

# UNDP

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## **Letter from the Secretary-General**

Dearest Delegates, Faculty Advisors, and others,

It is my pleasure and honour to be able to welcome you all into the 21st edition of San Silvestre MUN. To think that after months of work, after observing other conferences over the better part of two years, I can finally say that our own is coming to fruition. For over seven months the Secretariat and I have poured our hearts and efforts into this conference, and hopefully, you may all enjoy the months of work we have put into the two days that are to come, and live SSMUN 2024 to its absolute fullest.

My own ‘first impression’ of MUN was, quite honestly, less than graceful to say the least. Having attended training sessions in 2022 (but having paid attention to nearly none of them), I haphazardly found myself attending SSMUN 2022, this very month two years ago. I did not speak more than once. I was terrified, watching those around me debate with a fervent skill unlike anything I had ever seen before. I had sat in the very back of the room during every session, terrified to raise my placard. After that conference, I honestly did not see the appeal of MUN. My fear of failure and embarrassment overruled my ability to try something new at that moment, and didn’t allow me to enjoy the activity that now, two years later, I have come to cherish so deeply.

Over the next year, I finally got it. I understood why people did MUN. The adrenaline, the energy, the shared passion over what would have elsewhere been a mundane topic. During that year, I found my two ‘specialisations’. Crisis taught me how to love MUN, how to put passion and energy into a speech, how to not fear speaking out. Press taught me what victory felt like, yet it also demonstrated to me firsthand how failure was simply a part of growth. In January HMUN taught me that an award is never the most rewarding part of a conference. I left Boston with a Best Delegate award, yet it was by far not the best part of the experience. The people of that moment are worth more than anything else I could possibly imagine; and the best victories in MUN are those you can cherish with friends, those which you can celebrate with all those who you were in committee with, those which are backed by hours of unforgettable memories and irreplaceable experiences.

For this conference, I hope each and every one of you may find those memories. SSMUN, in my mind, is about the people. It is about diplomacy, argumentation, negotiation and teamwork, yes, but through it all none of this would be able to be accomplished without the willpower and collaboration of people. So I hope you all put in your best effort, both into productive debate and into enjoying every moment you have.

I cannot wait to see you all in September! To get to see how every one of you develops as a delegate through every session, and see the passion and care we’ve placed into the conference pay off in the experience of all those who will get to see our work.

Take advantage of the moment, and most of all, have fun :)

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## **Letter from the Chair**

Dear Delegates,

My name is Daniella Ronceros and I am a second-year International Baccalaureate student in San Silvestre School. My journey in MUN began too many years ago in 2020 when I first joined the school's virtual training sessions. However, I participated in my first conference the following year, in 2021, representing The Times of India in the Press Corps committee. Since then, and after numerous experiences in the TPA committee, I have become my school's resident Press Delegate. Last year, I had the invaluable opportunity to serve as San Silvestre's MUN Secretary-General, an experience that was as much gratifying as it was rigorous and demanding.

I was inspired to chair this committee after participating in Harvard's 2023 MUN conference representing Nicaragua in the UNDP committee on the topic of NGOs. This was both a special and tricky topic, as the typical resolution for the debate was now the conflict of the committee. In this year's debate, the UNDP will delve into the topic of Foreign Intervention and its conflictive relationship with Development. We will embark on the contentious topic of protectionism, analysing how governments respond to foreign involvement through economic policies. Conversely, we will examine how other governmental actors, such as the CIA, have acted as foreign influences, often through controversial means. Furthermore, we will critically examine the roles of international organisations, such as the United Nations itself, in fostering sustainable development amidst interventions from external actors. I truly hope this committee is as interesting to you, esteemed delegates, participating in it, as it was for the Dias to curate it.

Finally, to talk about something besides MUN, I am a huge fanatic of all music types, bossa nova, house music, jazz, rap, alternative, Spanish rock, and literally anything besides country music. I love reading, my favourite writers being Mario Benedetti and Eduardo Galeano (his book "Open Veins of Latin America was also an inspiration for this committee). As to my future plans, I want to study Economics and International Relations with a minor in Journalism next year at University, but all is subject to change as I am a very indecisive person with career choices! I am a very talkative person so do feel free to approach me throughout the conference if there is anything you would like to talk about, whether that be regarding the committee, career choices, IB, MUN or music recommendations.

Mostly I want to emphasise that this committee should be highly diplomatic, I have experienced this more than before, where MUN becomes a very stressful and competitive environment that goes against all diplomatic efforts for which it was made in the first place. Do not let yourself get carried away with awards, because in the end, they are just diplomas. It is far better to feel as though you have learned from this experience and that you have enjoyed yourself for the time being rather than getting stressed and overworking yourself.

We hope you enjoy the committee, see you soon!

Sincerely,

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## **Letter from the Co-Chair**

Dear Delegates,

I am so happy to be your co-chair this year at UNDP for the 2024 San Silvestre Model United Nations. My name is Alessia Bayly and I am a 4th year student at San Silvestre. My unusual liking for challenges and under-pressure activities is what urges me to sign up for Model United Nations conferences. As for me, MUN is a safe place where I can test my ability to argue for beliefs that I am not necessarily in agreement with, challenging my perspectives and argumentative skills.

My journey with MUN started in the middle of quarantine, where, sincerely, out of boredom, I participated as a delegate in DISEC in Newton's Conference via Zoom. However, the interesting display of different techniques which delegates employed to share their positions on the topic is what propelled me to continue participating in MUN. Since then, I have enrolled in numerous conferences, enjoying each of them more. While my love for DISEC surged after my first conference, due to my love for their constant, engaging kind-of-science-related topics, I often tend to enjoy more passive debates and, therefore, lean towards other committees.

However, outside of MUN, my love for tranquil environments is reflected in my favourite activities. What I take to be a relevant characteristic of mine is that I prefer nothing over wrapping myself up in a blanket, drinking a hot cup of Hierba Luisa and watching an episode of my favourite series; Criminal Minds. In other words, I adore lazy, typical Sundays. Another thing about me is that I love horseback riding, every time I finish jumping a course a warmth fills me, evoking inside me a sense of serenity and happiness as I remind myself of the incredible bond between me and my horse. However, my greatest serenity comes from hearing Taylor Swift's music, because my favourite of her albums- Folklore- transmits me a comforting feeling every time without fail.

Academically, I find my interests to revolve around science, especially chemistry and physics. The main reason why I tend to be more interested and passionate about these subjects is because they constantly keep me entertained with their diverse topics. So my dream is to pursue a career in engineering- as my Plan A- or economics- as my backup plan.

As we enter this journey together, let's follow the plan of prioritising diplomacy and solidarity. I hope this conference can go beyond and act as a background to new discoveries, friendships and collaborations! If you have any questions or simply wish to share your thoughts, do not hesitate to email me!

Best of luck,

Alessia Bayly  
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## **Letter from the Moderator**

Hi Delegates!

It is my utmost pleasure to be your moderator for the 21st edition of the San Silvestre Model United Nations. I'm Micaela Angulo and I'm currently studying my first year of the IGCSE curriculum at San Silvestre and I'm so excited to see how this committee will unfold!

My MUN journey began 2 years ago when I first joined the training sessions, but I didn't attend conferences yet, as I was too afraid to do so. Until I signed up with a friend at Lord Byron Model United Nations (something I really recommend, going in doubles in your first committee, it's really much funner), the following year I won my very first award (and now it is a tradition to attend every year). For me, MUN is not about winning, but gaining knowledge about current global issues that affect us and experiencing thrilling debate, all in a comfortable space, such as the one we hope to create in San Silvestre MUN.

Regarding the topic, I'm very passionate about international relations, and how influential nations affect less-developed ones. The concept of interdependence and relations among countries is one that truly interests me and I love to explore in conferences as a delegate. As well as the problems it brings, such as migration, economic dependency, loss of culture and more.

Apart from that, I love to draw so if you catch me scribbling something on my notebook don't worry, it's probably just doodles. Also, I'm super interested in Physics (a subject I would love to pursue a career in, although it's still too soon for that) and Historical Science. One of my favourite movies is Oppenheimer and I listen to the soundtrack all the time to study (as well as the Interstellar soundtrack) so you're more than welcome to discuss it with me.

