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**FOURTH GENERAL
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THE TOPICAL ISSUES OF UN PEACEKEEPING ACTIVITIES

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INTRODUCTION

The United Nation (UN) is an important global organization that plays a crucial role in maintaining global peace and security and reconciliation in the world. One of its key functions is the deployment of peacekeeping missions to areas affected by conflict. However, in order for these missions to be successful and effective, constant adaptation and analysis are necessary. The world is continually evolving, and new conflicts and challenges that demand the attention and mediation of the UN are arising. By constantly researching and discussing these issues, the UN can stay up to date and inform about the changing dynamics of conflicts and crises.

In order to ensure that the UN peacekeeping activity remains effective, relevant and responsive to the changing global landscape, research and discussion are crucial. By engaging in continuous analysis, the UN can identify emerging trends and challenges and develop innovative solutions to address the pressing issues of our time.

The UN's role in maintaining peace and reconciliation is of utmost importance. The UN peacekeeping efforts require constant adaptation and analysis to effectively address the urgent problems in international conflicts and promote peace. By staying informed and engaged in research and discussion, the UN can play a key role in resolving conflicts and creating a more peaceful and just world.

CHAPTER 1. ANALYSIS OF THE CONCEPT OF PEACEMAKING AND ITS ROLE IN THE MODERN WORLD

Peacekeeping is one of the most effective tools available to the UN to assist host countries experiencing a difficult period of recovery from a conflict situation.

Peacekeeping has unique advantages, such as legitimacy, the distribution of responsibility, as well as the ability to deploy and ensure the functioning of military and police units from around the world, combining their efforts with the efforts of the civilian peacekeeping contingent in order to fulfill multidisciplinary mandates.

UN peacekeepers provide security, political support and peace-building assistance in order to help countries make the difficult transition from conflict to peace as quickly as possible.

The first UN peacekeeping force was established in 1948 to observe the armistice during the Arab-Israeli war.¹ These forces were referred to as the "Blue Berets", they were not armed and only observed the course of events.

The appearance of the UN armed forces (the so-called "Blue Helmets") occurred in 1956 during the crisis in the Suez Canal². This was carried out in accordance with a resolution proposed by Canadian Foreign Minister Lester

¹UNTSO FACT SHEET // United nations Peacekeeping : сайт. – URL: <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/mission/untso> (дата обращения: 20.09.2023)

²Первые Чрезвычайные вооруженные силы Организации Объединенных Наций I (ЧВС ООН I) // Завершенные операции ООН по поддержанию мира : сайт. – URL: <https://www.un.org/ru/events/missions/past/middle1.htm> (дата обращения: 20.09.2023)

B. Pearson and applying Resolution 377 A (V). The meaning of the resolution 377 (V) "Uniting for Peace", adopted by a "simple majority", organized by the Western countries, aimed at undermining the competence of the Security Council, under the pretext that if the Security Council was blocked by a veto to convene an emergency special session of the General Assembly, it would be able, within 24 hours, which could decide on the use of armed force on behalf of the UN. The use of armed forces, whether in the form of direct military action or police action, is known to be an action, which, according to Article 11(2) of the UN Charter, "any such question on which action is necessary shall be referred by the General Assembly to the Security Council, either before or after discussion". In other words, the Charter clearly provides that the Security Council has exclusive competence to decide on the implementation of actions involving the use of force on behalf of the UN.

Evolution of peacekeeping missions

Professors of International Relations Michel Liege and Kai Michael Kenke, proposed to classify peacekeeping operations by "generations". This classification suggests dividing operations into three generations³.

The so-called peacekeeping missions of the first generation belong to the classical approach. They are usually approved by the UN Security Council and are aimed at ensuring compliance with the ceasefire agreement signed by the belligerent States. These

³Kenkel K. M. Five generations of peace operations: from the "thin blue line" to "painting a country blue" //Revista Brasileira de Política Internacional. – 2013. – T. 56. – C. 122-143.

operations were most common in the Cold War⁴. These missions have the following features:

- They were created by the UN Security Council in accordance with the UN Charter;
- They intervene in a conflict between two internationally recognized States and are not used in the event of a civil war or revolution within the country;
- The warring parties have already signed a ceasefire agreement before the creation of the mission and agreed to the deployment of UN peacekeepers;
- The mandate of UN peacekeepers includes the creation of a safe zone between conflicting states to prevent the resumption of clashes;
- UN peacekeepers are neutral and disinclined to any side of the conflict;
- Permanent members of the Security Council (USA, France, Great Britain, China and Russia) do not participate in such missions in order to avoid conflicts between great powers. This practice became less common after the end of the Cold War;
- Most UN peacekeepers are soldiers with light weapons, who are allowed to use force only in self-defense.

