

МІНІСТЕРСТВО ОСВІТИ І НАУКИ УКРАЇНИ
ПРИКАРПАТСЬКИЙ НАЦІОНАЛЬНИЙ УНІВЕРСИТЕТ ІМЕНІ
ВАСИЛЯ СТЕФАНІКА

Кафедра іноземних мов

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Навчально-методичний посібник
для підготовки до семінарських (практичних) занять
з навчальної дисципліни
«Іноземна правнича мова (англійська)»
для здобувачів денної форми навчання
другого (магістерського) рівня вищої освіти
галузі знань 08 «Право», спеціальності 081 «Право»
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Остапчук Я.В., Яцина М.О. Навчально-методичний посібник для підготовки до семінарських (практичних) занять з навчальної дисципліни «Іноземна правнича мова (англійська)» для здобувачів денної форми навчання другого (магістерського) рівня вищої освіти галузі знань 08 «Право», спеціальності 081 «Право» (1 семестр). 2023. 99 с.

Посібник розроблено за сучасними, науково обґрунтованими принципами навчання з урахуванням динаміки розвитку навичок і вмінь.

Посібник складається із чотирьох розділів професійної тематики. Кожний розділ ідентичний за структурою і містить базовий текст, словник до нього, вправи на розуміння тексту, лексичні вправи різноманітного характеру та додаткові тексти.

Розраховано на студентів-юристів вищих навчальних закладів освіти, фахівців, які прагнуть вдосконалити навички та уміння професійного спілкування.

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UNIT 1

International Law. System of International Law

International Law means principles, rules, and standards that govern nations and other participants in international affairs in their relations with one another. International law is the law of the international community. No single nation can create or modify international law. No statute of one nation or treaty between two nations can create global obligations. International law is not created, developed, or abolished by the demand of one country or a small group of countries. It exists as a result of the common consent and general acceptance of many nations.

Most international law consists of long-standing customs, provisions agreed to in treaties, and generally accepted principles of law recognized by nations. Some international law is also created by the rulings of international courts and organizations.

The rules of international law are generally divided into laws of peace, of war, and of neutrality. Peace is considered the normal relationship between nations. The laws of peace define the rights and duties of nations at peace with one another. Each country has a right to existence, legal equality, jurisdiction over its territory, ownership of property, and diplomatic relations with other countries. Many of the laws of peace deal with recognizing countries as members of the family of nations and recognizing new governments in old nations. War is still recognized under traditional international law. Warring states are called belligerents. The laws of war provide definite restrictions on methods of warfare. Under international law, belligerents are forbidden to move troops across neutral territory. Neutral waters and ports must not be used for naval operations.

The purposes of international law include resolution of problems of a regional or global scope (such as environmental pollution or global

warming), regulation of areas outside the control of any one nation (such as outer space or the high seas), and adoption of common rules for multinational activities (such as air transport or postal service).

International law also aims to maintain peaceful international relations when possible and resolve international tensions peacefully when they develop, to prevent needless suffering during wars, and to improve the human condition during peacetime. Enforcement of international law is often difficult because nations are sovereign powers that may put their own interests ahead of those of the international community. Enforcement may be effectively achieved through the actions of individual nations, agencies of international organizations such as the United Nations (UN), and international courts.

The United Nations Security Council can authorize economic sanctions, diplomatic sanctions, or military force to maintain or restore international peace and security.

International law began as a system governing the relations among sovereign states, and states have always been the primary legal entities affected by international law. As the global system has become more complex, however, international law has come to recognize and regulate international organizations, businesses, nonprofit entities, and individuals.

The emergence of international human rights law and, more recently, international criminal law reflects the fact that individuals today are direct subjects of international law in certain respects.

Words and word combination:

International Law	Міжнародне право
to govern	керувати
international affairs	міжнародні справи
international community	міжнародна спільнота
to create	створювати

to modify	змінювати
statute	статут
treaty	угода
to develop	розвивати
to abolish	скасовувати
consent	згода
acceptance	прийняття
provision	положення
to define	визначати
existence	існування
legal equality	рівність перед законом
jurisdiction	юрисдикція
belligerent	той, що знаходиться в стані війни, воюючий
restriction	обмеження
methods of warfare	методи ведення війни
to move troops	вводити війська
neutral waters	нейтральні води
naval operations	військово-морські операції
outer space	космічний простір
high seas	відкрите море
to maintain	підтримувати
to resolve	вирішувати
international tension	міжнародна напруга
enforcement	впровадження
to authorize	уповноважнювати
economic sanctions	економічні санкції
diplomatic sanctions	дипломатичні санкції
military force	збройні сили

to restore

ВІДНОВЛЮВАТИ

Exercise 1. Answer the following questions:

1. What is the definition of international law?
2. What is international law aimed at?
3. How is international law implemented?
4. What are the subjects of international law?
5. What is the division of the rules of international law?

Exercise 2. Complete the following sentences according to the information from the text:

1. International law is the law ...
2. Some international law is also created by ...
3. International law also aims ...
4. Enforcement may be effectively achieved through ...
5. International law began as a system ...
6. The rules of international law are generally divided into laws ...
7. The emergence of international human rights law and, more recently, international criminal law reflects the fact that individuals today ...
8. Under international law, belligerents are forbidden ...

Exercise 3. Match the following legal terms with their definitions:

custom	having undisputed right to make decisions and act accordingly;
rule	a generally accepted practice or habit, convention;
sovereign	a binding legal agreement or a moral responsibility;
organization	an accepted method of behaviour or procedure;
obligation	an association or society of people working together

Exercise 4. Choose the right preposition in brackets according to the contents of the sentences (after, of, before, for, from, in).

1. Many of the customs of the international relations have existed... hundreds of years. ... example, the ancient Greeks protected foreign ambassadors ... mistreatment, even in wartime. For about 2000 years, nations have given ambassadors similar protection.

2. Traditional international law developed various doctrines and institutions that were designed to protect different groups ... human beings: slaves, minorities, certain native populations, foreign nationals, victims of very massive violations.

3. ... the period of Rome's dominance of the ancient world, there was emerged rules governing the relations between Rome and the various nations or peoples with which it had contact.

4. Treaties, the immunities of ambassadors, and certain laws are to be found many centuries ... the dawn of Christianity, in ancient Egypt and India.

5. The modern system of international law is a product ... only the last four hundred years.

6. ... a legislative body passes a law for a nation or a state, police enforce the laws, and people who break them are tried in courts.

Exercise 5. Substitute the words in italics with the words from the text.

1. The *aims* of international law include resolution of problems of a regional or global scope.

2. International law consists of long-standing customs, provisions agreed to in different *covenants*.

3. Enforcement of international law is often difficult because nations are *independent* powers.

4. International law is not *founded*, developed, or abolished by the demand of one country or a small group of countries.

5. No statute of one nation or treaty between two nations can create global *commitments*.

6. Some international law is also created by the rulings of international *tribunals* and organizations.

Exercise 6. Write as many legal expressions with the word “international” as you can and make up sentences of your own with those expressions.

Exercise 7. Fill the blanks with the derivatives of the words in brackets. Translate these points.

Violations of International Law

1. “Serious ... of international humanitarian law” are “war crimes.” The two terms are today interchangeable. They can take place in international or non-international armed conflicts. (to violate)

2. The majority of war crimes ... death, injury, destruction or unlawful taking of property. Acts can amount to war crimes because they breach important universal values, even without physically endangering persons or objects directly. These include, for example, abusing dead bodies and recruiting children under 15 years of age into the armed forces. (involvement)

3. Japan ... international law in 1941 by attacking Pearl Harbor without first declaring war. (violation)
4. Germany broke international law during World War 2 when the German ...killed millions of European Jews and forced slave laborers from other European countries to work in German war factories. (to govern)
5. Reports were given to the United Nations about the cruel ... of many UN prisoners of war by the Chinese Communists and North Koreans in the Korean War (1950-1953). (to treat)
6. In 1990, during the crisis that resulted in the Persian Gulf War, Iraq broke international law by ... foreign hostages as “human shields” to discourage attacks against military and industrial sites. (to use)

Exercise 8. Give the Ukrainian equivalents for the following word combinations:

- International law
- principle
- rule
- international affairs
- provisions agreed to in treaties
- rulings of international courts
- environmental pollution
- adoption of common rules
- to maintain peaceful international relations
- legal equality, enforcement of international law
- ownership of property
- international organizations
- recognizing countries
- legal entities
- armed conflicts

- war crimes

Exercise 9. Read the extracts below and put them in correct order.

1. While there were other intermediate influences on the development of international law, its modern roots may be traced to the seventeenth – century Dutch philosopher Hugo Grotius. He is often referred to as the “father of international law”. Grotius’s fundamental contribution to the theory of international law was his insistence upon a voluntary law of nations based upon their consent.

2. The Greek city-states and their philosophers believed that there was a legal hierarchy of local and “higher laws”. Local laws governed the conduct of individuals within each city-state. These laws of the city-states, however, were subordinate to what the ancient Greeks perceived as a branch of law now called international law.

3. As it developed, international law incorporated various inconsistencies and definitional aberrations. Even in the late twentieth century, some topics have only just been resolved after centuries of controversy – and others remain in the many “gray” areas of international law.

4. The process by which international law is formed dates from regional developments in the ancient Chinese and Indian empires. In the fourteenth century B.C., the Egyptian pharaohs entered into treaties with neighboring kings. These agreements represented a consensus on the recognition of sovereignty over certain geographical areas, the extradition of refugees, and the exchange of ambassadors.

Words and word combination:

to trace	ВІДСЛІДКУВАТИ
contribution	ВНЕСОК

law of nations	право народів
hierarchy ['hi:ərɑ:kɪ]	ієрархія
conduct	поведінка
inconsistency	протириччя
aberration	омана
controversy	полеміка, дискусія
consensus	ПОГОДЖЕННЯ, КОНСЕНСУС
recognition	ВИЗНАННЯ
extradition	екстрадиція
exchange	обмін
ambassador	ПОСОЛ

Exercise 10. Fill in the gaps with the appropriate forms:

Enforcement of International Law

After a ... (1) body passes a law for a nation or a state, police ... (2) the laws, and people who break ... (3) are tried in courts. However, there is no international legislature to pass rules that all nations are required ... (4).

Neither is there an international police force ... (5) countries obey international law. As a result, it is oft en difficult to enforce international law.

International law ... (6) in three groups, according to how many nations accept them. Universal international law ... (7) the rules ... (8) by all nations as part of international law. These rules ... (9) such items as the sanctity of treaties, the safety of foreign ambassadors, and each nation's jurisdiction over the air space above its territory.

General international law includes rules accepted by the majority of countries, especially ... (10) that are most powerful. One law of this type is the rule that each nation has jurisdiction ... (11) its territorial waters. A water area typically claimed to extend 12 nautical miles from ... (12) shore.

Particular international law includes agreements between two or among a few nations, such as trade treaties.

Note: to be tried in court – поставати перед судом; sanctity ['sɑŋ(k)tɪti] of treaties – непорушність угод.

- | | | | |
|-----|-----------------------|--------------|----------------------|
| 1. | legislation; | legislative; | legislature |
| 2. | enforce; | enforcement | enforceable |
| 3. | they; | them; | their |
| 4. | to observe; | observance; | observation |
| 5. | made; | to make; | make |
| 6. | are often classified; | | is often classified; |
| | often classified | | |
| 7. | include; | includes; | to includes |
| 8. | accepted; | accepting; | accept |
| 9. | covers; | cover; | is covered |
| 10. | them; | they; | those |
| 11. | under; | above; | over |
| 12. | it's; | its; | it |

Exercise 11. Read and translate the following text, give a summary of it:

International treaties

A treaty is an agreement under international law entered into by actors in international law, namely sovereign states and international organizations.

A treaty may also be known as: (international) agreement, protocol, covenant, convention, exchange of letters, pact. Regardless of the terminology, all of these international agreements under international law are equally treaties and the rules are the same.

International organizations may also be given the capacity to make treaties, either with sovereign states or other international organizations.

The name chosen generally does not affect the legal status of the agreement. As long as the parties intend the text to be binding, it is a treaty.

Treaties may incorporate rules of custom or develop new law. Treaties can be compared to contracts: both are means of willing parties assuming obligations among themselves, and a party to either that fails to live up to their obligations can be held liable under international law for that breach. The central principle of treaty law is expressed in the maxim *pacta sunt servanda* – “pacts must be respected”.

The most well known examples of international treaties are the United Nations Charter, Treaty on European Union, North Atlantic Treaty (NATO), Treaty on World Trade Organization (Marrakesh Agreement). Under Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations, “Every treaty and every international agreement entered into by any Member of the United Nations after the present Charter comes into force shall as soon as possible be registered with the Secretariat and published by it, be invoked before it or enforced in its judiciary organ, the International Court of Justice”. This was done to prevent the proliferation of secret treaties that occurred in the 19th and 20th century. The Charter also states that its members’ obligations under it outweigh any obligations under other treaties.

