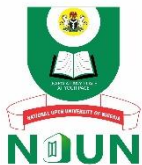


**COURSE
GUIDE**

**POL 874
POLITICS OF INTERVENTION, CONFLICT RESOLUTION,
AND MANAGEMENT**

Course Team: Dr. Idris Nicholas Erameh & Mr. Richard U.
Gbemudia (Course Writers)- (NIIA) Victoria Island
Lagos.
Dr. John Tor Tsuwa (Course Editor)- Benue State
University, Makurdi
Dr. Matthew Ogwuche (Programme Leader)-
NOUN



NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA

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National Open University of Nigeria
Headquarters
University Village
Plot 91, Cadastral Zone
Nnamdi Azikiwe Expressway
Jabi, Abuja

Lagos Office
14/16 Ahmadu Bello Way
Victoria Island, Lagos

e-mail: centralinfo@nou.edu.ng
URL: www.nou.edu.ng

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course POL 874 is written to enable students of politics to have a good understanding of the politics of intervention, conflict resolution and Management. It also enables students to have a good knowledge of the intricacies that happens in conflict situations. This course will discuss in full detail the origin and Nature of political intervention, forms and theories of political intervention, Conflict Resolution and Management, Mechanisms of Conflict Resolution, Schools of Thought on Conflict Resolution and Management, Institutions of Political Intervention, Conflict Resolution and Management, Humanitarian Intervention in Emergencies and other organizations that help manage conflicts.

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INTRODUCTION

Conflict is constant in human society and almost all regions of the international political system have experienced the occurrence of conflict at one point in time. In checkmating the occurrence of conflict in the international political system, there are different mechanisms put in place by international organization and states to ensure peace and curtail conflict in the human society. But during intervention in conflict situations, there are procedures and laws to be followed to ensure that interventions are legal and within the ambit of law. And some of these laws can be politicized by interested parties in the conflict which makes the conflict protracted. But also, not every conflict is violent. Therefore, it is imperative for students of politics to understand the Politics of Intervention, Conflict Resolution and Management in discussing and analyzing conflict situations at different levels of occurrence.

COURSE AIM AND OBJECTIVES

The aim of this course is to provide an analysis of the intricacies involved in the Politics of Intervention, Conflict Resolution and, Management while discussing and analyzing conflict situations at different levels of occurrence.

The specific objectives of the course are to:

- a) Educate students on the origins of interventions in conflict situations in the international political system;
- b) Enlighten students on the politics involved in conflict resolution and management;
- c) Equip students with the theoretical knowledge of analyzing conflict from intra- state, state and international perspectives.

WORKING THROUGH THE COURSE

To complete the course, you are required to carefully read the study units and other suggested materials that are related to the course. For practical experiences, it is advisable for you to listen to local and foreign news to get familiar to what is taught in this course. Each unit contains self-assessment Exercises which you are required to answer and submit for assessment purposes. And at the end of the course, you will be expected to write a final examination.

THE COURSE MATERIAL

The major components of the course are:

- 1) Course Guide
- 2) Study Units
- 3) References
- 4) Assignments

STUDY UNITS

There are 16 study units in this course. They are:

**MODULE 1: ORIGIN AND NATURE OF POLITICAL
INTERVENTION**

- Unit 1 Understanding the Concept of Political Intervention
- Unit 2 Forms of Political Intervention
- Unit 3 Theories of Political Intervention
- Unit 4 International Law and Political Interventions.

MODULE 2: CONFLICT RESOLUTION AND MANAGEMENT

- Unit 1 Understanding the Concept of conflict resolution
- Unit 2 Schools of Thoughts on Conflict Resolution and Management
- Unit 3 Skills for Conflict Resolution and Management
- Unit 4 Illustrations of Conflict Resolution and Management in Contemporary International Relations

**MODULE 3: INSTITUTIONS OF POLITICAL INTERVENTION,
CONFLICT RESOLUTION, AND MANAGEMENT**

- Unit 1 The United Nations as an Institution of Conflict Resolution and management
- Unit 2 Regional Organizations, Sub Regional, Regional Organizations, and Conflict Management
- Unit 3 North Atlantic Treaty Organization and Conflict Resolution and Management
- Unit 4 The Politics of Political Intervention

**MODULE 4: HUMANITARIAN INTERVENTION IN
EMERGENCIES**

- Unit 1 Conditions for Humanitarian Interventions in Conflict Situations
- Unit 2 The Responsibility to Protect in Conflict Situations
- Unit 3 Refugees in conflict Situations
- Unit 4 Insecurity and Poverty in Conflict Situations

From the itemized study units, you can observe that the course begins with the basic concepts that are imperative to the foundation of the course. For easy understanding of the course, all you need to do is to adhere to the instructions as provided in each unit, read the course material constantly and practice your knowledge of the course by solving the self-assessment exercises that have been provided at the end of the unit. With this, you have a good knowledge about the course.

TEXTBOOKS AND REFERENCES

Additional scholarly works at the end of each unit are provided for your perusal which you can consult to further your reading. It is advisable for you to visit some of the web links provided at the end of each unit for further readings. You can also use other quality textbooks in addition to the references provided.

COURSE OVERVIEW PRESENTATION SCHEME

There are 16 units in this course. You are therefore required to spend one week on each unit. The course material replaces the physical lectures in conventional classrooms.

The 16 units have similar features all through.

Units	Title of Work	Week Activity	Assignment (End-of-Unit)
Course Guide			
Module 1	MODULE 1: ORIGIN AND NATURE OF POLITICAL INTERVENTION		
Unit 1	Understanding the Concept of Political Intervention	Week 1	Assignment 1
Unit 2	Forms of Political Intervention	Week 2	Assignment 1
Unit 3	Theories of Political Intervention	Week 3	Assignment 1
Unit 4	International Law and Political Interventions	Week 4	Assignment 1
Module 2	CONFLICT RESOLUTION AND MANAGEMENT		
Unit 1	Understanding the Concept of Conflict Resolution	Week 5	Assignment 1
Unit 2	Schools of Thoughts on Conflict Resolution and Management	Week 6	Assignment 1
Unit 3	Skills for Conflict Resolution and Management	Week 7	
Unit 4	Illustrations of Conflict Resolution and Management in Contemporary International Relations	Week 8	Assignment 1
Module 3	INSTITUTIONS OF POLITICAL INTERVENTION, CONFLICT RESOLUTION, AND MANAGEMENT		

Unit 1	The United Nations as an Institution of Conflict Resolution and Management	Week 9	Assignment 1
Unit 2	Regional Organizations, Sub Regional, Regional Organizations, and Conflict Management	Week 10	Assignment 1
Unit 3	North Atlantic Treaty Organization and Conflict Resolution and Management	Week 11	Assignment 1
Unit 4	The Role of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Conflict Management	Week 12	Assignment 1
Module 4	HUMANITARIAN INTERVENTION IN EMERGENCIES		
Unit 1	Conditions for Humanitarian Interventions in Conflict Situations	Week 13	Assignment 1
Unit 2	The Responsibility to Protect in Conflict Situations	Week 14	Assignment 1
Unit 3	Refugees in conflict Situations	Week 15	Assignment 1
Unit 4	Insecurity and Poverty in Conflict Situations	Week 16	Assignment 1
	Revision	Week 17	
	Examination	Week 18	
	Total	18 Weeks	

WHAT YOU WILL NEED IN THE COURSE

For this course, you will need to be very conversant with the happenings in the international political system. It is imperative for you to listen to international or foreign news through any means. Also, computer proficiency skills will be needed because it will enable you to navigate the course properly. Finally, you will need good critical thinking skills to help you to apply what will be taught in this course.

TUTORS AND TUTORIALS

The course provides fifteen (15) hours of tutorials in support of the course. You will be notified of the dates and locations of these tutorials, together with the name and phone number of your tutor as soon as you are allocated a tutorial group. Your tutor will mark and comment on your assignments, and watch you as you progress in the course. Send in your tutor-marked assignments promptly, and ensure you contact your tutor on any difficulty with your self-assessment exercise, tutor-marked assignment, and the

grading of an assignment. Note that your attendance and contributions to discussions as well as sample questions are to be taken seriously.

ASSESSMENT EXERCISES

There are two aspects to the assessment of this course. First is the Tutor-Marked Assignments; second is a written examination (Pen on Paper). In handling these assignments, you are expected to apply the information, knowledge and experience acquired during the course. The tutor-marked assignments are now being done online. Ensure that you register all your courses so that you can have easy access to the online assignments. Your score in the online assignments will account for 30 per cent of your total coursework. At the end of the course, you will need to sit for a final examination. This examination will account for the other 70 per cent of your total course mark.

TUTOR-MARKED ASSIGNMENTS (TMAs)

Usually, there are four online tutor-marked assignments in this course. Each assignment will be marked over ten percent. The best three (that is the highest three of the 10 marks) will be counted. This implies that the total mark for the best three assignments will constitute 30% of your total course work. You will be able to complete your online assignments successfully from the information and materials contained in your references, reading and study units.

FINAL EXAMINATION AND GRADING

The final examination for POL 874 Politics of Intervention, Conflict Resolution, and Management will be of two hours duration and have a value of 70% of the total course grade. The examination will consist of multiple choice and fill-in-the-gaps questions which will reflect the practice exercises and tutor-marked assignments you have previously encountered. All areas of the course will be assessed. It is important that you use adequate time to revise the entire course. You may find it useful to review your tutor-marked assignments before the examination. The final examination covers information from all aspects of the course.

HOW TO GET THE MOST FROM THIS COURSE

There are 16 units in this course. You are to spend one week in each unit. In distance learning, the study units replace the university lecture. This is one of the great advantages of distance learning; you can read and work through specially designed study materials at your own pace, and at a time and place that suites you best. Think of it as reading the lecture instead of listening to the lecturer. In the same way a lecturer might give you some reading to do. The study units tell you when to read and which are your text materials or recommended books. You are provided exercises to do at appropriate points, just as a lecturer might give you in a class exercise.

1. Each of the study units follows a common format. The first item is an introduction to the subject matter of the unit, and how a particular unit is integrated with other units and the course as a whole. Next to this is a set of learning objectives. These objectives let you know what you should be able to do, by the time you have completed the unit. These learning objectives are meant to guide your study. The moment a unit is finished, you must go back and check whether you have achieved the objectives. If this is made a habit, then you will significantly improve your chance of passing the course.
2. The main body of the unit guides you through the required reading from other sources. This will usually be either from your reference or from a reading section.
3. The following is a practical strategy for working through the course. If you run into any trouble, telephone your tutor or visit the study centre nearest to you. Remember that your tutor's job is to help you. When you need assistance, do not hesitate to call and ask your tutor to provide it.
4. Read this course guide thoroughly. It is your first assignment.
5. Organize a study schedule - Design a 'Course Overview' to guide you through the course. Note the time you are expected to spend on each unit and how the assignments relate to the units.
6. Important information; e.g. details of your tutorials and the date of the first day of the semester is available at the study centre.
7. You need to gather all the information into one place, such as your diary or a wall calendar. Whatever method you choose to use, you should decide on and write in your own dates and schedule of work for each unit.
8. Once you have created your own study schedule, do everything to stay faithful to it.
9. The major reason that students fail is that they get behind in their coursework. If you get into difficulties with your schedule, please let your tutor or course coordinator know before it is too late for help.
10. Turn to Unit 1, and read the introduction and the objectives for the unit.

11. Assemble the study materials. You will need your references for the unit you are studying at any point in time.
12. As you work through the unit, you will know what sources to consult for further information.
13. Visit your study centre whenever you need up-to-date information.
14. Well before the relevant online TMA due dates, visit your study centre for relevant information and updates. Keep in mind that you will learn a lot by doing the assignment carefully. They have been designed to help you meet the objectives of the course and, therefore, will help you pass the examination.
15. Review the objectives for each study unit to confirm that you have achieved them. If you feel unsure about any of the objectives, review the study materials or consult your tutor. When you are confident that you have achieved a unit's objectives, you can start on the next unit. Proceed unit by unit through the course and try to space your study so that you can keep yourself on schedule.
16. After completing the last unit, review the course and prepare yourself for the final examination. Check that you have achieved the unit objectives (listed at the beginning of each unit) and the course objectives (listed in the course guide).

CONCLUSION

This is a theoretical as well as empirical course and so, you will get the best out of it if you can read wide, listen to as well as to discuss, and analyze the Politics of Intervention, Conflict Resolution, and Management.

SUMMARY

This Course Guide has been designed to equip you with the relevant information you need for a positive experience in the course.

I wish you all the best in POL874 and in the entire programme!

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**MAIN
COURSE**

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Module 1: Origin and Nature of Political Intervention

Introduction

This module consists of topics that explain the origin and nature of political interventions. It traces the origin of political interventions in conflict situations to the earlier twentieth century starting from the First World War to conflicts in post-colonial African states. Some rules and regulations that justify political interventions will also be discussed. This module is designed to introduce the student to political intervention as a concept and the essence of interventions in conflict situations. Therefore, this module is divided into four interesting units namely:

- | | |
|--------|---|
| Unit 1 | Understanding the Concept of Political Intervention |
| Unit 2 | Forms of Political Intervention |
| Unit 3 | Theories of Political Intervention |
| Unit 4 | International Law and Political Interventions. |

It is advisable for you to carefully study each of the units and answer some of the questions to examine and assess your understanding of the module content. Answers to the questions at the end of each unit are provided under each of the units respectively.

UNIT 1: Understanding the Concept of Political Intervention**Unit Structure**

- 1.1 Introduction
- 1.2 Learning Outcomes
- 1.3 Brief Clarification of the concept of Political Intervention
- 1.4 Origins of Political Intervention
- 1.4 The Main Purpose of political intervention
- 1.6 Summary
- 1.7 References/Further Readings/Web Sources
- 1.8 Possible Answers to Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs)

1.1 Introduction

This unit is imperative to your understanding of this course as a whole as it gives you a good knowledge of what political intervention is all about and the intricacies involved in states' or third parties' interventions in conflict situations. Many politics and intricacies are involved and at play during interventions by states, humanitarian agencies, and international organizations in conflict situations and this act can influence the management of the conflict. Conflict such as the Syrian Civil War which

started March 15, 2011 has been protracted for so long with much causality due to the many parties and interests involved in the conflicts. Similar to this is the conflict between Russia and Ukraine which officially began on February 24 2022. It is therefore imperative to understand the politics surrounding each conflict in order to unravel their unique peculiarities.

1.2 Learning Outcomes

At the end of this unit, you should be able to:

- Discuss the concept of political intervention.
- Identify the origin of political intervention
- Analyze the purpose of intervention in conflict situations.
- Describe the politics of intervention

1.3 Brief Clarification of the Concept of Political Intervention

Political intervention in conflict situations is understood as a situation whereby governments, international organizations, multinational organizations, and civil societies intervene in conflict through mediation, consolation and arbitration, negotiation, and dialogue. Put differently, political intervention is the legal intervention in a conflict by external third parties for the purpose of peace or for humanitarian purposes. Intervention in conflict situations occurs when governments or international organizations use and deploy their resources to help manage selected conflicts. These political interventions are mostly backed by laws, treaties, the United Nations Charter, and national governments. And most times, these interventions are for the purpose of protecting human rights which Erameh (2017) argues is one of the pressing goals of the international political community. For example, in 2014 the African Union (AU) and the Economic Community of West Africa States (ECOWAS) intervened in the outbreak of the political conflict in Burkina Faso (Ugbudian et al, 2021). Also, the Economic Community of West Africa States (ECOWAS) has also intervened in many conflicts in the West African sub-region. From the above, you can understand that political intervention in conflict situations involves many processes which is legal and it is for the purpose of delivering peace and proffering solutions to bring peace to those conflicts.

Furthermore, political interventions can be both inter-state and intra-state. Interstate political interventions during conflicts are the interventions of other states, international organizations, and other foreign actors in an ongoing conflict in a sovereign state for the purpose of peace or other reasons. For example, Nigeria mediating in conflicts in west Africa, the

United Nations peacekeeping missions in Africa (Mali, Democratic Republic of Congo, Central African Republic, Sudan, and South Sudan), The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) in Libya etc.

FIG 1. An Image showing NATO forces in Libya



Source: <https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/71679.htm>.

Intrastate political intervention is the interference or intervention of government in local or community conflict. For example, Nigeria's mediation in the Boko Haram insurgency in Northern Nigeria, the Nigerian government's intervention in the Niger Delta crisis, and, the Nigerian federal government's intervention in the Ife-Modakeke community conflict in Southwestern Nigeria. This form of political intervention most time is for the purpose of ensuring peace and enforcing law and order in society.

FIG 2: The Nigerian Army in the North East Combating Boko-Haram Insurgency



Source: <https://independent.ng/nigerian-army-troops-clear-more-boko-haram-routes-in-north-east/>.

Therefore, most times, intra-state political intervention may be violent in nature and might warrant foreign interference in some cases. For example, the Libyan revolution of 2011 also known as the 17 February

revolution warranted the intervention of NATO in the country based on the calamities caused by the forces loyal to Muammar Gaddafi against civilians in Libya.

Interventions in conflict situations can also occur before and after. Pre-conflict interventions are interventions that occur prior to a conflict. For example, in the Russian-Ukraine conflict, there were a series of interventions made by third parties before the outbreak of the conflict but to no avail. Post-conflict interventions are interventions during or after conflict situations.

Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs) 1

Attempt these questions to assess your understanding of what has been taught so far. It should take you less than 5 minutes to attempt these SAEs.

Goodluck

1. The Libyan revolution is also known as _____?
2. Political interventions can be divided into ____?

1.4 Origins of Political Interventions

The origins of political interventions in conflict situations in the modern international political system can be traced far back to the twentieth century. The United States of America intervened in the First World War (WWI) to help its Allied counterparts in the war despite not being a party to the war. This political intervention changed the dynamics of the war and it had many manifestations. In the aftermath of the two World Wars, the cold war, and the decolonization process that led to the signing of many treaties and multilateral agreements were signed to enforce and ensure peace in the international political community.

As Yilmaz (2011:1) captures it:

The ending of the ‘cold war’ clearly increased the willingness of governments to work through the United Nations (UN) and other international channels to resolve conflicts and keep peace around the globe. Signs of the improved international cooperation include the decline of international conflicts, a dramatic reduction of vetoes in the ‘UN security council’, and wider subscription to such governing principles as market economics, liberal democracy, and the rule of law...

It is recorded that the first UN peacekeeping mission was established in 1948 which facilitated the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO) in the Middle East to supervise the Armistice Agreement between Israel and its neighbours. Examples of treaties that enable interventions of states in conflict situations are the African Union's (AU) Constitutive Act and the UN Charter. Article 4 of the African

Unions (AU) Constitutive Act states that:

“(h) the right of the Union to intervene in a Member State pursuant to a decision of the Assembly in respect of grave circumstances, namely: war crimes, genocide and crimes against humanity”; and • “(j) the right of Member States to request intervention from the Union in order to restore peace and security” These pacts laid the foundations and enabled political interventions in conflict situations (Kiki, 2003: 807)

Another good example of treaties authorizing and justifying political interventions in a sovereign state is the United Nations (UN) charter. UN charter VII gives out actions to be carried out in times of threats to international peace. Article 51 of the UN charter Chapter VII reads:

Nothing in the present Charter shall impair the inherent right of individual or collective self-defense if an armed attack occurs against a Member of the United Nations, until the Security Council has taken the measures necessary to maintain international peace and security. Measures taken by Members in the exercise of this right of self-defense shall be immediately reported to the Security Council and shall not in any way affect the authority and responsibility of the Security Council under the present Charter to take at any time such action as it deems necessary in order to maintain or restore international peace and security.

Article 41 of the UN charter Chapter VII reads:

The Security Council may decide what measures not involving the use of armed force are to be employed to give effect to its decisions, and it may call upon the Members of the United Nations to apply such measures. These may include complete or partial interruption of economic relations and of rail, sea, air, postal, telegraphic, radio, and other means of communication, and the severance of diplomatic relations.

Article 42 of the UN charter VII reads:

Should the Security Council consider that measures provided for in Article 41 would be inadequate or have proved to be inadequate, it may take such action by air, sea, or land forces as may be necessary to maintain or restore international peace and security. Such action may include demonstrations, blockade, and other operations by air, sea, or land forces of Members of the United Nations.

Since the end of the world wars, the United Nations peacekeeping missions have embarked on a series of interventions in global conflict situations to ensure global peace. The following are some of the political interventions in conflict situations in world political history.

1. The UN intervention in the Israeli- Palestine conflict of the Mid twentieth century.
2. The Red cross in the Nigeria-Biafran civil war
3. The UN mission in Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL)
4. the UN mission to the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC)
5. France in Mali
6. NATO in Libya
7. Russia in Crimea
8. Nigeria's intervention in Sao Tome and Principe Military coups
9. ECOWAS intervention in protracted and devastating civil wars in Liberia (1990-97 and 2003- 2007) and Sierra Leone (1991-2002)
10. The interventions of the Military of Niger, Benin, Cameroon and Chad in the combat against Boko Haram in Nigeria's Northeast

Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs) 2

Attempt these questions to assess your understanding of what has been taught so far. It should take you less than 5 minutes to attempt these SAEs. Goodluck

1. Chapter ____ of the UN Charter is a good example of international provisions authorizing and justifying political interventions in a sovereign state?
2. The first UN peacekeeping mission was established in the year ____?

1.4 The Main Purpose of Political Interventions

Third parties intervene in conflicts for different reasons. States or international organizations intervene in conflict situations mostly to end the conflict or protect human life and property. For example, the United State of America (USA) and its allies embarked on a war in Iraq to destroy “weapon against mass destruction” that Saddam Hussein was building up. The argument of the USA under the leadership of ex-president George Walker Bush Jr. was that the incursion of the USA in Iraq was imperative to ensure and preserve global peace and stop many atrocities that were being committed by Saddam Hussein. Similarly, NATO intervened in Libya to protect the civilian population that were been killed by the forces loyal to Muammar Gaddafi.