Finally, I really encourage you all to just have fun! I know Model UN can become an intense environment, but please feel comfortable to come to any of us if you need anything (during, before or even after the conference). Remember to breathe, and enjoy the experience. I hope you'll enjoy MUN as much as I do and I am so looking forward to meeting you all in September!

Wishing you the best,

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## History of the Committee

The United Nations Development Programme has its origins in the Charter of the United Nations, signed in June 1945 in San Francisco after the end of the Second World War. It was divided into six main organs, one of which was the United Nations Economic and Social Council given the responsibility of coordinating economic and development assistance to developing nations, in which the UNDP operates.

The main basis of the United Nations upon which it stands is to “maintain international peace and security, develop friendly relations among nations based on equal rights and self-determination, and to achieve international co-operation in solving economic, social, cultural, or humanitarian challenges without distinction for race, sex, language, or religion.” The UNDP tackles the last fundament, its main aim is to aid nations in elaborating strong policies, skills, and partnerships in order to eliminate poverty and achieve sustainable development. Furthermore, it encourages an approach to economic growth focusing on improving the quality of life of all citizens all while conserving the environment and its natural resources.

In the first two decades of the United Nations, the worldwide economic and financial assistance to developing nations was managed by the World Bank, under strict regulations and control by the United States and the victorious Allies of the Second World War. The United Nations Development Programme emerged, based on the merging of the United Nations Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance, created in 1949, and soon implemented the United Nations Special Fund (1958), thus, replacing the World Bank as a main source of monetary aid. Finally established as we know it today in 1966 by the General Assembly of the United Nations.



In modernity, the UNDP is regarded as the chief lead agency of the United Nations on international development, operating in 170 countries. The central approaches of the UNDP involve helping countries progress their leadership skills as well as their policies, bridging them with links to more resources and institutions and seeking solutions for a closer reality towards the Sustainable Development Goals. Mainly, the UNDP works in three different areas; sustainable development, democratic governance and peacebuilding, and climate/disaster resilience, with an annual budget of approximately \$4 to \$6 billion. One of the main strategies employed by the UNDP is its Global Policy Network, which links more than 17,000 individuals across 50 nations to cooperate and devise strategies for addressing regional challenges. To track advancements, the UNDP releases the yearly Human Development Report, a valuable tool you may utilise for research.



## **Introduction to the Topic**

All 195 countries in the world are connected in some way or another, whether through geographical barriers, trade agreements or alliances, the topic of international interdependence is one that each nation must face with priority. Foreign intervention refers to the interference of an external party, typically that of a foreign nation or international organisation, in another country's internal affairs. It is commonly utilised to overcome and promote development or resolve political, economic, security, or humanitarian concerns. Although at first glance this involvement might seem well-intentioned, foreign intervention can scale into a dependence on the aided nation's behalf.

## **Existing Types of Foreign Intervention**

### **Economic**

Economic intervention encompasses the strategic use of financial and trade-based tools to influence another country's policies or economic conditions. This approach manifests in various forms, with economic sanctions being the most common. Sanctions involve imposing restrictions on trade or financial transactions to compel behavioural changes in the target country. Another form is foreign aid, where a nation provides financial support to promote development or stabilise economies, often in response to crises like natural disasters. Additionally, countries may employ coercive economic measures, leveraging their economic power to pressure governments into compliance with specific demands or policies.

### **Foreign Aid**

Foreign aid is also known as “official development assistance”, and consists of money transferred from one government to another, sometimes in the form of grants or loans. This is not “free money” for the developing nations’ governments, but often comes with destinations for construction projects, food supplies, and building infrastructure. It also can come with certain conditions for the recipient government that benefit the donor government, such as implementing a certain policy, supporting (or deposing) a political leader, or making trade agreements with a wealthier country. The cash flow to developing governments can make up a significant portion of the government’s revenue; typically, government revenue would come from taxing the population through income taxes, corporate taxes, and import taxes. However, when the population holds informal employment (or no employment at all), there is no taxable population. Thus, the government can become dependent on international aid and donor countries to fund their government.

The economic disparity between the world's wealthiest and poorest nations continues to widen, despite international efforts to bridge this gap. For every dollar of aid flowing from rich to poor countries, an estimated \$7 to \$10 returns to the wealthy nations through various channels. These include debt repayments, interest on loans, trade imbalances, private-sector transfers, and capital flight. This imbalance undermines the effectiveness of foreign aid. Despite the existence of an international aid apparatus comprising thousands of institutions, the living conditions of the most vulnerable populations have not significantly improved. This paradox raises questions about the current model of international development assistance and its ability to address global economic inequalities effectively.





## Latin America and the International Monetary Fund in the late 1980s

Many foreign aid organisations, most notably the International Monetary Fund (IMF), have made aid contingent on market-oriented economic changes, like privatisation and the removal of trade barriers, since the 1990s. Thus, certain organisations and nations have employed foreign aid as a tool to promote the expansion of capitalism. A prominent example of such is Latin American countries and their external debt in the late 1980s.

The late 1980s were a tumultuous time for many Latin American countries, often described as the “Lost Decade”, as countries struggled with high inflation, recession, and unsustainable external debt levels. Countries such as Argentina, Brazil, Peru, and Mexico were particularly affected by the debt crisis. The IMF's intervention often included stringent conditions that mandated significant economic restructuring, which many critics argue exacerbated existing problems rather than alleviating them.

The IMF sponsored orthodox stabilisation programs which erupted the debt crisis starting in 1982, most countries turned to the fund for short-term finance and macroeconomic policy advice but as stringent domestic adjustment measures had failed to alleviate the recession-inflation spiral, and as new supplies of capital had still not appeared, domestic-policy responses began to branch out in new directions. Historian Carlos Reyna posits that “it is very difficult for a third-world country to emerge from underdevelopment with the rules of the game imposed by the IMF.”

After defaulting on its debt in 1982, Argentina turned to the IMF for assistance. The IMF's stabilisation program included austerity measures and the liberalisation of trade, which led to social unrest and did not effectively curb inflation or stimulate growth. By the late 1980s, Argentina was still grappling with hyperinflation and economic instability, which its effects can still be noted until today.

Most recently, in 2022, Argentina entered into a significant agreement with the International Monetary Fund to address its substantial debt obligations, which had accumulated from a previous bailout in 2018. The agreement was reached during a period of significant economic turmoil for Argentina, exacerbated by external shocks and a severe drought that impacted agricultural exports. These factors contributed to rising inflation and a depletion of foreign reserves, complicating the government's ability to meet its debt obligations. The plan faced severe social backlash, as the political landscape was tumultuous, particularly with general elections approaching in October 2023.



*Protests Against the IMF in Buenos Aires, Argentina. February 2022. Source: Ruptly TV*

Brazil faced a severe economic crisis in the 1980s, leading to a series of IMF agreements that required fiscal austerity and structural reforms. These policies aimed to stabilise the economy but often



resulted in increased unemployment and social discontent. The Brazilian government struggled to implement these reforms effectively, leading to a prolonged period of economic stagnation.

The Mexican economy was heavily impacted by the debt crisis, culminating in a major financial crisis in 1994. The IMF provided financial support but conditioned it on the implementation of neoliberal reforms, including trade liberalisation and privatisation. While these measures aimed to modernise the economy, they also led to increased inequality and social unrest.

IMF-sponsored stabilisation and structural reforms generally aimed to restore macroeconomic stability and promote growth. In the short term, these programs did lead to some positive outcomes, such as increased GDP growth and improved investment levels in certain countries. For instance, reforms in Chile during the 1980s are often cited as successful examples, with both countries experiencing periods of robust economic growth following their adherence to IMF guidelines. The IMF's programs often resulted in a temporary boost to GDP, but the long-term sustainability of this growth remained in question, with many countries experiencing stagnation or regression in subsequent years.

## **Military**

Military foreign intervention refers to the deployment of armed forces from one country or a coalition of countries into another country's territory, often intending to address conflicts, humanitarian crises, or other significant issues.

### **The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and the Kosovo War**

NATO is an intergovernmental military alliance formed in 1949 during the early stages of the Cold War. It was created primarily to provide collective defence against the Soviet Union and Warsaw Pact countries. NATO's military interventions have been a subject of debate as they commit member states to mutual defence in response to an attack by any external party.