Second-generation peacekeeping operations appeared after the end of the Cold War. Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali's "Agenda for Peace", published in 1992, mentions the possibility of creating stronger UN peacekeeping missions operating in more diverse circumstances. The main characteristics of these missions are:

- They were created in accordance with Chapter VII of the UN Charter by the Security Council, which allows the use of coercion in the event of a threat to peace

⁴Burk J. Why peacekeeping? // Armed Forces & Society. – 1997. – T. 23. – N^o. 3. – C. 323-326.

or violation of peace;

- UN peacekeepers can interfere in conflicts within states;
- UN peacekeepers are busy creating conditions conducive to peace, not maintaining the peace guaranteed by the ceasefire agreement;
- The consent of the parties is no longer a prerequisite for the transaction;
- UN peacekeepers intervene in an often hostile environment where they may be asked to open fire in order to impose their mandate; their rules of engagement more easily allow the use of force;
- Great powers can participate in missions.

The term "third generation operations" is commonly used to refer to peacekeeping missions that are not of the first or second generation⁵. Therefore, this is a negative definition rather than a positive one. In general, these operations have more diverse and complex tasks than the first and second generation missions. Among the tasks that often fall to the share of these missions:

- To implement measures to prevent the spread of infections across borders;
- To stabilize conflict situations after the ceasefire and create conditions for lasting peace;
- Help restore order and quality of trials;
- Monitor the observance of human rights and international humanitarian law;
- Ensure communication between the host country, the parties to the conflict, both internal and external, including regional organizations and NGOs;
- Monitor and report on the development of the situation in the area of operation;
- Protect civilians;

⁵Doyle M. W., Sambanis N. The UN record on peacekeeping operations //International Journal. – 2007. – T. 62. – N^o. 3. – C. 495-518

- Promote human security, confidence-building measures and power-sharing mechanisms;
- Support the conclusion of peace treaties;
- Support the transition of the states or territories where the operation is carried out to a stable government based on democratic principles, good governance and economic development.

How is the formation of the new operations functioning? The creation of a new peacekeeping operation takes place from the moment the Security Council decides to conduct it⁶. In this process preliminary consultations are being held, consisting of the Government of the potential host country, relevant UN actors, member States, regional and external organizations. The UN Secretary-General may request a strategic assessment to determine possible options for involvement. After that, the Secretariat sends a technical assessment mission to the region where the peacekeeping is planned to be deployed. The mission analyzes security, political, military and humanitarian situations, as well as the respect for human rights. Based on the findings and recommendations of the mission, the Secretary-General submits a report to the Security Council, which suggests various options for UN participation, including the extent of forces and resources. If the Security Council comes to the conclusion that a UN peacekeeping operation is the most appropriate, it officially authorizes its deployment by adopting a Resolution, which defines the mandate and the tasks that will be performed. The budget and the

⁶United Nations Peacekeeping Operations Principles and Guidelines // United Nations Peacekeeping : сайт. – URL: https://peacekeeping.un.org/sites/default/files/capstone_eng_0.pdf (дата обращения: 20.09.2023)

resources are allocated by the General Assembly⁷.

The Head of the mission, the Special Representative, and other important officials are appointed by the UN Secretary-General. The Head of the mission, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Operational support lead the planning of the political, military and support aspects of the operation.

A group of the peacekeepers is formed after the UN appeals to Member States to provide the necessary military and police staff. Peacekeepers wear the uniform of their countries and just blue helmets with the UN identification marks. According to the data, most peacekeepers involved now from Bangladesh, Nepal and India⁸. Civilian personnel are recruited and deployed by the UN Secretariat.

Thereafter, the Secretary-General submits regular reports to the Security Council on the implementation of the mission's mandate. The Security Council can extend and correct the mandate of the mission until its completion and closure.

Currently, the process of peacekeeping operations is constantly being reformed, new provisions and proposals are emerging to make the work more efficient and safer.

In March 2000, the UN Peace Operations Group was formed in order to analyze the problems of the existing system and prepare realistic recommendations for its reform. The Group included experts specializing in conflict prevention and peacemaking. As a result, the

⁷Handbook on United Nations Multidimensional Peacekeeping Operations // United nations Peacekeeping : сайт. – URL: https://peacekeeping.un.org/sites/default/files/peacekeeping-handbook_un_dec2003_0.pdf (дата обращения: 20.09.2023)

⁸TROOP AND POLICE CONTRIBUTORS // United nations Peacekeeping : сайт. – URL: <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/troop-and-police-contributors> (дата обращения: 20.09.2023)

Brahimi report was prepared⁹, which noted the need to restore the political commitment of Member States, make significant organizational changes and increase financial support. The report also stressed that the effectiveness of UN peacekeeping operations requires sufficient resources, technical equipment and clear mandates.

Based on the conclusions of the Brahimi report, the UN Member States and the UN Secretariat began to implement a large-scale reform, guided by the concepts set out in such documents as "Common Doctrine" (2008)¹⁰, "Peace Operations 2010" (2006)¹¹ and the 2005 World Summit Outcome Document and the Report of the High-level Panel on threats, challenges and changes¹².

