

# ILB114 Global Citizenship

## Unit 8: Int'l Organizations & Global Governance

# After the Cold War

- Even though, the nation state is a temporary flagship for global governance legitimacy.
- Its function in conveying such legitimacy is a carryover from the last century when nation-states were self contained units that only cooperated with other units if it was mutually convenient for them to do so.
- However, global issues facing the world today require more than just existential agreements of convenience between countries. They require a more fundamental commitment to develop and support solutions that work for the planet as a whole.

# After the Cold War

- Environmental challenges – global warming, air pollution, oil spills, disappearing rain forests, over population, and world poverty etc.
- Global economy – the world economy is driven by large multinational corporations (globalization).
- New regionalism – EU, NAFTA, ASEAN.
- Ethnic & Political violence and Nuclear Proliferation
- The nations have a moral obligation not to pursue narrow self-interests.

# Non-state Actors: Int'l Organizations

- Multinational Corporations (MNCs) or transnational corporations (TNCs), also called multinational enterprise (MNE), is a corporation or enterprise that manages production or delivers services in more than one country.
- The key element of transnational corporations was present even back then: the British East India Company and Dutch East India Company were operating in different countries than the ones where they had their headquarters.

# Non-state Actors: TNCs

- Nowadays many corporations have offices, branches or manufacturing plants in different countries than where their original and main headquarter is located.
- This often results in very powerful corporations that have budgets that exceed some national GDPs.



# Non-state Actors: TNCs

- Multinational corporations can have a powerful influence in local economies as well as the world economy and play an important role in international relations and globalization.
- The presence of such powerful players in the world economy is reason for much controversy.



# Int'l Organizations: INGOs

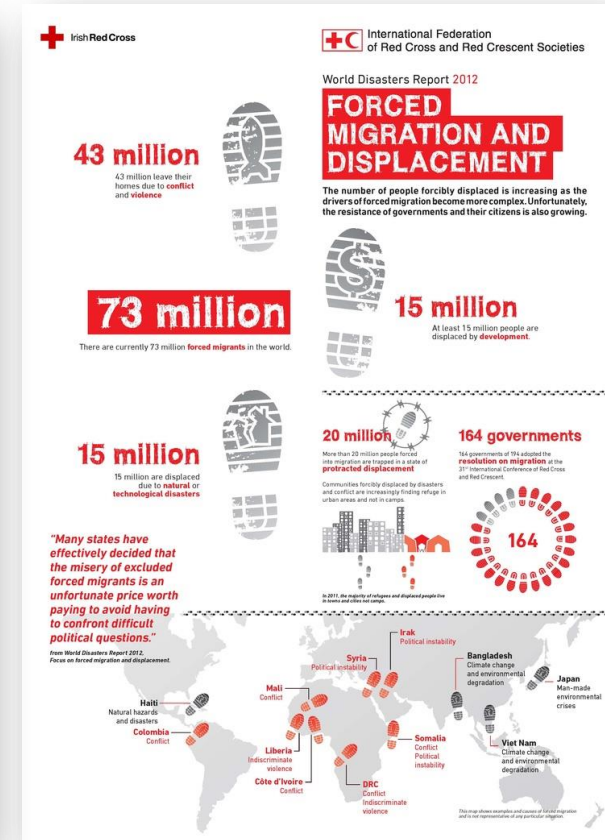
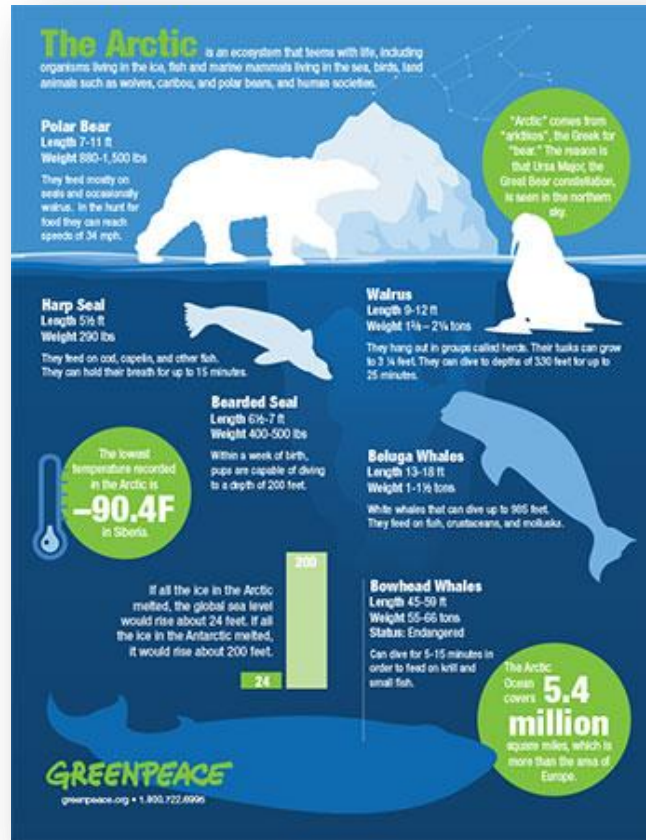
- International nongovernmental organizations (INGOs) are made up of private individuals and affiliated groups.
- It is a voluntary association of organizations or individuals for worldwide or regional action.





