

PRINCIPLES AND GUIDELINES FOR UN PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS



SERIES EDITOR

Harvey J. Langholtz, Ph.D.



Peace Operations Training Institute®

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

DEVELOPED IN CONSULTATION WITH
Peacekeeping Best Practices Section
Policy, Evaluation and Training Division
United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations

AND

General Robert Gordon
Co-drafter of the Original Publication



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Peace Operations Training Institute
1309 Jamestown Road, Suite 202
Williamsburg, VA 23185 USA
www.peaceopstraining.org

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A Note from the Series Editor

Dear Student,

Welcome to the course *Principles and Guidelines for United Nations Peacekeeping Operations*. This course has been developed in consultation with the Peacekeeping Best Practices Section of the United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations' Policy, Evaluation and Training Division, and the Peace Operations Training Institute. This course is based on the internal DPKO/DFS publication entitled *United Nations Peacekeeping Operations: Principles and Guidelines*, which was co-drafted for DPKO by General Robert Gordon and promulgated in March 2008 under the signature of Mr. Jean-Marie Guéhenno, then Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping. This course replaces an earlier POTI course entitled *Principles for the Conduct of Peace Support Operations*.

Peacekeeping is both a complex undertaking and an evolving concept. *United Nations Peacekeeping Operations: Principles and Guidelines* – which came to be more widely known under its informal name *Capstone Doctrine* – was, by its own assertion, written “to define the nature, scope and core business of contemporary United Nations peacekeeping operations.” The document certainly lives up to that expectation.

The original *United Nations Peacekeeping Operations: Principles and Guidelines* is a comprehensive document that defines and promulgates available peacekeeping doctrine, definitions, procedures, and policy. In 10 chapters, it introduces the concept and evolution of UN peacekeeping, explains the decision process that precedes the deployment of a peacekeeping operation, and then the planning process to implement that decision. It discusses the art of successful mandate implementation. It discusses the management of peacekeeping operations, how operations are supported and sustained, and how they are concluded at their termination.

This course is designed as a teaching document, and it is the purpose of this course to teach this DPKO doctrine. Every word of the original internal UN document is provided as the core reading of this course, but here the student will also find chapter introductions, learning objectives, photos to illustrate the text, inserted text boxes that define or explain specific concepts, sidebars that explain relevant broader topics, quizzes to confirm and reinforce an understanding of each chapter, and an End-of-Course Examination to test the student's overall mastery of the materials. In addition, the course includes reprints of some relevant reference materials, and where the materials are too large to be included, a web URL is provided. Students enrolled in this course will also have the opportunity to interact online with other students of the course and can find additional online resources provided by the Peace Operations Training Institute. Students who pass the online End-of-Course Examination will be provided with their own downloadable Certificate of Completion.

We have designed the visual appearance of this course to enable students to easily differentiate the original text as contained in *United Nations Peacekeeping Operations: Principles and Guidelines* from text that has been added for teaching purposes. In each chapter, all text found under the headings Learning Objectives and Introduction, as well as the text found within the blue text boxes, has been added by the Peace Operations Training Institute.

Thank you for enrolling in this course, and thank you also for your interest in United Nations peacekeeping. I trust you will be pleased with the materials you find in the following pages. I wish you every success in your studies.

Harvey Langholtz
Executive Director, Peace Operations Training Institute

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Foreword by Jean-Marie Guéhenno

Over the past sixty years, United Nations peacekeeping has evolved into one of the main tools used by the international community to manage complex crises that pose a threat to international peace and security. Since the beginning of the new millennium, the number of military, police and civilian personnel deployed in United Nations peacekeeping operations around the world has reached unprecedented levels. Not only has United Nations peacekeeping grown in size but it has become increasingly complex. Beyond simply monitoring cease-fires, today's multi-dimensional peacekeeping operations are called upon to facilitate the political process through the promotion of national dialogue and reconciliation, protect civilians, assist in the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of combatants, support the organization of elections, protect and promote human rights, and assist in restoring the rule of law.