International treaties can be classified as bilateral and multilateral. Multilateral treaties establish rights and obligations between each party and every other party. Bilateral treaties are negotiated between a limited number of states, most commonly only two, establishing legal rights and obligations between those two states only.

The present system of international law remains largely consensual and centered on the sovereign state. It is within the discretion of each state to participate in the negotiation of, or to sign or ratify, any international treaty.

Likewise, each member state of an international organization such as the UN is free to ratify any convention adopted by that organization. Treaty law thus is created by the will of states.

Words and word combination:

treaty	угода
agreement	угода
sovereign state	суверенна держава
international organization	міжнародна організація
covenant [kʌv(ə)nənt]	пакт, угода
convention	конвенція, договір
exchange of letters	обмін листами
pact	пакт
capacity	можливість, здатність, повноваження
binding	обов'язковий
to be invoked	застосовуватись
proliferation	поширення
bilateral [bɪ'lat(ə)r(ə)l]	двосторонній
consensual	загальноприйнятий, узгоджений
discretion	свобода дій

Provide Ukrainian translation:

United Nations Charter –

Treaty on European Union –

Exercise 11. Read and translate the text, memorize the words given below:

Summary

What is public international law?

Public international law is a combination of rules and customs governing relations between states in different fields, such as armed conflict, human rights, the sea, space, trade, territorial boundaries, and diplomatic relations.

The United Nations Charter sets out the fundamental principles of modern public international law, notably:

Promotion of human rights;

The strict limitation on the right to use force against other states;

The strict prohibition on the acquisition of territory by force.

Subjects of international law

States are the primary subject of international law. However, international law can also regulate the actions of other entities, namely: international organisations, non-state actors, international non-governmental organizations, and multinational companies. All can be defined as subjects of international law, and can be considered as having legal personality. This means that they have both duties and rights provided for by international law.

Public international law and the protection of human dignity

Several branches of public international law combine to protect universal values relating to human dignity. Each represents a tool of protection and all should be considered as complementary and must be applied comprehensively. These branches are:

international humanitarian law;

international refugee law;
international criminal law;
international human rights law.

Relationship between domestic and international law

The relationship between domestic and international law on a procedural level can be complex, particularly where a national court is applying international law directly. It is important to remember that domestic law cannot be used as a justification for a failure to meet an international responsibility.

In the words of Hersch Lauterpact, who is recognised as one of the founders of modern international law:

“The self-evident principle of international law that a State cannot invoke its municipal law as the reason for the non-fulfillment of its international obligations.”

Sources of international law

The norms and rules of international law are codified in a range of treaties and other materials. The main sources of international law are:

Treaty law: Such as the United Nations Charter and the Geneva Conventions;

Customary international law: Established by state practice and legal intention;

General principles of law recognized by civilized nations: Seen as inspirational rather than direct sources of the law. Examples of this are the principles of estoppel and equity.

What is the difference between public international law and private international law?

Public international law comprises a body of rules which is concerned solely with the rights and obligations of sovereign states. For example the United Nations Charter is a central instrument of public international law.

Private international law, also referred to as ‘conflict of laws’, consists of rules which govern relations between private entities and decide which domestic law and/or courts can adjudicate issues with an “international” component. For example, if a Chinese company was to sign a contract with the United States, private international law would regulate the applicable law if that contract was violated.

Grave violations of international law: Jus cogens norms

A number of rules of international law reflect jus cogens norms, also referred to as peremptory norms of international law. Jus cogens status is reserved for the most fundamental rules of international law which are recognised and accepted by the international community as rules of which no exceptions are allowed (article 53 of the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties).

All states are obliged to adhere to jus cogens rules at all times, regardless of the circumstances, and these rules cannot be superceded by international agreements or treaties.

Examples of jus cogens norms include the right of all peoples to self-determination, the prohibition on the acquisition of territory by force, and the prohibitions on genocide, slavery, and torture.

The violation of a number of provisions under international law - usually those that are categorised as jus cogens rules - gives rise to erga omnes obligations. Erga omnes is a Latin concept that translates as "towards all".

When fundamental principles of international law are violated, an erga omnes obligation arises, which means that all states have the right to take action. Examples of acts that would give rise to erga omnes obligations include piracy, genocide, slavery, torture and racial discrimination.

Words and word combination:

Public international law	Публічне міжнародне право
armed conflict	збройний конфлікт
territorial boundaries	територіальні кордони
promotion of human rights	забезпечення прав людини
to limit; limitation	обмежувати; обмеження
to prohibit; prohibition	забороняти; заборона
acquisition of territory by force	захоплення території силою
tool of protection	засіб захисту
international humanitarian law	міжнародне гуманітарне право
international refugee law	міжнародні закони у справах біженців
international criminal law	міжнародне кримінальне право
international human rights law	міжнародне право прав людини
to invoke	вимагати застосування; застосовувати
Treaty law	міжнародне договірне право
Customary international law	міжнародне звичаєве право
estoppel [ɪˈstɒp(ə)]	процесуальний відвід; позбавлення права заперечення; позбавлення сторони права посилатися (на певні факти) або оспорювати певні факти
equity	справедливість
body of rules	звід законів
‘conflict of laws’	конфлікт права
to adjudicate [əˈdʒuːdikeɪt]	розглядати питання; виносити рішення стосовно питань
peremptory norms	імперативні норми
fundamental rules	основоположні правила

regardless of the circumstances	незважаючи на обставини
acquisition of territory	захоплення території
genocide	ґеноцид

Unit 2

European Union: Institutional System

The European Union is a family of democratic European countries committed to working together for peace and prosperity. The European Union is now regarded as a supranational legal and political entity, that is, in fact, unique. It is not a State intended to replace the existing states, but it is more than any international organization, it also contains some features of federation. The Community method involves a constant balancing of national and common interests, respect for the diversity of national traditions and the forging of a separate identity. It is an advanced form of integration. Its competence extends to the economy, industry, politics, citizen's rights and foreign policy. The Member States have set up common institutions to which they delegate some of their sovereignty so that decisions on specific matters of joint interest can be made democratically at European level. This pooling of sovereignty is also called "European integration".

The predecessor of the EU was created in the aftermath of the Second World War. The first steps were to foster economic cooperation: the idea being that countries that trade with one another become economically interdependent and so more likely to avoid conflict.

The result was the European Economic Community (EEC), created in 1958, and initially increasing economic cooperation between six countries: Belgium, Germany, France, Italy, Luxembourg and the Netherlands.

Since then, other members joined and a huge single market (also known as the 'internal' market) has been created and continues to develop towards its full potential.

What began as a purely economic union has evolved into an organization spanning policy areas, from climate, environment and health to external relations and security, justice and migration. A name change from the European Economic Community (EEC) to the European Union (EU) in 1993 reflected this.

The goals of the European Union are: to promote peace, its values and the well-being of its citizens; to offer freedom, security and justice without internal borders; sustainable development based on balanced economic growth and price stability, a highly competitive market economy with full employment and social progress, and environmental protection; to combat social exclusion and discrimination; to promote scientific and technological progress; to enhance economic, social and territorial cohesion and solidarity among member countries; to respect rich cultural and linguistic diversity; to establish an economic and monetary union whose currency is the euro.

Peace and reconciliation are central to the process of European integration. Not once since the end of the Second World War has Europe sought to impose its ideas on the rest of the world, other than by setting an example of how to solve problems by negotiation. The European Union is increasingly called upon to act as a mediator and a stabilizing force in world affairs. Almost a half century of European integration has had a profound effect on the development of the continent and the attitudes of its inhabitants. It also has changed the balance of power. All governments, regardless of political complexion, now recognize that the era of absolute national sovereignty has gone. Only by joining forces and working towards a “destiny henceforward shared” can Europe’s old nations continue to enjoy economic and social progress and maintain their influence in the world.

Words and word combination:

to commit	зобов'язуватись
prosperity	процвітання
to intend	мати намір
diversity	різноманітність
identity	ідентичність
integration	інтеграція
to forge	формувати, створювати
competence	компетенція
to set up	створювати
pooling of sovereignty	об'єднання суверенітетів
predecessor	попередник
aftermath	наслідки
to foster	сприяти
economic cooperation	економічна співпраця
to avoid conflict	уникати конфлікту
single market	єдиний ринок
to span	охоплювати
sustainable	стійкий
employment	працевлаштування
to combat	боротись
social exclusion	соціальне відчуження
to enhance	підвищувати
monetary union	грошовий союз
currency	грошова одиниця
reconciliation	примирення
to impose	нав'язувати
negotiation, to negotiate	переговори, вести переговори
mediator	посередник
inhabitant	житель

balance of power	баланс сил
“destiny henceforward shared”	єдина доля

Exercise 1. Complete the following sentences according to the information from the text:

1. The European Union is now regarded as a supranational _____ entity.
2. The _____ method involves a constant balancing of national and common interests, respect for the diversity of national traditions and the forging of a separate identity.
3. This pooling of sovereignty is also called “_____”.
4. The _____ of the EU was created in the aftermath of the Second World War.
5. The European Economic Community was created in 1958 initially for economic cooperation between six countries: Belgium, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg and _____.
6. Single market of the EU is also known as the ‘_____’ market)
7. Peace and _____ are central to the process of European integration.
8. One of the goals of the EU is to enhance economic, social and territorial _____ and solidarity among member countries
9. The European Union is increasingly called upon to act as a _____ and a stabilizing force in world affairs.
10. All governments, regardless of political complexion, now recognize that the era of absolute _____ has gone.

Exercise 2. Choose the word or phrase that best complete the sentence:

1. European Union countries have _____ common institutions to which they delegate some of their sovereignty.

(a) set back; (b) set down; (c) set up; (d) set with

2. The _____ is fundamental to the European Union.

(a) rule of law; (b) standing rule; (c) golden rule; (d) rule of the road

3. All European Union decisions and procedures are based on the _____, which are agreed by all the EU countries.

(a) Commands; (b) Orders; (c) Treaties; (d) Decrees

4. In the early years, much of the _____ between EU countries was about trade and the economy.

(a) cooperation; (b) cooperate; (c) cooperative; (d) cooperator

5. The EU treaties lay down the basic aims of the Community, establish the _____ and their powers.

(a) institutions; (b) universities; (c) colleges; (d) firms

6. The _____ is the main trend of development of the European communities and the Union.

(a) federalization; (b) globalization; (c) consolidation; (d) collaboration

7. The Member States created the Schengen area and introduced a single _____ for foreigners on the basis of Schengen Agreements.

(a) citizenship; (b) passport; (c) visa; (d) license

Exercise 4. Complete the passage below, using the words from the box:

First steps of development

*unite; cooperation; common objective;
integration; Europe; peace and prosperity; solutions; negotiations*

There is nothing new about the desire to _____ Europe. Figures from history as diverse as Roman emperors, Genghis Khan, Napoleon and have in turn coveted the _____ of

taking European Continent as their own. Some such attempts have failed, others have enjoyed limited success over different periods of time. None has brought lasting _____ to all the inhabitants of Europe. The European Community aims to achieve that objective through _____ between European states.

The modern history of European _____ began immediately after the Second World War. The states of _____ shared a common interest in restructuring and reconstructing the Continent. They were seeking fresh _____ independent of old, discredited nation-state structure. The strong belief appeared that Europe had to start _____ and pursue the path of integration.

Exercise 5. Who speaks what and where? Match the words in the columns, mark the main stress in the words and practice saying them:

Country	Language	Capital
Belgium	Lithuanian	Brussels
Malta	Hungarian	Berlin
Portugal	Spanish	Lisbon
Denmark	Portuguese	Nicosia
Germany	Greek	Rome
Netherlands	French, Flemish	Amsterdam
Spain	Finnish, Swedish	Ljubljana
Hungary	German	Vilnius
France	Maltese, English	Paris
Croatia	Czech	Luxembourg
Slovenia	Danish, Faroese, Greenlandic	Madrid
Italy	Italian	Budapest

Cyprus	Greek, Turkish	Copenhagen
Greece	Polish	Athens
Luxembourg	Croatian	Prague
Lithuania	Dutch	Warsaw
Sweden	Slovene	Helsinki
Poland	French	Valetta
Romania	Romanian	Bucharest
Estonia	Bulgarian	Tallinn
Slovakia	Swedish	Stockholm
Bulgaria	Estonian	Sofia
Finland	Slovak	Bratislava
The Czech Republic	German, French, Luxembourgish	Zagreb

Exercise 6. Read and translate the text, provide Ukrainian equivalents for the following expressions:

The EU values

The EU values are common to the member countries in a society in which inclusion, tolerance, justice, solidarity and non-discrimination prevail. These values are an integral part of our European way of life:

Human dignity: Human dignity is inviolable. It must be respected, protected and constitutes the real basis of fundamental rights.

Freedom: Freedom of movement gives citizens the right to move and reside freely within the Union. Individual freedoms such as respect for private life, freedom of thought, religion, assembly, expression and information are protected by the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights.

