Forum (Council, Committee, Assembly): Security Council

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TOPIC (1): "The issue of the jurisdiction of the UN Peacekeeping Force"

Include a link to the specific LibGuide for the topic

I. Introduction to the Topic

One of the main goals of the United Nations is to maintain peace and order and restore stable governments in the world. Peacekeepers play a key role in protecting civilians, promoting peace, and assisting troubled nations. However, the department is currently facing some issues.

To begin with, more violent environments can be found around the world. There are several silent and violent wars happening. Unfortunately, the UN Peacekeeping Force has been having a hard time dealing with the problems due to the rising intent of some nations to be powerful. Some countries do not cooperate with the cause of the UN. Even worse, countries involved in conflicts have become more armed and peacekeepers have become their targets.

Furthermore, due to increasing fake news campaigns, the peacekeeping force finds it challenging to solve major world issues. Since social media have become powerful in influencing people and governments, it has become difficult for the department to solve a few world issues. The beliefs of nations, their leaders, and their citizens are affected by fake news. As a result, peacekeeping has become crucial in the modern world.

Lastly, a divided world is currently happening nowadays. Communist nations ally with other nations to have more power than Republican countries. It is a fact that communist nations tend to be heavily armed and consistently believe in their principles. They are loyal to the advocacies that they support. This makes tasks for the UN Peacekeeping Forces strenuous and exhausting.

II. Definition of Key Terms & Concepts

International Conflict: The phrase "international conflict" refers to describe both disputes between various nation-states and conflicts between individuals and groups within those nation-states. It increasingly also refers to disputes between groups living in the same nation, particularly when one group is vying for independence or greater influence on the social, political, or economic front. This key term and definition would be significant to the debate as the necessity to determine if a situation between parties should be called a conflict.

Disarmament: Disarmament refers to a state's reduction or dissolution of its armed forces and arsenal. The disarmament may be brought about internally, externally, or as a result of regional or global treaties. Again, the disarray may be either partial or broad. This key term will also be highly significant in the debate as it is seen as one of the best solutions to safeguard the values of humanity, protect civilians,

advance sustainable development, encourage confidence and trust among states, and avoid and put a stop to armed conflict.

Peace agreements: Peace agreements are the formalization of the parameters of a settlement between some or all of the parties to a dispute with the aim of putting an end to that conflict. Even after a war has ended and fighting has halted, the legal state of war does not immediately disappear, and the belligerent parties are still regarded by the law as rivals. This is why peace treaties are necessary in modern diplomacy. This key term will be highly significant as maintaining peace and order is one of the main goals of the UN Peacekeeping Force and arriving to an agreement is extremely long and tedious to close.

Post-conflict Restoration: In a nation that has been devastated by war, post-conflict reconstruction attempts to achieve sustained socioeconomic development as well as the consolidation of peace and security. The phrase "post-conflict" does not imply the elimination of the fundamental reasons why the war broke out in the first place. Furthermore, it does not imply an end to all hostilities, which frequently resume even after a peace treaty is signed or elections are held. This key term will be significant as nations involved in conflicts and have gone through agreements and treaties have to plan on measures for post-conflict reconstruction in order to fully achieve peace and security in territories of nations involved in conflicts.

III. Key Stakeholders

Russia: The country is involved in an ongoing war against Ukraine. Its government claims that Ukrainians and Russians are one people. The country believes that it should be in charge of the Ukrainian government. Besides the dispute with Ukraine, other Russian-led operations that have been reported are in Moldova (in 1992), Tajikistan (in 1993), South Ossetia (in 1992), and Abkhazia (in 1993), all of which are in Georgia. The country firmly claims that military power could be the answer to peacekeeping. However, their measures appear to be opposite to the aims of the United Nations.

Mali: The UN Security Council recently terminated a decade-old peacekeeping mission in Mali after the ruling military asked that the multinational force fighting an armed insurrection leave "immediately." The operation, known as MINUSMA, comes to a conclusion after years of tensions and government constraints that have hampered peacekeeping air and ground operations since Mali joined up with Russia's Wagner mercenary squad in 2021. This has become a threat to international security. Though the UN Peacekeeping Force stays firm in their goal, it has become difficult to achieve due to the interference of extremist attacks.