In order to meet the challenges posed by the unprecedented scale and scope of today's missions, the United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) and the Department of Field Support (DFS) have embarked on a major reform effort, Peace Operations 2010, aimed at strengthening and professionalizing the planning, management and conduct of United Nations peacekeeping operations. A key objective of this ongoing reform process is to ensure that the growing numbers of United Nations peacekeeping personnel deployed in the field, as well as those serving at Headquarters, have access to clear, authoritative guidance on the multitude of tasks they are required to perform.

The present publication, which has been developed in close consultation with field missions, Member States, United Nations system partners and other key stakeholders, represents the first attempt in over a decade to codify the major lessons learned from the past six decades of United Nations peacekeeping experience. It is intended to help practitioners better understand the basic principles and concepts underpinning the conduct of contemporary United Nations peacekeeping operations as well as their inherent strengths and limitations.

I would like to express my gratitude to all those who have contributed to the development of this key guidance document, which will continue to be reviewed and updated in the coming years as United Nations peacekeeping evolves and new lessons are learnt.

Jean-Marie Guéhenno
Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations
March 2008

Introduction: Scope and Purpose of the Document

Over the past six decades, United Nations peacekeeping has evolved into a complex, global undertaking. During this time, the conduct of United Nations peacekeeping operations has been guided by a largely unwritten body of principles and informed by the experiences of the many thousands of men and women who have served in the more than 60 operations launched since 1948. This document captures these experiences for the benefit and guidance of planners and practitioners of United Nations peacekeeping operations.

The spectrum of contemporary peace operations has become increasingly broad and includes both United Nations-led peace operations as well as those conducted by other actors, normally with the authorization of the Security Council. This guidance document focuses on only one element of that spectrum: United Nations-led peacekeeping operations, authorized by the Security Council, conducted under the direction of the United Nations Secretary-General, and planned, managed, directed and supported by the United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) and the Department of Field Support (DFS). The specific focus of this document recognizes the need for a clearer articulation of the doctrinal foundations of United Nations peacekeeping operations, in light of the new challenges posed by the shifting nature of conflict, from inter-state to intra-state conflicts.

The present document aims to define the nature, scope and core business of contemporary United Nations peacekeeping operations, which are usually deployed as one part of a much broader international effort to build a sustainable peace in countries emerging from conflict. It identifies the comparative advantages and limitations of United Nations peacekeeping operations as a conflict management tool, and explains the basic principles that should guide their planning and conduct. In doing so, it reflects the primary lessons learned during the past sixty years of United Nations peacekeeping. It draws on landmark reports of the Secretary-General and legislative responses to these reports, as well as relevant resolutions and statements of the principal organs of the United Nations.

The present document is an internal DPKO/DFS publication. It sits at the highest-level of the current doctrine framework for United Nations peacekeeping. Any subordinate directives, guidelines, standard operating procedures, manuals and training materials issued by DPKO/DFS should conform to the principles and concepts referred to in this guidance document.

The document is intended to serve as a guide for all United Nations personnel serving in the field and at United Nations Headquarters, as well as an introduction to those who are new to United Nations peacekeeping. Although it is intended to help guide the planning and conduct of United Nations peacekeeping operations, its specific application will require judgement and will vary according to the situation on the ground. Peacekeeping practitioners in the field are often faced with a confusing and contradictory set of imperatives and pressures. This document is unable to resolve many of these issues; indeed, some have no clear, prescribed answers. Instead, it provides a handrail to assist planners and practitioners manoeuvre through the complexities of contemporary United Nations peacekeeping operations.

This document reflects the multi-dimensional nature of contemporary United Nations peacekeeping operations, which are normally led in the field by a senior United Nations political figure. It does not seek to override the national military doctrines of individual Member States participating in these operations and it does not address any military tactics, techniques and procedures (TTPs), which remain the prerogative

of individual Member States. It is, nonetheless, intended to support civilian, police and military personnel who are training and preparing to serve in United Nations peacekeeping operations. Troop Contributing Countries and Police Contributing Countries (TCCs/PCCs) to United Nations peacekeeping operations may wish to draw on this document in developing their respective doctrines, training and pre-deployment programmes.