In 1998-99, Serbian forces under Slobodan Milosevic carried out a brutal search of ethnic Albanians in Kosovo, leading to a humanitarian crisis. NATO intervened militarily in March 1999 without UN Security Council authorization, launching an air campaign against Yugoslav military targets. Between 24 March and 11 June 1999, close to 1,000 aircraft, mostly from bases in Italy and aircraft carriers stationed in the Adriatic, participated in the NATO bombing operation. "Serbs out, peacekeepers in, refugees back" was the way the North Atlantic Treaty Organization operation's spokesperson summed up its stated objectives. That is, in order to guarantee that the Albanian refugees could return to their homes, Yugoslav troops would need to withdraw from Kosovo and be replaced by foreign peacekeepers.



*The Yugoslav city of Novi Sad on fire in 1999*



Around fifty individuals were killed when a NATO aircraft targeted an Albanian refugee convoy at the beginning of May because it was a military convoy from Yugoslavia. Five days later, NATO acknowledged its error and the Yugoslavs charged that it had attacked the migrants on purpose. Additionally, three Chinese journalists were killed when NATO bombers struck the Chinese Embassy in Belgrade on May 7, upsetting Chinese public sentiment. Following the bombing, the US and NATO apologised, claiming that the CIA's dated map was the cause of the attack. However, a joint report published in *The Observer* (UK) and *Politiken* (Denmark) questioned this, stating that NATO deliberately bombed the embassy because it was serving as a relay station for radio signals from the Yugoslav army.



*A U.S. Air Force plane takes off for an air strike mission in support of NATO Operation Allied Forces. March, 1999*

The Kosovo Report, conducted by the Independent International Commission on Kosovo, found that “the NATO military intervention was illegal but legitimate.” Some critics posit that NATO as it did not have the backing of the United Nations Security Council, meant that its intervention had no legal basis, yet, others argue that “there are nonetheless certain bases for that action that are not legal, but justified.” The intervention, known as Operation Allied Force, played a decisive role in ending the conflict and halting the humanitarian disaster. However, NATO's action was controversial, as it lacked explicit UN approval and set a precedent for humanitarian intervention without the consent of the target state.

## **Political**

Political foreign intervention refers to the involvement of one country or a coalition of countries in the political affairs of another nation, often with the intent of influencing governance, supporting regime change, or promoting specific political outcomes. This type of intervention can take various forms, ranging from diplomatic efforts and economic sanctions to direct military involvement. Many interventions are justified on the grounds of promoting democracy and human rights. This includes supporting opposition groups in authoritarian regimes or facilitating free elections.

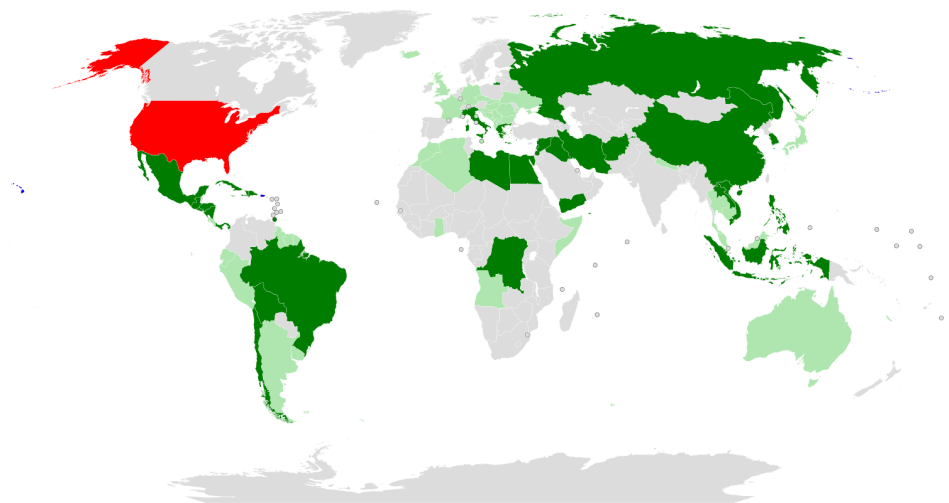
## **Interventionism by the United States**

The United States government has been involved in numerous interventions in foreign countries throughout its history. The U.S. has engaged in nearly 400 interventions between 1776 and 2023. U.S. foreign policy interventions have frequently sought to advance economic opportunity, social



protection, the safety of American people and diplomats, territorial expansion, regime change instigation, nation-building, and the application of international law.

U.S. interventionism can be traced back to the early 19th century, notably with the Monroe Doctrine (1823), which asserted that the Western Hemisphere was off-limits to European colonisation and established the U.S. as the dominant power in the region. The late 19th and early 20th centuries saw significant interventions, such as the Spanish-American War (1898), where the U.S. intervened ostensibly to liberate Cuba but also gained territories like Puerto Rico and Guam. The Mexican-American War (1846-1848) was another key instance, driven by the belief in Manifest Destiny. Additionally, during the Cold War, U.S. interventionism was heavily influenced by the desire to contain communism, which included support for regime changes and military engagements.



*Map of US involvement in regime change and election interference*

U.S. political interventionism has played a crucial role in shaping global politics over the past two centuries. While often framed as efforts to promote democracy and protect national interests, the outcomes of these interventions have been mixed, leading to ongoing debates about their efficacy and moral implications. The evolution of U.S. interventionism reflects changing geopolitical dynamics and the complexities of international relations.

## **Social**

Social foreign intervention, particularly through non-governmental organisations (NGOs), plays a critical role in addressing humanitarian crises, promoting development, and advocating for human rights in conflict-affected regions.

### **Non-Governmental Organisations**

NGO stands for “non-governmental organisation”, referring to a “voluntary group or institution with a social mission, which operates independently from the government”. The World Bank defines NGOs as “private organisations that pursue activities to relieve suffering, promote the interests of the poor, protect the environment, provide basic social services or undertake community development.” NGOs range in size from large, international organisations with extensive administrations, to small, community-based organisations. This includes research institutes, lobbyists, research institutes, professional associations, and religious organisations (churches, temples,



synagogues, mosques, spiritual or faith-based organisations). The World Bank groups NGOs into two main groups: *operational* NGOs and *advocacy* NGOs.

Operational NGOs construct and carry out development-related projects in the world, and are divided into the 3 following categories:

1. Community-based organisations or CBOs (serving a specific area and its population, typically on a particular issue endemic to the area).
2. National organisations (operate in individual developing regions/countries)
3. International organisations (headquartered in developed, wealthy countries and implement projects in multiple developing countries)

These larger NGOs and smaller local CBOs will often collaborate on projects related to development. CBOs are a valuable source of information on community interests and project implementation, and more than anything, offer a legitimate and impactful means of participation for the beneficiaries of NGOs (i.e. the local people).<sup>9</sup> CBOs also differ in that their main operating offices are in the community they serve, and their governing body and staff consist of local residents; issues, solutions, and all organisational projects are implemented by the residents themselves.

## Humanitarian Aid

Typically sourced from national governments or corporate donors, humanitarian aid refers to financial donations given to specific regions in an effort to save lives, alleviate suffering, and maintain human dignity.

Humanitarian aid can be short-term and long-term. Short-term humanitarian aid often appears as a response to a natural disaster or conflict, and varies widely in its destination, from less-developed to more-developed countries. Short-term humanitarian aid is often conducted through NGOs such as the International Red Cross, or national organisations (such as the US government's Federal Emergency Management Agency, or FEMA, which responds to hurricanes and wildfires). This type of humanitarian aid has few negative effects and is temporary in nature, often ending after a period of 6-8 weeks. However, long-term humanitarian aid is concentrated in less-developed countries and is typically financed by wealthier governments (in the form of foreign aid), by intergovernmental organisations (such as the UN), or by international NGOs. This type of aid can operate in a country for years or even decades and typically focuses on supplying basic resources such as food, clean water, clothing, housing, etc. Long-term aid is different from foreign aid in that long-term aid describes the length of the aid, and foreign aid describes the source. Foreign aid also refers specifically to money/funds, whereas humanitarian aid includes cash as well as food, clothing, medical care, and more.