Haiti: Haiti has had a United Nations mission there since 1993. Starting as a powerful operation aimed to re-establish order and construct new institutions, the peacekeeping mission has gone through different ups and downs in force strength, mandate, and even fundamental utility. Haiti is just one of many places where peacekeepers have raped or sexually exploited women and girls in exchange for food or support. The purpose of the UN is clearly defeated by the alleged abuses done by UN peacekeepers.

United States: The United States of America: Being the most powerful country in the world, the USA plays an important role in achieving solutions to problems involving the professionalism of UN peacekeepers. Through the help of the country, the zero-tolerance policy of the United Nations is achieved. Those peacekeepers who do not follow the protocols set by the organization are investigated by officers deployed by the US. Moreover, the United States is the greatest contributor to the UN peacekeeping budget, accounting for nearly one-quarter of the overall cost of running all peacekeeping missions. The United States offers military training and logistical support for peacekeeping missions.

IV. Key Issues including Background Information

Attacks Against Peacekeeping Forces: There have been many extremist attacks on the peacekeeping forces, slowing down the process and leading to peaceful outcomes in countries. For example, in Mali, there are forces attempting to prevent the UN Peacekeeping Operations, leading to a slow process to the country's peace. ("UN Peacekeepers Warn of Increasing Global Challenges") However, not only does this make it harder to produce peaceful outcomes, it leads to the death of many peacekeepers. ("Peacekeeping Faces Challenges: Here's How We Can Meet Them")

Misconduct of Peacekeepers: There have been over 150 reported cases of misconduct by the peacekeepers, such as sexual misconduct, abuse, and many more. In total, at least 40,000 have been sexually abused. Many of these cases involved girls under the age of 18 years old. With irresponsible ways of handling the power while being a United Nations Peacekeeper, there are raised concerns about whether there should be that much power. ("Panel Examines Human Rights Abuses by UN Peacekeepers - Women's Congressional Policy Institute")

Lack of Resources: For an issue to have successful peaceful outcomes, there should be smart plans that are more efficient. However, to accomplish those goals, there should be an abundant supply of all the equipment that might be used. ("Improving Accountability and Performance of United Nations Peacekeeping - United States Department of State")

V. Timeline of Resolutions, Treaties, and Events

Date	Description of event
1945	As World War II ended, 50 nations around the world created the United Nations with the same belief that a war causing this much destruction and violence

shouldn't happen again. (Nations)

May 1948	It was the date of the first official mission for UN Peacekeeping when the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO) was sent to Israel to observe the situation. ("UN Peacekeeping: 70 Years of Service & Sacrifice")
1960	This was the first time a large-scale peacekeeping mission was performed, which was called the UN Operation in the Congo (ONUC), by having almost 20,000 military personnel at one point. As 250 UN personnel lost their lives during that mission, it showed the challenges associated with having peacekeeping missions. ("Our History")
1988	The Nobel Peace Prize was being presented to the UN peacekeepers, as it was believed that peacekeepers helped to support one of the principal beliefs of the United Nations. ("Our History")
1989-1994	As the Cold War ended, there started to be many more missions than there were before. In addition, there were more people involved, such as police officers, human rights monitors, legal experts, and many more. ("Our History")

VI. Possible Challenges & Solutions

Attacks Against Peacekeeping Forces: There are many areas where attacks against peacekeepers have made plans inefficient, such as in Mali. ("UN Peacekeepers Warn of Increasing Global Challenges") Possibly discuss how some countries attack peacekeepers, and the effects.

Misconduct of Peacekeepers: There are now consequences to deal with this problem, especially with the establishment of "Ten Rules: Code of Personal Conduct for Blue Helmets," which clearly sets the expectations of UN peacekeepers. ("Ten Rules: Code of Personal Conduct for Blue Helmets (1999) | United Nations Police") However, even with clear rules, there are numerous reports of misconduct.

Lack of Resources: Instead of immediately giving more resources to peacekeepers around the world, people can plan their peacekeeping operations to require fewer resources. Currently, with limited resources, it can be unrealistic to provide an abundance of resources to all the peacekeeping operations, so it can be better to consider how to use the limited resources in a way that could last longer. ("Improving Accountability and Performance of United Nations Peacekeeping - United States Department of State")

VII. Bibliography

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