For partners, this guidance document is intended to foster a clearer understanding of the major principles guiding the conduct of United Nations peacekeeping operations. Key partners include TCCs/PCCs, regional and other inter-governmental organizations, the range of humanitarian and development actors involved in international crisis management, as well as national and local actors in the countries where United Nations peacekeeping operations are deployed. In this regard, the document supports a vision of a system of inter-locking capabilities in which the roles and responsibilities and comparative advantages of the various partners are clearly defined.

This document draws on analysis contained in the landmark 2000 *Report of the Panel on United Nations Peace Operations (The Brahimi Report)* and other existing sources to help guide United Nations peacekeepers in the coming years. It is a living document that will be reviewed and updated regularly to reflect major evolutions in United Nations peacekeeping practices. The current version will be due for review in January 2010 and may be updated earlier, if required. As with the current version, Member States, TCCs/ PCCs, field missions, United Nations system partners, regional organizations and other key stakeholders will be consulted to ensure that the document continues to reflect the concerns, views, insights, and expertise of major partners both within and outside the United Nations system.



To view a video introduction of this course by the course author General Robert Gordon, you can either log in to your virtual classroom, go to <https://www.peaceopstraining.org/videos/55/introduction-principles-and-guidelines-for-un-peacekeeping-operations/>, or use your mobile device to scan the QR code to the left.



Method of Study

The following are suggestions for how to proceed with this course. Though the student may have alternate approaches that are effective, the following hints have worked for many.

- Before you begin actual studies, first browse through the overall course material. Notice the lesson outlines, which give you an idea of what will be involved as you proceed.
- The material should be logical and straightforward. Instead of memorizing individual details, strive to understand concepts and overall perspectives in regard to the United Nations system.
- Set up guidelines regarding how you want to schedule your time.
- Study the lesson content and the learning objectives. At the beginning of each lesson, orient yourself to the main points. If you are able to, read the material twice to ensure maximum understanding and retention, and let time elapse between readings.
- When you finish a lesson, take the End-of-Lesson Quiz. For any error, go back to the lesson section and re-read it. Before you go on, be aware of the discrepancy in your understanding that led to the error.
- After you complete all of the lessons, take time to review the main points of each lesson. Then, while the material is fresh in your mind, take the End-of-Course Examination in one sitting.
- Your exam will be scored, and if you achieve a passing grade of 75 per cent or higher, you will be awarded a Certificate of Completion. If you score below 75 per cent, you will be given one opportunity to take a second version of the End-of-Course Examination.
- One note about spelling is in order. This course was written in English as it is used in the United Kingdom.

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PART I

THE EVOLUTION OF UNITED NATIONS PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS

THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS was signed, in San Francisco, on 26 June 1945 and is the foundation document for all the United Nations' work. The United Nations was established to “save succeeding generations from the scourge of war” and one of its main purposes is to maintain international peace and security. Peacekeeping, although not explicitly provided for in the Charter, has evolved into one of the main tools used by the United Nations to achieve this purpose.

CHAPTER ONE

THE NORMATIVE FRAMEWORK FOR UNITED NATIONS
PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS

CHAPTER TWO

THE EVOLVING ROLE OF UNITED NATIONS
PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS

CHAPTER THREE

THE BASIC PRINCIPLES OF UNITED NATIONS PEACEKEEPING



CHAPTER 1
THE NORMATIVE FRAMEWORK
FOR UNITED NATIONS
PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS

CHAPTER 1



LEARNING OBJECTIVES

After studying Chapter 1, the student should be able to:

- 1.1 The Charter of the United Nations
- 1.2 Human Rights
- 1.3 International Humanitarian Law
- 1.4 Security Council Mandates

- Understand the chapters of the UN Charter that are relevant to peacekeeping;
- Be aware of *The Universal Declaration of Human Rights*, its place in International Human Rights Law, and the normative framework it provides for United Nations peacekeeping operations;
- Understand how International Humanitarian Law is set in the four Geneva Conventions of 1949 and their two Additional Protocols of 1977, as well as how International Humanitarian Law restricts the means and methods of armed conflict; and
- Understand the function the Security Council plays in setting mandates for UN Peacekeeping Missions.



To view a video introduction of this chapter by the course author General Robert Gordon, you can either log in to your virtual classroom, go to <https://www.peaceopstraining.org/videos/2/chapter-1-the-normative-framework-for-united-nations-peacekeeping-operations/>, or use your mobile device to scan the QR code to the left.



