

PSCI 2500 INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
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Second In-Class Paper

- Open notes (but not open book).
- At least one page.
- Handwriting *must* be legible.
- Write in sentences (i.e., not a list).
- 15 minutes.

Second In-Class Paper

- See Dr Butterfield.

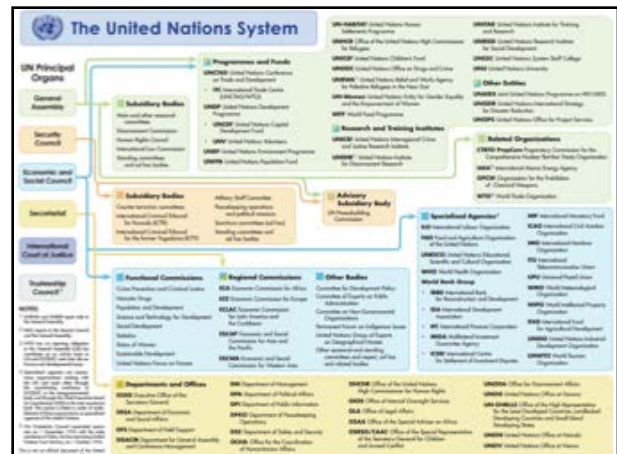
The United Nations

- Given the failure of the League, how was the UN organized?



General Rules

- UN Charter supersedes all other treaties.
- Charter § 2.1: "sovereign equality of all its members."
- § 2.4: "all members shall refrain... from *the threat or use of force.*"
- § 2.7: the UN "*cannot intervene*" in sovereign matters.





General Assembly

General Assembly

- No limit to topics of discussion (as long as sovereignty is not violated).
- Each state has one vote.
- Decisions require two-thirds majority.
- Elects non-permanent members of Security Council.

General Assembly

- But: decisions are not legally binding.
 - status: recommendations to states or Security Council.
- Democratic but weak.
- Useful as forum for discussion, agenda-setting, public attention to issues, pressure on states and Security Council.



Security Council

Security Council

- 15 members:
 - Five permanent members:
 - the "P5" – China, France, Russia, UK and US.
 - 10 rotating members, 2-year terms.
 - Regional representation:
 - Africa
 - Asia
 - Latin America/Caribbean
 - Eastern Europe
 - Western Europe/Other


Security Council

- Decisions require all nine votes and no "no" votes from P5 (veto power).
- Decisions are binding on UN members.
- Security Council: not very democratic, more authoritative (effective).



The UN

- Given the failure of the League, how was the UN organized?
- Both democratic (GA) and centralized (SC).
- P5 veto ensures:
 - Challenges in making decisions, but also...
 - ...continuity and stability.



Security Council Reform

- Current arrangement reflects world in 1945.
- Issues:
 - should there be better geographical representation?
 - should any state have veto power?
 - should the size increase now that the UN has 193 members?
 - should economic power = political power?
 - how to balance representation with efficiency?

Country Rankings – Various Criteria

Should such factors determine permanent membership or veto?

Population	Size of Economy	UN Dues	Defense Budget
China	USA	USA	USA
India	China	Japan	China
USA	Japan	China	Saudi Arabia
Indonesia	Germany	Germany	Russia
Brazil	UK	France	UK
Pakistan	France	UK	India
Nigeria	India	Brazil	France
Bangladesh	Italy	Italy	Japan
Russia	Brazil	Russia	Germany
Mexico	Canada	Canada	South Korea

Discussion: Security Council Reform

Rank order these criteria for consideration of reform:

- democratic process
- efficiency in decision-making
- fair geographic representation
- fewer permanent members
- larger council
- more permanent members
- powerful country representation
- small country representation