



KIIT

INTERNATIONAL



MODEL
UNITED
NATIONS

STUDY GUIDE

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Dear Delegates,

It is with great pleasure that we present the study guide for the simulation of the United Nations Peacebuilding Commission at KIIT e-MUN . The study guide should be a great starting point for research. It will help to become familiar with the topics and attain a better understanding of the problems that will be discussed throughout the conference.

Furthermore we encourage all delegates to develop a general understanding for the assigned country, for its foreign policy and its standpoint with regard to the agenda topic. In some cases exact and topic related statement may not be found which apply exactly to the committee topics, wherefore a general understanding of the county's culture and politics provides a framework for specific country position. With this, we wish you all the very best for the upcoming conference, with a hope to have a collectively enriching experience and debate.

Rahul Menon
Co-Chairperson

Arnav Bhardwaj
Substantive Director

Jaikishan Aggarwal
Co-Chairperson





AGENDA 1

**Reviewing the current framework of the
Peacebuilding Assistance Mechanism
in the Middle East**



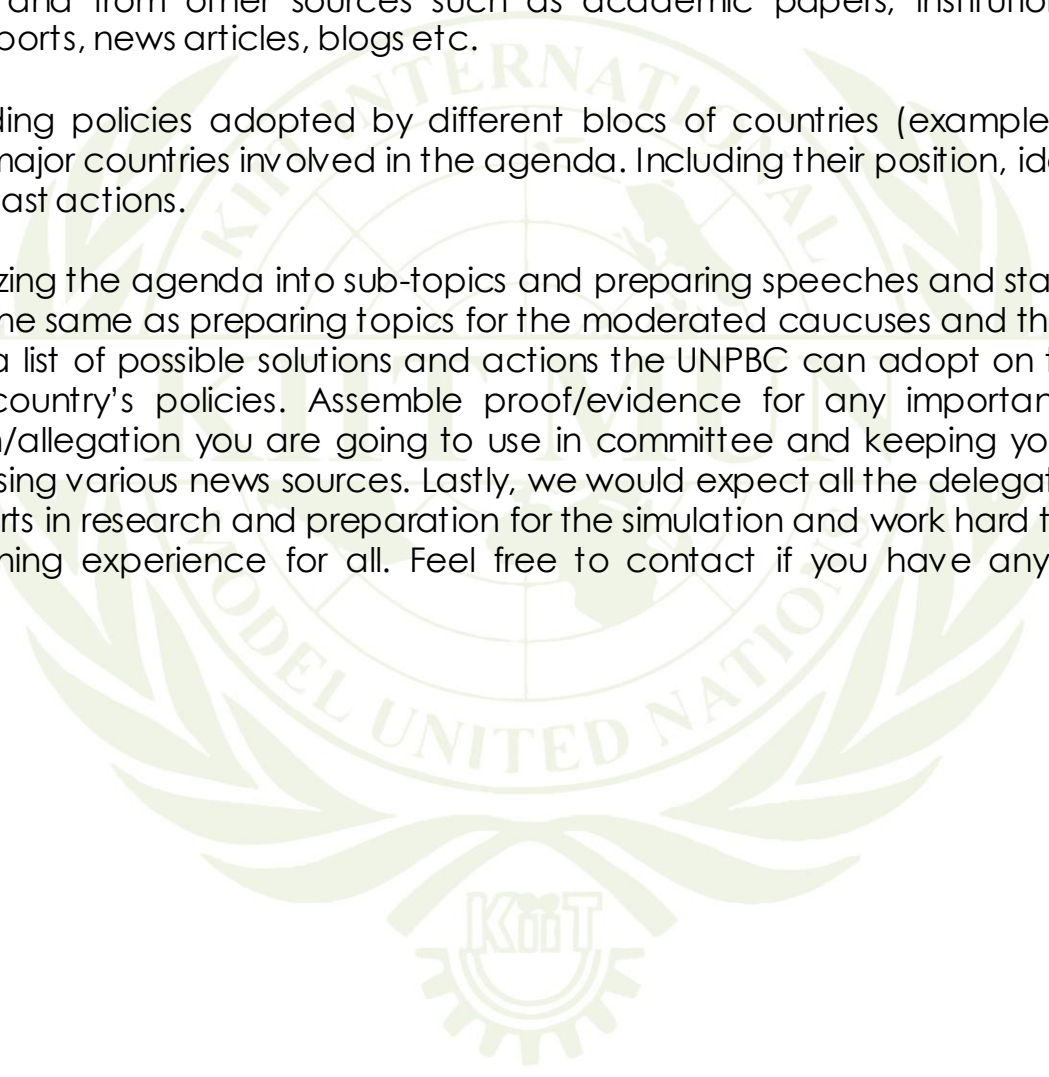
SUGGESTED PATTERN FOR RESEARCHING

Researching and understanding the United Nations and the Committee/Commission being simulated – Its Mandate, including understanding historical work done on the agenda. Research on the allotted country. Understanding its polity, economy, military, culture, history, bilateral relations with other countries, ideological position on various other relevant issues related to the agenda etc.

Comprehending the Foreign Policy of the allotted country. It includes understanding the ideology and principles adopted by the country on the agenda. It further includes studying past actions taken by the country on the agenda and other related issues – specifically analyzing their causes and consequences. Reading the background guide thoroughly. Researching further upon the agenda using the footnotes and links given in the guide and from other sources such as academic papers, institutional reports, national reports, news articles, blogs etc.

Understanding policies adopted by different blocs of countries (example: NATO, EU etc.) and major countries involved in the agenda. Including their position, ideology and adopted past actions.

Characterizing the agenda into sub-topics and preparing speeches and statements on them. It is the same as preparing topics for the moderated caucuses and their content. Preparing a list of possible solutions and actions the UNPBC can adopt on the issue as per your country's policies. Assemble proof/evidence for any important piece of information/allegation you are going to use in committee and keeping your research updated using various news sources. Lastly, we would expect all the delegates to put in serious efforts in research and preparation for the simulation and work hard to make it a fruitful learning experience for all. Feel free to contact if you have any queries or doubts.