Introduction

The League of Nations: Predecessor to the United Nations

The League of Nations was created in the aftermath of the First World War to “promote international cooperation and to achieve international peace and security.” It proved singularly unsuccessful. The League alienated the international powers who were defeated in the First World War and even failed to hold together the victorious allies; indeed, the United States never became a member. During the 1920s and 1930s, the former allies of World War I drifted apart and disarmed, while international powers outside the League took to dictatorship and rearmament. As the international scene took on more ominous directions, the League of Nations was powerless to prevent the world’s descent into a second global war.

The Birth of the United Nations

The UN was created after World War II. Like the League of Nations, it was based on the assumption that the victorious wartime powers would keep the international peace. Unlike the former League, however, the UN made considerable efforts to reconcile and assimilate the defeated nations of World War II. In addition, the rapid growth of its membership due to decolonization gave new nations a voice and influence that they had never had before. In its preamble, the Charter of the United Nations asserted its goals as:

- To save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, which twice in our lifetime has brought untold sorrow to mankind, and
- To reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small, and
- To establish conditions under which justice and respect for the obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law can be maintained, and
- To promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom.

In this chapter, the student will receive a brief introduction to the Charter of the United Nations, *The Universal Declaration of Human Rights*, International Humanitarian Law, and how the concepts and tenets of these documents are reflected in Security Council resolutions and, in turn, the mandate of each UN Peacekeeping Mission.

1.1 The Charter of the United Nations

The Charter of the United Nations was signed in San Francisco, on 26 June 1945 and is the foundation document for all the United Nations’ work. The United Nations was established to “save succeeding generations from the scourge of war” and one of its main purposes is to maintain international peace and security. Peacekeeping, although not explicitly provided for in the Charter, has evolved into one of the main tools used by the United Nations to achieve this purpose.



Joseph Paul-Bancor, former Prime Minister, member of the Delegation from France, signing the Charter at a ceremony held at the Veteran's War Memorial Building on 26 June. (UN Photo #84200 by McCreary, June 1945)

The UN Charter can be accessed online at <http://www.un.org/en/documents/charter/>. Students are encouraged to read it, with special attention to Chapters VI, VII, and VIII.

The Charter gives the United Nations Security Council primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security.¹ In fulfilling this responsibility, the Security Council may adopt a range of measures, including the establishment of a United Nations peacekeeping operation. The legal basis for such action is found in Chapters VI, VII and VIII of the Charter. While Chapter VI deals with the “Pacific Settlement of Disputes”, Chapter VII contains provisions related to “Action with Respect to the Peace, Breaches of the Peace and Acts of Aggression.” Chapter VIII of the Charter also provides for the involvement of regional arrangements and agencies in the maintenance of international peace and security, provided such activities are consistent with the purposes and principles outlined in Chapter I of the Charter.

United Nations peacekeeping operations have traditionally been associated with Chapter VI of the Charter. However, the Security Council need not refer

¹ Although the United Nations Charter gives primary responsibility to the Security Council for the maintenance of international peace and security, General Assembly resolution 377 (V) of 3 November 1950, also known as the “Uniting for Peace” resolution, states that: “...if the Security Council, because of lack of unanimity of the permanent members, fails to exercise its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security in any case where there appears to be a threat to the peace, breach of the peace, or act of aggression, the General Assembly shall consider the matter immediately with a view to making appropriate recommendations to Members for collective measures, including in the case of a breach of the peace or act of aggression, the use of armed force when necessary, to maintain or restore international peace and security.”

General Assembly resolution 1000 (ES-1) of 5 November 1956 authorizing the establishment of the First United Nations Emergency Force (UNEF I) was adopted under procedure established by the “Uniting for Peace” resolution.

to a specific Chapter of the Charter when passing a resolution authorizing the deployment of a United Nations peacekeeping operation and has never invoked Chapter VI. In recent years, the Security Council has adopted the practice of invoking Chapter VII of the Charter when authorizing the deployment of United Nations peacekeeping operations into volatile post-conflict settings where the State is unable to maintain security and public order. The Security Council’s invocation of Chapter VII in these situations, in addition to denoting the legal basis for its action, can also be seen as a statement of firm political resolve and a means of reminding the parties to a conflict and the wider United Nations membership of their obligation to give effect to Security Council decisions.