*Women collect food rations from a Concern Worldwide and World Vision food distribution in the Aweil area, South Sudan.  
(Photo: Abbie Trayler-Smith / Concern Worldwide)*



Many humanitarian crises are severely underfunded, with aid organisations struggling to meet the growing needs. In 2022, UN-coordinated humanitarian appeals were only 53% funded. Insufficient funding leads to critical gaps in aid delivery. Humanitarian workers often face significant access and security challenges, especially in conflict zones. Attacks on aid personnel have been increasing in recent years. Additionally, bureaucratic impediments and restrictions by governments can also hinder aid delivery.

Humanitarian crises are becoming more complex, with climate change, urbanisation, and pandemics exacerbating existing vulnerabilities. Aid organisations must adapt their approaches to address these emerging challenges. Localization of aid and strengthening local capacities is a priority which international organisations must face with importance.

One recent example of attacks on aid personnel is the April 2024 Israeli airstrike in Gaza that killed seven aid workers from World Central Kitchen. Six of the seven victims were foreigners from Australia, Britain, Poland and Canada, while one was Palestinian. This attack sparked significant media attention and outrage around the world, with the victims being named and profiled in news stories. World leaders condemned the attack and demanded better protection for humanitarian workers. More than 250 aid workers have been killed in Gaza since the October 7 assault in Israel, according to the UN.



*On April 1, 2024, an Israeli attack in Deir Al-Balah in Gaza on a convoy of three World Central Kitchen vehicles killed seven aid workers. Ismael Abu Dayyah/AP Photo*

In contrast, three months earlier in the same conflict, two observers reported on social media that the Israeli military had killed seven Palestinians who were distributing flour. However, this incident received no media coverage, highlighting the sharp disparity in how attacks on national versus international aid workers are treated. Humanitarian relief workers must be respected and protected under the norms of war, yet despite this, they are still targeted directly or suffer fatalities in hostilities. The weight falls on national assistance workers, who are killed at a rate ten times higher than that of foreign workers, are wounded nine times more frequently, and are abducted five times more frequently.



## International Development

The concept of international development has taken different philosophies through time. The United Nations define development as “a reduction of poverty and achievement of the Millennium Development Goals”. In the decade of the 1960s, the concept encompassed the ‘liberation of people based on structural transformation’. Amartya Sen, the Indian Economist and Philosopher defines development as simply ‘freedom’, through the development of economic opportunities, security and government transparency. `

In development economics, interdependence refers to the interconnected and mutually dependent relationships between countries, economies, and markets on a global scale. It recognizes that the economic development and growth of one nation or region is intrinsically linked to and influenced by the economic conditions, policies, and performance of other nations and the global economic system as a whole. Development economics focuses not only on methods of promoting economic development, economic growth and structural change but also on improving the potential for the mass of the population, for example, through health, education and workplace conditions, whether through public or private channels.

## Measuring Development

As the concept of development is holistic, it is measured using various indicators that capture different aspects of economic, social, and environmental progress.

### 1. **Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per Capita:**

This economic indicator measures the total value of goods and services produced within a country and the average income per person, respectively. The GDP per capita offers insight into the economic well-being of individuals.

### 2. **Human Development Index (HDI):**

The Human Development Index, developed by the UNDP serves as a comprehensive measure of human development. These are issued annually by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and provide broad measures of well-being across three data dimensions: life expectancy, education and purchasing power parity.

### 3. **Poverty Rates:**

The poverty rate is the ratio of the number of people (in a given age group) whose income falls below the poverty line; taken as half the median household income of the total population, and is measured by the

### 4. **Gini Coefficient:**

A measure of statistical dispersion intended to represent the income inequality, the wealth inequality, or the consumption inequality within a nation or a social group.

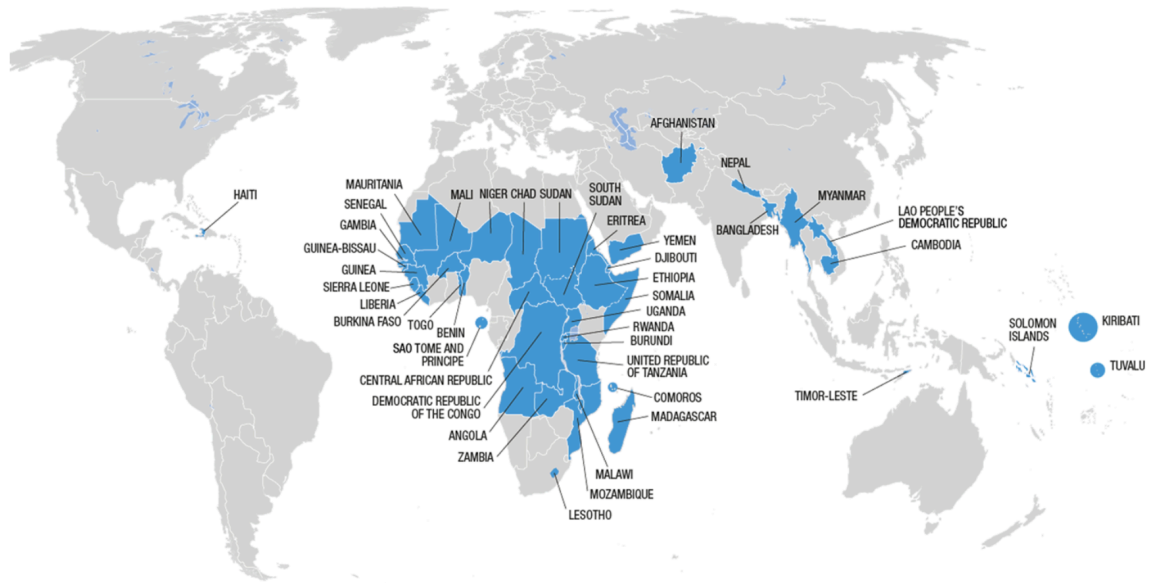
### 5. **Quality of Life and Happiness Indices:**

The World Happiness Report is a comprehensive survey instrument that assesses happiness, well-being, and aspects of sustainability and resilience, published annually.



## Least Developed Countries (LDCs) (45 countries)

Africa 33, Asia 8, Caribbean 1, Pacific 3



*United Nations list of least developed countries*





## **Past UN Actions**

### **United Nations Peacekeeping Mission: South Sudan**

In the early days of July 2011, a new nation was about to be born. South Sudan, having endured decades of conflict, finally became an independent country on July 9, 2011. But the euphoria of independence soon gave way to the harsh realities of building a new country amidst deep-seated tensions and violence. The world's youngest nation needed support, and the United Nations stepped in to help pave the way for peace and development.

The mission's objectives were clear: protect civilians, monitor human rights, support humanitarian assistance, and help the new government establish the rule of law and governance structures. The United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) was established a day before South Sudan's independence, under United Nations Security Council Resolution 1996.

To stabilise the nation, UNMISS sent out military, law enforcement, and civilian forces. They established Protection of Civilians (PoC) locations, which served as havens for thousands of South Sudanese fleeing conflict. These locations turned into havens, providing some semblance of security to families shattered by violence.

Countries from around the world contributed to the mission. India and China deployed troops and police officers, forming a vital part of the peacekeeping force. Bangladesh and Ethiopia also sent contingents, ensuring robust international support to protect civilians and assist in the challenging task of state-building.

One of the main objectives of the operation was to monitor human rights. UNMISS put forth great effort to record and disclose abuses, punish offenders responsible, and try to stop such infractions. This watchfulness was essential to building an accountable culture in a nation recovering from the ruins of war.

In order to support humanitarian assistance, UNMISS worked with relief agencies to make sure that the most vulnerable people received food, water, and medical supplies. Their presence gave relief personnel a safe space in which to administer help that could save lives.

Therefore, it is extremely clear that the mission played a pivotal role in furthering the peace process. Important peace agreements, such as the 2015 Revitalised Agreement and the 2015 Agreement for the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan (ARCSS), were mediated and facilitated by the involvement of the UNMISS. These agreements created a fragile but essential path to peace. Despite significant challenges including continued violence and political upheaval, UNMISS's operations have been very essential in establishing stability and laying the foundation for South Sudan's peaceful future.



## **Development Assistance: Syria Response Plan**

As the world watched in horror, the Syrian civil war erupted in 2011, quickly spiralling into one of the most devastating humanitarian crises of our time. The conflict displaced millions both within and beyond Syria's borders, with entire communities reduced to rubble. Amidst the chaos, the United Nations launched a coordinated response to address the crisis.

