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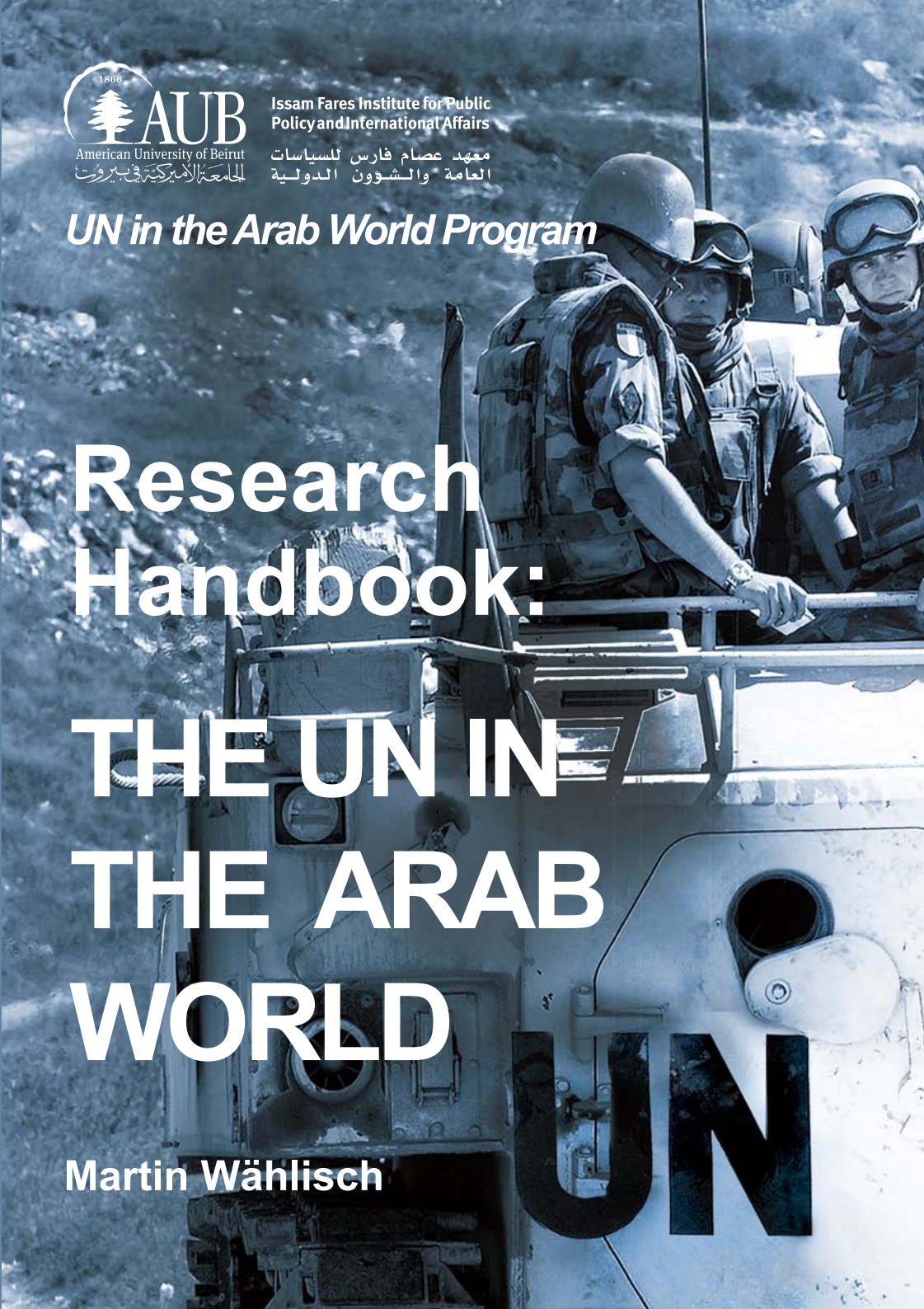
معهد عصام فارس للسياسات العامة والشؤون الدولية

UN in the Arab World Program



Research Handbook:

THE UN IN THE ARAB WORLD

Martin Wählisch

The United Nations in the Arab World Program was launched in 2009 with the objective of exploring and analyzing the role of the United Nations (UN) in the Arab region and the impact it has had on regional politics and societies. Encouraging and analyzing research on cases where UN intervention has had an impact in the region--along with situating such UN intervention within broader political, historical and social contexts--comprises the core of this program.

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Published by the Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs, American University of Beirut.

Beirut, Lebanon

The digital version of the Handbook can be downloaded from www.aub.edu.lb/ifi, or by using the QR code on the back cover.

Published in January 2015

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Printed in Beirut, Lebanon

ISBN 978-9953-586-19-9

Beirut, January 2015

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معهد عصام فارس للسياسات العامة والشؤون الدولية

Research Handbook
THE UN IN THE ARAB WORLD

Martin Wählisch

Affiliated Scholar, IFI

UN in the Arab World Program

Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs

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Preface

About IFI's UN in the Arab World Program

The *United Nations in the Arab World Program* at the Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs at the American University of Beirut focuses on the role that the UN has played in the region, and in particular within the political, security and humanitarian dimensions.

The UN of course is not simply an international organization, it also embodies a set of norms and practices that are played out and contested by a variety of actors on the local, national, regional and international levels. As such, the program has sought to promote research and contribute to policy debates, as well as provide resources for the academic and practitioner communities. The focus of the program on the Arab world, rather than the Middle East, is primarily because the 'Middle East' denotes a western geographical construct, while the 'Arab world' signifies a more unified area linguistically, culturally and geographically.

This research handbook on the UN in the Arab region is one such output that we hope will serve as a useful tool to stimulate interest and effective research on the role of the UN in the region. We are grateful to Martin Wählisch, Affiliated Scholar at IFI, for leading in this project and compiling this important guide.

Karim Makdisi, Faculty Research Director
Samar Ghanem, Program Coordinator
UN in the Arab World Program, IFI
Beirut, February 2014

About this Handbook

The Arab world has been continuously in the focus of the United Nations. The recent Arab uprisings, the ongoing Syrian crisis and the Palestinian question are keeping the spotlight on the Middle East and Northern Africa. The geostrategic position of Arab countries as gateways along key trade routes between the Far East, the West and the South make the region a place of challenges. While natural resources have blessed Arab states, rough climate conditions and water shortages have hindered the development of many Arab countries. In this context, the UN has played a crucial role in tackling political tensions and socio-economic opportunities in the Arab world.

Aim and Content of the Handbook

This research handbook aims to provide guidance to students, researchers and practitioners on current UN affairs in the Middle East and Northern Africa. It offers entry-points for exploring the role of the UN in the region while explaining the various facets of the world organization's activities, which range from political and diplomatic efforts to humanitarian, human rights and economic issues. The handbook includes references to key UN documents, such as relevant Security Council decisions and General Assembly resolutions. It lists relevant legal documents, such as international treaties and conventions, as well as peace agreements. The handbook also flags landmark reports issued by the UN Secretary General and other institutions. In addition, it provides links to specialized thematic research guides and selected secondary sources, such as working papers and academic journal articles. Special attention is given to publicly available open-sources and research from the IFI-AUB community.

Structure of the Handbook

The handbook is structured along 10 cases, which exemplify how the UN is engaged in Arab countries. Each chapter has a thematic focus area and a specific example it elaborates on. Chapter 1 focuses on issues of peace and security, addressing the Palestine question and the role of the UN General Assembly. Chapter 2 concentrates on UN peacemaking, and elaborates on the armed conflict in Syria and the efforts of the UN Special Representative for Syria. Chapter 3 touches on peacebuilding, highlighting the function of the UN Assistance Mission for Iraq for national reconciliation in the country. Chapter 4 looks at peacekeeping in the context of the Israel-Lebanon conflict, introducing the mandate of the UN Interim Force in Lebanon. Chapter 5 provides references on the topic of Palestinian refugees, explaining the role of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East. Chapter 6 focuses on human rights, specifically on women's rights in the Arab world and the work of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. Chapter 7 deals with legal issues regarding Transitional Justice and the Special Tribunal for Lebanon. Chapter 8 captures key research entry-points concerning

economic and social issues in the Arab world, using the Millennium Development Goals and the efforts of the UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia as examples. Chapter 9 features climate change in the Arab world as a pressing environmental issue, with a focus on the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. Chapter 10 relates to the topic of energy and natural resources, examining the role of the UN in facilitating a solution for the Lebanon-Israel offshore oil and gas dispute.

Prior to the 10 cases, the research handbook gives a short introduction on the history of the UN in the Arab world. In order to help students understand how to research UN documents efficiently, a summary about the Official Document System of the United Nations is provided. The handbook also includes an overview about key UN terminology in English and Arabic.

The research handbook is understood to be an ongoing effort. Suggestions, ideas and comments to enhance it further are welcomed.

Enjoy reading and exploring the handbook.

Martin Wählisch
Affiliated Scholar, IFI
Beirut, February 2014

UN

Introduction

The UN in the Arab World

Political and security developments in the Arab world have been closely interlinked with the work of the UN since its creation after World War II in 1945. However, while many Arab states have turned to UN agencies, programs, and funds for support of policy-making and the implementation of economic and social reforms, the role of the UN in the region has been not uncontroversial. The following introduction gives a short overview about the history of the UN in the Arab world, describing past and present endeavours.

History

After the end of World War I and the dissolution of the Ottoman Empire, the modern Arab world was drawn out and shaped by European colonial powers. The trusteeship system of the League of Nations, the predecessor of the United Nations, granted France a mandate over Syria and Lebanon, while the United Kingdom was given mandatory authority over Palestine, Transjordan and Iraq.

Historically, there has been a heavy focus of UN activities on Palestine. The end of World War II ushered in the era of the United Nations, which became a forum and arena for political matters of the region. In 1947, the UN General Assembly endorsed the partition of Palestine into an Arab and a Jewish state, which has been regarded as a starting point for the ongoing Arab-Israeli conflict.

The UN Security Council tasked the Swedish diplomat Folke Bernadotte to serve as the first UN Mediator in Palestine to bring about an end to the armed conflict. In 1948, the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO) was deployed to the region as the first UN military observer mission, which remained in the region to supervise the Armistice Agreements between Israel and the neighbouring Arab countries ever since.

In 1949, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) was created to provide education, health care, social services and humanitarian aid to Palestinian refugees. UNRWA is the only UN relief and human development agency ever established that is dedicated to helping refugees from a specific region or conflict.

Responding to the Suez Crisis in 1956, the UN dispatched its first large international peacekeeping force. The United Nations Emergency Force (UNEF) was established to facilitate an orderly withdrawal of British, French and Israeli troops from Egypt, and to monitor activity at the 1949 Egyptian-Israeli Armistice Demarcation Line. In 1973, the second United Nations Emergency Forces (UNEF II) was mandated by United Nations General Assembly to supervise the ceasefire between Egyptian and Israeli forces at the end of the Yom Kippur War and to control the established buffer zones.

Peacekeeping Missions in the Region

Among other peacekeeping missions in the Arab world have been the United Nations Observation Group in Lebanon (UNOGIL), which was mandated to end the Lebanon crisis of 1958; the United Nations Yemen Observation Mission (UNYOM) from 1963-1964, which was tasked with observing the implementation of the disengagement agreement between Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Republic to end the Yemen Civil War; the United Nations Iran-Iraq Military Observer Group (UNIIMOG) from 1988–1991, which verified and supervised the withdrawal of forces after the Iran-Iraq war; United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission (UNIKOM) from 1991-2003, which monitored the demilitarized zone along the Iraq-Kuwait border following the First Gulf War; and most recently, the United Nations Supervision Mission in Syria (UNSMIS) in 2012, which was set up to monitor the cessation of armed violence in Syria.

In Northern Africa, the United Nations Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM I) from 1992-1993 and the United Nations Operation in Somalia II (UNOSOM II) from 1993-1995, which were both tasked with securing humanitarian assistance and ceasefire monitoring; the United Nations Aouzou Strip Observer Group (UNASOG), which was established by the Security Council in 1994 with the mandate to monitor the withdrawal of the Libyan administration and forces from the Aouzou Strip; and the United Nations Mission in the Sudan (UNMIS), which was deployed from 2005-2011 due to the Second Sudanese Civil War, played a crucial role to maintain peace and security.

As of the beginning of 2014, there are seven on-going peacekeeping operations stationed in the Arab region. Among others, the aforementioned United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO), and the subsequent United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) and the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) are based in the region. Together with UNTSO, UNDOF monitors the buffer zone between Israel and Syria since 1974. Since 1978, UNIFIL is mandated with confirming the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Southern Lebanon.

Another peacekeeping mission in the Arab region is the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO). Initially founded in 1991, MINURSO continues to monitor the ceasefire between Morocco and the Polisario Front, and works on demining and confidence building measures.

Regarding the Sudanese conflicts, the United Nations/ African Union Mission in Darfur (UNAMID); the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA), and

the United Nations Mission in the Republic of South Sudan (UNMISS) are in place. With nearly 21,000 uniformed personnel in the field, as well as a large contingent of civilian personnel, the joint UN-AU peacekeeping operation in Darfur (UNAMID) remains, as of the beginning of 2014, the largest UN peacekeeping mission in the world. The mission supports the implementation of the Darfur Peace Agreement (DPA), secures access for humanitarian assistance throughout Darfur, aims to create an inclusive political process about human rights and rule of law, is in charge of the implementation of Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration programs (DDR), while it monitors and reports on the situation along the Sudanese borders with Chad and the Central African Republic. Since 2011, UNISFA monitors the Abyei Area in Sudan and is authorized to use force for the protection of civilians and humanitarian workers in the area. Also since 2011, UNMISS is on the ground to consolidate peace and security and to help establish conditions for development.

Peacemaking Efforts, Political Missions and "Good Offices"

Since the foundation of the UN, peacemaking and "good offices" efforts have been at the heart of the organization's activities in the region. Good offices of the Secretary General are, for instance, currently carried out by the UN Special Representative for Syria, the Special Adviser to the Secretary General on Yemen, and the Personal Envoy of the Secretary General for Western Sahara. Ongoing UN political missions comprise the Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process (UNSCO); the Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for Lebanon (UNSCOL); the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI); the United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL); and, most recently, the United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNSOM).

As the mandating of the UN Special Representative for Syria and the joint UN-AU peacekeeping operation in Darfur (UNAMID) exemplify, efforts of the United Nations are increasingly carried out in hybrid collaborations. The idea of such joint endeavours is to bring together regional and international strengths, while anchoring peacekeeping and peacemaking in the local context, and enabling more regionally grown solutions apart from international interventions.

Agencies, Programs and Funds

In addition to peacekeeping and political missions, various agencies, programs, and funds of the UN system are based in the Arab world. Among others, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the World Food Programme (WFP), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT), the United Nations Volunteers (UNV), the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the

Empowerment of Women (UN WOMEN), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the International Labour Organization (ILO), the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), and World Food Programme (WFP) operate in the region.

