

Lesson 1.1



United Nations Peacekeeping

Lesson at a Glance

Aim

To introduce the United Nations (UN) and UN peacekeeping.

Relevance

You are joining the UN as peacekeeping personnel, which means you will **represent the UN** in the country to which it sends you.

While you may not ever visit UN Headquarters in New York, you are **carrying out decisions** made there. You must understand who makes decisions about your work as peacekeeping personnel, and what guides these decisions.

This lesson explains the strategic level of decision-making in the UN, and its connection to peacekeeping. The “strategic level” refers to the highest level of decision-making, and it is carried out by the main “parts” or “organs” of the UN located in New York. The strategic level is responsible for high level political decision-making and management in UN peacekeeping.

Learning Outcomes

Learners will:

- Explain the UN and its purpose
- Identify the UN Charter as the guiding document for the UN
- List the principal organs of the UN involved in UN peacekeeping
- List the departments at UN Headquarters active in UN peacekeeping
- Describe the three levels of authority for decision-making in UN peacekeeping – strategic, operational and tactical

Lesson Map

Recommended Lesson Duration: 45 minutes total

1-2 minutes per slide

Use short option learning activity

The Lesson	Pages 3-21
Starting the Lesson	Intro Slides
Learning Activity 1.1.1: Film: <i>United Nations Peacekeeping</i>	
Learning Activity 1.1.2: Consequences of Violent Conflict	
An Introduction to the UN	Slides 1-5
Principal Organs of the UN Involved in Peacekeeping	Slides 6-9
Departments of the Secretariat Active in Peacekeeping	Slides 10-13
Strategic, Operational & Tactical – Levels of Authority in Peacekeeping	Slide 14
Summary	Pages 22-23
Learning Evaluation	Pages 24-26
OPTIONAL: Additional Learning Activities	See Resource
Learning Activity 1.1.3: UN Peacekeeping at Strategic Level	
Learning Activity 1.1.4: Key Definitions and Concepts	
Learning Activity 1.1.5: Film: <i>Courage for Peace</i>	
Learning Activity 1.1.6: Film: <i>In the Cause of Peace</i>	
Learning Activity 1.1.7: UN Peacekeeping at the Strategic Level	

The Lesson



Starting the Lesson

For an interactive start to Lesson 1.1, consider these options:

- Ask learners if they have deployed to peacekeeping operations before. Identify participants who can contribute as resource people. Invite those with experience to identify missions, length of deployment and specific role.
- Ask learners if they are familiar with the UN. Brainstorm a list of facts the group already knows about the UN. Refer back to these points.
- Ask learners if they know about the history of their country's participation in UN peacekeeping. This could include a) rationale for participating in UN peacekeeping operations, b) numbers of military and police deployed or c) different missions to which personnel have been deployed.

Introduce the following (using the Introductory Slides):

- Lesson Topic
- Relevance
- Learning Outcomes
- Lesson Overview

Note the particular language of the UN. Learning involves some words, terms and phrases that may be unfamiliar and/or seem awkward. Reassure learners: “Don't let new language get in the way of learning”. As you move through the training, review the definitions of key words and phrases.

The information in Module 1 is the foundation for learning about UN peacekeeping. Print posters of the main slides and put them on the walls. Refer to them at key points.

Learning Activity

1.1.1

Film: *United Nations Peacekeeping*

METHOD

Film, group discussion

PURPOSE

To introduce the UN and UN peacekeeping

TIME

10 minutes

- Film: 2:17 minutes
- Discussion: 5-7 minutes

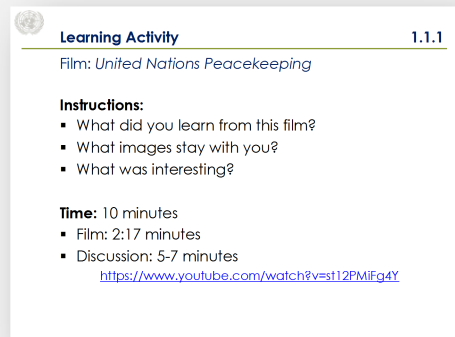
INSTRUCTIONS

- What did you learn from this film?
- What images stay with you?
- What was interesting?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=st12PMiFg4Y>

RESOURCES

- Learning Activity instructions



The thumbnail shows a page titled "Learning Activity" with the identifier "1.1.1". Below the title, it lists the film "United Nations Peacekeeping". Under the heading "Instructions:", there are three bullet points: "What did you learn from this film?", "What images stay with you?", and "What was interesting?". Under the heading "Time:", there are three bullet points: "10 minutes", "Film: 2:17 minutes", and "Discussion: 5-7 minutes". At the bottom, there is a blue hyperlink: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=st12PMiFg4Y>.