For some other powerful states, political interventions in conflict situations are used for politics, for the purpose of spreading their ideology, protecting their national interest, and using it as a means of the balance of power. In some advanced and developing countries, political interventions in conflict situations in other sovereign states are part and parcel of their foreign policy. For example, in the USA, it is well stated in their foreign policy that the USA will protect her allies in times of difficulty. According to the United States Department of State (2022), The 2017 National Security Strategy (NSS) affirms that the United States will work to strengthen fragile states and the President affirmed this commitment when he signed the Global Fragility Act of 2019 (Title V of Div. J, P.L. 116-94) (GFA) into law in December 2019. The following are the goals of the Global fragility Act:

1. *Prevention:* The United States will establish and support capabilities to engage in peacebuilding and anticipate and prevent violent conflict before it erupts;
2. *Stabilization:* The United States will support inclusive political processes to resolve ongoing violent conflicts, emphasizing meaningful participation of youth, women, and members of faith-based communities and marginalized groups, respect for human rights and environmental sustainability;
3. *Partnerships:* The United States will promote burden-sharing and encourage and work with partners to create conditions for long-term regional stability and foster private sector-led growth; and
4. *Management:* The United States will maximize United States taxpayer dollars and realize more effective outcomes through better prioritization, integration, and focus on efficiency across the United States Government and with partners.

Another example of a country whereby political interventions in conflict situations in other states is part and parcel of their foreign policy is Nigeria. Section 19 of the 1999 constitution of Nigeria as amended states Nigeria's foreign policy objectives. Some of the objectives that laid the foundation of Nigeria's interventions in conflict situations in Africa include:

Promotion of international co-operation for the consolidation of universal peace and mutual respect among all nations and elimination of discrimination in all its manifestations; d. respect for international law and treaty obligations as well as the seeking of settlement of international disputes by negotiation, mediation, conciliation, arbitration and adjudication; and ...

The subsection c and d of section 19 of 1999 Nigerian constitution have made Nigeria physically intervene in conflict situations in Africa.

Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs) 3

Attempt these questions to assess your understanding of what has been taught so far. It should take you less than 5 minutes to attempt these SAEs. Goodluck

1. States or international organizations intervene in conflict situations mostly to _____ or _____?
2. In some advanced and developing countries, political interventions in conflict situations in other states is part and parcel of their _____?

5.0 Summary

Political interventions in conflict situations are sometimes necessary to protect the human race and dignity. Despite the challenges posed by the sovereignty of states and the politics of the superpowers, Political interventions in conflict situations have aided and solved the many protracted conflicts in the international political system. In this unit, you have learned about the concept of political interventions, the origins of political interventions, and the purposes of political interventions in international political systems. You have also learned that the major aim of political interventions in conflict situations is mostly to end the conflict or protect human life and property.

6.0 References/Further Reading

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1.7 Possible Answers to Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs)

Answers to SAEs 1

1. The 17 February revolution
2. Inter-state and intra-state

Answers to SAEs 2

1. VII
2. 1948

Answers to SAEs 3

1. End the conflict or protect human life and property
2. Foreign Policy

Unit 2: Forms of Political Interventions**Unit Structure**

- 2.1 Introduction
- 2.2 Intended Learning Outcomes
- 2.3 Main Content
 - 2.3.1 Forms of Political interventions
 - 2.3.2 Direct Political Interventions
 - 2.3.2 Indirect Political Interventions
- 2.4 Other forms of Political interventions
- 2.5 Summary
- 2.6 References/Further Reading
- 2.7 Possible Answers to Self-Assessment Exercise(s)

2.1 Introduction

From the last unit, you have learnt about the concept of political interventions, their origin. and their purpose. In this unit, the forms of political intervention will be examined. Political interventions in conflict situations at different levels are very important in contemporary international political systems. International organizations and developed western countries intervene in conflict situations for different purposes. These interventions help in various ways to prevent the further escalation of these conflicts into protracted wars with high human casualties. These political interventions in conflict situations are of different forms based on the nature, dimension, patterns, and parties to the conflict. Hence, this unit discusses the various forms of political interventions in conflict situations.

2.2 Intended Learning Outcomes

By the end of this unit, you should be able to:

- Explain the major forms of political interventions.
- Explain direct political interventions
- Give examples of indirect political interventions

2.3 Main Content**2.3.1 Forms of Political Interventions**

There are many forms of political interventions in conflict situations. The method or forms of intervention is based on the parties to the conflict, the type of conflict, the severity of the conflict and the casualties recorded in

the conflict. These methods or forms of interventions are influenced by various internal and external influences. For example, during the Nigerian Civil War (1967-1970) the British intervened in the conflict by supporting the Nigerian army because they did not want Nigeria to break up because they colonized Nigeria. Another good example is Britain both, directly and indirectly, supporting Apartheid in South Africa. Based on these explanations there are basically two forms of political interventions.

They are:

Direct political interventions

Indirect political interventions

2.3.2 Direct Political Interventions

Direct political interventions as the name implies, means physical interventions in conflict situations by states, international organizations or governmental or non-governmental organizations. The physical presence can be in form of the deployment of the armed forces, having a military base in foreign territories and sending delegates to the conflict area. A typical example is North Atlantic Treaty Organization's force in Libya during the Libyan revolution, France forces in Mali since 2013 fighting Islamic militants, the Nigerian Armed forces peacekeeping missions in Liberia and Sierra Leone. Direct political interventions most times are part of a state's foreign policy and sometimes are used for political purposes and as a balance of power strategy. States like the United States of America, France, and the United Kingdom spend a lot of their annual budget on catering for their troops in foreign combat. As a matter of fact, according to Waston Institute International & Public Affairs (2022), since invading Afghanistan in 2001, the United States has spent \$2.313 trillion on the war. Also, developed western countries particularly those who are members of the United Nations Security Council sees direct intervention in conflict situations as a part of a power show-off and display of military superiority.

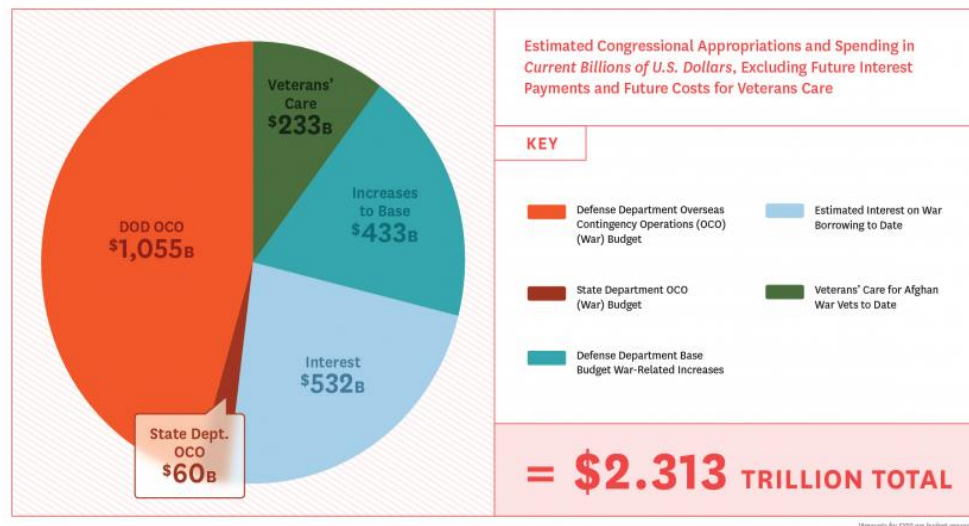
U.S. Costs to Date for the **War in Afghanistan**, in \$ Billions FY2001–FY2022*

Figure 3: Human and Budgetary costs to date of the U.S. War in Afghanistan, 2001-2022

Source: <https://watson.brown.edu/costsofwar/figures/2021/human-and-budgetary-costs-date-us-war-afghanistan-2001-2022>.

Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs) 1

Attempt these questions to assess your understanding of what has been taught so far. It should take you less than 5 minutes to attempt these SAEs. Good luck

1. The forms of political intervention in conflict situations are based on the _____, _____, _____ and the _____?
2. The French forces helped combat the Islamist militants in Mali since the year ____?

2.3.3 Indirect Political Interventions

Indirect political interventions are the opposite of direct political interventions in conflict situations. It means states or international organizations intervening in conflict situations without being physically present. These third parties intervene in the conflict from their home countries in the form of sending financial support and advisory support. Indirect political interventions are sometimes used for political reasons to show support for a party in a conflict. Western countries supporting Ukraine during the Russian 2022 invasion of the country is a typical example of indirect and ongoing political intervention. Germany, Poland and other neighbouring European countries are supporting Ukraine in the conflict indirectly. For example, Poland opens its borders to refugees from Ukrainian. Also, Poland served as a base for Ukrainian clubs in the

2022 UEFA champions league. Also, Germany providing Ukraine with weapons in the ongoing conflict with Russia is another good example of indirect political intervention in conflict situation. According to The Federal Government Germany (2022:1) “The total value of individual licenses issued by the Federal Government for the export of military goods in the period from January 1, 2022, to September 19, 2022 amounts to 733.634.486 EUR” Apart from this, some other countries choose to intervene in the political conflict between Russia and Ukraine through Mediation and other means. Another example of Indirect political interventions in conflict situations is making available a country’s airspace, and sea ports as routes for parties in the conflicts. For example, Belarus allowed Russia prior to Russia’s invasion of Ukraine on February 24, 2022, to conduct week-long military drills on Belarusian territory. And Belarus has since aided Russia in the war against Ukraine by making available the use of her territories in the ongoing conflict.

Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs) 2

Attempt these questions to assess your understanding of what has been taught so far. It should take you less than 5 minutes to attempt these SAEs. Goodluck

1. An example of indirect political interventions in conflict situations is making available of a country’s ____, and ____ as routes for parties in the conflicts.
2. One of the major European allies of Russia in the conflict with Ukraine is ____?

2.4 Other forms of Political interventions

Apart from direct and indirect Political interventions, there are other forms of political interventions in conflict situations. They include:

1. Mediation
2. Economic interventions
3. Diplomatic interventions

1. Mediation: This is a form of political intervention whereby persons or entities (state or non-state actors) help persons or entities to resolve their differences. Mediation can be done from any part of the world and does not necessarily need to be physical. It can be done through phone calls, zoom meetings, interviews etc. Mediators of a conflict deploy different skills and techniques in persuading warring parties to a conflict to soft pedal and end the hostilities. Mediations are usually carried out by an authority over disputants in a conflict. Decisions made during mediation are non-binding as parties to a conflict choose if they abide by

the decisions or not. Kriesberg (2012) listed the functions of mediation in conflict situations to include:

- i. Helping adversaries communicate with each other.
- ii. Helping adversaries Transmit Information to each other
- iii. Helping Adversaries Initiate Negotiations
- iv. Helping to ease the Negotiating Process
- v. Help Invent New Options
- vi. Help Represent Persons Absent from the Negotiations
- vii. Help rally support for agreement
- viii. Help to Construct Deals
- ix. Help to contribute resources (monetary, relief materials, etc.)
- x. Help Exert Pressures for an Agreement

2. Economic Interventions: Economic interventions in conflict situations are the use of a state's economic power and advantage to help solve or influence the outcome of a conflict. Economic interventions are done in so many ways such as placing embargos on goods, economic sanctions, increases on tariffs, bans on certain commodities, changing import and export policies etc (Vogel, 2022). Western developed states placing bans on some of Russia's products due to Russia's invasion of Ukraine in 2022 is a good example of Economic interventions in conflict situations. This form of intervention can be used both as a form of sanction or reward. It is also used as a form of coercion and means to enforce compliance The main aim of this form of intervention is to send a message to either party in the conflict most especially the antagonist. This form of intervention is mostly used by advanced countries with good economies such as the USA, China, Germany, France, and Great Britain and to large extent developing countries like Brazil, India, South Africa, Egypt and Nigeria.

3. Diplomatic Interventions: This form of intervention in conflict situations involves attempts by parties outside a conflict to work to transform a conflict by enhancing communication between warring parties in the conflict and providing information about the conflict that can help end it. This form of intervention it is very important as it helps prevent the escalation of conflicts. As Wolff and Dursun-Özkanca (2012, 202-304) puts it:

... Diplomatic interventions normally precede other forms of intervention and aim at either averting violent escalation of a conflict or establishing conditions conducive to de-escalation. The failure of diplomatic efforts to change the behaviour of conflict parties on the ground often leads to either more coercive measures applied to both parties or selective coercion and/or support for individual parties...

Diplomatic interventions are mostly done outside of the conflict location. For example, during the Nigerian Civil War (1967-1970), Aburi in Ghana

was chosen to be the host of the negotiation between Nigeria and the Biafran team.

Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs) 3

Attempt these questions to assess your understanding of what has been taught so far. It should take you less than 5 minutes to attempt these SAEs. Goodluck

1. Decisions made during mediation are ____?
2. Economic intervention can be used both as a form of ____ or ____?

2.5 Summary

In this unit, you have learnt about the different forms of political interventions. You have learnt that political interventions can be direct and indirect. You have also learnt that political interventions can also be done in the forms of Mediation, diplomacy, and also the use of economic instruments of states. From the above, you can see that the form of political interventions to be used in conflict situations is based on the type, nature and parties of the conflict in question. You can now understand the importance and relevance of these various forms of political interventions in conflicts.

2.6 References/Further Reading

Stefan Wolff & Oya Dursun-Özkanca (2012) Regional and International Conflict Regulation: Diplomatic, Economic and Military Interventions, Civil Wars, 14:3, 297-323, DOI: 10.1080/13698249.2012.706948.

Vogel, B. (2022): The economic local turn in peace and conflict studies: economic peacebuilding interventions and the everyday, New Political Economy, DOI: 10.1080/13563467.2022.2045925.

The Federal Government Germany (2022). Military Support for Ukraine. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/military-support-ukraine-2054992>.

2.7 Possible Answers to Self-Assessment Exercise(s)

Answers to SAEs 1

1. The parties to the conflict, the type of conflict, severity of the conflict and the casualties recorded in the conflict.
2. 2013

Answers to SAEs 2

1. airspace, and sea ports
2. Belarus

Answers to SAEs 3

1. non-binding
2. sanction or reward

Unit 3 Theories of Political Intervention

Unit Structure

- 3.1 Introduction
- 3.2 Learning Outcomes
- 3.3 Realist Theory of Political Intervention
- 3.4 Liberal Theory of Political Intervention
- 3.5 Just War Theory of Political Intervention
- 3.6 Summary
- 3.7 References/Further Readings/Web Sources
- 3.8 Possible Answers to Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs)

3.1 Introduction

In the previous unit, the forms of political interventions in conflict situations were discussed in detail. Going forward, in this unit, we shall be discussing the major theories explaining political interventions in conflict situations. Some of these theories that will be explained give justifications for interventions during conflicts. This unit is very imperative because it gives a theoretical understanding of third parties interventions in conflict situations. Therefore, in this unit,

3.2 Learning Outcomes

At the end of this unit, you should be able to:

- Describe the theories of political interventions
- Discuss the arguments of the Just War Theory on Political interventions
- Outline the arguments of the Liberalist Theory of political interventions

3.3 The Realist Theory of Political Intervention

In conflict studies and international relations, there are different arguments that explain certain occurrences and behaviours in the conduct of state affairs. Rules and regulations guide the affairs of states in global politics. In terms of political interventions in conflict situations by third parties, there are many theories of political intervention that justify the actions of states interfering in those conflicts one of these theories is the Realist theory of political interventions. This theory of political intervention during conflict situations argues that states in the international political system show off their power status through interventions in conflict situations. Hence, intervention during conflict

situations is sometimes used for political purposes and for the quest for power in the international political system. Most times, states use this means as part of their foreign policy agenda and as a means of the balance of power in the international political system. Hence, embarking on the political intervention is assessed on how beneficial it is to the state's foreign policy objectives and economic interest. Maximization of national interest is the main goal and aim while intervening in any political conflict according to this school of thought. This theory also argues that, sometimes, interventions in conflict situations by states are driven by power, national interest and economic gain rather than humanitarian ideals. In essence, the realist views international relations as a game between states competing for power and this goes a long way to determining state conduct in the international political system. An example of this is the Rwanda Genocide (April 7-July 15 1994). This civil war was so devastating that no superpower intervened to end the civil war. The USA under ex-president Bill Clinton was neutral in the civil war and did not intervene for political reasons. Even the United Nations was found wanting in the civil war. The Non-interference in the civil war in Rwanda by superpowers illustrates the Realist theory of political intervention. Also, the USA in Iraq, NATO in the Libyan revolution, Russia in Ukraine (2022), and the USA in the Middle East are also illustrations of the Realist theory of political interventions as these superpowers intervened in these conflicts based on their national interests. And this sometimes undermines state's sovereignty in the quest for maintaining balance of power as is the case of Russia in Ukraine.

Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs) 1

Attempt these questions to assess your understanding of what has been taught so far. It should take you less than 5 minutes to attempt these SAEs. Goodluck

1. The Realist Theory of political intervention during conflict situations is used for _____ and for _____ in the international political system.
2. The Realist theory of political interventions argues that, sometimes, interventions into conflict situations by states are driven by _____, _____ and _____ rather than humanitarian ideals.

3.4 The Liberal Theory of Political Intervention

The liberalist theory of political interventions is the opposite of the realist theory of political interventions. It is more concerned with how peace and cooperation amongst states in the international political systems can be achieved and sustained (Boke, 2019). It argues that interdependency, interaction, and cooperation among states are essential and vital for the

proper functioning of the international political system. Hence, interdependency and cooperation amongst states are essential for peace in the world. Therefore, in terms of conflict states are obliged to help and intervene in conflict situations to preserve the human race on the one hand, and on the other hand to ensure peace. With this theory, political interventions are seen as a moral obligation when human rights are being infringed by oppressive and authoritarian leadership as was in the case of Libya under the rule of Muammar Gaddafi. Just as in the realist theory of political interventions, sometimes, in the quest to protect human life, the sovereignty of the state is sometimes undermined. There are other smaller theories that emanate from the liberal theory of political interventions. Some of them include Just War Theory, the fiduciary Theory, and the humanitarian intervention Theory.

Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs) 2

Attempt these questions to assess your understanding of what has been taught so far. It should take you less than 5 minutes to attempt these SAEs. Goodluck

1. The liberalist theory of political interventions is more concerned with how _____ and _____ amongst states in the international political systems can be achieved and sustained.
2. With the liberalist theory, political interventions are seen as a _____ when human rights are being infringed by oppressive and authoritarian leadership.
3. In the quest to protect human life, the sovereignty of the state is sometimes undermined.? True or False?

3.5 The Just War Theory

This theory of political interventions in conflict situations argues and gives legal and moral standpoints to interventions by states or international organizations based on humanitarian grounds. This theory emanates from the liberal theory of political interventions. This theory supports rescuing victims of wars or conflicts based on certain conditionalities. The just war ideology acknowledges the tragedy of situations in which there may be a "right thing in conflict situations" to do in ensuring a standard of justice, but no prudent or decent way to do it which may result in some casualties (Elshtain, 2001) as seen in the case of NATO in Libya. The arguments based on human rights have been witnessed in the USA in Iraq, Libya, Afghanistan, Kosovo, Somalia and the list goes on. The Just War Theory can be traced to the works of St. Augustine, Thomas Hobbes, Grotius

There are so many conditions that are required to justify military intervention by third parties. Some of these conditions are listed in some parts of the UN charter, different international conventions and institutions of states. In such cases, the sovereignty of states can be breached to save humanity. The Rwandan Genocide is one case that warranted the Just War based on the human casualties recorded in the war but the international community was found wanting. Costinescu (2013) argues that the Just War Theory is a guide for military and political leaders in their armed implication decisions in checkmating aggressors violating human rights in the international political system.

Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs) 3

Attempt these questions to assess your understanding of what has been taught so far. It should take you less than 5 minutes to attempt these SAEs. Goodluck

1. The Just War Theory of political interventions in conflict situations gives legal and moral standpoints to interventions by states or international organizations based on humanitarian grounds. True or False?
2. The Just War theory supports rescuing victims of wars or conflicts based on certain conditionalities. True or False?
3. The Just War theory emanates from the liberal theory of political interventions? True or False?

3.6 Summary

These theories of political interventions in conflict situations are very imperative and give explanations and justifications for interventions by third parties in conflict situations. Most of the developed countries such as members of the security council of the UN use some of these theories based on humanitarian interventionism to interfere and intervene in another sovereign state. This makes the essence of political interference in conflict situations political. Be that as it may, political intervention in conflict situations is sometimes imperative to protect the human race.

3.7 References/Further Reading

Elshtain, J. (2001). Third Annual Grotius Lecture: Just War and Humanitarian Intervention. American Society of International Law Proceedings, 95, 1-12.

Costinescu, R. A. (2013). Christain Just War Theory Reinterpreted from the Perspective of Challenges Brought by the 21st Century Humanitarian Intervention and War on Terror. Accessed October 10 2022 from <file:///C:/Users/user/Downloads/1369-1082.pdf>.

3.8 Possible Answers to Self-Assessment Exercise(s)

Answers to SAEs 1

1. political purposes and the quest for power
2. power, national interest and economic

Answers to SAEs2

1. peace and cooperation
2. moral obligation

Answers to SAEs3

1. True
2. True
3. False

Unit 4 International Law and Political Intervention

Unit Structure

- 4.1 Introduction
- 4.2 Learning Outcomes
- 4.3 What is International Law?
- 4.4 Types of International Law on Political interventions
- 4.5 Foreign policy and Political Interventions.
- 4.7 Summary
- 4.7 References/Further Readings/Web Sources
- 4.8 Possible Answers to Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs)

4.1 Introduction

In the previous unit, you learnt a lot about political interventions in conflict situations. In this unit, you will learn more about international laws and the role they play in global conflicts. You will recall that in the first unit of this module, you were introduced to some selected international laws that gave rights to political interventions. This unit will be a continuation of that.

4.2 Learning Outcomes

At the end of this unit, you should be able to:

- Define international law
- Discuss types of international laws on political interventions.
- Explain the role of UN in conflict resolution and management

4.3 What is International Law?

International Law is a body of rules, and regulations established by different treaties by states and which are recognized as binding amongst members of the international political system. They are treaties, customs and general rules that bind members of the international political systems. According to Shaw (2019), international law refers to legal rules, norms and standards of behaviour that apply among sovereign states and actors in the international political system. The term *international law* can be traced to the works of English Philosopher Jeremy Bentham (1748-1832). Therefore, international laws can be seen as a subtotal collection of rules governing relations between states in the global political system. International law starts from the domestic laws of states. Domestic laws of states set the tone and pattern of relations between and amongst states. These domestic laws are aggregated in a state's foreign policy. It is also

imperative to note that international law is an independent system of law existing outside the legal orders and activities of particular states. The main purpose of international law is to ensure the peaceful coexistence of states in the international political system and for the amicable settlement of dispute between states amicably.

Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs) 1

Attempt these questions to assess your understanding of what has been taught so far. It should take you less than 5 minutes to attempt these SAEs. Goodluck

1. The term *international law* can be traced to the works of English Philosopher Jeremy Bentham True or False?
2. The main purpose of international law is to ensure the peaceful coexistence of states in the international political system and settle disputes between states amicably True or False?

4.4 Sources of International Law on Political interventions

There are different international laws that give out procedures or guidelines to be followed during interference in conflict situations. These international laws are binding amongst states in the international political system. These laws vary across continents and geographical spread and they are sometimes influenced by the foreign policy of states. The International Court of Justice (ICJ) listed treaties, custom, and general principles as sources of international laws and within these sources lies general principles on political interventions during conflicts. For example, treaties between states in the international political system provide rules and regulations by which states can intervene during conflict situations. These sources of international laws as it relates to political interventions include:

1. **Treaties:** These are written documents in which signatories agree to be bound by the terms and conditions agreed. Put differently, it is a binding agreement that sets out binding obligations between subjects of international law (States and international organizations). The rules about treaties between states are contained in the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties (1969) while those between states and international organizations are found in the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties Between States and International Organizations or Between International Organizations (1986). Treaties include acts, protocols, conventions, agreements, arrangements and charters. Therefore, there are many treaties that have laid down rules of engagement during political interventions in conflict situations. An example of a Treaty on political interventions is the UN charter Chapter VII (Articles 39-51) which reads:

Article 39

The Security Council shall determine the existence of any threat to the peace, breach of the peace, or act of aggression and shall make recommendations, or decide what measures shall be taken in accordance with Articles 41 and 42, to maintain or restore international peace and security.

Article 40

In order to prevent an aggravation of the situation, the Security Council may, before making the recommendations or deciding upon the measures provided for in Article 39, call upon the parties concerned to comply with such provisional measures as it deems necessary or desirable. Such provisional measures shall be without prejudice to the rights, claims, or position of the parties concerned. The Security Council shall duly take account of failure to comply with such provisional measures.

Article 41

The Security Council may decide what measures not involving the use of armed force are to be employed to give effect to its decisions, and it may call upon the Members of the United Nations to apply such measures. These may include complete or partial interruption of economic relations and of rail, sea, air, postal, telegraphic, radio, and other means of communication, and the severance of diplomatic relations.

Article 42

Should the Security Council consider that measures provided for in Article 41 would be inadequate or have proved to be inadequate, it may take such action by air, sea, or land forces as may be necessary to maintain or restore international peace and security. Such action may include demonstrations, blockade, and other operations by air, sea, or land forces of Members of the United Nations.

Article 43

1. All Members of the United Nations, in order to contribute to the maintenance of international peace and security, undertake to make available to the Security Council, on its call and in accordance with a special agreement or agreements, armed forces, assistance, and facilities, including rights of passage, necessary for the purpose of maintaining international peace and security.
2. Such agreement or agreements shall govern the numbers and types of forces, their degree of readiness and general location, and the nature of the facilities and assistance to be provided.
3. The agreement or agreements shall be negotiated as soon as possible on the initiative of the Security Council. They shall be concluded between the Security Council and Members or between the Security Council and groups of Members and shall be subject

to ratification by the signatory states in accordance with their respective constitutional processes.

Article 44

When the Security Council has decided to use force it shall, before calling upon a Member not represented on it to provide armed forces in fulfilment of the obligations assumed under Article 43, invite that Member, if the Member so desires, to participate in the decisions of the Security Council concerning the employment of contingents of that Member's armed forces.

Article 45

In order to enable the United Nations to take urgent military measures, Members shall hold immediately available national air-force contingents for combined international enforcement action. The strength and degree of readiness of these contingents and plans for their combined action shall be determined within the limits laid down in the special agreement or agreements referred to in Article 43, by the Security Council with the assistance of the Military Staff Committee.

Article 46

Plans for the application of armed force shall be made by the Security Council with the assistance of the Military Staff Committee.

Article 47

1. There shall be established a Military Staff Committee to advise and assist the Security Council on all questions relating to the Security Council's military requirements for the maintenance of international peace and security, the employment and command of forces placed at its disposal, the regulation of armaments, and possible disarmament.
2. The Military Staff Committee shall consist of the Chiefs of Staff of the permanent members of the Security Council or their representatives. Any Member of the United Nations not permanently represented on the Committee shall be invited by the Committee to be associated with it when the efficient discharge of the Committee's responsibilities requires the participation of that Member in its work.
3. The Military Staff Committee shall be responsible under the Security Council for the strategic direction of any armed forces placed at the disposal of the Security Council. Questions relating to the command of such forces shall be worked out subsequently.
4. The Military Staff Committee, with the authorization of the Security Council and after consultation with appropriate regional agencies, may establish regional sub-committees.

Article 48

1. The action required to carry out the decisions of the Security Council for the maintenance of international peace and security shall be taken by all the Members of the United Nations or by some of them, as the Security Council may determine.
2. Such decisions shall be carried out by the Members of the United

Nations directly and through their action in the appropriate international agencies of which they are members.

Article 49

The Members of the United Nations shall join in affording mutual assistance in carrying out the measures decided upon by the Security Council.

Article 50

If preventive or enforcement measures against any state are taken by the Security Council, any other state, whether a Member of the United Nations or not, which finds itself confronted with special economic problems arising from the carrying out of those measures shall have the right to consult the Security Council with regard to a solution of those problems.

Article 51

Nothing in the present Charter shall impair the inherent right of individual or collective self-defence if an armed attack occurs against a Member of the United Nations, until the Security Council has taken measures necessary to maintain international peace and security. Measures taken by Members in the exercise of this right of self-defence shall be immediately reported to the Security Council and shall not in any way affect the authority and responsibility of the Security Council under the present Charter to take at any time such action as it deems necessary in order to maintain or restore international peace and security.

Source: <https://www.un.org/en/about-us/un-charter/full-text>.

Apart from the UN charter giving out rules on political interventions during conflict situations, Article I of the Genocide Convention of 1948 also permits collective interventions based on breaches and infringement on human rights. Article I read “The Contracting Parties confirm that genocide, whether committed in time of peace or in time of war, is a crime under international law which they undertake to prevent and to punish”. Therefore, this article gives authorization to the use of force across state boundaries against genocidal regimes such as the Rwandan Genocide of 1994.

North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) is another good example of a treaty between states in the international political system that provide rules and regulations by which states can intervene during a conflict

situation. NATO is a mutual defense agreement between the United States of America and Western European states against aggressors. Some of the principles of NATO that advocate state political interventions during conflict situations are:

The main principle is common action in defense against armed attack through self-help and mutual aid. The immediate objective is the achievement of adequate collective self defense among the North Atlantic Treaty nations (Part II, 5a: 188)

The armed forces of these nations so located as to permit mutual support in the event of aggression should be developed on a coordinated basis in order that they can operate most economically and efficiently in accordance with a common strategic plan (Part II, 5d: 189)

The purpose of the North Atlantic Treaty defensive organization is to unite the strength of the North Atlantic Treaty nations in order to promote the preservation of peace and to provide for the security of the North Atlantic area. The general objectives of the defensive concept are:

- a. To coordinate, in time of peace, our military and economic strength with a view to creating a powerful deterrent to any nation or group of nations threatening the peace, independence and stability of the North Atlantic family of nations. (Part III, 6b 189)
- b. To develop plans, for use in the event of war, which will provide for the combined employment of military forces available to the North Atlantic nations to counter enemy threats, to defend and maintain the peoples and home territories of the North Atlantic Treaty nations and the security of the North Atlantic Treaty area (Part III, 6b 190)

Source: <https://www.nato.int/docu/stratdoc/eng/a521203a.pdf>.

Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs) 2

Attempt these questions to assess your understanding of what has been taught so far. It should take you less than 5 minutes to attempt these SAEs. Goodluck

1. treaties between states in the international political system provide rules and regulations by which states can intervene during conflict situations. True or False?
2. The rules about treaties between states are contained in the ____?

4.5 Foreign policy and Political Interventions

Apart from treaties, customs, conventions, and general principles, there are other means through which states rely to intervene in conflict situations. One such means is through the foreign policy of states. Some of the foreign policies of the global superpowers contain statements of political interventions to protect their national interest. For example, the USA and Nigeria's foreign policy contains elements of political interventions to protect their national interest. Nigeria's foreign policy in section 19 a-d 1999 federal constitution as amended reads:

19. The foreign policy objectives shall be

- a. Promotion and protection of the national interest;
- b. Promotion of African integration and support for African unity;
- c. Promotion of international co-operation for the consolidation of universal peace and mutual respect among all nations and elimination of discrimination in all its manifestations;
- d. Respect for international law and treaty obligations as well as the seeking of settlement of international disputes by negotiation, mediation, conciliation, arbitration and adjudication; and e. promotion of a just world economic order.

Source:

https://www.constituteproject.org/constitution/Nigeria_1999.pdf.

Similarly, the USA has principles in its foreign policy that directly advocates for political interventions based on certain conditions. The major crux of the USA foreign policy according to Cuny (2022), includes:

- (1) The protection of the U.S. and its citizens,
- (2) The maintenance of access to key resources and markets,
- (3) The preservation of a balance of power in the world, and
- (4) The protection of human rights and democracy.

Some of the elements in the foreign policies of Nigeria and the USA, directly and indirectly, give room for political interventions in global conflict. The USA most especially sees political interventions as a means of balance of power strategy and to perpetuate their dominance in the international political system.

Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs) 3

Attempt these questions to assess your understanding of what has been taught so far. It should take you less than 5 minutes to attempt these SAEs. Goodluck

1. Some of the foreign policies of the global superpowers contain statements of political interventions to protect their ____?
2. The USA has principles in its foreign policy that directly advocates for political interventions based on certain conditions. True or False?

4.6 Summary

International laws regulate the activities of states in the international political setting. Different international laws give out regulations on political interventions in global conflicts. Treaties, customs, general principles, conventions, and constitutions of states either directly or indirectly give room for political interventions in global conflicts.

4.7 References/Further Reading

Shaw, M. (2019) "international law". Encyclopedia Britannica, 13 Nov. 2019, <https://www.britannica.com/topic/international-law>. Accessed 26 September 2022.

Sellers, M.N.S. (2014) Intervention under International Law, 29 Md. J. Int'l L. 1. Available at: <http://digitalcommons.law.umaryland.edu/mjil/vol29/iss1/3>.

Cuny. (2022) Defining Foreign policy. Assessed September 30, 2022, from <https://opened.cuny.edu/courseware/lesson/299/overview>.

4.8 Possible Answers to Self-Assessment Exercise(s)

Answers to SAEs 1

1. True
2. True

Answers to SAEs2

1. True
2. The Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties (1969)

Answers to SAEs3

1. National Interest
2. True

MODULE 2: CONFLICT RESOLUTION AND MANAGEMENT

Conflict Resolution and management is very imperative to bring about peace and protect human life and property. Many conflicts in the international political system have been successfully managed to prevent further escalations into civil wars. Despite this fact, the resolution and management of conflict have become difficult to achieve because of the politics and the dynamics of the conflicts. Bokoharam conflict in Northern Nigeria, the political conflict in Mali, South Sudan, the Conflict between Russia and Ukraine, and the conflict between Myanmar Armed Forces (MAF) and the Arakan Army (AA) have all been difficult to manage based on different reasons and this has led to the loss of lives and properties. Conflicts that are mismanaged have led to catastrophe and many deaths. The conflict in Rwanda in 1994 was not properly managed and this led to ethnic cleansing. And so also is the ongoing Syrian crisis. This illustrates how important is it for students of politics and international relations to understand how conflicts are resolved and managed at different levels of occurrence. To achieve this aim, this module is structured into four units which will aid your understanding of the issues relating to conflict resolution and management.

Module 2 Conflict Resolution and Management

- | | |
|--------|---|
| Unit 1 | Understanding the Concept of conflict resolution |
| Unit 2 | Schools of Thoughts on Conflict Resolution and Management |
| Unit 3 | Skills for Conflict Resolution and Management |
| Unit 4 | Illustrations of Conflict Resolution and Management in Contemporary International Relations |

It is advised that you carefully study each of the units and answer some of the questions to examine and assess your understanding of the module content. Answers to the questions at the end of each unit are provided under each of the units respectively.

UNIT 1: Understanding the Concept of Conflict Resolution**Unit Structure**

- 1.1 Introduction
- 1.2 Learning Objectives
- 1.3 What is conflict Resolution
- 1.4 Forms and Types of Conflict Resolutions
- 1.5 African Conflict Resolutions
- 1.6 Summary
- 1.7 References/Further Readings/Web Sources
- 1.8 Possible Answers to Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs)

1.1 Introduction

During conflict situations, it is important for contending parties to find common ground and peaceful solutions to the bone of contention among them. Conflict resolution and management, therefore, provide conflicting parties with options of reaching an agreement and ending the conflict, and seeking peace. There are different types and mechanisms of Conflict resolution and management, these options of conflict resolution are adopted based on the nature of the conflict. The main aim of this unit is for you to understand Conflict resolution and management in totality.

1.2 Learning Outcomes

At the end of this unit, you should be able to:

- explain what conflict resolution is all about,
- discuss the types and forms of conflict resolutions
- discuss African perspectives to conflict resolutions

1.3. Understanding the Concept of Conflict Resolution and Management

Conflict Resolution can be understood as the process whereby parties to a conflict find solutions to their dispute. Put differently, it is a means by which parties to a conflict reach a peaceful agreement on a particular conflict. Doyle (2022) defines conflict resolution as the means by which two or more parties reach a peaceful resolution and agreement to end a conflict. Wani (2017) opines that conflict resolution is an umbrella term for methods and approaches such as mediation, arbitration, and diplomacy for dealing with conflict. Conflict resolution can occur before the outbreak of a particular conflict and not necessarily during the conflict. The processes of conflict resolution can be either direct or indirect. The direct conflict resolution

process can be done through meetings, Mediation, Arbitration, and Negotiations. The indirect conflict resolution process includes compromising, yielding, avoidance, and collaborating. In conflict resolution, parties to the conflict through either direct or indirect processes meet and resolve their differences. In the process, compromises are made and grounds shifted to accommodate peace which is the fundamental aim of conflict resolution. The Aburi Accord in Ghana between Nigeria and Biafra in 1967 is an example of a conflict resolution meeting between two conflicting parties. While conflict resolution deals with the process whereby parties to a conflict use to find solutions to their dispute, conflict management means the act of efficiently handling conflict to prevent further escalation and more loss of life. It is an approach designed with the aim of achieving peace and securing human life and properties between conflicting parties.

Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs) 1

Attempt these questions to assess your understanding of what has been taught so far. It should take you less than 5 minutes to attempt these SAEs.

Goodluck

1. The processes of conflict resolution can be either direct or indirect true or False.
2. Conflict resolution can occur before the outbreak of a particular conflict and not necessarily during the conflict. True or False?

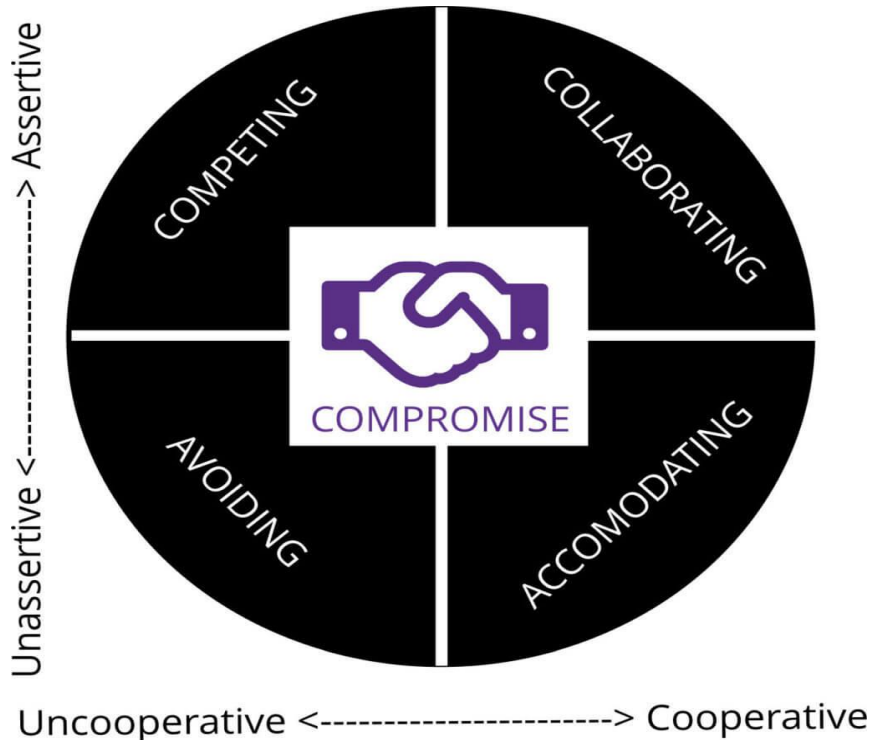
1.4 Types of Conflict Resolution

There is no agreed type or form of conflict resolution. Response to a conflict is dependent on the nature and parties of the conflict. Conflicts have peculiar characteristics and within these peculiarities, measures of conflict resolution are identified. Terry (2022) listed negotiation, mediation, arbitration, and mediation-arbitration as major types of conflict resolution. Adegbonmire (2015) similarly categorized conflict resolutions into seven (7) namely:

- i. Mediation
- ii. Conciliation
- iii. Arbitration
- iv. Negotiation
- v. Judicial settlement in court system
- vi. Peacekeeping
- vii. Peace Agreements
- viii. Amnesties

In her diagram adapted from the idea of Kenneth Thomas and Ralph Kilmann, Eikanas (2019) limited conflict resolution strategies into five types, namely competing, collaborating, compromise, accommodating, and avoiding.

FIG 4: THE 5 CONFLICT RESOLUTION STRATEGIES



Source: Ekianas (2019) <https://leadlifewell.com/blog/4-creative-ways-of-resolving-conflict/>.

Francis (2019) categorized conflict resolution into two strands namely proactive and reactive methods. To him, Proactive methods involve methods of preventing the occurrence of conflict while reactive methods refer to responses to conflict situations.

Proactive Methods	Reactive Methods
Good governance building	Mediation
Trust and confidence	Negotiation
Communication	Conciliation
Inter-party collaboration	Arbitration
	Expert determination
	Mini-trials
	Litigation
	Crisis management or law enforcement

Source: Francis (2019)

From all these typologies of conflict resolutions, the reoccurring types of conflict resolutions are

Mediation

Conciliation

Arbitration

Negotiation

1. Mediation

This is a form of third-party intervention in conflict situations where by mediation is led by a skilled and impartial intermediary. This is the most common technique for preventing conflicts over disputes and promoting cooperation between belligerents. Regan and Aydin (2006) mediators participate in conflict to affect, change, modify, or influence the outcome of the mediation process. Mediation mostly involves a neutral third party that helps to resolve the dispute between the conflicting parties. During the mediation of a conflict, it is imperative to note that, the process is voluntary and the mediator does not participate in the outcome of the mediation process and the conflicting parties have control over the agreement to be reached and can decide to accept or reject the decisions reached.

The main aim of mediation is to help conflicting and aggrieved parties to reconcile their differences, make a compromise, and achieve the settlement of their conflict. The advantages of mediation include

2. It helps to identify and clarify issues and bones of contention in a conflict.
3. It enables agreements to be reached after a compromise has been made between both conflicting parties.
4. It facilitates communication between conflicting parties in a conflict.
5. It hastens the resolution of conflict

Fig 5: Advantages of Mediation in Conflict Resolution



Source: <https://viamediationcentre.org/readnews/MjUx/BENEFITS-AND-ADVANTAGES-OF-MEDIATION>.

Depending on the conflict, the mediation process mostly takes place in neutral territory. For example, Turkey played host to the mediation between Russia and Ukraine over the conflict between the two neighboring parties. The meeting was held on March 10 at Antalya Diplomacy Forum and on March 29 in Istanbul (Altug, 2022).

2. Conciliation

This is a form of conflict resolution whereby conflicts are settled by consensus through the involvement of a third party referred to as a conciliator. According to the Model Law on International Commercial Conciliation (2002:10), conciliation is:

used in the Model Law as a broad notion referring to proceedings in which a person or a panel of persons assists the parties in their attempt to reach an amicable settlement of their dispute. There are critical differences among the dispute resolution processes of negotiation, conciliation and arbitration. Once a dispute arises, the parties typically seek to resolve their dispute by negotiating without involving anyone outside the dispute. If the negotiations fail to resolve the dispute, a range of dispute settlement mechanisms is available, including arbitration and conciliation.

The conciliator enables communication between parties in a conflict and makes them see reasons why they should settle their conflicts. This form of conflict resolution technique is mostly used in inter-state conflicts such as community clashes, and disputes over shared boundaries, farmlands, and resources. Conciliation is legally backed by law and it is designed in a way that enables disputants voluntarily to adjust their disputes. A key feature of conciliation is that it is based on a request by the parties in a dispute to a third party. On international conciliation between states, the "Model Law on International Commercial Conciliation covers consultation procedures during the international settlement of disputes and their enforcement.

3. Arbitration

Arbitration is a unique method of resolving disputes between conflicting parties who have agreed to submit their dispute to arbitral proceedings. The decision of the arbiter is referred to as an award and it is binding among parties in the conflict. The decisions reached by an arbiter or arbitrator are rejected when the arbiter is partial or violates the terms and conditions of the process. The arbitration process involves a private judge referred to as an arbiter or arbitrator who is selected by parties to the conflict and who imposes a resolution based on the decisions made in the disputes. This process is normally referred to as a quasi-judicial system because of its processes which involve hearing of evidence from

aggrieved parties and examination of documented facts after which an award is given.

4. Negotiation

Negotiation as a form of conflict resolution is a process by which parties to a conflict come together to resolve disputes amicably. It is one of the widely accepted forms of conflict resolution techniques. Negotiation is also an important aspect of social and human life. During negotiation, different bargaining tools are utilized in the process. Tabassum (2020) identifies five stages of negotiation to include:

1. Preparation
2. Discussion
3. Descriptive Goals
4. Negotiate for WIN-WIN Outcome-
5. Agreements

In conflict resolutions, parties to a conflict deploy negotiation to end a particular conflict. For example, during Late President Umaru Musa Yar'Adua's tenure as President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, a series of negotiations were made with the Niger Delta militants to cease the disruption of oil facilities in the region. The outcome of the negotiation was the implementation of the Niger Delta Amnesty Programme by the government which helped to resolve the conflict.

Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs) 2

Attempt these questions to assess your understanding of what has been taught so far. It should take you less than 5 minutes to attempt these SAEs. Goodluck

1. Francis (2019) categorized conflict resolution into ___ strands.
2. Mediation mostly involves a neutral third party that helps to resolve the dispute between the conflicting parties. True or False?

1.5 African Perspectives on Conflict Resolutions

The African continent has its own methods and approach to conflict resolution. Before the advent of colonialism in the African context, there were different strategies that were used to resolve the conflict between aggrieved parties. Conflict resolutions were done in different stages based on the level and parties to the conflict. Each African society have its unique conflict resolution methods. For example, in the Yoruba political history, conflicts were resolved by the Obas (Kings) and Oloyes (Chiefs). Even in modern political times, aggrieved parties in Yoruba land, take

their conflict to their traditional community leaders. According to Ajayi and Buhari (2014: 143).

... the Yoruba people derived their sources of adjudication from wisdom and traditional knowledge of the forebears which were always dramatized. Olaoba confirmed that, the elders sit under a tree, and talk until they agree, the elders (old age or seniority) as the force behind order or decorum in traditional society. This indicates that elders, within the culture of the Yorubas, are the power house of wisdom...

In the South Eastern part of Nigeria, conflict resolutions are done through different organizations such as Umu Ada, Umu Nna, Age grade groups, titled men, the family, Amala (council of elders), Okpara system (eldest male), and Umunna (clan). In Igbo, socio-political history, the village square (ilo) holds an important place in the resolution of conflicts. As depicted by Chinua Achebe in *Things Fall Apart*, it was in the village ilo that the dispute between Mgbafo and her husband Uzowulu was solved by the nine egwugwu representing the nine villages of Umuofia with their leader called Evil Forest (Achebe, 1958). Also, Chinua Achebe in his *Arrow of God* showed how the elders of Umuaro tried to resolve the conflict between them and Okperi through negotiation amongst themselves.

Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs) 3

Attempt these questions to assess your understanding of what has been taught so far. It should take you less than 5 minutes to attempt these SAEs. Goodluck

1. Each African societies have its unique conflict resolution methods. True or False?
2. In the South Eastern part of Nigeria, conflict resolutions are done through different organizations such as Umu Eze, Umu Nnnwa, and Umu chi. True or False?

1.7 References/Further Readings/Web Sources

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1.8 Possible Answers to Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs)

Answers to SAEs 1

1. True
2. True

Answers to SAEs 2

1. Two
2. True

Answers to SAEs 3

1. True
2. False

Unit 2: Schools of Thoughts on Conflict Resolution and Management

Unit Structure

- 2.1 Introduction
- 2.2 Learning Outcomes
- 2.3 Perspectives and schools of Thoughts Conflict Resolution
 - 2.3.1 Morton Deutsch: Cooperative Model
 - 2.3.2 Roger Fisher and William Ury: Principled Negotiation
 - 2.3.3 John Burton: Human Needs Model
- 2.4 Other Perspectives on Conflict Resolutions
 - 2.4.1 Marxist Perspective
 - 2.4.2 Economic Perspective
- 2.5 Summary
- 2.6 References/Further Readings/Web Sources
- 2.7 Possible Answers to Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs)

2.1 Introduction

This unit discusses different schools of thought on conflict resolution and management. This unit is important as it gives you a theoretical understanding of how conflict is resolved and managed. These schools of thought on conflict resolution and management have their different postulations which conflict experts adopt based on the nature of a conflict. These schools of thought range from the Marxist school of thought, the social process perspectives, Social structure perspectives and Formal theories perspectives.

2.2 Learning Outcomes

At the end of this unit, you should be able to:

- List the different schools of thought on conflict resolution and management
- Discuss Marxist perspectives on conflict resolution
- Analyze Economic perspectives on conflict resolution

2.3 Perspectives and Schools of thoughts on Conflict Resolution

Different scholars have developed their perspectives and arguments on how conflict can best be resolved. These explanations give meaningful insights into the nature and sources of conflict and how conflicts can be resolved through peaceful methods. Some of these perspectives and schools of thought on conflict Resolution include:

2.3.1 Morton Deutsch: Cooperative Model

This model was developed by Morton Deutsch as the name suggests for understanding conflict processes and resolutions. He opines that a cooperative orientation between parties to a conflict will facilitate constructive resolution of a conflict. According to Dixit (2004), Morton Deutsch's cooperative model explains how factors like the nature of the dispute and the goals each party aims at are important in determining the type and form of orientation a party would bring to the negotiating table during talks on ending the conflict. Morton Deutsch further classified the type and form of orientation a party would bring to the negotiating table into two namely

1. **competitive:** Parties in a conflict that brings approach during negotiation in conflict resolutions will lead to win- lose outcome which might lead to failure of the negotiation process. Many international conflicts, intra state conflict that adopts this approach have been protracted and difficult to resolve based on the nature of competition. For example, the Malian conflict which is divided between the North and Southern regions is a good illustration of competitiveness between parties to the conflict.
2. **Cooperative:** Parties in a conflict that brings the cooperative approach during negotiation in conflict resolutions will evoke an atmosphere of trust and honesty which will in turn lead to constructive resolution of conflicts. This orientation according to Morton Deutsch includes positive norms such as honesty, respect, responsiveness, acknowledging responsibility and extending forgiveness, e.t.c

In essence, this perspective on conflict resolution argues that the type or orientation parties to a conflict adopt during negotiations affects the outcome of the conflict resolution process. And in mutually resolving a conflict, the cooperative approach is best adopted by parties to a conflict.

2.3.2 Roger Fisher and William Ury: Principled Negotiation

Just like Morton Deutsch's Cooperative Model, this model of conflict resolution also advocates for cooperative conflict behavior during the conflict resolution process. Roger Fisher and William Ury in their own version, set out four important principles of effective negotiation. They include:

1. **Separate the people from the problem:** According to Roger Fisher and William Ury, parties in the conflict should separate themselves from the conflict and be objective because getting attached to the conflict may endanger the conflict resolution process. Fisher and Ury, therefore,

identified three basic sorts of people problems that are attached to the conflict:

- (1) different perceptions among the parties
- (2) emotions such as fear and anger
- (3) communication problems.

According to Shonk (2022), Roger Fisher and William Ury now proffered some solutions to the three identified problems. They include:

- Try to understand the other person's viewpoint by putting yourself in the other's place.
 - Do not assume that your worst fears will become the actions of the other party.
 - Do not blame or attack the other party for the problem.
 - Try to create proposals which should be appealing to the other party.
 - Acknowledge emotions and try to understand their source (understand that all feelings are valid even if you do not agree or understand them).
 - Allow the other side to express their emotions.
 - Try not to react emotionally to another's emotional outbursts.
 - Symbolic gestures such as apologies or expressions of sympathy can help to defuse strong emotions.
 - Actively listen to the other party (give the speaker your full attention, occasionally summarizing the speaker's points to confirm your understanding).
 - When speaking direct your speech toward the other party and keep focused on what you are trying to communicate.
 - You should avoid blaming or attacking the other person, speaking only about yourself.
 - Try using "I" statements, such as "I feel" or "I think."
 - Think of each other as partners in negotiation rather than as adversaries.
2. **Focus on interests not positions:** Conflicting parties should focus on interest in the conflict and not positions that might be problematic in the conflict resolution process. The essence of this is that when a problem is defined in terms of the interests of the conflicting parties, it is then easier and possible to find a solution.

And according to Roger Fisher and William Ury, to identify, understand, and deal with both parties' underlying interests one must,

- Ask why the party holds the positions she or he does, and consider why the party does not hold some other possible position.
- Explain your interests clearly.
- Discuss these interests together looking forward to the desired solution, rather than focusing on past events.

- Focus clearly on your interests, but remain open to different proposals and positions.
- 3. **Invent options for mutual gain:** Here, different negotiating options should be deployed in the conflict resolution process in order to satisfy the needs of the conflicting parties. options mean choices conflicting parties might consider satisfying their interests.
- 4. **Insist on using objective criteria upon which to base agreement:** Conflicting parties should use objective criteria when strong, direct opposition is present (Contributor, 2021). Using objective criteria when discussing about the conflict will make it easier to achieve peace.

2.3.3 John Burton: Human Needs Model

This model was developed by John Burton and he argued that conflict is inevitable when groups or individual is denied and deprived of essential needs. Hence, he further said that to resolve this conflict, the essential needs of people should be identified and addressed in a manner that all of the needs of the people are accommodated and met. Therefore, the crux of this theory on conflict resolution is that conflict emanates from unsatisfied human needs such as security, identity, recognition or equal participation within society. This can be adduced as one of the reasons for the growth of bandits in Northern Nigeria. Most of the bandits are citing poor development and neglect by the Nigerian Federal and State Governments as the reasons for banditry.

FIG 6: A diagram showing the basic human needs as advocated by John Burton



Source: <http://worldissuessociety.blogspot.com/2014/08/basic-human-needs.html>.

Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs) 1

Attempt these questions to assess your understanding of what has been taught so far. It should take you less than 5 minutes to attempt these SAEs.

Goodluck

1. Morton Deutsch classified the type and form of orientation a party would bring to the negotiating table into ____?
2. Roger Fisher and William Ury in their own version of cooperative conflict resolution perspectives, set out ____important principles of effective negotiation.

4.10 Summary**2.4 Other Perspectives on Conflict Resolutions**

There are other theories and schools of thought on conflict resolution that we are going to examine here. They include:

1. Marxist perspective on conflict resolution and management
2. Economic perspective on conflict resolution and management

2.4.1 Marxist Perspectives

This perspective was influenced by the works of Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels. The basic crux of their argument is that every society is divided into classes on the basis of the ownership of the means of production. Those who own the means of production (Bourgeoisie) constitute one class and those who do not (proletariat) consist of another class. And it is those who own the means of production in a society that determines the economic fortune of the society. And as such, class struggle is a reflection of the contradiction between the forces of production which is the instrument of labour, and the people producing the material wealth and the relations of production. Marx further argues that, since social relations develop at a slower pace than the forces of production, conflict occurs thereby making social revolution inevitable. The problem of exploitation of the proletariat by the bourgeoisie will only end when a classless society is established through the revolution (Enemuo, 2008). Therefore, social conflict in society will continue unless there is a revolution by the proletariat. Hence, in solving conflict, there should be no contradictions between the forces of production (Instrument of labour and people), and the relations of production. Karl Marx's materialist interpretation of history explains the causes of conflict in human history.

Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs) 2

Attempt these questions to assess your understanding of what has been taught so far. It should take you less than 5 minutes to attempt these SAEs. Good luck.

1. Marxist perspective on conflict resolution was influenced by the works of Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels? True or False?
2. The problem of exploitation of the proletariat by the bourgeoisie will only end when a classless society is established through a ___?

2.4.2 Economic Perspective on Conflict Resolution

This perspective on conflict resolution simply argues that the equitable management of resources amongst conflicting parties contributes to conflict resolution. During the conflict, belligerents can be enticed financially or through distributions of assets or anything that parties hold important to end a conflict. Marc (2018) argues that economic and social development can play a central role in preventing violent conflict in situations whereby the conflicting parties are marginalized and derived economic justice. In some cases, economic incentives include

- i. Land
- ii. Employment opportunities
- iii. Money
- iv. Houses
- v. Natural Resources
- vi. Other economically viable materials such as Cattles, farm produce etc.

The type of economic incentives that will be shared between parties to a conflict depends on the causes of the conflict and what is obtainable in the conflicting location. For example, in the Nigeria delta Region of South-South Nigeria, the area is blessed with crude oil but the Nigerian Federal government gave the Militants Amnesty with financial rewards and education scholarships. This act by the Nigerian federal government ended the conflict in the region and this saw an end to the constant vandalization of Nigerian oil facilities by the Niger Delta Militants. Many international conflicts have been resolved using this perspective. Conflicts in the Third World have been settled using this viewpoint because most of these parties to a conflict feel deprived and marginalized. And going to conflict for them is the only option for their voices to be heard.

Apart from these discussed perspectives, there are other perspectives that explain conflict management and resolutions. They include:

1. The social process perspectives
2. Social structure perspectives
3. Formal theories perspectives

Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs) 3

Attempt these questions to assess your understanding of what has been taught so far. It should take you less than 5 minutes to attempt these SAEs. Good luck.

1. The equitable management of resources amongst conflicting parties contributes to conflict resolution? True or False?
2. The type of economic incentives that will be shared between parties to a conflict depends on the causes of the conflict and what is obtainable in the conflicting location? True or False?

2.5 Summary

Conflict resolution and management is very essential to prevent and managing conflicts. These different perspectives and schools of thought on conflict management have all explained how conflict can be managed using their tents and arguments. It is important to note that, the adoption of these perspectives depends on the parties to the conflicts, the nature of the conflict, and the location of the conflict. In sum, you can agree with me that conflicts can be managed and prevented using any of these perspectives we have discussed in this unit.

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2.7 Possible Answers to Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs)

Answers to SAEs 1

1. 2
2. 4

Answers to SAEs 2

1. True
2. Revolution

Answers to SAEs 3

1. True
2. True

Unit 3: Skills Required for Conflict Resolution and Management

- 3.1 Introduction
- 3.2 Learning Outcomes
- 3.3 Skills required for conflict Management and Resolution
- 3.4 Summary
- 3.5 References/Further Readings/Web Sources
- 3.6 Possible Answers to Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs)

3.1 Introduction

This unit discusses different skills needed to participate in conflict resolution and management. There are certain skills needed to engage in negotiations between parties in conflict. These skills can further enhance the conflict resolution process. Some conflicts are protracted because of the third parties negotiators. At every level of conflict occurrence, there are standards of behavior that are expected of mediators or third parties which determines the conflict resolution process. Therefore, in this unit, you will be exposed to the required skills that are needed for mediators and experts in conflict Management and Resolution.

3.2 Learning Outcomes

At the end of this unit, you should be able to:

- List the different skills that are needed for conflict resolutions
- List the primary skills needed for conflict resolution
- Explain the role of good communication skills in the conflict resolution process.

3.3 Skills Required for Conflict Resolution and Management

In the resolution of conflicts, there are certain skills needed as mediators in the conflicts. These skills are very important as they play important roles in the conflict resolution process. These skills can be grouped into two namely primary and secondary skills. Primary skills are skills that are very important and necessary for persons involved in conflict resolution and management, while secondary skills are also important but not necessary as primary skills. The primary skills include:

1. Good communication skills
2. Good knowledge of the conflict
3. Patience

1. Good Communication skills

Good communication skill is very essential for conflict resolution. A mediator or facilitator should have good communication skills to enable easy communication between the conflicting parties in a conflict. Communication also deals with language and terminologies to be used while dealing with warring parties in the conflict. A lack of good communication skills can lead to misunderstanding which will hamper the conflict-resolution process. During the process of conflict resolution, good communication skills enable the facilitators of conflicts to receive and send messages without **disrupting the process**. Jouany and Martic (2022) listed five relevant and necessary skills associated with good communication skills. They include:

1. Listening
2. Straight talking
3. Non-verbal communication
4. Stress management
5. Emotional control

With good communication skills conflict management is easier and faster during the conflict resolution process.

2. Good knowledge of the Conflict

A mediator or facilitator of the conflict resolution process should have an updated and broad knowledge about the history and causes of the conflict. This is very essential because it makes the mediator to make informed decisions about the conflict. Through the Knowledge of the conflict, the conflict mediator will get more information about the origin, and causes of the conflict and ways to resolve it.

3. Patience

Every conflict resolution facilitator must have patient while dealing with aggrieved parties in a conflict. The conflict resolution process can be sometimes long and time consuming because of the demands and types of the disputants in a conflict. Therefore, a conflict mediator must have patient while dealing with the disputants in order to achieving peace.

Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs) 1

Attempt these questions to assess your understanding of what has been taught so far. It should take you less than 5 minutes to attempt these SAEs. Good luck.

1. Skills needed as mediators in the conflicts can be grouped into ___?
2. Communication also deals with _____ and _____ to be used while dealing with worrying parties in the conflict?

Secondary skills include other important skills required for conflict resolution. Doyel (2022) listed the skills needed for conflict resolution and management which also illustrates secondary skills. They include:

1. Assertiveness
2. Interviewing and Active Listening
3. Empathy
4. Facilitation
5. Accountability
6. More Conflict Resolution Skills
7. Problem Solving

1. Assertiveness

Assertiveness is the ability of a conflict mediator to express and defend his/ her position, interests, and viewpoints during conflict negotiation and mediation (Ames and Flynn (2007). This is a personal technique that anyone engaging in conflict resolution and management should possess. This is a conflict resolution technique that allows an individual to express their desires, needs, and opinions without hurting or offending the listener. This is a technique that can be put into practice while communicating and relating with others. Assertiveness is typified by the ability to disagree and express personal perspectives and viewpoints while respecting other people's opinions. The followings are the assertive techniques for conflict resolution. They include:

1. **Start by stating concrete facts, instead of generalities.**
2. Expressing how the situation influences you **instead of blaming or labeling the other person**
3. Make a concrete proposal
4. Explain how that plan would improve the situation

Assertiveness is very important in managing conflict because as a mediator you have to make your decision and perspective known to the conflicting parties. The assertiveness of a mediator can enable swift conflict resolution. Conflicting parties come with different claims and counterclaims therefore, in mediating these disputes, a third-party mediator must be assertive in resolving disputes. Assertive negotiators mostly get what they want in the negotiation process.

2. Interviewing and Active Listening Skills

This is one of the most important skills needed for negotiation and medication during conflict resolution and management. A third-party mediator in a conflict needs to have good interviewing and listening skills. This skill will enable gathering the necessary information about the conflict. Also, it is important for mediators to know how to extract information from the conflicting parties in their local language or through

an interpreter. This is imperative because it enables the mediator to determine the nature of a conflict between the disputants.

3. Empathy

Empathy in conflict resolution implies that a mediator should be able to reason with the disputants about how they feel and what they are going through or what they went through during the conflict. In conflict resolution and management, mediators are mostly experienced and have previously gone through or experienced conflict. And as such, they have empathy for the conflicting parties in conflict because they have empathy. As mediators in a conflict, having empathy is important because it facilitates peace in a conflict. Empathy makes mediators understand each party's perspective, without necessarily agreeing with either but meditating from a neutral viewpoint.

4. Facilitation

According to the Australian Dispute Center (2022), facilitation is understood as a process in which the parties in a conflict with the help of a conflict resolution manager (the experienced facilitator) identify the issues and bones of contention to be solved and resolved. According to the Local Government Association (2012), facilitation means helping individuals and groups in a conflict to discuss issues of contention with the aim to reach an amicable consensus on possible solutions. During the process of facilitation, a facilitator gets information about the conflict and arranges meets venue, and set the tone for the conflict resolution process. Facilitators oversee the conflict resolution process to ensure that aim and objective of the mediation are achieved. Most times, facilitators can be states, governments, international organizations civil societies etc. facilitation normally entails other skills such as diplomacy, friendliness, and openness. During interstate conflict, facilitators are normally financially buoyant states that facilitate meetings between conflicting parties. For example, Turkey as a neutral party and a peace facilitator has served as a host to peace meetings between Russian and Ukrainian negotiators (Kaskanis, 2022). The foreign ministers of the two conflicting parties (Russia and Ukraine) met in Antalya Turkey March 10, 2022. In essence, a facilitator needs to be truthful and transparent in the negotiation process as the goal of facilitation in conflict management is to guide and manage the conflicting parties in the negotiation and mediation process.

Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs) 2

Attempt these questions to assess your understanding of what has been taught so far. It should take you less than 5 minutes to attempt these SAEs. Good luck.

1. During intrastate conflict, facilitators are normally financially buoyant states that facilitate meetings between conflicting parties? True/ False
2. A conflict resolution technique that allows an individual to express their desires, needs, and opinions without hurting or offending the listener is referred to as ___?

5. Accountability

This is one skill that persons involved in conflict resolution and management should have. It entails that conflict mediators or negotiators should be trusted to be accountable in their words and decisions to be taken during the conflict resolution process. Accountability during conflict resolution will ensure that decisions taken or reached during the process are implemented. Lack of accountability will lead to mistrust on the part of the conflicting parties.

6. More Conflict Resolution Skills

More conflict resolution skills such as honesty, neutrality, transparency, intelligence, and the ability to speak more languages are needed to be successful as a conflict resolution expert. These skills are necessary for dealing with all manners of conflict. A typical example is an intra-state conflict between the Nigerian Federal Government and the Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU) in 2022. It took the Speaker of the House of Representatives (Femi Gbajabiamila) to intervene in the conflict for the union to call off the strike on October 14 2022 after eight months of the strike (Erunke, 2022). The Speaker of the House of Representatives (Femi Gbajabiamila) and the House of Representative members were honest, neutral, and transparent and their intervention resolved the conflict despite the fact that not all the demands of ASUU were met. This shows how imperative these skills are in conflict resolution.

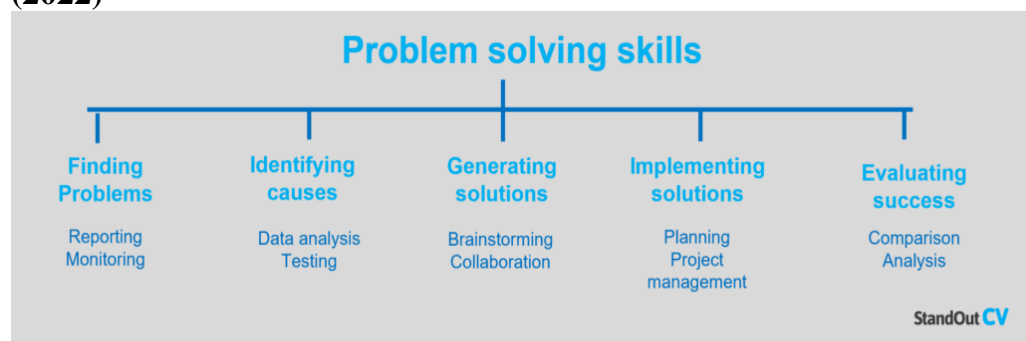
7. Problem Solving

Problem-solving skill is one skill that is very important for persons involved in conflict resolution should have. The mediators or conflict facilitators should be able to proffer solutions that parties to a particular conflict can adhere to. Problem-solving is one of the end goals of conflict resolution. Conflict resolution experts should be able to make sure the bone of contentions of conflicting parties in a conflict is resolved and met. Problem-solving skills deal with intelligence and creativity. Most

protracted conflicts have failed to be resolved because the problems that led to the conflict are yet to be solved. Just as other skills there, are enhanced by reading about the conflict and being educated on conflict resolution and management. Fennell (2022) categorized problem-solving skills into five they include:

1. finding problems
2. identifying their causes
3. generating solutions
4. implementing solutions
5. evaluating their success.

