



A Background Guide for the

FOURTH COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SPECPOL

Legality of Drones in Armed Conflicts

Reforms in UN Peace Keeping Operations

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Letter from the Executive Board.....	03
Committee Background.....	04
Agenda 1.....	04
1.1 Key Terms.....	04
1.2 History of Drones.....	06
1.3 Drone Period.....	06
1.4 Credibility of Drones.....	07
1.5 Liability of Drones.....	07
1.6 Unmanned Drones Changing Warfare.....	08
1.7 Regulation of Manufacturing and Trade of Drones.....	08
1.8 The use of Drones by Non-State Actors.....	08
1.9 Resolutions.....	09
1.10 Questions a Resolution Must Answer.....	10
1.11 Further Links.....	10
Agenda 2.....	11
1.1 Key Words and terms for Peacekeeping.....	11
1.2 Topic History and Background and Sub-Topics of Note.....	12
1.3 Mandate.....	13
1.4 Resources.....	15
1.5 Conduct of Troops.....	15
1.6 Participation.....	16
1.7 Effects on Host Country.....	16
1.8 Reports.....	17
1.9 Questions a Resolution Must Answer.....	18
1.10 Further Links.....	18

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Hello Delegates!

The Fourth Committee of the General Assembly is poised to be a very special one for all members as it has two agendas to satisfy those with varying tastes in agenda content. The first agenda stimulates all nerves in policy makers' and the second one is a bonanza for those who prefer amending.

While the agendas and their targets are certainly different, there is a common belief which commits all members of the UNGA-4 together: the dedication to politicization of 'unity in diversity'. All those who have a knack for policy formation cannot resist the chance to be part of the largest global forum for the same. As such, we congratulate you on availing the opportunity provided by the conference.

Keep in mind a few important things to note about the bureau which will moderate you for the three days of committee sessions at Shishukunj MUN 2017. The director is extremely particular about procedure, even though there is none for most of the committee duration. The secretary is the highest silo of information. The rapporteurs are mostly helpful, and will aid you get through most of the committee sessions smoothly.

Hereby granting to you a small, organised compilation of important data and information regarding the agenda at hand, we welcome you to the UNGA-4 and the Shishukunj MUN and hope you have an enriching experience at the conference and in our committee, keeping the best of your frontal lobe nerves to serve global causes.

Wishing to meet you all soon this July! All the best preparing!

Cheers!

Committee Background

The Special Political and Decolonization Committee is the Fourth Committee of the General Assembly and is the newest standing committee of the GA. It deals with a variety of subjects including refugees, atomic energy, and public information.

Among other committees of the General Assembly, the Fourth Committee too is a recommendatory body. It represents the general will of the states at large. The resolutions of the Committee are not legally or strictly binding upon Member States. The Committee possesses the power to pass resolutions and make recommendations to other UN organs, especially the Security Council.

The Fourth Committee is the ideal arena to discuss any topic which poses an important position in the future but has no presently-based regulations or keeping of the law in accordance with its development. Of course, there might be concerns about the applicability of any resolution agreed upon by the body, as there is unlikely to be agreement among P5 members on the issue. However, this makes the Committee a more suitable place to universally discuss such issues.

One of the most important tools that the United Nations has given to the Fourth Committee to handle is the peacekeeping operation policy development. The committee debates the role which peacekeepers might play in the future, and whether to reform or change or keep the current mandate on peacekeeping missions.

Agenda 1: Legality of Drones in Armed Conflicts

1.1 Key Terms

With advancement in science and technology, enhancement in weaponry is inevitable. Aerial vehicles gave a new dimension to warfare. Drones are the next step.

Drones are unmanned aerial or underwater vehicles used by the military or intelligence agencies to perform dangerous tasks which are beyond the direct reach of humans. Drones can be categorised into various categories based on number of propellers, size, range, and the equipment attached to understand the use of the respective drone.

A propeller is an element of the drone that lifts it vertically upwards. It supplies power to the drone by converting the rotational motion into thrust. Subsequently, this creates a pressure difference and provides acceleration to the drone.

The classification of drones based on size is as follows:

- Nano drone
- Mini drones
- Regular size drones
- Large drones

Size of a drone depends upon the requirement of the task that the drone would be undertaking. Usually large drones such as predator drones are used by the military.

