

**ESSENCE AND CONTEMPORARY PROBLEMS OF PEACEKEEPING**

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**ABSTRACT**

The work examines the main motives for the participation of the armed forces of any state in peacekeeping operations, peacekeeping activities, which is one of the most important areas of state policy to ensure its national security in the foreign policy sphere.

**Keywords:** United Nations, conflicts, peacekeeping of the armed forces, Security Council, leading countries, international relations.

**АННОТАЦИЯ**

В работе рассмотрены Главные мотивы участия вооруженных сил любого государства в миротворческих операциях, миротворческая деятельность, которая является одним из важнейших направлений государственной политики по обеспечению своей национальной безопасности во внешнеполитической сфере.

**Ключевые слова:** Организация Объединённых Наций, конфликты, миротворчество, вооруженные сил, Совете Безопасности, ведущие страны, международные отношения.

In the history of mankind, there have been many cases when wars have been stopped or prevented by the intervention of a third force. For example, several international organizations were the forerunners of the United Nations that exists today.

An important step in solving the problem of peace was the formation of the League of Nations in 1919 on the initiative of US President Woodrow Wilson. It has resolved, to varying degrees, more than 40 political conflicts, but it has not been able to prevent World War II.

On January 1, 1942, the Declaration of the United Nations was signed, in which the very name "United Nations" was used for the first time.

In 1945, the United Nations was formed. The UN Charter was approved by representatives of 50 states at a conference held in April and June 1945 in San Francisco.

The date of entry into force of the Charter (October 24, 1945) is celebrated as United Nations Day.

The UN Security Council is one of the permanent organs of the United Nations, which, in accordance with Article 24 of the UN Charter, is entrusted with the primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security.

In January 1992, the UN Security Council, at the request of the Heads of State and Government, prepared an analysis and recommendations on further ways to strengthen and enhance the capacity of the United Nations. In July of the same year, under the leadership of UN Secretary-General Boutros Ghali, the report "An Agenda for Peace" was prepared, which was the first attempt to comprehend the role and purpose of UN-flagged peacekeeping operations in the new political landscape.

As a result, four areas of action were proposed for conflict resolution: preventive diplomacy, peacemaking, peacekeeping and peacebuilding.

Preventive diplomacy is an activity aimed at preventing disputes between parties, preventing existing disputes from escalating into conflicts, and limiting the scope of conflicts after they have erupted (fact-finding missions, demilitarized zones, preventive deployment, etc.).

These activities are carried out by mutual consent of the warring parties and, possibly, at their request, at the moment when they, on their own or under the influence of international organizations or individual States, decide to cease hostilities. As a rule, they begin at the moment when the warring parties agree to a ceasefire, and end at the moment when the armistice agreement is signed.

**PEACEKEEPING** : actions aimed at persuading warring parties to come to an agreement by means provided for in Chapter VI-VII of the UN Charter.

It is carried out in the form of the use of *non-military measures* (mediation, arbitration, negotiations, development and implementation of compromise solutions, judicial proceedings, etc.), as well as military measures (operations of air, sea and land forces of UN member states). Peacekeeping (peacekeeping operation, PKO) is the provision of a UN presence in a specific area, which usually involves the deployment of UN military and/or police personnel, and, often, civilian personnel. PKOs require the voluntary consent and cooperation of all stakeholders.

It is carried out in the form of a UN observer mission to monitor the observance of the truce, the cessation of hostilities, as well as the dispatch by the UN of contingents of armed forces from various countries to the conflict zone (the so-called "blue helmets").

Peace-building (post-conflict activities) - actions to identify and support structures that will contribute to the consolidation of peace in order to prevent the recurrence of conflict.

These include: rebuilding the political and social structures and institutions capable of preventing the recurrence of conflict; restoring confidence in each other in the past of the warring parties; providing minimum guarantees for the survival of the population; addressing the problem of refugees and other categories of the population affected by the conflict; ensuring economic recovery; effective action by civilian authorities in the areas of law and order, health and education (UN operations in Liberia in September 1993; in Angola in 1997; in Haiti in August 1997).

