

PORGMUN 2019



CLEARLY OUTLINING THE ROLE OF UN PEACEKEEPING FORCES

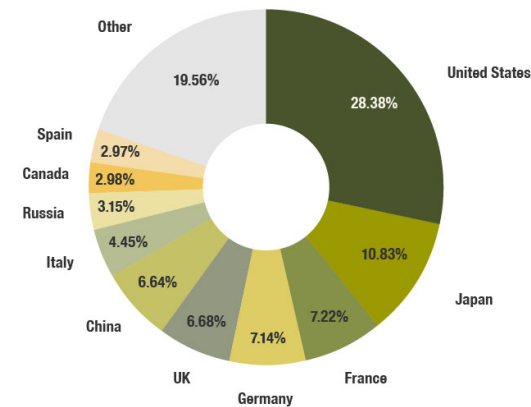
Forum: Special Political and Decolonisation Committee

INTRODUCTION:

The United Nations Peacekeeping forces, established in 1948 to aid in the organizations’ attempts to establish global peace following the tumult of the Second World War, has been present in a multitude of different nations spanning every continent across the globe. Currently, there are 14 active missions with specific, and very different, mandates as described under Chapter VI of the UN Charter ranging from stabilizing regions between two valid parties to actively combating hostile groups. As of 2005, the ‘Peacebuilding Commission’ was jointly established to centralize the then-individual missions and further research the necessary measures to take following post-conflict zones.

UN PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS IN AFRICA

TOP PROVIDERS OF ASSESSED CONTRIBUTIONS



Figures are from 2013–2015

Source: United Nations

Credits: Danielle Renwick, Julia Ro

MILITARY AND POLICE CONTRIBUTING COUNTRIES

COUNTRY	UNIFORMED PERSONNEL CONTRIBUTED
Bangladesh	9,307
Pakistan	8,163
India	8,112
Ethiopia	7,864
Rwanda	5,575
Nepal	5,316
Senegal	3,570
Ghana	3,053
Nigeria	2,975
Egypt	2,937

Figures are as of April 30, 2015

COUNCIL on
FOREIGN
RELATIONS

In addition, the UN charter allows the Security Council permission to formulate investigation committee’s which are often combined and organized via the aforementioned organization. These missions conduct studies in their specified areas to objectively analyze data to be used on the council’s floor. As a result of this, the peacekeeping investigations/missions hold significant power when it comes to information gathering.

DEFINITION OF KEY TERMS:

UN-Definition of a ‘Local Conflict’:

A local conflict “[involves] violence or the risk of violence centered at the subnational level.”

Independent State:

“A specialized type of political organization characterized by a full-time, specialized, professional work force of tax-collectors, soldiers, policemen, bureaucrats and the like that exercises supreme political authority over a defined territory with a permanent population, independent from any enduring external political control and possessing a local predominance of coercive power (always supplemented with moral and remunerative incentives as well) great enough to maintain general obedience to its laws or commands within its territorial borders.”

MINUSCA, MINUSMA, MONUSCO, UNMISS:

Abbreviations: **Peacekeeping = PCKP**

MINUSCA = PCKP mission in the Central African Republic

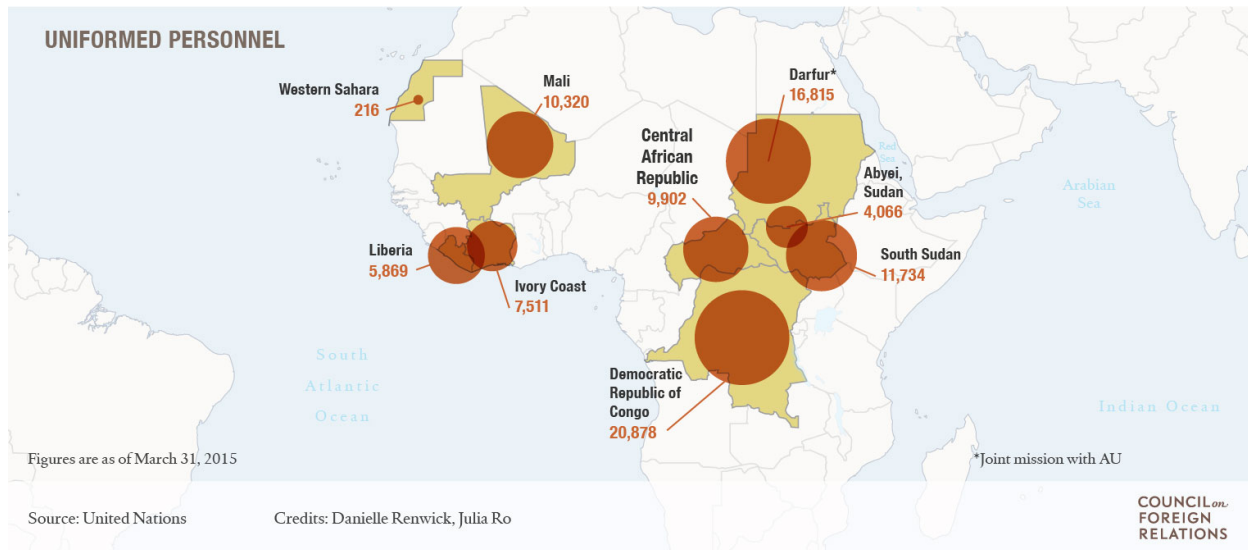
MINUSMA = PCKP mission in the Republic of Mali

MONUSCO = PCKP mission of the Democratic Republic of the Congo

UNMISS = PCKP mission in Republic of South Sudan

AMISOM: African Union sponsored peacekeeping mission in Somalia, works in tandem with UN forces

UN PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS IN AFRICA



GENERAL OVERVIEW:

Since the founding of the United Nations, over 3,500 UN Peacekeeping Forces have lost their lives serving in conflicts abroad with a recent uptick in violence resulting in 195 deaths in the past two years alone. According to a UN report, “The blue helmet and the United Nations flag no longer offer “natural” protection” for communities” who are in dire need of security assistance to secure day-to-day life. Historically, UN peacekeeping missions have withdrawn troops following flare-ups in local violence. Today, in part due to the necessity of forces on the ground, that is unlikely to happen. As a result, the UN must adapt to circumstances surrounding the force. According to US Colonel William R Phillips, and Lt. General Carloz Alberta dos Santos Cruz, the causes of casualties are ‘well known’ and there is ‘no adequate explanation for why some basic measures have *still* not been taken to reduce fatalities’ presenting either ‘lack of will, determination, and accountability among the United Nations and Member States’ regarding forces. While still a symbol of hope, the UN flag and blue helmets are now regarded as targets by many militant groups seeking to destabilize regions for their own, largely tribal/communal interests. As a result of this, over 91,000 troops and an additional 20,000 civilians have been deployed across the globe - 80,000 of whom reside in African nations.

Issues facing UN Forces:

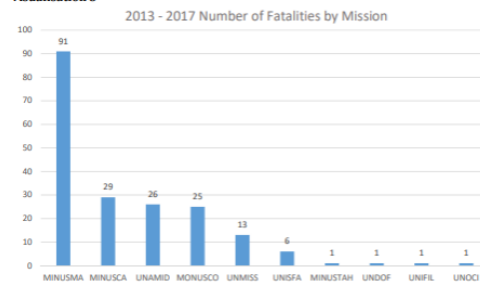
As acknowledged in [this report](#), Peacekeepers suffer from a variety of issues including a ‘deficit of leadership’ both locally and abroad, issues in ‘operational behaviour’ that increase hostility towards

perceived UN inaction, an inability to adapt to very different local conflicts that are unique to specific areas, a failure to ‘use force’ when confronted by hostile groups, ‘deficient training’ and more. Despite this, many credit on-the-ground forces with sustaining peace in the Balkans following the many wars in the region in the late 90’s.

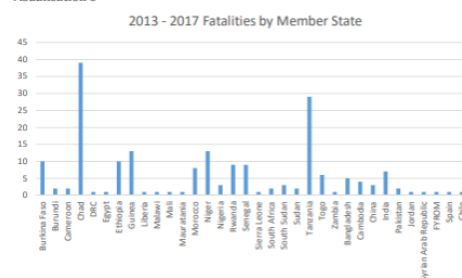
Criticism:

Regrettably, according to both internal UN reports and member-state investigations relating to crimes committed by peacekeeping missions, following deployment, Peacekeepers are just as likely to abuse their power like sister military organizations. To further that, forces have a surprisingly high number of fatalities in missions that are supposed to be largely peaceful. As a result of this, popular approval for nation states’ support of the organization have plunged, with calls for the forces to either be eliminated or reformed.