The range of a drone describes how high and how far a drone can travel. The ranges are different for different drone. The range of a drone can be grouped under:

- Very short-range drones
- Short-range drones
- Mid-range drones
- Endurance drones

A military drone usually has a maximum endurance of over 32 hours and can fly up to 22,780 km. It can cruise at an altitude of 60,000 ft.¹

GPS, camera, stabilizers, first person view glasses (FPVs), and various other equipment directly indicate the usage of its corresponding drone.

This agenda mainly focuses on the usage of drones, used in various countries, in war zones, and regions of armed conflict. Drones can be further tagged as

Manned drones:

A manned drone is remotely under the control of a pilot. It is not fully autonomous. They also known as military aircraft.

Unmanned drones:

Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs), also known as unmanned drones, are not under the control of a human pilot. They are either controlled by a human with the help of a remote control or intermittently autonomously by onboard computers.

The use of drones for counter terrorism, criminal prosecution, and surveillance has been increasing significantly over the years. Various other activities such as policing, surveillance over private properties, anti-smuggling missions, and aerial photography are undertaken by drones. The agenda mainly focuses on the use of armed drones in conflicted areas and war zones.

Various terminologies related to drones, which will be included in the latter part of the following document, are:

- UAS: short for Unmanned Aerial System
- UAV: short for Unmanned Aerial vehicles
- RPAs: Remotely piloted aircrafts
- Armed drones: Drones are used by military. They are operated with the help of satellite connections and remote control. Various tasks such as launching missiles, surveillance etc., are undertaken with the help of these drones.
- Collateral damage: Damage inflicted upon civilians, cultural sites or any other entity other than the target counts under the collateral damage.
- Smart Bombs: Either fired by missiles or dropped by planes, that would destroy the target, by exploding within a few feet of the specific target and thus minimizing collateral damage.
- Autonomous drones: Autonomous drone systems are self-directed towards a target and do not need any outside control to perform actions. They detect their targets themselves and get triggered.

¹ <http://www.airforce-technology.com/features/featurethe-top-10-longest-range-unmanned-aerial-vehicles-uavs/>

1.2 History of Drones

In early 1970, a nuclear physicist named John Foster came up with the idea of drones. Foster loaded his model with bombs which could be released by remote control. These smaller versions of aircrafts were named as “remotely piloted aircrafts”.

An experiment was conducted by the Defence Advanced Research Projects Agency, commissioned by Foster, to build two remotely-piloted aircrafts. The idea behind the invention of these aircrafts was that it could destroy targets behind enemy lines, damage air bases and disrupt supply depots and armoured vehicles during war. In the Gulf War (1991), the United States of America dropped 9 smart bombs which were guided to their target by laser beam. Many of these bombs hit the anticipated target. The Pentagon officials suggested a revolution in the military affairs (RMA). They demanded a technology which would be comprehensive of super accurate weapon and fast data transmission.

The smart bombs were different from Foster’s version of Remotely Piloted Aircrafts, as they were dropped from manned aircrafts. Both followed the same technology and thus the drones were also included in the Revolution in Military Affairs.

Around 2000, al Qaeda started looming as a serious threat. Central Intelligence Agency officials and the White House demanded that Predator drones be used to track down Osama bin Laden in Afghanistan. The mission commenced in October 2000. The first flight of remotely-piloted aircraft was considered a success, as it was able get the information of the location inhabited by al Qaeda members.

Post this mission, the need of loading these drones with bombs and weapons was felt, so that if any such occurrence took place in the future the target (al Qaeda leader and other members) could be killed. This idea was opposed by many as United States of America was not officially at war either with Afghanistan or with al Qaeda.

On October 7, 2001, the Predator was flying in the sky of Kandahar, tracking the vehicles carrying major al Qaeda-Afghanistan leaders. A first hellfire missile launched from the unmanned drone miss its target and blew a mini truck parked next to the building housing the headquarters of the extremists. The misfire is known to have led the leaders targeted to get away to safety. Very few agencies knew about the Predator in Afghan skies and those in the dark included all army personnel deployed to the extremist-ridden nation. This loss is largely attributed to lack of field testing of the drones, hastily sent to the CIA’s use by General Atomics.² The instance provides a commendable example to how lack of proper checking of drones and UAVs can lead to great disasters and losses.

1.3 Drone Period

The accomplishment of the Predator mission 38 days later, on November 14, in Kabul, led to the beginning of the era of armed drones, the weapon of the 21st-century warfare.