Arab states are members of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), which are branches of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) that constitutes one of the principal organs of the United Nations. In several Arab states, the UN also maintains United Nations Information Centres (UNIC), such as in Algeria, Lebanon, Egypt, Sudan, Bahrain, Morocco, Yemen, Libya, and Tunisia.

As this introduction has shown, the role of the UN in the Arab world is multi-faceted. Peacekeeping missions and international diplomatic efforts are a part of the UN's daily work in the region. The future role of the UN in the Arab region will depend on the success of its current efforts, aiming at maintaining peace and security while enhancing economic development and social equality in the spirit of the UN Charter.

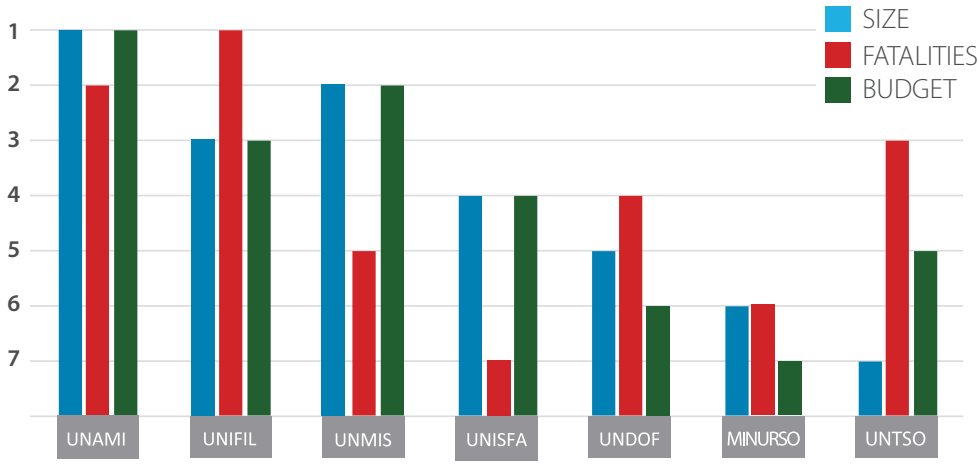
Statistics

UN Peacekeeping Missions in the Arab World

Mission	Size	Fatalities	Budget
UNAMID	20,193	212	$639,654,200
UNIFIL	11,297	307	$509,554,400
UNMISS	13,765	31	$580,830,400
UNISFA	4,278	17	$318,925,200
UNDOF	1,094	46	$64,110,900
MINURSO	495	15	$55,990,080
UNTSO	380	50	$74,291,900

Source: UN DPKO, 2014
http://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/resources/statistics/factsheet.shtml

Ranking



UN Political Missions, Good Offices Missions and Peacekeeping Missions in the Arab World

UN Peacekeeping Missions

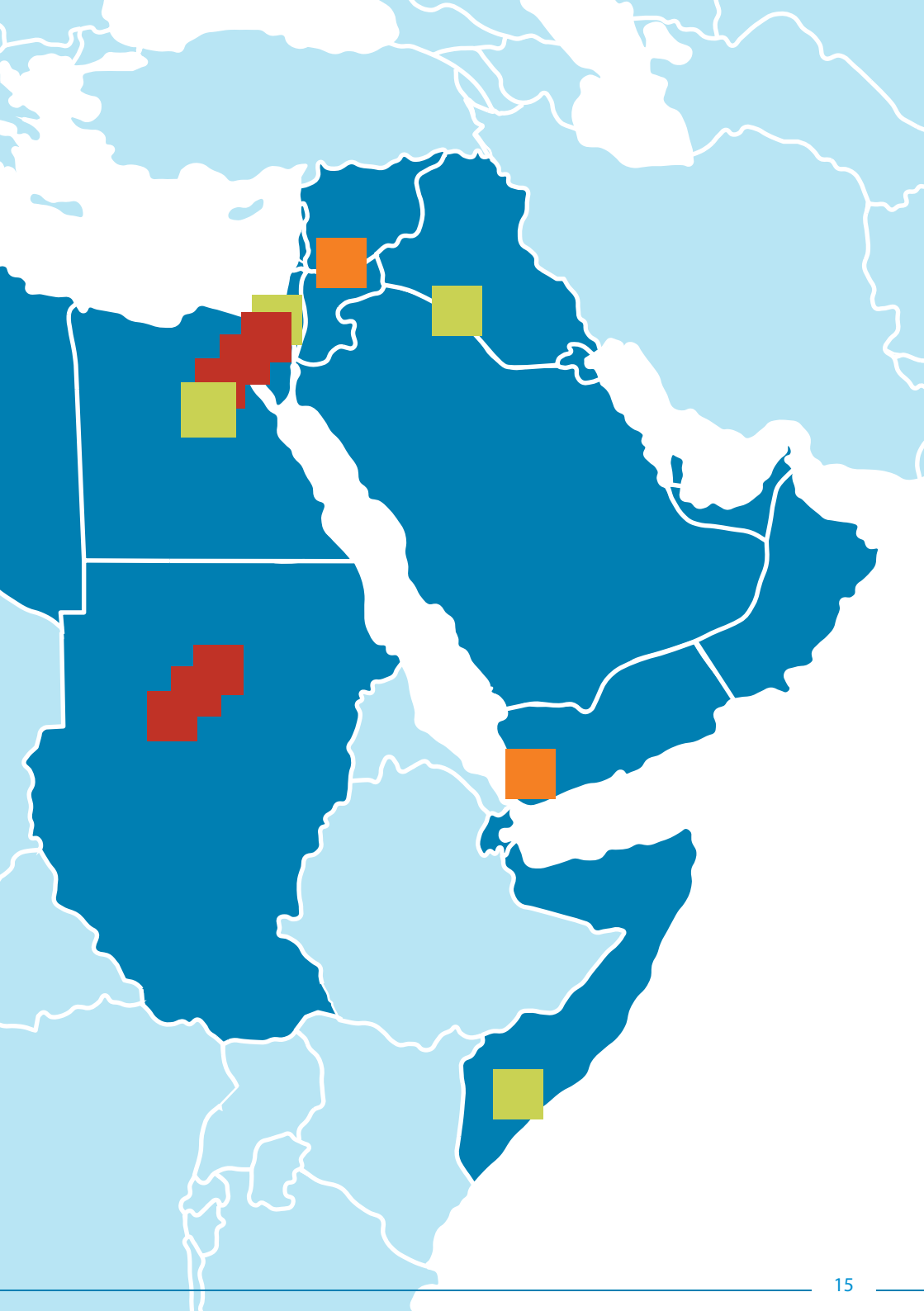
- United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL)
  http://unifil.unmissions.org/
- United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF)
  http://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/ missions/undof/
- United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO)
  http://untso.unmissions.org/
- African Union/United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID)
  http://unamid.unmissions.org/
- United Nations Mission in the Republic of South Sudan (UNMISS)
  http://unmiss.unmissions.org/
- United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA)
  http://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/missions/unisfa/
- United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO)
  http://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/missions/minurso/

UN Good Offices Missions

- UN Special Representative for Syria
- Special Adviser to the Secretary General on Yemen
- Personal Envoy of the Secretary General for Western Sahara

UN Political Missions

- United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI)
  http://unami.unmissions.org/
- Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process (UNSCO)
  http://www.unsco.org
- Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for Lebanon (UNSCOL)
  http://unscol.unmissions.org/
- United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL)
  http://unsmil.unmissions.org/
- United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNSOM)
  http://unsom.unmissions.org/



NOTES

- UN DOCUMENT SYMBOLS
- TYPES OF UNITED NATIONS RESOURCES
- THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM

RESEARCHING UN DOCUMENTS

Introduction

The United Nations system produces hundres of documents every year.

They range from UN Security Council/ General Assembly resolutions, reports of the Secretary General, member states reports, to working papers and annual reports, released in printed or electronic form.

Finding a certain document or a series of reports on a certain issue can be like trying to find the needle in the haystack.

The following overview gives an insight into the system and indexing of official UN documents.

Understanding the UN documentation system and indexing helps in tracing back documents to their issuing entity and eventually creates a better perspective on how decision-making processes develop in the United Nations.

UN DOCUMENT SYMBOLS

UN documents are identified by an alphanumeric number called a "UN Document Symbol". Among others, the letters in the UN document symbol system identify the issuing body and date of issuing.

1	2	3
The first letter appearing in the UN document symbol denotes the major UN organ from which the document originated.	**Following the first slash in the UN document number are acronyms denoting other parent bodies.**	**Following the second slash, letter abbreviations refer to a specific type of organization.**
A/- *General Assembly* E/- *Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)* S/- *Security Council* ST/- *Secretariat* T/- *Trusteeship Council*	/CCPR/- *Human Rights Committee (HRC)* /CERD/- *International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD)* /TD/- *UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)* /UNEP/- *UN Environment Programme (UNEP)*	/PV._/- *Verbatim Records of Meetings ("Procès Verbaux")* /RES._/- *Resolution* /SR._/- *Summary Record of Meeting* /WP._/- *Working* Paper

4 **A modification of the text is indicated after the fourth slash.**	5 **Following the fourth slash, letters denoting distribution status are listed.**	**Examples**
/Add._/- *Addendum* *(Indicates an addition of text to the main document)* /Amend._/- *Amendment* *(Alteration, by decision of a competent authority, of a portion of an adopted formal text)* /Corr._/- *Corrigendum* /Rev._/- *Revision*	/L._ *Limited* *(Documents for which wide circulation is not desired because of their temporary nature, e.g. draft resolutions, draft reports, preliminary action documents.)* /R._ *Restricted* *(Applies to documents whose confidential contents require that they be withheld from public circulation. Note: these documents are usually unavailable)*	A/RES/67/19 = Resolution (RES) No. 19 of the 67th Session of the UN General Assembly (A) A/HRC/12/48 = Report No. 48 in the 12th Session of the Human Rights Council (HRC), which is a subsidiary body of the UN General Assembly (A) E/ESCWA/SDPD/2012/1 = Report No. 1 in the year 2012 of the Sustainable Development and Productivity Division (SDPD) of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), which is a sub-commission of the ECOSOC (E)

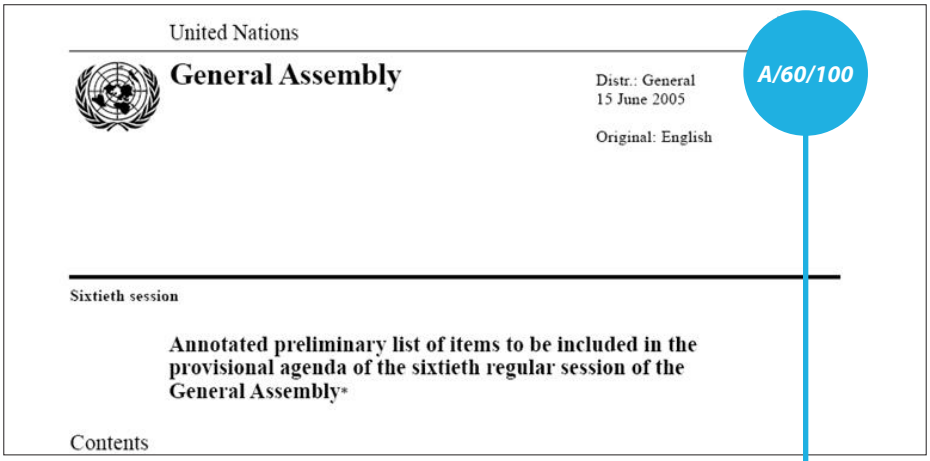
WEBSITES

- **UN Document Symbols**
  http://research.un.org/en/docs/symbols

In 1975, with its 31st Annual Session, the General Assembly began numbering its resolutions following the indication of the annual Session (e.g. "A/RES/31/1", meaning: first resolution in 31st Session).

Prior to 1975, the General Assembly numbered its resolutions incrementally instead of starting over each year (e.g. A/RES/2904 (XXVII), meaning: Session XXVII, 2904th resolution since the beginning of the General Assembly's work).

Unlike the current practice of the General Assembly, the Security Council does not renumber its resolutions each new year, but continues its numbering for resolutions incrementally.


United Nations

General Assembly

Distr.: General
15 June 2005

Original: English

A/60/100

Sixtieth session

Annotated preliminary list of items to be included in the provisional agenda of the sixtieth regular session of the General Assembly*

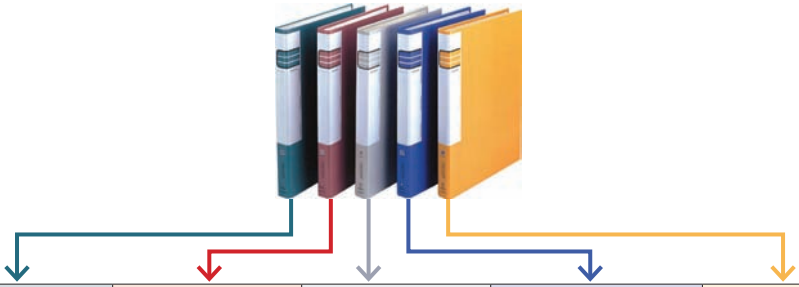
Contents

Explanation:

- **A** — *General Assembly (A)*
- **60** — *60th Session*
- **100** — *Document No. 100 (Chronological)*

TYPES OF UNITED NATIONS RESOURCES

The UN maintains different types of documents ranging from verbatim and summary records to resolutions, reports and yearbooks.



Verbatim and summary records	Resolutions	Reports	Mimeo-graphed documents	Yearbooks and periodicals
Complete transcripts of meetings, so called "verbatim", are kept in the Official Records of the Security Council, the General Assembly, and the Trusteeship Council. *The Economic and Social Council and the Trade and Development Board maintain only "minutes" of their meetings.*	*Some UN organs and institutions, such as the Security Council, the General Assembly or the Human Rights Council, issue their decisions in "resolutions".*	*"Reports" inform on results and activities of UN entities and organs.* *Example are reports of the Secretary General to the General Assembly and Security Council about peacekeeping missions or specific thematic issues.*	*"Mimeographed documents", also known as "masthead documents", are the first and only published format for many UN documents, which only appear as draft documents, initial publication of important items such as resolutions, as well as many ephemeral items of marginal interest to those outside the organization.*	*The UN publishes a number of "yearbooks" and "periodicals", such as the Yearbook of the United Nations and the UN Chronicle.*

Most UN indexes and collections do not include publications of the autonomous agencies of the UN system, such as the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the International Labour Organization (ILO), and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

These agencies have their own separate publication programs and documentation system.

Official UN documents also need to be differentiated from UN Sales Publications, which are international reference materials in paper or electronic format published by the United Nations and earlier by the League of Nations.

They are for general sale and comprise both books and periodicals, including the UN Treaty Series and the UN Yearbook.

THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM

Trusteeship Council

International Court of Justice

General Assembly

Programmes
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT)
- World Food Programme (WFP)

Commissioners
- Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

Agencies
- United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA)

Funds
- United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

Economic and Social Council

Regional Commissions
- Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)
- Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)
- Economic Commission for Europe (ECE)
- Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)
- Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)

Specialized Agencies
(Autonomous organizations working with the UN and each other through the coordinating ECOSOC)
- International Labour Organization (ILO)
- Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
- World Health Organization (WHO)
- World Bank Group
- International Monetary Fund (IMF)

Security Council

Peacekeeping Missions
- United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL)
- United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF)
- United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO)

Secretariat

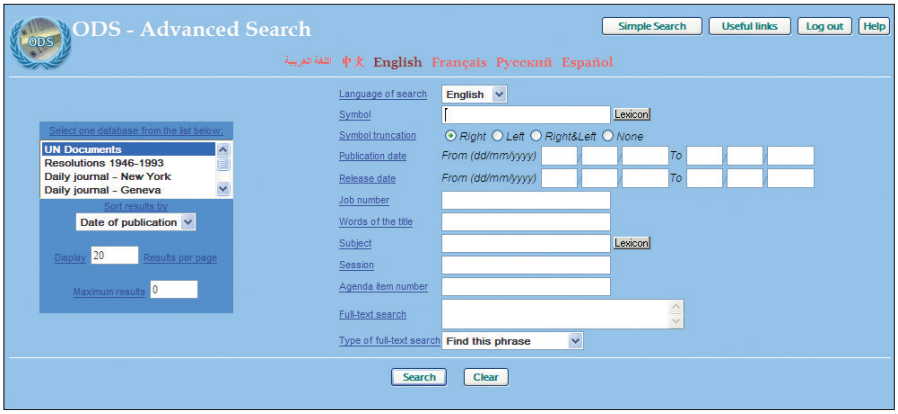
- UN Secretary General

Good Offices
- UN Special Representative for Syria
- Special Adviser to the Secretary General on Yemen
- Personal Envoy of the Secretary General for Western Sahara

WEBSITES

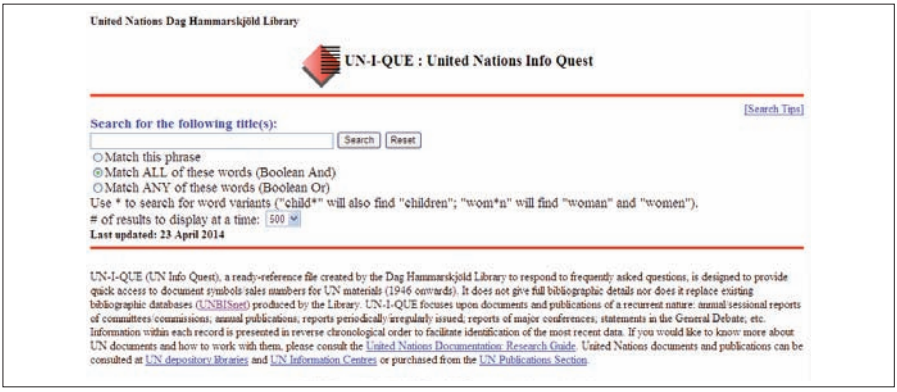
- **UN Document System (ODS)**
  http://documents.un.org/

  ODS provides full text search of documents issued since 1993 and resolutions of all principal organs and Security Council plenary documents since 1946. Older documents are added regularly.



- **UN Info Quest (UN-I-QUE)**
  http://lib-unique.un.org

  UN-I-QUE is designed to provide quick access to document symbols/sales numbers for UN materials (1946 onwards), without giving full bibliographic details or replacing existing bibliographic databases. It focuses on documents and publications of a recurrent nature, such as annual/sessional reports of committees/commissions; annual publications; reports of major conferences; statements in the General Debate.



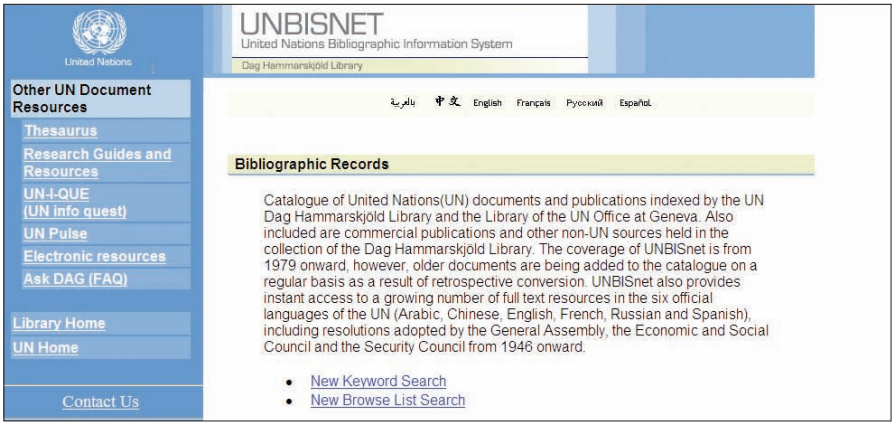
- **UN Bibliographic Information System (UNBISnet)**
  http://unbisnet.un.org

  UNBISnet is the catalogue of the UN Library in New York. In addition to the library's holdings, users can access multilingual versions of UN documents (1993-present), citation to documents (1979-present), speeches, and voting records (1946-present).

  » *Access to Speeches: http://unbisnet.un.org:8080/ipac20/ipac.jsp?profile=speech&menu=search&submenu=power#focus*

  » *Access to UN Records: http://unbisnet.un.org:8080/ipac20/ipac.jsp?profile=bib&menu=search#focus*

  » *Access to Voting Records: http://unbisnet.un.org:8080/ipac20/ipac.jsp?profile=voting&menu=search&submenu=power#focus*

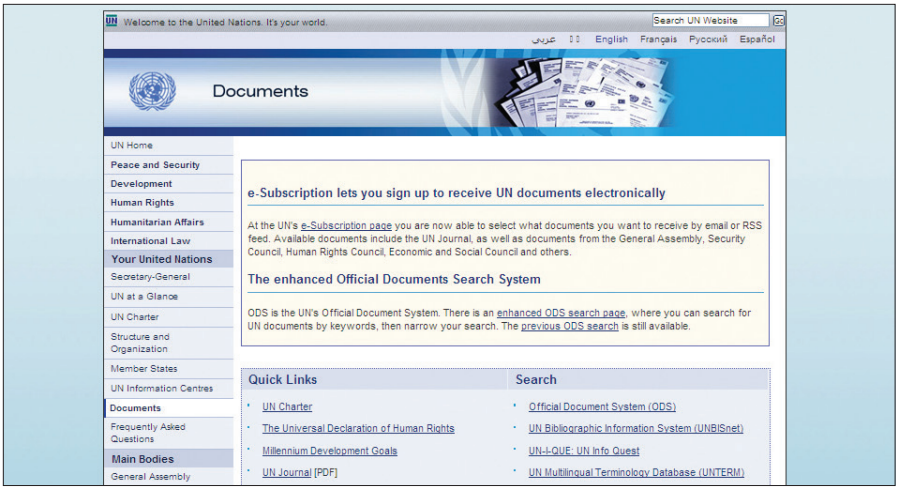


- **UN Member States on the Record**
  http://www.un.org/depts/dhl/unms/

  UN Member States on the Record provides links to selected UN databases, websites, and other information resources, in order to make the record of Member States' activities at the UN more accessible. Information available for each Member State includes: the key documents related to its membership in the UN, statements made before the principal organs, draft resolutions sponsored, periodic reports submitted on Human Rights conventions, and other UN documents.

- **UN Documents**
  http://www.un.org/en/documents/index.shtml

  UN Documents provides a quick access to the UN organs, research guides, maps, and UN search databases. The site also includes an e-subscription function which makes it possible to receive certain documents by email or RSS feed.



- **UN Secretary General Reports**
  http://www.un.org/sg/

  The UN Secretary General regularly reports to the Security Council, the General Assembly and ECOSOC on thematic issues of peace and security (e.g., efforts of peacekeeping missions, political developments, conceptual aspects of armed conflict).

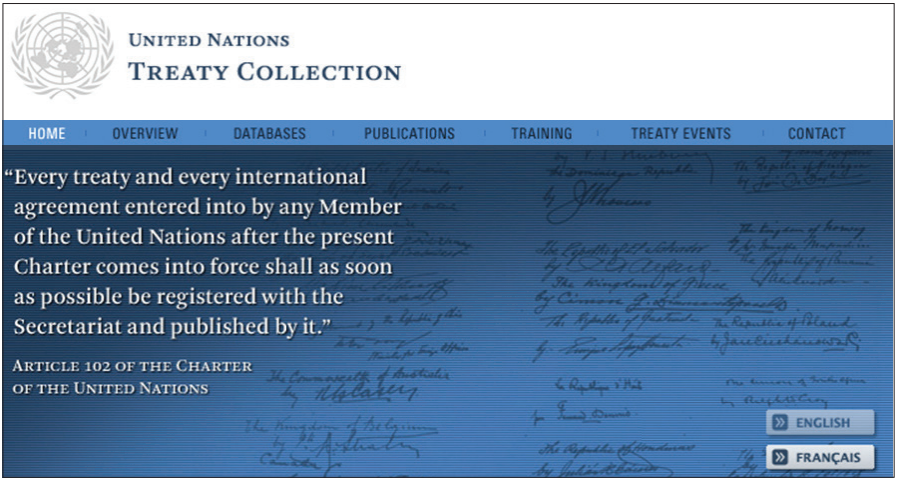
  » *Secretary General's Reports to the Security Council: http://www.un.org/en/sc/documents/sgreports/*

  » *Secretary General's Speeches: http://www.un.org/apps/news/infocus/sgspeeches/*

  » *Secretary General's "Off-the-Cuff" Remarks: http://www.un.org/sg/offthecuff/*

- **United Nations Treaty Series (UNTS)**
  http://treaties.un.org/

  This site provides the texts of multilateral treaties deposited with the UN Secretary General from 1946 onwards. Texts are provided in multiple languages.



- **League of Nations Treaty Series (LNTS)**
  http://treaties.un.org/Pages/LONOnline.aspx

  This site provides the texts of multilateral treaties deposited with the League of Nations Treaty Series between 1920 and 1944. As the predecessor of the UN, the League of Nations was an intergovernmental organization founded as a result of the Paris Peace Conference that ended the First World War.

- **Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs**
  http://www.un.org/law/repertory/

  The Repertory contains analytical studies of the decisions of the principal organs of the United Nations under each of the Articles of the Charter of the United Nations. It consists of a comprehensive summary of the decisions of United Nations Organs, together with reviews of related material, organized by Charter Articles, and presented in such a way as to throw light on questions of application and interpretation of the Charter which have arisen in practice.

- **UN Dag Hammarskjöld Library Youtube Channel**
  http://www.youtube.com/user/unreference

  The UN Dag Hammarskjöld Library maintains a Youtube Channel that provides introductions to UN document indexing and research about issues of the UN system.

  » *Searching UN Documents by Symbol in ODS*
  http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-I07WobsHmw

  » *Searching UN documents by Symbol in UNBISnet*
  http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IQi7Am-91yk

  » *Find information in Security Council Repertoire about a Topic or UN Charter Article,*
  http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NcQ_39LiFrU

  » *Statements by Country*
  http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=je_JLivsV5M

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ZIMBABWE

- FOCUS: **PEACE AND SECURITY**
- CASE: **ISRAEL-PALESTINE CONFLICT**
- INSTITUTION: **UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

1

PEACE AND SECURITY

Introduction

Since 1947, the UN has been working on the Palestine Question, which remains one of its most central, unresolved issues.

International attempts to broker a just and lasting solution have not been successful so far.

Meanwhile, the Palestinian authorities have been investing efforts in approaching UN institutions for the Palestinian cause, especially through the UN General Assembly.

In 1947, the General Assembly constituted a Special Committee for all questions and issues relevant to the question of Palestine, which was followed three decades later by the establishment of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People.

In 1974, the General Assembly granted the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) observer status.

In 2004, following a request by the UN General Assembly, the International Court of Justice (ICJ) issued an advisory opinion on the construction of the wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory.

In 2012, the majority of UN member states voted in the General Assembly for the admission of Palestine to become a "non-Member Observer State", which caused international debate about the status and the statehood of Palestine.

In 2013, the UN General Assembly declared the year 2014 as the International Year of Solidarity with the Palestinian People.

UN DOCUMENTS

- **UN General Assembly Resolution 181, Nov. 29, 1947**

  This resolution recommended the partition of Palestine into an independent Arab State and Jewish State, the creation of an Economic Union of Palestine, and a Special International Regime for the City of Jerusalem.

- **UN General Assembly Resolution 194, Dec. 11, 1948**

  The UN General Assembly established the Right of Return for Palestinian refugees.

- **UN Security Council Resolution 242, Nov. 22, 1967**

  Adopted under Chapter VI of the UN Charter in the aftermath of the 1967 Six-Day War, this Security Council resolution called for the withdrawal of Israeli armed forces from occupied territories.

- **UN General Assembly Resolution 3376, Nov. 10, 1975**

  The General Assembly established the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People.

- **UN General Assembly Resolution 67/19, Nov. 29, 2012**

  This resolution upgraded Palestine's observer status in the General Assembly to a "non-member observer state" status in the UN.

- **UN General Assembly Resolution 68/12, Nov. 26, 2013**

  The General Assembly declared the year 2014 as the International Year of Solidarity with the Palestinian People.

» *Official UN documents can be accessed on UN ODS under: http://documents.un.org/*

LEGAL DOCUMENTS

- **Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements ("Oslo I"), Sept. 13, 1993**

  As the first joint agreement between the Government of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), "Oslo I" was an attempt to set up a framework for the resolution of the ongoing Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

- **Interim Agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip ("Oslo II"), Sept. 24, 1995**

  "Oslo II" recognized the establishment of a Palestinian Interim Self-Government Authority in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

- **A Performance-based Roadmap to a Permanent Two-State Solution to the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict, April 23, 2003**

  Proposed by the Quartet on the Middle East, the Roadmap for Peace presents phases, timelines, target dates, and benchmarks aiming at progress through reciprocal steps by the two parties in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

- **Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, International Court of Justice, Advisory Opinion, July 9, 2004**

  The ICJ called on Israel to stop the construction of the wall in the occupied West Bank, including East Jerusalem; dismantle the structure built in the occupied territories; and make reparations for damage caused by the wall's construction.

- **Annapolis Conference Joint Understanding on Negotiations, Nov. 27, 2007**

  The Israeli Government and the PLO committed to immediately implement their respective obligations under the Roadmap for Peace and to continue its implementation until they have reached a peace treaty.