PEACEBUILDING & PEACEKEEPING

The conceptual confusion between peacemaking and peacekeeping within the common understanding seems to flow from to the subsequent reasons. First, the conception of peacemaking itself isn't clear and not very convincing. it's very difficult to seek out a distinction between peacemaking and preventive diplomacy. Both ask preventive action, either before or during existing conflicts, and to chapter VI of the Charter. it's very difficult to know why the 2 notions are singled out as differing types of action. Both concepts imply the utilization of diplomatic skills only. this type of intervention doesn't seem to possess been efficient within the past when used on actors who had already decided to enter into a war. No indication is given of the methods through which the normal impotence of those attempts might be overcome.

When we discuss peacemaking, peacekeeping, and peacebuilding as a way to achieve the UN Charter's goal "to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war" we must make a distinction between peacemaking, peacekeeping, and peace enforcement. They reflect the express and implied boundaries and potential interpretations of chapters VI and VII of the UN Charter.

Chapter VI of the UN Charter talks about peacemaking as a non-restrictive list of peaceful, diplomatic, and judicial means of resolving disputes. Peacekeeping is situated before peace enforcement and before the sanctions regime as seen in chapter VII of the UN Charter. Peacebuilding is quite a process that features a broad post-conflict agenda and quite an instrumentalist method to secure peace.

Peacekeeping has evolved from a primarily military model of observing cease-fires and separating forces to include a mixture of military, police and civilian capabilities to support the implementation of comprehensive peace agreements and help lay the foundations for sustainable peace and bonafide governance. Peacebuilding is primarily a national challenge and responsibility, and national factors will largely shape its pace and sequencing. An early and sustained specialize in national capacity development may be a central theme of the UN system's engagement in peacebuilding. Peacekeeping missions provide a security umbrella through uniformed peacekeepers (troops as well as police deployed under executive policing mandates).

Peacebuilding may be a fundamentally political process requiring ongoing political mediation, the strengthening of national capacities at several levels for conflict management, and sensitivity to the political, historical, economic and cultural context and dynamics. Peacebuilding entails a variety of activities aimed toward making peace self-sustaining and reducing the danger of relapse into conflict. Peacebuilding may begin before the arrival of a peacekeeping mission and always continues beyond its departure. It's supported by a variety of national and international actors, happens at different levels (political, operational, technical, national, sub-national, etc.) and across many closely linked sectors.

Peacemaking on the other hand involves in stopping an ongoing conflict. It aims to accomplish full reconciliation among rivals and new mutual affection among parties and stakeholders. e.g. mediation, third party facilitation etc., however it doesn't address the underlying causes of violence or work to make societal change, as peacebuilding does.

Peacebuilding Priorities

Peacebuilding priorities are going to be different in every post-conflict country and can vary over time. In the first 24 months after a serious cessation of hostilities, “national and international efforts... should specialize in meeting the foremost urgent and important peacebuilding objectives:

establishing security, building confidence during a political process, delivering initial peace dividends and expanding core national capacity.”

The most commonly requested needs during this early period include:

- Basic safety and security including protection of civilians and rule of law, disarmament, demobilization and reintegration, and initiation of security sector /reform
- An Inclusive political processes, including electoral processes, promoting inclusive dialogue and reconciliation, and developing conflict management capacity at national and subnational levels
- Delivery of basic services, such as water and sanitation, health and primary education, and support to the safe and sustainable return and reintegration of internally displaced persons and refugees
- Restoring core government functions, in particular basic public administration and public finance, at the national and sub-national levels
- Ensuring economic revitalization, including employment generation and livelihoods (in agriculture and public works) particularly for youth and demobilized former combatants, as well as rehabilitation of basic infrastructure. Some countries may have peacebuilding initiatives aimed at their particular conflict drivers, like drugs and crime, illegal exploitation of natural resources, or land reform. Conflict drivers also can include crosscutting issues like lack of respect for human rights, bad governance, lack of social integration and cohesion, lack of gender equality, and HIV/AIDS.

Although this is often a potentially broad agenda, peacebuilding during a specific country situation won't involve of these activities. Instead, it should be a selective, prioritized and sequenced strategy, tailored to the precise country circumstances. Indeed, prioritization is important to effective peacebuilding. Priorities will vary from country to country, at different moments in time, and between different financing mechanisms (for example, the Peacebuilding fund focuses on four priority areas).

The political aspect of peacebuilding

Peacebuilding and sustaining peace inherently have a focus on political process, on political solutions. We need coherent, strategic frameworks that address the complexity of conflict in today's world. This framework is also meant to address the fragmentation and the silos that exist, both within the United Nations and among Member States. In short, it's a unifying concept. It basically posits the need for much more integrated, strategic and coherent work between the peace and security work of the UN with the efforts of development, human rights and humanitarian actors. It is really all about enhancing coherence, again both within the UN and across the UN system, and among the wider international community. This is part of the vision that the Secretary-General has made his own in the reform process, and I think it's a very powerful one. The concept also addresses the need for national ownership and national leadership. Prevention cannot be something that is proposed or imposed from outside, this has to be something that actually builds on national processes, on a national vision, on national leadership.

The initial post-conflict period in most countries is characterized by significant insecurity and political uncertainty. Peace processes can advance, but they also often suffer periods of regression. Many countries are governed by transitional political arrangements until after the primary post-conflict elections, when newly elected representatives have assumed their executive and legislative functions. So the success of peacebuilding depends partially on the political decisions of these involved (national and local governments, communities, donors, the UN itself), partially on effective leadership (by national governments and within the UN), and on resources like human capital or donor financing.