Meanwhile, practice has shown that in modern conditions, in order to end a conflict, the following is also used:

Peace enforcement is an action taken to end an interstate or intrastate armed conflict by countries or a group of countries not involved in it. Peace enforcement does not imply the consent of all warring parties to intervene.

It is carried out without the use of armed forces (the termination of diplomatic, military, economic, and other relations, the interruption of transport, postal, telegraph, radio, and other channels of communication) and with the use of armed forces that are used for their intended purpose—the destruction of military facilities, the personnel of illegal armed groups, and so on. The totality of these measures can be directed against all belligerents, as well as against those that do not agree to comply with the demands for a cease-fire (examples are the UN operations in Korea during the 1950-1953 war, Operation Desert Storm against Iraq in 1991, the NATO bombing of Yugoslavia in 1995, and Russia's intervention in the conflict in South Ossetia in 2008).

Humanitarian aid is carried out in the form of separate actions, independent of other efforts to end the conflict and establish peace. Objective: To ensure the survival of civilians affected by hostilities. The armed forces involved are called upon to ensure the safety of personnel carrying out humanitarian actions, the safety of equipment, stocks of food, medicines, and other material values

International police operations (actions) are activities aimed at suppressing crime of an international nature, eliminating terrorist organizations, freeing hostages, etc. (the actions of the American armed forces in the fight against drug trafficking in Latin America, Israeli operations to destroy terrorist bases in Lebanon, American air strikes on Gaddafi's headquarters, the actions of Moroccan troops against the Polisario rebels in Western Sahara, the kidnapping by American troops of Panamanian President Noriega, who was involved in drug operations). As a rule, they are carried out not by the decision of certain international organizations, although this is not excluded, but by the decision of the national state leadership. In some cases, the country carrying out such operations conducts them without the consent of the State in whose territory they are carried out.

In the most general case, peacemaking is a position aimed at establishing the most conflict-free relations in society.

That is, in the sphere of foreign policy, peacekeeping is the peace initiatives of specific states or the UN: to reduce the military presence in certain regions of the world, to partially and completely disarm, as well as to peacefully resolve international conflicts.

Since the UN does not have its own armed forces, in order to implement the goals and objectives of peacekeeping, UN peacekeeping forces are created - armed contingents of UN member states, allocated for the purpose of preventing or eliminating threats to peace and security through joint coercive actions (military demonstration, military blockade etc.) if economic and political measures have proved inadequate. The decision on their creation, composition, use and financing is made by the UN Security Council. Strategic direction is exercised by the Military Staff Committee.

It was established under Article 47 of the UN Charter to the UN Security Council as a subsidiary organ which assists the Security Council in all matters relating to its military requirements for the maintenance of international peace and security, the use and command of troops placed at its disposal, as well as the regulation of armaments and possible disarmament. It should be noted that, in recent decades, the number and scope of peacekeeping operations have increased dramatically, and the number of personnel involved has increased substantially. For example, since the mid-1990s, 65,000 people have been involved in UN peacekeeping operations. Today, about 100,000 military and civilian specialists are serving in different parts of the world. In the coming years, according to experts, their number will reach 150 thousand people.

It is customary to distinguish between international (when a conflict affects the interests of the world community and the UN and its institutions are involved in its settlement with the active involvement of regional organizations) and regional (when a conflict arises in a region, its settlement is carried out by regional organizations independently or under the control and participation of the UN) levels of peacekeeping.

Accordingly, two models of international intervention in conflicts have emerged:

1. Peacekeeping operations on the basis of decisions of the UN Security Council.
2. Interference in conflicts by regional organizations (NATO, African Union), coalitions of countries, individual states (for example, Russia's intervention in the conflicts in Transnistria and South Ossetia).

Thus, the essence of peacekeeping lies in the activity of the UN member states that solves existing problems and adequately responds to new political realities by military and other means in order to contribute to the maintenance of international peace and security.

