



United Nations Security Council (UNSC)

The Security Council, formally known as the United Nations Security Council, is the organism in charge of addressing any imminent threat or aggression to preserve international peace and security. Nowadays, it is the main crisis-management body of the organization because its resolutions are legally binding. It is located in New York City, United States, and it was first established alongside the founding of the United Nations on October 24th, 1945, after the United Nations Charter was ratified by its founding members (although its first session did not take place until 1946).

The Council was initially constituted of five permanent members (the United States, the Republic of China, France, the Soviet Union, and the United Kingdom) and six non-permanent members. Whilst the former have persisted as the sole permanent members, the latter was modified to ten non-permanent members that are elected biennially by the General Assembly, according to a specific geographical consideration. Those permanent members are also referred to as the P5 and they have the faculty to veto any resolution regarding the Council.

As an organism that seeks to assess international threats and prevent political and armed conflicts, the Security Council's main purpose is to recommend and support peaceful agreements amongst the United Nations' 193 Member States. Nevertheless, the Council also has the faculty to act in several manners, such as dispatching military observers or installing counteractive measures, which include handing over economic sanctions, arms embargoes, military actions, or severance of diplomatic relations. Unlike decisions made by the General Assembly and other United Nations' agencies, all Member States are obliged to carry out the Security Council's decisions.

Furthermore, the Council is known for both the breakthroughs and setbacks it has achieved since its conception. On the one hand, it has been successful in various peacekeeping operations, as well as in disarmament and nonproliferation matters and in the negotiation of multiple peace agreements that have put an end to several regional conflicts. On the other hand, it has allowed for severe disasters to happen in different countries, such as Somalia, Rwanda, the former Yugoslavia, Iraq, Syria, Ukraine, and Gaza. Currently, there





is a general feeling of mistrust regarding the Security Council and its reform is sought since the role of the five permanent members seems increasingly anachronistic to most of the other Member States.

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