CYDCMUN 2018

UNSC Backgrounder

Introduction Letter

Dear Delegates,

My name is Tamerlan Nuhiyev and I have the great honor of serving as your director for the United Nations Security Council. I am currently a Grade 11 student attending Port Moody Secondary and I am extremely excited to participate in CYDCMUN 2018! Through Model United Nations, I have been able to gain a better grasp of the issues that face us in the world today and I have been able to develop my leadership skills in the fierce debate of MUN mock sessions. These are things that I truly hope that you will be able to develop while at CYDCMUN! Model United Nations truly enables you to widen your perspective and see things from a different lens as well as connecting you with life-long friends.

Besides Model United Nations, I have a great love of history, getting out and helping in the community and cutting my sleep down to dangerous levels. I have the honor of working Jiro Luat and Hooshang Moghaddam who will be serving as your chair and assistant director respectively. Jiro Luat, a senior arts student at Steveston-London Secondary School has been fascinated with international relations since joining the Model UN community. He looks forward for to moderate the UNSC committee, guiding delegates to generate solutions of a newly reformed peacekeepers. Hooshang Moghaddam is a junior student at Port Moody Secondary who fell in love with Model United Nations in Grade 10. He has a deep love for global affairs and hopes to share it with the delegates in the UNSC committee.

I expect everyone to come prepared with amazing research and a fire in their belly for good debate! If any questions or concerns ever arise, please do not hesitate to contact me on Facebook or at. On behalf of my chair, Jiro Luat, and assistant director, Hooshang Moghaddam, I would like to warmly welcome all delegates to CYDCMUN 2018 and the United Nations Security Council!

Best Regards,

Tamerlan Nuhiyev
UNSC Director | CYDCMUN 2018

Position Paper Policy

Well-written position papers enhance the quality of debates and help organize your research into condensed resolution papers and proposals. It will be harder for slacking delegates to immerse themselves into the MUN conference without the right knowledge. For your dais team, writing position papers demonstrate your ability to research effectively and reflects greatly on your work habits. The submission of position papers are not mandatory, but are *required* to be eligible for awards.

Formatting:
- All papers should not exceed more than 2 pages
- 12 Times New Romans font with 1.15 spacing
- Country Name, Delegate Name, Committee Name, and Topic clearly labeled on the top left-hand corner in that following order

Body Paragraphs
- I. Topic Introduction
  - a. Critically analyze the problem and factors of the issue
  - b. Explain topic significance
  - c. Include a brief summary on your countries ideologies towards this issue
- II. Topic Research and Development
  - a. Provide insightful summaries and generalization on the topic
  - b. Aim to point out statistics and certain aspects of your problem your country is focusing on
  - c. Provide a comprehensive understanding on your country's foreign policy
- III. Provide Solutions
  - a. Analyze past actions from your country and its implications to certain problems in the situation
  - b. Propose solutions that your country can realistically initiate
  - c. Describe the possible outcomes from your countries resolutions and the future impacts it holds for the topic

Please send all papers to your committee emails in PDF format with the subject title as:

"Position Paper: Country Name, First and Last Name"
(Ex. Position Paper: United Kingdom, Theresa May)

Position Papers are due on the 29th of March at 11:59 PST.

Introduction

"If blue-helmeted UN peacekeepers show up in your town or village and offer to protect you, run."
                                                                        - Andrew Thomson

Peacekeeping comprises the tools available by the United Nations to assist host countries subsequently from conflict. Regulated by the United Nations Security Council, peacekeeping has consistently been a highly dynamic instrument often ensuring harmony, playing a pivotal role in post-conflict areas by navigating difficult paths from conflict to peace; they assist ex-combatants during peace agreements through confidence-building measures, power-sharing arrangements, electoral support, socioeconomic development, and likewise. While many UN missions of peacekeeping have been successful, UN peacekeeping has been chastised for the lack of engagement in several crises, such as their absence during the Rwandan Genocide, which ultimately succumbed the deaths of approximately 750,000 people. Furthermore, there have been accusations of peacekeeping troops with acts of human rights violations during peacekeeping operations, consisting of sexual abuse, human trafficking, extortion, and murder.