Fig 7: The Five Categories of Problem-Solving Skills by Fennell (2022)



Source: <https://standout-cv.com/problem-solving-skills>.

Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs) 3

Attempt these questions to assess your understanding of what has been taught so far. It should take you less than 5 minutes to attempt these SAEs. Good luck.

1. Fennell (2022) categorized problem-solving skills into ___?
2. Problem-solving skills deal with ___ and ___?

3.4 Summary

As conflict resolution experts, there are some relevant skills one must have that if used effectively can contribute to an easier conflict resolution process. In this unit, you have learnt that primary skills are very crucial to the conflict resolution process while secondary skills also important but not as that of primary. From this unit, you have also been exposed to how different skills mentioned in this unit contributes to the conflict resolution process.

3.5 References/Further Readings/Web Sources

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3.6 Possible Answers to Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs)

Answers to SAEs 1

1. 2
2. Language and terminologies

Answers to SAEs 2

1. False
2. Assertiveness

Answers to SAEs 3

1. 5
2. Intelligence and creativity

Unit 4 Illustrations of Conflict Resolution and Management in Contemporary International Relations

Unit Structure

- 4.1 Introduction
- 4.2 Learning Outcomes
- 4.3 The Resolution of the Niger Delta's Insurgency by President Umaru Musa Yar'Adua's Administration
 - 4.3.1 Brief Overview of the Niger Delta Insurgency
 - 4.3.2 Amnesty as a Conflict Resolution Technique in the Niger Delta Insurgency
 - 4.3.3 The Resolution of the Territorial Dispute Between Nigeria and Cameroon Over Bakassi
- 4.4 Summary
- 4.5 References/Further Readings/WebSources
- 4.6 Possible Answers to Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs)

4.1 Introduction

In the previous units, you have learned about the processes of conflict resolution and management, what is involved in it and the skills required of conflict resolution experts. In this unit, you will be given real-life examples of how conflicts both at the intrastate and interstate levels were handled. The essence of this unit is to illustrate how the conflict resolution and management process works in contemporary international relations.

4.2 Learning Outcomes

At the end of this unit, you should be able to:

- explain how the conflict in the Niger Delta was resolved
- give a brief overview of the Niger Delta insurgency
- explain how the Territorial dispute between Nigeria and Cameroon was resolved.

4.3 The Resolution of the Niger Delta's Insurgency by President Umaru Musa Yar'Adua's Administration

4.3.1 Brief Overview of the Niger Delta Insurgency

The Niger Delta region of Nigeria is one that produces the polity's crude oil which is the major source of earnings of the Country. It is the largest wetland in Africa and the second largest in the world after the Mississippi in the United State of America. According to Imobighe, (2004), the Niger

Delta region accounts for over 80% of Nigeria's revenue, 95 % of export receipts and 90% of foreign exchange earnings. Despite this fact, the region has battled with widespread corruption, underdevelopment, high unemployment, bad roads, and many other social malice. These problems led to the formation of different armed groups in the region agitating for the development of the region in the wake of the region's neglect. The militants also, argued that they are fighting to curb the many environmental degradations caused by the flaring of gas and oil spillages. Also, the problems of the Niger Delta region resulted in a series of protests by freedom fighters such as the late Kenule Saro-Wiwa in the late twentieth century. But their struggle was met with resistance from the military heads of state. This led to a change of tactics by the new militants who changed strategies and targeted oil facilities and expatriates. Okonfua (2016:2), made similar arguments. According to him:

... the new resistance movement is existentialist, showcasing not just the visceral antipathy of the people toward the governance motions of the state but also the location of militias, their sponsors, and members in the entrenched, convoluted rentseeking distributional coalitions that privilege individuals and groups that are proximate to the political state.

He further stated that:

Unlike the past resistance that was led by intellectuals like the late Kenule Saro-Wiwa, the Ogoni playwright and activist who was judicially murdered by the Sani Abacha military junta, and which targeted the state, oil majors, and the broader system of mercantile capitalism, the new resistance is led by cult gangs in alliance with politicians and target the state, oil majors, rival cult gangs, and anyone who poses a threat to their clandestine interests...

There was the proliferation of many armed groups under the auspice of the Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND). Some of these groups include Egbesu Boys and the Niger Delta People Volunteer force (NDPVF). These armed groups targeted oil facilities in the region and also kidnapped oil expatriates. The actions of these groups led to the loss of revenue by the federal government. Nigeria's oil output suffered heavily. The Punch (2021) reported that the militants' activities in the region resulted in a drop in Nigeria's monthly oil revenue from \$2.2bn in 2008 to \$1bn per month in July 2009. Ekeinde (2009) reported that MEND shut down at least 133,000 barrels per day of oil production in the region. Also, the region became hostile as there were kidnappings and many gun battles with Nigerian Armed forces.

FIG 8: A Captured American Expatriate captured by Ijaw Militants in the volatile creeks of the Niger Delta (February 2006).



Source: [https://au.int/sites/default/files/documents/39221-doc-175. the post-amnesty programme in the niger delta. challenges and prospect s.pdf](https://au.int/sites/default/files/documents/39221-doc-175_the_post-amnesty_programme_in_the_niger_delta_challenges_and_prospect_s.pdf).

Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs) 1

Attempt these questions to assess your understanding of what has been taught so far. It should take you less than 5 minutes to attempt these SAEs. Good luck.

1. The Niger Delta region of Nigeria is one that produces crude oil which is the major source of earnings of the Country? True or False?
2. The Bakassi boys are example of Niger Delta Militants? True or False?

4.3.2 Amnesty as a Conflict Resolution Technique in the Niger Delta Insurgency

Nigeria under the late former President Umaru Musa Yar'Adua responded to the Niger Delta Conflict in 2009 with, the Niger Delta Amnesty Program (NDAP), which is Nigeria's government version of Disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration (DDR) which is a cluster

of post-conflict intervention focused on collecting arms, neutralizing combatants, reintegrating legitimate ex-combatants into the armed forces or civilian life for the purpose of preventing them from returning to armed conflict. The NDAP was adopted by the federal government because it realized that military actions were inadequate to tackle the Niger Delta insurgency. Oluwaniyi (2011) stated that the Niger Delta Technical Committee which was inaugurated on 8 September 2008 and made crucial recommendations that were partly adopted by the Nigerian government.

They include:

1. The establishment of a DDR commission to address the Niger Delta militants;
2. negotiation of amnesty for those Niger Delta militants willing to participate in the DDR programme;
3. Strengthened independent regulation of oil pollution;
4. An effective environmental impact assessment (EIA) process;
5. The ending of gas flares by December 2008

The Nigerian federal government set up a Presidential Panel on Amnesty and Disarmament of Militants in the Niger Delta to implement the policy. Consultations were made between government officials, Niger Delta Elite and the head of militant groups. The Niger Delta Amnesty Program (NDAP) main aims according to Okonfua (2016:2) was to:

1. Demilitarize the Niger Delta by encouraging militias to surrender their arms and weapons
2. Break the links between fighters and their militias
3. Reintegrate fighters into civil society
4. Providing ex-militants with appropriate social skills
5. Provide lacking social and economic infrastructure for the Niger Delta region
6. Restore full oil production activities in the Niger

The NDAP commenced on August 6, 2009, by the government of late former President Umaru Musa Yar'Adua. Since the commencement of the program, relative peace returned to the region and the exportation of crude oil in full capacity resumed. Adekunle and Sylvester (2009) reported that, by the end of the amnesty period (6 August–4 October 2009) over 20 192 persons including ex-militants and non-militants surrendered their weapons consisting of 2 760 arms of different classes and calibre, 287 445 ammunitions, 3 155 magazines, 1 090 dynamite caps, 763 explosives and sticks of dynamite, and 18 gun boats to the Presidential Amnesty Committee. After the demise of ex-president, Umaru Musa Yar'Adua, the rehabilitation of ex-militants began in June 2010 at the Obubra camp in Cross River State, South South Nigeria.

The success of the amnesty programme of Umaru Musa Yar'Adua shows that there are alternatives in resolving conflicts rather than resorting to violence or the use of force. This way and manner in which the Nigerian federal government handled the insurgency in the Niger Delta Region has shown the importance of mediation, negotiation and conciliation in the conflict resolution process.

FIG 9: The late former President Umaru Musa Yar'Adua singing the amnesty package term at the presidential villa in the capital Abuja, June 25, 2009.



Source: <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-nigeria-delta-idUSTRE55P1DS20090626>.

Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs) 2

Attempt these questions to assess your understanding of what has been taught so far. It should take you less than 5 minutes to attempt these SAEs. Good luck.

1. The Niger Delta Amnesty Program (NDAP), is Nigeria's government version of ___?
2. The NDAP commenced on August 6, 2009, by the government of ___?

4.3.3 The Resolution of the Territorial Dispute Between Nigeria and Cameroon Over Bakassi

Nigeria and Cameroon had a long history of conflict over Bakassi and this could be traced to the early twentieth century during colonialism. This conflict over the ownership of the oil-rich Bakassi Peninsula after much violence and tussling between the two neighboring states ended with the verdict of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) seeding Bakassi to Cameroon. The ICJ gave its ruling on the dispute on October 10, 2002, based on a previous old colonial agreement between Britain and Germany (Ariye, 2015). The border between Cameroon and Nigeria extending from Lake Chad to the Gulf of Guinea has been a tussle and cause of conflict between the two countries dating back to 1913. This conflict was protracted and hostile because the Bakassi Peninsula is blessed with important deposits of oil/gas reserves. Baye (2010:1) reported that since the ICJ ruled in favour of Cameroon, Nigeria was advised by international actors notably, the UN Secretary-General to obey the court ruling. As he puts it:

... following mediation by the United Nations (UN) Secretary-General, good faith by protagonists, the Green-tree Agreement and subsequent instruments, Nigeria completed the withdrawal of its military, police and administration from the Bakassi Peninsula by 14 August 2008.

The ICJ delivered judgment on October 10, 2002, deciding that the very important issue of sovereignty over the Bakassi Peninsula rested with Cameroon and not Nigeria. The Court hinged her decision on the same old colonial agreements and settlements between Britain and Germany. Nigeria's government respected the ruling of the ICJ and completed the withdrawal of its troops which included the military and police from the embattled Bakassi Peninsula by 14 August 2008. The adherence to the ruling of the ICJ by Nigerian authorities illustrated a peaceful resolution of conflict in international relations. The decision by Nigeria to obey the ruling of the ICJ is also attributed to Nigeria's foreign policy. Therefore, conflict resolution can occur through peaceful means and it depends on how the parties to the conflict agree and abide by the outcome of the process.

Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs) 3

Attempt these questions to assess your understanding of what has been taught so far. It should take you less than 5 minutes to attempt these SAEs. Good luck.

1. Nigeria and Cameroon had a long history of conflict over Bakassi and this could be traced to the early twentieth century during colonialism. ____? True or False?
2. The border between Cameroon and Nigeria extends from Lake Chad to the Gulf of River Niger? True or False?

4.4 Summary

From this unit, you have learned that conflict resolution can occur through peaceful means and that parties to the conflict determine the outcome of the process. Also, through this unit, you have also learned how tools of conflict resolution are used in the settlement of disputes in different conflict situations.

4.5 References/Further Readings/Web Sources

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4.6 Possible Answers to Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs)

Answers to SAEs 1

1. True
2. False

Answers to SAEs 2

1. Disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration (DDR)
2. President Umaru Musa Yar'Adua

Answers to SAEs 3

1. True
2. False

MODULE 3: INSTITUTIONS OF POLITICAL INTERVENTION, CONFLICT RESOLUTION AND MANAGEMENT

This module explains and discusses the political institutions that are saddled with conflict resolution and management in the international political system. These institutions which can be both global or regional function to keep and maintain peace in the international political system. This unit is important as you will be taught how institutions such as the United Nations (UN), African Union (AU), and the UN Security Council function in resolving many global international conflicts. To achieve this objective, this module is structured into four units under which issues relating to this course content will be addressed in detail for your learning.

Unit 1 The United Nations as an Institution of Conflict Resolution and management

Unit 2 Regional Organizations, Sub Regional, Regional Organizations, and Conflict Management

Unit 3 North Atlantic Treaty Organization and Conflict Resolution and Management

Unit 4 The Politics of Political Intervention

It is advisable for you to carefully study each of the units and answer some of the questions to examine and assess your understanding of the module content. Answers to the questions at the end of each unit are provided under each of the units respectively. Goodluck

Unit 1: The United Nations as an Institution of Conflict Resolution and Management

Unit Structure

- 1.1 Introduction
- 1.2 Learning Objectives
- 1.3 The United Nations as an institution of Conflict Resolution and Management During the Cold War
 - 1.3.1 The Role of the UN in the Iran-Iraq War
- 1.4 The United Nations and Conflict Resolutions and Management After the Cold War
- 1.5 Summary
- 1.6 References/Further Readings/Web Sources
- 1.7 Possible Answers to Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs)

1.1 Introduction

In the first module of this course, the United Nations has been discussed as part of the origin of political intervention. This unit, will be an addition to what you have been taught in the first module. In essence, the roles of the United Nations as an Institution of Conflict Resolution and Management in selected conflicts will be discussed in full detail.

1.2 Learning Outcomes

At the end of this unit, you should be able to:

- explain the roles the UN plays as an institution of Conflict Resolution and Management
- discuss the role of the UN during the Korean War
- Identify how the UN resolved and managed the Suez Canal Crisis of 1956

1.3 The United Nations as an institution of Conflict Resolution and Management During the Cold War

The Cold War (1947-1991) started after the Second World War (WW II) between the USA the Soviet Union and their respective allies. This war reached its peak between (1948-1953) especially when the USA gave out Marshall Plan aid to the Western European States (Britannica, 2022). As an illustration of an international or global political institution of conflict resolution and management, the United Nations (UN) played a key role in resolving the conflict between the United States of America (USA) and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR). The roles the UN played curtailed the further escalation of the conflict between these two superpowers. The United Nations served as a de-facto meeting place and a point of discussion between the opposing Powers. During this period, the international political system was divided into two blocs. Hence, the UN was used as a political tool for the selfish interest of the super powers.

Ana-Hardwick (2011) noted that the UN was mainly used by the US during the cold war as a means to achieve an end through an international legal framework. The UN played an important role during the Korean Wars and oversaw the elections in South Korea which the USA supported. During the invasion of South Korea by North Korea on June 25, 1950, the UN through the Security Council condemned North Korea's attack on South Korea. Since the Korean War was influenced by the Soviet Union supporting communist North Korea, the UN established UN joint command with troops from sixteen member states dominated by troops from the United States of America. This special UN troop was headed by

American General Douglas MacArthur and checkmated the activities of North Korea and its allies. This role of the UN in North Korea showed how effective the UN was in protecting South Korea and resolving the conflict.

Apart from mediating in the Korean War, the UN played major roles in the Suez Canal Crisis and the UN operation in Congo during the cold war. During the Suez Canal Crisis of 1956, the UN played a very important role to avert further escalation of the conflict. According to McDermot (1998), The UN through its Secretary General Dag Hammarskjöld, developed 'The six Principles for the future of the Suez Canal. They include:

1. There should have been free and open transit through the Canal without discrimination, overt and covert – this should have covered both political and technical aspects'.
2. 'The sovereignty of Egypt should have been respected'.
3. 'The operations of the Canal should have been insulated from the politics of any country'.
4. 'The manner of fixing tolls and charges should have been decided by agreement between Egypt and the users'.
5. 'A fair proportion of the dues should have been allotted to the development'.
6. 'In case of disputes, unresolved affairs between the Suez Canal Company and the Egyptian

Through the international mediation of the UN, a cease-fire was announced on November 7 and the UN peacekeeping force was in place on November 15. The UN handling of the conflict showed how international conflict can be handled through peaceful means.

Also, during the Cold War, the United Nations showed its prowess in conflict resolution during the UN operation in Congo. The United Nations Operation in the Congo named (ONUC) was created in July 1960 to help the Congolese government gain control of its mutinous army and to establish order in the country. Congo plunged into a series of conflicts because the Congolese National Army (ANC) revolted against both its Belgian officers and the Congo's first democratically elected government. And this enabled tribal uprisings against the central government and this consequently led to riots. The UN Security Council established ONUC in Resolution 143 of 14 July 1960 to provide military assistance to the Congolese forces to enable them to protect the people and restore law and order. The ONUC operation commenced with Security Council Resolution 161 of 21 February 1961. This became necessary because of Katanga province's secession and the ONUC did all it could with backing from members of the United Nations Security Council. Dorn (2013) reported that the United Nations Operation in the Congo was the largest,

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most complex, and most expensive UN peacekeeping mission during the Cold War. The robustness of the operation in the Congo was manifested in the utilization of ground and air power in an unprecedented fashion and was obliged to use bomber aircraft. The operation succeeded to strengthen the central government in Congo after many battles alongside the government forces. The UN operation in Congo spanned a duration from July 1960 until June 1964. The United Nations Operation in the Congo was remarkable for the following reasons which include:

1. ONUC was a was the first UN mission to operate with government forces against rebels and mercenaries
2. The first mission to implement a “no fly-zone” and an arms embargo
3. It was the first peacekeeping mission to use combat to carry out the decisions of the Security Council
4. Coordinated UN air-to-ground attacks were used for the first time in the history of peacekeeping

Apart from the United Nation’s intervention in the 1960s, the UN has since intervened in many conflicts in Congo. Hobbs (2014: 42-43) stated that

the United Nations has since launched an observer mission in the Congo that expanded over time into a peacekeeping force of over 21,000 UN soldiers called the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO).

Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs) 1

Attempt these questions to assess your understanding of what has been taught so far. It should take you less than 5 minutes to attempt these SAEs. Good luck.

1. the US during the cold war as a means to achieve an end through an international legal framework? True or False? True
2. During the intervention in the Korean War, the UN established UN joint command with troops from sixteen member states dominated by troops from ____?

1.3.1 The Role of the UN in the Iran-Iraq War

The United Nations played key and important roles in the Iran-Iraq war (1980-1988). The war between Iran and Iraq started on September 1980 when it was claimed that Iraqi armed forces invaded western Iran. Many were feared dead and the United Nations had to intervene (Britannica, 2022).

Ferretti (1993), stated the cause of the war according to Hussein the President of Iraq include:

- 1) The boundary line in the Shatt al Arab waterway, the combined estuary of the Tigris and the Euphrates Rivers that constitutes part of the Iran-Iraq frontier at the head of the Persian Gulf
- (2) The boundary line in the area of Musian to the north of the Shatt al Arab waterway
- (3) Sovereignty over Abu Musa, Greater Tunb, and Lesser Tunb, three islands that guard the entrance to the Strait of Hormuz at the southern end of the Persian Gulf.

The intervention of the UN in the conflict showed the importance of mediation in resolving international conflict. The UN through its Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim played a crucial role in settling the Iran and Iraq dispute by peaceful means. The United Nations initiated several peace initiatives during the Iraq- Iran Civil War. Notably was the series of resolutions passed by the Security Council of the United Nations. They include:

1. Resolution 479 which supported the UN Secretary-General's offer of his good offices and called upon Iran and Iraq to settle their dispute by peaceful means
2. Resolution 514 adopted on July 12, 1982, by the Security Council called for a ceasefire and withdrawal of forces to internationally recognized boundaries under the supervision of a team of United Nations observers
3. Resolution 522, which basically repeated the Resolution 514 provisions for a cease-fire
4. Resolution 540 directed parties to end all attacks on civilian targets and all hostilities in the Persian Gulf region.
5. Resolution 552. the resolution condemned attacks on commercial ships in the Gulf region
6. Resolution 582
7. 588 which simply called upon Iran and Iraq to implement Resolution 582
8. Resolution 598 adopted on July 20, 1987
9. Resolution 612 strongly condemned the use of chemical weapons

With this, it is seen that the UN during the Cold War used its neutral status to broker peace between the two Middle Eastern states (Malone, 2006)

Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs) 2

Attempt these questions to assess your understanding of what has been taught so far. It should take you less than 5 minutes to attempt these SAEs. Good luck.

1. The UN through which Secretary-General played a crucial role in settling the Iran and Iraq dispute by peaceful means?
2. Which of the resolutions adopted by the Security Council called for a ceasefire and withdrawal of forces to internationally recognized boundaries during the Iran-Iraq War? Resolution 514

1.4 The United Nations and Conflict Resolutions and Management After the Cold War

Aftermath the Cold War, the UN has intervened in many international conflicts. The UN have successfully managed these conflicts in the quest to maintain international peace and security. In 2021, the UN was the top organization deploying multilateral peace operations, with 20 operations (Pfeifer, 2022). For example, in Africa, the United Nations has over fifty thousand troops deployed in the continent which is the most globally (Klobucista and Renwick, 2021). Some of these peacekeeping missions in Africa include:

1. Abyei, an area contested by Sudan and South Sudan (UNISFA);
2. the Central African Republic (MINUSCA); the Democratic Republic of Congo (MONUSCO);
3. Mali (MINUSMA);
4. South Sudan (UNMISS); and Western Sahara (MINURSO).

Officially, the United Nations manage international conflict through the following means:

1. Prevention Diplomacy and Mediation
2. Special and Personal Representatives, Envoys, and Advisers of the Secretary-General
3. Peacekeeping
4. Peacebuilding
5. Countering Terrorism
6. Disarmament

The UN has resolved and managed many conflicts such as the conflict in northern Mali, the Sierra Leone conflict, and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict through mediation, peace missions, arbitration, and conciliation. During the Sierra Leone conflict, the UN along with the Organization of African Unity (OAU), and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) ECOWAS, managed the conflict by initiating several peacekeeping missions and conducting preventive disarmament. Also, the UN has resolved and managed many international conflicts through the International Court of Justice (ICJ), which is one of the six organs of the United Nations and its principal judicial mechanism. Some international disputes have been settled and managed through the ICJ. For example, the ICJ intervened in the conflict between Ecuador and Colombia over the dispute on the aerial spraying of herbicides, Intervened in the dispute between Cameroon and Nigeria over Bakassi ,and many other international conflicts.