Several drone-strikes by the United States of America were witnessed from 2002 till 2005. Drone strikes in Yemen, Somalia, Pakistan, and Afghanistan assassinated

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<https://www.theatlantic.com/international/archive/>

[2015/05/america-first-drone-strike-afghanistan/394463/](https://www.theatlantic.com/international/archive/2015/05/america-first-drone-strike-afghanistan/394463/)

numerous al Qaeda and Taliban leaders.³ However, countless civilian deaths were caused due to various misinterpretations and because of target killings. Drone strikes raised debates and arguments about the legality and morality of the drones outside of war zones. Drone strikes were condemned and were stated as violation of a nation's sovereignty.

In 2008, Pervez Musharraf allowed the United States of America to use Predator drones to strike Al Qaeda leaders. When the new United States policy was formulated on August 18, 2008, permission was no longer needed before ordering an attack.

After this reformation, the rate of drone strikes increased rapidly. Various important and high-level terrorist leaders were killed in Pakistan and Afghanistan. In 2009 and 2010, newly-developed aerial vehicles for reconnaissance were used by the military air forces of United States of America and Afghanistan.

1.4 Credibility of Drones

The credibility of drones determines the situations and the cases where a specific drone will be brought into use. Higher credibility increases the percentage of reliability on drones in certain circumstances. When drones with low credibility are deployed in war-zones or in conflicted area, the chances for casualties intensify. Higher number of civilian deaths, damage to infrastructure, and misinterpretation of the target in areas affected by war are the impediments of using low credibility drones. In the past years, various drones have been reported to be misplaced as they moved out of their specified ranges and cannot be controlled by the remotes any further.

As drones become more lethal and their proliferation increases, specifying the task being performed by them, according to their credibility, has become vital. The deployment of drones should be in accordance with the intensity of war or conflict, in the targeted region.

1.5 Liability of Drones

The autonomous nature of drones poses yet another challenge in the use of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles. If a responsible entity, for the actions caused by the drones, is not identified, then unethical forms of violence will occur without hesitance.

There are no regulations in regards with the liability when an attack is undertaken by an autonomous drone.⁴ The debate continuous between which entity should be held responsible: the stimulator who has triggered the autonomous drone or the deployed state which has programmed the drone.

Legal justification and responsibility of any attack is vital to maintain the morality of the deploying nation and sovereignty of the nation taking the repercussions of deployment. Formulation of regulations and a decision-making body which will govern who must be held liable in case of any damage inflicted upon human life, heritage, or environment and surrounding, has become imperative.

Well-formulated laws which emphatically specify the entity to be held liable in various circumstances are essential to prevent any future injustice to either the target or the state which deployed the drone.

The United States drone strikes do not limit to Pakistan, Yemen, and Afghanistan. Countless drone strikes have

⁴ <https://www.hrw.org/report/2012/11/19/losing-humanity/case-against-killer-robots>

taken place in Somalia and Libya⁵ as well. Countries like the United Kingdom and China also possess armed drones. Nigeria, Somalia, Israel⁶, Palestine⁷, Iran, and South Africa have weaponized drones as well. Countries like Pakistan and Iraq have used drones for combat within their country borders. Over the years, several countries have joined the drone club, increasing the number of members to double digits.

Over the past years, drones have been used for “target killing” and counter-terrorism acts more than for combat. Numerous debates and arguments among countries and organizations have surfaced, questioning the morality of drones. Drones have proved to be more efficient than manned aircrafts and cruise missiles. They are more accurate, kill fewer people and therefore causing minimum collateral damage. Other than target killings, drones are used for surveillance. They are used to track down non-state actors, keep a check on country borders and government buildings, and to perform various combat missions.

1.6 Unmanned Drones Changing Warfare

Drones have changed modern warfare quite distinctively. They have paced up the process of reconnaissance, analysis, and bombing targets. Targets can be hit more efficiently with the help of air surveillance. The percentage of successful counter terrorism acts has increased as the target is unaware of the missile launch. Alternatively thinking, this technological advancement in the world of weapons and bombs has accelerated the process of war

and has minimized the deaths of innocents. The use of drones has also crossed the legal boundaries and has hindered the sovereignty of a nation in various circumstances.

1.7 Regulation of Manufacturing and Trade of Drones

With enhancement in the technology of armed and surveillance drones, a serious threat has started looming upon nations. Due to the lack of regulations on manufacturing of drones, it has become easy to obtain armed drones for a lot of entities. Non-state actors and various other agencies are deploying armed drones. The fact that countless drones are being used by different organizations has become a cause of concern amongst the nations. Regulations on manufacturing and trade of drones will aid in identifying the military power of a country. It will control the use of lethal armed drones.

