

## A Few Minutes Series

### Subject - International Relations

Date - 14<sup>th</sup> March 2023

Click [here](#) to watch the following topics on YouTube

### United Nations

#### About UN

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

#### Member States

The UN's Membership has grown from the original 51 Member States in 1945 to the current 193 Member States.

All UN Member States are members of the General Assembly. States are admitted to membership by a decision of the General Assembly upon the recommendation of the Security Council.

#### United Nations Emblem and Flag



#### Emblem of UN

- With a pair of olive tree branches and a map of the world.
- The emblem and the flag on which it rests are also **aspirational symbols for people all over the world**, for they speak to their hopes and dreams of peace and unity.

#### Secretary General of UN



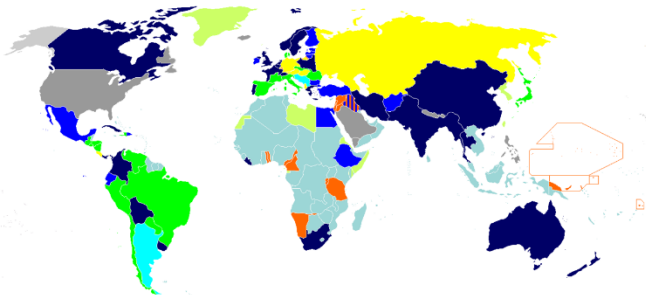
- The **Secretary-General is Chief Administrative Officer** of the UN – and is also a **symbol of the Organization's ideals** and an advocate for all the world's peoples, especially the poor and vulnerable.
- The Secretary-General is appointed by the General Assembly on the **recommendation of the Security Council** for a 5-year, renewable term.
- The current Secretary-General, and the 9th occupant of the post, is **António Guterres of Portugal**, who took office on 1 January 2017.
- On the 18th of June, 2021, Guterres was re-appointed to a second term, **pledging as his priority to continue helping** the world chart a course out of the COVID-19 pandemic.

#### Predecessor of UN

- The predecessor of the United Nations was the **League of Nations, established in 1919**, after World War I, **under the Treaty of Versailles** "to promote

international cooperation and to achieve peace and security.”

- As of **20 April 1946**, the **League of Nations** ceased to exist, having handed over all of its assets to the United Nations, and having granted the new UN Secretariat full control of its Library and archives.



- Founding member that stayed until the end
- Founding member that left and joined again
- Founding member that left
- Joined later and stayed until the end
- Joined later and left later
- League of Nations mandate
- Never members
- Colonies of members
- Colonies of members that left
- Colonies/territories of non-members



The League of Nations was established at the end of World War I as an international peacekeeping organization. Although US President Woodrow Wilson was an enthusiastic proponent of the League, the United States did not officially join the League of Nations due to opposition from isolationists in Congress.



## History of Foundation of UN



- The forerunner of the United Nations was the League of Nations, an organization conceived in circumstances of the First World War and established in 1919 under the Treaty of Versailles "to promote international cooperation and to achieve peace and security.

- The **International Labour Organization (ILO)** was also created in 1919 under the Treaty of Versailles as an affiliated agency of the League.
- The name "United Nations", coined by United States President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

### The San Francisco Conference



The audience at the opening session of the United Nations Conference on International Organization (also known as the San Francisco Conference) on 25 April, 1945. UN

## United Nations Conference on International Organization (1945)

- The United Nations Conference on International Organization (UNCIO), commonly known as the San Francisco Conference.
- It was a convention of delegates from 50 Allied nations that took place from 25 April 1945 to 26 June 1945 in San Francisco, California, United States.
- Conference held in San Francisco (USA), was attended by **representatives of 50 countries** and signed the United Nations Charter.
- The UN Charter of 1945 is the foundational treaty of the United Nations, as an **inter-governmental organization**.
- 24 October 1945 (now observed annually as United Nations Day)

### Founding Member States

- In accordance with Article 110, the Charter entered into force on **24 October 1945**, after ratification by the five permanent members of the Security

## Council and a majority of the other countries.

The original members of the United Nations were: China (then the Republic of China), France (then the Provisional Government), Russia (then the Soviet Union), the United Kingdom, the United States (these first five forming the Security Council), Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil (then the Vargas Era Brazil), Belarus (then the Byelorussian SSR), Canada, Chile (then the 1925–73 Presidential Republic), Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba (then the 1902–59 Republic), Czechoslovakia (then the Third Republic), Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt (then the Kingdom of Egypt), El Salvador, Ethiopia (then the Ethiopian Empire), Greece (then the Glücksburg Kingdom), Guatemala, Haiti (then the 1859–1957 Republic), Honduras, India, Iran (then the Pahlavi dynasty), Iraq (then the Kingdom of Iraq), Lebanon, Liberia, Luxembourg, Mexico, the Netherlands, New Zealand (then the Dominion of New Zealand), Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines (then the Commonwealth), Poland (then the Provisional Government of National Unity), Saudi Arabia, South Africa (then the Union of South Africa), Syria (then the Mandatory Republic), Turkey, Ukraine (then the Ukrainian SSR), Uruguay, Venezuela and Yugoslavia (then the Democratic Federal Yugoslavia).<sup>[7]</sup>

## NGST



- 193 United Nations member states
- 2 UN General Assembly observer states (Holy See (Vatican City), State of Palestine)
- 2 eligible non-member states (Cook Islands, Niue)
- 17 non-self-governing territories
- Antarctica (assertion of territorial claims suspended under the Antarctic Treaty System)



- Chapter XI of the United Nations Charter defines a non-self-governing territory (NSGT) as a territory "whose people have not yet attained a full measure of self-government".
- In practice, an NSGT is a territory deemed by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) to be "non-self-governing".
- Since 1946, the UNGA has maintained a list of non-self governing territories under member states' control.