In the midst of the continuous violence, the Syria Response Plan sought to foster long-term development while also providing immediate humanitarian help. Providing food, housing, clean water, and medical attention to people impacted by the conflict was the main goal of emergency relief efforts. Medical supplies were sent to address urgent health requirements, and support was given to health facilities, strengthening the provision of health services. Nations came up to assist with these initiatives. Germany, Norway, and Canada provided significant humanitarian aid, covering the cost of emergency shelters, medical supplies, and feeding programmes for the millions of Syrian refugees housed in Turkey and Jordan; the UN coordinated international aid to support these host countries; safety and education initiatives were developed to help families and children cope with the trauma of war; temporary learning spaces were established; and psychosocial support was offered to children to help them deal with the psychological effects of the conflict.

But the Syria Response Plan did not stop at emergency relief. It also aimed to rebuild and restore. Efforts to rehabilitate infrastructure—rebuilding schools, hospitals, and essential services—sought to bring a sense of normalcy back to war-torn communities. Japan supported infrastructure rehabilitation by funding the rebuilding of schools and hospitals. Sweden Contributed to economic recovery initiatives, providing vocational training and support for small businesses to help Syrians regain livelihoods disrupted by the war. Governance and rule of law programs aimed to strengthen local governance structures and promote stability. These efforts were vital in laying the groundwork for a future where peace and development could take root, despite the daily challenges posed by the ongoing conflict.

## **United Nations Intervention in Somalia: Operation Restore Hope**

In the early 1990s, Somalia experienced extreme hardship. A civil war broke out in the nation after the central administration collapsed. In the midst of a nation in ruins, rival factions battled for dominance, resulting in widespread starvation and displacement. The world was alerted to the pictures of families in need and starving children, and it became clear that something had to be done.

In response to the worsening humanitarian crisis, the UN launched Operation Restore Hope in December 1992. The mission was granted authorization by UN Security Council Resolution 794, which permitted an international coalition to enter Somalia with the main objective of making sure that those in great need could get humanitarian aid.

Though far from alone, the United States was at the head of the coalition forces. Countries from across the globe contributed to the mission, demonstrating a shared commitment to alleviate suffering and restore stability.

Canada dispatched troops to guard the routes via which humanitarian relief is distributed, their presence being essential in guaranteeing that food and medical supplies could reach the people. In the middle of the chaos, France also sent military troops and medical teams that worked nonstop to protect citizens and give medical care. Furthermore, by sending a detachment of military and medical workers, Italy also played a significant role in the humanitarian efforts. Belgium's participation,



military contribution, and logistical support demonstrated its unwavering commitment to international peacekeeping. Peacekeeping forces were given by Bangladesh, Pakistan, and India, exhibiting their enduring dedication to supporting UN operations worldwide. In order to guarantee the mission's success, Australia and New Zealand also joined the initiative, providing military and logistical support.

Despite the mission's noble intentions, the situation on the ground was far more complex than anticipated. The arrival of international forces was not universally welcomed. Many Somali factions viewed the intervention as an occupation rather than a humanitarian mission. This perception quickly escalated into hostility and resistance.

## **Escalation of Violence**

As international troops attempted to secure the environment for aid delivery, they found themselves entangled in the complex local dynamics of the civil war. What had started as a mission to provide food and support soon turned into a series of violent confrontations with local militias determined to resist foreign presence.

### *The Battle of Mogadishu*

One of the most tragic and defining moments of Operation Restore Hope occurred on October 3-4, 1993. The warlord Mohamed Farrah Aidid was thwarting humanitarian attempts with his men, so the United States led a mission to arrest him. However, the mission went disastrously wrong. In the centre of Mogadishu, US forces were attacked, sparking a protracted and violent gunfight.

Hundreds of Somali warriors and civilians lost their lives in the Battle of Mogadishu, along with eighteen American servicemen. The world was stunned by the downing of US Black Hawk helicopters and the fierce urban fighting. The pictures and accounts from the fight forced a thorough reassessment of the objective, emphasising the grave dangers and difficulties associated with military action.

### *Impact on Humanitarian Efforts*

The increasing violence and hostilities severely hindered the very goal of the mission: humanitarian aid. Aid organisations struggled to deliver food and supplies as insecurity grew. In many instances, aid was looted or blocked by militias, exacerbating the suffering of the Somali people. The mission's inability to effectively secure aid routes meant that many in desperate need went without assistance.

### *Political Fallout*

The perceived failure of the mission had serious political ramifications. In the wake of the Battle of Mogadishu, the US chose to remove its troops from Somalia. Following this decision, numerous contributing countries—including Belgium, France, Italy, and Canada—also withdrew their soldiers, starting a domino effect. Following the pullout, Somalia remained in a condition of ongoing conflict and instability, with the humanitarian issue remaining mostly unaddressed.

### *Legacy of Distrust*

The intervention left a lasting legacy of distrust between Somali factions and the international community. Many Somalis began to view the UN and the countries involved with suspicion, making future peacebuilding and development efforts even more challenging. This mistrust complicated subsequent international endeavours to provide aid and support stability in the region.



## **Navigating the Complexities of International Peacekeeping: Somalia's Case**

As the international community and the UN considered the lessons learnt from the operation in Somalia, they identified a number of crucial issues. It emphasised how crucial it is to comprehend regional settings and the difficulties involved in mediating internal disputes. It became apparent that thorough preparation, precise goals, and active participation from local stakeholders were required. Operation Restore Hope had humanitarian goals, but its results highlighted the dangers associated with military-led operations in difficult political situations.

The mission demonstrated the unpredictability of conflict zones and reaffirmed the significance of flexible, context-sensitive approaches to peace and development through the combined efforts and contributions of several nations. Subsequent to its experience in Somalia, the UN has incorporated an emphasis on the need for more collaboration with local communities and more nuanced techniques in its approach to peacekeeping and humanitarian missions.

The story of Somalia is a testament to the challenges that international interventions face, no matter how well-intentioned they may be. It serves as a reminder of the complexities of global peacekeeping and the delicate balance needed to support nations in crisis effectively.



## Past Political Actions

### United States Military Intervention on Socialist Chile

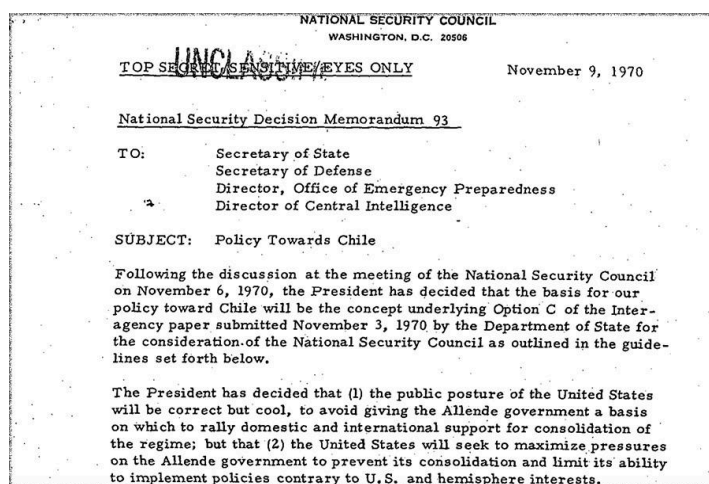
The decade of the 1970's marked a pivotal moment in Chilean history. From November 1970, until September 1973, Salvador Allende governed Chile with a socialist hand, unappealing to the capitalist United States, who intervened and supported Augusto Pinochet's coup d'état on September 11, 1973. Pinochet, the Commander-in-Chief of the Chilean army, led the military overthrow of the democratically elected government of President Salvador Allende. Supported by the U.S. government, taking power was easy, as their intervention was both direct and indirect, but still had lasting consequences.

#### *The Kissinger Doctrine*

Appearing first in relation to Allende's government in Chile, the doctrine could be stated as follows: The United States is entitled to conspire against another country's constitutional government if we fear it might slip that country out of our orbit.