In 2009, the "New Horizons" process began, which had two goals: Making an attempt to analyze the main problems faced by UN peacekeeping operations, and intensifying dialogue with interested parties to improve the mechanism of peacekeeping activities¹³. As part of this process, a partnership program called "Opening new

⁹ООН, Доклад Группы по операциям ООН в пользу мира, UN Doc. A/55/305-S/2000/809, 21 августа 2000 г

¹⁰United Nations Peacekeeping Operations Principles and Guidelines // United Nations Peacekeeping : сайт. – URL: https://peacekeeping.un.org/sites/default/files/capstone_eng_0.pdf (дата обращения: 20.09.2023)

¹¹"Peace operations 2010" reform strategy (excerpts from the report of the Secretary-General) // United Nations Peacekeeping : сайт. – URL: <https://peacekeeping.un.org/sites/default/files/peacekeeping/en/po2010.pdf> (дата обращения: 20.09.2023)

¹²Итоговый документ Всемирного саммита 2005 года Принят резолюцией 60/1 Генеральной Ассамблеи от 16 сентября 2005 года // United Nations : сайт. – URL: https://www.un.org/ru/documents/decl_conv/declarations/outcome2005.shtml (дата обращения: 20.09.2023)

¹³A NEW PARTNERSHIP AGENDA: CHARTING A NEW HORIZON FOR UN PEACEKEEPING // United Nations Peacekeeping : сайт. – URL: https://peacekeeping.un.org/sites/default/files/newhorizon_0.pdf (дата обращения: 20.09.2023)

horizons for UN Peacekeeping” was developed, which reflects the concepts of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support of the UN. Progress reports¹⁴ on the implementation of the New Horizons initiative were presented as a part of periodic reports, reflecting the main results of the dialogue on peacekeeping and efforts to embody the initiative.

Additionally, there are significant challenges in maintaining effective communication between the peacekeeping mission and the headquarters, leading to difficulties in coordinating efforts and addressing emerging threats in a timely manner, as well as a lack of personnel and technical means to combat threats, in 2018 the Secretary-General, within the framework of the peacekeeping Action Initiative (A4P)¹⁵, proposed to develop principles and obligations for peacekeeping operations, in order to achieve more coordinated and effective results in ensuring peace and security. As part of the UN reform, the Secretary-General also proposes to conduct strategic reviews of peacekeeping operations to assess their effectiveness. These reforms are aimed at preventing conflicts and achieving long term peace, as well as strengthening cooperation with other UN entities.

¹⁴The new horizon initiative:Progress Report No. 2 December 2011 // United Nations Peacekeeping : сайт. – URL: https://peacekeeping.un.org/sites/default/files/newhorizon_update02_0.pdf (дата обращения: 20.09.2023)

¹⁵Secretary-General's remarks to Security Council High-Level Debate on Collective Action to Improve UN Peacekeeping Operations // United Nations : сайт. – URL: <https://www.un.org/sg/en/content/sg/statement/2018-03-28/secretary-generals-remarks-security-council-high-level-debate> (дата обращения: 20.09.2023)

CHAPTER 2. ANALYSIS OF THE CONCEPT OF PEACEMAKING AND ITS ROLE IN THE MODERN WORLD

The UN peacekeeping activity is based on three principles. They emphasize the role of UN peacekeeping operations in achieving international peace and security. These principles are interrelated and reinforce each other¹⁶:

1. The principle of consent of the parties

UN peacekeeping operations are carried out only with the consent of the main parties to the conflict. This implies that the parties should be committed to the political process and agree to the participation of the UN to ensure peace. This consent gives the UN the necessary freedom of action to carry out its tasks prescribed by the mandate.

However, it is important to note that the consent of the main parties to the deployment of the peace operations does not necessarily imply local consent, especially in cases of fragmented or weakly controlled parties. In unstable situations where uncontrolled armed groups and destructive forces operate, universal consent becomes even more problematic.

2. The principle of impartiality

Impartiality plays a key role in ensuring the co-operation and consent of the main parties. This principle should not be confused with neutrality or inaction. UN peacekeeping should be open-minded towards the parties of the conflict, but at the same time actively fulfill their mandate.

¹⁶PRINCIPLES OF PEACEKEEPING // United nations Peacekeeping : сайт.
– URL: <https://peacekeeping.un.org/ru/principles-of-peacekeeping>
(дата обращения: 20.09.2023)

As a good judge who remains impartial, but applies punishment for violations, the peace operation cannot take actions that violate its mandate or international norms and principles. While it is important to establish and maintain good relations with the conflicting parties, a peace operation should avoid actions that could undermine its impartiality. The principle of impartiality must be strictly adhered to, despite possible fears of misinterpretation or retaliation.

Failure to comply with the principle of impartiality may undermine the credibility and legitimacy of a peacekeeping operation and lead to the withdrawal of the consent of one or more parties to the conflict.

3. The principle of non-use of force, except for self-defense and protection of the mandate

UN peacekeeping operations do not pursue the goal of coercion. However, they can use force only in self-defense or to protect their mandate.

In certain unstable situations, the Security Council can grant UN peacekeeping operations strict mandates that provide the authority to use "all necessary means" to prevent violence, protect civilians from possible threats and maintain law and order.

