



SECURITY COUNCIL



FOREIGN
INTERVENTION
IN INTERNAL
CONFLICTS

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WEB SITES :

PINCIPLE OF NON-INTERVENTION THE PRINCIPLE OF NON-INTERVENTION IN CONTEMPORARY INTERNATIONAL LAW | Association of Accredited Public Policy Advocates to the European Union. (s. f.). <https://www.aalep.eu/principle-non-intervention-contemporary-international-law>

United Nations. (s. f.). About the Responsibility to Protect | United Nations. <https://www.un.org/en/genocide-prevention/responsibility-protect/about>

RDeclaration on the Inadmissibility of Intervention in the Domestic Affairs of States and the Protection of Their Independence and Sovereignty General Assembly resolution 2131 (XX). (s. f.). https://legal.un.org/avl/ha/ga_2131-xx/ga_2131-xx.html

GLOSSARY :

1. **Intervention:** The action of becoming intentionally involved in a difficult situation, in order to improve it or prevent it from getting worse
2. **Conflict:** Fighting between two or more groups of people or countries.
3. **Sovereignty:** The power of a country to control its own government.
4. **International:** Involving more than one country.
5. **Peacekeeping:** Using neutral military or police forces to stop fighting and keep rival groups apart in a conflict zone.
6. **Armed Conflict:** A sustained, organized use of lethal force and combat between sovereign states or organized armed groups.
7. **Civilian Protection:** Measures taken to protect people who are not participating in a conflict.
8. **Political instability:** A situation in which a country's government or political system is unstable.
9. **Diplomacy:** The managements of relationships between countries.
10. **Military Intervention:** The use of armed forces by a foreign country in another state's conflict.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF SECURITY COUNCIL ?

The United Nations Charter established six main organs of the United Nations, including the Security Council. It gives primary responsibility for maintaining international peace and security to the Security Council, which may meet whenever peace is threatened.

According to the Charter, the United Nations has four purposes:

- to maintain international peace and security;
- to develop friendly relations among nations;
- to cooperate in solving international problems and in promoting respect for human rights;
- and to be a centre for harmonizing the actions of nations.

All members of the United Nations agree to accept and carry out the decisions of the Security Council. While other organs of the United Nations make recommendations to member states, only the Security Council has the power to make decisions that member states are then obligated to implement under the Charter. (United Nations, S.f.)



The extent to which one country can intervene in another's internal conflicts has been a major topic of debate, as questions arise regarding both the moral implications of such actions and the economic and peace-related risks that this type of interference could trigger.

Foreign intervention in internal conflicts occurs when a foreign country, international organization, or external actor becomes involved in a conflict taking place within another country. Internal conflicts can emerge because of political disagreements, ethnic or religious tensions, economic inequality, struggles for power, or opposition to a government. Although these conflicts begin within a country, they can eventually attract international attention and involvement (PolSci Institute, 2026).

Foreign intervention can take many different forms. Some countries provide weapons, military equipment, financial support, intelligence, or training to one of the groups involved in a conflict. Other interventions involve sending military forces directly into the country. International organizations can also intervene through peacekeeping missions, humanitarian assistance, diplomatic negotiations, or economic sanctions (Rizkallah, 2024).

Foreign intervention can have both positive and negative consequences. In some cases, international involvement can help protect civilians, provide humanitarian aid, stop violence, or encourage negotiations between opposing groups. However, intervention can also make a conflict more complicated by increasing the resources available to the parties involved, creating new rivalries, prolonging violence, or increasing tensions between countries (Ianchovichina & Abu Bader, 2018).



PROBLEMS

The issues discussed in this comitee are supported by a variety of academic sources and international organizations. The International Crisis Group (2023) examines foreign military interventions in internal conflicts, highlighting how external actors often prolong violence, fragment opposition groups, and undermine prospects for sustainable peace by prioritizing strategic interests over local solutions. Similarly, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (2024) extensively documents how foreign interventions frequently result in civilian casualties, displacement, and violations of international humanitarian law, noting that external support to warring parties rarely leads to accountability for abuses. The Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) further warns that the involvement of foreign powers in internal armed conflicts, without robust multilateral oversight, intensifies proxy dynamics, increases the flow of arms, and erodes state sovereignty.

Finally, multilateral bodies such as the United Nations Security Council and the African Union emphasize the importance of respecting the principles of non-intervention and state sovereignty under the UN Charter, while also stressing the Responsibility to Protect when mass atrocities occur. Nevertheless, selective enforcement, geopolitical rivalries among permanent members, and limited capacity to constrain external actors remain significant obstacles. These challenges underscore one of the core difficulties faced by the international community in preventing foreign interventions from escalating internal conflicts and in ensuring accountability for the resulting human suffering.