Some of the ICJ's Interventions in Global Conflict Situations

Parties in the Conflict	Cause of Conflict
Democratic Republic of the Congo v. Uganda)	case of Armed Activities on the Territory of the Congo
Ecuador and Colombia	dispute on the aerial spraying of herbicides.
Nicaragua vs Costa Rica	Certain Activities carried out by Nicaragua in the Border Area
Peru and Chile	Maritime Dispute

Source: Author's Compilation

Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs) 3

Attempt these questions to assess your understanding of what has been taught so far. It should take you less than 5 minutes to attempt these SAEs. Good luck.

1. In Africa, the United Nations has over fifty thousand troops deployed in the continent? True or False?
2. The United Nations principal judicial mechanism is known as ___?

1.5 Summary

From the above, it is understood that the UN have greatly done a lot in resolving and managing international conflict. From this unit, you have also learned that the UN manages international conflict in different ways

such as through its peacekeeping forces, its organs such as the ICJ, and through some resolutions passed by the Security Council. Apart from its peacekeeping forces and the ICJ, the UN has also managed international conflict through counter-terrorism and disarmament.

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1.7 Possible Answers to Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs)

Answers to SAEs 1

3. True
4. The United States of America

Answers to SAEs 2

3. Kurt Waldheim
4. 514

Answers to SAEs 3

- 2 True
- 3 ICJ

Unit 2 Regional Organizations, Sub Regional, and Conflict Management

Unit Structure

- 2.1 Introduction
- 2.2 Learning Outcomes
- 2.3 The Role of the African Union in Conflict Resolution and Management in Africa
 - 2.3.1 Illustrations of Conflict Resolutions and Management by the African Union
- 2.4 The Role of the Economic Community for West African State (ECOWAS) in Conflict Resolution and Management in Africa
- 2.5 Summary
- 2.6 References/Further Readings/Web Sources
- 2.7 Possible Answers to Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs)

3.6 Introduction

Regional and Sub- regional organizations have contributed a lot in managing and resolving conflicts. Most regional organizations have different policies on how conflicts should be resolved at different levels and this has gone a long way to bring peace in their respective regions. During conflict situations, these organizations send their envoys to mediate between the parties to the conflict and also, deploy their peacekeeping missions to protect human lives and property. Therefore, this unit will explain how regional organizations such as African Union (AU), and The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) have helped in their own way to resolve and manage conflicts within their regions.

3.7 Learning Outcomes

At the end of this unit, you should be able to:

- discuss the role of AU in the management conflicts of conflict with the African Continent
- explains how ECOWAS has fared in the management of conflict in the West African Sub-region.
- Discuss how ECOWAS serves as a role model for other regional and sub regional organizations

4.3 The Role of the African Union in Conflict Resolution and Management in Africa

After its official launch in Durban South Africa in 2002, the African Union (AU) has embarked on a series of peacekeeping missions in Africa. Since one of the major failures of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) was not adequately to solve the many challenges affecting African states notably intra state conflicts such as the conflicts in Angola, Somalia, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Democratic Republic of Congo amongst others, the AU through its Article 3 (f &g) of the Constitutive Act requested states to intervene in the African Continent in times of war based on humanitarian accounts.

Also, the AU charter gives legal backing to the AU to intervene in civil wars and other conflicts within member states especially when human rights are infringed (Oguonu, and Ezeibe, 2014). Apart from that, the AU also has different protocols that enable the management and resolution of conflict. They include the Protocols on the Statue of the African Court of Justice and Human Rights, Protocols on the Prevention and Combating of Terrorism and the Protocols Relating to the Establishment of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union. Some of these Protocols establish the legal framework of the AU in conflict management. For example, the Protocols Relating to the Establishment of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union states how peace can be achieved and conflict Prevented in the African continent. Article 3 of the Protocols lists the objective of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union to include:

- a. Promote peace, security and stability in Africa, in order to guarantee the protection and preservation of life and property, the well-being of the African people and their environment, as well as the creation of conditions conducive to sustainable development;
- b. Anticipate and prevent conflicts. In circumstances where conflicts have occurred, the Peace and Security Council shall have the responsibility to undertake peace-making and peacebuilding functions for the resolution of these conflicts;
- c. Promote and implement peace-building and post-conflict reconstruction activities to consolidate peace and prevent the resurgence of violence;
- d. co-ordinate and harmonize continental efforts in the prevention and combating of international terrorism in all its aspects;
- e. Develop a common defence policy for the Union, in accordance with article 4(d) of the Constitutive Act;
- f. Promote and encourage democratic practices, good governance and the rule of law, protect human rights and fundamental freedoms, respect for the sanctity of human life and international humanitarian law, as part of efforts for preventing conflicts.

While Article 4 of the Protocols enumerates the principles of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union to include:

- a. Peaceful settlement of disputes and conflicts;
- b. Early responses to contain crisis situations so as to prevent them from developing into full-blown conflicts;
- c. Respect for the rule of law, fundamental human rights and freedoms, the sanctity of human life and international humanitarian law;
- d. Interdependence between socio-economic development and the security of peoples and States; e. respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Member States;
- f. Non interference by any Member State in the internal affairs of another;
- g. Sovereign equality and interdependence of Member States;
- h. Inalienable right to independent existence;
- i. Respect of borders inherited on achievement of independence;
- j. The right of the Union to intervene in a Member State pursuant to a decision of the Assembly in respect of grave circumstances, namely war crimes, genocide and crimes against humanity, in accordance with Article 4(h) of the Constitutive Act;
- k. The right of Member States to request intervention from the Union in order to restore peace and security, in accordance with Article 4(j) of the Constitutive Act.

Within these objectives and principles, the AU has managed and successfully intervened in many conflicts in Africa.

Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs) 1

Attempt these questions to assess your understanding of what has been taught so far. It should take you less than 5 minutes to attempt these SAEs. Good luck.

1. The AU charter gives legal backing to the AU to intervene in civil wars and other conflicts within member states especially when human rights are infringed. True or False?
2. Which Article of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union lists its objective ___? Article 3

4.3.1 Illustrations of Conflict Resolutions and Management by the African Union

The African Union (AU) has a lot of frameworks that enable conflict resolutions and management in the African continent. With this, since its formation it has embarked on a series of interventions to end and manage conflicts. An illustration of AU success in managing conflict in the African continent is the African Union Mission in Burundi (AMIB), 2003-2004 which is recorded as the first attempt of AU to intervene in a state's conflict. This mission by the AU to manage the conflict between the conflicting parties which was made up of Tutsis in minority (15%) and the Hutus in majority (85%). According to Peen Rodt (2011), the AU in February of 2003 deployed a peacekeeping force in Burundi named the African Union Mission in Burundi (AMIB) made up of made up of 3,335 soldiers and monitors and charged with the responsibility of implementing the following

1. the Arusha Agreement,
2. the ceasefire protocols and
3. the Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR) programme in the country
4. to create favorable conditions for the presence of a UN peacekeeping mission;
5. and to contribute to the political and economic stability in Burundi

Despite the fact that the AIMB was taken over by the UN through its establishment of the UN Peace Operation in Burundi (ONUB), the AMIB was very successful in the achievement of these objectives at the end of its mission. Apart from the AMIB, another illustration of the success of the African Union's intervention in conflict situations in Africa is its African Union Mission in Sudan (AMIS). The AMIS was compelled to intervene due to the protracted conflict in Sudan. The conflict in Sudan caused the death of many civilians. Allen (2010:33) reported that:

These attacks which eventually degenerated to bombings, looting, raping, killings and burning of the villages left a conservative estimate of 30,000 civilians dead, over 1 million persons internally displaced and over 20,000 refugees in camps across the border in Chad...

The nature of the conflict, propelled the AU to act and intervene in the conflict by sending its troops under the auspices of AMIS to oversee the implementation of the "Humanitarian Ceasefire Agreement" signed in N'jamena in April 2004. Since the conflict increased, the African Union upgraded its military presence in Dafur with the following mandates as reported by (Jibril, 2010).

1. Observe the ceasefire arrangements and eventually protect civilians;
2. Mediate a negotiated political settlement of the armed conflict;
3. Protect humanitarian operations and deter armed groups from attacking civilians

The African Union Mission in Sudan (AMIS) witnessed some challenges and this led to the formation of a joint United Nations and AU force, the United Nations African Mission in Darfur (UNAMID) which took over AMIS and was saddled with the responsibility to manage the conflict in Sudan. In addition to this, the AU troops have always supported democracy in Africa. This was witnessed in the AU troops intervened in Comoros against the power-hungry 'President' Mohammed Bacar from power in Anjouan in March 2008.

Apart from these illustrations of the African Union intervening in conflict situations in Africa, there are several other peacekeeping missions the AU has embarked on in Africa. Some of them include African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM),

In addition to the peacekeeping missions, the AU has also intervened in some conflicts by taking strong stance against anti-democratic activities. The AU has suspended members states in Mauritania, Guinea Conakry and Madagascar until the constitutional order was restored in those countries. Also, the AU in 2010 suspended Niger's membership after the military coup in the country.

Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs) 2

Attempt these questions to assess your understanding of what has been taught so far. It should take you less than 5 minutes to attempt these SAEs. Good luck.

1. The African Union (AU) has a lot of frameworks that enable conflict resolutions and management in the African continent. True or False?
2. The African Union Mission in Sudan (AMIS) was replaced by ____? the United Nations African Mission in Darfur

4.4 The Role of the Economic Community for West African State (ECOWAS) in Conflict Resolution and Management in Africa

The Economic Community for West African States (ECOWAS) was established on May 28, 1975 as a regional initiative to facilitate economic growth and development in the West Africa subregion. This was stated in article 3:1 of its Treaty. It reads:

The aims of the Community are to promote co-operation and integration, leading to the establishment of an economic union in West Africa in order to raise the living standards of its peoples, and to maintain and enhance economic stability, foster relations among Member States and contribute to the progress and development of the African Continent (ECOWAS Treaty, 1975:6)

Despite the fact that the focus of ECOWAS was economic in nature, in Article 4e of the ECOWAS Treaty, maintenance of regional peace, stability and security through the promotion and strengthening of good neighbourliness was mentioned as principles member states should adhere to in pursuit of the objectives stated in Article 3 of the Treaty (the aims and objectives of the ECOWAS). The Economic Community for West African States has since intervened in regional conflicts because of the lack of interest from the international community during the civil wars of Liberia and Sierra Leone (Touray, 2019). ECOWAS has since intervened and mediated in many conflict situations in the region such as violent conflicts in Liberia, Sierra Leone, Guinea Bissau, Guinea-Conakry, Cote d'Ivoire, and Mali (Kwaja, 2017). Consequently, ECOMOG was formed to protect West African regional stability and peace. The West African Sub-region has witnessed different intra-state conflicts in member states and it is a region with many violent groups such as Boko Haram, Fulani Herdsmen, bandits in Northern Nigeria, National Patriotic Front of Liberia, and the Al Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb.

ECOWAS has also managed conflicts within its region through joint task forces with the United Nations and African Union. They have also implemented different policies that are geared towards ensuring peace in the Sub-region. In 1998, the Authority of The Community adopted Conflict Prevention and Management Mechanism aimed at preventing conflict in the region. The mechanism proposed the following:

1. 4 offices for the observation zones in Cotonou, Ouagadougou, Banjul and Monrovia
2. 1 observation and monitoring centre at the Secretariat in Abuja
3. Establishment of a Mediation and Security Council made up of 9 Members States
4. Establishment of a Council of Elders

5. Raising of stand-by troops.
6. Moratorium on the importation, exportation and manufacture of small arms. (Declaration adopted by the Authority in October, 1998)
7. Adoption of a plan of action and a code of conduct
8. Development of a culture of peace
9. Raising of armed and security forces
10. Control of small arms at the borders
11. Establishment of a data bank and a regional register on small arms
12. Collection and destruction of surplus weapons (carried out by Liberia and Mali)
13. Facilitation of dialogue with the manufacturers and suppliers of arms (ECOWAS Reference Manual, 2012: 136-137 cited in Ani and Amusan (2016).

COUNTRY	ECOWAS INTERVENTION
Sierra Leone Coup in 1997 by Major Johnny Paul Koroma	In 1998, ECOWAS's multilateral armed force, known as the ECOWAS Monitoring Group (ECOMOG), and the civil defense forces (Kamajors) removed the junta and restored President Ahmad Tejan Kabbah to office
Liberian conflict	Prior to the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) signed in 2003, ECOWAS played an imperative role in managing the Liberian conflict through the ECOWAS Ceasefire Monitoring Group (ECOMOG) and the ECOWAS Mission in Liberia (ECOMIL)
The military disturbances in Guinea Bissau (1997- 1998)	received peace keepers from Benin, Gambia, Niger and Togo,
the rebellion in Cote d' Ivoire (2002- 2004)	was managed through ECOMOG intervention

Source: Author's Compilation

There are other instances whereby ECOWAS intervened in managing conflicts in the Sub region. This has proved that ECOWAS is effective and has done a lot in managing conflicts in the sub region.

Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs) 3

Attempt these questions to assess your understanding of what has been taught so far. It should take you less than 5 minutes to attempt these SAEs. Good luck.

1. ECOWAS had economic focus during its establishment? True or False
2. ECOWAS adopted the Conflict Prevention and Management Mechanism aimed at preventing conflict in the region in the year --?

2.5 Summary

ECOWAS was formed to ensure the economic prosperity of the West African Region. Hence it had economic focus during its establishment. But due to the neglect by the international community in solve many of the political crises in the region, they started intervening in conflicts in the regions. Since, ECOWAS began intervening in conflicts, it has manged and resolved many conflicts in the region. Also, since being successful in the management and resolving of conflicts, ECOWAS serves as a model for other regional and sub regional originations in the international political system in managing conflicts.

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2.7 Possible Answers to Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs)

Answers to SAEs 1

1. True
2. Article 3

Answers to SAEs 2

1. True
2. (UNAMID)

Answers to SAEs 3

1. True
2. 1998

Unit 3 North Atlantic Treaty Organization and Conflict Resolution and Management

Unit Structure

- 3.1 Introduction
- 3.2 Learning Outcomes
- 3.3 NATO and Conflict Resolution and Management
 - 3.3.1 NATO and Conflict Management in Libya
- 3.4 NATO Response and Management of the 2011 Terror Attacks on the USA
- 3.5 Summary
- 3.6 References/Further Readings/Web Sources
- 3.7 Possible Answers to Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs)

3.1 Introduction

In the previous unit of this module, you have learnt about the conflict resolutions and management by the African Union and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), in this unit, you will be introduced and taught about how the North Atlantic Treaty Organization has managed conflicts in its regions and within the international political system. You will also learn about reasons behind the formation of NATO and parties to its formation.

3.2 Learning Outcomes

At the end of this unit, you should be able to:

- explain the roles NATO played in conflict resolution and Management in the international political system
- discuss the role NATO played in the Libyan Revolution of 2011
- discuss the reasons behind NATO's formation

3.3 NATO and Conflict Resolution and Management

NATO was formed by the United States of America, Canada and Western European States after the Second World War (WWII) with the sole purpose of providing collective security against the Soviet Union. Forming NATO by the USA was viewed as a good strategy to stop the spread of communism and the Soviet Union across Europe. The USA developed an Economic recovery Plan known as Marshall Plan named after the then US Secretary of State George Marshall. There were different negotiations that led to the final formation of NATO treaty. Officially, the United States, Canada, Belgium, Denmark, France, Iceland, Italy,

Luxemburg, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, and the United Kingdom were the original countries that signed the treaty establishing NATO but other members such as Turkey, Greece and West Germany formally applied to join due to the outbreak of the Korean War. The main aim of NATO is to safeguard the allies' freedom and security by political and military means if need be.

Since its formation in 1949, NATO has become a security alliance made up of 30 countries from North America and Europe. NATO is comprised of two main parts namely

1. The Political Component
2. Military Component

In managing and resolving of conflicts, there are different approaches NATO employs in this process. NATO involves both military and non-military measures to address different spectrum of crises. NATO is one of the best international organizations that has a very good conflict management techniques which include negotiation, diplomacy, and the use of economic sanctions. The organization believes in peaceful means in resolving conflicts in the international political system. Article 1 and 2 of the Treaty establishing NATO illustrates this and reads:

The Parties undertake, as set forth in the Charter of the United Nations, to settle any international dispute in which they may be involved by peaceful means in such a manner that international peace and security and justice are not endangered, and to refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force in any manner inconsistent with the purposes of the United Nations.

Article 2 reads:

The Parties will contribute toward the further development of peaceful and friendly international relations by strengthening their free institutions, by bringing about a better understanding of the principles upon which these institutions are founded, and by promoting conditions of stability and well-being. They will seek to eliminate conflict in their international economic policies and will encourage economic collaboration between any or all of them.

Despite the fact that NATO was aggressive in nature during its formation, the organizations was mainly involved in the protection of its allies and did not partake in any wars during the Cold War. Article 5 of the treaty establishing NATO was evoked for the first time in its history aftermath of the September 11 attacks in the USA.

NATO has also intervened in matters that are major non-Article 5 crisis management operation. These crisis management includes the ones in

1. Libya
2. Afghanistan
3. Kosovo,
4. North Macedonia
5. former Yugoslavia

Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs) 1

Attempt these questions to assess your understanding of what has been taught so far. It should take you less than 5 minutes to attempt these SAEs. Good luck.

1. NATO was formed by the United States of America, Canada, and the Western European States after the Second World War (WWII). True or False?
2. NATO is comprised of ____ main parts?

3.3.1 NATO and Conflict Management in Libya

In conflict resolution and management, the use of force to ensure peace and to compel the safety of man, is the last to be used of all instruments of conflict management have failed. But there are some cases whereby the use of force is the last option to ensure the safety of man and to bring the conflict to an end. The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) in Libya is a good illustration of the necessity of the use of force during the Libyan Revolution of 2011.

The Libyan Revolution started on 17 February 2011 after successful revolutions in Tunisia and Egypt. Muammar Gaddafi's response to the revolution led to the death of many civilians in Libya and this resulted in condemnation from AU, the Organization of Islamic Conference and the UN Human Rights Council. Colonel Muammar Gaddafi assaults on peacefully demonstrating citizens became worrisome with over 2000 civilians dead (Gaub, 2013). The increasing atrocities committed by forces loyal to Muammar Gaddafi against civilians led to the intervention of the United Nations and other third parties justified by the responsibility to protect (R2P). The worry regarding the violence against civilians and the systematic violation of human rights made members of the UN Security Council converge and adopted different resolutions that backed NATO's intervention in Libya. Acting under Chapter VII of the UN Charter, the first of the Resolutions that was implemented by the UN was the UNSCR 1970 which was introduced by the British and French and adopted on 26 February 2011 during the 6491st of the UN's Security Council (United Nations Security Council, 2011).

The aim of the UNSCR 1970 was the implementation of an arms embargo against Libya Arab Jamahiriya. The resolution 1970 also includes a travel ban and assets freeze. After the UNSCR 1970 was implemented, violence heightened and UN Security Council members met again and recalled the UNSCR 1970 and developed a more aggressive one in order to protect the civilian population. This led to the development of the UNSCR 1973 which was adopted by the Security Council at its 6498th meeting, on 17 March 2011 (United Nations Security Council, 2011).

Days after the establishment of UNSCR 1973, NATO assumed command of all three elements of UNSCR 1973 (an arms embargo, a no-fly zone, and actions to protect civilians and civilian-populated areas under threat of attack) on Libya through an intervention named Operation Unified Protector (OUP) under the command of Lieutenant-General Charles Bouchard from Canada (Leblond, 2017). In the main words of Adler-Nissen and Pouliot (2014:094)

On 9 March, only two days after the adoption of Resolution 1973 and before most states had had time to digest the dramatic negotiations in New York, France staged a crisis meeting in Paris. There, agreement was reached that military action by French, British, and US forces would begin on 19–20 March, with the aim to protect Libyan civilians and degrade the regime's capability to resist the no-fly zone. At that time, the situation in Benghazi was deteriorating, with civilians at risk of massacre by pro-Gaddafi forces...

The intervention was aimed at implementing the UNSCR 1973 in Libya with a goal to protect the civilians in Libya. However, NATO's intervention in Libya has generated so many debates. Some schools of thoughts on this have argued that the UN and NATO's intervention in Libya were to overthrow Gaddafi and not to ensure the protection of civilians as it was claimed. Similarly, Erameh and Idachaba (2017) questioned NATO's intervention in Libya and argued that NATO intervention in Libya ended up in disorder and contributed to global insecurity.

Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs) 2

Attempt these questions to assess your understanding of what has been taught so far. It should take you less than 5 minutes to attempt these SAEs. Good luck.

1. TheLibyan Revolution started on 17 February 2011 after successful revolutions in Tunisia and Syria. True or False? False
2. The first of the Resolutions that were implemented by the UN in Libya was the__? UNSCR 1970

3.4 NATO Response and Management of the 2011 Terror Attacks on the USA

Since its formation in the twentieth century, NATO has been an organization that has protected the interest of its allies. The collective security policy of NATO which is enshrined in Article 5 of the Washington Treaty was invoked for the first time immediately after the September 11 attacks in the USA. This act serves as the first time in the 52 years history of the organization the collective security mechanism was invoked. The collective security measure invoked aftermath the US September 11 attacks saw NATO embarking on the fight against terrorism outside the Euro-Atlantic area. Also, USA presented an 8-point measure with the allies on the quest on war against global terrorism in Afghanistan. As Gordon (2007:93) puts it:

October the United States presented the allies with a request that they take eight specific measures, individually and collectively, to support the American campaign. On October 4, after having been presented with credible proof from US officials that the attacks were indeed sponsored from abroad, NATO allies agreed to the US request...