Learning Activity

1.1.2

Consequences of Violent Conflict

METHOD

Visualization, brainstorm

PURPOSE

To consider the reality of violent conflict in everyday life

TIME

15 minutes


- Visualization: 5-7 minutes
- Brainstorming: 5-7 minutes

INSTRUCTIONS

- Place yourself in your home country, in your own home, with your family
- Imagine how a violent conflict would affect your life

RESOURCES

- Learning Activity instructions
- Photos

 **Learning Activity** 1.1.2
Consequences of Violent Conflict

Instructions:

- Place yourself in your home country, in your own home, with your family
- Imagine how a violent conflict would affect your life

Time: 15 minutes

- Visualization: 5-7 minutes
- Brainstorming: 5-7 minutes



 **Learning Activity 1.1.2**

Image 1



UN Core Pre-Deployment Training Materials 2016

An Introduction to the United Nations

Slide 1



1. An Introduction to the UN

- Violent conflict is devastating
- Peacekeeping preserves peace when conflict ends



Key Message: Violent conflict is devastating. Peacekeeping is designed to preserve the peace when violent conflict has ended.


Violent conflict can occur between countries (interstate conflict) or within a country (intrastate conflict).

It has negative impact:

- Casualties and loss of human life, including civilians as indirect and direct targets
- Damage to and destruction of property, land and buildings
- Human suffering and displacement of people
- Humanitarian crises, including lack of food, shelter and medical care
- The collapse or decline of state institutions and services, breakdown of law and public order, and a political and security vacuum
- Disruption of ordinary life and the social fabric of the community
- Violent, tense and insecure daily realities
- Human rights violations, including trafficking and sexual violence
- Illegal exploitation and trade of natural resources such as minerals
- Serious long-term security, political and socio-economic issues


Violent conflict affects the present generation and generations to come.

Slide 2



The United Nations

- Universal and impartial international organization
- Founded in 1945 after World War II
- “[...]to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war[...].”
(Preamble of the UN-Charter)



Key Message: The UN is an impartial and universal organization made up of 193 countries called Member States. One reason for creating the UN was to save later generations from violent conflict.

Those who founded it in 1945 after the Second World War had lived through two terrible world wars.

The UN brings together, or unites, many different nations or states.

The members of the UN are these individual countries, known as “**Member States**”.



Ask learners how many countries or states they know of. Use responses to bridge into the lesson.

Fifty-one (51) original Member States formed the UN in 1945. As of today there are 193 Member States, which constitutes the vast majority of the recognized sovereign states.

The UN is a unique international organization. All Member States come together to discuss common problems and decide on major issues by voting.

The UN is **impartial**, which means it does not take sides. Also, the UN is **universal**. Members are almost all the countries on the planet. To be universal means to be inclusive.

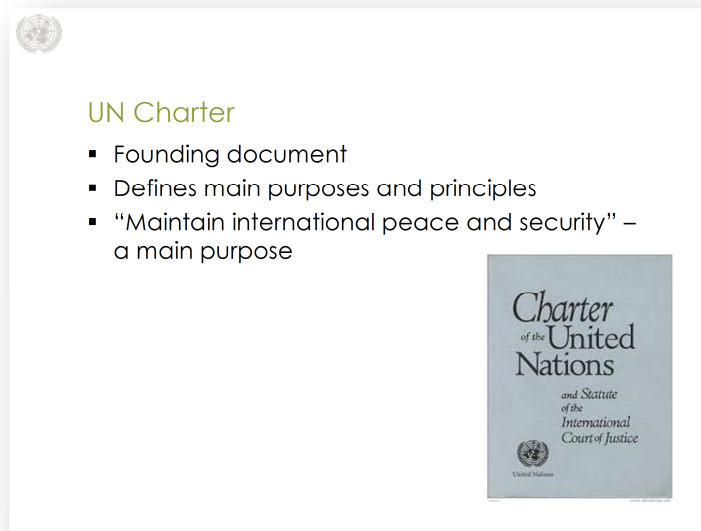
Being impartial and universal make the UN **legitimate** and **credible**.

To be legitimate means that the UN is lawful, permitted or valid. To be credible means that the UN is believable and worthy of confidence and trust.