The use of drones has increased the rate of civilian deaths in conflicted areas. They have hindered the privacy of civilians and have created a perpetual threat amongst the people. The use of drones by the non-state actors has created another concern with regards to the usage of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles, thus increasing the need for regulations and laws for drone usage.

1.8 The Use of Drones by Non-State Actors

The non-state actors have incorporated drones in their organizations. The militant groups use drones in combat and as defence against counter-terrorism attacks.

⁵ <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-libya-security-idUSKCN10C2NF>

⁶ <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-israel-palestinians-idUSKBN15L1F4>

⁷ <http://www.jpost.com/Arab-Israeli-Conflict/Rocket-lands-near-Gaza-border-no-injuries-482698>

- **ISIS**, the militant group headquartered in Syria and Iraq, has drone capabilities. The group does not retain military-grade unmanned drone; instead, it attaches munitions and explosives to drones to make them lethal.⁸
- **Houthi Rebels**, another rebel group in Yemen, displayed their drone capability on January 30, 2017, when an armed unmanned drone hit the Saudi warship in the Red Sea.⁹
- **Hezbollah**, a Lebanese militant group, possesses military drones and has deployed several drones since 2004. It has also conducted attacks in Syria.

The list of non-state actors using drones does not end here. Several other terrorist groups like Hamas (the Palestinian rebel group), Syrian rebel groups, etc. also use drones in combat.

1.9 Resolutions

A number of resolution related to drones have been formulated in the past. Yet many issues remain untouched. Regulations for the usage of drones have become crucial as the number of casualties and attacks caused by armed drones in various nations of the world increases. A drone attack by a country should maintain and respect the principles of international peace and security and international humanitarian law.

Under the rules of war, the set of laws governing the use of weapons in the

conflicted area, drones are not prohibited. The international humanitarian law considers the drones no different from weapons launched by manned aircrafts or other combat aerial vehicles.

Although the drones are not considered unlawful, their use in various circumstances falls under the international law. Most of the international laws related to drones focus on the effects caused by the drone attacks on civilians. The parties involved in the conflict should clearly distinguish between combatants and civilians and take all feasible precautions in order to protect civilians and infrastructure of a country.

The international law prohibits the use of drones to carry weapons that have been declared unlawful, such as biological or chemical weapons.

1. UNSC: Res/2286 (2016) Official UN site:

<https://www.un.org/press/en/2016/sc12347.doc.htm>

Resolution in the form of pdf:

http://www.securitycouncilreport.org/at/f/cf/%7B65BF9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/s_res_2286.pdf

2. UNSC Resolution 1540 (2004)

[http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=S/RES/1540%20\(2004\)](http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=S/RES/1540%20(2004))

3. Resolution 68/41

Measure to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction
http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES

4. Resolution 68/187

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<https://www.vox.com/world/2017/5/30/15686240/drones-isis-iraq-syria>

⁹ <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-yemen-security-saudi-idUSKBN15E2KE>

Implementation of international conventions and protocols related to *Counter-Terrorism*

http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/68/187

5. Resolution 68/276

Global *counter terrorism* strategy

http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/68/276

6. Resolution 68/178

Protect of human rights while counter terrorism

http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/68/178

7. Resolution 68/167

Right to privacy in digital age

<https://www.un.org/sc/ctc/blog/document/ares68178-protection-of-human-rights-and-fundamental-freedoms-while-countering-terrorism/>

1.10 Questions

Resolutions Must Answer

1. Should a global regulation on drones be formed in regard to war zones and to what extent
2. Who will be accountable for the actions caused by the drones?
 - a. The entity that has deployed the drone
 - b. The entity or the organisation that has stimulated the attack (causes of the attack)
3. What must be the extent of liability for the collateral damage caused by the drone?
 - a. Civilian deaths
 - b. Damage caused to heritage and environment

4. Who will be the decision maker in case of disputes regarding accountability and liability?

5. What should the consequences be if a country conducts a drone attack without any legal justification?

6. How can privacy invasion by surveillance drones be prevented?

7. Should a drone strike be allowed to be conducted outside the conflicted area?

8. What are the different sectors where drones should be allowed to be used in areas affected by war

9. Should a country be allowed to order drone attacks in another country without its permission?

1.11 Further Links

- <https://www.thebureauinvestigates.com/drone-war/data/get-the-data-a-list-of-us-air-and-drone-strikes-afghanistan-2017>
- <http://www.dw.com/en/pentagon-us-drone-strike-in-afghanistan-killed-a-senior-al-qaeda-militant/a-38123317>
- <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/oct/01/deadly-drone-strike-afghanistan-isis-civilians>
- <https://airwars.org/>
- <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-libya-security-idUSKCN10C2NF>
- <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-afghanistan-islamicstate-idUSKCN10N21L>