Under the government of President Richard Nixon, the pentagon was against Salvador Allende's Marxist rule. In efforts to mitigate the socialist movement, the American government displayed clear support for opposition groups opposed to the socialist party and used economic measures to weaken Allende's rule.

*"Our main concern in Chile is the prospect that [Allende] can consolidate himself and the picture projected to the world will be his success," - from a meeting with his National Security Council on what policy the U.S. should adopt toward Chile's new Popular Unity government.*



*From the National Security Decision Memorandum 93*

The Central Intelligence Agency provided financial and logistical support to opponent parties, such as funding political groups and labour unions. However, the foreign interventions couldn't stop Allende being elected. Leaked documents from the pentagon and CIA, show that the U.S. embassy in Chile received orders to deny in parliament the electoral result, but this operation also failed. Even the leader of the democratic opposing party, Eduardo Frei, publicly announced they would vote for Allende. Kissinger would not remain defeated and stated "I don't see why we need to stand by and watch a country go Communist due to the irresponsibility of its own people".



Through economic pressure, the U.S. sought weakening the socialist government. The Pentagon encouraged international financial institutions to withhold loans and any financial assistance from Chile. Nixon's aim was to create economic hardship that would undermine Salvador Allende's administration and increase satisfaction among the citizens, encouraging them to look elsewhere for political stability and economic support, such as the democratic and capitalist parties, specifically in Augusto Pinochet, the American government supported.

Nixon's administration viewed Allende's government as a threat to American aims and interests in Latin America, and feared it might inspire more leftist movements in the region. They were concerned about the spread of Marxist ideologies, and Allende's potential alliance with the Soviet Union staining their broader strategies during the final stages of the Cold War. Kissinger's goal was primarily strategic, focusing on the broader goal of undermining Allende's administration.

### *Post-Coup Chile-US Relations*

The coup was marked by a series of coordinated attacks on key government and military sites, the most relevant one being the Hawker Hunter bombing assault on the presidential palace, La Moneda, supported by American military and intelligence. During this attack, Allende was forced to surrender, which finished with his death. At the sudden power vacuum, Pinochet assumed control, this time the current Chilean government did count with the U.S. support.

Nixon's government quickly recognized Pinochet's regime, despite his violent climb to power, as they viewed his rule as a stabilising force that aligned with American interests. The U.S. approached the new government aiming to maintain diplomatic relations and eager to provide diplomatic and economic support, although this support was often covert and disregarding multiple human rights violations as Kissinger emphasised on the importance of strategic alliances and geopolitical interests over democratic values and concerns about human rights.

### *Pinochet's Dictatorship and Aftermath*

Following the coup, Pinochet established a military dictatorship that lasted until 1990. His regime was by multiple severe human rights abuses the international community has condemned throughout the year, such as innocent arrest, torture, and the execution of political opponents. Despite these abuses, his conservative government implemented significant economic reforms, that multiple politicians nowadays declare stabilised Chilean economy, and use it as evidence against accusations of American interventionism.

Pinochet's 17-year rule was given a legal framework through a controversial 1980 plebiscite, which approved a new constitution drafted by a government-appointed commission. Finally, in a 1988 plebiscite, 56% of the population voted against Pinochet's continuing as president, which led to democratic elections in 1990, replaced by an elected government, finalising his severe, imposed rule.

Pinochet's ascent to power and its aftermath remains a deeply controversial and polemic topic, and had long lasting impacts on Chilean society and politics, and the government's view on interventionism and the United States. The U.S. refusal of any accountability continues to tense their relationship with the Chilean government, even more with the declassified documents that have shed light on the broad extent of the U.S. intervention and its impact on Chile's political landscape.



## Case Studies

### **The Case of Haiti**

#### **United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH): 2004-2017**

##### *A Nation in Crisis*

Haiti was on the verge of total collapse in the beginning of 2004. Following President Jean-Bertrand Aristide's removal in February, the nation descended into a violent and unstable spiral. Law and order collapsed, rival factions engaged in street fighting, and the humanitarian crisis grew worse every day. The United Nations realised it had to take action after hearing the screams for assistance from one of the world's poorest countries.

On April 30, 2004, in response to the worsening circumstances, the UN Security Council adopted Resolution 1542, which established MINUSTAH, the United Nations Stabilisation Mission in Haiti. The aim was to improve governmental institutions, advance human rights, assist the political process, and restore a safe and stable environment. It was a formidable challenge, but the international community was determined to assist Haiti in its hour of need.



*MINUSTAH Delivers Food Supplies to Haitian School*

A multinational coalition of police and military forces made up MINUSTAH's initial deployment. Alongside contingents from far-flung nations like Jordan and Nepal, soldiers and officers from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, and Uruguay took their places. Their immediate goals were very clear: they wanted to disarm armed organisations, restore public order, and assist the Haitian National Police in keeping the peace.

Haiti's capital, Port-au-Prince, was a hive of turmoil in the early years. Lawlessness ruled, as armed gangs prowled the streets. The difficult task of disarming these militias and bringing back some semblance of normalcy for citizen safety fell to the international peacekeepers. The expedition



installed checkpoints, carried out patrols, and gradually started establishing stability in the areas that were most unstable.

### *Supporting the Political Process*

As security progressively improved, MINUSTAH focused on the political environment. One of the mission's objectives was to promote the organisation of free, fair, and inclusive elections while also fostering political discourse among Haitian stakeholders. 2006 was a significant year because the mission was essential in facilitating the elections that led to René Prével's victory as president. These elections were a historic turning point that put Haiti one step closer to democratic rule.

MINUSTAH's existence served as a calming influence throughout the unstable political period. The mission put out great effort to settle disputes between disputing groups in order to maintain the political process's trajectory. The assistance covered a range of legislative changes meant to fortify Haiti's brittle institutions.

### *Natural Disasters and Emergency Response*

Hurricanes Fay, Gustav, Hanna, and Ike wreaked havoc across the nation in 2008 and left many people dead. The humanitarian catastrophe worsened as homes and crops were devastated. Already overextended, MINUSTAH quickly adjusted to the new situation. The mission turned into an essential component of the emergency response, supplying coordination, security, and logistics for the influx of foreign help that started to come in.

But the hardest challenge still lay ahead of them. On January 12, 2010, a terrible earthquake happened in Haiti, leaving millions of people without a place to live and over 200,000 dead. Entire neighbourhoods were levelled and the infrastructure collapsed, causing unimaginable damage. Many UN employees lost their lives, and the mission's offices were destroyed. The actual MINUSTAH was not exempt.

MINUSTAH reorganised its goals after the earthquake to focus primarily on immediate relief. The peacekeepers played a crucial role in clearing rubble, building temporary shelters, and ensuring supplies reached the areas that were most severely damaged. International relief coordination was greatly aided by the mission as nations banded together to offer assistance.

### *The Cholera Outbreak*

Haiti, who was just beginning to undergo the struggle of rebuilding after the 2010 earthquake, experienced another issue that would have a big influence on the country. In October 2010, an epidemic of cholera surfaced in Haiti, after having over a century without the disease. Surprisingly, investigations eventually found that the infection had actually birthed at a UN peacekeeping base near the Artibonite River. Due to poor garbage management at the base, which was manned by Nepalese personnel, contaminated waste leaked into the river, a crucial source of water for many Haitians. Consequently, the introduction of the *Vibrio cholerae* bacteria into Haiti's water system caused the disease to spread swiftly and fatally, causing numerous debates and outcries. Therefore, as expected, the United Nations faced significant criticism for its role in the outbreak and the perceived lack of accountability, with widespread demands for the UN to take responsibility and provide compensation to the victims.





Regardless of the controversy, MINUSTAH, nevertheless, worked with other UN agencies- World Health Organisation (WHO) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)- to carry out a thorough response to prevent the outbreak from continuing to spread. Healthcare personnel worked tirelessly to create temporary treatment centres across the country and to offer cholera patients with essential medications such as antibiotics and rehydration solutions. The UN, however, allocated a lot of its effort and focus on improving Haiti's infrastructure associated with water and sanitation by distributing water purification tablets, installing chlorination systems, and constructing and maintaining sanitary facilities ( as contaminated water is the primary means of cholera transmission). Furthermore, public awareness campaigns were also launched to educate the public about cholera prevention, emphasising the need of washing your hands with soap, boiling water, and how to practise proper hygiene. Despite the continuous UN efforts, challenges such as Haiti's overwhelmed healthcare system, infrastructure damage from the earthquake, and mistrust of the UN system and personnel complicated the response.