Participants may raise points about UN credibility and legitimacy in brainstorming. Depending on current events, the UN may be in the news. Encourage open discussion. Remind people that the UN does a “technical job in a political environment”. This work brings challenges. Core parts of UN identity remain the same – universality, impartiality.

Slide 3

A slide titled 'UN Charter' with a bulleted list of three points: 'Founding document', 'Defines main purposes and principles', and '"Maintain international peace and security" – a main purpose'. To the right of the list is a small image of the cover of the 'Charter of the United Nations and Statute of the International Court of Justice'. The cover is light blue with the title in a serif font and the UN logo at the bottom.

Key Message: Signed in 1945, the UN Charter is the founding document which defines the main purposes and principles of the UN. One main purpose of the UN is to maintain international peace and security.

The first article of the **Charter of the UN** sets out **four main purposes**:

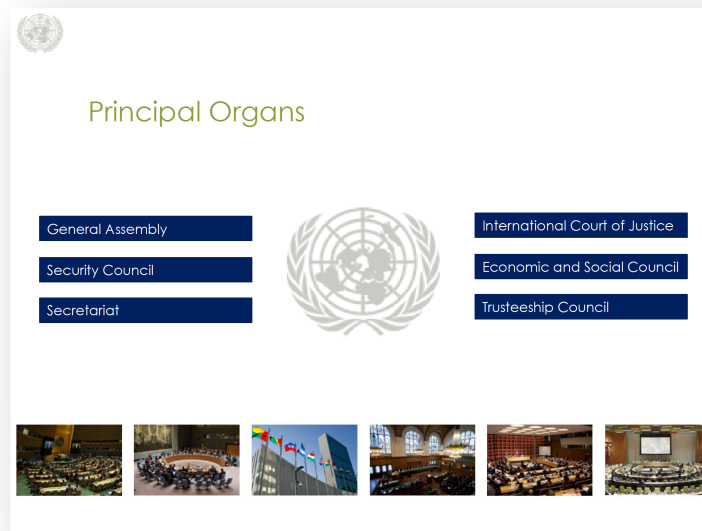
- To maintain international peace and security
- To develop friendly relations among nations
- To cooperate in solving international problems and to promote and encourage respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all
- To harmonize nations' actions in reaching these common ends

The UN Charter is **an international treaty** that spells out Member States' rights and duties as members of the world community. The Charter binds Member States.

The UN Charter also created the main parts of the UN, called “**principal organs**”, and guides its work.

The UN Charter also **guides your work** as peacekeeping personnel.

Slide 4



Key Message: The six main organs of the UN created under the UN Charter are: the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council, the Trusteeship Council, the International Court of Justice and the Secretariat.

The General Assembly is where all Member States meet and vote on decisions. The principle of equality means each Member State has one vote.

The Security Council has lead responsibility under the UN Charter to maintain international peace and security. The Council has 15 members, including 5 permanent members who helped set up the UN: China, France, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom and the United States. The General Assembly elects the other 10 rotating members for two-year terms, ensuring geographical representation.

The Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) is the central body coordinating the economic and social work of the UN.

The Trusteeship Council supervised Trust Territories, which were former colonies or dependent territories, as they made progress towards self-governance or independence. The Trusteeship Council suspended operation in 1994, with the independence of the last trust territory.

The International Court of Justice (ICJ) is in The Hague, Netherlands. The Court settles legal disputes only between nations and not between individuals, following international law.

The Secretariat refers to the departments and offices with international staff to carry out the day-to-day work of the Organization. These are in UN Headquarters in New York as well as in Geneva, Vienna, Nairobi and other locations.

Slide 5



Key Message: Specialized agencies, funds and programmes also support the work of the UN.

They include more than 30 organizations working in different areas – development, humanitarian and human rights. Specialized mandates cover many topics.

The **UN system** is the name given to the six principal organs and the specialized agencies, funds and programmes.

Specialized agencies, funds and programmes are active in countries where peacekeeping operations are deployed. They include:

- United Nations Development Program (UNDP)
- Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
- United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
- World Food Program (WFP)
- United Nations Office on Drugs Crime (UNDOC)
- United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
- United Nations Environment Program (UNEP)
- United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women)
- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
- International Labour Organization (ILO)
- Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS)


UN agencies, funds and programmes present in a country make up the UN Country Team (UNCT).




Ask learners with peacekeeping experience if they know these or other UN partners. Flag the importance for all peacekeeping personnel to know such partners in the UN family, as well as external partners. The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), for example, often active in peacekeeping contexts, is not part of the UN family. Share your own experience.