# Int'l Organizations: INGOs

- An INGO may be founded by private philanthropy, such as the Carnegie, Rockefeller, Gates and Ford Foundations, or as an adjunct to existing international organizations, such as the Catholic or Lutheran churches.





# Int'l Organizations: INGOs

- A surge in the founding of development INGOs occurred during World War II, some of which would later become the large development INGOs Oxfam, Catholic Relief Services, Save the Children Alliance, Food for the Hungry, Amnesty International, CARE International, International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, Doctors Without Borders, and Lutheran World Relief.



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# Int'l Organizations: IGOs

- International governmental organizations (IGOs) are made up of individual governments as members or an organization comprised primarily of sovereign states (referred to as member states).
- Intergovernmental organizations are an important aspect of public international law. IGOs are established by treaty that acts as a charter creating the group. Treaties are formed when lawful representatives (governments) of several states go through a ratification process, providing the IGO with an international legal personality.

# Int'l Organizations: IGOs

- There are four kinds of inter-governmental organizations. They are:
  1. Global membership with general purposes, e.g., The United Nations.
  2. Global membership with limited purposes, e.g., The World Bank.
  3. Limited membership with general purposes, e.g., ASEAN, EU.
  4. Limited membership with limited purposes, e.g., NAFTA.



# Int'l Organizations: IGOs



- Intergovernmental organizations differ in function, membership and membership criteria.
- They have various goals and scopes, often outlined in the treaty or charter.
- Some IGOs developed to fulfill a need for a neutral forum for debate or negotiation to resolve disputes.
- Others developed to carry out mutual interests in a unified form.



# Int'l Organizations: IGOs

- Common stated aims are to preserve peace through conflict resolution and better international relations, promote international cooperation on matters such as environmental protection, to promote human rights, to promote social development (education, health care), to render humanitarian aid, and to economic development. Some are more general in scope (the United Nations) while others may have subject-specific missions (such as Interpol or the International Organization for Standardization and other standards organizations). Common types include:

# Int'l Organizations: IGOs

- Worldwide or global organizations - generally open to nations worldwide as long as certain criteria are met. This category includes the United Nations (UN) and its specialized agencies, the World Trade Organization (WTO), and the International Monetary Fund (IMF).
- Regional organizations - open to members from a particular region or continent of the world. This categories includes European Union (EU), African Union (AU), Organization of American States (OAS), Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).



# Int'l Organizations: IGOs

- Cultural, linguistic, ethnic, religious, or historical organizations – open to members based on some cultural, linguistic, ethnic, religious, or historical link. Examples include the Commonwealth of Nations, Latin Union, or Organisation of the Islamic Conference
- Economic organizations - based on economic organization. Some are dedicated to free trade, the reduction of trade barriers (the World Trade Organization) and International Monetary Fund.

# Int'l Organizations: IGOs

- Others are focused on international development. International cartels, such as the Organization of Petroleum-Exporting Countries (OPEC), also exist. The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development was founded as an economics-focused organization. An example of a recently-formed economic IGO is the Bank of the South.
- Some organizations, such as North Atlantic Organization (NATO), have collective security or mutual defense provisions.