UN peace efforts face five crucial hurdles:

- **Geopolitical aggression and intransigence:** Conflicts are getting protracted by intense rivalries between global powers and regional powers as they support proxies to wage war overseas. The wars in Syria and Yemen are prime examples.
- **The practice of relabelling conflicts as counter-terror struggles:** This tendency results in the neglect of the factors and actors driving conflict and therefore the erosion of space needed to create peace. We've seen this occur in high-profile cases like Syria, but also in Egypt, Turkey et al. . When leaders use the pretext of counter-terror to crush dissent and political opposition, it escalates violent conflict instead of reducing it.
- **Legacies of military intervention and regime change:** Framed as interventions to counter terror, save civilians or remove rogue regimes, just in case after case military intervention and regime change have did not bring lasting stability or to defeat fundamentalist groups. On the one hand this has brought deep distrust of interventionism – but at an equivalent time there are huge risks in simply abandoning on supporting constructive, peaceful change within the face of repression.

- **Panic over forced displacement:** As desperate people flee conflict zones, the impact of forced displacement is hitting neighbouring countries hardest and that they are coping as best they will. Meanwhile, Western governments are making hasty deals to support border and security forces in transit countries to shut their borders and shut the matter out.
- **Struggling humanitarianism:** Undoubtedly humanitarians have a troublesome job. The UN are making enormous efforts, with inadequate resources, to help the victims of conflict. But they're not yet capable at defending humanitarian values, working for prevention during crisis or empowering those suffering from humanitarian crises to require the initiative. And if UN Security Council members – either directly or through allies they support – still bomb hospitals or attack humanitarian convoys, we are unlikely to ascertain this alteration.

Critical features of peacebuilding

- **National ownership**
Peacebuilding is primarily a national challenge and responsibility. It's the citizens of the countries where peacebuilding is underway, with support from their governments, who assume the responsibility for laying the foundations of lasting peace. National ownership is important to success.
- **National capacity**
National capacity development must be central to all or any international peacebuilding efforts from the very start, as a part of the entry strategy, not the exit. Indeed, a core objective for peacebuilding is to reach as soon as possible the purpose when external assistance is not any longer required, by ensuring that all initiatives support the event of national peacebuilding capacities. This is often a challenge, especially within the youth when peace is fragile and national capacity is usually displaced and severely limited. Nevertheless, peacebuilding must focus proactively on (re)building national capacity, otherwise peace won't be sustainable. To support this effort, a collective assessment of existing capacities should be conducted early.
- **Common strategy**
Inclusive peacebuilding involves many actors. The key to effective peacebuilding lies in an agreed common strategy, nationally owned, with clear priorities against which the UN, the international community and national partners can allocate resources.
A common strategy should be:
 - Nationally owned, derived from an inclusive planning process, with many and diverse stakeholders consulted because the strategy is developed;
 - Supporting an assessment of the country's situation (e.g. through a Post-Conflict Needs Assessment or Strategic Assessment) including analysis of conflict drivers and risk.

Peacebuilding assistance?

There is no simple, clear cut definition of peacebuilding that sets it aside from conflict prevention, peacekeeping, peacemaking, humanitarian and development assistance. For one thing, there's considerable overlap of goals and activities along the spectrum from conflict to peace. For an additional, various peacebuilding activities may happen in each phase of the spectrum. The UN Charter clearly outlines the mandate of the entire UN system to interact in peacebuilding. The primary preambular paragraph speaks of saving "succeeding generations from the scourge of war" and therefore the first article states that the aim of the UN is "to maintain international peace and security, and thereto end to require effective collective measures for the prevention and removal of threats to the peace."

In most post-conflict situations there are many international actors who contribute to peacebuilding as security, development and humanitarian staff. Humanitarian and sometimes development staff may already be during a country during conflict, in order that they are ready on the bottom (albeit at diminished capacity) once conflict ends. At that time the Security Council may mandate the deployment of a UN country presence. The UN would then draw from its various capacities the resources required to reply thereto country's specific post-conflict security, political, humanitarian and development challenges. A replacement mission could also be designed in parallel with a social process, or after a peace has been signed.

If the safety Council approves the deployment of a UN peacekeeping, then UN peacekeepers (formed military and police units, observers and advisers) deploy to support national security actors in establishing the security and security needed for peacebuilding to urge underway. Additionally, UN peacekeepers increasingly play a big role as early peacebuilders themselves.

The mandates of multi-dimensional peacekeeping operations include many peacebuilding tasks, including disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR), security sector reform (SSR), support to electoral processes and re-establishing governmental authority.

International and national civilian staff are employed to support those tasks. Special Political Missions and integrated peacebuilding missions, too, have received mandates covering a good range of peacebuilding tasks. In those cases, security are often augmented by UN-endorsed multilateral (including regional) security forces; or it's going to be provided by the national government. Peacekeeping operations (PKOs) and Special Political Missions are financed from Member States' assessed contributions, but that funding doesn't cover the entire universe of peacebuilding tasks in their mandates. To succeed, therefore, they need to figure in partnership with UN humanitarian and development actors, and with the planet Bank, regional organizations, civil society, bilateral and other multilateral donors, and therefore the private sector.

The UN's Peacebuilding Architecture

The Peacebuilding Commission, Peacebuilding Support Office and Peacebuilding Fund are part of a broader UN peacebuilding architecture. The expression "peacebuilding architecture" has been used in policy and academic circles to refer to these within the structure of the United Nations (UN): the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC), the Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) and the Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO) being collectively referred to as the Peacebuilding Architecture (PBA). They were established in 2005-6 by the Security Council and the General Assembly to provide sustained attention towards, and to mobilize resources for, countries undertaking peacebuilding, and to work with other UN bodies to support coherence and effectiveness in post-conflict peacebuilding.