Democracy: The functioning of the EU is founded on representative democracy. Being a European citizen also means enjoying political rights. Every adult EU citizen has the right to stand as a candidate and to vote in

elections to the European Parliament. EU citizens have the right to stand as candidate and to vote in their country of residence, or in their country of origin.

Equality: Equality is about equal rights for all citizens before the law. The principle of equality between women and men underpins all European policies and is the basis for European integration. It applies in all areas. The principle of equal pay for equal work became part of the Treaty of in 1957. Although inequalities still exist, the EU has made significant progress.

Rule of law: The EU is based on the rule of law. Everything the EU does is founded on treaties, voluntarily and democratically agreed by its member countries. Law and justice are upheld by an independent judiciary. The member countries gave final jurisdiction to the European Court of Justice which judgments have to be respected by all.

Human rights: Human rights are protected by the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights. These cover the right to be free from discrimination on the basis of sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation, the right to the protection of your personal data, and or the right to get access to justice.

These goals and values form the basis of the EU and are laid out in the Lisbon Treaty and the EU Charter of fundamental rights.

member countries	
inclusion	
tolerance	
solidarity	
to prevail	
integral part	
way of life	
human dignity	

individual freedoms	
to stand as candidate	
to vote in elections	
country of residence	
country of origin	
to underpin	
principle of equal pay	
rule of law	
independent judiciary	
European Court of Justice	
on the basis of	
protection of personal data	
to get access to justice	

Exercise 7. Complete the word-building table, use the words in the sentences of your own:

<i>Verb</i>	<i>noun</i>	<i>person</i>	<i>adjective</i> <i>(participle)</i>
to negotiate	negotiation	negotiator	negotiating
to govern			
		integrationist	
to create			
	formation		
	recognition		
		informer	
to limit			
			cooperative
to promote			
	existence	existentialist	

	elections		
to judge			
		employer, employee	
	protection		
		inhabitant	
		resident	
to occupy			

Exercise 8. Read and translate the following text, do the exercises given below:

Institutions of European Union

The Council of the European Union – Рада Європейського Союзу;

COREPER (Committee of Permanent Representatives) – Комітет постійних представників або Корепер (*Coreper*, акронім від назви комітету французькою);

European Council – Європейська Рада:

не слід плутати з Радою Європейського Союзу (**The Council of the European Union**) – законодавчою гілкою влади Європейського Союзу;

не слід плутати з Радою Європи (**The Council of Europe**) – міжнародною організацією, що не є частиною Європейського Союзу.

Heads of Governments – голови урядів;

Heads of the Commission – голови комісій;

The European Parliament – Європейський Парламент;

The European Commission – Європейська комісія (або скорочено Єврокомісія);

the European Central Bank – Європейський центральний банк (ЄЦБ);

the European Court Суд – Європейського Союзу (також Європейський суд);

the General Court Суд – загальної юрисдикції – у 1989–2009 роках відомий як *Суд першої інстанції Європейських Спільнот*;

the Court of Auditors – Європейський суд аудиторів (Рахункова палата)

What sets the European Union apart from more traditional international organizations is its unique institutional structure. In accepting the European Treaties which are the basis for all EU decisions and procedures, Member States relinquish a measure of sovereignty to independent institutions representing national and shared interests. The institutions complement one another, each having a part to play in the decision-making process.

The Council of the European Union is the main decision-making and coordination institution. It is made of ministers from the Member States. Depending on the agenda each country is represented by the minister responsible for the subject (foreign affairs, finance, agriculture, etc.). The Council enacts EU legislation. It is the Union's Legislature, although it shares this function with the European Parliament. The Council and the Parliament also have joint control over the Union's budget. The Council is responsible for coordinating the general economic policies of the Member States.

The Presidency of the Council rotates, changing hands every six months. The ground for the Council's decisions is prepared by the Coreper – a committee of Member States' permanent representatives to the EU. There is also a General Secretariat, based in Brussels.

The European Council is regular meetings of the Heads of Governments of the Member States and Heads of the Commission. The European Council meets at least twice a year, plays the role of the launch pad for EU's major political initiatives and a forum for settling controversial issues not resolved in the Council of European Union. It also deals with current international issues through the common foreign and

security policy (CFSP), a mechanism devised to allow the Member States to align their diplomatic positions and present a united front.

The European Parliament provides a democratic forum for debate. It has a watchdog function and also plays a part in the legislative process.

The Parliament currently has maximum 750 seats. Directly elected every five years, the members of Parliament sit not in national blocks but in seven political groups. Each group reflects the political ideology of the national parties which its members belong to. Some members are not attached to any political group. Parliament's principle roles are as follows:

- examine and adopt European legislation under the co-decision procedure; this power is shared with the Council of European Union; approve the EU budget;
- exercise democratic control over the other EU institutions; assent to important international agreements.

Parliament normally meets in Strasbourg. Its 20 committees work in Brussels, Parliament's Secretariat is in Luxembourg.

As the guardian of the Treaties **the European Commission** represents the EU interests and ensures that regulations and directives are properly implemented. It can bring a case before the Court of Justice to ensure that the EU law is enforced. The Commission has sole right of initiative and can intervene at any stage in the legislative process to facilitate agreement within the Council or between the Council and Parliament. The European Commission consists of 27 representatives assisted by about 24000 civil servants, most of its staff work in Brussels.

The European Central Bank is in charge of the single currency, the EURO, and independently manages European monetary policy – deciding, for example, what the interest rates should be. The main objective is to ensure price stability, so that the European Economy will not be damaged by inflation. The bank issues binding acts. It is based in Frankfurt, Germany.

The judicial system of the European Union consists of **the European Court, the General Court and specialized courts**. They are to ensure that EU law is interpreted and implemented in line with the Treaties, also check that EU instruments respect fundamental rights. The European Court is the main judicial organ and the only body with the power to give an opinion on the correct interpretation of the Treaties or the validity and interpretation of instruments enacted by the Community institutions.

The Court sits in Luxemburg and comprises 27 judges and 8 Advocates- General appointed for a renewable six-year term by agreement between the Member States, which select them “from persons whose independence is beyond doubt”.

The Court of Auditors checks if the funds available to the EU are used legally, economically and for the intended purpose. It is an independent body located in Luxembourg. The Auditors help European taxpayers to get better value for the money that has been channeled into the EU budget.

Words and word combination:

to relinquish	ВІДМОВЛЯТИСЬ
to complement	ДОПОВНЮВАТИ
to play a part	ВІДІГРАВАТИ РОЛЬ
decision-making process	ПРОЦЕС ПРИЙНЯТТЯ РІШЕНЬ
agenda	ПОРЯДОК ДЕННИЙ
launch pad	ПУСК
foreign and security policy	ЗОВНІШНЯ ПОЛІТИКА І БЕЗПЕКА
watchdog function	ФУНКЦІЯ КОНТРОЛЮ
to assent	ПОГОДЖУВАТИСЬ
to bring a case	ПОДАТИ ПОЗОВ
civil servant	ДЕРЖАВНИЙ СЛУЖБОВЕЦЬ
binding acts	АКТИ, ЩО МАЮТЬ

Choose the word or phrase that best complete the sentence:

1. European Central Bank is responsible for _____ policy and managing the euro.

(a) foreign; (b) monetary; (c) military; (d) internal

2. The European Commission drafts proposals for new European laws, which it presents to the _____ and the Council.

(a) European Court of Auditors; (b) European Parliament;

(c) European Central Bank; (d) Committee of Rights

3. European Ombudsman deals _____ citizens' complaints about maladministration by any EU institution or body.

(a) with; (b) of; (c) at; (d) about

4. The Council of the European Union – together with the European Parliament – sets the rules for all activities of the _____ (EC).

(a) European Commission; (b) European Union;

(c) European Central Bank; (d) European Court

5. The European Central Bank is _____ the single currency, the euro.

(a) in charge of; (b) charged with;

(c) to charge down; (d) to charge against

6. The European Court consists of one independent _____ from each EU country and located in Luxembourg.

(a) investigator; (b) notary; (c) prosecutor; (d) judge

7. The European Investment Bank _____ money for investment projects of European interest.

(a) pays; (b) borrows; (c) lends; (d) wastes

8. The European Commission is appointed for a five-year term, but can be _____ by Parliament.

(a) discouraged; (b) dismissed; (c) dissolved; (d) disappointed

9. The main objective of the European Central Bank is _____ price stability.

(a) to ensure; (b) to enlarge; (c) engage; (d) enrich

Put the letters in correct order and find the words for the following definitions from the words of active vocabulary:

1. *gedana* – a set of operations which form a procedure for solving problem;

2. *scomonsimi* – body of persons given the duty to discharge a task, make an inquiry and write a report;

3. *sanset* – official agreement;

4. *trouida* – a person who examines accounts officially to see if they are in order;

5. *tudbeg* – estimate of probable future income and expenditure;

6. *terapaxy* – a person who pays taxes;

7. *motemitce* – a group of people selected by a legislative body to act on certain legislative matters;

8. *rapvepo* – agree to; confirm;

9. *micalenocoly* – carefully in spending money, time, not wasteful;

10. *ligeodoy* – manner of thinking, ideas forming the basis of an economic or political system;

11. *shlinquire* – give up control; give up.

Exercise 9. Some interesting facts about the EU:

There are 24 official languages used in the European Union. The most commonly used are English, French, and German. Other languages include Bulgarian, Croatian, Czech, Danish, Dutch, Estonian, Finnish, Greek, Hungarian, Irish, Latvian, Lithuanian, Maltese, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Slovak, Slovenian, Spanish, and Swedish. If there are European parliament debates, sessions, and conferences, official transcripts and documents are translated into all these languages.

In 2012, the Norwegian Nobel Committee has decided unanimously to award the Nobel Peace Prize to the European Union. The committee recognized the over six-decade contribution of the EU in the development of peace, equality, reconciliation, and human rights in the continent. The twist is that Norway is not a member of the European Union. It's not a big deal, anyway.

The European Union is not the only European Sovereignty in Europe. In fact, there is the Council of Europe. The Council of Europe (CoE) is the leading international organization that upholds human rights and democracy in Europe. They also promote the European culture. It was founded in 1949 and currently, it has 47 member states, including the UK. It also covers approximately 900 million people. Sometimes, it confused with the European Union. No country that joined the EU that has not yet joined the Council of Europe.

Great Britain's decision to leave the EU was not the first time a European state decided to exit the Union. Both French Algeria (French overseas territories of Saint Pierre and Miquelon and Saint Barthélemy share the same story) and Greenland have opted to withdraw from the Union during different times and circumstances.

Algeria had been one of France's long-established overseas territories, making it home to many European immigrants. However, the Muslim population remained the majority, and due to their limited political,

economic, and cultural independence, the indigenous Muslims demanded political autonomy and later complete independence from France.

The Algerian War was a culmination of the dissatisfaction between the two groups. Despite the French attempts to stop the revolt with mostly violent means, the War granted much-awaited independence and a self-determination referendum for Algeria in 1962. However, before gaining independence, Algeria was part of the European Economic Community as an integral part of France: one of the founding countries of the European Coal and Steel Community. The independence and self-determination rights resulted in their leaving the European Communities by Algeria in 1962.

Greenland joined the European Economic Community in 1973 as an autonomous territory of Denmark. However, the population's dissatisfaction grew due to the EC's fishing constraints. Fishing had been the primary source of income for Greenland. Consequently, insecurities over losing control over the fishing rights acted as an incentive to hold the first referendum about leaving the EC in 1972. However, Greenland had to join regardless due to the Danish population's majority decision. In 1979, Greenland was granted the Home Rule Act, in which it gained autonomy from Denmark and established its own Parliament. Hence, discussions on a new referendum became popular once again. Almost a decade later, in 1982, a second referendum was held. 52 % of the population voted in favor of leaving the EU. It took another three years and more than 100 official meetings to complete the negotiations. Finally, Greenland officially left The EU in 1985.

Unit 3

Human rights

What are human rights?

Human rights are rights inherent to all human beings, whatever our nationality, place of residence, sex, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, language, or any other status. We are all equally entitled to our human rights without discrimination. These rights are all interrelated, interdependent and indivisible.

Universal human rights are often expressed and guaranteed by law, in the forms of treaties, customary international law, general principles and other sources of international law. International human rights law lays down obligations of Governments to act in certain ways or to refrain from certain acts, in order to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms of individuals or groups.

Universal and inalienable. The principle of universality of human rights is the cornerstone of international human rights law. This principle, as first emphasized in the Universal Declaration on Human Rights in 1948, has been reiterated in numerous international human rights conventions, declarations, and resolutions. The 1993 Vienna World Conference on Human Rights, for example, noted that it is the duty of States to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms, regardless of their political, economic and cultural systems.

All States have ratified at least one, and 80% of States have ratified four or more, of the core human rights treaties, reflecting consent of States

which creates legal obligations for them and giving concrete expression to universality. Some fundamental human rights and norms enjoy universal protection by customary international law across all boundaries and civilizations.