Although the application of such measures on the ground may resemble coercive actions, as provided for in Chapter VII of the UN Charter, it is important to distinguish these concepts. Peacekeeping operations seek to achieve peace and security, not to force the parties to peace.

Mandates and legal frameworks for peacekeeping

According to the Charter of the United Nations, the responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security rests with the Security Council¹⁷. As part of

¹⁷United Nations, Charter, 1945

this responsibility, the Council may establish UN peacekeeping operations. The deployment of these operations is based on the mandates provided by the Security Council. The tasks assigned to peacekeepers vary in different situations and depend on the nature of the conflict and the problems associated with it.

Although peacekeeping is not directly mentioned in the Charter, it has become an important tool of the UN to achieve this goal. The UN Security Council has primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security. Within this function, the Council can take various measures, including the establishment of UN peacekeeping operations¹⁸.

Chapter VI of the Charter is devoted to the peaceful settlement of disputes. UN peacekeeping operations are traditionally associated with this chapter. However, the Security Council has the right not to refer to a specific chapter when deploying peacekeeping operations.

Chapter VII of the Charter provides for actions in relation to threats to peace, breaches of peace and acts of aggression. In recent years, the Council has increasingly referred to this chapter when adopting resolutions authorizing the deployment of UN peacekeeping operations.

Chapter VIII of the Charter provides for the participation of regional agreements and bodies in the maintenance of international peace and security, subject to compatibility with the purposes and principles of the Charter.

When deploying peacekeeping operations, the UN is guided by the mandates provided by the Security Council. Over time, due to the changing nature of conflicts and threats to peace, the range of tasks assigned to peacekeepers has significantly expanded.

¹⁸United Nations Charter, Chapter VI: Pacific Settlement of Disputes // United Nations : сайт. – URL: <https://www.un.org/en/about-us/un-charter> (дата обращения: 20.09.2023)

Each UN peacekeeping operation has its own characteristics, but the tasks assigned to peacekeepers are basically similar. Depending on the mandate of the operation, peacekeepers can perform the following tasks:

- Deploy forces to prevent conflict or its spread abroad;
- Stabilize the conflict situation after the ceasefire in order to create conditions for reaching a long-term peace agreement between the parties;
- Assist in the conclusion of comprehensive peace agreements;
- Assist countries or territories in overcoming the transition period to stable governance based on democratic principles, good governance and economic development.

Implementing all these activities, UN peacekeepers often participate:

- In the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of former militants;
- In mine clearance;
- In reforming the security sector and ensuring the rule of law;
- In the protection and promotion of human rights;
- In support of the elections, restoration and strengthening of state power;
- In promoting socio-economic recovery and development.

The mandates of the Security Council also include a number of thematic tasks that are regularly assigned to UN peacekeeping operations on the basis of the following important Security Council resolutions:

- Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women, peace and security;
- Security Council resolution 1612 (2005) on children and armed conflict;
- Security Council resolution 1674 (2006) on the protection of civilians during armed conflicts.

CHAPTER 3. CURRENT CHALLENGES AND PROBLEMS FACED BY THE UN IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PEACEKEEPING ACTIVITIES AT THE PRESENT TIME

According to the statistics, for the last 30 years the number of intergovernmental conflicts decreased by 40%. While the United Nations is not the sole organization shaping the landscape of peacekeeping operations, it still retains its preeminent position in the world.

Although peacekeeping operations are deploying troops and police, the peacekeeping management depends on the environment and the global trends.

The new trends show that armed conflicts are rapidly changing in their nature, there are more intra-state conflicts, rather than inter-states ones. New armed conflicts revitalized under the virtue of terroristic acts, interconnected with organized crimes, which put in danger the safety of peacekeepers. Also, the unregulated spread of new generations of weapons became a concern for the current system of UN peacekeeping.

Another challenge is the elusive nature of political solutions and the broad responsibilities assigned to peacekeepers. Achieving agreement on world security between conflicting parties and maintaining impartiality is fundamental. However, parties in conflict might agree to UN presence temporarily for their own interests, making it necessary to empower specific operations, including the use of force if needed.

The next issue undergoes the methods of authorization. Annually the Security Council adopts numerous resolutions on the prolongation of the current peacekeeping missions. However, the matter of establishing a new mission or undertaking any changes in the mission coordination can be under consideration for a long time due to the procedure. According to the UN Charter in case of conflict escalation, the Secretary-General reports to the Security Council President about the readiness of Secretariat members to transmit the information concerning the new state of affairs in the particular geographic zone.

Among the factors that could decrease the potential of the peacekeeping operations it is worth mentioning the level of professional preparedness. The questionnaire of Yugoslavian UN Police found out that 18% of the respondents noted that they are not satisfied with the level of their professional training, including the level of special police training – 3.6%; computer training – 3.6%; and English language proficiency – 10.8%. UN Police Officers emphasize that the level of English language proficiency, which is the working language of the mission, has a significant impact on the both physical and mental condition of observers. Since good language skills are required for any administrative-command position, native English speakers automatically receive certain advantages. Poor language proficiency leads to various negative consequences, including repatriation.