» *Peace agreements and documents related to the Israel-Palestine peace process and other peace processes can be found on UN Peacemaker under: http://peacemaker.un.org*

REPORTS

- **Report of the United Nations Fact Finding Mission on the Gaza Conflict, A/HRC/12/48, Sept. 23, 2009 ("Goldstone Commission Report")**

  During the Gaza Conflict in 2009, the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) established an independent international fact-finding mission in order to investigate alleged violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law in the Palestinian territories.

  » *Reports and documents of the United Nations Fact Finding Mission on the Gaza Conflict can be accessed under: http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/SpecialSessions/Session9/Pages/FactFindingMission.aspx*

- **Report of the Secretary General's Panel of Inquiry on the 31 May 2010 Flotilla Incident, Sept. 2011**

  In 2010, the UN Secretary General established a Panel of Inquiry to investigate violations of international law, including international humanitarian law and human rights law, resulting from the interception by Israeli forces of a humanitarian aid flotilla bound for Gaza during which nine people were killed and many others injured.

  » *Other key reports on the Middle East and the Israel-Palestine conflict can be found on the UN News Centre website under: http://www.un.org/apps/news/infocusRel.asp?infocusID=70&Body=Palestin&Body1=*

- **"Sustaining Achievements In Palestinian Institution-Building And Economic Growth", Economic Monitoring Report to the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee, Worldbank, Sept. 18, 2011**

  This World Bank report has been widely cited regarding the achievements in institution-building of the Palestinian Authority, which has been crucial for the assessment of Palestine's statehood.

  » *World Bank reports and documents on the West Bank and Gaza are available online under: http://worldbank.org/we/*

WEBSITES

- **United Nations Information System on the Question of Palestine**
  http://unispal.un.org/

  The United Nations Information System on the Question of Palestine (UNISPAL) contains texts of current and historical United Nations material concerning the question of Palestine and other issues related to the Middle East conflicts and the search for peace.

- **Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People**
  http://unispal.un.org/unispal.nsf/com.htm

  The Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People (CEIRPP) considers and recommends to the General Assembly programs to enable the Palestinian people their right to self-determination.

- **Division for Palestinian Rights**
  http://unispal.un.org/unispal.nsf/div.htm

  The Division for Palestinian Rights in the UN Secretariat was established by the UN General Assembly to provide support and secretariat services for the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People.

RESEARCH GUIDES

- **"Arab-Israeli Conflict", American University in Cairo**
  http://libguides.aucegypt.edu/

  The library of the American University in Cairo provides a digital research guide with general information, documents and links to key organizations related to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

- **"Israel, Palestine and the Occupied Territories", Global Policy Forum**
  http://www.globalpolicy.org/

  The Global Policy Forum prepared a comprehensive research dossier on thematic issues regarding the Israel-Palestine conflict, ranging from the topic of Palestinian statehood, the Israel-Palestine peace process, the right of return, land and settlement issues, as well as general analysis.

- **"The Palestine Papers", Al Jazeera**
  http://www.aljazeera.com/palestinepapers/
- **"The Palestine Papers", The Guardian**
  http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/palestine-papers/

  In 2011, Al Jazeera released more than 1,600 leaked internal documents of the Israeli-Palestinian negotiations. The documents range from memos, emails, maps, minutes from private meetings, accounts of high level exchanges, strategy papers and even power point presentations, dated from 1999 to 2010. In order to achieve a wider outreach, the documents were shared with The Guardian, which created an interactive summary of the material.

ARTICLES & WORKING PAPERS

- **Noura Erakat, "Is It Wrong or Illegal?: Situating the Gaza Blockade between International Law and the UN Response", IFI-AUB Working Paper No. 2, 2011**

  This IFI-AUB working paper analyzes the 2010 flotilla incident from a critical perspective of international law.

- **Guy Burton, "Emerging Powers and the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict: The Case of Brazil and Venezuela", IFI-AUB Working Paper No. 15, 2013**

  This IFI-AUB working paper looks at the prospects and role of new rising powers in the resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

- **Martin Wählisch, "Beyond a Seat in the United Nations: Palestine's U.N. Membership and International Law", Harvard International Law Journal, Vol. 53, 2012**

  This article, researched in the IFI-AUB UN in the Arab World Program, scrutinizes legal conditions and obstacles regarding a UN membership of Palestine.

  » *More IFI-AUB working papers can be accessed under: http://www.aub.edu.lb/ifi/publications/Pages/workingpapers.aspx*

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- FOCUS: **PEACEMAKING**
- CASE: **ARMED CONFLICT IN SYRIA**
- INSTITUTION: **UN SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR SYRIA**

2

PEACEMAKING

Introduction

Supporting and initiating peacemaking efforts is one of the key duties of the United Nations.

Since its foundation after World War II, the United Nations has played a crucial role in facilitating the peaceful resolution of armed conflicts around the world.

As a part of international diplomacy, mediation and "good offices" are carried out through the UN Secretary General and UN envoys.

In the case of the Syrian crisis, the UN and the League of Arab States initially emited efforts to help explore a peaceful, political solution to the conflict through a Joint Special Representative for Syria (JSRS).

In July 2014, UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon announced the appointment of Staffan de Mistura as his Special Envoy for the Syrian crisis, following the peace-facilitation efforts of the Joint Special Representatives Lakhdar Brahimi and Kofi Annan.

UN DOCUMENTS

- **UN Security Council Resolution 2043, April 21, 2012**

  The resolution established the United Nations Supervision Mission in Syria (UNSMIS).

- **Security Council Presidential Statement, UN Doc. S/PRST/2012/20, Sept. 26, 2012**

  In this statement, the Security Council welcomed the intensifying cooperation between the UN and the League of Arab States, reiterated the Council's commitment to a comprehensive Arab-Israeli peace and welcomed the appointment of the Joint Special Representative for Syria.

- **Selected Security Council Meeting Records, UN Doc. S/PV.7020, Aug. 20, 2013**

  These meeting records document the Security Council's consultations on the situation in the Middle East, including Syria in August 2013.

  » *Security Council resolutions can be directly accessed online under: http://www.un.org/en/sc/documents/*

  » *Security Council records, which include the statements and speeches made during official meetings, can be directly accessed under: http://www.un.org/en/sc/meetings/*

LEGAL DOCUMENTS

- **Six Point Proposal of the Joint Special Envoy of the United Nations and the League of Arab States, April 14, 2012, Annex to Security Council Res. 2042, April 14, 2012**

  The Six Point Proposal is a peace plan proposed by Kofi Annan in March 2012 with the aim to end the armed conflict in Syria.

- **Final Communiqué of the Action Group for Syria (Geneva Communiqué), June 30, 2012**

  In 2012, the UN-backed Action Group for Syria released this communiqué (Geneva I) which called for all parties to immediately re-commit to a sustained cessation of armed violence, to fully cooperate with UN monitors, and to implement the Six Point Proposal.

» *Peace agreements and documents related to the other peace processes can be found on UN Peacemaker under: http://peacemaker.un.org/*

- **Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on their Destruction (Chemical Weapons Convention), Jan. 13, 1993**

  In 2013, Syria joined the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) and agreed to the destruction of its chemical weapons, supervised by the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW).

  » *International treaties can be accessed online through the UN Treaty Collection database under http://treaties.un.org/ (go to United Nations Treaty Series Online Collection), which provides information on the status of over 550 major multilateral treaties deposited with the UN Secretary General covering matters such as human rights, refugees, climate change, and disarmament.*

  » *Based in The Hague and operating as an independent intergovernmental organization in close cooperation with the UN, the OPCW is the implementing body of the Chemical Weapons Convention. More information, including reports and thematic studies, can be accessed online under: http://www.opcw.org/*

REPORTS

- **6th Report of Commission of Inquiry on Syria, UN Doc. A/HRC/24/46, Sept. 11, 2013**

  In 2011, the UN Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic was established by the Human Rights Council to investigate all alleged violations of international human rights law in Syria; this is the Commission's sixth report.

  » *All reports of the UN Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic are available online under: http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/IICISyria/Pages/IndependentInternationalCommission.aspx*

- **Final Report of the United Nations Mission to Investigate Allegations of the Use of Chemical Weapons in the Syrian Arab Republic, UN Doc. S/2013/735, Dec. 12, 2013**

  This is the final report of the UN investigation into chemical weapons use in Syria.

- **Report on the Progress in the Elimination of the Syrian Chemical Weapons Programme, UN Doc. S/2014/52, Jan. 27, 2014**

  This report is the fourth OPCW-UN Joint Mission progress report detailing achievements in the elimination of the Syrian chemical weapons arsenal.

  » *In addition to UN ODS, key reports and documents of the Security Council and other UN bodies on Syria can be accessed more easily through the database of the independent not-for-profit organization Security Council Report (SCR) under: http://www.securitycouncilreport.org/un-documents/syria/*

WEBSITES

- **UN Peacemaker**
  http://peacemaker.un.org/

  Developed by the Mediation Support Unit of the Department of Political Affairs at the UN Secretariat, UN Peacemaker is a database consisting of a collection of peace agreements, guidance notes, a library of selected literature on key mediation issues (e.g. power-sharing, wealth-sharing, constitutional issues, mediation processes and strategies etc.), official documents and further information on peacemaking efforts of the UN.

- **UN Department of Political Affairs**
  http://www.un.org/wcm/content/site/undpa/

  The Department of Political Affairs (DPA) provides close support to the UN Secretary General, UN envoys and UN political missions in carrying out their mandate of helping defuse crises or promote lasting solutions to conflicts worldwide.

- **Bill and Sally Hambrecht Distinguished Peacemakers Lecture Series American University of Beirut**
  http://goo.gl/5BhGBs
  Over the course of several years, IFI-AUB (https://www.aub.edu.lb/ifi/) has been hosting public talks with distinguished peacemakers who have mediated national and international conflicts around the globe. Among others, the Joint Special Representative for Syria Lakhdar Brahimi gave a lecture in 2010 about "Making and Keeping the Peace: Reflections on UN Experiences in the Middle East and Afghanistan".

RESEARCH GUIDES

- **"Backgrounder: Syrian Arab Republic", UNRIC Library**
  http://www.unric.org/en/unric-library-backgrounders/

  The UNRIC research backgrounder provides an overview about key documents regarding the armed conflict in Syria.

  » *The United Nations Regional Information Centre for Western Europe (UNRIC) issued a series of backgrounders on various subjects that list relevant UN documents, treaties, declarations, Secretary General reports, a selection of speeches, and statements by UN officials articles in UN journals, which are available online under http://www.unric.org/en/unric-library-backgrounders.*

- **Beyond Intractability, University of Colorado**
  http://www.beyondintractability.org/

  Created by a team of international scholars and practitioners, the Beyond Intractability online encyclopaedia contains easy-to-understand essays related to approaching and transforming intractable conflicts. Among others, the database offers a large selection of case studies, "personal reflections" from individuals and leading peacebuilders and over a hundred hours of online audio interviews with various conflict scholars and intermediaries.

ARTICLES & WORKING PAPERS

- **"UN Political Missions 2012", NYU Center for International Cooperation**

  The Center for International Cooperation of New York University (NYU) publishes annual reviews of UN political missions, which provides analysis on the operational and political implications of deploying political missions to unstable environments. The reports offer a critical perspective on the UN's peacemaking efforts in the Middle East.

  » *Other publications (e.g. policy papers reports, comments, research studies) of the Center for International Cooperation (CIC) can be accessed online under: http://cic.nyu.edu/publications/*

- **"Syria's Metastasising Conflicts", International Crisis Group, June 2013**

  This report of the International Crisis Group provides a conflict analysis of the ongoing armed conflict in Syria. The report examines dynamics, actors, their positions and interests, as well as policy options to solve the conflict peacefully.

  » *Reports of the International Crisis Group are available online under: http://www.crisisgroup.org/*

- **"Armed Conflict in Syria: U.S. and International Response", U.S. Congressional Research Service, Sept. 6, 2013**

  This report of the Congressional Research Service gives insights into the U.S. perspective regarding Syria. The report provides an overview about relevant opposition forces and reactions by the Syrian government, while analyzing the chemical weapons and disarmament process and concluding with policy recommendations concerning U.S. assistance.

  » *The Congressional Research Service (CRS) is a research service of the Library of Congress, providing policy and legal analysis to committees and Members of both the House and Senate, regardless of party affiliation. It issues reports on the Middle East and the Arab world on an ongoing basis, which can be found online under: http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/mideast/index.html.*

NOTES

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- FOCUS: **PEACEBUILDING**
- CASE: **POLITICAL DIALOGUE AND NATIONAL RECONCILIATION IN IRAQ**
- INSTITUTION: **UNITED NATIONS ASSISTANCE MISSION FOR IRAQ**

3

PEACE BUILDING

Introduction

In support of post-conflict states in transition and in order to prevent a relapse into hostilities, the UN undertakes "peacebuilding" as a political and socio-economic endeavor. The term peacebuilding came into widespread use after the adoption of the UN Agenda for Peace in 1992, which emphasized that the restoration of order and the transformation of state structures often require international technical assistance.

Among other missions in the Arab world, the UN Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) is an example of the UN's efforts in the region to promote political dialogue and national reconciliation.

Established in 2003, UNAMI aims at supporting Iraq's reconstruction by assisting local and national government institutions in strengthening the rule of law and the Iraqi justice system, facilitating military reintegration programs, contributing and coordinating humanitarian relief, and supporting the return of refugees and internally displaced persons.

One of UNAMI's tasks is to implement the International Compact with Iraq, which was jointly launched as an initiative in 2007 by the Government of the Republic of Iraq and the UN with the vision to strengthen democracy and economic development in the country in the spirit of the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

UN DOCUMENTS

- **UN Security Council Resolution 986, April 14, 1995**

  This resolution created the Oil-for-Food Programme (OFF), which permitted the export of petroleum and petroleum products from Iraq as a temporary measure to provide for humanitarian needs of the Iraqi people.

- **UN Security Council Resolution 1441, Nov. 8, 2002**

  The Security Council offered the Iraqi government under Saddam Hussein a final opportunity to comply with its international disarmament obligations.

- **UN Security Council Resolution 1483, May 22, 2003**

  This resolution recognized the US and the UK as occupying powers under international law, and lifted trade sanctions imposed during the Gulf War.

- **UN Security Council Resolution 1500, Aug. 14, 2003**

  The Security Council established the United Nations Assistance Mission in Iraq (UNAMI).

- **UN Security Council Resolution 2110, July 24, 2013**

  This resolution extended the mandate for UNAMI by another twelve months in 2013.

» *Official UN documents can be accessed on UN ODS under: http://documents.un.org/*

LEGAL DOCUMENTS

- **Iraq Interim Constitution, March 8, 2004**

  Officially titled "Law of Administration for the State of Iraq for the Transitional Period", Iraq adopted a provisional constitution following the 2003 Iraq War.