## Some of the NGST-

Territory	Administering state	Domestic legal status	Other claimant(s)	Population	Area	Referendum(s)	See also
 American Samoa	 United States	Unincorporated unorganized territory	None	55,519	200 km <sup>2</sup> (77 mi <sup>2</sup> )	No official referendum has been held.	Politics of American Samoa
 Anguilla	 United Kingdom	Overseas Territory	None	14,108	96 km <sup>2</sup> (37 mi <sup>2</sup> )	No official referendum has been held.	Politics of Anguilla
 Bermuda	 United Kingdom	Overseas Territory	None	62,000	57 km <sup>2</sup> (22 mi <sup>2</sup> )	A 1995 Bermudian independence referendum was held. 74% of votes cast were against independence. <sup>[37]</sup>	Politics of Bermuda

## UN System

### MAIN BODIES

- General Assembly
- Security Council
- Economic and Social Council
- Trusteeship Council
- International Court of Justice
- Secretariat

## General Assembly

- The General Assembly is the **main deliberative, policymaking and representative organ of the UN.**



- All 193 Member States of the UN are represented in the General Assembly, **making it the only UN body** with universal representation.
- Each year, in September, the full UN membership meets in the General Assembly Hall in New York for the annual General Assembly session, and **general debate**, which many heads of state attend and address.
- Decisions on **important questions**, such as those on peace and security, **admission of new members and budgetary matters**, require a two-thirds majority of the General Assembly.
- Decisions on other questions are by simple majority.
- The **General Assembly, each year, elects a GA President** to serve a one-year term of office.

## Security Council

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

**authorize the use of force to maintain or restore international peace and security.**

- The Security Council has a Presidency, which rotates, and changes, every month.

## India's Track at UNSC



- As we know in January 2021, India joined the **UNSC for its 8<sup>th</sup> term as a non-permanent** member.
- India secured 184 votes in the 193-member General Assembly.
- Which includes all the 55 votes of the Asia-Pacific Group.

## India as a Non-Permanent Member

- India was elected as a non-permanent member of the UNSC seven times.
- **1950-51, 1967-68, 1972-73, 1977-78, 1984-85, 1991-92, and 2011-12.**
- Interestingly India's UNSC membership always **coincided with some significant** events in international politics.

## Presidency Amidst Chaos

- India's first term in the Council and its first presidency coincided with the outbreak of the **Korean War (1950-51).**
- During India's 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> terms there were heightened tensions in West Asia.
- **Notably the two Arab-Israeli wars in 1967 and 1973.**

## Economic & Social Council

- The Economic and Social Council is the **principal body for coordination, policy review, policy dialogue and recommendations on economic, social**

**and environmental issues**, as well as implementation of internationally agreed development goals.

- It serves as the **central mechanism for activities of the UN system** and its **specialized agencies in the economic, social and environmental fields**, supervising subsidiary and expert bodies.
- It **has 54 Members, elected by the General Assembly** for overlapping three-year terms.
- It is the United Nations' central platform for **reflection, debate, and innovative thinking** on sustainable development.

### Few Important Bodies Under the Purview of ECOSOC

- International Labour Organization (ILO)
- Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
- World Health Organization (WHO)
- Bretton Woods Twins (World Bank Group and International Monetary Fund)
- United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

### Trusteeship Council

- The Trusteeship Council, one of the main organs of the UN, was established to supervise the administration of trust territories as they transitioned from colonies to sovereign nations.
- **The Council suspended its activities in 1994, when Palau, the last of the original 11 trust territories, gained its independence.**
- The Trusteeship Council suspended operation on 1 November 1994.
- **Although under the United Nations Charter it continues to exist on paper, its**

**future role and even existence remains uncertain.**

### ICJ

- The **International Court of Justice** is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations.
- **Its seat is at the Peace Palace** in the Hague (Netherlands).
- It is the **only one of the six principal organs of the United Nations not located in New York** (United States of America).
- The Court's role is **to settle, in accordance with international law, legal disputes submitted to it by States and to give advisory opinions** on legal questions **referred to it by authorized United Nations organs and specialized agencies.**
- The **International Court of Justice** functions in accordance with its Statute.
- The **Court is composed of 15 judges**, who are elected for terms of **office of nine years** by the United Nations General Assembly and the Security Council.
- It is assisted by a Registry, its administrative organ. Its official languages are English and French.
- The ICJ is the **only international court** that adjudicates general disputes between countries.
- With its **rulings and opinions serving as primary sources** of international law.
- All member states of the UN are party to the ICJ Statute and may initiate contentious cases.
- The International Court of Justice is composed of 15 judges elected to nine-year terms of office by the United Nations General Assembly and the Security Council.
- These organs vote simultaneously but separately.

- ### Judges are eligible for re-election

## Secretariat

- especially the **poor and vulnerable**.



# GET 10% DISCOUNT ON

**ALL GS | CURRENT AFFAIRS | TEST SERIES**  
**PRELIMS CRASH COURSES**

## USE CODE: KUBERLIVE

**Mr. Kuber Singh**

(4 Mains and 2 UPSC Interviews)



☎ 1800-890-3043

✉ sleepy.classes@gmail.com

# संभव

**LIVE PRELIMS CRASH COURSE 2023**



Static Concepts + Current Affairs covered



8 Full-length Tests



4000+ MCQs for Practice



Daily Live Classes



Personal 1:1 Mentorship



Telegram Group

Bonus: Special CSAT Masterclass

**7,999/-**

## PRELIMS CRASH COURSE 2023

**Subject-wise**



Complete Your Subject in **40 Hours**

Each Subject at **2,000/-**