Through the passage of time the UN does not have its own decent military force, which leads to the inability to mobilize the army in a most vibrant place and field it in the disputed area. Therefore, it becomes imperative to prioritize the training and readiness of peacekeepers for modern hybrid and asymmetric combat situations through comprehensive training methods and programs.

CHAPTER 4. ANALYSIS OF 12 OPERATIONS CURRENTLY CONDUCTED BY THE UN, INCLUDING PEACEKEEPING MISSIONS, PEACE OPERATIONS, ASSISTANCE IN POST-CONFLICT RECONSTRUCTION AND OTHER ASPECTS OF PEACEKEEPING WORK

Africa:

1. United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO) since 1991

The United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO) was established by Security Council resolution 690 of 29 April 1991 in accordance with settlement proposals accepted on 30 August 1988 by Morocco and the Frente Popular para la Liberación de Saguia el-Hamra y de Río de Oro (Frente POLISARIO)¹⁹.

According to the settlement plan, it will provide a transitional period for the preparation of a referendum for the people of Western Sahara. They would have an opportunity to choose between independence and integration with Morocco. Exclusive responsibility over referendum's matters is assigned to The Special Representative of the Secretary-General. In addition, an integrated group of civilian, military and civilian police personnel assist in different tasks.

¹⁹UNITED NATIONS MISSION FOR THE REFERENDUM IN WESTERN SAHARA // MINURSO : сайт. – URL: <https://minurso.unmissions.org/mandate> (дата обращения: 20.09.2023)

The idea was for making a monitoring system of the ceasefire and the deployment of troops to special locations, maintenance of exchange of prisoners of war to be implemented by International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), repatriate the refugees of Western Sahara, identify and register qualified voters as well as organize and ensure a free and fair referendum and proclaim the results.

Unfortunately, the date of referendum has not been set yet, other requirements of the mandate have been met successfully. MINURSO continues to monitor the ceasefire, reduce the threat of mines and unexploded ordnance and on an exceptional basis provide assistance to irregular migrants as well as humanitarian help in case of natural disasters.

2. United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO) (2010)

After the signing of the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement in July 1999 between the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and five regional States (Angola, Namibia, Rwanda, Uganda and Zimbabwe) in July 1999, the Security Council established the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC) by its resolution 1279 of 30 November 1999. The idea of this mission was to plan for the observation of the ceasefire and disengagement of forces and maintain connection with all parties to the Ceasefire Agreement. Later, the mandate of MONUC was extended to the supervision of the implementation of the Ceasefire Agreement and assigned multiple related additional tasks.

On 1 July 2010 MONUC was renamed to the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO) by the

Security Council resolution 1925. It became a reflection of a new phase having been reached in the country. The new mission got a permission to use all necessary means to carry out its mandate relating. It included the protection of civilians, humanitarian personnel and human rights defenders under imminent threat of physical violence and to support the Government of the DRC in its stabilization and peace consolidation efforts²⁰.

Since the creation of the UN peacekeeping operation in the DRC, significant progress has been achieved and the situation in many regions of the country has generally stabilized. However, despite this fact, the eastern part of the country continued to suffer from recurring waves of conflict, persistent humanitarian crises and serious human rights violations, including sexual and gender-based violence.

3. United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA) (2011)

The initiative covers the disputed Abyei region, which lies between North and South Sudan and is claimed by both states. Back on June 27, 2011, the Security Council approved the deployment of peacekeeping forces there in connection with the renewed escalation of tensions and population displacement in the Abyei region due to the then-upcoming declaration of independence of South Sudan²¹.

By adopting resolution 1990 (2011), the Security Council formally established the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA) for six months, which will include a maximum of 4,200 troops, 50 police and associated civilian support.

²⁰UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATION STABILIZATION MISSION IN THE DR CONGO // MONUSCO : сайт. – URL: <https://monusco.unmissions.org/en> (дата обращения: 20.09.2023)

²¹UNISFA BACKGROUND // unisfa : сайт. – URL: <https://unisfa.unmissions.org/background> (дата обращения: 20.09.2023)

The operation was a response to the Council's call for urgent action following an agreement between the Sudanese government and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) to withdraw their respective forces and allow Ethiopian peacekeepers in Abyei, in which both sides agreed on the need for a third party to monitor hot border between the north and the south. The main aim of UNISFA is to monitor the border between north and south and help forward to the delivery of humanitarian aid. UNISFA has a special authority to use force in protecting civilians and humanitarian workers in Abyei.

4. United Nations Mission in the Republic of South Sudan (UNMISS) (2011)

Initially, in accordance with Security Council resolution 1996 (2011), the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) was established on July 9, 2011 for a period of one year. It was intended to be extended for subsequent periods if necessary and has since been continuously extended by UNMISS as the Security Council determined that the situation in South Sudan continued to pose a threat to international peace and security in the region. Currently, under Resolution 2677 (2023), the Security Council determined that the situation in South Sudan continues to constitute a threat to international peace and security in the region. The Council has extended the UNMISS mandate until 15 March 2024.