Despite its purpose to "maintain peace", the occupation of UN peacekeeping in post-conflict regions have resulted in a rapid increase of criminal activity, typically prostitution. Gita Sahgal, a human rights activist, spoke out regarding the behaviour of peacekeeping soldiers, stating how "Even the guardians have to be guarded". Taking into account that peacekeepers have been taking advantage of their power, it is evident that there needs to be a reform of the peacekeepers in order to prevent future criminal activity within the UN and to continue enacting its purpose of ensuring peace in war-torn regions.

Another big issue which calls for the reform of peacekeeping is the new risks imposed on them. This includes the spread of international networks and jihadists situated in poor quality borders, especially in select regions of Africa. In 2014 alone, around thirty peacekeepers were killed and mutilated to these attacks in Mali. Moreover, a great amount of fatalities are the result of improvised explosive devices (IED) through their vehicles, which raises questions about the quality of equipment that peacekeepers have at their disposal. Reform must be imposed to address the issues regarding the quality of equipment and overall safety of peacekeeping.

Timeline

July 28, 1934 - After World War 1, the League of Nations establishes an International Force in the Saar region to maintain peace

May 29, 1948 - The first ever United Nations peacekeeping mission, the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO) is established in Jerusalem to keep the peace between Palestinians and Israelis

November 7, 1956 - The UN responded to the Suez Crisis with the United Nations Emergency Force to supervise the withdrawal of invading forces.

1960 - 1980 - The UN established short-term missions such as Mission of the Representative of the Secretary-General in the Dominican Republic (DOMREP), UN Security Force in West New Guinea (UNSF), UN Yemen Observation Mission (UNYOM), UN Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP), and UN Emergency Force II (UNEF II)

December 25, 1991 - A surge in military and civilian personnel join the peacekeepers after the collapse of the Soviet Union. The world enters a new age of conflicts and challenges.

April 7, 1994 - The Rwandan Genocide begins with Hutus slaughtering their Tutsi neighbours with machetes. It is estimated that 500,000–1,000,000 die in the ensuing violence. The inability of the United Nations to prevent this tragedy marks one of the greatest failures of peacekeeping in history.

July 11, 1995 - The Srebrenica Massacre begins with the genocide of more than 8,000 Muslim Bosniaks, mainly men and boys, in and around the town of Srebrenica during the Bosnian War. This is despite the United Nations declaring Srebrenica a safe area and stationing peacekeepers.

October, 2014 - The UN Secretary-General establishes a 17-member High-level Independent Panel on UN Peace Operations to make a comprehensive assessment of the state of UN peace operations and the emerging needs of the future.

**June, 2015** - The HIPPO report is issued with key recommendations for the way forward for peace operations.

September 2015 - The Secretary-General issues his own report on the implementation of these recommendations and the future of peace operations.

UN Involvement

Over the course of its existence, the United Nations has completed fifty-six peacekeeping missions, and is currently deployed in sixteen different operations, most of which consists of monitoring ceasefire, preventing potential attacks, and enforcing mutual non-interference. Through this, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) is responsible with the planning, preparation, management and direction of UN peacekeeping operations.

In terms of reforming the peacekeepers, a DPKO reform effort was launched in 2005 by the General Assembly resolution entitled "Peace Operations 2010", which follows reforms initiated by the "Report of the Panel on United Nations Peacekeeping Operations", also known as the Brahimi Report. The report includes the increase in personnel, the mutual respect of the conditions of service field and headquarters staff, the development of guidelines and standard operating procedures, and ultimately the improvement of partnership arrangement between DPKO, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), African Union, and European Union.

As mentioned before, the Security Council controls peacekeeping operations, where its mandates are influenced by the nature and content of the agreement reached by conflicting parties. Security Council mandates also reflect the discussions shaping the international environment. Through this, there are various tasks assigned to the UN peacekeeping based on different Security Council resolutions, based on "women, peace and security" (resolution 1325), "children and armed conflict" (resolution 1612), and the "protection of civilians in armed conflict" (resolution 1674). Furthermore, the UN Secretariat plays a crucial role in assisting the Security Council determining the deployment of peacekeeping operations, whether if it is an appropriate course of action, or whether other options of engagement should be considered.
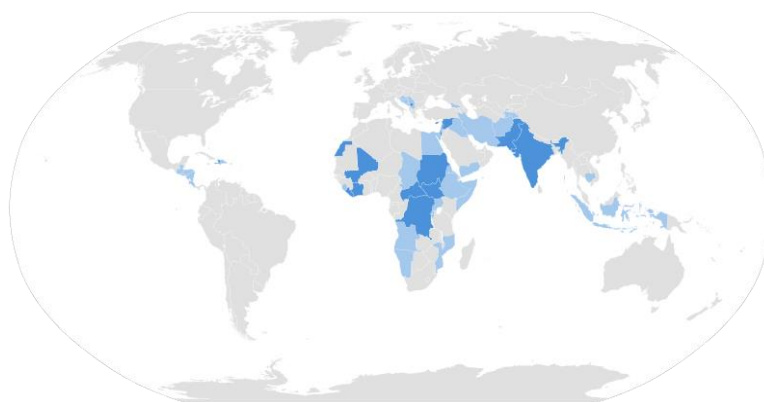
An overview of peacekeeping operations. Blue indicates past peacekeeping operations, and light blue indicates current missions.