United Nations Peacebuilding Commission

The Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) is an intergovernmental advisory body that supports peace efforts in countries emerging from conflict. It brings together all the relevant actors, including international donors, the international financial institutions, national governments, and troop contributing countries to promote greater coherence; it marshalls resources for Peacebuilding working on thematic issues of peacebuilding, including, but not limited to, financing, gender, institution-building, sovereignty, national ownership and youth; and works with national actors to propose integrated strategies for post-conflict peacebuilding and recovery. It reports annually to the General Assembly and is a key addition to the capacity of the International Community in the broad peace agenda.

The creation of the PBF was seen as a response to the needs of countries in transformation from a situation of war to a situation of peace, with special emphasis on the early stage of the process of peacebuilding and when there were no other available sources of funding. After months of analyses and consultations on the establishment of a fund for peacebuilding and disbursement mechanisms to be adopted, the Secretary-General submitted a report to the UNGA with the terms of reference for such a fund in August 2006.

The Commission currently operates in three configurations:

- a. the Organisational Committee (OC), which sets the agenda of the PBC and is often mistakenly assumed as the Commission itself;
- b. Country-Specific Configurations (CSC), wherein issues related to each of the countries on the PBC agenda are discussed separately; and
- c. the Working Group on Lessons Learned (WGLL), responsible for drawing lessons from past experiences and for preparing recommendations on the planning and implementation of peacebuilding actions).

Countries are included in the PBC agenda via requests of advice from the UNSC or the Secretary-General, or from the UNGA, ECOSOC, or the country concerned itself, as long as in "exceptional circumstances" as defined by the founding resolutions

The UN Peacebuilding Fund

- The UN Peacebuilding Fund was launched in 2006 to provide fast, flexible and catalytic funding to countries at risk of relapsing into conflict. It has 4 priorities:
- Respond to imminent threats to the peace process and support peace agreements and political dialogue;
- Build or strengthen national capacities to promote coexistence and peaceful resolution of conflict;
- Initiate economic revitalization and generate peace dividends for the population at large;
- Re-establish essential administrative services.

By the end of April 2010, the PBF had supported 137 projects in 16 countries that can be grouped by results in 13 outcome areas. Support to the implementation of peace agreements and building capacity to resolve conflict peacefully are the largest PBF priority areas, receiving approximately 45% and 27% respectively of PBF funds. **The two main goals of PBF are socio-economic reintegration of former combatants and national dialogue and reconciliation.** The PBF often funds the initial stages of reintegration projects, when the political risk of failure may deter the international community from coming on board with large donations.

The PBF relies upon voluntary contributions from Member States, organizations and the private sector. Contributions totaling US\$342 million have been received as of June 2010. Solid results based planning, monitoring and reporting are key requirements of the PBF.

The PBF delivers funding through two funding facilities:

- **The Immediate Response Facility (IRF)** helps to jumpstart peace initiatives that can be scaled-up into longer-term programmes. It is designed to be flexible, fast and provide those working in the field with a funding tool for single or multiple projects. Proposals that meet the criteria receive funding within days.
- **The Peacebuilding and Recovery Facility (PRF)** is a country programme driven by national stakeholders. Upon receipt of a Priority Plan identifying key peacebuilding needs, the PBSO will review and establish a country allocation and delegate project approval authority to the Joint Steering Committee (JSC). Once formed, the JSC can focus attention on the long-term peacebuilding agenda.

Strengthening the synergies between the Peacebuilding Commission and the Peacebuilding Fund

The PBF is closely linked to the PBC – in principle, any country before the PBC should be considered a possible recipient of PBF support. The idea was for the PBC to play a role in gaining further (political and financial) support to the peacebuilding processes in these countries. But not a lot is known about the actual effect of PBC support on PBF funding.

Clause 48 of the 13th session of the UNPBC report stated “The Commission will continue to discuss ways to create stronger synergies between the Commission and the Fund.”

Action:

- a. The Commission will continue to engage with the Peacebuilding Support Office to remain informed about the work of the Fund;
- b. The Commission will further engage with the Advisory Group of the Fund and invite the Group to share updates about its meetings;
- c. The Organizational Committee will continue to provide a platform to countries, at their request, that are seeking or receiving funds from the Peacebuilding Fund, in particular those that have been granted eligibility by the Secretary-General, or are in the process of renewing the eligibility, to share their peacebuilding experiences and challenges.

Role of PBC in implementing PBF in country configurations

Not surprisingly, the evaluations do not really focus on the role of the PBC in implementing the PBF. The PBC does not have a formal role to play in this implementation, but there are certain elements in the PBC’s work that influence PBF implementation. One of those is the fact that countries on the PBC Agenda have to develop a Strategic Framework for peacebuilding. In developing the Priority Plan for the PBF, one would expect that alignment is sought with this Strategic Framework. However, in the case of Burundi, the evaluators find that the PBF’s Peacebuilding Priority Plan and the PBC’s Strategic Framework do not have strategic coherence and are not based on a conflict analysis. Both appear to justify specific projects rather than sectoral peace consolidation priorities. Furthermore, changes to the PBC’s Strategic Framework were not reflected in adjustments to PBF projects.

Role of the PBC in catalysing financial support for peacebuilding

More relevant is the question whether or not the PBC has contributed to achieving peacebuilding results in country by supporting the search for additional funding (linked to the catalytic nature of the PBF). According to the evaluations, the PBC has not been very active in this regard. In the case of Guinea-Bissau, for instance, states that the PBC (in cooperation with the Government of Guinea-Bissau) has the task of mobilising the necessary additional funding to cover the larger national peacebuilding effort. The evaluation mission failed to see any evidence that this crucial responsibility had been exercised. It recommends that the PBC, in coordination with the Special Representative of the Secretary-General’s Office and the Government for Guinea-Bissau, should design and make explicit a resource mobilisation strategy which should:

1. include those intervention areas and/or projects identified in the Priority Plan but not yet financed;
2. contain specific financial targets;
3. contain a timetable.