The Mission's mandate now includes four main areas, namely: protection of civilians; support and creation of conditions for the delivery of humanitarian aid; supporting the implementation of the updated Agreement and the peace process; and monitoring, investigating and reporting on violations of humanitarian law and human rights.

As directed by the Security Council, UNMISS is

committed to implementing a three-year strategic vision aimed at preventing a return to civil war, building lasting peace and supporting accountable governance and free, fair and peaceful elections in accordance with the Revitalized Peace Agreement.

Despite the escalation of the conflict since 2013, the signing of the Revitalized Peace Agreement in 2018 and the establishment of a transitional government of national unity has significantly reduced political violence in South Sudan. A variety of protection facilities have been established to protect civilians exposed to immediate physical danger during intense conflict. However, today there is no such threat, so many of these sites are gradually being renamed into regular camps for internally displaced persons, under the sovereign control of the Government of South Sudan. UNMISS carefully followed a lengthy process, planning with humanitarian actors and in consultation with national and local authorities, security services and displaced persons.

5. Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) (2013)

The UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) was established in accordance with Security Council Resolution 2100 of 25 April 2013²².

According to the resolution, the mission will support and carry out a number of tasks to stabilize security, focusing on major population centers and communications, protecting civilians, monitoring human rights, maintaining conditions for the provision of humanitarian assistance and the return of displaced persons, and preparing free and peaceful elections.

²²UNITED NATIONS MULTIDIMENSIONAL INTEGRATED STABILIZATION MISSION IN MALI // MINUSMA : сайт. – URL: <https://minusma.unmissions.org/en/about-minusma> (дата обращения: 20.09.2023)

The Mission uses all necessary resources to address threats to the implementation of its mandate, which includes protecting civilians from immediate threats of physical violence and protecting United Nations personnel from residual threats. This may involve conducting operations independently or in cooperation with Malian defense and security forces, as well as receiving assistance from French forces in the event of a serious threat.

The most significant development in the political process was the adoption of the transition road map in 2013, which outlined the two main objectives of the transitional government: restoring territorial integrity and organizing free and fair elections. The road map provides for further military operations aimed at returning territories occupied by armed groups and restoring the country's authority and territorial integrity, the return of refugees and displaced persons, and inter-communal dialogue.

6. United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA) (2014)

The United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA) is a UN peacekeeping mission established on April 10, 2014²³. It was formed to protect civilians in the Central African Republic, operating under Chapter VII of the UN Charter. MINUSCA replaced the previous force, led by African Union peacekeeping force, known as MISCA, and became fully operational on September 15, 2014. Currently, MINUSCA has over 15,000 troops, police, and civilian personnel on the ground. Its main objectives

²³UNITED NATIONS MULTIDIMENSIONAL INTEGRATED STABILIZATION MISSION IN THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC // MINUSCA : сайт. – URL: <https://minusca.unmissions.org/en/about> (дата обращения: 20.09.2023)

are to support the transition process, provide humanitarian assistance, promote and protect human rights, support justice and the rule of law, facilitate disarmament, demobilization, reintegration, and repatriation processes. The head of MINUSCA, Valentine Rugwabiza, is from Rwanda. The countries contributing the most personnel are Rwanda, Bangladesh, and Pakistan. The conflict in the Central African Republic began when the Séléka militia rebelled in 2013, leading to the collapse of the government and the rise of religious tensions. The conflict has resulted in a weakening of the country, with increased mortality rates, a decline in life expectancy, and a significant number of internally displaced people and refugees. MINUSCA has faced challenges in protecting human rights and disarming non-state actors due to resistance and limited infrastructure. In April 2019, the Bangladesh Special Forces launched Operation Poupou to recover government vehicles and restore freedom of movement in Zoukombo.

7. Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) (2013)

The Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) was established by Security Council resolution 2100 on April 25 2013. Under the virtue of Chapter VII of the UN Charter, the Council decided to transfer the power of the African-led International Support Mission in Mali (AFISMA) — set up by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) in September — to the new entity. According to the unanimously adopted resolution MINUSMA comprised 11,200 military personnel and 1,440 police personnel. The main target of the Mission was to protect the civilians and protect human rights in the vulnerable region as well as restore the democracy and stability in the region.

The reason for that Mission became the military coup

ignited from the dissatisfaction with the government's way of handling the conflict in the north. In the mid 2012 the terroristic occupation became a menace due to the Tuareg rebels and Islamic insurgents. On 6 April 2012 rebels declared that the northern part of Mali was now an independent state of Azawad. Hence, the situation in the region was deterred by the radicalization of the anti-government forces and the loss of the influence of the so-called moderated groups due to the prolongation of the military actions. The following factor which caused escalation of the conflict were the adverse processes in the center of the state. Violence was spread across the borders of Niger and Burkina Faso: inter-ethnic and jihadist violence against states and their supporters. Exactly that jihadist group Katibat Macina attacked the Mali security officers and officers of MINUSMA. In the frames of MINUSMA, international military operations were supported by the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS) and later addressed for the assistance of French military representatives.