The measures according to Gordon (2007) include:

- Enhanced intelligence sharing, both bilaterally and within NATO;
- blanket overflight clearances for US and other NATO aircraft;
- Assistance to allies and other states that might be subject to terrorist threats as a result of their cooperation with the United States;
- Measures to provide increased security for US facilities in Europe;
- Backfilling certain allied assets in the NATO area that might be required elsewhere for the campaign against terrorism;
- Access for the United States and other allies to ports and airfields on NATO territory;
- The deployment of standing NATO naval forces to the Eastern Mediterranean; and
- The deployment of NATO airborne early warning-and-control systems (AWACS) to US airspace so that American AWACS could be used abroad.

On 4 October NATO carried out its first ever anti-terror operation named the Eagle Assist – from mid-October 2001 to mid-May 2002 and on 26 October, the Alliance launched its second counter-terrorism. After the terrorist attacks in the USA, NATO has since been involved in protecting its allies through enhancing its existing policies to ensure collective security.

Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs) 2

Attempt these questions to assess your understanding of what has been taught so far. It should take you less than 5 minutes to attempt these SAEs. Good luck.

1. NATO carried out its first ever anti-terror operation on _____?
2. The collective security policy of NATO was enshrined in the Article ____ of the Washington Treaty?

3.5 Summary

In this unit, you have learned that, NATO since its formation has done a lot to protect its members. It has ensured that member states are not attacked by members of the international political community. Also, you have learnt that, the collective security policy of NATO was invoked for the first time in the over fifty years history of the organization aftermath the US September 11 attacks.

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3.7 Possible Answers to Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs)

Answers to SAEs 1

1. True
2. Two

Answers to SAEs 2

1. False
2. UNSCR 1970

Answers to SAEs 3

1. 4 October
2. 5

Unit 4: The Role of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Conflict Management

Unit Structure

- 4.1 Introduction
- 4.2 Brief Origin and History of the International Committee of the Red Cross
- 4.3 The Role of ICRC in Conflict Management in Nigeria
- 4.4 An Overview of ICRC in Africa
- 4.5 Summary
- 4.6 References/Further Readings/Web Sources
- 4.7 Possible Answers to Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs)

4.1 Introduction

The international Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), is an independent and neutral international non-governmental organization that helps to provide humanitarian support to victims of war, conflict, and political violence. Since, its establishment, the ICRC has helped many victims of war and conflicts. Victims during these conflict situations are catered for and protected according to existing humanitarian laws and humanitarian principles. Therefore, this unit will examine the origin and some of the activities of the ICRC during conflict situations. The essence of this unit is to enable you to understand how ICRC manages different types of conflicts in the international political system.

4.2 Brief Origin and History of the International Committee of the Red Cross

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) was formed in 1863 with the objective to protect and help victims of armed conflict and strife. It is a private organization with public dimensions. The ICRC was originally the idea of a Swiss businessman Henry Dunant who during his sojourn witnessed a bloody battle between Franco-Sardinian and Austrian forces near the small village of Solferino which left over 40,000 troops dead, injured, or missing. After witnessing the battle, Henry Dunant in his publication titled *A Memory of Solferino* advocated for the establishment of a national relief organization whose main aim is to offer support to wounded soldiers during wars irrespective of the side in the conflict they are fighting on (Britannica, 2018)

In the year after his book publication, Henry Dunant was part of the Swiss committee that developed a plan for the establishment of the national relief association. The group later became known as the International

Committee of the Red Cross and adopted the symbol of the Red Cross on a white background which was the opposite of the Swiss national flag. In 1863, the first national society was formally established in the German state of Württemberg. In 1864, 12 countries formally signed and agreed to the Geneva Convention which made a case for treating sick and injured soldiers during war irrespective of the side they belong. The headquarters of the International Committee of the Red Cross is located in Geneva Switzerland. In modern times, the International Committee of the Red Cross is now one of a component of national Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (International Committee of the Red Cross, 2010). The Red Crescent is the name popularly used in Muslim states during wars or conflicts.

The following are the legal bases of actions taken by ICRC according to the International Committee on the Red Cross (2022). They include:

1. The four Geneva Conventions and Additional Protocol I confer on the ICRC a specific mandate to act in the event of international armed conflict. In particular, the ICRC has the right to visit prisoners of war and civilian internees. The Conventions also give the ICRC a broad right of initiative.
2. In non-international armed conflicts, the ICRC enjoys a right of humanitarian initiative recognized by the international community and enshrined in Article 3 common to the four Geneva Conventions.
3. In the event of internal disturbances and tensions, and in any other situation that warrants humanitarian action, the ICRC also enjoys a right of initiative, which is recognized in the Statutes of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. Thus, wherever international humanitarian law does not apply, the ICRC may offer its services to governments without that offer constituting interference in the internal affairs of the State concerned.

FIG 8: Portrait of the Henry Dunant, founder of the International Committee of the Red Cross



Source: <https://www.ifrc.org/who-we-are/about-ifrc/our-history-and-archives>.

Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs) 1

Attempt these questions to assess your understanding of what has been taught so far. It should take you less than 5 minutes to attempt these SAEs. Good luck.

1. The founding father of ICRC is ___?
2. In 1864, ___countries formally signed and agreed to the Geneva Convention which made a case for treating sick and injured soldiers during war irrespective of the side they belong.?

4.3 The Role of ICRC in Conflict Management in Nigeria

Initially, the Key role of ICRC was a coordinating one, but it became increasingly involved in field operations as the need for a neutral party between combatants became necessary. Since its existence, the Red Cross has helped to carter for casualties during conflicts. In Africa, ICRC has intervened in many conflicts and providing assistance to the vulnerable. During the Nigerian Civil War of 1966-1970, the ICRC participated to protect victims of the war through collaboration and cooperation with existing Nigerian institutions as Nwoko (2011:216) puts it:

From 1967 to 2007, the activities of the ICRC in Nigeria was that of cooperation and collaboration with the Nigerian Red Cross Society, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the Nigerian Armed Forces, Police, Justice and Health Ministries, civil society, etc

Desgrandchamps (2012) noted that the Nigerian federal government wanted control of what was sent to Biafra by the ICRC. And this made ICRC stop most of its humanitarian services on both sides before the war ended. In her words:

For the ICRC, the main stumbling block was the difficulty of obtaining the consent of the belligerents to bring aid into Biafra, which was blockaded by the Nigerian government. While the government accepted the principle, it wanted control over what was delivered and how, in order to assert its sovereignty over the breakaway province Desgrandchamps (2012: 1413)

Despite these challenges encountered by the ICRC, the Nigeria–Biafra operation was still the largest the ICRC had carried out after the end of World War II. Since the end of the Civil War in Nigeria, the ICRC has embarked on many humanitarian services in Nigeria. With many displaced persons caused by bandits and terror groups in Nigerian North East, the ICRC in conjunction with the Nigerian Red Cross are providing assistance to persons affected by these conflicts.

SOME OF THE EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE AND SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS PROVIDED BY ICRC NIGERIA

more than 352,960 people received soap to improve hygiene in 19 camps
386,286 people were provided with access to clean water, sanitation and shelter through the rehabilitation and construction of more than six solar water supply systems, 69 hand pumps and 12 latrines.
Over 352,960 IDPs, host community members and returnees had improved access to water in Adamawa, Benue, Borno, and Cross Rivers states.
25,662 individuals were assisted with 3,243 permanent and temporary shelters in Borno, Adamawa, Benue, Kaduna, Cross River, Plateau and Yobe states.
One Primary Health Care Centres (PHCC) was rehabilitated to improve access to health facilities in Benue.
The ICRC and the NRCS provided 85,014 people with food assistance
339,752 persons received multipurpose cash assistance and income support through cash for work activities,
72,342 people received essential household items to improve their living conditions
the ICRC provided conditional cash grants to 3,252 people, including Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) and young entrepreneurs
In addition, 282,000 farmers benefitted from agriculture support
46,979 farmers received cash to purchase additional agricultural inputs not provided by the ICRC
33,450 pastoralists benefitted from vaccination and treatment of their livestock
86 Community Animal Health Workers profited from animal healthcare services

while 270 farmers benefitted from training in improved agricultural techniques
--

In the North East and North Central regions, the ICRC continued to deliver drugs and medical consumables as well as personal protective equipment (PPE) to 13 Primary Health Care Centres (PHCCs)

The ICRC also donated 278 units of blood to other health partners in Maiduguri and two IDP camps
--

The ICRC and NRCS are searching for 25,161 people reported missing
--

Source:file:///C:/Users/user/Downloads/nigeria_country_facts_and_figures_jan_june_2022_flowin_g_pages_hr.pdf.

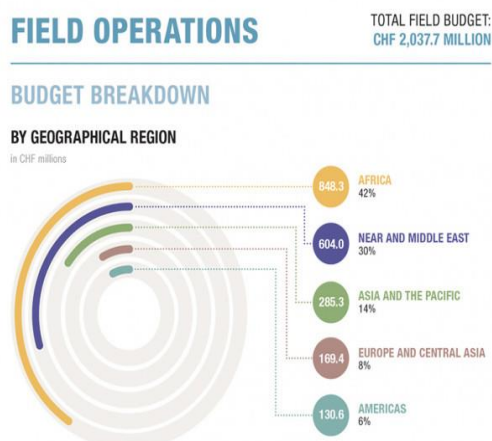
Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs) 2

Attempt these questions to assess your understanding of what has been taught so far. It should take you less than 5 minutes to attempt these SAEs. Good luck.

- | |
|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The ICRC participated to protect victims of the war through collaboration and cooperation with existing Nigerian institutions. True or False? 2. The Nigeria–Biafra operation was still the largest the ICRC had carried out after the end of World War II? True or False? |
|--|

4.4 An Overview of ICRC in Africa

The ICRC has an image of credibility as a result of its neutrality and impartial focus during conflicts or wars, this has seen them intervening in many conflicts to manage the casualties recorded. Since the start of its operation in Africa in 1935, the ICRC has helped many displaced persons of war and armed conflicts in the continent. Currently in 2022, Africa accounts for 42% of the globally field operations budget breakdown by ICRC and also accounts among the ten largest operations in terms of budget (ICRC, 2022)

FIG 10: Filed Operations Budget Breakdown by ICRC

Source:

file:///C:/Users/user/Downloads/appeals_overview_2022_booklet_for_web.pdf.

Africa is a continent with many ongoing or protracted armed conflicts. This has resulted in the death of many. Conflicts in South Sudan, Somalia, Northern Nigeria, Central African Republic, Ethiopia, Liberia, Somalia, Rwanda, and Sudan have seen the intervention of the ICRC to manage and displaced persons. Africa represents the center piece of ICRC engagements and activities with operations in Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Somalia and Chad being the largest (ICRC, 2009). For example, in Congo the ICRC has helped many displaced persons in many ways including health, Economic security, protection, and Detention facility visits. In the twentieth century, during the Ogaden War between neighboring states of Somalia and Ethiopia (1977–1978), the ICRC provided medical and surgical assistance to wounded combatants and civilians in conjunctions with the National Societies in both Somalia and Ethiopia (Hassan, 2012).

Some of the Statistics of Operations of ICRC in Africa in 2008

In 2008, ICRC assisted 2.4 million people in Africa; most of them were IDPs in Sudan, Somalia, Uganda, Kenya and DRC. ICRC distributed essential household item
Approximately 700,000 IDPs and over 1 million other civilians benefited from agro/veterinary support and micro economic initiatives.
In 2008, ICRC provided access to clean water to over 1.200,000 IDP
In 2008, ICRC supported 177 health centres in Africa
In 2008, ICRC visited about 126,000 detainees in more than 1000 places of detention on the African continent

Source: <https://www.icrc.org/en/doc/assets/files/other/africa-newsletter-09-eng.pdf>.

Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs) 3

Attempt these questions to assess your understanding of what has been taught so far. It should take you less than 5 minutes to attempt these SAEs.

Good luck.

1. The ICRC started its operation in Africa in the year ___?
2. Currently in 2022, Africa accounts for ___ % of the globally field operations budget breakdown by ICRC?

4.5 Summary

The International Committee of the Red Cross along with its subsidiaries since its formation has helped to manage conflict in the international political system by helping and assisting wounded combatants. The ICRC achieved this mainly by being neutral in a conflict and focusing more on helping persons who are victims of conflicts and providing humanitarian assistance. Through their efforts, the ICRC has been able to manage the devastating effects of different types of conflicts in the international political system.

4.6 References/Further Readings/Web Sources

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4.7 Possible Answers to Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs)

Answers to SAEs 1

1. Henry Dunant
2. 12

Answers to SAEs 2

1. True
2. True

Answers to SAEs 3

1. 1935
2. 42

MODULE 4: HUMANITARIAN INTERVENTION IN EMERGENCIES

This module examines humanitarian interventions in emergencies in conflict situations. It also discusses some justifications for humanitarian interventions. The need for neutral bodies in conflict situations became imperative due to the high number of casualties during some of these conflicts. Hence, bodies such as ICRC, NATO, AU, ECOWAS, UNICEF have all intervened in conflicts based on humanitarian principles backed by laws such as RtoP. To achieve this aim, this module is divided into four interesting units with illustrations which will aid your understanding of this module. The four units include:

- Unit 1 Conditions for Humanitarian Interventions in Conflict Situations
- Unit 2 The Responsibility to Protect in Conflict Situations
- Unit 3 Refugees in conflict Situations
- Unit 4 Insecurity and Poverty in Conflict Situations

It is advisable for you to carefully study each of the units and answer some of the questions to assess your understanding of the module content. Answers to the questions at the end of each unit are provided under each of the units respectively. Goodluck

Unit 1: Conditions for Humanitarian Interventions in Conflict Situations

Unit Structure

- 1.1 Introduction
- 1.2 Learning Outcomes
- 1.3 Conditions for Humanitarian Interventions in Conflict Situations
- 1.4 An Overview of Humanitarian Intervention in Global Conflict Situations
- 1.5 France Intervention in Mali (2013-2022)
- 1.6 Summary
- 1.6 References/Further Readings/Web Sources
- 1.7 Possible Answers to Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs)

1.1 Introduction

In conflict situations, there are different conditions that warrant interventions by states or humanitarian bodies. Issues such as the infringement on human rights, genocides, rape, killing of children, and

high death rate makes third parties intervention in armed conflicts inevitable. Therefore, this unit examines some conditions for humanitarian interventions in selected conflict situations.

4.5 Learning Outcomes

At the end of this unit, you should be able to:

- List Selected Humanitarian Intervention Throughout World History
- Discuss the French intervention in Mali
- List the Conditions for Humanitarian Interventions in Conflict Situations

1.3 Conditions for Humanitarian Interventions in Conflict Situations

Humanitarian interventions are actions taken by states or authorized organizations to help and curtail the suffering of certain population or persons living in other state which may be attributed to armed conflicts, human rights abuses or genocide. According to Bell (2019), humanitarian interventions occur most times where there is no effective government and there is an increase of civil disorder. Humanitarian intervention normally involves the use of force against a nation with the objective of protecting civilians and human rights which sometimes infringes on states sovereignty. Humanitarian interventions occurs in societies where either there is protracted or ongoing armed conflicts or where the government is instigating violence and killing and punishing its citizens which occurs mostly in a totalitarian state. Example is Muammar Gaddafi in Libya whose forces loyal to him killed many civilians during the Libyan Revolution of 2011. But as interesting as it sounds, the violation of human rights and the killing of civilians or genocide are not only the reasons for humanitarian interventions in conflict situations. In some global armed conflicts, there have been mass killings sanctioned by the government and government infringements on human rights but international political actors did not intervene due to the politics at play and vested interest. This shows the political nature of the concept of humanitarian intervention. The Rwandan genocide of 1994 did not receive the attention that it should in the international political system before ethnic cleansing that occurred due to the parties involved. Also, the politics at play in the protracted Syrian conflict shows that humanitarian interventions in conflict situations sometimes depends on the cause of the conflict in questions and parties to the conflict. In the case of the Syrian conflicts, the embattled Syrian president had supports from some Western Powers and that

influenced their perception of the atrocities committed by the Syrian government.

Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs) 1

Attempt these questions to assess your understanding of what has been taught so far. It should take you less than 5 minutes to attempt these SAEs. Good luck.

1. Humanitarian interventions occur in societies where either there are protracted or ongoing armed conflicts. True or False?
2. The violation of human rights and the killing of civilians or genocide committed against an ethnic group are not only the reasons for humanitarian interventions in conflict situations? True or False?

1.4 An Overview of Humanitarian Intervention in Global Conflict Situations

Since the inception of the current international political system, there has been a series humanitarian interventions in conflict situation. These interventions have helped protect human lives and properties; they have also helped to checkmate the unscrupulous activities of bad authoritarian governments. Most of the interventions in global conflict situations have helped to restore peace and curtail political violence.

Examples of Selected Humanitarian Intervention Throughout World History

Intervention	Reasons for Intervention
British Intervention in Sierra Leone (2000)	Britain deployed troops to evacuate foreign nationals and protect Sierra Leone civilians from the Revolutionary United rebel group.
US and UN intervention in Somalia 1992	The intervention of the US armed forces were used to protect civilians, end atrocities and allow for the delivery of humanitarian assistance as requested by the UN
US Invasion of Haiti in 1994	The UN authorized military actions in Haiti after the 1991 military coup. US forces worked to restore order to the country and deliver

	humanitarian assistance and they finally handed over power to the UN mission
India Intervention in Bangladesh Liberation War 1971	The military action taken by India in the Bangladesh liberation war assisted civilians and help the country gain independence.
The United States invasion of Iraq 2003	This intervention was conducted for geo-political motives and for many reasons
The Kosovo War 1999	This humanitarian intervention by NATO became necessary after the violence between Serbia and Kosovan forces became widespread. NATO'S intervention helped to protect Kosovans and also help them achieve independence.
NATO intervention in the Bosnia War 1992	NATO's intervention became important after extensive fighting, and many atrocities committed by Serbian and Bosnian forces.
United Nations Mission in Eastern DRC (2010) Onwards	UN peacekeepers in DRC were given a mandate for offensive military action against armed groups,
United Nations Mission in Darfur (2004-2007)	The mission was to protect civilians and prevent future atrocities that were committed by Sudanese government forces.
French intervention in the Central African Republic (2013-2016)	The French intervened and launched military action in the CAR In order to restore the government and prevent further human rights abuses.

Source: <https://humanitariancareers.com/humanitarian-intervention-examples/>.

Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs) 2

Attempt these questions to assess your understanding of what has been taught so far. It should take you less than 5 minutes to attempt these SAEs. Good luck.

1. The US and UN intervention in Somalia in 1991 was used to protect civilians, end atrocities and allow for the delivery of humanitarian assistance as requested by the UN. True or False?
2. The French intervened and launched military action in the CAR (2013-2016) In order to restore the government and prevent further human rights abuses. True or False?

1.5 France Intervention in Mali (2013-2022)

In conflict discourse, not all political interventions are successful. The French case is an illustration. The French were invited to help curb and fight terrorism ravaging Mali by the then Malian transitional government of President Dioncounda Traore. The then French President François Hollande agreed to this and sent troops to fight alongside the Malian government forces to combat terrorism. The operation in Mali was known as Operation Serval with the aim to flush out jihadists terror groups in Northern Mali. The intervention was political as some saw it as an opportunity for France to protect its interest in Mali, Sahel and West African region. As Kante (2021:1) observes:

But it could be argued that the strategic objective of the intervention was the protection of French security and economic interests in the Sahel and West African region... In effect France's intervention was aimed at imposing a reverse domino effect that would allow it to face the terrorist groups in the region – and to impose itself again in the Sahel.

Before the advent of the French in Mali in 2013, Mali has been in a political turmoil which can be traced to the long standing tensions between the Northern and Southern regions (Pujari, 2020). Aftermath the continued France presence in Mali, terrorism grew and the conflict spread into Neighboring West African countries of Niger and Burkina Faso (Powell, 2022).

The increase in conflict in the Sahel region in Africa led the five Sahelian countries of Mauritania, Mali, Niger, Burkina Faso, and Chad to accuse France of collaborating with the terrorist. The Malian government also accused France of instigating and exacerbating ethnicism in the country. Apart from this, France was also accused of supporting separatist groups like the Kidal group in Northern Mali. This led to mistrust and damaged the public perception of the French activities in Mali. And also, Mali has been plunged into many unending conflict and military interventions, which contributes to the perpetuation of turmoil in the country. In the light of all these, on Feb. 17, President Emmanuel Macron of France formally announced his decision to withdraw the French troops from Mali marking the end of a failed and problematic political intervention of nine years.

The failure of France in Mali has shown that not all political interventions are successful and have good intent. The success of political interventions is dependent on many factors which can influence the outcomes of the interventions.

Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs) 3

Attempt these questions to assess your understanding of what has been taught so far. It should take you less than 5 minutes to attempt these SAEs.

Good luck.

1. President Emmanuel Macron of France formally announced his decision to withdraw the French troops from Mali on ____?
2. The five Sahelian countries include the following except for ____? Gambia
 - A. Mauritania
 - B. Mali,
 - C. Niger,
 - D. Burkina Faso
 - E. Gambia

1.6 Summary

There are many conditions for political interventions. Majorly, states or third parties intervene in conflicts situations due to the atrocities committed by authoritarian governments and the killing of innocent civilians. Most of the political interventions in world history have helped to protect vulnerable civilians. But not all global political interventions are successful, political interventions in conflict situations are still depended on many important factors.

1.7 References/Further Readings

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1.8 Possible Answers to Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs)

Answers to SAEs 1

1. True
2. True

Answers to SAEs 2

1. False
2. True

Answers to SAEs 3

1. Feb 17.
2. E, Gambia

Unit 2: The Responsibility to Protect in Conflict Situations**Unit Structure**

- 2.1 Introduction
- 2.2 Learning Outcomes
- 2.3 The Meaning and Origin of RtoP
- 2.4 RtoP in Africa
- 2.5 The African Standby Force as a Mechanism for R2P in Africa
- 2.6 Summary
- 2.7 References/Further Readings/Web Sources
- 2.8 Possible Answers to Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs)

2.2 Introduction

In this unit, the doctrine of the Responsibility to Protect (RtoP) is discussed. The origin, meaning and the necessity of RtoP in conflict situation are also examined. The essence of this unit is to provide you with arguments and justification for humanitarian intervention in conflict situations.