Support from the Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO)

The Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO) was established to help and support the Peacebuilding Commission, administer the Peacebuilding Fund, and support the Secretary-General's efforts to coordinate the UN system in its peacebuilding efforts. The Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) is that the UN's global multi-donor fund that gives a critical bridge between conflict and recovery in countries for which no funding mechanism is yet available. It targets the immediate needs of nations emerging from conflict or in danger of relapsing into conflict.

PBSO doesn't directly implement peacebuilding initiatives, but it supports those that do through:

- **Training:** PBSO can advise on what training courses on peacebuilding are available
- **Knowledge management:** PBSO runs the web-based Peacebuilding Community of Practice, uniting peacebuilding practitioners across the UN electronically. It provides real-time responses to questions from the sector, online access to peacebuilding information, monthly newsletters and an annual workshop.
- **Research:** PBSO won't normally sponsor research, but it brings together institutions, policy makers and practitioners to market greater relevance and usefulness in peacebuilding research.

PBSO also directs advice on:

- Assessment, planning and monitoring tools
- Conflict analysis and planning
- Thematic areas of peacebuilding (e.g. security sector reform, rule of law, etc.)
- Peacebuilding resources (civilian capacity, UN volunteers, etc.)

Peacebuilding in the Middle East

Most efforts in the Middle East have been heavily focused upon peacekeeping rather than peacebuilding. As of now the Middle East isn't a region that the UNPBC is working upon however it is important to understand where the areas currently stand and how the UNPBA can help progress the region to a more peaceful setting and possibly start extensive work on the peacebuilding efforts.

An Analysis of Yemen

The ongoing civil war in Yemen is one of the most complex issues in the Middle East today. In 2011, the Houthis gained significant power within Yemen as anti-government demonstrations and sentiments spread across the country. By the end of 2011, then President Ali Abdullah Saleh agreed to step down and allow his vice president, Abdrabbuh Mansur Hadi to replace him.

Beginning in 2013, the government led by Hadi and opposition groups began the process of engaging in national dialogue, which created a 2014 plan to write a new constitution that would divide Yemen into six provinces. The United Nations was hopeful at this point, with the UN Special Envoy for Yemen claiming that the agreement would lead to democratic governance which would uphold human rights and equal citizenship. Houthi opposition rejected the deal, which can be viewed as a catalyst for what was to come after. Throughout 2014, many Houthis supported anti-government protests that erupted throughout Yemen. In September, the Houthis captured the capital city of Sana'a, which prompted the dissolution of parliament, the forced resignation of Hadi, and a new revolutionary committee that would replace the government.

The UN was aware of what was unfolding in Yemen and actively sought to prevent conflict. In February 2015, the UN Security Council demanded Houthi rebels to "immediately and unconditionally" withdraw from all government institutions, release President Hadi, and engage in UN brokered negotiations to work towards democratic transition. In March, the Security Council met to address the ongoing crisis. At this meeting, Jamal Benomar, Special Adviser of the Secretary-General on Yemen, expressed his growing concern regarding the growing discontent in Yemen. He stated that he believed the events preceding the meeting were leading Yemen away from peaceful settlement and towards a civil war. Benomar gave detailed accounts during this meeting regarding what was happening on the ground in Yemen.

The most notable events were heavy clashes on 19 March between the Central Security Forces and popular committees and bombings that occurred on 20 March in Sana'a, which killed as many as 140 people. He also reported that on 21 and 22 March, Houthi militia and units of the Yemeni army gained control of Taiz, which held geographical significance as the gateway into Aden. The Security Council met again on 14 April to discuss the importance of addressing the escalating situation in Yemen.

Topics discussed in this meeting were the emphasis on the potential humanitarian crisis, the importance of human security and human rights, and the issue of Saudi Arabian involvement in the crisis. The Security Council acknowledged that President Hadi had requested the aid of Saudi Arabia, by any means necessary including military-intervention, which is ultimately what happened.

This series of events provides a framework for understanding what caused Yemen to become engulfed in a brutal war. It also creates an understanding for the challenges faced by the UN and the Security Council when conflict arises. The Security Council could condemn actions taken by the Houthis and impose sanctions, but the effectiveness of that was limited. At this point, the Houthis were not interested in engaging in democratic peace talks and they did not recognize the legitimacy of President Hadi.

Yemen is one of the greatest security risks in the international community for a multitude of reasons. An estimated 8.3 million people are dependent on external food aid, while 400,000 children are suffering from severe acute malnutrition.

In April 2017, \$1.1 billion for aid to Yemen was pledged at a UN conference in Geneva. However, the situation in Yemen has since worsened. The UN has attempted to address mounting concerns of famine and disease, but the implementation of humanitarian aid is not easily accomplished. While the UN does not provide peacekeepers to aid in mitigating conflict, it does provide essential services for promoting peace building that leads to a higher level of human security. The challenge for the UN in Yemen is getting all parties involved to cooperate for the benefit of the civilians, or the most vulnerable population.

This has consistently proven to be incredibly difficult, especially given direct Saudi military involvement in the conflict. The UN consistently attempts to provide essential humanitarian aid, build economic self-reliance and resilience, and implement vital social services that are necessary for the betterment of human security

Note: The above analysis should serve as a good starting point for you to start your research and start understanding the specific issues of countries of concern how using the PBA you may lead to the distressed countries of the Middle East to be folded into the Peacebuilding Nexus.

The need for a new approach

Protracted conflict has locked Iraq, Libya, Syria, and Yemen into cycles of violence. These conflicts have fractured relationships within and between communities, and undermined social cohesion. They are both localized in parts of a country and have also created regional and international spillovers that draw in multiple regional and global actors with different interests. They have also reconfigured the political economy in war-torn societies and their neighboring countries, with illicit and informal economic activities flourishing domestically and regionally, prompting not just a change in the workforce but also feeding into the establishment of war economies. The systems that once promised order — state structures, institutions, economic networks and social fabrics — are fragile, fragmented and stressed, testing the limits of reconstruction and peacebuilding approaches.

What can be done differently?