The military aims of that Mission included the insurance of protection of the civil population, promotion of economic interests, liberation of the northern regions from Islamic groups and territorial integrity of Mali. In addition, MINUSMA worked closely with the Quick Impact Projects to stabilize the communities and demonstrate the receptivity towards the civil population needs. Such projects included initiatives in education, medical assistance, access to electricity and environment security. MINUSMA as well intended to provide humanitarian assistance to the refugees and forcibly displaced people, in frames of MINUSMA 3,2 million of people got humanitarian assistance.

The decade-long operation officially ended on June 30, 2023, with the adoption of Security Council Resolution 2690. On July 1, a withdrawn plan was initiated to ensure an efficient transfer of tasks to the

Malian government by the end of 2023. Programs of the United Nations, including the World Food Program, UNICEF, WHO, and UNDP, will continue to provide essential, life-saving support to the Malian people during and beyond the departure of MINUSMA.

8. United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA) (2014)

MINUSCA stands for the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic. It is a peacekeeping mission established by the UN Security Council in 2014 to help stabilize the country and protect civilians in the midst of a civil conflict. Mission included 17,885 officers in total, including 13,394 troops, 408 Staff Officers, 2,415 police officers and 286 UN volunteers.

The main objectives of MINUSCA are to protect civilians, support the political process, facilitate the delivery of humanitarian aid, promote human rights, and assist in disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration of efforts. MINUSCA peacekeepers contributed to the freedom of movement of 450 vehicles to provide armed potential to humanitarian convoys in the region. In January 2015, MINUSCA troops removed illegal checkpoints and ensured safety in frames of such major operations illegally occupied by armed groups in Bria, Bambari and Batafango. MINUSCA peacekeepers successfully carried out significant operations in Boda, Berberati, Carnot, and Noa, apprehending armed criminals who were subsequently transferred to Central African Republic authorities for judicial proceedings, thereby aiding in the gradual restoration of national sovereignty and governance across the entire territory.

In order to stabilize peaceful conditions MINUSCA troops supported the hostages release, which

significantly assisted the gradual return of displaced people in villages.

Asia:

1. United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP) (1949)

The United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP) is a specialized UN peacekeeping mission established in 1949, following the Indo-Pakistan War of 1947-48. This mission has a strong historical background, ignited from the establishment of the United Nations Commission for India and Pakistan (UNCIP). UNCIP's main aim was to investigate and mediate the dispute by virtue of the Security Council resolution 39 (1948). UNMOGIP's primary objective is to observe and report on any ceasefire violations along the Line of Control (LOC) and other areas where the two countries have a military presence.

Despite the presence of UN military observers, the conflict grew and had several milestones. In 1951 SC decided to prolong the supervising of the ceasefire in the region by UNMOGIP and expanded the mandate of the Mission including the investigation of the complaints of military violations and report about the situation to the Secretary-General. In 1971 atrocities between India and Pakistan prolonged and started across the borders of East Pakistan, related to the independence movement. Ever since the Simla Agreement of 1972, India has firmly maintained a non-recognition policy when it comes to involving third parties in any bilateral discussions with Pakistan, especially regarding the complex issue of the state of Jammu and Kashmir.

The UN deployed 110 total personnel, including 68 civilians and 42 experts. UNMOGIP operates in the disputed region of Jammu and Kashmir and monitors the ceasefire line from the north point to the Akhnoor. The observations and reports made by UNMOGIP are

submitted to the UN Secretary-General and circulated to the UN Security Council. These reports offer valuable insights into the situation along the LOC and contribute to international efforts to resolve the India-Pakistan conflict.

Europe:

1. United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) (1964)

The United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) was established by the United Nations Security Council in 1964. It was created to address the tensions and violence between the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities on the island of Cyprus.

The conflict in Cyprus began in the 1950s, when the Greek Cypriot community sought to unify with Greece (Enosis), while the Turkish Cypriot community advocated for an independent state or integration with Turkey (Taksim). The situation escalated in 1963 when inter-communal violence broke out on the island.

UNFICYP was deployed to maintain peace and stability, protect civilian populations, and promote dialogue and reconciliation between the two communities. Its primary objectives were to prevent the recurrence of fighting, maintain a buffer zone between the two sides, facilitate humanitarian assistance, and promote peaceful negotiations for a settlement.

2. United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) (1999)

The United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) was established in 1999 with the mandate to help the province of Kosovo in its transition towards stability and self-governance. UNMIK was created in response to the conflict between the Serbian government and ethnic Albanian separatists in Kosovo.

The mission had several objectives, including the

maintenance of law and order, the promotion of dialogue and reconciliation among different ethnic groups, the protection and promotion of human rights, and the development of democratic institutions. UNMIK also aimed to support the establishment of a functioning and multi-ethnic administration in Kosovo.

Under UNMIK, Kosovo was given substantial autonomy but remained legally part of Serbia. The mission was responsible for overseeing the administration of key sectors, including justice, security, and public services. It also assisted in the return and reintegration of displaced persons and refugees.