# What is Global Governance?

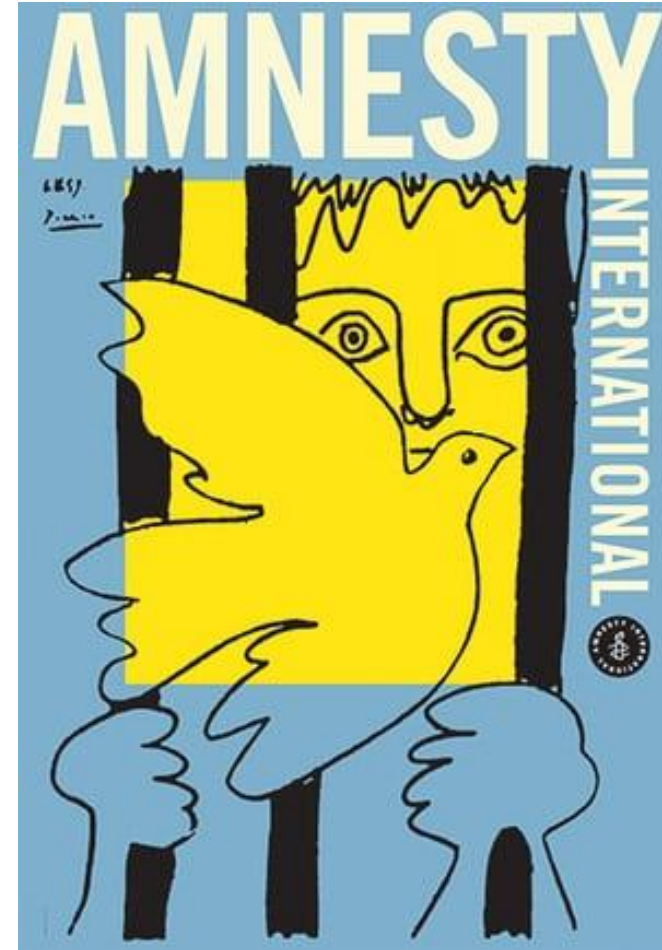
- Global governance is a movement towards political cooperation among transnational actors, aimed at negotiating responses to problems that affect more than one state or region.
- Why is global governance important?
- Global governance is not a singular system. There is no “world government” but the many different regimes of global governance do have commonalities.

# The Importance of Global Governance

- At the same time, the institutions of governance (such as EU or ASEAN need to be influenced, restrained, guided and so on by global civil society (including, of course, the press and media exposure).
- Global citizens use, support or criticize the institutions of global governance but are not part of them. However, global citizenship may be conceived as being part of global governance as well.

# The Importance of Global Governance

- Global citizens, in acting in the ways they do, are participating in global governance, in that they are both influencing global affairs, have a right to do so and ought to be so regarded as having that right by states and the international society of states.



# Amnesty International

- Amnesty International was launched in 1961 by the British lawyer Peter Benenson. Now it has more than a million members, subscribers and regular donors in more than 140 countries and territories.
- There are more than 7,500 local, youth and student, and professional Amnesty International groups registered at the International Secretariat (which itself has 320 staff and over 100 volunteers from more than 50 countries).
- <https://www.amnesty.org.uk/years-cases>



# Amnesty International

- Although Amnesty International supports and has in recent years become increasingly concerned about the whole range of human rights specified in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, it has itself a precise mandate detailed in an international statute.

- <https://www.amnesty.org/en/countries/asia-and-the-pacific/thailand/report-thailand/>

## HUMAN RIGHTS FACTS & FIGURES FOR 2014



In 2014, Amnesty International recorded and investigated human rights abuses in 160 countries and territories worldwide. While progress is being made in some areas, for many people the human rights situation is getting worse.



# Amnesty International

- The main focus of its campaigning is to:
- Free all prisoners of conscience. These are people detained anywhere for their beliefs or because of their ethnic origin, sex, color, language, national or social origin, economic status, birth or other status who have not used or advocated violence;
- Ensure fair and prompt trials for political prisoners;
- Abolish the death penalty, torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment of prisoners;
- End extra-judicial executions and 'disappearances'.

# Human Rights Watch

- Human Rights Watch started in 1978 as Helsinki Watch, in order to ‘monitor the compliance of Soviet bloc countries with the human rights provisions of the Helsinki Accords’.
- But it quickly broadened its base to include human rights abuses anywhere in the world, including the USA.
- It is the largest human rights organization based in the United States and has more than 150 professionals working around the world outside its home base.

# Human Rights Watch

- These include academics, lawyers, journalists and experts from many countries with diverse backgrounds.
- The organization often joins forces with human rights groups from other countries to further common goals such as the ICC.



# The United Nations

- The United Nations (UN) is an intergovernmental organization tasked to promote international co-operation and to create and maintain international order. A replacement for the ineffective League of Nations, the organization was established on 24 October 1945 after World War II in order to prevent another such conflict.



THE  
UNITED NATIONS

PEACE AND  
SECURITY

SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT

HUMAN  
RIGHTS

HUMANITARIAN  
ASSISTANCE

[www.un.org](http://www.un.org)



# The United Nations



- The UN Charter was drafted at a conference between April–June 1945 in San Francisco, and was signed on 26 June 1945 at the conclusion of the conference.
- The pursuit of human rights was a central reason for creating the UN. World War II atrocities and genocide led to a ready consensus that the new organization must work to prevent any similar tragedies in the future.