Historical Analysis

The idea of peacekeeping predates the founding of the United Nations. After World War 1, the League of Nations established an International Force in the Saar region to maintain peace from 1934 to 1935. This collective use of force would be a rare sight to see from the League of Nations in the years to follow. After the horrors of the Second World War ended in 1945, the founding members of the United Nations met on October 24 in San Francisco, California to create the United Nations with the goal of maintaining peace and security throughout the world. The United Nations did not have to wait long in order to be met with their first problem, the 1948 Israeli-Arab war. In order to better understand the war and its factors, the United Nations created the UN Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO) on May 29, 1948. This organization was composed of unarmed military observers in the low hundreds whose job it was to observe the Israeli-Arab war and subsequent conflicts in the region. The UNTSO still operates today and its creation was the first ever experimentation with peacekeeping by the United Nations. The first true example and introduction of peacekeeping came during the Suez Crisis.

In 1956, Egypt was invaded by Israel, followed by the United Kingdom and France due to Egypt's nationalizing of the Suez Canal. The UN responded to the Suez Crisis with the United Nations Emergency Force to supervise the withdrawal of invading forces. United Nations Emergency Force as a peacekeeping force was initially suggested as a concept by Canadian diplomat and future Canadian Prime Minister Lester Pearson as a means of resolving conflicts between states. He suggested deploying unarmed or lightly armed military personnel from a number of countries, under UN command, to areas where warring parties were in need of a neutral party to observe the peace process. UNEF was the first official armed peacekeeping operation modeled on Pearson's ideas. Since 1956, most UN peacekeeping forces, including those called "observer" missions, have been armed. Such interventions would be rare however as the political tensions of the Cold War were displayed in full strength in the United Nations Security Council with the five permanent members of the Security Council exercising their veto powers to stop the UN from sending peacekeepers to conflicts where their national interests were at stake.

However, a few peacekeeping missions were established in less politically sensitive areas. In the 1960s and 1970s, the UN established short-term missions such as Mission of the Representative of the Secretary-General in the Dominican Republic (DOMREP), UN Security Force in West New Guinea (UNSF), UN Yemen Observation Mission (UNYOM), UN Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP), UN Emergency Force II (UNEF II), UN Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) and UN Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL). With the end of the Cold War and the dissolution of the Soviet Union in 1991 came the dawn of a new age with new challenges and complexities to match. The UN shifted and expanded its field operations from "traditional" missions involving generally observational tasks performed by military personnel to complex "multidimensional" enterprises. These multidimensional missions were designed to ensure the implementation of comprehensive peace agreements and assist in laying the foundations for sustainable peace. This included stabilize security situations, re-organizing the

military and police, overseeing the peaceful election of new governments and build democratic institutions.

The nature of conflicts also changed over the years. UN Peacekeeping, originally developed as a means of dealing with inter-State conflict, was increasingly being applied to intra-State conflicts and civil wars. The general success of earlier missions raised expectations for UN Peacekeeping beyond its capacity to deliver. This was especially true in the mid 1990's in situations when the Security Council was not able to authorize sufficiently robust mandates or provide adequate resources.