Human rights are inalienable. They should not be taken away, except in specific situations and according to due process. For example, the right to liberty may be restricted if a person is found guilty of a crime by a court of law.

Interdependent and indivisible. All human rights are indivisible, whether they are civil and political rights, such as the right to life, equality before the law and freedom of expression; economic, social and cultural rights, such as the rights to work, social security and education, or collective rights, such as the rights to development and self-determination, are indivisible, interrelated and interdependent. The improvement of one right facilitates advancement of the others. Likewise, the deprivation of one right adversely affects the others.

Equal and non-discriminatory. Non-discrimination is a cross-cutting principle in international human rights law. The principle is present in all the major human rights treaties and provides the central theme of some of international human rights conventions such as the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

The principle applies to everyone in relation to all human rights and freedoms and it prohibits discrimination on the basis of such as sex, race, colour and so on. The principle of non-discrimination is complemented by the principle of equality, as stated in Article 1 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights: “All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights.”

Both Rights and Obligations. Human rights entail both rights and obligations. States assume obligations and duties under international law to respect, to protect and to fulfill human rights. The obligation to respect means that States must refrain from interfering with or curtailing the enjoyment of human rights. The obligation to protect requires States to protect individuals and groups against human rights abuses. The obligation to fulfill means that States must take positive action to facilitate the enjoyment of basic human rights. At the individual level, while we are entitled our human rights, we should also respect the human rights of others.

International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination – Міжнародна конвенція про ліквідацію всіх форм расової дискримінації (ICERD)

the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women – Конвенція про ліквідацію всіх форм дискримінації по відношенню до жінок (CEDAW)

Words and word combinations:

human rights	права людини
inherent	властивий, притаманний
nationality	національність
place of residence	місце проживання
national origin	національне походження
ethnic origin	етнічне походження
to be entitled to	мати право на
treaty	угода
customary international law	міжнародне звичаєве право
to promote	сприяти

to protect	захищати
universal	універсальний
inalienable	невід'ємний
cornerstone	основа
to reiterate	підтверджувати
legal obligation	правові зобов'язання
to restrict	обмежувати
freedom of expression	свобода вираження поглядів
social security	суспільна безпека
self-determination	самовизначення
deprivation	позбавлення
principle of equality	принцип рівності
to entail	передбачати
to assume	брати на себе
to interfere with	втручатись в
to curtail	обмежувати
abuse	зловживання, насилля
to facilitate	забезпечувати, покращувати

Exercise 1. Complete the following sentences:

1. We are all equally entitled to our human rights without _____.
2. Human rights are all interrelated, interdependent and _____.
3. Universal human rights are often expressed and guaranteed by law, in the forms of treaties, customary international law, general principles and other _____ of international law.

4. International human rights law lays down obligations of Governments to act in certain ways or to refrain from certain acts, in order to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms of individuals or groups.
5. Some fundamental human rights and norms enjoy universal protection by customary international law across all _____ and civilizations.
6. The improvement of one right facilitates _____ of the others. Likewise, the _____ of one right adversely affects the others.
7. Non-discrimination is a cross-cutting principle in international _____.
8. Article 1 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights states: “All human beings are born free and equal in _____.”
9. Human rights _____ both rights and obligations.
10. States assume obligations and duties under international law to respect, to protect and _____ human rights.

Exercise 2. Complete the following table:

Noun	Verb
<i>entitlement</i>	<i>to entitle</i>
	to express
	to guarantee
	to emphasize
	to ratify
obligation	
	to protect
	to promote

declaration	
resolution	
	to enjoy
	to restrict
development	
determination	
improvement	
	to apply
	to prohibit
deprivation	
elimination	
	to fulfill
	to require
abuse	
action	
	to respect

Exercise 3. Read and translate the text, provide Ukrainian equivalents for the words and word combination given below:

Classification of human rights

One of the most widespread divisions of rights and freedoms into types in the modern world is the classification according to the spheres of life activity of a person and society in which these rights and freedoms are realized. In almost all international legal and interstate normative acts, which are devoted to the human rights in general (and not to some separate groups), the rights and freedoms are divided into *personal (civil), political, social, economical, and cultural*.

Personal (civil) rights and freedoms are applied not only to the citizens of the State, but to all people who live on its territory. They constitute a basis for the legal status of a person, have natural characteristics in origin and belong to everyone starting from birth without any limitations. The State is obliged to fight against violations of personal rights and freedoms. The most important rights of this group include the right to life; the right to personal security; freedom from slavery, violence, and imprisonment; security of private life and residence; freedom of conscience and religion; freedom of marriage; and others.

Political rights and freedoms express the possibility of participation of a person (as a rule, the citizen of the country) in society's political life, in the formation and realization of State power. Political rights are aimed at strengthening the connection between the citizen and society and the State. They are aimed at not allowing the people's indifference towards the destiny and activity of their country. That is why they are also called public rights. Political rights include freedom of speech and opinion, the right to access public service, the right to participation in political movements and parties, the right to gather, and freedom of meetings, manifestations, petitions, as well as others. Political rights can be realized both individually and in association with others.

Social and economic rights and freedoms are aimed at the provision of welfare and the quality of a person's life. These rights give a person the possibility of self-development in the sphere of production and distribution of benefits, receive guarantees and State defense of economic freedom and social stability. To this group belongs the right to private property, freedom of entrepreneurship, the right to work and the right to rest, the right to succession, right to social security and health protection, and many others.

Cultural rights and freedoms guarantee spiritual development of a human, and help each individual to be spiritual or cultural. The cultural rights include the right of each person to participate in cultural life, the

right to social values, the right to free use of archival and library stocks, the right to use one's native language, the right to development of culture in accordance with one's national and ethnical identity, etc.

personal (civil) rights and freedoms	
legal status of a person	
violations of personal rights and freedoms	
the right to life	
the right to personal security	
freedom from slavery, violence, and imprisonment	
security of private life and residence	
freedom of conscience and religion	
freedom of marriage	
political rights and freedoms	
participation	
formation and realization of state power	
freedom of speech and opinion	
the right to access public service	
the right to participation in political movements and parties	
freedom of meetings, manifestations, petitions	
social and economic rights	
provision of welfare and the quality of a person's life	
economic freedom	

social stability	
the right to private property	
freedom of entrepreneurship	
the right to work	
the right to rest	
the right to succession	
right to social security and health protection	
cultural rights and freedoms	
spiritual development	
the right of each person to participate in cultural life	
the right to social values	
the right to free use of archival and library stocks	
the right to use one's native language	
the right to development of culture in accordance with one's national and ethnical identity	

Exercise 4. Read and translate the text, do the tasks bellow:

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) is a milestone document in the history of human rights. Drafted by representatives with different legal and cultural backgrounds from all regions of the world, the Declaration was proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly in Paris on 10 December 1948 (General Assembly resolution 217 A) as a common standard of achievements for all peoples and all nations. It sets

out, for the first time, fundamental human rights to be universally protected and it has been translated into over 500 languages.

Preamble

Whereas recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world,

Whereas disregard and contempt for human rights have resulted in barbarous acts which have outraged the conscience of mankind, and the advent of a world in which human beings shall enjoy freedom of speech and belief and freedom from fear and want has been proclaimed as the highest aspiration of the common people,

Whereas it is essential, if man is not to be compelled to have recourse, as a last resort, to rebellion against tyranny and oppression, that human rights should be protected by the rule of law,

Whereas it is essential to promote the development of friendly relations between nations,

Whereas the peoples of the United Nations have in the Charter reaffirmed their faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person and in the equal rights of men and women and have determined to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom,

Whereas Member States have pledged themselves to achieve, in co-operation with the United Nations, the promotion of universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Whereas a common understanding of these rights and freedoms is of the greatest importance for the full realization of this pledge,

Now, Therefore THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY proclaims THIS UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS as a common standard of achievement for all peoples and all nations, to the end that every individual and every organ of society, keeping this Declaration

constantly in mind, shall strive by teaching and education to promote respect for these rights and freedoms and by progressive measures, national and international, to secure their universal and effective recognition and observance, both among the peoples of Member States themselves and among the peoples of territories under their jurisdiction.

Article 1. All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood.

Article 2. Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status. Furthermore, no distinction shall be made on the basis of the political, jurisdictional or international status of the country or territory to which a person belongs, whether it be independent, trust, non-self-governing or under any other limitation of sovereignty.

Article 3. Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person.

Article 4. No one shall be held in slavery or servitude; slavery and the slave trade shall be prohibited in all their forms.

Article 5. No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

Article 6. Everyone has the right to recognition everywhere as a person before the law.

Article 7. All are equal before the law and are entitled without any discrimination to equal protection of the law. All are entitled to equal protection against any discrimination in violation of this Declaration and against any incitement to such discrimination.

Article 8. Everyone has the right to an effective remedy by the competent national tribunals for acts violating the fundamental rights granted him by the constitution or by law.

Article 9. No one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest, detention or exile.

Article 10. Everyone is entitled in full equality to a fair and public hearing by an independent and impartial tribunal, in the determination of his rights and obligations and of any criminal charge against him.

Article 11.

(1) Everyone charged with a penal offence has the right to be presumed innocent until proved guilty according to law in a public trial at which he has had all the guarantees necessary for his defense.

(2) No one shall be held guilty of any penal offence on account of any act or omission which did not constitute a penal offence, under national or international law, at the time when it was committed. Nor shall a heavier penalty be imposed than the one that was applicable at the time the penal offence was committed.

Article 12. No one shall be subjected to arbitrary interference with his privacy, family, home or correspondence, nor to attacks upon his honour and reputation. Everyone has the right to the protection of the law against such interference or attacks.

Article 13. (1) Everyone has the right to freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each state.

(2) Everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country.

Article 14.

(1) Everyone has the right to seek and to enjoy in other countries asylum from persecution.

(2) This right may not be invoked in the case of prosecutions genuinely arising from non-political crimes or from acts contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations.

Article 15.

(1) Everyone has the right to a nationality.

(2) No one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his nationality nor denied the right to change his nationality.

Article 16.

(1) Men and women of full age, without any limitation due to race, nationality or religion, have the right to marry and to found a family. They are entitled to equal rights as to marriage, during marriage and at its dissolution.

(2) Marriage shall be entered into only with the free and full consent of the intending spouses.

(3) The family is the natural and fundamental group unit of society and is entitled to protection by society and the State.

Article 17.

(1) Everyone has the right to own property alone as well as in association with others.

(2) No one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his property.

Article 18. Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion; this right includes freedom to change his religion or belief, and freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest his religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance.

Article 19. Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.

Article 20.

(1) Everyone has the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association.

(2) (No one may be compelled to belong to an association.

Article 21.

(1) Everyone has the right to take part in the government of his country, directly or through freely chosen representatives.

(2) Everyone has the right of equal access to public service in his country.

(3) The will of the people shall be the basis of the authority of government; this will shall be expressed in periodic and genuine elections which shall be by universal and equal suffrage and shall be held by secret vote or by equivalent free voting procedures.

Article 22. Everyone, as a member of society, has the right to social security and is entitled to realization, through national effort and international co-operation and in accordance with the organization and resources of each State, of the economic, social and cultural rights indispensable for his dignity and the free development of his personality.

Article 23.

(1) Everyone has the right to work, to free choice of employment, to just and favourable conditions of work and to protection against unemployment.

(2) Everyone, without any discrimination, has the right to equal pay for equal work.

(3) Everyone who works has the right to just and favourable remuneration ensuring for himself and his family an existence worthy of human dignity, and supplemented, if necessary, by other means of social protection.

(4) Everyone has the right to form and to join trade unions for the protection of his interests.

Article 24. Everyone has the right to rest and leisure, including reasonable limitation of working hours and periodic holidays with pay.

Article 25.

(1) Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services, and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his control.

(2) Motherhood and childhood are entitled to special care and assistance. All children, whether born in or out of wedlock, shall enjoy the same social protection.

Article 26.

(1) Everyone has the right to education. Education shall be free, at least in the elementary and fundamental stages. Elementary education shall be compulsory. Technical and professional education shall be made generally available and higher education shall be equally accessible to all on the basis of merit.

(2) Education shall be directed to the full development of the human personality and to the strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. It shall promote understanding, tolerance and friendship among all nations, racial or religious groups, and shall further the activities of the United Nations for the maintenance of peace.

(3) Parents have a prior right to choose the kind of education that shall be given to their children.

Article 27.

(1) Everyone has the right freely to participate in the cultural life of the community, to enjoy the arts and to share in scientific advancement and its benefits.

(2) Everyone has the right to the protection of the moral and material interests resulting from any scientific, literary or artistic production of which he is the author.

Article 28. Everyone is entitled to a social and international order in which the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration can be fully realized.

Article 29.

(1) Everyone has duties to the community in which alone the free and full development of his personality is possible.

