

Country: United States of America

Issue: Advancing UN Peacekeeping Reforms in the Midst of Current Ongoing Crises

Committee: Security Council

ISSUE AND POSITION: For the past 80 years, the United Nations has sent out peacekeeping missions to maintain stability and security among the nations of the world. Currently, the UN has 12 peacekeeping missions worldwide. However, peacekeeping is being threatened by a lack of finances, a lack of troop quality, a lack of leadership, and a lack of organization. The United States of America is committed to working with the Security Council in advancing peacekeeping reforms amid current ongoing crises throughout the world.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Since the UN first established its peacekeeping force in 1948 at the start of the Cold War, it has sent out more than 70 peacekeeping missions where daily, peacekeepers risk their lives to keep the world safe and secure. In 2004, the US launched the Global Peace Operations Initiative (GPOI) to aid the UN in its peacekeeping endeavors. In its first 5 years of operation, the GPOI emphasized the training of peacekeepers and building capacity to conduct peacekeeping operations. It has now turned its focus to strengthening partner countries so that they too can have sustainable and effective peacekeeping capacities. While the GPOI has mostly worked, there are still issues with the current UN peacekeeping operations. One of the most prominent issues regarding peacekeeping operations is funding. The US contributes the most money to the annual UN peacekeeping budget, with its contributions at 27.89% of the \$6.38 billion the UN has set as the budget; many other nations also contribute substantial amounts to this important task. However, it is not enough to fully support the missions. In addition, the lack of training for peacekeepers has led to unpunished violations of human rights, poor leadership among generals, and incompetent peacekeepers. Finally, peacekeeping missions do not always fulfill their purpose, leading to poor missions.

PROPOSED ACTION ON THE ISSUE: The United States of America, recognizing these deficiencies in the current UN peacekeeping operations, proposes the DOVE plan. This plan is centered on the Discipline, Organization, Vitalness, and Economics of the peacekeeping missions and their elements. The discipline component ensures that all peacekeepers and leaders are effectively trained. This includes training instructors, leaders of missions, and the typical peacekeeper. The organization component ensures that all missions have a clear end goal in mind; this ensures that missions do not run longer than needed, and that the least amount of harm is done to both peacekeepers and civilians. The vital component ensures that every mission is of significant importance to the UN. This will eliminate unnecessary missions leading to a better use of funding for more essential missions. Finally, the economics component holds countries accountable for funding peacekeeping missions, including offering incentives to countries for aiding in funding. This final step is essential, as no mission can take place unless it has been appropriately funded. This DOVE plan proposed by the United States of America is not an entirely new plan, but simply an extension of the GPOI which has already been in effect for the past 19 years and which has already proven to be fruitful for UN peacekeeping missions.

<https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/our-history>

<https://2009-2017.state.gov/t/pm/ppa/gpoi/index.htm>

<https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/how-we-are-funded>