



Background Paper

Committee: The Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations

Topic B: Financing UN Peacekeeping: Sustainable and Equitable Contributions

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Peacekeeping is one of the most important and basic endeavors to preserve worldwide balance; therefore, countries should find a way to finance UN peacekeeping through sustainable and equitable contributions. Since the creation of the UN, in 1945, these missions have played a crucial role in war zones and other places that are in conflict, supporting political ideas and securing their citizens a safe place to be. Even Though the UN is always seeking peacekeeping operations, there are challenges that the UN is now facing such as rising costs, inflation, and uneven budgetary commitments from several states. This paper focuses on investigating the importance and impact global financing has in peacekeeping operations, searching for key issues to solve, and proposing several arrangements.

UN peacekeeping operations started as a way to seek peace worldwide after particular conflicts, for instance, the Cold War. These peacekeeping operations have extended from conventional parts like ceasefire checking to more complex orders such as demilitarization, the security of civilians, and peacebuilding. The financing of these missions has historically been in dispute, as it has been a problem that several nations give financial support and many others don't. This inequality in commitments has made the system tense, with wealthier countries regularly borrowing the bigger amount of financial assets, and poorer countries having a very few left. The current challenges, the United Nations is facing, regarding the topic are the following:

1. **Unequal Burden Sharing:** Unequal burden sharing refers to describing how some countries contribute significantly to peacekeeping operations, while others contribute minimally but still benefit from the stability these efforts bring. That's why one main focus should be the need for fairness and balance in global responsibilities, especially to supervise benefits and costs that are unevenly distributed, because the wealthiest nations, especially the five permanent members of the UN Security Committee (United States, United Kingdom, France, Russia and China), regularly contribute the most.
2. **Payments and Delays in Commitments:** Many states have issues to meet their monetary commitments on time, resulting in budget shortages. In 2021, there were over \$2.7 billion in unpaid commitments for peacekeeping, creating operational challenges and making it harder to achieve the United Nations goals.

To address these challenges and issues regarding financial requirements to achieve the peacekeeping goals, the UN has made some changes. One important way to ensure equitable contributions and fairness in financial distributions is to revise the assessment scale to better reflect the financial realities of contributing nations. This could involve redistributing contributions so that wealthier countries provide more consistent and predictable funding, while poorer nations contribute in line with their abilities and needs. Other ways are:

1. **Encouraging Voluntary Contributions:** Some nations exceed their contributions. So other countries should be encouraging more countries to offer financial support could help relieve some of the financial pressures to achieve the peacekeeping operations.
2. **Public-Private Partnerships:** Engaging the private sector in peacekeeping initiatives could open up new funding sources. Corporations and foundations could be encouraged to support specific missions.
3. **Long-term Financial Planning:** The United Nations should consider adopting more comprehensive long-term financial planning tools for peacekeeping, such as creating reserved funds.

In conclusion, the UN financing for peacekeeping operations is necessary to seek and guarantee peace worldwide. Without the financial assets, peacekeeping operations will face conflicts and delays, inefficient work, and consequently danger for civilians. Also, countries must discuss and try to find a solution or initiatives to guarantee that peacekeeping operations will be sufficiently funded in a way that is both responsible and effective, ensuring the UN fulfills its operations regarding peacekeeping and further security for civilians.

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