The cholera outbreak made MINUSTAH's task in Haiti even more difficult, putting along the troops and relief workers' fortitude and will to the test. Although there were periodic outbreaks, cholera cases had dramatically declined by 2017 as a result of persistent action taken to mediate the issue. The cholera outbreak served as a sobering reminder of Haiti's weaknesses and the difficulties or unfavourable outcomes associated with foreign peacekeeping.

### *Continued Efforts and Transition*

Notwithstanding the difficulties, MINUSTAH carried out its mission from 2010 to 2016. The operation overcame multiple setbacks and political unrest to support the elections in 2010 and 2015. In order to guarantee that the advancements made could be maintained over the long run, efforts to fortify the Haitian National Police and other institutions persisted.

By 2016, Haiti's security state had considerably improved, and the country's government was progressively taking back authority. Acknowledging these developments, the UN Security Council resolved to replace MINUSTAH with a more focused follow-up operation. The United Nations Mission for Justice Support in Haiti (MINUJUSTH), which prioritised governance, the rule of law, and human rights, took over MINUSTAH on October 16, 2017.



## *Impact and Controversies*

The effects of MINUSTAH on Haiti were diverse. Positively, the mission greatly enhanced peace and security, decreased violence, and made it easier for armed organisations to disarm. The promotion of political processes, such as elections, was essential to the development of Haiti's democratic government. The humanitarian assistance that MINUSTAH provided, especially in the wake of natural catastrophes, was crucial in saving many lives and aiding in the healing process.

However, the mission was not without controversy. The cholera outbreak being linked to UN peacekeepers caused a major blemish on the mission's and the UN's record, causing, as a result, widespread criticism. Consequently, demands for accountability within the citizens of Haiti as well as individuals in foreign countries arose rapidly. Furthermore, allegations were also made by Haitians regarding excessive use of force by MINUSTAH personnel. Cases of sexual exploitation and abuse from the personnel also further marred the mission's reputation.

Therefore, we can see the difficulties and complexities involved in conducting international interventions by the tale of MINUSTAH. It draws attention to the careful balancing act required to effectively assist countries in crisis and serves as a reminder of the value of flexibility, responsibility, and teamwork, underscoring the both positive and negative effects it can cause.

## **The Case of the Indian Ocean Region**

### **International Response to the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami**

On December 26th, 2004, a massive earthquake and tsunami struck countries around the Indian Ocean, such as India, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Indonesia and Thailand, causing widespread devastation, loss of life and irreparable damage to infrastructure and livelihoods such as agriculture and farming. With over 230,000 deaths, it is considered one of the deadliest in history, however, it sheds light on the vulnerability of coastal regions and the crucial role of international cooperation in disaster preparedness.

### **Nature of Foreign Intervention**

#### *Humanitarian Aid*

As the highest ever privately funded emergency, international donors from all over the world, including governments, non governmental organisations (for example, world vision), and private entities such as trusts, foundations and even individuals contributed 40% of an estimated \$13.5 billion in aid. Major contributors included the United States, Japan, Australia, and the European Union. The generous funding meant that multiple organisations could act in many affected countries, such as apart from the ones mentioned above, the Maldives and Somalia.

Countries and organisations provided essential relief supplies such as food, water, medical supplies and clothing, which were delivered through airlifts and sea shipments to ensure time delivery to affected regions.

Teams of medical professionals from around the globe were dispatched to provide emergency care, set up field hospitals, and assist with the treatment of injuries and diseases, battling the rise of illnesses such as Malaria and Typhoid fever.



## *Search and Rescue Operations*

Rescue teams from countries like the United States, United Kingdom (which worked closely with the Oxfam organisation and its partners in providing resources and aid), Australia, and Japan participated in search and rescue operations, with the help of UN forces as well. Their efforts were vital in locating survivors, retrieving victims and reuniting families and communities.

Foreign militaries, mainly from the U.S. and U.K., and specialised organisations provided logistical support and intelligence services including transportation, communications, and technical expertise and assistance.

## *Reconstruction and Rehabilitation*

Foreign governments and organisations funded and managed reconstruction projects, including rebuilding homes, schools, and hospitals. World Vision built over 12,000 homes to provide shelter as well as multiple centres for the communities. Efforts were made to reconstruct damaged infrastructure into disaster resilient facilities and restore essential services increasing preparedness against disaster.

Programs aiming at revitalising local economies, such as supporting fishing and tourism industries, were implemented. Microfinance and livelihood support programs were also established to help affected communities recover economically, training and employment opportunities as well as extended educational support flourished development and the growth of communities.

## *Establishment of Early Warning Systems*

The disaster highlighted the need for a regional tsunami warning system, and how crucial it is to ensure minimal losses and vital organisation. Foreign intervention included the establishment of the Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning System, supported by the United Nations, primarily UNESCO, and various national governments from the affected countries and those collaborating.

Volunteer countries with advanced meteorological and seismic monitoring capabilities contributed technical expertise and resources to build and maintain the warning system across the region, focusing on the coast.

## **Scope of Foreign Intervention**

### *Major Contributing Nations*

#### **United States**

The U.S. provided substantial financial aid, deployed military assets for relief operations, and offered medical and logistical support. Its Navy played a key role in delivering aid and assisting in search and rescue efforts along the shore, as well as multiple air force planes in retrieving survivors from destroyed areas.

#### **Japan**

As a prosperous and wealthy nation, Japan contributed financial aid, sent emergency relief systems, and provided technical expertise for rebuilding efforts. As a coastal nation experienced in natural



disasters, its government shared key aspects and supported the establishment of early warning systems.

## **Australia**

Collaborating with the other foreign interventions, Australia provided humanitarian assistance, medical teams and financial contributions. Furthermore, its military personnel worked closely with other organisations and governments in both relief and reconstruction efforts.

## **European Union**

The European Union, through its various member states and institutions, coordinated financial aid, relief supplies, and rebuilding support. As a successful organised entity, the E.U. played a key role in monitoring and assessing recovery efforts.

## *Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs)*

Organisations such as the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies were pivotal in providing immediate relief, alleviating suffering, medical care, and support for displaced persons. As well as playing a role in supporting long-term recovery efforts and disaster resilient infrastructure rebuilding.

Various United Nations Agencies, including UNICEF, the International Organisation on Migration and the World Food Programme, were involved in providing emergency and humanitarian assistance and coordinating both recovery and search efforts.

## *Private Sector Contributions*

Companies around the world contributed financial resources such as bank loans, donations, and more, supplies, and logistical support in communications and transportation. Their contributions included both direct aid in humanitarian assistance and coordination, as well as funding for long-term recovery projects, prevention measures, and support for future development.

Private citizens and organisations mobilised volunteers to support relief and recovery efforts, from fund-raising campaigns to hands-on assistance in affected areas.

## **Impact of Foreign Intervention**

### *Positive Outcomes*

The swift and coordinated response helped to mitigate the immediate impact of the disaster, saving lives and alleviating suffering.

Foreign intervention played a key role in the successful rebuilding of infrastructure and homes, facilitating the recovery of shelters and return to normalcy to affected communities.

The Establishment of the Indian Ocean Warning System has improved regional preparedness and response capabilities, reducing the risk of future tragedies and preparing citizens when a natural disaster is to come.



## *Challenges and Criticisms*

The sheer scale of the disaster and the number of international actors involved led to challenges in coordination, communication, and transportation. Instances of duplication and inefficiency, lost precious time that could have been used in recovery projects and search measures, as well as stained transparency among nations.

Long-term reliance of foreign aid raised concerns about the development of local capacities and self-sufficiency for future development, no longer closely supported by international financial and humanitarian assistance. Efforts to balance foreign support with local empowerment were a vital piece and necessary.

Some interventions were criticised for lacking cultural sensitivity and not fully engaging with local communities in the recovery process, staining governments reputations at the insensitivity of historical legacies and the customs and values of the various affected groups.

## **A Note for the Future**

Effective disaster response requires coordinated efforts among international actors, local authorities, and affected communities. Clear communication, collaboration and transparency are essential for maximising the impact of aid.