Unfortunately, the modern peacekeeping process has a number of problems:

**First**, after the end of the Cold War, there were high hopes for the UN. Later, however, it became clear that its capacity was limited: lack of funds, organizational complexities, and problems that needed to be solved in real time forced the idea that the UN could play a role that combined the functions of a global rescuer and a global policeman;

**secondly, one of the** important consequences of the changed nature of the conflicts in which UN peacekeepers are involved is that they maintain peace in the form of multiple combinations between non-state actors, the opposition, political movements and governments, which is extremely difficult;

**Thirdly**, since the 1990s of the 20th century, the number of armed conflicts has been increasing, which leads to the objective need to create regular units and formations of the UN. This requires the coordinated efforts of all its Member States, but this is unfortunately not the case;

**Fourthly**, the UN Secretariat has to constantly analyse possible ways to improve procurement for field operations, which reached about \$2.9 billion in 2016 alone. However, the challenge of improving procurement efficiency is compounded by the lack of developed markets in many UN field presences and inadequate infrastructure;

**fifth**, the world's leading countries, under the guise of UN operations, are pursuing their own interests, which small states see as a threat to their sovereignty;

**Sixth, the parties to** conflicts, having initially expressed their consent to international or regional intervention, often begin to "put spokes in the wheels" of the launched peacekeeping operation, which contributes to the beginning of a new round of bloody civil war. This happened in Cambodia, Angola, Somalia, Sierra Leone and Rwanda. Therefore, at the end of the 1990s of the 20th century, approaches to such fundamental principles of traditional peacekeeping as the consent of conflicting parties were revised the neutrality and impartiality of the personnel of the peacekeeping forces and their use of weapons only in self-defence;

**Seventh**, the concentration of command and control of an ongoing peacekeeping operation in the hands of one state inevitably makes it subject to the political preferences and aspirations of this state. Such an example is the leadership of Operation Desert Storm in the Persian Gulf (1990-1991) not by the UN, but by one of the states (in this case, the United States) with all the ensuing consequences;

**Eighthly**, the "forgetfulness" of international and regional security organizations to the existence of peaceful means and methods that should always be preferred. After all, it is only after all political and diplomatic options have been unsuccessfully exhausted that military methods of conflict resolution should be adopted.

In this regard, the following example is illustrative. In October 1991, a number of politicians proposed that the international community spend \$5 billion. to soften the positions of all parties to the Yugoslav conflict. However, this idea was strongly rejected. In the end, according to official figures, the U.S. alone spent \$22 billion. and the resolution of a series of subsequent crises in the Balkans. And the total cost of international intervention on the territory of the former Yugoslavia (assistance to refugees and displaced persons, humanitarian assistance to the local population, UN peacekeeping operation, NATO military operation in 1995, post-conflict peace-building, assistance from non-governmental organizations, etc.) amounted to 71-80 billion dollars. United States. Moreover, all this did not make it possible to avoid the disastrous consequences of bloody cataclysms - many thousands of human victims, the destruction of material and cultural values, irreparable damage to nature and ecology.

### FINDINGS

1. The first peacekeeping operations were conceived as a means by which the UN could manage conflicts, but the lack of political will of the leading countries represented in the Security Council limited the scope of this method only to those regions that were outside the zone of confrontation of the superpowers.
2. At present, only the UN should have absolute international legal legitimacy in the modern system of international relations, as the leading peacekeeper.
3. In the event of a conflict, the United Nations is obliged to undertake peacemaking efforts aimed at resolving the problems that caused the conflict. When hostilities have stopped, the UN must keep the peace by facilitating the implementation of agreements that have been reached between the parties to the conflict.
4. A characteristic feature of peacekeeping in modern conditions is the active participation of regional international organizations as subjects of international law.
5. A lot of problems have accumulated during the implementation of UN peacekeeping operations, since military peacekeeping contingents are capable, at best, only of restoring peace in the conflict zone, and civilian and police personnel of peacekeeping missions are limited to maintaining order and providing humanitarian assistance.

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