To break the cycles of violence and ensure that interventions are anchored in the needs of the communities affected by conflict, policymakers and practitioners should complement the approaches centered on physical reconstruction and central government institutions with more bottom-up, inclusive engagement that leverages existing assets. They should pursue a more holistic and multi-sectoral approach focused on building rather than rebuilding the past that addresses the different layers of complexities in these environments by:

Reform of the UN's Peacebuilding Architecture

When we discuss peacemaking, peacekeeping, and peacebuilding as a means to attain the UN Charter's goal "to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war" we must make a distinction between peacemaking, peacekeeping, and peace enforcement. They reflect the express and implied boundaries and potential interpretations of chapters VI and VII of the UN Charter.

Chapter VI of the UN Charter talks about peacemaking as a non-restrictive list of peaceful, diplomatic, and judicial means of resolving disputes. Peacekeeping is situated before peace enforcement and before the sanctions regime as seen in chapter VII of the UN Charter. Peacebuilding is more than a process that has a broad post-conflict agenda and more than an instrumentalist method to secure peace. The Brahimi Report noted that effective peacebuilding includes "support for the fight against corruption, the implementation of humanitarian demining programmes and an emphasis on HIV/AIDS, education and control, and action against infectious diseases."

An important part of peacebuilding includes reintegrating former combatants into civilian society, and strengthening the rule of law through training, restructuring local police, and through judicial and penal reform. Secondly, it includes improving respect for human rights through monitoring, education, and investigation of past and existing abuses, and providing technical assistance for democratic development like electoral assistance and support for free media, for example.

Peacebuilding must include promoting conflict resolution and reconciliation techniques.

Peacebuilding is a quasi solidarity right that empowers popular action. The recent events in Ukraine is an example of popular action which comes as an applicability of this quasi-solidarity right. It supports the civil and political rights of the Ukrainian citizens by reassembling the foundation of peace through activities undertaken from the far side of the conflict in which democratic nations play an important role.

On the other side peacemaking is represented through activities such as mediation, conciliation, and judicial settlement. These elements of peacemaking are part of Boutros Boutros-Ghali's conceptual platform in his "Agenda for Peace".

Peacebuilding and democratization is based on a proposed strategic framework which "addresses the link between social and economic development, reconciliation and post-conflict retributive justice, the development of political stability, and democratic governance."

There must be a shift towards local capacity building, away from patronage and towards partnership. So far, the US model has failed to address these issues and continues the business as usual - neglecting the post-conflict realities by continuing to enforce institutionalisation and competitive elections. These are the main causes of continuing violence in post-conflict societies, which have a very fragile democracy built into their governance system. Peacebuilding and democratisation must retain its original purpose by focusing in areas which consolidate peace in the short-term by managing the future through conflict prevention and reconciliation strategies rather than resorting to violence. A strong peacebuilding strategy first of all involves reconstructing and/or strengthening legitimate and authoritative governance mechanisms. The next step is building local democratic capacities by using knowledge from appropriate segments of society to enhance the legitimacy of peacebuilding by adding post-conflict political reconstruction activities rather than institution building alone. There must be a shift towards local capacity building, away from patronage and towards partnership. All multilateral or bilateral strategies for democratisation need reformulation and retooling.

The only way to achieve a lasting peace is by “shifting the strategic enterprise from a deductive, structural perspective to an inductive, process-driven one brings local priorities to the fore, rather than subordinating them to donor priorities.” The “chronic gap between pledges and delivery of aid jeopardize the consolidation of national peace and postconflict transitions.” (Shapard Forman and Stewart Patrick, 'Good Intentions: Pledges of Aid for Postconflict Recovery' 2000) The need for stable, effective, and legitimate forms of governance is imperative. We can note the latest developments in Ukraine, for example, to realize the need for conflict prevention and especially the need for inductive strategies of partnership with local agencies. “Peacebuilding operations should be concerned about creating the conditions for the outcome that will lay the foundations for continued democratization.”

Peacebuilders must be facilitators rather than be perceived as dominant occupiers. It is imperative to end the culture of dependency which was created by some international organisations. Instead we must resolve conflicts by using grassroots solutions and integration of local groups and organisations.

Peacebuilders must be facilitators rather than be perceived as dominant occupiers. It is imperative to end the culture of dependency which was created by some international organisations.

A creative and effective initiative is to foster a legitimate traditional and culturally specific model of inter-group decision-making employing norms of democracy. Including local representatives at the highest level in planning and coordination of peacebuilding would increase the opportunities for participation in shaping the design of these missions and increase accountability.

Any peacebuilding activity that does not involve local traditional values and culture will not last. Any form of peace intervention, technical or financial aid and diplomatic work will fail if the local people are not consulted and involved in the process. Through recognition and shared authority given to the local organisations, their civil and political rights are enforced. It will lessen the power gap between government and citizens. A balance of power is necessary to maintain peace while a new and effective structure of governance is built in post-conflict societies.

A “durable peace is not possible without stabilisation and structural reform.” International organisations should support a reform program that is consistent with the proposed agenda for peace. Such reform should have the following objectives:

A greater transparency between actions of the different institutions and agencies through periodic and systematic exchange of information at the appropriate levels.

An enhanced coordination between those bodies and agencies as well as integration of goals and activities so as to assist in a peace-related effort under the auspices of the UN.

Flexibility in the application of rules of financial institutions or adjustment of such rules when UN preventive diplomacy, peacemaking or post-conflict peacebuilding so requires.

An improved transparency requires abiding with the UN Charter, articles of agreement and/or inter-agency accords. These represent executive decisions which must be considered as essential in enforcing peacebuilding and democratic change.

