



United Nations Security Council (SC)

The Security Council (SC), formally known as United Nations Security Council, was first established alongside the founding of the United Nations (UN) on October 24th, 1945, after the United Nations Charter was ratified by its founding members (although its first session was not until 1946) (The Editors of Encyclopaedia Britannica, 2022). Nowadays the main crisis-management body of this organization, the Council was initially constituted of five permanent members (United States of America, The Republic of China, France, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) and six non-permanent members. Whilst the former have persisted as the sole permanent residents, the latter was modified to ten non-permanent residents that are elected biennially and with a specific geographical consideration by the General Assembly (United Nations Charter Chapter V, 2022).

As an organism that seeks to assess international threats and prevent political and belic conflicts, the Security Council's main purpose is to recommend and support peaceful agreements amongst its 193 Member States (The Editors of Encyclopaedia Britannica, 2022). Nevertheless, the Council has the faculty to act in several manners –such as dispatching military observers– in the cases where conflicts lead to hostilities, always aiming at reaching a cease-fire via peaceful resources (United Nations Security Council, n.d.). That said, circumstances that may represent a threat to peace are genocides, war crimes, ethnic cleansing, crimes against humanitie, and other concerns of a similar manner. As a counteractive measurement, the Council can opt to hand over economic sanctions, arms embargoes, military actions, or severance of diplomatic relations. Unlike decisions made by the General Assembly, all Member States are obliged to carry out the Security Council's decisions (CFR Staff, 2021).

Furthermore, the Council located in New York City, United States, is known for both the several breakthroughs and setbacks it has achieved since its conception, many of which are intrinsically correlated to its aims and actions –such as but not limited to improving law enforcement or fighting terrorism, extremism, and armed robbery. For instance, in 1990, the SC adopted several resolutions disapproving of Iraq's invasion of Kuwait which eventually ended in the former country's retreat due to their threat against another country's sovereignty (Mortimer, 2015). Moreover, it has had a fundamental role in managing several conflicts throughout the post-Cold War era such as the disarmament of militia in Ivory Coast, thus





establishing itself as successful in various peacekeeping operations (United Nations, n.d.). However, its lack of involvement in the Anglo-American invasion of Iraq in 2003 or the Russian invasion of Ukraine in 2022 has not aligned with the Council's peaceful purposes and cast some doubt on its veracity (Mortimer, 2015).

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