Linking United Nations peacekeeping with a particular Chapter of the Charter can be misleading for the purposes of operational planning, training and mandate implementation. In assessing the nature of each peacekeeping operation and the capabilities needed to support it, TCCs and PCCs should be guided by the tasks assigned by the Security Council mandate, the concept of operations and accompanying mission Rules of Engagement (ROE) for the military component, and the Directives on the Use of Force (DUF) for the police component.

Blue Helmets on the Horizon

The word “peacekeeping” is never explicitly mentioned in the UN Charter, but the Charter, *the Universal Declaration of Human Rights*, and International Humanitarian Law all contain the broad foundations for UN Peacekeeping. The international community sets specific mandates for each United Nations Peacekeeping Mission through Security Council resolutions. While peacekeeping is only a small part of United Nations operations, UN peacekeepers and military observers, known as “blue helmets” for their distinctive blue berets and helmets, are globally recognized as the most visible sign of UN operations. Peacekeeping is the single activity for which the United Nations is most known, and it is the most effective tool available to the international community for the maintenance of peace and security.

Organs of the United Nations Body

SECURITY COUNCIL

The Security Council consists of five permanent members (China, France, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom, and the United States) and ten non-permanent members. Half of the non-permanent members are elected each year by the General Assembly for a term of two years. The UN Charter confers a unique authority on the Security Council to investigate any situation or conflict that threatens international peace and security. The Security Council is, therefore, the principal organization in the world for international peace and security and, thereby, has legitimacy under international law for the use of force or intervention against a sovereign state. It can delegate this responsibility under Chapter VIII of the Charter to regional organizations, such as the African Union (AU).

In carrying out these duties, the Security Council acts on behalf of all UN members. The Security Council asks the Secretary-General to prepare a plan to deal with the problem, and the SC will normally be the approving authority for any plan. There can be some specific circumstances under which the decision can be referred to the General Assembly. However, the General Assembly itself has no powers to authorize enforcement of the peace under Chapter VII of the UN Charter. Such powers are the exclusive preserve of the UN Security Council.

SECRETARY-GENERAL

The Secretary-General of the UN is responsible to the Security Council for the organization, the conduct, and the overseeing of a United Nations Peacekeeping Operation. In addition to preparing the operational plan and presenting it to the Security Council for approval, the Secretary-General is responsible for conducting negotiations with the host countries, the parties in conflict, and the Member States contributing troops and resources.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The General Assembly considers any matter referred to it by the Security Council. It also deals with matters pertaining to the promotion of international cooperation, disarmament, trusteeship, and human rights. Even though most of its resolutions are not binding, it is the General Assembly that approves and apportions the UN's annual budget, including all costs related to Peacekeeping Operations.

MILITARY STAFF COMMITTEE

Article 47 of the UN Charter calls for the establishment of a Military Staff Committee. The Committee includes the Chiefs of Staff of the permanent members of the Security Council, who act to advise and assist on all questions relating to the Security Council's military requirements for the maintenance of international peace and security. Even though this role is called for in the UN Charter, in practice, the Military Staff Committee has not played the role envisaged by the Charter and has exerted very little influence on UN PSOs.

UN SECRETARIAT

The UN Secretariat is the permanent organization responsible for the broad range of United Nations activities. Its head is the Secretary-General, and it is, in effect, the UN's civil service branch. While it has many departments, the principal departments that deal with PKOs are the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO); the Department of Field Support (DFS); and the Department of Safety and Security (DSS). The Under-Secretaries-General of these departments, with their specialist advisers – such as the Military Adviser or Police Adviser – are responsible for providing advice and guidance to the SG and the Security Council on peacekeeping operations and their associated disciplines, as well as for providing executive authority for their conduct and support when so delegated.

→ The Universal Declaration of Human Rights is provided as Appendix B.

1.3 International Humanitarian Law

International humanitarian law is known also as “the law of war” or “the law of armed conflict,” and restricts the means and methods of armed conflict. International humanitarian law is contained in the four Geneva Conventions of 1949 and their two Additional Protocols of 1977, as well as in rules regulating the means and methods of combat. International humanitarian law also includes conventions and treaties on the protection of cultural property and the environment during armed conflict, as well as protection of victims of conflict.