Peacebuilding is designed to build confidence among the parties, facilitate institutional reform, demobilize armies, and assist the reform and integration of police forces and judiciaries. Statistically, it is known that more than 86% of negotiated peace treaties last. These cases reflect the peace processes that are participatory and where the defeated join in the governance. They can compete for elected office and allow the opposition in power-sharing. The UN Secretary General's report, No Exit Without Strategy describes the three means of reconstructive peacebuilding, They are:

- Consolidating internal and external security;
- Strengthening political institutions by increasing effectiveness and participation;
- Promoting economic and social reconstruction.

Peacemaking can take place only when there is a consent-based recognition of legitimacy between the parties involved. A negotiated peace treaty can establish legitimate new entities committed to furthering peacekeeping and peacebuilding. Only a comprehensive peace treaty which addresses grievances and establishes new institutions would make future cohabitation possible.

Peace negotiations test the sincerity and the willingness of the parties to live with each other and indicates how well they can design a comprehensive blueprint for peace. They can mobilize the support of local interest groups in peacemaking. The foreign aid coming from the international community in support of implementing the peace-related activities is essential in establishing a commitment to promote human rights, economic, and social development.

So far, the United Nations has employed with success the four linked strategies of peacemaking, peacekeeping, peacebuilding, and peace enforcement. Such strategies promote the multinational and multilateral impartiality based on the principle of equality of states and universal human rights which are embedded in the UN Charter. The United Nations' multinational character is based on cross ethnic and cross-ideological cooperation between member states. The linked strategies for peace aim at achieving a lasting democratic change through reform and justice.

Note: You are advised to only review session reports of the UNPBC up until the 13th session (2019) and not consider the 14th session report in debate or substantive input to the simulation.

Questions to Consider

1. Where the current structure of the United Nations Peacebuilding Architecture stand?
2. Which specific areas need review and revision?
3. What the current structure succeeds in and how do we improve upon it?
4. How do we establish the groundwork for the Middle East to be considered in the country Specific Configurations of the UNPBC?
5. What lies to be the pathway to peace in the middle east?
6. Do we need to establish a clearer understanding of peacebuilding and peacekeeping in order to better support a nimble structure for the UNPBC?

Links for further Reference

https://www.cigionline.org/sites/default/files/no25_0.pdf

https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/sites/www.un.org.peacebuilding/files/documents/3_year_report_high_final_website.pdf

https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/sites/www.un.org.peacebuilding/files/documents/20200601_thematic_paper_dpct_community_engagement.pdf

https://www.files.ethz.ch/isn/112503/5_McAskie.pdf

https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/sites/www.un.org.peacebuilding/files/documents/thematic_review.pdf

https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/sites/www.un.org.peacebuilding/files/documents/12-58492_feb13.pdf

https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/sites/www.un.org.peacebuilding/files/documents/ssr2_web.pdf

https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/sites/www.un.org.peacebuilding/files/documents/ddr_pbf_thematic_review.pdf

https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/sites/www.un.org.peacebuilding/files/documents/peace_dividends.pdf

https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/sites/www.un.org.peacebuilding/files/documents/monitoring_peace_consolidation.pdf

https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/sites/www.un.org.peacebuilding/files/documents/national_ownership_report.pdf

https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/sites/www.un.org.peacebuilding/files/documents/ieps_stocktaking_of_global_peacebuilding_expenditures.170410.web_1.pdf

https://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BFCF9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/PK_O%20Peacebuilding%20Peacekeeping%20Nexus.pdf

https://media.africaportal.org/documents/ct_2011_3.pdf

<https://www.clingendael.org/sites/default/files/pdfs/Challenges%20and%20opportunities%20to%20peacebuilding.pdf>

https://pomeps.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/POMEPS_Studies_30.pdf



AGENDA 2

Discussion on the growing role of Non-State entities in the Peace Building Process with special emphasis on the MENA Region

Introduction

Peacebuilding is a set of activities to create and sustain a peaceful society characterized by structures which promote long-term justice, diversity and the healing of relationships and the ongoing transformation of conflict.

'Peacebuilding' is thus an umbrella term which includes long-term activities in the conflict cycle aimed at addressing the root causes of the conflict and includes other short-term initiatives like peacekeeping and peace-making. It can also be defined as the process by which a community, society, nation or even just a population is helped in creating an environment which assists in the transforming from a state of vulnerability and dependency to a state of self-sufficiency and prosperity.

This new environment consists of the following three critical factors:

1. Addressing the underlying causes of conflict,
2. Repairing damaged relationships and,
3. Dealing with psychological trauma at the individual level.

It is important to note that Peacebuilding can be initiated by International Organisations (like the UN), National governments (Like South Africa in the 1990s) and even by non-state actors.

What are Non-State Actors?

Non-State Actors (NSA) are individuals or groups that are not a part of any government or country. NSAs can include a wide range of organisations such as Multinational Corporations, media organisations, business conglomerates, Civil Rights Organisations, professional lobby groups, religious organisations and development agencies. NSA which engage in armed conflict or violent behaviour are called Violent Non-State Actors (VNSAs). VNSA include organisations like Al-Qaeda, ISIS, Al-Shabab, Proud Boys etc..

The term Non State Actors is widely used in development cooperation, particularly under the Cotonou Agreement between the European Union (EU) and African, Caribbean and Pacific ACP countries. The agreement uses the term to refer to a wide range of nongovernmental development actors whose participation in ACP-EU development cooperation is now formally recognized. According to Article 6, non-state actors include:

- civil society in all its diversity, according to national characteristics;
- economic and social partners, including trade union organisations and;
- the private sector.

In practice, it means that participation is open to all kind of actors, such as community-based organisations, women's groups, human rights associations, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), religious organizations, farmers' cooperatives, trade unions, universities and research institutes, the media and the private sector. Also included in this definition are informal groups such as grassroots organizations, informal private sector associations, etc. The private sector, however, is considered only insofar as it is involved in non-profit activities (e.g. private sector associations, chambers of commerce, etc.)

What is the Role of NSAs in International Affairs and Peacebuilding?