(2) In the exercise of his rights and freedoms, everyone shall be subject only to such limitations as are determined by law solely for the purpose of

securing due recognition and respect for the rights and freedoms of others and of meeting the just requirements of morality, public order and the general welfare in a democratic society.

(3) These rights and freedoms may in no case be exercised contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations.

Article 30. Nothing in this Declaration may be interpreted as implying for any State, group or person any right to engage in any activity or to perform any act aimed at the destruction of any of the rights and freedoms set forth herein.

Human rights violations.

Using the information from the UDHR can you identify what human rights have been violated in this case? Do you find any aspects of this story disturbing? If yes why and which aspects? Do you think this kind of story could happen in your own country? Please explain.

The different scenarios:

Example 1: Rose is a biology student and a leader of the University student union. A year ago, she wrote an article in the student newspaper calling for education reform and complaining about the government's inaction in this field. Two days later she was arrested by policemen on the campus. She has been in prison since then. No reasons were stated for the arrest, she has not been able to contact a lawyer and there is no date for a future legal hearing.

Human rights violated: In this case Rose is denied her *right to liberty* (article 3) and *to a fair trial* (article 10) as she is held in custody *without a fair hearing*. Her *freedom of expression* (article 19) was denied as she was arrested due to an article she wrote for the newspaper. She has been *arbitrarily arrested and detained* (article 9) and is *being denied her right to equal recognition and protection before the law* (article 6 and article 7)

Example 2: Jignesh is a 50 year old man, who lives in a small and remote town. Both his kidneys have stopped functioning, and so he has to

undergo dialysis twice a week. The nearest health facility is 200 kilometres away from the place where he lives. The cost of the service, medicines and the travel take a toll on his financial situation. Despite his health condition, he cannot take time off from work since he is the sole earning member of his family. If he takes a day off, he suffers a cut to his salary.

Example 3: Alexander is a famous singer and musician in a country in Europe. He is also an activist close to the opposition party and has on several occasions criticised the government in public. Recently, all his concerts have been cancelled. His passport has been confiscated and he is no longer allowed to travel abroad for personal or professional reasons.

Example 4: David is a human rights defender and is trying to create a human rights advocacy in his country. Two months ago, he was arrested and sentenced to the death penalty for treason. Since being put in prison, he has been repeatedly tortured and humiliated. The letters he receives in prison are opened by prison officials before they are transmitted to him.

Example 5: Adsila is a young woman who hears voices. As she was wandering on the street and talking aloud, the police arrested her. She had not committed any offence but while in custody she was told that she would be transferred to a psychiatric hospital. In the hospital, she was forced to take high doses of psychotropic drugs which made her extremely unwell. She was bullied and attacked by staff and other male patients. She has no way to challenge her detention.

Example 6: Ramon is a 25 year old man who comes from a poor family. He was withdrawn from school by his parents at a very young age so that he could earn a living by washing cups and dishes in a road side tea shop. When he was 20, he started his own tea stall and started earning well. But he fell ill and was diagnosed with schizophrenia. No mental health services were available near Ramon's home town, so his parents felt they had no choice but to admit him against his will into a State mental hospital in the capital, where the treatment was free. At the state hospital, he is

regularly beaten, made to wear a uniform and live in a closed ward in unhygienic conditions. After nearly a year he is finally discharged. He applies for a job as an errand boy in a local government office and is selected for the position. But when the office head hears about his mental health diagnosis, he fires Ramon.

Exercise 5. Read and translate the text, give a summary of it:

What Are Human Rights Violations?

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) was established in response to the atrocities during WWII, including the Holocaust. The document outlines the human rights that all people are entitled to such as freedom from torture, freedom of expression, and the right to seek asylum. When those rights aren't protected or blatantly disregarded, they are violated. What are the types of human rights violations? Who is responsible for preventing and addressing them?

Definition and types of human rights violations

A state commits human rights violations either directly or indirectly. Violations can either be intentionally performed by the state and or come as a result of the state failing to prevent the violation. When a state engages in human rights violations, various actors can be involved such as police, judges, prosecutors, government officials, and more. The violation can be physically violent in nature, such as police brutality, while rights such as the right to a fair trial can also be violated, where no physical violence is involved.

The second type of violation – failure by the state to protect – occurs when there's a conflict between individuals or groups within a society. If the state does nothing to intervene and protect vulnerable people and groups, it's participating in the violations. In the United States, the state

failed to protect black Americans when lynchings frequently occurred around the country. Since many of those responsible for the lynchings were also state actors (like the police), this is an example of both types of violations occurring at the same time.

Examples of human rights violations

We've mentioned a few examples of human rights violations, but there are many more. Civil, political, economic, cultural, and social rights can all be violated through various means. Though all the rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in the legally binding International Covenants of Human Rights (ICCPR, CESCR) are considered essential, there are certain types of violations we tend to consider more serious.

Civil rights, which include the right to life, safety, and equality before the law are considered by many to be "first-generation" rights.

Political rights, which include the right to a fair trial and the right to vote, also fall under this category.

Civil and political rights

Civil and political rights are violated through genocide, torture, and arbitrary arrest. These violations often happen during times of war, and when a human rights violation intersects with the breaking of laws about armed conflict, it's known as a war crime.

Conflict can also trigger violations of the right to freedom of expression and the right of peaceful assembly. States are usually responsible for the violations as they attempt to maintain control and push down rebellious societal forces. Suppressing political rights is a common tactic for many governments during times of civil unrest.

Violations of civil and political human rights aren't always linked to specific conflicts and can occur at any given time. Human trafficking is currently one of the largest issues on a global scale as millions of men, women, and children are forced into labor and sexual exploitation.

Religious discrimination is also very common in many places around the world. These violations often occur because the state is failing to protect vulnerable groups.

Economic, social, and cultural rights

As described in the UDHR, economic, social, and cultural rights include the right to work, the right to education, and the right to physical and mental health. As is the case with all human rights, economic, social, and cultural rights can be violated by states and other actors. The United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights gives a handful of examples of how these rights can be violated. They include:

- Contaminating water, for example, with waste from State-owned facilities (the right to health)
- Evicting people by force from their homes (the right to adequate housing)
- Denying services and information about health (the right to health)
- Discriminating at work based on traits like race, gender, and sexual orientation (The right to work)
- Failing to provide maternity leave (protection of and assistance to the family)
- Not paying a sufficient minimum wage (rights at work)
- Segregating students based on disabilities (the right to education)
- Forbidding the use of minority/indigenous languages (the right to participate in cultural life)

Who is ultimately responsible for ensuring human rights violations don't happen?

In human rights treaties, states bear the primary burden of responsibility for protecting and encouraging human rights. When a government ratifies a treaty, they have a three-fold obligation. They must **respect, protect, and fulfill human rights**. When violations occur,

it's the government's job to intervene and prosecute those responsible. The government must hold everyone (and itself) accountable.

This doesn't mean that members of civil society don't also have a responsibility to prevent human rights violations. Businesses and institutions must comply with discrimination laws and promote equality, while every individual should respect the rights of others. When governments are violating human rights either directly or indirectly, civil society should hold them accountable and speak out.

The international community also has an obligation to monitor governments and their track records with human rights. Violations occur all the time, but they should always be called out.

Exercise 6. Discussion: Human rights in Ukraine still 'dire' amid wide-ranging violations: OHCHR

The human rights situation in Ukraine as Russia continues its military campaign following last year's full-scale invasion, remains dire, according to a new report released on Friday by the UN human rights office (OHCHR) covering the six months to the end of January.

“The international armed conflict has led to a **wide range of human rights violations affecting both civilians and combatants**”, the executive summary states, adding that the Office has “**verified numerous allegations of arbitrary deprivation of life, arbitrary detention and enforced disappearance, torture and ill-treatment, and conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV).**”

During the reporting period, a total of **5,987 civilian casualties** were recorded, with 1,605 persons killed and 4,382 persons injured. Casualty numbers are likely far higher, as they only include verified incidents. A large number of civilian casualties resulted from attacks involving explosive weapons with wide area effects.

“The war has taken a heavy toll on civilians, with acts of hostilities killing **groups of individuals and in some cases multiple members of the same families** at once”, the summary states.

Hitting the energy grid

Since October 2022, Russian strikes targeting **critical energy infrastructure have killed at least 116 civilians and injured at least 379**. Significant electricity shortages have followed, creating serious challenges for civilians through the cold winter months.

Infrastructure and housing have been heavily impacted too, with damage or destruction caused to 107 medical facilities and 179 educational buildings during the reporting period.

The right to security, health, work, education, housing, social support and services for persons with disabilities, and freedom of religion or belief, have also been infringed, according to the OHCHR report.

Summary executions

Some 21 civilians were killed during the reporting period by Russian armed forces, “both through **summary executions and attacks on individual civilians.**”

There were 214 documented cases (185 men, 24 women and 5 boys) of **enforced disappearances and arbitrary detentions** of civilians in territory of Ukraine that was or remains Russian occupied.

“Russian armed forces **arrested victims in their homes, workplaces, in the street ,or at check points during so-called ‘filtration’ processes.** OHCHR documented 10 cases (7 men, 3 women) of enforced disappearances and arbitrary detentions of **media workers and human rights defenders**” inside occupied territory

Children disappeared

OHCHR said they were gravely concerned about the **arbitrary detention, enforced disappearance and torture or other ill-treatment of children** by Russian armed forces. During the reporting

period, the rights office documented the enforced disappearances of five boys between 14 and 17 years old.

“The children were all subjected to torture or other ill-treatment, and, in one case, the victim was deported to Belarus”, said the report.

Sexual violence

From February 2022 to 31 January this year, **OHCHR documented 133 cases of sexual violence related to the fighting** (85 men, 45 women, 3 girls), the majority of which took place in territory occupied by Russia.

Exercise 7. Can you name any historical events that might constitute violations of human rights?

The Holocaust (1933 – 1945): As we have already discussed the Holocaust was one of the main reasons for the writing of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The Holocaust of the Second World War resulted in the murder of 6 million Jewish people, in Europe by the Nazi regime and its allies. The large majority of murders occurred in “concentration camps” set up in Nazi occupied territories. Other groups were also targeted and murdered including people of different political backgrounds, ethnic, cultural, sexual and religious identities. This event also involved the murder of approximately 250,000 to 275 000 people with disabilities (mainly Germans) living in institutions.

The Slave Trade (16th - 19th century): This refers to the trade routes that developed on both sides of the Atlantic between British colonies from the 16th through to the 19th century. Trading ships would set sail from Europe with a cargo of goods to the west coast of Africa. These goods would be traded for captured people – slaves – provided by African traders. When the European traders ‘ships were full, they would cross the Atlantic to the America’s, where the slaves would be to be traded for rum, sugar or other luxury items. These slaves were destined to work on plantations in the Caribbean or the Americas which produced goods for consumption in Europe. They were transported under horrific conditions and many died on

route. The slaves were kept as property and regularly bought and sold. They were frequently victims of violence and murder. Although slavery has been abolished, modern forms of slavery still exist today. Many people around the world are subjected to forced labour. In addition, sex slavery, which particularly affects young girls and women, is still a reality in many parts of the world.

Apartheid in South Africa (1948 and 1991): Between 1948 and 1991 in South Africa the government enforced a collection of laws that resulted in the segregation of black and other non-white South Africans from the white population. Legislation classified inhabitants into four racial groups: “black”, “white”, “coloured” and “Indian”. These laws forced non-white South Africans to live in different areas, go to different schools and use separate healthcare facilities and other public services. The non-white population was not allowed to vote, or to have political representation in government. They were also denied the freedom of association. They were also deprived of their right of citizenship. 80% of the land in the country was set aside for the white minority. Mixed marriages between different racial groups were prohibited. During this period there was also violent repression of non-white South Africans including the shooting of 69 protestors in Sharpeville.

The Cambodian genocide (1975-1979): Between 1975 and 1979 around three million people died at the hands of the Khmer Rouge regime in Cambodia. The Khmer Rouge regime wanted to make everybody work on farms run by the state in order to produce enough food to make Cambodia independent of outside aid. Children were separated from their parents and made to work in labour camps and adults were forced to move to rural areas to work in farms. Many people died from starvation and

forced labour at the farms. Opponents or suspected opponents to the regime, intellectuals, ethnic minorities and religious people were interrogated, tortured and killed. Numerous Buddhist temples were destroyed

Unit 3

The United Nations

The United Nations is an international organization founded in 1945. Currently made up of 193 Member States, the UN and its work are guided by the purposes and principles contained in its founding Charter. The UN has evolved over the years to keep pace with a rapidly changing world. But one thing has stayed the same: it remains the one place on Earth where all the world's nations can gather together, discuss common problems, and find shared solutions that benefit all of humanity.

The Secretary-General is Chief Administrative Officer of the UN is also a symbol of the Organization's ideals and an advocate for all the world's peoples, especially the poor and vulnerable.

The main bodies of the United Nations are the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council, the Trusteeship Council, the International Court of Justice, and the UN Secretariat. All were established under the UN Charter when the Organization was founded in 1945.