In addition to its administrative functions, UNMIK played a crucial role in facilitating dialogue between ethnic Albanians and Serbs, supporting the negotiation of a political settlement, and fostering inter-ethnic cooperation. The mission also provided support for economic development and the implementation of infrastructure projects.

Middle East:

1. United Nations Truce Supervision Organisation (UNTSO) (1948)

The United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO) is a United Nations peacekeeping mission established in 1948 to supervise the ceasefire between Israel and its neighboring Arab countries after the 1948 Arab-Israeli War.

UNTSO was the first peacekeeping mission ever created by the United Nations. Its primary role is to ensure that both parties adhere to the terms of the armistice agreements and prevent any further hostilities. UNTSO is mandated to maintain a peaceful environment, provide assistance and support to the parties involved, and promote confidence-building measures.

The mission is composed of military observers from

various contributing countries who are stationed along the armistice lines to monitor and report any violations or incidents. The observers patrol the areas and hold regular meetings with military personnel from both sides to facilitate communication and address any concerns.

Over the years, UNTSO's role has expanded to include activities such as providing humanitarian assistance, facilitating negotiations between the parties, and contributing to regional stability. It has also played a crucial role in supporting other peacekeeping operations in the region.

2. United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) (1974)

The United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) was established in 1974 to monitor the ceasefire and disengagement agreement between Israel and Syria following the Yom Kippur War.

Its main mandate is to supervise the area of separation between the Syrian-controlled Golan Heights and the Israeli-controlled area.

UNDOF is composed of military observers from various contributing countries, who monitor and report any violations of the ceasefire agreement, as well as any activities that could escalate tensions between Israel and Syria. The mission also provides a communication and liaison channel between the two parties to facilitate confidence-building measures and resolve issues that may arise.

3. United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) (1978)

The United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) was established in 1978 by the United Nations Security Council to confirm the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon and assist the Lebanese government in

maintaining peace and security in the country. UNIFIL deployed 10,000 troops in total from the following contributing states: France, Germany, Bangladesh, Spain etc.

UNIFIL officers are responsible for monitoring the Blue Line – international recognition boundary between Lebanon and Israel, and for preventing the presence of violations there. Also, the mission's mandate includes monitoring the ceasefire between two states and ensuring the withdrawal of Israel forces. The UNIFIL mandate was expanded several times by the decision of the Security Council, due to the occasional flare-ups of violence along the Blue Line, border incidents and restrictions of freedom of movement. UNIFIL officers are obliged to monitor the checkpoints and observation points, support civil-military cooperation projects and report to the Secretary-General about the rising incidents on the Blue Line.

UNIFIL strongly cooperates with the Lebanese Authorities and its armed forces in order to enhance stability and security in the region. Besides the military officers, in frames of mission UN cooperates with civilian component civil affairs or mine experts to achieve the mission main objectives.

CHAPTER 5. INVESTIGATION OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE OPERATIONS CARRIED OUT AND ASSESSMENT OF THE CHALLENGES AND PROBLEMS THE UN FACES IN THEIR IMPLEMENTATION

The UN has several methods to report about the results of peacekeeping operations, evaluated by the Security Council, the General Assembly, and the General Assembly Fourth Committee. The Secretary-General submits special reports consisting of an evaluation of performance of particular operations to the Security Council or General Assembly. The assessment should consider the continuous observation of the current conditions, changes and transformation in the region by the analysis of data. Data collection within the section involves employing a diverse range of methodologies, including interviews, observations, and questionnaires. It is vital for section personnel to be strategically positioned across key data collection points to ensure the collection of precise and reliable information. In the pursuit of accurate data, they maintain regular communication with personnel from international organizations, non-governmental organizations, local government officials, and the everyday populace. Alongside this, they maintain a constant connection with the Coordination Section, utilizing various communication channels such as internet, satellite, or radio to transmit collected data and acquire updated instructions regarding data collection activities.

The present and future of the peacekeeping operations also depend on the fact of the humanitarian intervention. This theory demands the rule – when

conflicts arise from disputes, leading to a humanitarian crisis, the international community should mobilize the military potential and can intervene for the sake of civilian safety.

There was a shift in the vision and mandate of current peacekeeping missions towards the stabilization of the conditions in the disputed areas or territories occupied by the civil wars and peacebuilding. Peacekeepers were engaged in disarmament and elimination of illegal armed formation, securing the civil government, displaced people and refugees. In the frames of MONUSCO, the special intervention brigade equipped with the authority to conduct offensive operations for neutralization and disarmament was deployed. This led to a mixed reaction from the host countries and was interpreted as an infringement on state sovereignty.

CONCLUSION

Solving the conflicts and atrocities by the forces of peacekeeping missions demands strong strategies and endeavors. Peacekeeping operations operate in a high dynamic due to changes and shifts on the international arena.

Over the past three decades, not only the quantity but also the quality and complexity of peacekeeping operations have increased. Current peacekeeping operations aimed at conflict resolution do not always end in peace, but rather in ceasefire. Despite the different approaches of key structures and member states, peacekeeping reform is progressing, gradually addressing individual problems.