Non-state actors can aid in opinion building in international affairs, such as the Human Rights Council. Formal international organizations may also rely on non-state actors, particularly NGOs in the form of implementing partners in the national context. An example is the contribution of COHRE (Centre on Housing Rights and Evictions), to the protection of land and property (HLP) rights in Kosovo by conceptualizing the Housing and Property Directorate (now Kosovo Property Agency) within the framework of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo.

Non-state actors are fundamental agents in helping to achieve both national and international development goals, such as those around climate change. Actions by non-state actors contribute significantly towards filling the greenhouse gas emissions gap left by unambitious or poorly executed national climate policies, Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs).

Another example that shows the importance of non-state actors in peace-building is the contribution of ICBL (International Campaign to Ban Landmines) to the international prohibition on the use of landmines. ICBL is a global network of NGOs that has operated in over 90 countries since 1992. Its primary goal is to make a world free of anti-personnel landmines. Their passionate advertising appealing for global cooperation drew Diana, Princess of Wales, another Non-State Actor, to become an ardent advocate. Together, they brought the issue to the United Nations General Assembly. ICBL's efforts led the international community to urge states to ratify the Ottawa Treaty (Mine Ban Treaty) in 1997, and its contribution was recognized and praised as it was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in the same year.

What is the situation in Middle East and North Africa (MENA)?

The Middle East and North Africa (MENA) is synonymous with the world's worst conflicts. There are huge disparities in power and wealth between countries in the MENA region. Some are poor and devastated by conflict – such as Yemen – and others are among the wealthiest nations in the world, wielding huge global influence and resources.

To better explain the role of NSAs in peacebuilding in the MENA region, we can take the prominent example of the Syrian Civil War.

- Research and Development, Innovation and access
Detailed and through research is pertinent for refining the excellence and efficiency of health products and services. Taking recent example of the pandemic, research is very important for new innovations, advanced medical facilities along with general and mass reach to society.
- Data and digital health
To maintain a digital health, a data pipeline is necessary that aggregates, normalizes and duplicates the information and integrates it to the workflows across the ecosystem of health for co-ordination, learning and analytics. However, digital health collection has a lot of legality to adhere to without barging endangering the privacy rights of individuals.

AGENCY COMMITMENT

The agencies to have come to consensus to work together to build a better future have devoted themselves to indulge with states all over the world and provide them backing in an advanced manner that suits international agenda and mass provision of aid.

There four specific commitments made by the signatories under GAP- **engage, accelerate, align and account.**

The multilateral agencies will **engage** with states to ascertain concerns, plan and implement them in a manner beneficial for most. The process for enforcement would be subjected to commitment of the signatories to involve to provide support to the states in a planned manner. To make sure of proper execution of plan, the signatories have to take into account the state's government, their plans and priorities, implementation plans along with short term and long term deliverables with respect to health related SDG targets. This will ensure global as well as local implementation of a mutual goal, giving the execution a much higher boost.

These agencies shall now have to take shared **accountability** of all the progress. First of its time, the signatories have recognised the importance of intra-agency participation, learning and sharing of resources for a better future. These twelve agencies shall regularly, in a timely manner review short term progress of the long set goal, share and respond to implementation challenges together.

The goal of having a better future and reaching the decade set goal can be **accelerated** in states via joint movements under the seven themes/ goals set up by GAP, keeping in focus the gender equality. This plan proposes local, state and global stages actions, reciprocally emphasising the major themes. Any support provided by the signatories shall be aligned with the particular state's priority and involve specific agencies which can pool resources to bring about a change in the areas the specific state lacks when compared with other states. Gender equality and attention to the requirements of the vulnerable will, however, be the parallel priority of the signatories.

One can **align** themselves with the requirements and ambitions of a state by toning the operational and financial policies, approaches and strategies in a manner which matches the international goal while fulfilling the national necessities.

The Syrian Peace Process

The Syrian peace process is the collective term of all initiatives and plans to resolve the Syrian Civil War, which has been ongoing in Syria since 2011 and has spilled beyond its borders. The peace process has been moderated by the Arab League, the UN Special Envoy on Syria, Russia and Western powers. The attempts to find a solution to the Syrian conflict and bring stability to the Middle East began in late 2011, when the Arab League launched two initiatives, but without much success. As of 2021, The Syrian Peace Process remains in a deadlock, with NSAs taking a greater role in community-level peacebuilding measures.

NGOs and community-based organizations (CBOs) fill key capacities in Syria's peace infrastructure, with many zeroing in on giving basic helpful guide and development services. Official NGOs enlisted with the Syrian government were one of the primary segments of Syria's civil society. CBOs have additionally been active inside Syria for quite a while before and during the civil war. While CBOs are especially important in Syria's fluid and profoundly unstable political climate, they are regularly the ones with very limited resources, yet working in exceptionally hazardous circumstances.

Over the past four years, there has also been a proliferation of Syrian NGOs based outside of Syria in neighbouring countries, especially Turkey and Lebanon. Externally-based NGOs typically have internal networks and local offices inside, mostly in opposition-held areas. These transnational NGOs play an important role in populating the civil society space and are frequent interlocutors of external actors and donors.

Local actors interviewed also engage directly in the resolution and mediation of a variety of localized conflicts. The actors mostly involved in this type of activities are community leaders, women initiatives, local council representatives, and affiliates of the Ministry of Reconciliation. They mostly aim at mediating and resolving conflicts either between individuals at the community level or between armed factions. Mediation and resolution of conflicts between individuals are of particular importance in the absence of effectively functioning legal institutions.

Questions a resolution must answer

1. Should nations encourage a greater role of NSAs in peacebuilding efforts?
2. Can UN Member states delegate their responsibility to protect to NSAs in areas of recurring conflicts?
3. How can NSAs be prepared to tackle the future conflicts in the MENA region, considering the potential impact of Climate Change may have on the region?
4. Should NSAs be included in the peacekeeping process itself?
5. Can the UNPBC membership be expanded to include the presence of NSAs in the commission?