The General Assembly is the main deliberative, policymaking and representative organ of the UN. All 193 Member States of the UN are represented in the General Assembly, making it the only UN body with universal representation. Each year, in September, the full UN membership meets in the General Assembly Hall in New York for the annual General

Assembly session, and general debate, which many heads of state attend and address. Decisions on important questions, such as those on peace and security, admission of new members and budgetary matters, require a two-thirds majority of the General Assembly. Decisions on other questions are by simple majority. The General Assembly, each year, elects a GA President to serve a one-year term of office.

The Security Council has primary responsibility, under the UN Charter, for the maintenance of international peace and security. It has 15 Members (5 permanent and 10 non-permanent members). Each Member has one vote. Under the Charter, all Member States are obligated to comply with Council decisions. The Security Council takes the lead in determining the existence of a threat to the peace or act of aggression. It calls upon the parties to a dispute to settle it by peaceful means and recommends methods of adjustment or terms of settlement.

In some cases, the Security Council can resort to imposing sanctions or even authorize the use of force to maintain or restore international peace and security. The Security Council has a Presidency, which rotates, and changes, every month.

The Economic and Social Council is the principal body for coordination, policy review, policy dialogue and recommendations on economic, social and environmental issues, as well as implementation of internationally agreed development goals. It serves as the central mechanism for activities of the UN system and its specialized agencies in the economic, social and environmental fields, supervising subsidiary and expert bodies. It has 54 Members, elected by the General Assembly for overlapping three-year terms. It is the United Nations' central platform for reflection, debate, and innovative thinking on sustainable development.

The Trusteeship Council was established in 1945 by the UN Charter, under Chapter XIII, to provide international supervision for 11 Trust Territories that had been placed under the administration of seven Member States, and ensure that adequate steps were taken to prepare the Territories for self-

government and independence. By 1994, all Trust Territories had attained self-government or independence. The Trusteeship Council suspended operation on 1 November 1994. By a resolution adopted on 25 May 1994, the Council amended its rules of procedure to drop the obligation to meet annually and agreed to meet as occasion required – by its decision or the decision of its President, or at the request of a majority of its members or the General Assembly or the Security Council.

The International Court of Justice is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations. Its seat is at the Peace Palace in the Hague (Netherlands). It is the only one of the six principal organs of the United Nations not located in New York (United States of America). The Court's role is to settle, in accordance with international law, legal disputes submitted to it by States and to give advisory opinions on legal questions referred to it by authorized United Nations organs and specialized agencies. The International Court of Justice functions in accordance with its Statute.

The Secretariat comprises the Secretary-General and tens of thousands of international UN staff members who carry out the day-to-day work of the UN as mandated by the General Assembly and the Organization's other principal bodies. The Secretary-General is Chief Administrative Officer of the Organization, appointed by the General Assembly on the recommendation of the Security Council for a five-year, renewable term. The Secretary-General is also a symbol of the Organization's ideals, and an advocate for all the world's peoples, especially the poor and vulnerable.

The Secretary-General – Генеральний секретар ООН

The General Assembly – Генеральна Асамблея ООН

The Security Council – Рада Безпеки ООН

The Economic and Social Council – Економічна і соціальна рада ООН

The Trusteeship Council – Рада з Опіки

**The International Court of Justice – Міжнародний Суду юстиції
ООН.**

The Secretariat – Секретаріат ООН

Words and word combinations:

purpose	
principle	
contain	
to be evolved	
to keep pace	
benefit all of humanity	
deliberative	
policymaking	
representative	
membership	
peace	
security	
admission of new members	
budgetary matters	
require	
term of office	
Permanent MEMBER	
threat to the peace or	
act of aggression	
implementation	
subsidiary t bodies	
expert bodies	
central platform	
to provide international supervision	
rules of procedure	

at the request	
to settle	
to give advisory opinions	
in accordance with	
carry out the day-to-day work	
renewable term	
peoples	

Exercise 1. Complete the passage below, using the words from the box:

International Court of Justice (ICJ)

*Judicial, advisory, own, oral, territorial, autonomous,
Inaugural, primary, separate, highly qualified*

French **Cour internationale de Justice**, byname **World Court**, the principal _____ organ of the United Nations (UN). The idea for the creation of an international court to arbitrate international disputes first arose during the various conferences that produced the Hague Conventions in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The body subsequently established, the Permanent Court of Arbitration, was the precursor of the Permanent Court of International Justice (PCIJ), which was established by the League of Nations. From 1921 to 1939 the PCIJ issued more than 30 decisions and delivered nearly as many _____ opinions, though none were related to the issues that threatened to engulf Europe in a second world war in 20 years. The ICJ was established in 1945 by the San Francisco Conference, which also created

the UN. All members of the UN are parties to the statute of the ICJ, and nonmembers may also become parties. The court's _____ sitting was in 1946.

The ICJ is a continuing and _____ body that is permanently in session. It consists of 15 judges – no two of whom may be nationals of the same state – who are elected to nine-year terms by majority votes in the UN General Assembly and the Security Council. The judges, one-third of whom are elected every three years, are eligible for reelection. The judges elect their _____ president and vice president, each of whom serves a three-year term, and can appoint administrative personnel as necessary.

The seat of the ICJ is at The Hague, but sessions may be held elsewhere when the court considers it desirable to do so. The official languages of the court are French and English.

The court's _____ function is to pass judgment upon disputes between sovereign states. Only states may be parties in cases before the court, and no state can be sued before the World Court unless it consents to such an action. Under article 36 of the court's statute, any state may consent to the court's compulsory jurisdiction in advance by filing a declaration to that effect with the UN secretary-general, and by 2000 more than 60 countries had issued such a declaration. The declaration (the "optional clause") may be made unconditionally, or it may be made on condition of reciprocity on the part of other states or for a certain time. In proceedings before the court, written and _____ arguments are presented, and the court may hear witnesses and appoint commissions of experts to make investigations and reports when necessary.

Cases before the ICJ are resolved in one of three ways:

(1) they can be settled by the parties at any time during the proceedings;

- (2) a state can discontinue the proceedings and withdraw at any point;
or
(3) the court can deliver a verdict.

The ICJ decides disputes in accordance with international law as reflected in international conventions, international custom, general principles of law recognized by civilized nations, judicial decisions, and writings of the most _____ experts on international law. Although the judges deliberate in secret, their verdicts – rendered in both English and French – are delivered in open court. Any judge who does not agree in whole or in part with the court’s decision may file a _____ opinion, and few decisions represent the unanimous opinion of the judges. The court’s judgment is final and without appeal.

The court’s decisions, numbering approximately 70 from 1946 to 2000, are binding on the parties and have been concerned with issues such as land and maritime boundaries, _____ sovereignty, diplomatic relations, the right of asylum, nationality, and economic rights. The ICJ is also empowered to give advisory opinions on legal questions at the request of other organs of the UN and its specialized agencies when authorized to do so by the General Assembly.

Exercise 2.

The Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact

Corporate sustainability starts with a company’s value system and a principles-based approach to doing business. This means operating in ways that, at a minimum, meet fundamental responsibilities in the areas of human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption. Responsible businesses enact the same values and principles wherever they have a presence, and know that good practices in one area do not offset harm in another. By incorporating the Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact into strategies, policies and procedures, and establishing a culture of

integrity, companies are not only upholding their basic responsibilities to people and planet, but also setting the stage for long-term success.

The Ten Principles of the United Nations Global Compact are derived from: the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Labour Organization's Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, and the United Nations Convention Against Corruption

Human Rights

Principle 1: Businesses should support and respect the protection of internationally proclaimed human rights; and

Principle 2: make sure that they are not complicit in human rights abuses.

Labour

Principle 3: Businesses should uphold the freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining;

Principle 4: the elimination of all forms of forced and compulsory labour;

Principle 5: the effective abolition of child labour; and

Principle 6: the elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation.

Environment

Principle 7: Businesses should support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges;

Principle 8: undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility; and

Principle 9: encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies.

Anti-Corruption

Principle 10: Businesses should work against corruption in all its forms, including extortion and bribery.

TASKS FOR INDIVIDUAL WORK

TASK 1

UKRAINE 2022

Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in February was a violation of the UN Charter and an act of aggression, a crime under international law. Russian forces conducted indiscriminate attacks resulting in thousands of civilian casualties, amid mounting evidence of other crimes including torture, sexual violence and unlawful killings. Attacks on civilian infrastructure also led to violations of the rights to housing, health and education. A new law on the media granted excessive powers for the Ukrainian state media regulator. Promised new legislation on civil partnerships appeared to include same-sex relationships. The war exacerbated existing inequalities for women, amid a reported increase in gender-based violence. The crackdown on dissent and human rights defenders in Russian-occupied Crimea continued.

Background

On 24 February, Russia launched a full-scale military invasion of Ukraine, including from neighbouring Belarus. Russian forces reached the outskirts of the capital, Kyiv, and made gains in the east and south of the country before being pushed back amidst fierce fighting. By the end of the year, Russian forces had retreated from much of the newly-captured

territories but retained control of substantial territory in the east, south-east and south of Ukraine, including Crimea.

The war had an immense impact on Ukraine's civilian population. The UN recorded close to 18,000 civilian casualties in 2022 including at least 6,884 deaths, mostly caused by the use of explosive weapons with wide-area effects. Actual figures were likely to be significantly higher.

Almost 8 million Ukrainians, mostly women, children and older people, left the country, creating the largest refugee population in Europe since the Second World War. Almost 7 million were estimated to be displaced within the country.

In September, Russia announced the illegal annexation of four partially occupied regions of Ukraine.

Ukraine's public, political and civilian life was dominated by the war. Martial law was declared on 24 February and remained in place at the end of the year. The Ukrainian authorities took several steps to reduce Russia's media, cultural and political influence within the country, including blocking various Russian online resources. At least 11 political parties were banned for their alleged seditious activities and ties to the Russian authorities.

One of the two principal Orthodox churches, the Ukrainian Orthodox Church (UOC), which, unlike the Orthodox Church of Ukraine, had retained formal subordination to the Moscow Patriarchy, amended its statutory documents in May to remove all respective subordination clauses, although its relationship with Moscow remained ambiguous. Nonetheless, in December, the authorities committed to banning its activities in Ukraine, and opened an investigation into its allegedly subversive activities, carrying out raids on churches and monasteries across the country.

The World Bank predicted that the Ukrainian economy would contract by around 45% and reported a tenfold rise in the country's poverty rate, as nearly half a million children were pushed into poverty. In December, a

World Bank official cited latest estimates of the cost of reconstruction as EUR 500 – 600 billion. The unemployment rate exceeded 30% at the end of the year.

Violations of international humanitarian law

Russia's invasion of Ukraine triggered an extensive human rights, humanitarian and displacement crisis. Russian forces conducted indiscriminate attacks, using weapons with wide-area effects which resulted in thousands of civilian casualties. On 30 September, a Russian missile strike on a humanitarian convoy in Zaporizhzhia killed at least 25 civilians.¹ Russian forces also occupied large swathes of territory, and denied civilians access to humanitarian aid. As Ukraine retook control of some territories, mounting evidence emerged of unlawful deprivation of liberty, torture, sexual violence, unlawful killings and other crimes by Russian forces.

In Russian-occupied territories, Russian authorities disabled or disrupted Ukrainian communication channels, including by replacing mobile networks with their own, and persecuted local residents who reported on attacks in the occupied territories, including through abduction, unlawful imprisonment and torture. There were reports of extrajudicial executions of civilians. In Bucha, for example, Amnesty International investigated five apparent extrajudicial executions carried out during the Russian occupation in March.

Due to the restrictions on communication, and lack of access for independent media and monitors into Russian-occupied territories, reports of military strikes attributed to Ukrainian forces, including those resulting in casualties and damage to civilian infrastructure, were difficult to verify.³ Russian officials and state-controlled media made regular allegations about unlawful Ukrainian strikes, some of which were shown to be false. The Russian authorities blamed Ukrainian forces for the destruction of the theatre in Mariupol on 16 March, despite compelling

evidence that this building, which was sheltering hundreds of civilians, was deliberately targeted by the Russian air force.

Prisoners of war

Prisoners of war were subjected to ill-treatment and possible extrajudicial execution. Russian forces and their proxies mostly denied humanitarian access to prisoners they held. In August, the UN announced a fact-finding mission into the July attack in Olenivka that killed dozens of Ukrainian prisoners of war held by Russian proxy forces, but the mission was unable to deploy to the site. Ukraine denied carrying out the attack, and claimed it was a deliberate killing of prisoners by their captors.

Photos and videos circulating on social media depicted torture and other ill-treatment of prisoners, and possible extrajudicial executions, which would constitute a war crime. Videos emerged in July showing a Russian soldier castrating a Ukrainian captive before killing him. Reportedly, Russian security services questioned the suspected perpetrator and dismissed the video as fake, although it was independently verified by open-source investigators.