Principal Organs of the UN Involved in Peacekeeping

Slide 6



2. UN Principal Organs Involved in Peacekeeping



- General Assembly
- Security Council
- Secretariat

Key Message: The three principal organs active in UN peacekeeping are the General Assembly, the Security Council and the Secretariat.

Slide 7



General Assembly



General Assembly

- Main forum for Member States to make decisions
- Committees, e.g. C-34

Key Message: Member States contribute personnel, equipment and funds to peacekeeping operations. The General Assembly (GA) is the main forum for Member States to make decisions, with representatives of all the Member States of the UN.

The GA works through Committees.

One relevant committee for peacekeeping is the **Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations (C-34)**. C-34 reviews and recommends actions on peacekeeping and reports to the GA through the Fourth Committee.

C-34 has some representatives from outside the UN, for example the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol). Regional intergovernmental organizations such as the African Union (AU) and the European Union (EU) are also in the C-34.

The Committee works closely with key departments and offices of the UN, mainly the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO), the Department of Field Support (DFS) and the Peacebuilding Commission.

The Fifth Committee is responsible for financing peacekeeping and authorizing budgets for missions.

Slide 8



Security Council



Security Council

- Primary responsibility for maintaining international peace and security
- Power to investigate threats and take appropriate measures

Key Message: The Security Council has the lead responsibility for maintaining international peace and security. The Security Council may investigate and recommend measures to resolve disputes within and between states, including peacekeeping.

UN resolutions are formal expressions of positions of UN principal organs.

Any peacekeeping operation **must have a Security Council resolution**. Security Council resolutions contain mandates for peacekeeping operations. A **mandate** is an authorization and directive to take specific action. The peacekeeping mandate in a Security Council resolution is the legal basis for all actions or tasks of the peacekeeping operation, including the use of force.

The Security Council also issues resolutions that highlight global concerns relevant to peacekeeping, such as the human rights of women and children – groups usually most affected by the conflict.

Resolutions can be established through the affirmative vote of at least nine members of the Security Council, unless it is expressly rejected by at least one of the permanent members (veto rule).

Slide 9



Secretariat



Secretariat

- Secretariat: led by Secretary-General
- Secretary-General: “Chief Administrative Officer” of the Organization

Key Message: The Secretariat carries out the day-to-day work of the organization. The Secretariat has a wide variety of departments and offices that deal with UN work, including peacekeeping.

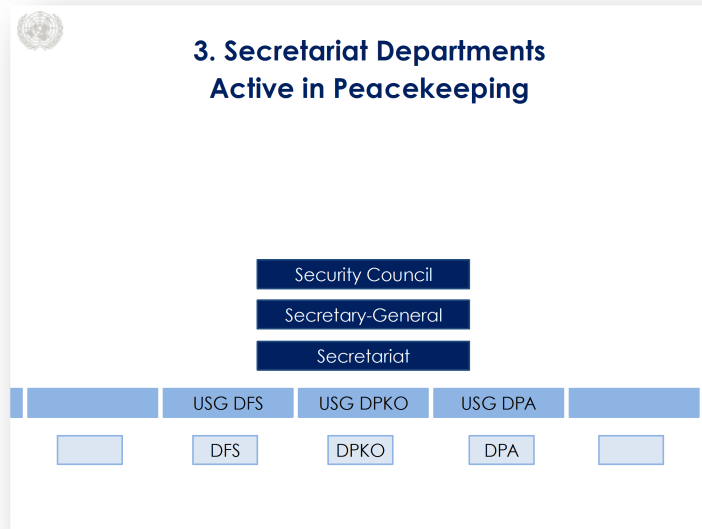
The Secretariat is the administrative arm of the UN. The **Secretary-General** is the “**Chief Administrative Officer**” of the UN overall.

As head of the Secretariat, the Secretary-General is responsible for UN departments, offices and activities.

The Secretary-General brings to the attention of the Security Council anything that may threaten international peace and security. The Security Council decides on what is a significant threat.

Departments of the Secretariat Active in Peacekeeping

Slide 10



Key Message: The three departments directly involved in UN peacekeeping are DPKO, DFS and the Department of Political Affairs (DPA).

Every department of the **UN Secretariat** contributes to the day-to-day running of UN peacekeeping operations.