- <https://dspace.mah.se/handle/2043/17365>
- <https://dronewars.net/2016/05/31/review-wing-the-current-debate-on-drones/>
- <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-israel-palestinians-idUSKBN15L1F4>
- <http://www.jpost.com/Arab-Israeli-Conflict/Rocket-lands-near-Gaza-border-no-injuries-482698>
- <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-pakistan-drones-idUSKBN16914P>
- <https://www.thebureauinvestigates.com/drone-war/data/pakistan-covert-us-reported-actions-2017>
- <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-4367266/Armed-police-drones-legalized-Connecticut.html>
- <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/americas/north-dakota-becomes-first-us-state-to-legalise-use-of-armed-drones-by-police-10492397.html>
- <https://www.justsecurity.org/tag/presidential-policy-guidance/>
- <http://www.wired.co.uk/article/drone-swarms-change-warfare>
- <http://www.bbc.com/news/av/uk-25424063/are-drones-the-future-of-warfare>

Agenda 2: Reforms in UN Peace Keeping Operation

2.1 Key Words and Terms for Peacekeeping

Peacekeeping is a technique designed to preserve the peace, however fragile, where fighting has been halted, and to assist in implementing agreements achieved by the peacemakers.¹⁰

Peacekeeping by the UN is one of the most effective tools that is used today to assist nations navigate the difficult path from conflict to peace. Peacekeeping has been called the most efficient method to prevent states and people from being torn apart by violent and non-violent conflict situations.

The United States Peacekeeping Forces refers to a collection of a large number of trained personnel who have been given by United Nations Member States to this collection for the purposes of instilling peace and calm in places where peacekeepers are required to be deployed. The donor states are those states which have pledged troops or personnel or funding to United Nations Peacekeeping Operations and, on requirement, these troops are called forth to provide their services in field missions deployed around the globe for various purposes of peacekeeping.

The point of note here is that the UN ensures that peacekeepers do not wage war, but by patrolling, securing and reducing conflict, 'build' and 'keep' peace in regions of the world.

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http://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/documents/capstone_eng.pdf

Since 1948, UN Peacekeepers have played various roles in missions all across the globe, carrying out tasks mandated by the Security Council. The forces work with specialized training, keeping in mind global peace and the principles of the UN. While the objectives of such missions and activities are quite easily understood, the actual functioning of these deployed missions is quite complex, involving various steps.

The first step is to guideline the basic mandate of a peacekeeping mission. The scope of intervention, limits to usage of force and weaponry, and the various secondary activities to be undertaken are all a part of the mandate of a mission. This is usually set up on decision of deployment, but it is often changed with the course of time as a conflict progresses. The next step is positioning and training. Personnel are selected individually or as part of a contingent and trained. Training involves various phases and objectives in the following order:

1. Initial phase to introduce to the scenario
2. Training in accordance with primary objective of mission.
3. Training in accordance with secondary objectives.
4. Training in accordance with scope and mandate.
5. Training in accordance with the equipment to be used and other technical training for specific requirements.

Post training, the deployment process begins. The personnel are moved to the first base, after which the main peacekeeping begins. The personnel carry out tasks mandated and improvise on their work in accordance with changes in mandate. These tasks may involve

prevention of conflict in delicately-balanced political scenarios, passive peace construction, human rights protection, civilian capacity development, border management, and law enforcement and policing, all of which are very extensively detailed on in UN documentations.¹¹

Another important aspect is provision of proper resources, which is carried out by various agencies (domestic, regional, and global) and overviewed by the UN Department of Field Support and UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations. These resources include proper food, health and shelter resources, along with proper arms, ammunition and technology.

2.2 Topic History and Background and Sub-Topics of Note

Since the inception of the United Nations Organisation, in 1945, and the United Nations Peacekeeping Forces, in 1948, peacekeeping forces have been the recurring choice among methods to establish and maintain peace and security in nations all over the globe. Various tasks have been undertaken and executed to a considerable extent.