International humanitarian law is designed to protect persons who do not participate, or are no longer participating, in the hostilities; and it maintains the fundamental rights of civilians, victims and non-combatants in an armed conflict. It is relevant to United Nations peacekeeping operations because these missions are often deployed into post-conflict environments where violence may be ongoing or conflict could reignite. Additionally, in post-conflict environments there are often large civilian populations that have been targeted by the warring parties, prisoners of war and other vulnerable groups to whom the Geneva Conventions or other humanitarian law would apply in the event of further hostilities.

United Nations peacekeepers must have a clear understanding of the principles and rules of international humanitarian law and observe them in situations where they apply. *The Secretary-General’s Bulletin on the Observance by United Nations Forces of International Humanitarian Law of 6 August 1999 (ST/SGB/1999/13)* sets out the fundamental principles and rules of international law that may be applicable to United Nations peacekeepers.

→ The Secretary-General’s Bulletin on the Observance by United Nations Forces of International Humanitarian Law of 6 August 1999 (ST/SGB/1999/13) is provided as Appendix C.



Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt of the United States holding a Declaration of Human Rights poster in Spanish. (UN Photo #1292, November 1949)

1.2 Human Rights

International human rights law is an integral part of the normative framework for United Nations peacekeeping operations. *The Universal Declaration of Human Rights*, which sets the cornerstone of international human rights standards, emphasizes that human rights and fundamental freedoms are universal and guaranteed to everybody. United Nations peacekeeping operations should be conducted in full respect of human rights and should seek to advance human rights through the implementation of their mandates (See Chapter 2).

United Nations peacekeeping personnel – whether military, police or civilian – should act in accordance with international human rights law and understand how the implementation of their tasks intersects with human rights. Peacekeeping personnel should strive to ensure that they do not become perpetrators of human rights abuses. They must be able to recognize human rights violations or abuse, and be prepared to respond appropriately within the limits of their mandate and their competence. United Nations peacekeeping personnel should respect human rights in their dealings with colleagues and with local people, both in their public and in their private lives. Where they commit abuses, they should be held accountable.

The Geneva Conventions, a series of four treaties and three protocols, were created to set international standards of humanitarian treatment for the victims of war. They cover provisions for prisoners of war, the wounded, and civilians.

The Hague Conventions are international treaties created to establish the rules under which war may be conducted.

The four Geneva Conventions of 1949 and their three protocols can be found here: <http://www.icrc.org/ihl.nsf/CONVPRES?OpenView>.

International Humanitarian Law is discussed in depth in the Peace Operations Training Institute course *International Humanitarian Law and the Law of Armed Conflict*. The course covers the history of international humanitarian law, the protocols establishing common standards, and situational applications of international humanitarian law.

1.4 Security Council Mandates

United Nations peacekeeping operations are deployed on the basis of a mandate from the United Nations Security Council. The tasks that a United Nations peacekeeping operation will be required to perform are set out in the Security Council mandate. Security Council mandates differ from situation to situation, depending on the nature of the conflict and the specific challenges it presents. Since United Nations peacekeeping operations are normally deployed to support the implementation of a cease-fire or a more comprehensive peace agreement, Security Council mandates are influenced by the nature and content of the agreement reached by the parties to the conflict.

Security Council mandates also reflect the broader normative debates shaping the international environment. In this regard, there are a number of cross-cutting, thematic tasks that are regularly

assigned to United Nations peacekeeping operations on the basis of the following landmark Security Council resolutions:

- Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women, peace and security;²
- Security Council resolution 1612 (2005) on children and armed conflict;³
- Security Council resolution 1674 (2006) on the protection of civilians in armed conflict;⁴

→ ***The three Security Council resolutions are provided as Appendix D.***

2 It is widely recognized that the international community's objectives in countries emerging from conflict will be better served if women and girls are protected and if arrangements are put in place to allow for the full participation of women in the peace process. Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women, peace and security therefore calls on all United Nations peacekeeping operations to mainstream gender issues into operational activities.