- **Constitution of the Republic of Iraq, Oct. 15, 2005**

  Approved by a referendum in 2005, the current Iraqi Constitution declared the Republic of Iraq as an independent federal state.

  » *A comprehensive database providing texts of constitutions from all around the world can be found on ConstitutionNet under: http://www.constitutionnet.org/*

- **Erbil Agreement, Nov. 7, 2010**

  The Erbil Agreement was the basis for the formation of the new Iraqi government's cabinet and political accord after the 2010 Parliamentary elections.

  » *Peace agreements and other related documents to peacemaking and peacebuilding can be found on UN Peacemaker under: http://peacemaker.un.org/*

REPORTS

- **3rd Report of the Secretary General Pursuant to Paragraph 6 of Resolution 2061 (2012), UN Doc. S/2013/408, July 11, 2013**

  This report provides a briefing on the activities UNAMI, covering key political and security developments as well as regional and international events concerning Iraq.

  » *Previous and subsequent UNAMI mission reports can accessed online under: http://unami.unmissions.org/*

- **"Key Insights, Principles, Good Practices and Emerging Lessons in Peacebuilding", Synthesis Report, UN Peacebuilding Commission, June 12, 2008**

  This report of the UN Peacebuilding Commission compiles key lessons and good practices in peacebuilding based on the work of the Working Group on Lessons Learned.

  » *Other reports of the UN Peacebuilding Commission's Working Group on Lessons Learned (e.g., on economic revitalization, youth employment, gender-responsive national reconciliation processes, and security sector reforms in peacebuilding) can be accessed under: http://www.un.org/en/peacebuilding/doc_lessonslearned.shtml*

  » *Country-specific reports of the UN Peacebuilding Commission can be found under : http://www.un.org/en/peacebuilding/doc_oc.shtml*

- **Report of the Secretary General on Peacebuilding in the Aftermath of Conflict, UN Doc. A/67/499, Oct. 8, 2012**

  Subsequent to the initial 2009 Report on Peacebuilding in the Immediate Aftermath of Conflict, this report of the UN Secretary General identified recurring priority areas for international assistance in peacebuilding processes.

  » *Reports of the UN Secretary General can be directly accessed under: http://www.un.org/sg/*

WEBSITES

- **United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI)**
  http://unami.unmissions.org/

  UNAMI was established as a political mission by the UN Security Council Resolution in 2003 at the request of the Government of Iraq, and has been on the ground ever since. Among others, UNAMI has played a role in providing international support in the drafting of Iraq's 2005 Constitution, assisting in several elections, coordinating UN humanitarian efforts and the financial assistance of the donor community, and assisting in political dialogue towards a resolution of issues related to territorial disputes in Iraq.

- **United Nations Peacebuilding Commission (PBC)**
  http://www.un.org/en/peacebuilding/

  Mandated by the UN General Assembly and the Security Council in 2005, PBC serves as an intergovernmental advisory body of the UN to support peace efforts in countries emerging from conflict. PBC brings together relevant actors, including international donors, international financial institutions, national governments, troop contributing countries, while advising on and proposing integrated strategies for post-conflict peacebuilding.

RESEARCH GUIDES

- **United Nations Conflict Prevention, Peace-building and Development Library**
  http://www.un.org/esa/peacebuilding/Library/

  The UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA), which works closely with governments and stakeholders to help UN member states around the world meet their economic, social and environmental goals, provides a digital library on prevention, peace-building and development.

- **"Peacebuilding and Development", Insight on Conflict**
  http://www.insightonconflict.org/themes/development/resources/

  Insight on Conflict provides information on local peacebuilding organizations in areas of conflict. This research guide offers a hand-picked selection of resources on peacebuilding and development.

ARTICLES & WORKING PAPERS

- **Hasan Al-Momani and Sarah Anne Rennick, "EU's Peace Building Efforts in the Middle East: Political and Cultural Dilemmas", Danish-Jordanian University Cooperation, Working Paper No. 2, 2011**

  This working paper analyzes the European Union's peacebuilding approach in the Arab region, focusing on political and cultural impediments.

- **Nizar Ghanem, "The Arab Revolutions and Challenges for Peacebuilding", Background Brief, The Peacebuilding and Conflict Prevention Consultation Series, 2011**

  This background brief analyzes challenges for peacebuilding in the light of the Arab revolutions.

- **David Gairdner, "Risk and violence in Iraq's New Sectarian Balance, NOREF", Sept. 2012**

  This background brief looks at Iraq's post-civil war transformation, analyzing peacebuilding efforts vis-à-vis Iraq's ethno- sectarian divide.

  » *The Norwegian Peacebuilding Resource Centre (NOREF) provides various background studies and case-study briefs in the context of peacebuilding, which can be accessed under: http://www.peacebuilding.no/*

- **Masayo Kondo Rossier, A "Review of Practices and Expert Opinions: Linking Humanitarian Action and Peacebuilding", Graduate Institute Geneva, Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding, Working Paper No. 7, 2012**

  This working paper considers potential linkages between humanitarian action and peacebuilding by examining synergies through a comparative review of the practices and policy approaches of both fields.

  » *Further working papers on peacebuilding are provided by the Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding (CCDP) at The Graduate Institute Geneva online under: http://graduateinstitute.ch/home/research/centresandprogrammes/ccdp/what-we-produce.html*

NOTES

UNITED NATIONS
NATIONS UNIES

- FOCUS: **PEACEKEEPING**
- CASE: **ISRAEL-LEBANON CONFLICT**
- INSTITUTION: **UNITED NATIONS INTERIM FORCE IN LEBANON**

4

PEACEKEEPING

Introduction

Following Israel's first invasion of Lebanon in 1978, the UN Security Council created the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) to observe the withdrawal of the Israeli Army, restore international peace and security, and assist the Lebanese government in regaining its effective authority in the area of conflict.

The mandate of the UN peacekeeping mission also includes helping ensure humanitarian access to civilian populations, and the voluntary and safe return of displaced persons.

Following the 2006 war, UNIFIL was expanded to a maximum of 15,000 military personnel, and included the first Naval Task Force ever to take part in a United Nations peacekeeping mission.

UN DOCUMENTS

- **United Nations Security Council Resolution 425, March 19, 1978**

  This resolution was adopted five days after the Israeli invasion of Lebanon. The Security Council called on Israel to withdraw its forces immediately from Lebanon and established the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL).

- **UN Security Council Resolution 1701, Aug. 11, 2006**

  The resolution intended to resolve the 2006 Israel-Lebanon conflict. Among others, the resolution calls for the full cessation of hostilities and a withdrawal of Israeli forces parallel to a deployment of Lebanese and UNIFIL soldiers throughout the south of Lebanon, and recalls the need for the full disarmament of all armed groups in Lebanon.

  » *Official UN documents can be accessed on UN ODS under http://documents.un.org/*

LEGAL DOCUMENTS

- **Lebanon-Israel Armistice Agreement, UN Doc. S/1296, March 23, 1949**

  The agreement established an armistice line (so-called "Green Line" – in comparison to the "Blue Line" which is the demarcation between Lebanon and Israel, published by the United Nations in 2000 for the purposes of determining whether Israel had fully withdrawn from Lebanon). Among other criteria, it concludes that Israel needs to withdraw its forces from thirteen villages on Lebanese territory, which were occupied during the war.

- **Israel-Lebanon Ceasefire Understanding, April 26, 1996**

  The US-mediated ceasefire ended the 1996 military conflict between Israel and Hezbollah.

  » *Documents and agreements regarding the Israel-Lebanon conflict can be found on UN Peacemaker under: http://peacemaker.un.org/*

REPORTS

- **Report of the Secretary General on the implementation of Security Council Resolution 1701 (2006), UN Doc. S/2013/381, June 26, 2013**

  The UN Secretary General informs the Security Council about the implementation of Security Council Resolution 1701 and the deployment of UNIFIL on a regular basis. This 2013 report about UNIFIL is one of many regular reports.

  » *Previous and subsequent UNIFIL mission reports are available online under: http://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/missions/unifil/reports.shtml*

- **Report of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations, UN Doc. A/66/19, Sept. 11, 2012**

  This report by the UN Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations examines guiding principles, definitions and implementation of mandates regarding UN peacekeeping in various parts of the world.

  » *The Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations was established by the General Assembly to conduct a comprehensive review of all issues relating to peacekeeping. Its public reports can be accessed under : http://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/ctte/spcmt_rep.htm*

WEBSITES

- **United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL)**
  http://unifil.unmissions.org/

  In 1978, the UN peacekeeping mission UNIFIL was created by the Security Council to confirm the Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon, restore international peace and security, and assist the Lebanese government in regaining its effective authority in the area of conflict. The peacekeeping mission has remained in the region ever since. Following the 2006 war, the Security Council significantly expanded UNIFIL's original mandate through resolution 1701 (2006).

- **Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for Lebanon (UNSCOL)**
  http://unscol.unmissions.org/

  The Special Coordinator for Lebanon represents the UN Secretary General on all political and coordination aspects of the work of the United Nations in Lebanon. Following the withdrawal of the Israeli Army in May 2000, the UN initially set up a political presence in Beirut to support international efforts to maintain peace and security in southern Lebanon. In the aftermath of the 2006 war, the Secretary General subsequently established the Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for Lebanon in order to extend the political coordination of the UN's work in the country.

RESEARCH GUIDES

- **"Peacekeeping", Dag Hammarskjöld Library**
  http://research.un.org/en/docs/peacekeeping/

  This online research guide of the UN Dag Hammarskjöld Library provides an overview of key documents of the UN Security Council and the UN General Assembly related to the creation and execution of peacekeeping operations.

  » *The UN Dag Hammarskjold Library provides a collection of research guides on UN related topics (e.g., disarmament, economic and social issues, human rights, international law) under: http://research.un.org/*

- **"Peace Operations", George Mason University**
  http://infoguides.gmu.edu/popp/

  This research guide of the George Mason University Library highlights core research resources regarding peace operations.

ARTICLES & WORKING PAPERS

- **Karim Makdisi, "Constructing UN Security Council Resolution 1701 for Lebanon in the Shadow of the 'War on Terror'", International Peacekeeping, 18.1 (2011), pp. 4-20**

  This article provides a critical assessment of the 2006 war and the construction of the UN Security Council resolution 1701 that authorized the deployment of robust UN peacekeepers in southern Lebanon. The article argues that UN resolutions have embedded in them a particular powerful discourse, in this case the 'war on terror'.

- **Rita Sakr, "Irish Peacekeeping in the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL): A Historical, Political, and Socio-Cultural Study", IFI-AUB Research Study, June 2013**

  This IFI-AUB research study explores Irish peacekeeping within UNIFIL, since 1978 through the expanded UNIFIL after its formation in the aftermath of the 2006 Lebanon war, from historical, social, political, and cultural perspectives. The study draws from interviews with a number of retired and active members of the Irish Defence Forces, academics, and journalists as well as primary and secondary sources including military archives.

  » *Further IFI-AUB publications can be accessed under: http://www.aub.edu.lb/ifi/publications/Pages/workingpapers.aspx*

NOTES

- FOCUS: **REFUGEES**
- CASE: **PALESTINIAN REFUGEES**
- INSTITUTION: **UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST**

5

REFUGEES

Introduction

Within the UN system, the main entity dealing with refugee issues is the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), established in 1950 with the mandate to protect refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs), and resolve refugee issues internationally.

In the Arab world, UNHCR operates most intensively in Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, Iraq and Yemen. In Iraq and Sudan, UNHCR provides aid primarily to IDPs.

Separate from the UNHCR, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) was established in 1949 as a specialized UN agency to provide humanitarian assistance and support to Palestinian refugees, of which there are 5 million registered in the Middle East. More than 1.4 million Palestinian refugees, around one third of the total Palestinian population, live in 58 officially recognized camps.

UNRWA's services include education, health care, relief, camp infrastructure and improvement, community support, microfinance and emergency response.

In the absence of a solution to the Palestine issue, the UN General Assembly has repeatedly renewed UNRWA's mandate.

UN DOCUMENTS

- **UN General Assembly Resolution 302 (IV), Dec. 8, 1949**

  This UN General Assembly resolution established UNRWA in 1949.

- **UN General Assembly, Fourth Committee (Special Political and Decolonization), Voting Record, UN Doc. GA/SPD/472, Nov. 15, 2010**

  In 2010, the 4th Committee of the General Assembly extended the mandate of UNRWA until 30 June 2014.

- **UN General Assembly Resolution 67/116, Jan. 14, 2013**

  In this resolution on the operations of the UNRWA, the General Assembly highlights its deep concerns about the extremely critical financial situation of the Agency, caused in part by the structural underfunding, as well as its rising expenditures resulting from the deterioration of the socioeconomic and humanitarian conditions and the rising instability in the region.

- **UN General Assembly Resolution 67/114, Jan. 14, 2013**

  In this resolution, the General Assembly notes with regret that repatriation or compensation programs for Palestinian refugees have not yet been effected, and that, therefore, the situation of the Palestine refugees continues to be a matter of grave concern which requires international assistance to meet basic health, education and living needs.

  » *Official UN documents can be accessed on UN ODS under: http://documents.un.org/*

  » *Verbal records of the UN General Assembly can be found under: http://www.un.org/en/ga/documents/pvsr.asp*

  » *Other documents of the UN General Assembly Fourth Committee (Special Political and Decolonization Committee), which deals with a variety of subjects which include those related to decolonization, Palestinian refugees, human rights, and peacekeeping, can be accessed under: http://www.un.org/en/ga/fourth/*

LEGAL DOCUMENTS

- **Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees, July 28, 1951**

  The Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees (CRSR) is a multilateral treaty that defines who is a refugee, and sets out the rights of individuals who are granted asylum and the responsibilities of nations that grant asylum.

- **Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees, Oct. 4, 1967**

  The Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees removed both the temporal and geographic restrictions of the CRSR. However, the Convention and Protocol does not apply to those refugees who benefit from the protection or assistance of a United Nations agency other than UNHCR, such as refugees from Palestine who fall under the auspices of UNRWA.

  » *In contrast to the legal regime for the international protection of refugees set up under the 1951 Refugee Convention, a separate regime governs the status of Palestinian refugees which is grounded in special principles enunciated in a series of UN resolutions concerning the Palestinians (e.g. Right of Return). Key documents on this matter can be accessed through the UN Information System on the Question of Palestine (UNISPAL) under: http://unispal.un.org/unispal.nsf/udc.htm*

REPORTS

- **Report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, UN Doc. A/67/13, Aug. 28, 2012**

  On a regular basis the Secretary General reports to the General Assembly on the work of UNRWA. This 2012 report describes the Agency's operational context, the principal legal matters affecting UNRWA during the reporting period, the main developments in the Agency's reform process, operational priorities by field of operation, and the Agency's program objectives in line with its medium-term strategy for 2010-2015.