Missions were established in situations where the guns had not yet fallen silent, in areas such as the former Yugoslavia - UN Protection Force (UNPROFOR), Rwanda - UN Assistance Mission for Rwanda (UNAMIR) and Somalia - UN Operation in Somalia II (UNOSOM II), where there was no peace to keep. These three high-profile peacekeeping operations came under criticism as peacekeepers faced situations where warring parties failed to adhere to peace agreements, or where the peacekeepers themselves were not provided adequate resources or political support. As civilian casualties rose and hostilities continued, the reputation of UN Peacekeeping suffered. The most famous conflicts and events that come to mind when thinking of the failure of United Nations peacekeeping are the 1995 Srebrenica massacre during the collapse of Yugoslavia and the 1994 Rwandan Genocide. In the case of the Rwandan genocide, the United Nations ignored evidence that a genocide was being planned, refused to act once it was under way and finally when a few Belgian peacekeepers had been killed, began withdrawing a majority of the peacekeepers from Rwanda.

At the turn of the century and due to the horrific failures in peacekeeping during the 1990s, the UN undertook a major exercise to examine the challenges to peacekeeping and introducing reform. The aim was to strengthen the capacity to effectively manage and sustain field operations. With a greater understanding of the limits and potential of UN Peacekeeping, the UN was asked to perform even more complex tasks. This started in 1999 when the UN served as the administrator of both Kosovo in the former Yugoslavia - UN Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK), and in East Timor (now Timor-Leste) - UN Transitional Administration in East Timor (UNTAET), which was in the process of gaining independence from Indonesia. Peacekeeping would once again change after the September 11 attacks, with the peacekeeping also having to take into consideration powerful terrorist organizations. In October 2014, the UN Secretary-General established a 17-member High-level Independent Panel on UN Peace Operations to make a comprehensive assessment of the state of UN peace operations and the emerging needs of the future. The HIPPO report, as it is known, was issued in June 2015, with key recommendations for the way forward for peace operations. In September 2015, the Secretary-General's issued his own report on the implementation of these recommendations and the future of peace operations.

Current Situation

      Peacekeeper Mismanagement and Corruption

Today, a little more than 110,000 military, police and civilian staff currently serve in 15 peacekeeping missions, representing a decrease in both personnel and peacekeeping missions, as a result of peaceful transitions and the rebuilding of functioning states. However, there have been extremely concerning reports of corruption and exploitation within the peacekeeping core. In recent years, U.N. personnel have been accused of sexual exploitation and abuse in Bosnia, Burundi, Cambodia, Congo, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guinea, Haiti, Kosovo, Liberia, Sierra Leone, and Sudan. In the Democratic Republic of the Congo in the early 2000s, more than 150 allegations of abuse and exploitation were registered against peacekeepers, and U.N. investigators found that many of the alleged victims were orphans. This exploitation is horrific and is a massive stain on the good name of the UN. These cases of exploitation show that there are fundamental flaws within the structure of peacekeeping.

There are many causes for why this exploitation happens but part of the issue has to do with the way the organization is structured. The high demand for U.N. peacekeepers means that the organization is constantly scrambling for personnel so training and oversight take a hit. Furthermore, if peacekeepers engage in sexual abuse, the U.N. cannot punish them directly. They're under the legal protection of their home countries. This is also made worse by the fact that Major Troop Contributing Countries (MTCC), including Bangladesh, Brazil, Burundi, Cameroon, China, Egypt, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Morocco, Rwanda, and South Africa, do not train their troops and commanders on how to fight corruption in mission environments before they deploy. Additionally, few measures are in place to prevent corruption in appointments and selection in most of the top TCCs. On the civilian side, another part of the issue stems from the fact that people don't know in all cases what to do or where to go or to whom to report. All these issues must be addressed in order for the people peacekeepers are protecting to have faith in them and cooperate with them.

      Bureaucratic and Resource Constraints

Although some reforms have been put in place, the deployment of peacekeepers is still overly bureaucratic and at times structurally ineffective. The first part of the problem comes in the form of a lack of resources. Resource constraints cover all those factors that impede the ability of the UN as an intergovernmental body to generate, mount and sustain military forces in the field. This is not merely a question of funds and force generation but also, crucially, about the enabling systems and arrangements, from command, control and effective communications to intelligence and logistic support that allow different national contingents to operate as a more-or-less cohesive force. Obstacles in the way of achieving such integration have long bedevilled UN peacekeeping operations, as evidenced most acutely by the near collapse of the then newly established peacekeeping mission in Sierra Leone in May 2000, following a relatively minor challenge by local forces. An internal UN fact-finding mission uncovered a