# **The United Nations Mission:**

1. To maintain international peace and security.
2. To develop friendly relations among nations.
3. To achieve international co-operation in solving international problems.
4. To be a centre for harmonizing the actions of nations in the attainment of these common ends.

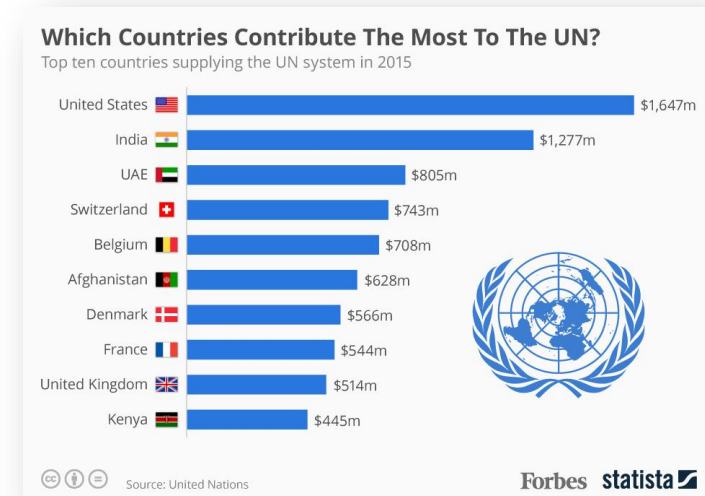
Six official languages of the United Nations are Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish.

# The United Nations

- There are 15 members of the Security Council, consisting of five veto-wielding permanent members (China, France, Russia, United Kingdom, United States) and ten elected non-permanent members with two-year terms.
- 193 States Membership is “...open to all other peace-loving states which accept the obligations contained in the present Charter and, in the judgment of the Organization, are able and willing to carry out these obligations.”

# The United Nations

- The UN, after approval by the Security Council, sends peacekeepers to regions where armed conflict has recently ceased or paused to enforce the terms of peace agreements and to discourage combatants from resuming hostilities.
- Since the UN does not maintain its own military, peacekeeping forces are voluntarily provided by member states of the UN.



# International Court of Justice (World Court)

- The International Court of Justice is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations, established by chapter 14 of the UN. Charter.
- The Court's role is to settle 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.



# International Court of Justice (World Court)

- The court has 15 judges chosen by the General Assembly and the Security Council from a list of candidates nominated by government-appointed national groups of international-law experts.
- No two judges may be from the same country. Nine judges constitute a quorum, and questions are decided by a majority of the judges present.
- All members of the United Nations are members of the court.
- [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_International\\_Court\\_of\\_Justice\\_cases](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_International_Court_of_Justice_cases)

# International Criminal Court

- The International Criminal Court, commonly referred to as the ICC is a permanent tribunal to prosecute individuals for genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes, and the crime of aggression.
- Many states wanted to add terrorism and drug trafficking to the list of crimes covered by the ICC; however, countries were unable to agree on a definition for terrorism and it was decided not to include drug trafficking as this might overwhelm the court's limited resources.



# International Criminal Court

- The creation of the ICC perhaps constitutes the most significant reform of international law since 1945. It gives teeth to the two bodies of international law that deal with treatment of individual: human rights and humanitarian law.
- The court came into being on 1 July 2002—the date its founding treaty, the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, entered into force.
- [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_people\\_indicted\\_in\\_the\\_International\\_Criminal\\_Court](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_people_indicted_in_the_International_Criminal_Court)

# Conclusion

- Global citizens need to understand as much as possible about the workings of global governance organizations.
- These institutions establish standards and make rules and regulations that affect the character of our world community.
- Our globalized world, with its increasingly integrated economic markets, has made it difficult for nation states to exercise their customary degree of sovereign control.

# Conclusion

- No government today can impose enduring restrictions on commerce, capital, and communications unless it wants to end up being in a state of international isolation.
- It must, however reluctantly, cede control for certain functions to institutions with global governance responsibilities.
- Global governance is defined as **the collective management of common problems at the international level.**

# Conclusion

- Traditionally global governance mechanisms, such as **the United Nations**, have been established by politicians, diplomats, and international civil servants
- But in the age of global citizenships, non-state actors, such as NGOs and professional associations, have moved to provide global governance functions in areas of perceived need.
- It is worth noting that, as individual citizens, we lack direct access to most global governance institutions.

# Conclusion

- This is largely because global governance institutions have been established by national governments to carry out functions that individual nations cannot implement on their own.
- Therefore managers of global governance institutions report to representatives from the countries empowering and funding their institution to do its work.
- They are not accountable directly to “the people.”