- **Report of the Secretary General on Palestine Refugees' Properties and their Revenues, UN Doc. A/67/334, Aug. 24, 2012**

  This report, submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 66/75, focuses on Palestine refugees' assets and property rights in Israel.

- **Report of the Secretary General on Strengthening the Management Capacity of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, UN Doc. A/67/365, Sept. 12, 2012**

  This report responds to the General Assembly's request to continue to support the institutional strengthening of UNRWA through the provision of financial resources from the regular budget of the UN.

- **Report of the Working Group on the Financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, UN Doc. A/67/382, Sept. 24, 2012**

  The present report of the Working Group on the Financing of UNRWA provides a detailed outline of the current financial situation of UNRWA.

WEBSITES

- **United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNWRA)**
  http://www.unrwa.org/

  UNRWA is the main relief and human development agency providing education, health, social services, protection, micro-finance, micro-credit, infrastructure and emergency aid to 5 million refugees living in the Gaza Strip, the West Bank, Jordan, Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic. UNRWA is by far the largest UN operation in the Arab world, with around 30,000 staff, almost all of them refugees themselves, working directly to benefit their communities.

- **United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)**
  http://www.unhcr.org/

  For more than 60 years, UNHCR has protected and promoted the rights of tens of millions of refugees and displaced people worldwide. UNHCR strives to ensure that everyone can exercise the right to seek asylum and find safe refuge in another state, with the option to return home voluntarily, integrate locally or to resettle in a third country.

RESEARCH GUIDES

- **Badil Resource Center for Palestinian Residency and Refugee Rights**
  http://www.badil.org/

  The website of the Badil Resource Center for Palestinian Residency and Refugee Rights provides a knowledge resource pool of critical and progressive information and analysis on the question of Palestinian refugees.

- **Palestinian Refugee ResearchNet, McGill University**
  http://prrn.mcgill.ca/

  The Palestinian Refugee ResearchNet (PRRN), an effort to foster scholarly collaboration and policy research, provides various research material related to Palestinian refugee issues.

- **"Labor Rights of Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon", Research Guide, Common Space Initiative Lebanon**
  http://commonspaceinitiative.libguides.com/

  This guide provides an online bibliography on the issue of Palestinian refugees' labor rights in Lebanon.

  » *Other thematic research guides of the Common Space Initiative are available online under: http://commonspaceinitiative.libguides.com/*

ARTICLES & WORKING PAPERS

- **Anies Al Hroub, "UNRWA School Dropouts in Palestinian Refugee Camps in Lebanon: A Qualitative Study", IFI-AUB Research Report, 2011**

  This report presents the findings of the second stage of a multi-stage study on the phenomenon of early school dropouts in Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon, paying attention to the socio-economic status and domestic laws governing the participation of Palestinian refugees in various professions.

- **Sari Hanafi, "Palestinian Refugee Camps in the Arab East: Governmentalities in Search of Legitimacy ", IFI-AUB Working Paper No. 1, 2010**

  This study focuses on clarifying the relationship between power, sovereignty, and space in Palestinian refugee camps in the Arab East, by examining modes of governance negotiated inside the camps. The study examines the political character of camps and the role of Palestinian factions.

  » *Further reports and studies of the IFI-AUB program on "Policy and Governance in Palestinian Refugee Camps" can be accessed online under: http://www.aub.edu.lb/ifi/public_policy/pal_camps/Pages/camps_research.aspx*

- **Susan M. Akram, "Palestinian Refugees and Their Legal Status: Rights, Politics, and Implications for a Just Solution", Journal for Palestine Studies/ Institute for Palestine Studies, 2002**

  This paper discusses the legal, practical, and political implications of the Palestinian refugee status.

  » *Further articles and studies by the Institute for Palestine Studies (IPS) can be accessed online under: http://www.palestine-studies.org/*

NOTES

SECRETARY

- FOCUS: **HUMAN RIGHTS**
- CASE: **WOMEN'S RIGHTS IN THE ARAB WORLD**
- INSTITUTION: **OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS**

6

HUMAN RIGHTS

Introduction

Established in 1993, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) aims to promote and protect human rights all over the world. According to its mandate, OHCHR deals with multiple aspects of human rights, including women and children's rights.

In the Arab region, as in other parts of the world, the strengthening of women's rights and gender equality remains challenging. The UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) has been ratified by all the Arab countries with the exception of Somalia and the Sudan.

Many Arab countries are still struggling with adopting measures and legislation to eliminate discrimination against women.

The prominence of women's movements over the last two decades have increasingly given attention to civil, political, economic and social rights of women, which eventually would enable more inclusivity and participation.

In the wake of the recent Arab uprisings, further enhancement of human rights in general, and women's rights in particular in the Arab world is discussed.

UN DOCUMENTS

- **UN Security Council Resolution 1325, Oct. 31, 2000**

  This Security Council resolution reaffirmed the important role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts, peace negotiations, peace-building, peacekeeping, humanitarian response and in post-conflict reconstruction.

- **Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, Sept. 15, 1995, UN Doc. A/CONF.177/20**

  The Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (BPfA) is an international declaration of women's rights set up at the UN's 4th World Conference on Women in 1995. The BPfA covers key critical matters of concern and areas for action including women and poverty, violence against women and access to power and decision-making.

  » *Official UN documents can be accessed on UN ODS under: http://documents.un.org/*

LEGAL DOCUMENTS

- **Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Dec. 10, 1948**

  The Universal Declaration of Human Rights was adopted by the UN General Assembly in 1948, as the result of the experience of the Second World War. The Declaration was drafted by representatives of all regions of the world. It is the most universal human rights document in existence, delineating thirty fundamental rights that aim to form the basis for democratic societies.

- **Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, Sept. 3, 1981**

  The Convention is the culmination of more than thirty years of work by the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women, a body established in 1946 to monitor the situation of women and to promote women's rights. The spirit of the Convention is rooted in the goals of the United Nations: to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, and emphasize equal rights of men and women.

- **Arab Charter on Human Rights, May 22, 2004**

  The Arab Charter on Human Rights was adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States in 2004, and affirms the principles contained in the UN Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenants on Human Rights and the Cairo Declaration on Human Rights in Islam.

  » *Core international human rights treaties can be accessed online under: http://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/CoreInstruments.aspx.*

REPORTS

- **"State Responsibility for Eliminating Violence Against Women", UN Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women, May 2013**

  In 1994, the UN established the position of the Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women, who reports on the causes and consequences of violence against women. This 2013 report addresses the topic of State responsibility for eliminating violence against women.

  » *Further thematic reports of the Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women are available online under: http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Women/SRWomen/Pages/SRWomenIndex.aspx.*

  » *Further detailed information about women issues are provided by OHCHR under: http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Women/WRGS/Pages/WRGSIndex.aspx.*

  » *Reports of the regional Middle East Office of OHCHR can be accessed under: http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Countries/MENARegion/Pages/MenaRegion20122013.aspx.*

- **"A Revolution for All: Women's Rights in the New Libya", Human Rights Watch, May 27, 2013**

  This report comments on women rights issues in Libya, highlighting concrete steps to ensure that women's rights are respected and that discrimination based on gender is firmly rejected by law.

  » *Further reports by the independent, nongovernmental organization Human Rights Watch (HRW) can be accessed under: http://www.hrw.org/publications/.*

WEBSITES

- **Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)**
  http://www.ohchr.org/

  OHCHR is the primary mandated entity in the UN system to promote and protect human rights. Among others, one of OHCHR's focus areas is gender equality.

  » *Further details about OHCHR's work on gender issues are provided by the Women's Rights and Gender Section (WRGS) under: http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Women/WRGS/Pages/WRGSIndex.aspx*

- **UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)**
  http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/CEDAW/Pages/CEDAWIndex.aspx

  Within the UN human rights protection system, CEDAW is the body of independent experts that monitors implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

- **UN WomenWatch**
  http://www.un.org/womenwatch/

  WomenWatch is the central gateway to information and resources on the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women throughout the UN system, including the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women), the United Nations Secretariat, regional commissions, funds, programs, specialized agencies, and academic and research institutions.

- **UN Women**
  http://www.unwomen.org/

  In 2010, the United Nations General Assembly created UN Women, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women. The main roles of UN Women are to support the formulation of policies and global norms, while helping UN Member States to implement these standards, and hold the UN system accountable for its own commitments on gender equality.

- **Arab Human Rights Index**
  http://www.arabhumanrights.org/en/

  The Human Rights Index for the Arab Countries, sponsored by the United Nations Development Programme on Governance in the Arab Region (UNDP-POGAR), is a repository for the entire set of United Nations documents pertaining to human rights and the responses, including reservations, by the Arab member states to the committees that monitor the core international human rights treaties.

RESEARCH GUIDES

- **"Human Rights", Dag Hammarskjöld Library**
  http://research.un.org/en/docs/humanrights

  This online research guide of the UN Dag Hammarskjöld Library provides further entry point for research on human rights issues.

  » *The UN Dag Hammarskjöld Library provides a collection of research guides on UN related topics (e.g. disarmament, economic and social issues, human rights, international law) under: http://research.un.org/*

- **United Nations Web Portal on Human Rights**
  http://www.un.org/ar/rights/

  This web portal contains links to Arabic language versions of the United Nations human rights treaties and a United Nations document research guide.

- **Human Rights Documents and Materials, University of Minnesota Human Rights Library**
  http://www1.umn.edu/humanrts/

  The University of Minnesota Human Rights Library houses one of the largest online collections of human rights materials, which includes an overview about key human rights treaties, training materials, search engines and extensive links.

- **International Human Rights Research Guide, Globalex, New York University**
  http://www.nyulawglobal.org/globalex/Human_Rights.htm

  This New York University GlobaLex research guide offers links to international human rights law research resources.

  » *NYU Globalex provides a series of research guides on international law and other UN related topics under: http://www.nyulawglobal.org/globalex/index.html*

ARTICLES & WORKING PAPERS

- **Fateh Azzam, "Arab States and UN Human Rights Mechanisms", IFI-AUB Research Report, 2013**

  This IFI-AUB research report presents an analysis of Arab states' engagement with the Universal Periodic Review, discussing implications for human rights policy programming by concerned governments and UN agencies.

- **Maya W. Mansour and Sarah G. Abou Aad, "Women's Citizenship Rights in Lebanon", IFI-AUB Working Paper No. 8, 2012**

  This IFI-AUB working paper tackles the citizenship rights of Lebanese women married to foreigners from an international human rights perspective. The analysis scrutinizes the topic with regard to Lebanese laws and regulations, while addressing statistics and social studies.

  » *More IFI-AUB working papers and research reports can be accessed under: http://www.aub.edu.lb/ifi/publications/Pages/workingpapers.aspx*

- **"Addressing Barriers to Women's Economic Participation in the ESCWA Region", ESCWA Paper, UN Doc. E/ESCWA/ECW/2012/1, Oct. 2, 2012**

  This research study by the ESCWA Centre for Women highlights the need for gender-sensitive economic and educational policies that are compatible with international women's rights. The study presents aspects of the United Nations Human Resources Management Section to illustrate good practice in supporting male and female workers.

- **"Best Practices and Successful Experiences in Implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women in Arab Countries", ESCWA Paper, UN Doc. E/ESCWA/ECW/2011/3, Sept. 27, 2011**

  This research study by the ESCWA Centre for Women analyzes successes and best practices in Arab countries in implementing the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). Surveying developments in women's political, social and economic rights, the study offers recommendations with regard to future prospects for implementation of the Convention in Arab countries.

  » *Further working papers and reports of the UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) on the Arab region can be accessed online under: http://www.escwa.un.org/information/pubcategory.asp?category=Working%20Papers*

NOTES

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المحكمة الخاصة بلبنان
SPECIAL TRIBUNAL FOR LEBANON
TRIBUNAL SPÉCIAL POUR LE LIBAN

- FOCUS: **TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE**
- CASE: **TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE IN LEBANON**
- INSTITUTION: **SPECIAL TRIBUNAL FOR LEBANON**

7

TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE

Introduction

Following the assassination of former Lebanese Prime Minister Rafiq Hariri in February 2005, the UN Security Council established the UN International Independent Investigation Commission (UNIIIC) which focused on investigating the crime scene, technical aspects of the crime, the testimony of more than 500 witnesses and sources, as well as the institutional context in which the crime was committed. At the end of February 2009, UNIIIC ended its mandate and was superseded by the Special Tribunal for Lebanon (STL).

In 2011, the STL issued the first indictments against four suspects (Ayyash et al. case). And in 2012, the Appeals Chamber of the STL affirmed the legality of the court and the use of trials in absentia of the accused, which permits the trials to be held without the presence of the accused. In January 2014, the trial in the Ayyash et al case. began. Currently, evidence is being presented before the STL Trial Chamber in Leidschendam in the Netherlands.

UN DOCUMENTS

- **Security Council Resolution 1595, April 7, 2005**

  This Security Council resolution established the UN International Independent Investigation Commission (UNIIIC).

- **Letter dated 14 May 2007 from the Prime Minister of Lebanon to the Secretary General, UN Doc. S/2007/281, May 16, 2007**

  This letter of the Prime Minister of Lebanon to the UN Secretary General states that all domestic options for the ratification of the instruments establishing the Special Tribunal have been exhausted and that a majority of parliamentarians has expressed its support for the Tribunal, and asks the Security Council to put the Statute of the Special Tribunal into effect as a matter of urgency.

- **Security Council Resolution 1757, May 30, 2007**

  Acting under Chapter VII, this Security Council resolution puts the provisions of the "agreement" between the United Nations and the Lebanese Republic on the establishment of a Special Tribunal for Lebanon into force.

» *Official UN documents can be accessed on UN ODS under: http://documents.un.org/.*

LEGAL DOCUMENTS

- **Statute of the Special Tribunal for Lebanon, May 16, 2007**

  The Statute of the Special Tribunal for Lebanon is annexed to Security Council Resolution 1757 (see above). It outlines the jurisdiction and applicable law of the Tribunal, the organization of the STL, rights of defendants and victims, and conduct of proceedings.

- **STL Rules of Procedure and Evidence, Nov. 2010**

  These rules regulate the conduct of the pre-trial, trial and appellate proceedings, the admission of evidence, the participation of victims, the protection of victims and witnesses. They were drafted by the judges of the STL, and amended several times.

  » *Documents of the STL can be accessed under: http://www.stl-tsl.org/en/documents/*

REPORTS

- **Report of the Secretary General pursuant to paragraph 6 of Resolution 1644 (2005), UN Doc. S/2006/176, March 21, 2006**

  Following a request of the Security Council, this report of the UN Secretary General sets out the nature and scope of the international assistance needed to try, before a tribunal of an international character, those responsible for the terrorist bombing that killed former Lebanese Prime Minister Rafiq Hariri and others.

