

FACULTY OF JURIDICAL SCIENCES

COURSE: B.A.LL.B. 1II Semester

SUBJECT: Political science-III

SUBJECT CODE: BAL-301

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Lecture-16



UN Peacekeeping

Peacekeeping by the United Nations is a unique and dynamic instrument developed by the organization as a way to help countries torn by conflict to create the conditions for lasting peace.

- It is distinguished from peacebuilding, peacemaking, and peace enforcement although the UN does acknowledge that all activities are “mutually reinforcing” and that overlap between them is frequent in practice.
- Peacekeepers monitor and observe peace processes in post-conflict areas and assist ex-combatants in implementing the peace agreements they may have signed.
- UN peacekeepers often referred to as Blue Berets or Blue Helmets because of their light blue berets or helmets can include soldiers, police officers, and civilian personnel.

Need for reforms

- UN peacekeeping is a unique innovation of multilateralism to respond to threats to international peace and security.
- However, at the current stage, peacekeeping is in a “no-man’s land, between trying to keep the peace in fragile environments and trying to enforce the maintenance of peace, where there is none to keep.
- Responses to new security environments require a willingness to adapt abilities to meet emerging realities.

Need of hour: Institutionalization

- The institutionalization of an approach where all key actors, especially Troop Contributing Countries (TCCs), are associated in a consistent and predictable manner in the decision-making matrix has been now discussed for decades.
- However, in practice, there is not effective improvement of the cooperation between TCCs, the Security Council and the Secretariat.
- It necessary to move from pursuit of activism of individual member states to collective action by this Council to institutionalize this effort.

Incentivizing women

- India also called for further incentivising women peacekeepers.
- As of July 31, women peacekeepers constituted 6 per cent. There are 5,243 female peacekeepers, out of a total of 86,687 peacekeepers.
- In 26 years, member countries have increased the share of women by 5 per cent. At this rate, it may not be possible to meet even minimum targets.
- There need to be special incentives for women peacekeepers and priority deployment of all women- unit pledges. Otherwise, the targets will remain just targets.

Innovation

- Innovation in capacity building of peacekeepers needs to be a priority, if nations are to move away from a culture of caveats that bedevils peacekeeping into a segmented activity.
- Innovative options such as co-deployment of peacekeepers from different countries engenders a genuine spirit of partnership for peace and needs to be promoted.
- Further, there is need for expansion of online initiatives to develop capacities of future commanders and managers so that they lead by example and raise awareness of UN standards.

MCQ

1. The United Nations agency concerned with the improvement of standards of education and strengthening international co-operation in this field is :

1. U. N. E. F.
2. U. N. E. S. C. O.
3. U. N. I. C. E. F.
4. U. N. E. D. O.

2. Which of the following is not the main organ of the U. N. O. ?

1. General Assembly
2. Security Council
3. Trusteeship Council
4. United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

3. How many permanent members are there in the Security Council?

1. Three
2. Five
3. Six
4. Four

4. How many Judges are there in the International Court of Justice ?

1. 9
2. 10
3. 11
4. 15

5. The first Secretary General of the United Nations was :

1. Mrs. Vijai Lakshmi Pandit
2. Trygve Lie
3. Dag hammarskjoeld
4. U. Thant