Visualisation 5



Visualisation 6



TIMELINE:

Current DPKO-led Peace Missions		
Year Launched	Location	Name of Mission
1948	MIDDLE EAST	UNTSO — UN Truce Supervision Organization
1949	INDIA/PAKISTAN	UNMOGIP — UN Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan
1964	CYPRUS	UNFICYP — UN Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus
1974	SYRIA	UNDOF — UN Disengagement Observer Force
1978	LEBANON	UNIFIL— UN Interim Force in Lebanon
1991	WESTERN SAHARA	MINURSO — UN Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara
1993	GEORGIA	UNOMIG — UN Observer Mission in Georgia
1999	KOSOVO	UNMIK — UN Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo
1999	DEMOCRATIC REP. OF CONGO	MONUC— UN Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo
2000	ETHIOPIA/ERITREA	UNMEE — UN Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea
2002	AFGHANISTAN	UNAMA— UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan
2003	LIBERIA	UNMIL— UN Mission in Liberia
2004	CÔTE D'IVOIRE	UNOCI — UN Operation in Côte d'Ivoire
2004	HAITI	MINUSTAH — UN Stabilization Mission in Haiti
2005	SUDAN	UNMIS — UN Mission in the Sudan
2006	SIERRA LEONE	UNIOSIL— UN Integrated Office in Sierra Leone
2006	TIMOR-LESTE	UNMIT — UN Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste
2007	BURUNDI	BINUB — UN Integrated Office in Burundi
2007	DARFUR (Sudan)	UNAMID —AU-UN Hybrid Operation in Darfur
2007	CENTRAL AFRICAN REP./CHAD	MINURCAT— UN Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad

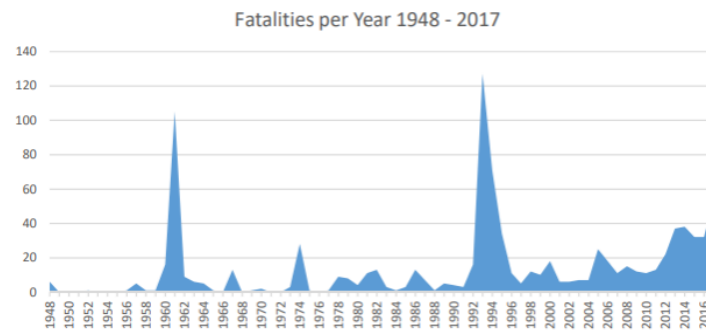
APPENDIX

For further supplementary knowledge, feel free to check out the following:

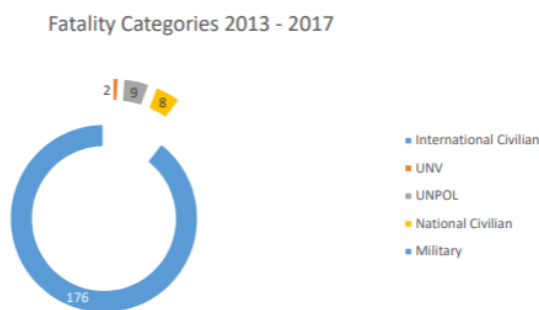
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ns37jHVUiIE>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T1xiS8mBpBs>

Visualisation 1



Visualisation 2



A RESOLUTION SHOULD ANSWER WHETHER OR NOT TO:

- Give the ability to conduct spontaneous checks with UN peacekeeping missions which are then judged by specified individuals on the ground,
- Supply superior and up-to-date equipment including: anti-landmine vehicles, night vision capabilities, laser aim, specified equipment and ammunition,
- Support clearly-define b and defensible bases, including several kilometres of roads, villages and IDP camps,
- Ensure sufficient personnel and do-able work loads for forces on the ground, so as to prevent overstretched forces,
- Arrest armed individuals who kill or harm peacekeepers and bring them to justice.
- Support the creation of Rapid Deployment Initiatives:
 - As discussed in the Brahimi Report, enabling peacekeeping forces to enter nations within a proposed 30-day period would ensure quick access to destabilized regions.

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