litany of problems: poor standard of many of the military units deployed; 'critical deficiencies' in communications, transport and intelligence; and, above all, the absence of unity of command caused, in significant part, by the frequent refusal of contingent commanders to accept orders through the UN chain of command. Going further, the requirement to secure contested territory or act against irregular armed groups and spoilers will also call for more advanced assets commonly in short supply: specialised military and police units; aviation support; robust all-terrain vehicles; as well as intelligence, reconnaissance and surveillance (ISR) assets, including remotely piloted systems. Filling such requirements has, and will continue to, put added stress on a UN system that struggles with force generation even for 'traditional' peacekeeping. Despite several rounds of reform, the DPKO still has no systematic approach to tracing the capabilities offered by member states and matching them to mission requirements. In part, this enduring limitation is unsurprising, given the challenges involved in generating capability even before a mission has been authorised or its mandate finalised. Yet the weakness relates also to a continued reliance due to a lack of resources perhaps, but also of strategic creativity and engrained politico-bureaucratic obstacles on the 'typical peacekeeping mission template', which is then adjusted proportionally to whatever troop number is authorised rather than to the operational requirements on the ground. In addition, troop cohesion is often interrupted due to the interference of various member nations. Many troop contributing nations will place private caveats on their troops, dictating what they can or can't do while disregarding the mandate laid out by the UN for those troops. These bureaucratic hurdles must be overcome, as peacekeeping must be able to meet ever-evolving challenges.

The Question of Sovereignty

The role of sovereignty and the right of a nation who peacekeepers are operating in has long been a contentious issue. Currently, peacekeeping operations may only operate with the consent and cooperation of the government of the host state. Although this does maintain a nation's right to sovereignty, it also means that it is extremely difficult for a militarized peacekeeping force to be even-handed in its resort to force. If peacekeepers were to use force against the host state even if the government of the host state was acting contrary to the interests of its civilian population it would lose that government's goodwill and its continued operation in the state would be extremely difficult. This problem is the biggest challenge facing the institution of peacekeeping as it can be found as the source of some of the United Nations greatest failings such as the Rwandan Genocide.

Seeking Resolution

      Cutting Down Red Tape and Increasing Resources

Any approach taken to improve peacekeeping should keep in mind the need for the peacekeeping force deployed to be suited for the task at hand. This concerns caveats placed on troops, the tools that peacekeepers have available to them and making sure that the personal being sent on peacekeeping missions have the required training and expertise for the specific mission they will be carrying out. In terms of caveats placed on troops, could seek to do away with them, but this would take away a nation's sovereignty over their troops. Another method for caveats to be dealt with is by having nations increase their transparency on what specific actions they would not want their troops conduct before a mission is established. This would help the United Nations form missions with soldiers that can conduct it. This could be paired well with a system of vetting troops to see if they are actually suited for the mission they need to carry out. This would include increased transparency from the troop contributing nation on the soldier's training and experience.

Another approach to circumvent the specific resource constraints that bedevil UN peacekeeping missions would be to rely on the military forces of the UN's more powerful member states, to assist UN operations facing a threat to their mission or a sudden deterioration in the security environment. In recent years, many sub-Saharan conflict zones in particular have witnessed the swift deployment of Western quick-reaction forces that have played this role, all within the broader context of a UN peacekeeping effort. To some observers, this division of labour provides an appropriate model, playing to the respective strengths (and mitigating the respective weaknesses) of all parties involved. These militaries are subject to fewer of the resource constraints that are said to hamstring UN peacekeepers, while the UN, with its mandate of peacebuilding and growing list of related competences, offers a way out for governments who may be willing to intervene for short periods of time or in a limited capacity but whose appetite for more drawn-out and costly engagement in peacebuilding has, post-Afghanistan, nearly entirely dried up.

      Punishing Corrupt Peacekeepers and Increasing Oversight

The first step in increasing oversight of peacekeepers is by increasing onsite infrastructure to allow for the reporting abuse. For example, an on-site court martial for serious offences that are criminal in nature would afford immediate access to witnesses and evidence in the mission area. An on-site court martial would demonstrate to the local community that there is no impunity for acts of sexual exploitation and abuse by members of military contingents. The one downside to this would be that many nations would not take kindly to their soldiers being tried under any jurisdiction but their own. If such measures are implemented, delegates should seek to find a way to include the nation of the soldier being judged in the process. Another challenge that must be dealt with is the problem of their being a lack of infrastructure in the locations where peacekeepers operate for civilians to file complaints. To deal with this, a

commission should automatically be established when a mission is set up to hear the complaints of civilians. Lastly, delegates could seek to introduce whistleblowing as a method for rooting out abusive peacekeepers. This would require a way for troops to report the abuses of their fellow troops in a safe and disclosed manner.