While all these missions around the globe have had intentions of global betterment, most could not succeed in achieving their goal to the fullest, in some cases even creating situations of greater conflict.¹²

In 1994, the blood curdling Rwandan Genocide became the first major failing of the UN. While the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda (UNAMIR) was placed in Rwanda in 1993, with clear orders to keep peace in the state intact, it still had to watch as

¹¹ www.un.org/en

¹² S/2015/682: Article 5

Hutu extremists massacred Tutsis in the state. In fact, it is of great concern that the 1999 Independent Inquiry found overwhelming evidence with the UN that the 1994 genocide was a planned and concerted effort by the Hutu group.¹³

In just the next year- 1995- in the European state of Bosnia, at Srebrenica, a city declared by the UN as one of the safest cities, and where the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (UNMIBH), Serb forces swept in with military power and massacred nearly 8,000 Muslim residents. 800 Dutch soldiers were obliged to stand by and watch as the genocide took place. An appeal document stated that "as no overall peace settlement has been reached in Bosnia and Herzegovina, nor in the United Nations Protected Areas of Croatia (UNPAs), a repatriation operation cannot yet be implemented". It added that the continuing unrest and ethnic conflict in and around the Bihac pocket in the north-western Bosnia and Herzegovina had resulted in further outflows of refugees and that the unsettled situation in eastern Bosnia might give rise to some contingency planning in 1995 in the event of an exodus from that region.¹⁴

The first concerted effort by the United Nations to keep humanitarian aspects of peace on the forefront, in Somalia, in 1992, met with an unfortunate fate. The UN administration became handicapped, when an unexpected outburst from militants in an ungoverned Mogadishu led to shooting on peacekeeping forces. Humanitarian resources and supplies were looted, food stashed ships were prevented

from docking and constant shelling of shelter was commonplace.¹⁵

This has raised major questions on the credibility of peacekeeping operations. It is therefore imperative that reforms in United Nations Peacekeeping take place on the policy level to ensure prevention of such issues from the base level.

2.3 Mandate

Mandate has been the greatest driving force in the case of peacekeepers, giving them abilities to create a sense of civilian security without actually waging wars. However, it has also been the greatest hindrance in expansion of the UNPKOs and is emerging as a problem in itself.

The mandate of peacekeeping in present documentations is quite vague and indefinite. While peacekeeping has been called the primary objective, scope is not always clearly mentioned in regard to the actions and use of force. It is more often than not a burden on the Security Council to formulate detailed mandates for deployed troops, even in cases of emergencies. The mandate is therefore very hastily prepared and often has operational and situational loopholes which may be seen in the form of presence of opposing mandates or mandate to perform unethical actions.

The average objective of deployed troops has seen turns through history. Most missions predating the Cold War were set up to ensure flawless transition into independent nations. These usually did not involve many cases of armed conflict. However, as the globe transitioned into the post-Cold War time, the cases of

¹³

<http://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/missions/past/unamis.htm>

¹⁴

http://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/missions/past/unprof_b.htm

¹⁵

<http://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/missions/past/unosom1backgr2.html>

involvement of peacekeepers in armed conflict have increased several folds. Many of the missions were sent in areas of armed unrest, political capsize, and border issues. Moreover, the secondary scope of peacekeepers has come forward to involve several mainstream subjects and issues.

The current guidelines for peacekeeping

- B. Facilitate the political process by promoting dialogue and reconciliation and supporting the establishment of legitimate and effective institutions of governance;
- C. Provide a framework for ensuring that all United Nations and other international actors pursue their activities at the country-level in a coherent and coordinated manner.

Sub-Topic of Note: Border Control

An important aspect which has emerged as a potential addition in the mandate for peacekeepers on being deployed on missions is border control.

More often than not, conflicts arise due to territorial discrepancies. A system brought in place to reduce such cases will nullify such potential locations in a preliminary timing. Border management has been only a secondary objective of missions where it was carried out by peacekeepers.

Sub-Topic of Note: Policing and Law Enforcement

Policing has become a major setback in peace and security all around the globe. All countries, economically developed and undeveloped, politically stable and unstable, have various issues regarding law enforcement.

The UNPKF for Law Enforcement and Policing has taken up the task to ensure law abidance in missioned countries. However, for mainstream peacekeeping, which bases itself on the principle of civilian capacity development, primary objectives of policing and law enforcement must be carried out in cases of acute crisis.

provide a brief idea into the basic mandate of peacekeepers serving in a deployed mission. These are:

- A. Create a secure and stable environment while strengthening the State's ability to provide security, with full respect for the rule of law and human rights;

While it does ensure a wholesome approach, these guidelines miss out on a very important characteristic of detailed explanation: precision. Many times, the very vaguely-worded mandate guidelines are misinterpreted or misused to increase power of or reduce onuses from the shoulders of the peacekeepers.