POINTS TO DISCUSS

1.- Defining the Limits of Foreign Intervention in Sovereign States.

What should be the limits of foreign intervention in the internal affairs of sovereign states, and under what circumstances can such intervention be justified?

2.- Political Interests Behind Foreign Interference.

What political, economic, or social interests may motivate states to interfere in the internal affairs of other countries, and how can these interests affect international stability?

3.- Impact of Unsolicited Intervention in Crisis-Affected States.

How can unsolicited foreign intervention affect the stability, sovereignty, and ability of crisis-affected states to resolve their own internal conflicts?

4.- Civilian Protection Mechanisms.

What mechanisms should be implemented to protect civilians and ensure that their human rights and dignity are respected during internal crises and conflicts?

5.- Criteria for Authorizing Foreign Intervention.

What criteria should the international community consider when deciding whether foreign intervention is necessary to address threats to international peace and security or humanitarian crises?

6.- Diplomatic Intervention and Conflict-Prevention.

How can diplomatic intervention and international cooperation help prevent internal conflicts from escalating into greater violence or becoming threats to international peace and security?

POINTS TO DISCUSS

7. Accountability of Foreign Actors.

How can foreign states and international organizations be held accountable for their actions in internal conflicts, and what mechanisms can ensure responsible conduct?

8. Post-Conflict Peacebuilding.

What measures should be taken after an armed conflict to restore stability, prevent renewed violence, and establish conditions for lasting peace?



ORGANISATIONS

- **United Nations** is the primary international authority that intervenes through the Security Council by authorizing peacekeeping missions, political sanctions or the legitimate use of force.
- **United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees** is responsible for the protection and humanitarian assistance of internally displaced persons and refugees fleeing domestic hostilities.
- **Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs** coordinate emergency responses across government agencies during complex crises triggered by internal conflicts.
- **International Monetary Fund** Implements economic stabilizations programs and financial assistance tied to institutional reforms in countries suffering from internal instability or civil unrest.



UNITED NATIONS



UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency



OCHA



MEASURES TAKEN

The international community has adopted several measures to address foreign interventions in internal conflicts. One of the main approaches is diplomatic mediation, which encourages conflicting parties to negotiate and find peaceful solutions. The United Nations Security Council can investigate conflicts, recommend peaceful settlements, appoint special envoys, and support mediation efforts (Arnet, 2026).

However, peacekeeping alone cannot solve the underlying causes of internal conflicts. Therefore, peacekeeping should be complemented by peacebuilding strategies. First, all parties involved in a conflict should participate in negotiations and be represented in the peace process. Peace agreements should also include power-sharing arrangements and mechanisms for renegotiation and third-party mediation. Second, international actors should monitor the implementation of these agreements, encourage compliance, and help maintain trust between the parties.

Third, post-conflict countries need institutional and economic reconstruction. International actors can support governments, civil society, and local organizations in strengthening institutions, rebuilding infrastructure, improving healthcare and education, restoring economic activity, and creating employment opportunities. Finally, confidence-building measures can help reduce hostility between opposing communities. These include second-track diplomacy, communication between groups, problem-solving workshops, and peace education (Yilmaz, 2010).

In addition, international law emphasizes state sovereignty and peaceful settlement of disputes. The UN Charter requires states to respect the territorial integrity and political independence of other states and encourages negotiation, mediation, conciliation, arbitration, and other peaceful methods before considering stronger measures (United Nations, 1945).

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IMPORTANCE

Foreign intervention profoundly shapes internal conflicts by altering their duration, humanitarian outcomes, and geopolitical consequences. When external powers or multilateral organizations step into a domestic crisis, their involvement immediately shifts the military balance of power. While strategic intervention can sometimes tip the scales to force a decisive victory, it more frequently results in costly stalemates. This happens because competing external actors often back opposing sides with weapons and funding, effectively transforming a localized civil conflict into a devastating regional or global proxy conflict.

OBJECTIVE

Our objective is to maintain international peace and security , preventing a crisis from escalating into global threats. Objective of the United Nations Security Council. As one of the principal organs of the United Nations, the Security Council is responsible for addressing situations that may endanger international peace, including armed conflicts, acts of aggression, terrorism, humanitarian crises, and threats to the sovereignty or security of states.

The Security Council seeks to resolve international disputes through peaceful means, encouraging dialogue, negotiation, mediation, diplomacy, and cooperation among Member States. When peaceful measures are insufficient, the Council may adopt resolutions and take collective action to respond to threats to peace. These actions can include imposing sanctions, establishing peacekeeping missions, supporting ceasefires, or authorizing other measures in accordance with the United Nations Charter.

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