- **Report of the Secretary General on the Establishment of a Special Tribunal for Lebanon, UN Doc. S/2006/893, Nov. 15, 2006**

  This Secretary General report puts forward the general principles of a tribunal of an international character, its personal and subject matter jurisdiction, composition, location and the question of financing, on the basis of consultations between the United Nations Secretariat and the Lebanese authorities.

  » *Official UN documents can be accessed on UN ODS under: http://documents.un.org/*

- **11th Report of the International Independent Investigation Commission, UN Doc. S/2008/752, Dec. 2, 2008**

  This is the final UNIIIC report, before the STL commences functioning in March 2009.

  » *Reports of the UNIIIC can be accessed online under: http://www.stl-tsl.org/en/documents/un-documents/reports-of-the-uniiic/*

- **STL Third Annual Report 2012-2013**

  This annual report presents details about the operation and activities of the STL in the period 2012-2013. The annual reports are available in English, Arabic and French.

  » *All STL Annual Reports can be found under: http://www.stl-tsl.org/en/documents/president-s-reports-and-memoranda/*

WEBSITES

- **Special Tribunal for Lebanon (STL)**
  http://www.stl-tsl.org/

  Inaugurated in 2009, the STL's mandate is to hold trials for the perpetrators of the February 2005 attack which killed 22 people, including the former prime minister of Lebanon, Rafiq Hariri, and injured many others. The STL is legally not a UN court, but a tribunal of international character with close UN ties. The seat of the tribunal is in Leidschendam, near The Hague, the Netherlands; it has Lebanese and international staff, and tries people under Lebanese criminal law.

- **Transitional Justice Research Clinic**
  http://www.transitional-justice.net/

  The Transitional Justice Research Clinic (TJRC) maps the ongoing justice and truth seeking processes in the Arab world after the Arab uprisings. The platform comprises a digital library with key official documents in Arabic and English (e.g. Transitional Justice draft laws, official fact finding reports) and a Transitional Justice toolbox with comprehensive bibliographies, handbooks and multimedia content to support research on the topic.

RESEARCH GUIDES

- **"The Special Tribunal for Lebanon: An Introduction and Research Guide", GlobaLex, New York University**
  http://www.nyulawglobal.org/globalex/Special_Tribunal_Lebanon.htm
  This New York University GlobaLex research guide offers a list of selected key links to official STL documents and a comprehensive bibliography.

  » *NYU Globalex provides a series of research guides on international law and other UN related topics under: http://www.nyulawglobal.org/globalex/index.html*

- **"Backgrounder: Special Tribunals & other Mechanisms", UNRIC Library**
  http://www.unric.org/en/unric-library-backgrounders/
  The UNRIC research backgrounder provides an overview about special tribunals and other justice mechanisms.

  » *The United Nations Regional Information Centre for Western Europe (UNRIC) issued a series of backgrounders on various subjects that list relevant UN documents, treaties, declarations, Secretary General reports, a selection of speeches and statements by UN officials, articles in UN journals, which are available online under: http://www.unric.org/en/unric-library-backgrounders/*

- **United Nations Rule of Law Website and Document Repository (UNROL)**
  http://www.unrol.org/
  The United Nations Rule of Law Website and Document Repository is a promotional and educational database for practitioners and the general public. It seeks to inform users about the UN's work in the field of rule of law, and its efforts to coordinate and strengthen system-wide approaches in this field. It is the central UN rule of law web-based resource, serving as a gateway to the rest of the UN's related sites, and making information more widely accessible about UN rule of law issues and activities, and the various tools, documents and materials on the subject.

ARTICLES & WORKING PAPERS

- **Omar Nashabe, "The Special Tribunal for Lebanon (STL): International Justice Dissected", IFI-AUB Working Paper No. 10, 2012**

  This IFI-AUB working paper offers a critique of the history, structure and procedures of the international criminal investigation and the establishment of the STL.

- **John Cerone, "The Politics of International Justice: US Policy and the Legitimacy of the Special Tribunal for Lebanon", IFI-AUB Working Paper No. 9, 2012**

  This IFI-AUB working paper traces the evolution of policy strands underpinning the US government's attitudes toward international criminal courts and examines how these policy strands converged in a position of support for the Special Tribunal for Lebanon.

  » *More IFI-AUB working papers and research reports can be accessed under: http://www.aub.edu.lb/ifi/publications/Pages/workingpapers.aspx*

NOTES

- FOCUS: **MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS**
- CASE: **ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL ISSUES IN THE ARAB WORLD**
- INSTITUTION: **UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR WESTERN ASIA**

8

MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Introduction

The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) were declared following the UN Millennium Summit and the adoption of the United Nations Millennium Declaration in 2000.

Eight goals are aimed to be accomplished by the year 2015: 1) Eradicating extreme poverty and hunger; 2) Achieving universal primary education; 3) Promoting gender equality and empowering women; 4) Reducing child mortality rates; 5) Improving maternal health; 6) Combating HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases; 7) Ensuring environmental sustainability; and 8) Developing a global partnership for development.

The Arab region has achieved progress regarding many MDGs, however, there have been many setbacks due to inadequate financing of social policies and political conflicts. Among others, unemployment is still high, particularly in rural areas and among the youth. In terms of universal primary education, the Arab region has seen improvement, especially within literacy rates of young adults aged 15-24 and within gender parity in primary schooling. According to the Third Arab Millennium Development Report (2010), Arab countries are on track with respect to halving the proportion of people living below $1.25 a day, yet much more needs to be done to meet the MDGs fully.

UN DOCUMENTS

- **UN General Assembly Resolution 55/2, Sept. 18, 2000**

  This General Assembly resolution includes the United Nations Millennium Declaration, which was adopted by 189 states during the Millennium Summit with the aim to enable, enhance and prolong the lives of people globally. The Declaration is the key contemporary document guiding state efforts and UN activities on economic and social issues.

LEGAL DOCUMENTS

- **International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Dec. 16, 1966**

  The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) is a multilateral treaty adopted by the UN General Assembly, which commits states to work toward the granting of economic, social, and cultural rights to individuals, including labour rights and the right to health, the right to education, and the right to an adequate standard of living.

- **Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Dec. 10, 2008**

  The Optional Protocol established complaint and inquiry mechanisms in order to enhance the effectiveness of the ICESCR.

- **ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, June 18, 1998**

  Adopted by the ILO's International Labour Conference in 1998, the ILO's Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work aims at strengthening the connection between economic growth and social justice. The Declaration promotes principles such as: the freedom of association, effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining, elimination of all forms of forced and compulsory labour, effective abolition of child labour, and the elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation.

  » *Core international human rights treaties regarding economic and social rights can be accessed online under: http://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/CoreInstruments.aspx*

REPORTS

- **"Keeping the Promise: A Forward-looking Review to Promote an Agreed Action Agenda to Achieve the Millennium Development Goals by 2015", Report of the Secretary General, UN Doc. A/64/665, Feb. 12, 2010**

  This report of the UN Secretary General presents information on the progress made in achieving MDGs, addressing best practices and lessons learned, obstacles and gaps, and challenges and opportunities, leading to concrete strategies for action.

  » *Further annual MDG reports can be accessed under: http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/reports.shtml*

  » *How countries are progressing with the implementation of the MDGs is monitored under: http://www.mdgmonitor.org/*

- **The Arab Millennium Development Goals Report Facing Challenges and Looking Beyond 2015, Aug. 2013**

  This report, jointly prepared by the League of Arab States and the United Nations, responds to a request by the UN General Assembly for a periodic regional assessment of progress towards the MDGs.

  » *Country-specific MDG progress reports regarding Arab states can be accessed online under: http://www.undp.org/content/rbas/en/home/library/MDGs/arab-states/*

- **Arab Human Development Report, UNDP, 2009**

  The Arab Human Development Report is an independent report, sponsored by UNDP and authored by leading scholars, policymakers and opinion leaders in the Arab countries.

  » *Arab Human Development Reports of previous years can be accessed under: http://www.arab-hdr.org/*

- **Assessing the Millennium Development Goals Process in the Arab Region, ANND, July 2010**

  This report looks at some of the reasons behind the lack of progress in the Arab region regarding the implementation of MDGs. Among others, the report analyzes the situation of financing for development in the region, considers the impact of global policy-makers and economic liberalization, and highlights the marginalization of gender issues in the region.

  » *The Arab NGO Network for Development (ANND) is a regional network of NGOs in the Arab world working on development issues. Further studies and analytical briefs by ANND are available in English and Arabic under: http://www.annd.org/*

WEBSITES

- **United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)**
  http://www.escwa.un.org/

  As one of the five regional commissions under the administrative direction of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), the mandate of ESCWA is to support economic and social development in the region while promoting cooperation between the concerned states. ESCWA provides frameworks for the formulation and harmonization of sectorial policies for member countries, a platform for coordination, and a forum for knowledge sharing and best practices.

- **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)**
  http://arabstates.undp.org/

  As the development arm of the United Nations, UNDP works on sustainable development and inclusive economic growth. UNDP supports countries across the Arab region to build and share their own solutions to development challenges within UNDP's four main focus areas: poverty reduction, democratic governance, crisis prevention and recovery, and environment and sustainable development.

RESEARCH GUIDES

- **"UN Millennium Development Goals: E-learning Materials", University of Essex**
  http://www.esds.ac.uk/international/elearning/unmdg/

  This e-learning training guide of the University of Essex describes the background to the MDGs, the relationship between the goals, targets and indicators, identifies the data sources and how progress towards the goals is measured.

- **"Millennium Development Goals Research Guide", Worldbank/IMF**
  http://researchguides.worldbankimflib.org/content.php?pid=20427&sid=143826

  This research guide of the World Bank Library provides a gateway to UN system web sites on the MDGs.

  » *Further digital research guides of the World Bank on economic- and social-related issues be accessed under: http://researchguides.worldbankimflib.org/*

ARTICLES & WORKING PAPERS

- **"Achieving the MDGs in Yemen: An Assessment", Worldbank, Policy Research Working Paper, 2012**

  This World Bank case study research paper provides an overview about Yemen's economy and the status of MDGs since 1990.

  » *The World Bank e-library can be accessed under: http://elibrary.worldbank.org/*

- **"Economic Policy in the ESCWA Region and its Impact on Employment", ESCWA, Working Paper, UN Doc. E/ESCWA/SDD/2012/2, 2012**

  Conducted by ESCWA's Social Policy Section of the Social Development Division, this report analyses the macroeconomic environment and economic policy framework of ESCWA member countries in order to build a knowledge base on labor policies in the region.

  » *Further ESCWA working papers can be accessed under : http://www.escwa.un.org/information/pubcategory.asp?category=Working%20Papers*

NOTES

- FOCUS: **CLIMATE CHANGE**
- CASE: **ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES IN THE ARAB WORLD**
- INSTITUTION: **UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE**

9

CLIMATE CHANGE

Introduction

Climate change is heavily impacting the Arab world. By the end of this century, temperatures are projected to rise by three to four degrees Celsius in the Arab world, which would be 1.5 times faster than the global average. Droughts and floods already account for the majority of climate-related disasters in the region. At the same time, the region is home to some of the world's biggest per capita emitters of greenhouse gas: Qatar, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and Bahrain. The Arab region is already extremely water stressed, while rising temperatures are a further burden to the agriculture-centered economy.

Nearly all Arab states are signatories to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), and many of them played a strong role in shaping international climate policy since the establishment of the Convention. Focused on limiting greenhouse gas emissions, UNFCCC was signed at the Rio Earth Summit in 1992. Based on the UNFCCC, the Kyoto Protocol was subsequently adopted in 1997, which sets binding emissions targets.

UN DOCUMENTS

- **General Assembly Resolution 43/53, Dec. 6, 1988**

  This landmark resolution of the General Assembly noted that climate change affects humanity as a whole and should be confronted within a global framework, and endorsed the establishment of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change in order to provide internationally co-ordinated scientific assessments about the environmental and socio-economic impact of climate change.

- **General Assembly Resolution 63/281, June 11, 2009**

  In this resolution, the General Assembly urges member states to intensify efforts in considering and addressing climate change and its possible security implications.

- **General Assembly Resolution 67/210, March 12, 2013**

  This resolution of the General Assembly addresses the "Protection of Global Climate for Present and Future Generations of Humankind"

  » *Official UN documents can be accessed on UN ODS under: http://documents.un.org/*

LEGAL DOCUMENTS

- **United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), May 9, 1992**

  The UNFCCC is an international environmental treaty negotiated at the Earth Summit, held in Rio de Janeiro in 1992. The objective of the treaty is to "stabilize greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system".

- **Kyoto Protocol to the UNFCCC, Dec. 11, 1997**

  The Kyoto Protocol sets binding obligations on industrialized countries to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases.

- **Doha Amendment to the Kyoto Protocol, Dec. 8, 2012**

  In the Doha Amendment, the participating governments decided that the extension period of the Kyoto Protocol will be eight years.

  » *UNFCC documents can be accessed online under: https://unfccc.int/*

REPORTS

- **Report of the Secretary General on Climate Change and its Possible Security Implications, UN Doc. A/64/350, Sept. 11, 2009**

  This Secretary General report identifies a set of emerging climate change-related threats which merit the focused attention and increased preparedness of the international community, namely: the loss of territory, statelessness and increased numbers of displaced persons; stress on shared international water resources, for example, with the melting of glaciers, and disputes surrounding the opening of the Arctic region to resource exploitation and trade.

- **"Adaptation to a Changing Climate in the Arab Countries: A Case for Adaptation Governance in Building Climate Resilience", World Bank, MENA Development Report, 2012**

  This report of the World Bank, produced in partnership with the League of Arab States, provides information on climate change in the Arab region, as well as technical guidance on adaptation to climate change.

- **"Economics of Climate Change in the Arab World: Case Studies from the Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, and the Republic of Yemen", Worldbank, 2013**

  This World Bank report takes both a global as well as a local perspective in assessing the impacts of climate change on the economy, agricultural sector, and households in three of the MENA countries (Syria, Tunisia and Yemen).

  » *Further reports of the World Bank on climate change and the Arab world can be found under: http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/feature/2012/12/05/facing-up-to-the-threat-of-climate-change-in-the-arab-world*

- **"Climate Change 2013: The Physical Science Basis", Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), 2013**

  This IPCC report provides a comprehensive assessment of the physical science basis of climate change, including a historical perspective on the understanding of climate science and the evidence regarding human influence on the Earth's climate system.

  » *Further IPCC documents can be accessed under: http://www.ipcc.ch/*

WEBSITES

- **United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Conference (UNFCCC)**
  https://unfccc.int/

  The United Nations Climate Change Conferences are conferences held annually in the context of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. They serve as the formal meeting of the Conferences of the Parties (COP) to assess progress in dealing with climate change.

- **Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)**
  http://www.ipcc.ch/

  IPCC was established by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) in 1988 to provide the world with a scientific view on the current state of knowledge in climate change and its potential environmental and socio-economic impacts.