Many objectives of the core peacekeeping mandate are taken up as secondary objectives while a mission is deployed. Because of this, many of these are sidelined to give importance to improvisation, something discouraged by the Independent High-Panel in its report on UN Peacekeeping.¹⁶

2.4 Resources

Various issues have arisen due to unconventional resource allocation and inefficient skill development policies involved in the process of peacekeeping. Many peacekeepers have, during missions, experienced apparent lack of resources, such as ammunition and proper shelter.

It is not the General Assembly which looks after the on-field needs related to deployment of peacekeepers; the UNDPKO and UNDFS are the departments responsible for the task. However, the need is imminent for a policy change in the scenario to facilitate betterment with greater efficiency.

Training of peacekeepers is also extremely selective. In some situations, training and skill development is very extensive, and the peacekeepers are competent at their job. However, there are also cases where training is inadequate in relation to the work required during the mission.

Often, special skills required in various geographies, economies, and political scenarios are absent from the training matter. This creates a deep trench between competency and objective, making it very difficult for peacekeepers to keep insecurity and dispute at bay.

While better and greater facilities and resources are being provided to peacekeepers by the UN, Member States and other entities are also serving their purpose by helping to fill the deep trench. Another important lacking in the UNPKF is related to the ever-developing technology and weaponry. While the forces and peacekeepers are provided with new weaponry, mainstream technological implements are still not utilized in full scale to meet the requirements to compete with better equipped combatants.

Provision of major technological implements is not enough. Provision of proper training is also imperative to do this. Unlike skill development, not much has been done on a large scale to facilitate the transition of peacekeepers into soldiers of the modern periods.

2.5 Conduct of Troops

One of the most well-known issues with the peacekeepers is the increasing cases of peacekeepers violating codes of conduct and basic principles of the UN in many missions. Present guidelines, MoUs, codes, notices, and orders in terms of conduct are all present and prepared to the required stringency. However, violation still continues.

Peacekeepers deployed in many missions have been allegedly doing unlawful activities and indulging in certain processes which are derogatory to peace building in any state. Such activities have created an effect of mistrust on the peacekeeping forces. Activities as such create a shameful image of peacekeeping and so have a degenerative effect on the peacekeeping, UN and the globe at large. One of the most shameful actions becoming quite prevalent is sexual

¹⁶ S/2015/682: Article 30

exploitation and abuse of civilians by blue helmet personnel. In 2015 alone, 69 such cases were recorded, and only 29 (a little above $\frac{1}{3}$) have been investigated upon.¹⁷ These numbers are sources of shame for the personnel as well as the blue helmets, and the fact that these are deployed to develop peace in a war-like zone further aggravates the fact.

While implementation and strictness in terms of conduct are best carried out at the base level and by the departments competent at it, the current scenario proves the need of macro policy change, which will bring into effect better implementation and strictness automatically.

2.6 Participation

The UN initiative of peacekeeping is one of the very few ways in which countries can actually pledge their own citizens to tasks of global development. It promotes selfless donation of troops and resources in favour of better and peaceful countries all over the globe.

However, even as participation has seen a great increase over the years since 2005 to 2016¹⁸, many issues still plague participation, and it is the job of this committee to ensure the cleaning-off of these issues by updating policy.

One issue with peacekeeping is the gender-based disparity. There is a very heavy lack of female participation in peacekeeping activities. As of March 2017, the female to male ratio swayed between 20% and 2.3%. Women, although present in well-numbered

quantities in national regiments, are a very small part of the total peacekeeping force. This makes peacekeeping, an integral UN component, not in compatibility with one of the most important Sustainable Development Goals regarding gender equality.

2.7 Effects on Host-Country

We have already discussed the effect peacekeepers can have when they violate codes of conduct, but some effects are beyond a peacekeeper's scope. Any mission in any country can have its own effect in its host country. Such effects may even be derogatory to the basic idea of peace construction.

The deployment of thousands of police and military personnel requires a large amount of logistical support. Often the countries in which peacekeeping personnel operate have very little infrastructure. All these UN officials produce liquid and solid waste which, if not treated and disposed properly, can have an impact on local environment.

