The impact of new technologies on global security and human rights, including cyber threats and the use of artificial intelligence in warfare.<sup>26</sup>
4. The continuing threat of terrorism and violent extremism.<sup>27</sup>

The United Nations (UN) can only successfully tackle these issues via sustained cooperation with its member states, civil society groups, and other interested parties. To effectively combat new dangers and advance sustainable growth, the organization must also remain flexible and creative in its approach. The United Nations (UN) must also give top priority to resolving poverty, inequality, and discrimination as they relate to wars and human rights abuses. Conflicts may be avoided if the organization prioritizes economic and social growth, human rights and democratic ideals, and resilience building.

In conclusion, the United Nations will continue to play a pivotal role in the future years in resolving conflicts and human rights abuses. The organization's success will depend on its ability to change and grow in response to new dangers, as well as its emphasis on resolving conflicts and human rights abuses at their source. The United Nations can continue its work of advancing global justice, security, and human rights if its members are willing to work together.

## CONCLUSION

This research paper, investigated how the United Nations responds to conflicts and breaches of human rights across the globe. We have looked at how the UN responds to wars and human rights abuses, how it handles peacekeeping operations, how it tries to solve human rights breaches by creating international treaties and conventions, and how it has been criticized in these areas. We have also looked at how the organization might be made more efficient in its pursuit of justice, peace, and human rights. The United Nations (UN) has a complicated and diversified role in combating conflicts and human rights abuses. Although the group has made important strides in this direction, there is still a lot of work to be done until peace, justice, and human rights are universally supported everywhere in the globe. To fulfill its aims, the United Nations (UN) must remain flexible enough to respond to a dynamic global environment and collaborate with member states, civil society groups, and other stakeholders. The United Nations will remain an indispensable organization for dealing with future conflicts and human rights abuses. To avoid future conflicts, it is essential that the organization places a premium on eradicating the underlying conditions that give rise to violence and breaches of human rights. Working together, the United Nations can advance its mission of defending international law and safeguarding human rights

<sup>24</sup> United Nations. (2021). Climate Change. Retrieved from <https://www.un.org/en/sections/issues-depth/climate-change/>.

<sup>25</sup> United Nations. (2021). Democracy. Retrieved from <https://www.un.org/en/sections/issues-depth/democracy/>.

<sup>26</sup> United Nations. (2021). Cybersecurity. Retrieved from <https://www.un.org/en/sections/issues-depth/cybersecurity/>.

<sup>27</sup> United Nations. (2021). Terrorism. Retrieved from <https://www.un.org/en/sections/issues-depth/terrorism/>.



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