Ukraine faced calls to investigate the abuse and killing of prisoners. In November, videos and photos were published on social media of a possible extrajudicial execution, in which at least 10 surrendered Russian soldiers appeared in one video to be alive and being held face down on the ground, while a later aerial video showed them dead. Ukraine opened an investigation but did not report its findings before the year's end.

Unfair trials

In violation of international humanitarian law, in June, a separatist “court” in Russian-occupied Donetsk “convicted” three members of the Ukrainian regular forces (one Moroccan and two British) of being foreign mercenaries and taking part in hostilities and “sentenced” them to death. In July, Russian authorities claimed they had already charged 92 Ukrainian prisoners of war with “crimes against peace and humanity”, and planned to

try them at an “international tribunal” in occupied Mariupol, thereby depriving prisoners of war of their fair trial rights.

Forced displacement

In Mariupol and elsewhere, Russian authorities forcibly transferred and deported civilians from occupied areas of Ukraine in what amounted to war crimes and likely crimes against humanity. This was accompanied by a screening process, known as “filtration”, during which some civilians were subjected to torture and other ill-treatment, including being beaten, electroshocked and threatened with execution. Others were denied food and water, and held in dangerous and overcrowded conditions. In some cases, children were separated from their parents. After being forcibly transferred or deported, older people, people with disabilities, and unaccompanied, separated or orphaned children often lacked the financial means, necessary support or the legal right to leave Russia or Russian-occupied areas.

Right to truth, justice and reparation

On 2 March, the ICC Prosecutor announced an investigation into the situation in Ukraine, which still had not ratified the Rome Statute, after receiving referrals from 39 ICC states parties. The investigation was ongoing at the year’s end. On 4 March, the UN Human Rights Council voted to establish an independent international commission of inquiry.

On 17 November, a Dutch court convicted in their absence two Russian and one Ukrainian nationals affiliated with so-called “Donetsk People’s Republic” of murdering all 298 passengers and crew of the Malaysian Airlines MH17 flight that was shot down over eastern Ukraine in July 2014.

Economic, social and cultural rights

Russia’s war of aggression imposed immense, deliberate hardship on the Ukrainian people, resulting in a dramatic deterioration in their standards of living, housing, health and education.

In the second half of the year, Russia increased its attacks on essential civilian infrastructure, including power and water installations, adding significantly and intentionally to the economic hardship. As colder months approached, missile and drone strikes seriously damaged at least 40% of Ukraine's energy infrastructure, regularly causing massive blackouts. These regularly and simultaneously deprived several million Ukrainians of electricity, disrupted critical services, including healthcare as well as education, and impacted the heating and water supply in freezing temperatures. At times, 80% of the residents of Kyiv were deprived of running water.

According to the Kyiv School of Economics, over 126,700 houses and 16,800 apartment buildings around the country had been destroyed or severely damaged by the end of October. According to the Ukrainian Ministry of Health in December, 1,100 healthcare facilities had been damaged and 144 destroyed.

Workers' rights

In July, two laws were adopted that undermined labour rights and were estimated to affect around 70% of the Ukrainian work force. They were presented by the Ukrainian authorities as necessary war-time measures. Various similar provisions had been proposed in 2020-21 but withdrawn in the face of trade union opposition and criticism from the ILO. The first law legalized zero-hours contracts for up to 10% of a company's employees, subject to a minimum guaranteed 32 paid hours a month. The second exempted companies with no more than 250 workers from various protections set out in the Labour Code, including collective agreements previously negotiated by unions. Many provisions were to remain in force for as long as the country was under martial law.

Older people's rights

Older people were disproportionately impacted by war-related death and injury, with people over 60 accounting for 34% of deaths among civilians whose age was known. Older people, particularly those with disabilities or health conditions, were often unable to access private or communal shelter facilities or evacuate from conflict-affected areas. In occupied areas, where Russian forces prevented the transport of humanitarian aid, older people did not have access to medications or other health services. Older people also struggled to access accommodation in displacement, where temporary shelters were largely physically inaccessible, and poverty-level pensions locked them out of the private housing market. After February, at least 4,000 older people were placed in overstretched state institutions such as care homes, in inferior conditions, while others continued living in damaged homes without electricity, heating or water.

Freedom of expression

National TV channels with substantive news and analytical content were merged in March by presidential decree into a United News platform broadcasting pooled round-the-clock news content. Compulsory at first, this arrangement was relaxed later in the year.

On 13 December, a law on the media was adopted which extended excessive powers for the official media regulator, the National Council of Television and Radio Broadcasting, to warn, fine, delicense and suspend any media outlet, and temporarily extrajudicially block access to non-media online resources.

LGBTI people's rights

The pressures of war prompted greater solidarity with some previously marginalized groups. In stark contrast to 2014, when the fighting in eastern Ukraine began and the presence of LGBTI people in the Ukrainian forces was discouraged, openly gay, lesbian and transgender

volunteers and conscripts reported being welcomed and respected within the ranks.

In July, a petition calling for the legalization of same-sex marriage received over 25,000 signatures, obliging a presidential response. In August, President Zelensky indicated that he supported the move but noted it required constitutional change, which was not possible during martial law. Instead, he promised new legislation on registration of civil partnerships, implying it would extend to same-sex couples.

Transgender people with identity documents bearing incorrect gender markers reported being stopped, and sometimes harassed, as they sought to leave the country, on account of the martial law prohibition on the departure of men between the ages of 18 and 60.

Women's rights

While women increasingly took on roles previously dominated by men, particularly within the armed forces, they remained under-represented in political and decision-making structures.

Some existing inequalities were exacerbated. According to UN Women, more than a third of female-headed households in conflict affected areas struggled to secure sufficient food.

The conflict also had a significant impact on maternal health. Russian strikes on healthcare facilities and power networks and the shortage of trained staff greatly reduced the services available, and the incidence of babies born pre-term increased markedly.

Many of those working with victims of domestic violence reported an increase in gender-based violence and a reduction in the services available.

War crimes of rape and sexual assault in Russian-occupied areas were reported. However, their documentation presented a challenge for the authorities and NGOs, for multiple reasons including mistrust by survivors and the associated social stigma.

In July, Ukraine ratified the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence Against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention) and became a full member on 1 November.

Environmental degradation

The war had a devastating impact on the environment, using huge quantities of fossil fuels, destroying habitats and causing forest fires, and polluting Ukraine's air, water and soil with toxic substances.

Russia's conduct of hostilities raised the risk of a nuclear incident. After seizing control of the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant on 4 March, Russian troops and military hardware were stationed within the site. Mortar or other explosions were repeatedly reported in its immediate vicinity, for which both sides blamed each other, and some infrastructure was damaged. By September, all six reactors were shut down. Negotiations on the establishment of a demilitarized zone around the plant led by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) were ongoing at the end of the year.

In November, Russian strikes on Ukraine's wider power network prompted the emergency shutdown of all of Ukraine's nuclear reactors. The dangers inherent in repeatedly shutting down and restarting nuclear reactors prompted the IAEA to describe the situation as "precarious, challenging and potentially dangerous."

Crimea

Unlike other Russian-occupied territories, Crimea, which had been illegally annexed in 2014, was less immediately affected by the war, although it suffered occasional Ukrainian strikes against targets ranging from sea vessels to airports, and an explosion that partly damaged the bridge connecting the peninsula with Russia.

Freedom of expression, association and assembly

The crackdown by the de facto authorities on the rights to freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and association continued, with prominent

members and activists of the Crimean Tatar community, individuals with pro-Ukrainian views, and members of minority faith-based groups, facing ongoing reprisals. Displays of Ukrainian culture and music were effectively criminalized, and several people were given administrative detention or heavy fines for playing Ukrainian songs during private functions.

Local lawyers who represented victims of politically motivated prosecutions were targeted with unlawful searches, arbitrary arrests, hefty fines and administrative detention. On 15 July, lawyers Lilya Gemedzhi, Rustem Kyamilev and Nazim Sheikhmambetov were disbarred in apparent retaliation for defending Crimean Tatar activists.

Prisoner of conscience Nariman Dzhelyal, the most prominent remaining former member of the arbitrarily banned Mejlis (representative body) of the Crimean Tatar People, was convicted under false charges of sabotage in September and sentenced to 17 years' imprisonment. His co-defendants also received long prison sentences.

TASK 2

Preventing human rights violations

The goal that every human being should have full enjoyment of their human rights implies that nobody should suffer violations of those rights. The prevention of human rights violations is therefore a key part of the United Nations' efforts to protect and promote human rights for all.

The **Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action** says that “the international community should devise ways and means to remove the current obstacles and meet challenges to the full realization of all human rights and to prevent the continuation of human rights violations resulting therefrom throughout the world”. This objective is set into OHCHR's core mandate in **General Assembly resolution 48/141**.

Similarly, the mandate of the Human Rights Council includes to “contribute, through dialogue and cooperation, towards the prevention of

human rights violations and respond promptly to human rights emergencies” (A/RES/60/251, para. 5 (f)).

The contribution of the Human Rights Council to preventing human rights violations

The Human Rights Council has highlighted the importance of prevention since its creation in 2006 through regular resolutions on “the role of prevention in the promotion and protection of human rights” (see below). In 2014, the Council mandated OHCHR to produce a **study on the prevention of human rights violations and its practical implementation**, following a process of consultations and seminars.

The Human Rights Council has in recent years been looking at ways to strengthen its contribution to the prevention of human rights violations. In 2018, it adopted **resolution 38/18**, which mandated three rapporteurs “to present... proposals on how the Council could effectively contribute in the future to the prevention of human rights violations”. The rapporteurs organized a series of **intersessional seminars** and other meetings in Geneva and New York. Their subsequent **report** formed the basis for **resolution 45/31**, which makes a general call for “all mechanisms of the Human Rights Council to integrate prevention into their work and, where appropriate, into their reporting, in accordance with their respective mandates” and puts in place some concrete measures to strengthen the Council’s prevention work, in conjunction with OHCHR. This work is ongoing.

Human rights mechanisms, including the Human Rights Council’s special procedures and its Universal Periodic Review as well as the treaty bodies can serve to provide early warning of human rights violations and support prevention work. Some mechanisms have adopted specific prevention approaches to their mandates. For example, the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination has developed **early warning and urgent action procedures** aimed at preventing violations of the

Convention. The **Commission of Inquiry on Burundi** has adopted a preventive approach to its work, seeking “to determine whether there are any risk factors pointing to a possible deterioration in the human rights situation [...] in keeping with the principles of early warning and prevention.” (A/HRC/42/49)

How to prevent human rights violations

The United Nations human rights system – the treaties, bodies and mechanisms that have been created over the years to promote human rights – aims wherever possible to prevent human rights violations from occurring in the first place or, when violations do occur, to address their causes so that they do not reoccur in the future. The system is based on three interdependent components that form the core of the United Nations’ approach to human rights:

1. **Norms or standards:** International human rights standards, in the form of international treaties and other legal instruments, which set out the minimum standards that each State should aim for in terms of human rights protection;

2. **Monitoring and reporting:** the impartial gathering of verifiable information to assess the situation on the ground, ascertain whether the minimum standards are being met or measure progress in realizing human rights for all; and

3. **Technical cooperation:** designing solutions to address the issues and concerns identified through human rights monitoring and put in place measures to ensure that human rights are respected, protected and fulfilled.

All three components help States to ensure that human rights violations do not occur or, when they do, that they are halted, and future violations cannot reoccur.

Monitoring and reporting are central to early warning which is a key part of effective prevention. OHCHR has been developing its early warning

capacities to ensure that human rights information and analysis informs early warning, planning and preparedness across the United Nations system.

The human rights system has created targeted mechanisms and approaches to prevention specific violations of human rights. Perhaps the most sophisticated example is the **Optional Protocol of the Convention against Torture (OPCAT)**, which requires States parties to take measures to prevent torture and other ill-treatment through the creation of a National Preventive Mechanism and by allowing the Sub-Committee on Prevention of Torture to access to places of detention. A notable feature of the preventive approach promoted by OPCAT is the “confidential report”, which creates space in which to address concerns away from the immediate glare of publicity.

Accountability is a key tool in helping to prevent new violations of human rights from occurring. If the perpetrators of human rights violations get away with impunity, they will not fear to commit violations again in the future – and others will be encouraged to commit similar violations themselves.

The right to remedy contains the concept of guarantees of non-repetition or non-recurrence which contributes to the prevention of human rights violations. The **Basic Principles and Guidelines on the Right to a Remedy and Reparation** lists a range of suggested measures that have preventive effect, including:

- ensuring civilian control of military and security forces;
- ensuring due process, fairness and impartiality in legal proceedings;
- strengthening judicial independence;
- protecting legal, medical and healthcare professionals, journalists, and human rights defenders;
- human rights education; codes of conduct and ethical norms for public servants and business;

- promoting mechanisms for preventing and monitoring social conflicts and their resolution; and
- reviewing and reforming laws contributing to violations.