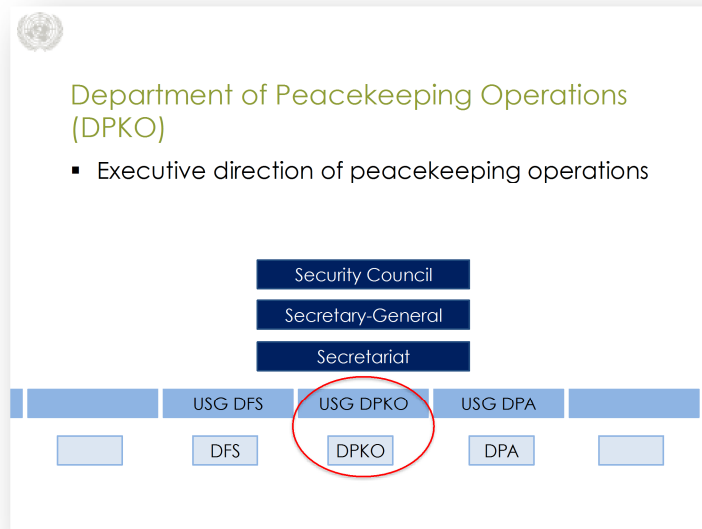
However, DPKO and DFS work closely together in UN peacekeeping. DPA is an equally important partner.

An **Under-Secretary General (USG)** heads each department and reports to the Secretary-General. The Secretary-General delegates certain responsibilities and tasks to each USG.



Invite participants with peacekeeping experience to describe their contact with DPKO, DFS and DPA. Use those descriptions to introduce the key roles of departments active in peacekeeping. Draw on your own experience for details. Integrating experience-sharing into lessons reinforces relevance of information that may seem abstract or distant.

Slide 11

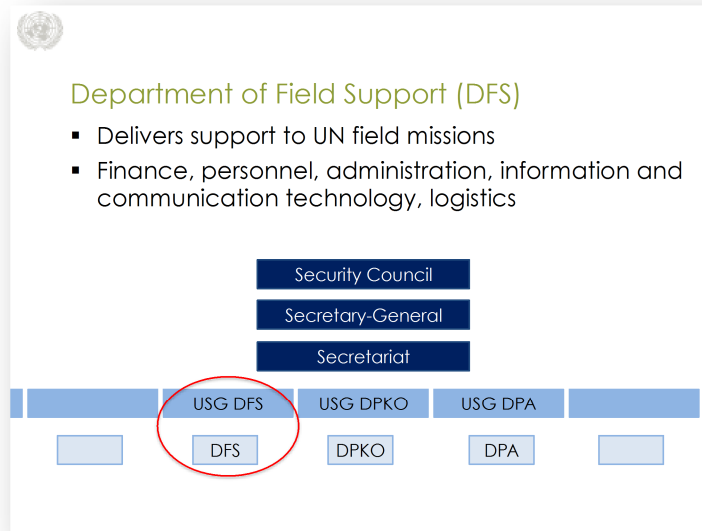


Key Message: DPKO is responsible for the executive direction of peacekeeping operations.

Through DPKO in New York, the USG DPKO does the following:

- Advises the Secretary-General on planning, establishment and conduct of all UN peacekeeping operations
- Directs and controls UN peacekeeping operations
- Develops policies and guidelines based on Security Council resolutions, including those with mission mandates
- Prepares reports with observations and recommendations from the Secretary-General to the Security Council on each peacekeeping operation
- Ensures DPKO-led field missions meet security management requirements
- Serves as a focal point of contact between the Secretariat and Member States who seek information on UN peacekeeping operations

Slide 12



Key Message: DFS delivers dedicated support to UN field missions.

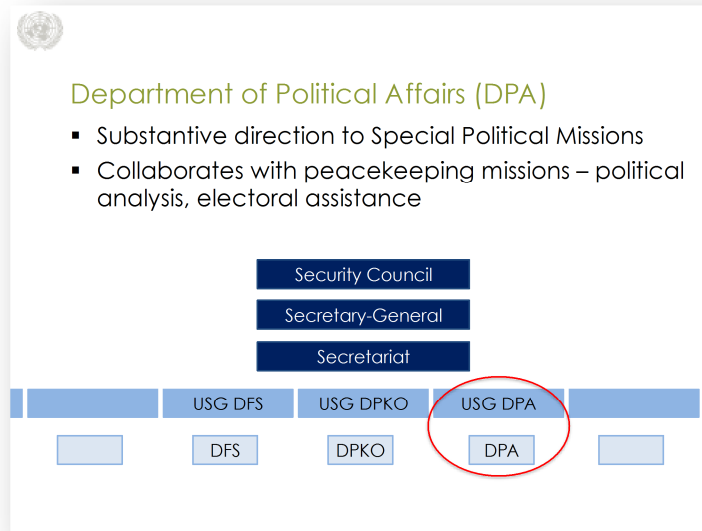
DFS delivers support in **finance, personnel, administration, information and communications technology and logistics.**

Logistical services include supplying fuel, water, accommodation, food, offices and equipment, transport and medical facilities for the entire mission.