- **Regional Initiative for the Assessment of Climate Change Impacts on Water Resources and Socio-Economic Vulnerability in the Arab Region (RICCAR)**
  http://www.escwa.un.org/RICCAR/

  RICCAR is a collaborative effort between the UN and the League of Arab States aiming at assessing the impact of climate change on freshwater resources in the Arab region through a consultative and integrated assessment that seeks to identify the socio-economic and environmental vulnerability caused by climate change impacts on water resources in the Arab region.

RESEARCH GUIDES

- **"Environment", Dag Hammarskjöld Library**
  http://research.un.org/en/docs/environment/

  This online research guide of the UN Dag Hammarskjöld Library provides an overview of key documents of the UN Security Council and the UN General Assembly related to environmental issues.

  » *The UN Dag Hammarskjöld Library provides a collection of research guides on UN related topics (e.g. disarmament, economic and social issues, human rights, international law) under: http://research.un.org/*

- **Knowledge Center, Arab Climate Resilience Initiative (ACRI), UNDP Regional Bureau for Arab States (UNDP-RBAS)**
  http://www.arabclimateinitiative.org/knowledge-center.html

  ACRI's Knowledge Center, an initiative of the Regional Bureau for Arab States of UNDP, provides background papers and studies about cross-sectoral and regional responses to climate change challenges in Arab countries.

- **"Climate Change", Arabstats, UNDP Programme on Governance in the Arab Region (UNDP-POGAR)**
  http://www.arab-hdr.org/data/pogar.aspx

  Arabstats is a repository of statistical indicators for human development in the region, which also contains a special section of statistical date on climate change in the Arab region.

  » *Further statistical data of Arabstats can be accessed online under: http://www.arabstats.org/*

ARTICLES & WORKING PAPERS

- **Hamed Assaf, "Climate Change in the Levant and North Africa Region: An Assessment of Implications for Water Resources, Regional State of Awareness and Preparedness, and the Road Ahead", IFI-AUB Workshop Paper, 2009**

  This paper focuses on the water governance in the region (Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine, and Syria) and the different stakeholders involved.

  » *Further IFI-AUB papers on climate change in the Arab world can be accessed online under: http://www.aub.edu.lb/ifi/public_policy/climate_change/ifi_cc_texts/Pages/home.aspx*

- **"The Role of Renewable Energy in Mitigating Climate Change in the ESCWA Region", ESCWA, UN Doc. E/ESCWA/SDPD/2012/1, 2012**

  This study contains information related to energy and climate change, namely on the production of electrical power from renewable energy sources, including solar and wind energy, in Arab countries.

  » *Further reports of ESCWA on climate change and the Arab world can be found under: http://www.escwa.un.org/information/pubdetails.asp?division=SDPD*

- **"Mapping of Climate Change Threats and Human Development Impacts in the Arab Region", Arab Human Development Report Paper Series, UNDP, 2010**

  This paper series presents a comprehensive desk review and mapping exercise for an overview of the impact of climate change on the Arab region.

  » *The Arab Human Development Report Paper Series is a medium for sharing recent research commissioned to inform the Arab Human Development Report, and can be accessed under: http://www.arab-hdr.org/resources/paperseries.aspx*

NOTES

- FOCUS: **ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES**
- CASE: **LEBANON-ISRAEL OFFSHORE OIL AND GAS DISPUTE**
- INSTITUTION: **INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL FOR THE LAW OF THE SEA**

10

ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Introduction

Since 2010, Lebanon and Israel have been locked in a dispute related to offshore oil and gas resources in the Levant Basin of the Mediterranean Sea. Geological surveys estimated the existence of about 1.7 billion barrels of oil and 122 trillion cubic feet of gas in the 83,000 km^2 area off the coasts of Lebanon, Israel, Syria and Cyprus.

Israel and Lebanon have never agreed on a delimitation of their maritime boundaries. In 2011, Lebanon protested at the United Nations against the Maritime Agreement between Israel-Cyprus, complaining that the coordinates defined in the agreement absorb parts of Lebanon's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). In 2013, Lebanon officially launched the first oil and gas licensing round for offshore drilling and exploration.

Whether the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS), which was established by the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), could play a role in solving the dispute is a matter of debate.

UN DOCUMENTS

- **General Assembly Resolution 1803 (XVII), Dec. 14, 1962**

  This resolution declares the right of peoples and nations to permanent sovereignty over their natural wealth and resources.

- **Statement by the President of the Security Council, UN Doc. S/PRST/2007/22, June 25, 2007**

  This statement by the President of the Security Council addresses the role of natural resources in conflict.

- **General Assembly Resolution 63/111, Feb. 12, 2009**

  This resolution addresses aspects regarding oceans and the law of the sea.

- **Security Council Meeting Records, UN Doc. S/PV.6982, June 19, 2013**

  In this open debate, the Security Council discussed the issue of conflict prevention and natural resources.

  » *Official UN documents can be accessed on UN ODS under: http://documents.un.org/*

  » *The NGO Security Council Report provides an overview about UN documents related to energy and natural resources under: http://www.securitycouncilreport.org/un-documents/energy-climate-and-natural-resources/*

LEGAL DOCUMENTS

- **United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, Dec. 10, 1982**

  The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) is an international treaty that defines the rights and responsibilities of nations in their use of the world's oceans, establishing guidelines for businesses, the environment, and the management of marine natural resources.

- **Agreement between the Government of the State of Israel and the Government of the Republic of Cyprus on the Delimitation of the Exclusive Economic Zone, Dec. 17, 2010**

  This agreement between the Government of the State of Israel and the Government of the Republic of Cyprus addresses the delimitation of their Exclusive Economic Zone.

- **Delineation of the Boundaries of the Exclusive Economic Zone of Lebanon, Decree No. 6433, Oct. 1, 2011**

  This decree provides details about the delineation of the boundaries of the Exclusive Economic Zone of Lebanon.

  » *The UN Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea provides a database on state practice concerning maritime zones and maritime delimitation, which can be accessed online under: http://www.un.org/Depts/los/LEGISLATIONANDTREATIES/regionslist.htm*

REPORTS

- **Assessment of Undiscovered Oil and Gas Resources of the Levant Basin Province, Eastern Mediterranean, World Petroleum Resources Project, United States Geological Survey, March 2010**

  As part of a program aimed at estimating the recoverable oil and gas resources of priority basins around the world, this U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) assesses the scope of undiscovered oil and gas resources in the Levant Basin.

  » *Other USGS reports can be found online under: http://pubs.er.usgs.gov/*

- **International Crisis Group, "Aphrodite's Gift: Can Cypriot Gas Power a New Dialogue", Europe Report No. 216, 2 April 2012**

  This report of the International Crisis Group examines the conflict potential of the Lebanon-Israel oil and gas dispute for the region.

  » *Reports of the International Crisis Group are available online under: http://www.crisisgroup.org/*

- **Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC), Annual Statistical Report, 2012**

  This report provides statistical data about petroleum exploitation in the Arab region.

  » *Annual OAPEC reports can be accessed under: http://www.oapecorg.org/Home/Publications/Reports/Annual-Statistical-report*

WEBSITES

- **International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS)**
  http://www.itlos.org/

  ITLOS is an independent judicial body established by the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. Among others, the mandate of the Tribunal is to settle disputes about international maritime law.

- **Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC)**
  http://www.oapecorg.org/

  OAPEC is a regional inter-governmental organization which was established in 1968, guided by the belief in the importance of building an integrated petroleum industry and enabling economic integration amongst Arab countries. OAPEC is concerned with the development and prosperity of the world petroleum industry by fostering close cooperation and contributing to the effective use of the resources of Arab oil exporting countries through sponsoring joint ventures.

- **Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, Office of Legal Affairs, United Nations Secretariat**
  https://www.un.org/depts/los/

  The Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea in the Office of Legal Affairs (OLA) at the UN Secretariat provides advice, assistance and research on the implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

RESEARCH GUIDES

- **"Oil and Gas in Lebanon", Library & Research Guide, American University of Beirut**
  http://aub.edu.lb.libguides.com/content.php?pid=339943

  This research guide of the AUB Library compiles resources on the topic "Oil and Gas in Lebanon", including an overview about oil exploration, geo-petroleum issues, petroleum law and maritime disputes.

  » *Other thematic research guides of the AUB Library are available online under http://aub.edu.lb.libguides.com/*

- **"Offshore Oil & Gas Lebanon", Research Guide, Common Space Initiative Lebanon**
  http://commonspaceinitiative.libguides.com/content php?pid=394015

  This online research guide of the Common Space Initiative provides a selective bibliography on Lebanon's maritime boundaries and natural resources.

  » *Other thematic research guides of the Common Space Initiative are available online under: http://commonspaceinitiative.libguides.com/*

- **EU-UN Platform "Land, Natural Resources and Conflict"**
  http://www.un.org/en/land-natural-resources-conflict/

  This EU-UN partnership has developed a number of practical guidance notes and training material on land and conflict, extractives and conflict, renewable resources and conflict, capacity building for natural resource management and conflict prevention in resource rich economies.

- **UN Sustainable Development Knowledge Platform**
  http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/

  This platform of the UN Division for Sustainable Development (DSD) provides access to information and knowledge for sustainable development, including research resources on energy and natural resources.

ARTICLES & WORKING PAPERS

- **James Stocker, "No EEZ Solution: The Politics of Oil and Gas in the Eastern Mediterranean", The Middle East Journal, Vol. 66, No. 4, 2012**

  This article reviews the various conflicts that have emerged or are emerging over the discovery of oil and natural gas resources in the eastern Mediterranean Sea and suggests possible solutions.

  » *Articles of The Middle East Journal can be accessed online under: http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/the_middle_east_journal/*

- **Martin Wählisch, "Israel-Lebanon Offshore Oil & Gas Dispute: Rules of International Maritime Law", ASIL Insights (American Society of International Law), Dec. 5, 2011**

  This paper gives an overview about the rules of international maritime law regarding the Israel-Lebanon offshore oil and gas dispute.

  » *The ASIL Insights series of the American Association of International Law provides brief about international law events, and can be accessed under: http://www.asil.org/insights/*

- **Jeremy Arbid, "Policy-making in Lebanon: Potential Offshore Oil and Gas Discoveries", IFI-AUB Student Research Summary, Sept. 2013**

  This IFI-AUB research paper looks at the process and the dynamics of policy-making processes in Lebanon regarding the exploration, extraction, and utilization of potential natural gas and petroleum resources.

  » *Further publications of the IFI-AUB UN in the Arab World Program can be accessed online under: https://www.aub.edu.lb/ifi/international_affairs/unaw/Pages/unaw_pubs.aspx*

NOTES

KEY UN TERMINOLOGY: ENGLISH-ARABIC

African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur	UNAMID	العملية المختلطة للاتحاد الأفريقي والأمم المتحدة في دارفور
International Criminal Court	ICC	المحكمة الجنائية الدولية
International Court of Justice	ICJ	محكمة العدل الدولية
International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea	ITLOS	المحكمة الدولية لقانون البحار
Office of the Joint Special Representative of the United Nations and the League of Arab States for Syria	JSRS	مكتب الممثل الخاص المشترك بين الأمم المتحدة وجامعة الدول العربية المعني بسوريا
Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights	OHCHR	المفوضية السامية للأمم المتحدة لحقوق الإنسان
Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for Lebanon	UNSCOL	مكتب منسق الأمم المتحدة الخاص لشؤون لبنان
Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process	UNSCO	مكتب منسق الأمم المتحدة الخاص لعملية السلام في الشرق الأوسط
Special Tribunal for Lebanon	STL	المحكمة الدولية الخاصة بلبنان

United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia	UNSOM	بعثة الأمم المتحدة لتقديم المساعدة إلى الصومال
United Nations Children's Fund	UNICEF	منظمة الأمم المتحدة للطفولة (يونيسف)
United Nations Development Programme	UNDP	برنامج الأمم المتحدة الإنمائي
United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia	ESCWA	لجنة الأمم المتحدة الإقتصادية والإجتماعية لغربي آسيا
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization	UNESCO	منظمة الأمم المتحدة للتربية والعلم والثقافة (يونيسكو)
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	UNHCR	المفوضية العليا للأمم المتحدة لشؤون اللاجئين
United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon	UNIFIL	قوة الأمم المتحدة المؤقتة في لبنان
United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei	UNISFA	قوة الأمم المتحدة الأمنية المؤقتة لأبيي
United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara	MINURSO	بعثة الأمم المتحدة للإستفتاء في الصحراء الغربية
United Nations Mission in the Sudan	UNMISS	بعثة الأمم المتحدة في السودان
United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq	UNAMI	بعثة الأمم المتحدة لمساعدة العراق
United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East	UNRWA	وكالة الأمم المتحدة لإغاثة وتشغيل اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في الشرق الأدنى
United Nations Support Mission in Libya	UNSMIL	بعثة الأمم المتحدة للدعم في ليبيا

WEBSITES

- **United Nations Multilingual Terminology Database**
  http://unterm.un.org/

  UNTERM is a multilingual terminology database which provides United Nations nomenclature, technical or specialized terms and common phrases in all six official UN languages: English, French, Spanish, Russian, Chinese and Arabic.

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THE UN IN THE ARAB WORLD

KNOWLEDGE RESOURCES: QUICK LIST

- UN Official Document System (ODS), http://documents.un.org/
- UN Bibliographic Speeches (UNBISnet), http://unbisnet.un.org/
- UN Treaty Collection, http://treaties.un.org/
- UN Peacemaker, http://peacemaker.un.org/
- UN News Centre, http://www.un.org/News/
- United Nations Multilingual Terminology Database, http://unterm.un.org/
- World Bank e-library, http://elibrary.worldbank.org/
- ESCWA e-library, http://www.escwa.un.org/information/pubcategory.asp?category=Working%20Papers
- UN Dag Hammarskjöld Library Research Guide, http://research.un.org/
- IFI-AUB Working Papers, http://www.aub.edu.lb/ifi/Pages/ifi_wps.aspx
- GlobaLex New York University, http://www.nyulawglobal.org/globalex/
- International Crisis Group Reports, http://www.crisisgroup.org/
- What's In Blue, http://www.whatsinblue.org/

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Research Handbook: THE UN IN THE ARAB WORLD

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This research handbook provides guidance to students, researchers and practitioners on current UN affairs in the Middle East and Northern Africa. It offers entry-points for exploring the role of the UN in the Arab world while explaining the various facets of the world organization's activities, which range from political and diplomatic efforts to humanitarian, human rights and economic issues. The handbook includes references to key UN documents, such as relevant Security Council decisions and General Assembly resolutions, relevant legal documents, specialized thematic research guides and selected secondary sources, such as working papers and academic journal articles. Special attention is given to publicly available open-sources and research from the IFI-AUB community.