The mandate of the **Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence** includes working to “prevent the recurrence of crises and future violations of human rights”. In 2018, the Special Rapporteur issued a **report looking specifically at the issue of prevention and proposing a framework approach to prevention**. In the same year, the mandate-holder also undertook a **joint study** with the **Special Advisor on the Prevention of Genocide** on the contribution of transitional justice to the prevention of gross violations and abuses of human rights and serious violations of international humanitarian law.

The concept of human rights due diligence has also proved to be a powerful tool in preventing human rights violations. For example, the **United Nations Due Diligence Policy on United Nations support to non-UN security forces** works by ensuring that the United Nations does not work with those responsible for human rights violations and support from the United Nations does not contribute to or increase the risk of human rights violations through the implementation of mitigation measures.

The prevention role of National Human Rights Institutions

In the same way that prevention forms a core part of human rights protection and promotion at the international level, national human rights institutions (NHRIs) play an important role in preventing human rights violations domestically as part of their mandate to promote and protect human rights. Some NHRIs have specific prevention mandates, such as the **national preventive mechanisms** established under the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture. But all NHRIs have a role in general efforts to prevent human rights violations from occurring or

reoccurring within their jurisdiction. Their special character as a bridge between government and civil society can be especially important in prevention efforts by opening the space to address underlying structural causes of violations.

Human rights and the prevention of genocide and atrocity crimes

Human rights violations, especially when widespread and systematic, can be the precursors for ever more serious escalations in which atrocity crimes and genocide can take place. The **prevention mandate** of the Special Advisor on the Prevention of Genocide complements that of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and OHCHR works closely with the **Office on Genocide Prevention and Responsibility to Protect**.

The **Framework of Analysis for Atrocity Crimes** includes amongst the requirements for atrocity crime prevention “ensuring that the rule of law is respected and that all human rights are protected, without discrimination”. It includes, amongst the risk factors to watch, a record of “past or current serious violations of international human rights and humanitarian law, [...] that have not been prevented, punished or adequately addressed and, as a result, create a risk of further violations.”

The Human Rights Council regularly interacts with the Special Advisor on the Prevention of Genocide at its regular sessions and adopts resolutions on prevention of genocide.

TASK 3

Peace and Security

To save succeeding generations from the scourge of war” are among the first very words of the UN Charter (in its Preamble), and those words were the main motivation for creating the United Nations, whose founders had lived through the devastation of two world wars by 1945. Since the UN's creation on 24 October 1945 (the date its Charter came into force), the United Nations has often been called upon to prevent disputes from escalating into war, or to help

restore peace following the outbreak of armed conflict, and to promote lasting peace in societies emerging from wars.

Security Council

Over the decades, the UN has helped to end numerous conflicts, often through actions of the Security Council – the organ with primary responsibility, under the United Nations Charter, for the maintenance of international peace and security. When it receives a complaint about a threat to peace, the Council first recommends that the parties seek an agreement by peaceful means. In some cases, the Council itself investigates and mediates. It may appoint special representatives or request the Secretary-General to do so, or to use his good offices. It may set forth principles for a peaceful settlement.

When a dispute leads to fighting, the Council's first concern is to end it as soon as possible. On many occasions, the Council has issued ceasefire directives, which have helped to prevent major hostilities. It also deploys UN peacekeeping operations to reduce tensions in troubled areas, keep opposing forces apart, and create conditions for sustainable peace after settlements have been reached. The Council may decide on enforcement measures, economic sanctions (such as trade embargoes) or collective military action.

General Assembly

According to the Charter, the General Assembly can make recommendations on the general principles of cooperation for maintaining international peace and security, including disarmament, and for the peaceful settlement of any situation that might impair friendly relations among nations. The General Assembly may also discuss any question relating to international peace and security and make recommendations the Security Council is not currently discussing the issue.

Pursuant to its “Uniting for Peace” resolution of November 1950 (resolution 377 (V)), the General Assembly may also take action if the Security Council fails to act, owing to the negative vote of a Permanent Member, in a case where there appears to be a threat to, or breach of peace, or an act of

aggression. The Assembly can consider the matter immediately in order to make recommendations to Members for collective measures to maintain, or restore, international peace and security.

Secretary-General

The Charter empowers the Secretary-General to “One of the most vital roles played by the Secretary-General is the use of his “good offices” – steps taken publicly and in private that draw upon his independence, impartiality and integrity to prevent international disputes from arising, escalating or spreading.

Conflict Prevention

The main strategies to prevent disputes from escalating into conflict, and to prevent the recurrence of conflict, are preventive diplomacy and preventive disarmament. Preventive diplomacy refers to action taken to prevent disputes from arising or escalating into conflicts, and to limit the spread of conflicts as they arise. It may take the form of mediation, conciliation or negotiation.

Preventive diplomacy

Early warning is an essential component of prevention, and the United Nations carefully monitors developments around the world to detect threats to international peace and security, thereby enabling the Security Council and the Secretary-General to carry out preventive action. Envoys and special representatives of the Secretary-General are engaged in mediation and preventive diplomacy throughout the world. In some trouble spots, the mere presence of a skilled envoy can prevent the escalation of tension. These envoys often cooperate with regional organizations.

Preventive disarmament

Complementing preventive diplomacy is preventive disarmament, which seeks to reduce the number of small arms in conflict-prone regions. In El Salvador, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Timor-Leste and elsewhere, this has entailed demobilizing combat forces, as well as collecting and destroying their weapons as part of an overall peace agreement. Destroying yesterday’s weapons prevents their use in tomorrow’s wars.

Preventing Genocide and Responsibility to Protect

Prevention requires apportioning responsibility and promoting collaboration between the concerned States and the international community. The duty to prevent and halt genocide and mass atrocities lies first and foremost with the State, but the international community has a role that cannot be blocked by the invocation of sovereignty. Sovereignty no longer exclusively protects States from foreign interference; it is a charge of responsibility where States are accountable for the welfare of their people. This principle is enshrined in article 1 of the Genocide Convention and embodied in the principle of “sovereignty as responsibility” and in the concept of the Responsibility to Protect.

The Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide acts as a catalyst to raise awareness of the causes and dynamics of genocide, to alert relevant actors where there is a risk of genocide, and to advocate and mobilize for appropriate action. The Special Adviser on the Responsibility to Protect leads the conceptual, political, institutional and operational development of the Responsibility to Protect. The efforts of their Office include alerting relevant actors to the risk of genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity, enhancing the capacity of the United Nations to prevent these crimes, including their incitement.

Peacekeeping

United Nations peacekeeping operations are a vital instrument employed by the international community to advance peace and security.

The first UN peacekeeping mission was established in 1948 when the Security Council authorized the deployment of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO) to the Middle East to monitor the Armistice Agreement between Israel and its Arab neighbours. Since then, there have been more than 70 UN peacekeeping operations around the world.

Over 72 years, UN peacekeeping has evolved to meet the demands of different conflicts and a changing political landscape. Born at the time when Cold War rivalries frequently paralyzed the Security Council, UN peacekeeping

goals were primarily limited to maintaining ceasefires and stabilizing situations on the ground, so that efforts could be made at the political level to resolve the conflict by peaceful means.

UN peacekeeping expanded in the 1990s, as the end of the Cold War created new opportunities to end civil wars through negotiated peace settlements. Many conflicts ended, either through direct UN mediation, or through the efforts of others acting with UN support. Countries assisted included El Salvador, Guatemala, Namibia, Cambodia, Mozambique, Tajikistan, and Burundi. In the late nineties, continuing crises led to new operations in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Central African Republic, Timor Leste, Sierra Leone and Kosovo.

In the new millennium, peacekeepers have been deployed to Liberia, Côte d'Ivoire, Sudan, South Sudan, Haiti, and Mali.

Today's conflicts are less numerous but deeply rooted. For example, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Darfur, and South Sudan today, are in a second or third wave of conflict. And many are complicated by regional dimensions that are key to their solution. In fact, some two-thirds of peacekeeping personnel today are deployed amid ongoing conflict, where peace agreements are shaky or absent. Conflicts today are also increasingly intensive, involving determined armed groups with access to sophisticated armaments and techniques.

The nature of conflict has also changed over the years. UN peacekeeping, originally developed as a means of resolving inter-State conflict, has been increasingly applied over time to intra-State conflicts and civil wars. Although the military remains the backbone of most peacekeeping operations, today's peacekeepers perform a variety of complex tasks, from helping to build sustainable institutions of governance, through human rights monitoring and security sector reform, to the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of former combatants, and demining.

Peacebuilding

Within the United Nations, peacebuilding refers to efforts to assist countries and regions in their transitions from war to peace and to reduce a country's risk of lapsing or relapsing into conflict by strengthening national capacities for conflict management, and laying the foundations for sustainable peace and development.

Building lasting peace in war-torn societies is a daunting challenge for global peace and security. Peacebuilding requires sustained international support for national efforts across the broadest range of activities. For instance, peacebuilders monitor ceasefires, demobilize and reintegrate combatants, assist the return of refugees and displaced persons, help to organize and monitor elections of a new government, support justice and security sector reforms, enhance human rights protections, and foster reconciliation after past atrocities. Peacebuilding involves action by a wide array of organizations of the UN system, including the World Bank, regional economic commissions, NGOs and local citizens' groups. Peacebuilding has played a prominent role in UN operations in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, El Salvador, Guatemala, Kosovo, Liberia and Mozambique, as well as more recently in Afghanistan, Burundi, Iraq, Sierra Leone and Timor-Leste. An example of inter-state peacebuilding has been the UN Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea.

Recognizing that the UN needs to better anticipate and respond to the challenges of peacebuilding, the 2005 World Summit approved the creation of a new Peacebuilding Commission. In the resolutions establishing the Peacebuilding Commission, resolution 60/180 and resolution 1645, the UN General Assembly and the Security Council mandated it to bring together all relevant actors to advise on the proposed integrated strategies for post-conflict peacebuilding and recovery; to marshal resources and help ensure predictable financing for these activities; and to develop best practices in collaboration with political, security, humanitarian and development actors.

The resolutions also identify the need for the Commission to extend the period of international attention on post-conflict countries, and where necessary, highlight any gaps which threaten to undermine peacebuilding.

The General Assembly and Security Council resolutions establishing the Peacebuilding Commission also provided for the establishment of a Peacebuilding Fund & a Peacebuilding Support Office.

The Rule of Law

Promoting the rule of law at the national and international levels is at the heart of the United Nations' mission. Establishing respect for the rule of law is fundamental to achieving a durable peace in the aftermath of conflict, to the effective protection of human rights, and to sustained economic progress and development. The principle that everyone – from the individual to the State itself – is accountable to laws that are publicly promulgated, equally enforced and independently adjudicated, is a fundamental concept which drives much of the United Nations work. The main United Nations organs, including the General Assembly and the Security Council, play essential roles in supporting Member States to strengthen the rule of law, as do many United Nations entities.

Responsibility for the overall coordination of rule of law work by the United Nations system rests with the Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group, chaired by the Deputy Secretary-General and supported by the Rule of Law Unit. Members of the Group are the principals of 20 United Nations entities engaged in supporting Member States to strengthen the rule of law. Providing support from headquarters to rule of law activities at the national level, the Secretary-General designated the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) as the joint global focal point for the police, justice and corrections areas in the rule of law in post-conflict and other crisis situations.

Women and Children in Conflict

In contemporary conflicts, up to 90 per cent of casualties are civilians, mostly women and children. Women in war-torn societies can face specific and

devastating forms of sexual violence, which are sometimes deployed systematically to achieve military or political objectives. Moreover, women continue to be poorly represented in formal peace processes, although they contribute in many informal ways to conflict resolution.

However, the UN Security Council in its resolution 1325 on women, peace and security has recognized that including women and gender perspectives in decision-making can strengthen prospects for sustainable peace. The landmark resolution addresses the situation of women in armed conflict and calls for their participation at all levels of decision-making on conflict resolution and peacebuilding.

Since the agenda was set with the core principles of resolution 1325, the Security Council adopted three supporting resolutions – 1820, 1888 and 1889. All four resolutions focus on two key goals: strengthening women's participation in decision-making and ending sexual violence and impunity.

Since 1999, the systematic engagement of the UN Security Council has firmly placed the situation of children affected by armed conflict as an issue affecting peace and security. The Security Council has created a strong framework and provided the Secretary-General with tools to respond to violations against children. The Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict serves as the leading UN advocate for the protection and well-being of children affected by armed conflict.

Peaceful uses of outer space

The UN works to ensure that outer space is used for peaceful purposes and that the benefits from space activities are shared by all nations. This concern for the peaceful uses of outer space began soon after the launch of Sputnik – the first artificial satellite – by the Soviet Union in 1957 and has kept pace with advances in space technology. The UN has played an important role by developing international space law and by promoting international cooperation in space science and technology.

The Vienna-based United Nations Office for Outer Space serves as the secretariat for the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its subcommittees, and assists developing countries in using space technology for development.

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