While foreign intervention is crucial, it is important to focus on building local capacity, resilience and interdependence among local communities of the region. Empowering these groups and governmental and non-governmental institutions can lead to more sustainable recovery and reduced dependency on external aid, which developing nations seek in order to develop and depend on their own entities.

The development of robust early warning systems is vital for mitigating the impacts of future natural disasters. International cooperation in building and maintaining these systems is essential for regional safety and long lasting resilience.

## **An example to follow for intervention**

The foreign intervention in the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami exemplifies the global community's capacity for humanitarian assistance and international cooperation, showing how foreign intervention, with clear objectives and effective coordination, can achieve positive outcomes.

The combined efforts of governments, NGOs, and private entities played a significant role in alleviating the immediate impact of the disaster and supporting long-term recovery. From this intervention, the international community gained experience that continues to inform disaster response strategies and highlight the importance of effective coordination, local empowerment, and preparedness for future emergencies.



## **QARMA's (Questions a Resolution Must Answer)**

1. To what extent should foreign intervention prioritise effectiveness in achieving development goals over respecting national sovereignty?
2. Do economically more developed nations have a moral obligation to assist economically less developed nations, such as through foreign aid or World Bank lending? What criteria should be used to make such judgments?
3. In what ways can the relationship between developing and developed countries be structured to foster mutual growth?
4. How can the UN prevent the issue of aid dependency?
5. What legal reforms can be created to enable an environment for development, and should these be supported by foreign intervention?
6. How can foreign aid be structured to support informal economies and ensure access for marginalised groups, such as refugees and undocumented individuals?
7. How can the current system of global humanitarian aid be changed or improved to fuel development and help countries reach the United Nations SDGs?
8. How should international laws and regulations be structured to govern and moderate foreign intervention in a way that ensures respect for sovereignty?
9. How can NGO operations be adjusted, redirected, and improved to continue operating in a more sustainable and equitable way?
10. How can accountability and transparency be ensured in foreign intervention efforts to prevent misuse of power and resources?



## **Bloc Positions**

In building blocs, we do not expect a rigorously defined set of predetermined bloc compositions: the issue of foreign intervention is one of many dimensions and so are the countries facing it. Although certain inclinations may tend to direct the committee into a “developing and developed” countries type of bloc structure —blocs only composed of developing countries or vice versa—, the cooperation of both types of countries (recipients and donors) in each bloc is essential for this topic. Nonetheless, whether you represent a developing or developed country you will take a different approach to the topic. Take the following points into light consideration. As Chair, I expect bloc positions to continue changing so as to develop the committee naturally.

### **Developed Countries**

Developed countries recognize their pivotal role in fostering sustainable development through foreign intervention. Developed nations advocate for technical assistance, financial aid, and capacity-building initiatives that align with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). They emphasise the importance of long-term growth over short-term fixes. These countries often support the idea of conditional aid, which ties assistance to the implementation of good governance practices, human rights protections, and anti-corruption measures. They believe that effective governance is essential for the success of any developmental intervention. Developed nations stress the need for collaborative frameworks that empower local stakeholders in developing countries. This approach respects national sovereignty and promotes local ownership of development initiatives.

### **Developing Countries**

Developing countries may adopt a more critical stance on foreign intervention, emphasising their unique challenges and advocating for their rights. Developing nations often reference historical instances where foreign interventions resulted in negative outcomes, such as economic dependency or social unrest, arguing that interventions frequently prioritise the interests of donor countries over the needs of local populations. Many developing countries advocate for the principle of non-interference in their domestic affairs, contending that foreign interventions can undermine sovereignty and lead to instability, calling for a focus on internal solutions and self-determination. Developing nations demand genuine support that respects local contexts and cultures. They argue for interventions that are designed and implemented in consultation with local communities to ensure relevance and effectiveness.

### **Mixed Position**

Some delegates may represent a neutral or mixed bloc position, recognizing the complexities of foreign intervention. This perspective may include advocating for a balanced approach that weighs both the benefits and risks of foreign intervention. This position emphasises the need for transparent and accountable interventions that prioritise the welfare of affected populations. The importance of collaboration between developed and developing countries in addressing global challenges, such as poverty, climate change, and health crises is stressed.



## Suggestions for Further Research

These are some suggestions for further exploration to the topic as you embark on your research process to prepare for the conference.

1. **The history of foreign aid - World | ReliefWeb** (Details country policy and alliances on development) This explains, from a more academic and comprehensive approach, how foreign aid has changed over time and what global forces have shaped it into the system we know today.
2. **OECD** (Database for individual countries and regions)  
OECD, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, is a fantastic resource for acquiring data on a particular country or region. Open the website and select the “Countries” tab on the menu bar, then select your country’s name. Each country’s records include several pages of newsletters, reports on current events, analyses by the OECD and UN agencies, and any major changes in foreign policy or government issues.
3. **Development, intervention, and international order:** A review of International Relations
4. **TEDTalks:** These speeches are a really effective way for specialists in the topic to express their opinions and perspectives.
  - a. What is International Development Really? | Alanna Shaikh (TED Archive)
  - b. Foreign Aid: Are we really helping others or just ourselves? | Maliha Chisthi (TEDxUTSC)
  - c. To create wealth, let’s move from aid to trade: lessons from Haiti | Daniel Jean-Louis (TEDxUFM)

## Closing Remarks and Committee Expectations

Congratulations on making it through the background guide! The dias thoroughly enjoyed compiling these resources for you, and we look forward to seeing how you will share the story of foreign intervention and development from your country’s perspective. We encourage you to really reflect on the definitions of “development” and ask yourself, “Who defines this? Why?” The core purpose of development aid is the success of the recipients; therefore, we must look to these nations, to find the best path forward. Use this background guide as a starting point, as an inspiration for your questions and curiosity about the issue. Keep **curiosity** at the front of your mind as you prepare for this conference and we are excited for the resolutions you will bring to our debate.





## **Position Paper Requirements**

A position paper is a one-page document that will need to be presented before the conference, the requirements of it are as follows.

**Font:** Times New Romans (size 11)

**Margins (centimetres):** 2.54 from all sides

**Line Spacing:** 1.15

**Heading:** Committee's name, topic, delegate's name, delegation, and allocation.

**First paragraph:** Introduction to your nation's perspective on the topic and should not be confused with an introduction to the topic. How does your nation see the issue discussed at hand?

**Second paragraph:** Past actions which relate to the topic and have been taken either by your country nationally, or with the UN. What effects did these have on the conflict in general?

**Third paragraph:** Solutions to the problem, more than one of these are encouraged to fully encompass the issue presented. Remember to remain within policy and within the scope of what your country can do.

**Bibliography:** The sources used to produce this position paper should be presented in MLA9 citation format. If a delegate fails to present sources for their position paper, it will be assumed to be plagiarised work and they will become ineligible for awards.

**Deadline:** All position papers must be sent in pdf form to [undp@sansilvestre.edu.pe](mailto:undp@sansilvestre.edu.pe) before 11:59 pm the 30th of August, 2024.

**Eligibility for awards:** Position papers will be used as a way for the chair to ensure your participation previous to the conference. For such, position papers must be submitted before the deadline for the delegate to be eligible for an award. However, they will not be a factor which contributes when choosing awards for your participation during the conference.

**A note on artificial intelligence usage:** We know in recent times many tools have been devised to automate tasks such as the development of literary texts. It would be ignorant to completely prohibit the use of such devices as they are tools created for the enhancement of human intelligence. For such, we believe that many times these devices can be used to improve your work, and we encourage the **healthy, moderated, and smart** usage of these aids. Let it be known, that although AI can be of big help for redaction purposes, **it should not be the sole source of your research** due to the obvious constraints that it possesses, which included but are not limited to; bias, lack of data from recent years, and false information. Furthermore, it is important to note that we **completely prohibit** the use of, for example, Chat GPT **during the conference** to create speeches at real-time speed. Our chairs will make sure to value your improvisation and public speaking skills over a perfectly redacted speech made by an AI tool. With this in mind, make sure to research thoroughly, find different perspectives and sources to devise a proper position paper.

If you have any doubts about the policies in more detail please email your chair or the Secretary-General [lxu86@sansilvestre.edu.pe](mailto:lxu86@sansilvestre.edu.pe)



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