Bloc Positions

Post-Conflict Nations

Despite a ceasefire within the regions, both the peacekeepers and local civilians are most vulnerable in nations that have recently underwent turmoil due to the lack of governance. In addition, the combination of mismanagement and corruption of peacekeepers results in near-absolute anarchy. Some peacekeepers to commit malicious acts, such as forced prostitution, and extortion, simply because there lacks an authority figure above them. Ultimately, even local citizens also have to be wary of the figures that are supposed to aid them. In this bloc, delegates would want to seek for governance within peacekeeping to prevent further corruption of power. As well, they want assurance that during a ceasefire, threats would be limited and persecuted by the UN peacekeeping.

Russian Federation

For over decades, leadership of peacekeeping operations and political affairs have been run by Western blocs, specifically France and the United States. There is a lack of key positions however for Eastern blocs, particularly Russian Federation. In contrast of having peacekeepers deployed from a multitudes of nations, Russian Federation proposes to have only a select few of nations control a specific region during a ceasefire, which would depict that certain military personnel will have full control of a particular territory. This proposal is due to the Ukrainian Crisis, where Russia seeks for immediate UN peacekeeping presence in Donbas, Ukraine; although, their primary motive is protecting "OSCE (Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe) Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine". In addition, Russia wants to run for key UN peacekeeping positions, such as the UN's Department of Political Affairs, which plays a central role in preventing and resolving conflicts.

China (PRC/ROC)

Despite its self-image as a rising power on the global stage, it was unexpected when China is committed to progress the reform of the peacekeepers. China vows to obtain key UN peacekeeping roles by taking charge of the UN's Department of Peacekeeping Operations. Interestingly, China's stance on peacekeeping reform align with Secretary-General António Guerres' own agenda pushing for practical reform, such as a stronger peace and security pillar, transparent processes, streamlined internal management, and geographic diversity in hiring practices in peacekeeping and the UN secretariat. Respectively, China's point of view in contributing has changed over the past ten years, making China a

donor government. Despite its teaming efforts with Russian Federation, China wants other nations to expand their peacekeeping troops, since China has by far the largest single pledge of troops, police, and transportation. In addition, China is a strong advocate for the right of sovereignty for every nation in which peacekeepers are operating.

Western Powers/Western Influenced Nations

The Western blocs have the most authority in peacekeeping operations since they hold key positions in UN peacekeeping. Unlike Russian Federation, the Western Blocs calls for aid in partner-building efforts, expand direct contributions to UN peacekeeping efforts, and push for systemic reforms by increasing scrutiny of post-conflict nations, particularly in operations in Africa. Furthermore, they also want other nations to expand their troops. This bloc should also propose a developed effort to train peacekeepers, especially peacekeepers from post-conflict nations. Members of the Western bloc will advocate for less intervention in peacekeeping from the nation in which peacekeepers are operating.

Guiding Questions

- How have historical solutions and factors contributed to the state of terrorism in Afghanistan today? Why have previous solutions been ineffective?

- What are the reasons for why peacekeepers are able to abuse the populace of the area they are supposed to protect?

- What specific factors contribute to the overly bureaucratic nature of peacekeeping?

- What resources are peacekeepers currently missing that inhibit them from properly conducting their missions, be it equipment, training or personnel?

- What jurisdiction should a nation in which peacekeepers are operating have in the peacekeeping operating in their territory?

- What can be done to ensure that the troops who are conducting a mission have the proper training and experience to carry it out?

- What are the current obstacles to civilians reporting the abuses of peacekeepers? What can be done to alleviate this?

Further Reading

- https://www.un.org/pga/70/wp-content/uploads/sites/10/2016/01/PolicyBrief2015_5_-Imlementing_the_HIPPO_Alexander-Ilitchev.pdf

- https://www.huffingtonpost.com/barbara-crossette/fixing-un-peacekeeping-th_b_10114052.html

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