The Haiti Cholera Outbreak of 2010 is also linked in many forms to a UNPKF base situated at the bank of the tributary of the river, which is responsible for bringing the infection to Haiti. The then-Secretary-General Ban Ki Moon apologized to Haiti for the happenings in the state.¹⁹ Incidentally, even the second contingent to MINUSTAH, from India, was seen to have not been properly vaccinated for cholera.²⁰

¹⁷ <https://conduct.unmissions.org/sea-data-introduction>

¹⁸ <http://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/documents/Yearly.pdf>

¹⁹

https://www.nytimes.com/2016/12/01/world/americas/united-nations-apology-haiti-cholera.html?_r=0
²⁰ <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/indian-troops-enter-haiti-without-cholera-vaccination-face-un-probe/articleshow/56410802.cms>

Another important effect often seen in most countries, and one which makes up the base of why many countries do not accept UNPKOs in their territory, is the creation of a war-like scenario in the host state. The deployment of peacekeepers in a certain state often leads to people believing they are in a war as there is rapid movement of armed personnel who are not of their own country. Sometimes, business lowers in the nation, and other times, human resource starts to move out. The delicate political scenario and presence of armed personnel stimulates such effects. Policy change alone can help remove such effects.

Peacekeeping missions in various countries have seen ill effects in matters of civilian capacity building. Disputes between domestic forces and aiding PKF leads to loss on political levels as well as efficiency. It may also seed resentment among people towards peacekeepers, something which prevents the proper functioning of any mission.

Hostility among citizens, caused by whatsoever reason, has the potential of ending in protests and agitations against the peacekeepers. Trust would be scarce, and efficiency and efficacy of actions would drop. The mission might fail in its objectives and even aggravate the issue for which the mission was set up in the first place.

Such incidences might take place in the form of violation of laws of the domestic country, disrespect to social beliefs, actions considered culturally incorrect, political differences of opinion between UN and host state, and even inability to achieve the goal of the mission. It is the job of the committee to make sure that missions get completed and with a positive print on the host country.

2.8 Reports

1. [http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/64/19\(SUPP\)](http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/64/19(SUPP))
2. http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/65/19
3. http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/66/19
4. http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/67/19
5. http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/68/19
6. http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/68/696
7. http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/69/642
8. http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/69/651
9. http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=S/2015/682
10. http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=S/2015/229
11. http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/55/305

2.9 Questions a Resolution Must Answer

1. How much should the deciding of a peacekeeping mandate be dependent on the scenario and situation, and where should decisions on the mandate come from?
2. Must we increase or decrease the general mandate of United Nations peacekeepers? What must be added/deleted? Of what kind would the added mandate be?
3. What must be new policy for better skill development and training among peacekeepers?
4. What policy steps can ensure availability of all resources lacking in the present, such as technologically-advanced equipment?
5. What policy steps can ensure that codes of conducts are followed and developed?
6. Do we need to make changes in the punishment-dispensing body for peacekeepers that violate UN principles?
7. How can we increase equitable participation in peacekeeping activities?
8. How can we increase donation of troops from the various countries?
9. How do we reduce environmental and related effects on the host state?
10. How can we reduce the ill effects of any host country from the

peacekeepers, such as hostility and mistrust?

11. Do we need reforms in the UNDPKO and the UNDFS?
12. What post-mission facilities can be provided to any UN Peacekeeper?
13. What other macro reforms need to be brought about in the UN peacekeeping?

2.10 Further Links for Research

1. <http://www.cfr.org/world/un-peacekeeping-reform-seeking-greater-accountability-integrity/p8113>
2. <http://www.voanews.com/a/sipri-study-suggests-reforms-to-un-peacekeeping-operations/2656936.html>
3. <http://america.aljazeera.com/articles/2015/6/16/un-panel-recommends-major-changes-to-peacekeeping-operations.html>
4. <http://blogs.cfr.org/cyber/2015/07/02/can-un-peacekeeping-enter-the-digital-age/>
5. https://www.nytimes.com/2014/07/13/sunday-review/what-is-the-role-of-un-peacekeepers.html?_r=0
6. <http://www.securitycouncilreport.org/special-research-report/the-security-council-and-peace-operations-reform-and-deliver.php>

7. <https://www.cgdev.org/publication/using-financial-incentives-increase-number-women-un-peacekeeping>
8. <http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=50155#.WRphOWh97IV>
9. <https://ourworld.unu.edu/en/argument-for-more-focused-un-peacekeeping-mandates>