DFS coordinates with Member States and contracted providers of specific services.

DFS delivers support to all UN field missions, including peacekeeping operations and special political missions (SPMs).

Slide 13



Key Message: DPA plays a central role in UN efforts to prevent and resolve deadly conflict around the world. DPA is also a partner for peacekeeping operations.

DPA is the lead UN department for peacemaking and preventive diplomacy. DPA mainly provides direction to SPMs. SPMs may be political field offices, special envoys, panels or experts to monitor sanctions. They are often active in conflict prevention, peacemaking and peacebuilding.

DPA gives analysis and advice to the Secretary-General. DPA also supports the Secretary-General's independent political role in providing "good offices". Good offices use the position of the UN to resolve disputes in and between States.

As a key partner for peacekeeping operations, DPA collaborates on elections in post-conflict countries. The **Electoral Assistance Division** supports needs assessments, policy guidance and specialized personnel. Also, DPA's regional divisions may carry out political analysis or lead in mediation and good offices efforts.

Strategic, Operational & Tactical – Levels of Authority in Peacekeeping

Slide 14



Key Message: There are three levels of authority for decision-making in UN peacekeeping – strategic, operational and tactical. These levels are also known as levels of authority, command and control.

According to the *UN Peacekeeping Operations: Principles and Guidelines* – also known as the “Capstone Doctrine”:

- The **strategic level** refers to the high-level political decision-making and management of a UN peacekeeping operation at UN Headquarters.
- The **operational level** is field-based management of a UN peacekeeping operation at mission headquarters.
- The **tactical level** refers to management of military, police and civilian operations below the level of mission headquarters and supervision of individual personnel.

The General Assembly, Security Council and Secretariat have the “power” or “authority” to make high-level political decisions and manage a UN peacekeeping operation.



Terms and definitions explained here are specific to UN peacekeeping. Other countries or institutions may use them differently. UN personnel should use the terminology as defined above and spelled out in the Policy on Authority, Command and Control when working for UN peacekeeping.

Summary

The UN maintains international peace and security

- The UN is an impartial and universal organization made up of 193 countries called Member States. 1945 is the founding year.
- One main purpose of the UN is to maintain international peace and security.

The UN Charter is the guiding document

- The UN Charter is the founding document which defines the main purposes and principles of the UN. It is an international treaty which binds all Member States.
- The Charter also created the six main organs of the UN and guides its work.

The General Assembly, Security Council and Secretariat are involved in UN peacekeeping

- Three of the principal organs of the UN are involved in peacekeeping: the General Assembly, the Security Council and the Secretariat.
- The Security Council has primary responsibility for matters of international peace and security.

The departments of Peacekeeping Operations, Field Support and Political Affairs are active in UN peacekeeping

- Three departments of the Secretariat are actively involved in peacekeeping: DPKO, DFS and DPA.
- DPKO is responsible for the executive direction of peacekeeping operations.
- DFS delivers dedicated support to UN field missions.
- As a key partner for peacekeeping operations, DPA collaborates on elections in post-conflict countries.

(Cont.)

(Summary cont.)

The strategic, operational and tactical levels are levels of authority for decision-making in UN peacekeeping

- There are three levels of authority for decision-making in UN peacekeeping – strategic, operational and tactical. These levels are also known as levels of authority, command and control.
- The strategic level refers to the high-level political decision-making and management of a UN peacekeeping operation at UN Headquarters.
- The operational level is field-based management of a UN peacekeeping operation at the Mission Headquarters.
- The tactical level refers to management of military, police and civilian operations below the level of Mission Headquarters and supervision of individual personnel.
- The General Assembly, Security Council and Secretariat have the “power” or “authority” to make high-level political decisions and manage a UN peacekeeping operation.

Evaluation

Note on Use: An example of learning evaluation questions for this lesson may be found below.

There are different types of learning evaluation questions for the instructor to choose from (See Options). Types of learning evaluation questions are:

- 1) Narrative
- 2) True-False
- 3) Fill in the blank/sentence completion

Combine in different ways for pre-assessment and post-assessment. Each evaluation type covers different content. No sub-set covers all learning outcomes. Make sure you include learning evaluation questions for each learning outcome when you combine them.