3 Security Council resolution 1612 (2005) stresses the responsibility of United Nations peacekeeping operations to ensure a coordinated response to children and armed conflict concerns and to monitor and report to the Secretary-General. Under resolution 1612 (2005) the Secretary-General is required to ensure that the need for, and the number and roles of Child Protection Advisers are systematically assessed during the preparation of each United Nations peacekeeping operation. In United Nations peacekeeping operations where there are country monitoring and reporting Task Forces on CAAC, these are headed by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG).

4 Security Council resolution 1674 (2006) reaffirms the Council's commitment to ensuring that the mandates of peacekeeping operations, where appropriate and on a case-by-case basis, include provisions regarding: (i) the protection of civilians, particularly those under imminent threat of physical danger within their zones of operation, (ii) the facilitation of the provision of humanitarian assistance, and (iii) the creation of conditions conducive to the voluntary, safe, dignified and sustainable return of refugees and internally displaced persons.

The range of tasks assigned to United Nations peacekeeping operations has expanded significantly in response to shifting patterns of conflict and to best address emerging threats to international peace and security. Although each United Nations peacekeeping operation is different, there is a considerable degree of consistency in the types of mandated tasks assigned by the Security Council. These are described in greater detail in Chapter 2, below.

Some Security Council Facts

- The Security Council has a limited number of members (15) but acts on behalf of all UN members (192).
- All members of the UN agree to accept and carry out the decisions of the SC (UN Charter, Art 25).
- Each member has one vote. Nine votes are required to pass a resolution, provided there is no veto.
- Only the five permanent members (P-5) hold veto power.
- The 10 non-permanent members, who represent their regions, serve for two years and are elected by the General Assembly.
- The Security Council must be able to function at all times (24/7/365), so membership comes with an administrative burden.



*United Nations peacekeeping operations are established by the adoption of a resolution in the United Nations Security Council. Adoption requires affirmative votes by at least nine of the 15 members, with no “no” votes by the five permanent members - China, France, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom, and the United States.
(UN Photo #361874 by Jenny Rockett, March 2009)*

Chapter 1 Quiz

- 1. When was the UN Charter signed?**
 - a. 7 December 1941;
 - b. 6 June 1944;
 - c. 26 June 1945;
 - d. 6 August 1945.

- 2. Chapter _____ of the UN Charter deals with the Pacific Settlement of Disputes.**

- 3. Chapter _____ of the UN Charter provides for the involvement of regional arrangements and agencies in the maintenance of international peace and security.**

- 4. What document sets the cornerstone of international human rights standards?**
 - a. *The Universal Declaration of Human Rights*;
 - b. The Geneva Conventions;
 - c. The Hague Conventions;
 - d. The Charter of the International Committee of the Red Cross.

- 5. What are two other names by which International Humanitarian Law is known?**

- 6. What does International Humanitarian Law do?**
 - a. It determines how wars will be won;
 - b. It restricts the means and methods of armed conflict;
 - c. It sets a scale for the payment of war reparations;
 - d. It determines how humanitarian operations will be conducted.

- 7. International Humanitarian Law is designed to protect whom?**

- 8. United Nations peacekeepers:**
 - a. Will be instructed regarding International Humanitarian Law when it is needed;
 - b. Must have a clear understanding of the principles and rules of International Humanitarian Law and observe them in situations where they apply;
 - c. Are exempt from the rules of International Humanitarian Law;
 - d. Will adapt International Humanitarian Law for each peacekeeping mission.

- 9. United Nations peacekeeping operations are deployed on the basis of:**
 - a. A mandate from the United Nations Security Council;
 - b. The Geneva Convention;
 - c. The United Nations Charter;
 - d. The Hague Convention.

- 10. Security Council mandates:**
 - a. Are generally standard for all peacekeeping missions;
 - b. Are subject to a review by the UN General Assembly;
 - c. Are updated monthly depending on realities on the ground;
 - d. Differ from situation to situation depending on the nature of the conflict and the specific challenges it presents.

ANSWER KEY

1C, 2 VI, 3 VIII, 4A, 5 “The law of the world” and “the law of armed conflict”, 6B, 7 Persons who do not participate, or are no longer participating, in hostilities, 8B, 9A, 10D