Three main uses of evaluation questions are: a) informally ask the whole group, b) semi-formally assign to small groups or c) formally give to individuals for written responses.

Evaluation Questions for Lesson 1.1	
Questions	Answers
Narrative	
<i>Note: Frame narrative evaluations as questions, requests or directions</i>	
1. Name the four main purposes of the UN.	The first article of the Charter of the UN sets out four main purposes: 1. To maintain international peace and security 2. To develop friendly relations among nations 3. To cooperate in solving international problems and to promote and encourage respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all 4. To harmonize nations' actions in reaching these common ends
2. The UN Charter set up six main parts or "organs". Name all six and identify the three most involved in peacekeeping.	(Bold shows the three most involved in peacekeeping). 1. General Assembly: the main forum for Member States to make decisions, including decisions on peacekeeping

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Security Council: has lead responsibility under the UN Charter to maintain international peace and security. It may investigate and recommend measures to resolve disputes within and between states. 3. Economic and Social Council 4. Trusteeship Council 5. International Court of Justice 6. Secretariat: the <i>Secretariat carries out the day-to-day work of the UN, including peacekeeping. The Secretariat has a wide variety of departments and offices, including the Departments of Peacekeeping Operations, Field Services and Political Affairs which lead in different aspects of peacekeeping. The Secretary-General is the “Chief Administrative Officer” of the UN overall.</i>
<p>3. Name the three Departments in the UN Secretariat active in day-to-day peacekeeping and their common acronyms.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) 2. Department of Field Support (DFS) 3. Department of Political Affairs (DPA)
<p>4. Name and explain the three levels of decision-making (or authority, command and control) in UN peacekeeping.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Strategic: high-level political decision-making and management of a UN peacekeeping operation at UNHQ 2. Operational: field-based management of a UN peacekeeping operation at mission HQ 3. Tactical: management of day-to-day military, police and civilian operations below the level of mission HQ, including supervision of individual personnel
True-False	
<p>4. One main purpose of the UN is to maintain international peace and security.</p>	<p>True. The first article of the Charter of the UN sets out four main purposes.</p>

<p>5. The strategic level operates below mission HQ.</p>	<p>False. Strategic level is high-level political decision-making and management of a UN peacekeeping operation at UNHQ. The tactical level refers to management of military, police and civilian operations below Mission HQ, including supervision of individual personnel.</p>
<p>Sentence Completion</p>	
<p>6. The UN's founding document is _____. It sets out purpose and main parts.</p>	<p>Charter of the United Nations, or UN Charter</p>
<p>7. The _____ level of UN peacekeeping refers to field-based management.</p>	<p>Operational level. Field-based management of a peacekeeping operation at mission headquarters. The operational level takes high-level political direction from the strategic level and guides the tactical level.</p>

Commonly Asked Questions and Key Words

Key Words or phrases for this lesson:

Key Word or Phrase	Definition
“Good Offices”	“Good Offices” are provided when the UN uses its position to resolve disputes in and between States. The UN has some leverage over the parties to conflict because it represents the collective will of the international community.
Interstate conflict	Interstate conflict is conflict between countries.
Intrastate conflict	Intrastate conflict is conflict within a country.
Mandate	A mandate is an authorization and directive to take specific action. The peacekeeping mandate is the legal basis for all actions or tasks of the peacekeeping operation, including the use of force. Security Council resolutions contain mandates for peacekeeping operations.
Peacekeeping	Peacekeeping is an approach designed to preserve the peace where violent conflict has <u>ended</u> . The Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) is responsible for peacekeeping operations.
Resolution	Resolutions are formal expressions of positions of UN principal organs. A peacekeeping operation must have a Security Council <i>resolution</i> .
Special Political Missions (SPMs)	Special Political Missions (SPMs) may be political field offices, special envoys, panels or experts to monitor sanctions. They are often active in conflict prevention, peacemaking and peacebuilding. The Department of Political Affairs (DPA) provides direction to SPMs.

Commonly asked questions from participants:

Possible Questions	Possible Responses
<p>Who drafted the Principles and Guidelines on UN Peacekeeping Operations (also known as the Capstone Doctrine)? Were specialized agencies involved in the drafting?</p>	<p>DPKO (specifically the Peacekeeping Best Practices Section of the Division of Policy, Evaluation and Training) drafted the Principles and Guidelines on UN Peacekeeping after holding intense high-level consultations with stakeholders globally, including but not limited to Member States, UN Agencies and NGOs. The consultations were held for more than a year in all the continents.</p>
<p>Who else can make decisions related to Peace and Security if the permanent members of the Security Council make use of their veto?</p>	<p>This is a question of legitimacy. The UN Security Council has the highest level of legitimacy related to peace and security. However in exceptional circumstances and very rare cases the General Assembly has authorized peacekeeping operations. Other centers of power which may have influence, for example regional organizations such as North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) or the African Union (AU) have chosen to take action. In order to ensure the greatest legitimacy for their actions, such organizations often seek out Security Council authorization for their actions under Chapter 8 of the UN Charter. Such action, particularly when Security Council authorization is sought after the fact, has raised questions about the legitimacy of the operation.</p>
<p>Can the General Assembly authorize a peacekeeping operation or is it only the Security Council?</p>	<p>The United Nations Charter gives primary responsibility to the Security Council for the maintenance of international peace and security, and therefore also for the authorization of a peacekeeping operation. However, under General Assembly Resolution 377(V) of 1950, an exception to this general rule has been created so that "<i>...if the Security Council, because of lack of unanimity of the permanent members, fails to exercise its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security in any case where there appears to be a threat to the peace, breach of the peace or act of aggression, the General Assembly shall consider the matter immediately with a view to making appropriate recommendations to Members for collective measures, including in the case of a breach of the peace or act of aggression, the use of armed force when necessary, to maintain or restore international peace and security.</i>"</p>

	<p>Under this resolution, the General Assembly has authorized one peacekeeping operation, the First United Nations Emergency Force (UNEF I). All UN peacekeeping operations since then have been authorized by the Security Council - which is the general practice - and consequently Unit 2 focuses on the process followed by the Security Council.</p>
<p>Can the UN Security Council intervene in a conflict in a country that is not a Member of the UN?</p>	<p>The Security Council is the ultimate authority on peace and security issues globally. If it determines a threat to peace and security exists which involves a non Member State, it can choose to intervene in accordance with its power and the principles and aims of the UN Charter. The Charter states that such a state, which is party to a dispute under consideration by the Security Council shall be invited to participate in the discussion (art. 32). A non Member State of the UN which is involved in a dispute may also ask the Security Council or General Assembly to intervene, if that country accepts in advance the Charter's rules on the peaceful settlement of disputes.</p>
<p>How are UN peacekeeping operations funded?</p>	<p>All Member States share the costs of UN peacekeeping operations. Member States provide "assessed contributions" to the UN to cover the costs of UN peacekeeping operations. The General Assembly decides on the scale of assessments applicable to peacekeeping. This scale takes into account the relative economic wealth of Member States, with the permanent members of the Security Council required to pay a larger share because of their special responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security. For more information on this issue, go to:</p> <p>http://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/operations/financing.shtml</p>

Reference Materials

Below are materials which are a) referenced in this lesson, and b) required reading for instructor preparations:

- [Charter of the United Nations, 1945](#)
- [United Nations Peacekeeping Operations Principles and Guidelines, also known as the Capstone Doctrine, 2008](#)
- [DPKO-DFS Policy on Authority, Command and Control in UN Peacekeeping Operations, 2008](#)

Additional Resources

UN Information

The website for UN peacekeeping: <http://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/>

Peacekeeping statistics: <http://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/resources/statistics/>

UN at a glance: <http://www.un.org/en/about-un/index.html>

Current membership of the Security Council: <http://www.un.org/en/sc/members/>

DPKO: <http://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/about/dpko/>

DFS: <http://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/about/dfs/>

DPA: <http://www.un.org/undpa/overview>

UN System:

http://www.un.org/en/aboutun/structure/pdfs/UN_System_Chart_2015_Rev.4_ENG_11x17colour.pdf

UN Documents

UN documents can be found on: <http://www.un.org/en/documents/index.html>
(Search by document symbol, e.g. A/63/100)

DPKO and DFS Guidance

The Policy and Best Practice Database is the repository for all official DPKO and DFS guidance: <http://ppdb.un.org> (only accessible from the UN network).

Official peacekeeping guidance documents are also accessible through the Peacekeeping Resource Hub: <http://research.un.org/en/peacekeeping-community>

The UN encourages instructors to check the site regularly for latest guidance.

UN Films

UN films can be found on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/unitednations>

[The United Nations: It's Your World \(6:52 minutes\)](#)

[Courage for Peace \(7:40 minutes\)](#)

[In the Cause of Peace \(13:31 minutes\)](#)

Additional Training Resources

UN Peacekeeping Operations: An Introduction

<http://portals.unssc.org/course/index.php?categoryid=24>