2.2 Learning Outcomes

At the end of this unit, you should be able to:

- 1. Discuss the meaning and origins of RtoP
- 2. List the principles of RtoP
- 3. Analyze the application of RtoP in modern international Relations

2.3 The Meaning and Origins of RtoP

The Responsibility to Protect popularly known as R2P is an international doctrine and principle that seeks to ensure that the international political system never again fails to prevent crimes of mass atrocities such as crimes of genocide, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity during conflict situations. In the quest to prevent systematic violations of human rights during conflict, the International Commission on Intervention and State Sovereignty (ICISS) in December 2001 released the report “Responsibility to protect” which Gagro (2014:61) argues that it embraces three main responsibilities which includes:

To prevent - to address both the root causes and direct causes of internal conflict and other crises putting populations at risk; b) to react – to respond to situations of compelling human need with appropriate measures, which may include coercive measures like sanctions and international prosecution, and in extreme cases military intervention; c)

to rebuild – to provide, particularly after a military intervention, full assistance with recovery, reconstruction and reconciliation, addressing the causes of the harm the intervention was designed to halt or avert.

Kikoler (2009) claims that R2P as a principle aims to galvanize political will and chart a course of action for the protection of persons or groups at risk of mass atrocities. The need and necessity for Responsibility to Protect (R2P) became eminent when Russia's veto power in the late twentieth century (1999) threaten and prevented United Nations (UN) Security Council (UNSC) deployment of military action to protect civilians in Kosovo from attacks from Serb antagonists (Cater and Malone, 2016).

Following the UN's difficulty in protecting human rights in Kosovo and enforcing peace and coupled with the genocide in Rwanda in 1994 and the conflict in Bosnia. The UN under Kofi Annan played key role in the emergence of R2P. Kofi Annan made a series of statements that made arguments for the development of R2P in contemporary international relations. Annan made a speech at the opening of the UNGA on 20 September 1999 advocating for a principle that favors intervention to protect civilians during conflict.

On 16 September 2005, the UNGA adopted the World Summit Outcome document which included three brief paragraphs (138–140) on Responsibility to protect populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity.

Section 138 reads:

Each individual State has the responsibility to protect its populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity. This responsibility entails the prevention of such crimes, including their incitement, through appropriate and necessary means. We accept that responsibility and will act in accordance with it. The international community should, as appropriate, encourage and help States to exercise this responsibility and support the United Nations in establishing an early warning capability (United Nations General Assembly, 2005: 30)

Section 139 further highlights the role of the international political community in using diplomacy in protecting populations from genocide.

Section 139 reads:

The international community, through the United Nations, also has the responsibility to use appropriate diplomatic, humanitarian and other peaceful means, in accordance with Chapters VI and VIII of the Charter, to help to protect populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity. In this context, we are prepared to take collective action, in a timely and decisive manner, through the Security

Council, in accordance with the Charter, including Chapter VII, on a case-by-case basis and in cooperation with relevant regional organizations as appropriate, should peaceful means be inadequate and national authorities are manifestly failing to protect their populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity... (United Nations General Assembly, 2005: 30)

It further reads:

We stress the need for the General Assembly to continue consideration of the responsibility to protect populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity and its implications, bearing in mind the principles of the Charter and international law. We also intend to commit ourselves, as necessary and appropriate, to helping States build capacity to protect their populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity and to assisting those which are under stress before crises and conflicts break out (United Nations General Assembly, 2005: 30)

The UNSC reaffirmed the Summit's paragraphs 138 and 139 on R2P in resolution 1674 of 28 April 2006. From the paragraphs 138 and 139 of the World Summit Outcome Document it is seen that R2P was established to address most serious of gross human rights violations during conflict situations.

Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs) 1

Attempt these questions to assess your understanding of what has been taught so far. It should take you less than 5 minutes to attempt these SAEs. Good luck.

1. On 16 September 2005, the UNGA adopted the World Summit Outcome document which included three brief paragraphs on the Responsibility to protect populations from genocide. True or False?
2. The UN under Kofi Annan played a key role in the emergence of R2P? True or False?

2.4 RtoP in Africa

RtoP has been used for justifications in global conflict situations in this twenty first century. Africa has been the centerpiece of series of conflicts. Erameh (2018) argues that, the Libyan uprising in 2011 was the first case where the doctrine of RtoP was invoked through resolutions 1970 AND 1973. RtoP Former United Nations Secretary General Kofi

Annan who is an African was one of the founding fathers and pioneers of RtoP. Also, at the inception of RtoP, the vast majority of African states supported the principle showing a strong commitment to the principle (Adigbuo, 2019). Similar to the RtoP, the African Union Constitutive Act Article 4(h) provides for the right of the AU to intervene in member state in cases of war crimes against humanity.

Article 4(h) reads:

The Union shall function in accordance with the following principles:

... the right of the Union to intervene in a Member State pursuant to a decision of the Assembly in respect of grave circumstances, namely: war crimes, genocide and crimes against humanity...

Hence, through this adoption of Article 4(h) of the constitutive act, the AU became the first continental organisation to assign itself a clear mandate of intervention in the domestic affairs of its member states during conflicts (Mwanasali, 2008). As a result of the grievous humanitarian problems during the Libyan Uprising, states like South Africa, Nigeria and Gabon voted for resolution 1973 during the crisis. In support of the No-Fly Zone Resolution. Despite this fact, the African Union issued a statement on 10 March 2011 that rejected “any foreign military intervention in the Libyan uprising. The conflicting nature of R2P in the Libyan crisis makes its adoption political (Idahosa, 2011).

The AU has been a model for the rest of international organizations since it incorporated the “responsibility to protect” as a legal norm in its Charter. Through this, the AU has been successful in condemning and sanctioning unconstitutional changes in government in Sao Tome and Principe (2003), Central African Republic (2003), Guinea Bissau (2003 and 2012), Guinea (2008), Mauritania (2005 and 2008), Madagascar (2009), Niger (2010) and Togo (2005).

Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs) 2

Attempt these questions to assess your understanding of what has been taught so far. It should take you less than 5 minutes to attempt these SAEs. Good luck.

1. Through this adoption of Article 4(h) of the constitutive act, the AU became the first continental organisation to assign itself a clear mandate of intervention in the domestic affairs of its member states during conflicts. True or False?
2. The African Union Constitutive Act Article 4(h) provides for the right of the AU to intervene in a member state in cases of war crimes against humanity. True or False?

2.5 The African Standby Force as a Mechanism for R2P in Africa

Since the adoption of the Article 4(h) of the African Constitutive Act that gives the AU the right to intervene in member state in cases of war crimes against humanity, the AU has made a step forward to establish the African Standby Force which it can activate to implement the R2P. The ASF is one of the most important components of the Peace and Security Council (PSC). And it is the implementing tool for the enforcement of articles 4(h) and 4(j) of the Constitutive Act that enables the AU to intervene in the internal conflict situations in the African continent (African Union, 2022). The origins of the ASF can be traced to 2003 after a series of meetings by the African Chiefs of Defence and Security (ACDS) and African ministers of foreign affairs. The AU heads of state and government endorsed the recommendations made by the ACDS and the African ministers of foreign affairs. This endorsement of recommendations led to the final creation of the ASF in 2004.

The major aim of the establishment of the African Standby Force was to find solutions to the persistence of conflicts and instability in some African states. The ASF has its headquarters at the African Union headquarters in Addis Ababa. It also has five standby brigade-level forces, one in each of Africa's five regions, supported by civilian police (CivPol) and other capacities (African Union, 2019). According to Darkwa (2017: 475), the policy framework of the ASF envisages deployment under six scenarios:

1. As a mission under a regional banner of the AU to provide military advice to a political mission;
2. As an observer mission to be co-deployed with the UN;
3. As a stand-alone observer mission either under the AU or a regional banner;
4. As an AU/regional peacekeeping force under Chapter VI of the Charter of the UN;
5. As an AU peacekeeping force for complex multidimensional peacekeeping operations;
6. As an AU intervention mission in situations of mass atrocities such as genocide, ethnic cleansing, and crimes against humanity.

Apart from these six scenarios mentioned, the ASF can also be deployed PSC or the Assembly to perform any other peace and security functions that are not captured in the scenarios mentioned.

Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs) 3

Attempt these questions to assess your understanding of what has been taught so far. It should take you less than 5 minutes to attempt these SAEs. Good luck.

1. The ASF is one of the most important components of the Peace and Security Council (PSC)? True or False?
2. The ASF has ___ standby brigade-level forces, one in each of Africa's regions.

2.6 Summary

The Responsibility to Protect popularly known as R2P is an international doctrine that seeks to ensure that the international political system never again fails to prevent crimes of mass atrocities. This principle became necessary since the international political community neglected the Rwandan genocide which led to the death of many innocent civilians. And also, this principle became necessary and eminent when Russia's veto power in the late twentieth century threaten and prevented the United Nations (UN) Security Council (UNSC) deployment of military action to protect civilians in Kosovo from attacks from Serb antagonists. The African continent is one continent that has supported the R2P through the adoption of Article 4(h) of the constitutive act and the establishment of the African Stand by Force (ASF) as a Mechanism for R2P in Africa.

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2.8 Possible Answers to Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs)

Answers to SAEs 1

1. True
2. True

Answers to SAEs 2

1. True
2. True

Answers to SAEs 3

1. True
2. 5

Unit 3 Refugees in Conflict Situations**Unit Structure**

- 3.1 Introduction
- 3.2 Learning Outcomes
- 3.3 Understanding the Concept of Refugees
- 3.4 Facts and Figures on Global Refugees
- 3.5 An Overview of Refugees in Africa
- 3.6 Summary
- 3.7 References/Further Readings/Web Sources
- 3.8 Possible Answers to Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs)

3.1 Introduction

During conflicts, wars, or political violence, there are many casualties of the chaos caused by this violence. People are forced to flee their homes to survive these conflicts hence, they become refugees. Most of these refugees stay in a refugee camp provided by the government or international organizations. Therefore, this unit discusses refugees in conflict situations. It explains who they are and all the intricacies involved.

3.2 Learning Outcomes

At the end of this unit, you should be able to:

- Explain who the refugees are
- Give an overview of Refugees in Africa
- Explain the importance of the 1951 Refugee Convention

3.3 Understanding the Concept of Refugees

A refugee is an individual who has fled from war, conflict, or persecution and has crossed the international border to find safety. While refugees refer to groups of persons who have fled from war, conflict, or persecution and have crossed the international border to find safety. According to Britannica (2022), a refugee is a homeless, involuntary migrant who has crossed a frontier or an international border and no longer has the protection of his or her former government. The UNHCR (2022) defines refugee as a person or group of persons that have been forced to flee his or her country because of persecution, war, or violence. According to the United Nations (2018), refugees are persons who live outside their country of origin for the reason of fear of persecution or violence and requires international protection. The substantial definitions of refugees

can be found in the 1951 Refugee Convention as well as the UNHCR's Statute. The United Nations Convention relating to the Status of Refugees was adopted in 1951 and it is Grounded in Article 14 of the Universal Declaration of human rights 1948. The Convention entered into force on 22 April 1954 and has only been amended in 1967. Thus the 1951 Refugee Convention in Article 1A defines a refugee as:

... the term "refugee" shall apply to any person who:

- (1) Has been considered a refugee under the Arrangements of 12 May 1926 and 30 June 1928 or under the Conventions of 28 October 1933 and 10 February 1938, the Protocol of 14 September 1939 or the Constitution of the International Refugee Organization...
- (2) As a result of events occurring before 1 January 1951 and owing to wellfounded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality and is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country; or who, not having a nationality and being outside the country of his former habitual residence as a result of such events, is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to return to it. (UNHCR, 2010:14)

Therefore, refugees are defined and protected in international law. They have rights and are protected in the international political system. Most people become refugees due to different opinions that are against the ideas of their home government. Some prominent international refugees include Prof Wole Soyinka who was smuggled out of Nigeria during the Military era of Late General Sanni Abacha. Dele Momodu the publisher of Ovation Magazine was a refugee in England from 1995-98. He was also on the run from the Military junta era of Late General Sanni Abacha Edward Joseph Snowden who was a former NSA analyst became a refugee in exile in Moscow after he leaked a series of classified information on the US National Security Agency (NSA). Other international persons have become refugees due to their support of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Queer or Questioning (LGBTQ) which is criminalized by death or imprisonment in their home country.

Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs) 1

Attempt these questions to assess your understanding of what has been taught so far. It should take you less than 5 minutes to attempt these SAEs. Good luck.

1. Dele Momodu the publisher of Ovation Magazine was a refugee in England from 1995-98 and was on the run from ___?
3. The United Nations Convention relating to the Status of Refugees was adopted in 1951 and it is Grounded in ____?

3.4 Facts and Figures on Global Refugees

Refugees are people who have been forced to flee their country in order to escape conflict, wars, political violence, natural disaster, or persecution and any other discriminations based on race or religion. Currently the international political system has witnessed many occurrences that have contributed to the increase in the global refugee rate. The conflicts in Syria, Northern Nigeria, Mali, and Ukraine have resulted in refugees increase. Also, people with contrasting beliefs and ideologies have been force to leave their home countries and seek refuge and asylum in another country.

According to the UN Refugee Agency (2022: 1), at the end of 2021, 89.3 million people were forcibly displaced worldwide due to different reasons. This includes:

1. 27.1 million refugees
2. 53.2 million internally displaced people
3. 4.6 million asylum seekers
4. 4.4 million Venezuelans displaced abroad

These displacements according to the UN Refugee Agency were due to increasing conflicts in Ethiopia, Burkina Faso, Myanmar, Nigeria, Afghanistan and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. As of May 2022, the UN Refugee Agency (2022) reports that over 100 million persons have been forcefully displaced globally. This increase the UNHCR attributed to the war in Ukraine and other deadly conflicts. At the end of 2017, The UNHCR (2021) reported that there were 25.4 million refugees globally. According to the International Rescue Committee (2022), 73% of the world's refugees sought refuge in countries neighboring their country of origin. Turkey is the largest host of global refugees with 3.8 million refugees from Syria, Somalia, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Bangladesh. Poland is the second host of global with over 2 million refugees mostly from Ukraine. According to World Population Review (2022), In 2021, 68% of all global refugees originated from Venezuela, South Sudan, Afghanistan, Myanmar, and Syria.

Top 10 Origin Countries of International Refugees (mid-2021 data)

	Origin Countries	Figures
1	Syria.	6,761,560
2	Venezuela,	3,944,279
3	Palestine	3,372,780 (+2,373,430 IDPs)
4	Afghanistan,	2,610,067
5	South Sudan	2,277,919
6	Myanmar	1,127,588
7	Democratic Republic of Congo	864,510
8	Sudan	805,874
9	Somalia	790,022
10	Central African Republic	713,262

Source: <https://worldpopulationreview.com/country-rankings/refugees-by-country>.

Top 10 Origin Countries of International Refugees (mid-2021 data)

	Origin Countries	Figures
1	Turkey	3,696,831
2	Jordan	3,027,729
3	Ugandan	1,475,311
4	Pakistan	1,438,523
5	Lebanon	1,338,197
6	Germany	1,235,160
7	Sudan	1,068,339
8	Bangladesh	889,775
9	Iran	800,025
10	Ethiopia	782,896

Source: <https://worldpopulationreview.com/country-rankings/refugees-by-country>.

Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs) 2

Attempt these questions to assess your understanding of what has been taught so far. It should take you less than 5 minutes to attempt these SAEs. Good luck.

1. At the end of 2021, _____ million people were forcibly displaced worldwide. 89.3
2. The largest host of global refugees with 3.8 million refugees is ____? Turkey

3.5 An Overview of Refugees in Africa

The African continent is one in which there are many protracted conflicts. The high conflict rate in the African continent has resulted in many refugees. Most of the refugees in Africa are those ones that have been displaced by conflict or political violence. For example in Nigeria, the conflict in the North East region of the country has resulted in displacement. Violent attacks by Boko Haram and the Islamic State have resulted in the displacement of 2.5 million Nigerians (Reliefweb, 2021) According to the United Nations Refugee Agency (2022):

Around 30 million internally displaced persons, refugees, and asylum-seekers live in Africa, representing almost one-third of the world's refugee population.

UNICEF (2019) stated that nearly one in four migrants in Africa is a child and 59 percent of the 6.8 million refugees in African countries is a child which is quite worrisome. The yearly increment in refugees and displaced persons in Africa is alarming. Reliefweb (2021) reported that as of June 2021, over 32 million Africans are either internally displaced, refugees, or asylum seekers. UNICEF (2019) stated that nearly one in four migrants in Africa is a child and 59 percent of the 6.8 million refugees in African countries is a child which is alarming. The Sub-Saharan African region hosts one-fifth of all refugees globally. According to the United Nations Refugee Agency (2022), the East and Horn of Africa and the Great Lakes region hosted more than 4.7 million refugees at the end of 2021. Also, Reliefweb (2022) reported that the Southern African region as of July 2022 hosts 787,000 refugees, 285,000 asylum seekers, and 36,000 others of concern. These figures show that the issue of refugees is a major concern in the continent. The conflicts in African states are directly leading to an increase in refugees in the continent.

Number of refugees in Africa as of 2021, by country of asylum

	Countries	Figures
1	Uganda	1,529,903
2	Sudan	1, 103,918
3	Ethiopia	821,283
4	Chad	555, 782
5	Kenya	481,048
6	Cameroon	457,269
7	South Sudan	333, 673
8	Egypt	280, 686
9	Niger	249, 945
10	Rwanda	121, 896

Source: <https://www.statista.com/statistics/1232812/african-countries-hosting-most-refugees/>.

Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs) 3

Attempt these questions to assess your understanding of what has been taught so far. It should take you less than 5 minutes to attempt these SAEs. Good luck.

1. According to the United Nations Refugee Agency in their 2022 report, around 30 million internally displaced persons, refugees, and asylum-seekers live in Africa. True or False?
2. The Southern African region as of July 2022 hosts ___ numbers of refugees?

3.6 Summary

A refugee is an individual who has fled from war, conflict, or persecution and has crossed the international border to find safety. The United Nations Convention relating to the Status of Refugees was adopted in 1951 and it is Grounded in Article 14 of the Universal Declaration of human rights 1948. Refugees are protected by international law. Turkey is the largest host of global refugees with 3.8 million refugees.

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3.7 Possible Answers to Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs)

Answers to SAEs 1

1. The Military era of Late General Sanni Abacha
2. Article 14 of the Universal Declaration of human rights 1948.

Answers to SAEs 2

1. 89.3
2. Turkey

Answers to SAEs 3

1. True
2. 787,000

Unit 4 Insecurity and Poverty in Conflict Situations**Unit Structure**

- 4.1 Introduction
- 4.2 Learning Outcomes
- 4.3 Poverty and Conflict: An Overview
- 4.4 Poverty and Conflict in Nigeria
- 4.5 Poverty and Conflict in Sub Saharan Africa
- 4.6 Summary
- 4.7 References/Further Readings/WebSources
- 4.8 Possible Answers to Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs)

4.1 Introduction

Conflicts are sometimes caused by poverty. Most people and combatants in conflict are mostly poor. Some of the belligerents in conflicts especially in Africa are poor and participate in conflict as a form of protest. For example, in Nigeria, most of the people participating in conflict are poor rural farmers or headers who participate in conflict as a form of protest against government neglect. When the government fails to provide employment and basic social amenities for the people this can lead to conflict. Therefore, in this unit, you will be taught about the relationship between conflict and poverty.

4.2 Learning Outcomes

At the end of this unit, you should be able to:

- Discuss the relationship between conflict and poverty
- Give an overview of conflict and poverty in Nigeria
- Discuss Poverty and Conflict in Sub Saharan Africa

4.3 Poverty and Conflict: An Overview

Poverty and conflict are closely interconnected; with poverty making countries more prone to civil wars, political and armed conflict which directly and indirectly weaken governance and economic performance of the state. Mercy Corps (2011) noted that, societies with low capital income rate and slow economic growth are prone to political violence of all kinds. Most political and armed conflicts are results of unkept promises by the government. This illustrates why most armed conflicts and political violence are fought in developing countries. Verstegen (2001: 9) similarly noted this and argues that:

... Poverty, however, is also thought of as being a cause of fight. When grievances are not met, it is argued, poor people will not question government altogether and join the rebel groups. Economic decline and extreme poverty may then reinforce tendencies to resort to violence means. At the root of conflict, however, lies a complex of factors: the imbalance of political, socio-economic and cultural opportunities among different identity groups...

Most states that are battling with protracted conflict are dealing with extreme poverty. In those countries, conflict is seen as a means of survival. Countries like Nigeria, South Sudan, Mali, Central African Republic are conflict prone and these states have high poverty rates. For example, in Nigeria the World Bank in 2022 reported that the number of poor Nigerians is projected to hit 95.1 million in 2022 (Tunji, 2022). The report further stated that, poverty reduction stagnated in Nigeria since 2015, with more Nigerians falling below the poverty line over the years and this was compelled by the Covid-19 pandemic. World Bank (2022) gave the annual poverty rate in Nigeria at 41.6% which is alarming. Most of the data on global poverty rate ranks Africa as the centerpiece of global poverty.

Fig 10: Regional and Global poverty estimates in 2018, April 2022 update revisions

Region	Survey Coverage (%)	\$1.90				\$3.20				\$5.50			
		Headcount ratio (%)		Number of poor (mil)		Headcount ratio (%)		Number of poor (mil)		Headcount ratio (%)		Number of poor (mil)	
		Jun 21	Apr 22	Jun 21	Apr 22	Jun 21	Apr 22	Jun 21	Apr 22	Jun 21	Apr 22	Jun 21	Apr 22
East Asia and Pacific	97.5	1.2	1.2	25	25	7.1	7.4	148	154	24.7	26.4	514	552
Europe and Central Asia	89.4	1.1	1.0	5	5	4.2	4.0	20	20	11.9	11.7	58	58
Latin America & Caribbean	86.7	3.7	4.0	23	25	9.2	9.9	58	63	22.5	23.7	143	151
Middle East and North Africa	50.9	7.0	7.1	27	27	19.9	19.7	77	76	44.4	44.0	172	170
Rest of the World	82.4	0.6	0.6	7	7	0.8	0.8	9	9	1.3	1.3	14	14
South Asia	21.9	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sub-Saharan Africa	72.6	40.4	38.9	436	420	66.7	65.4	719	705	86.1	85.3	928	920
East & Southern Africa	60.4	43.7	44.0	281	279	68.2	68.8	439	442	86.4	86.7	556	558
Western & Central Africa	90.6	35.5	31.4	155	137	64.3	60.4	280	263	85.5	83.1	372	362
World Total	69.9	n/a	8.6	n/a	656	n/a	23.2	n/a	1760	n/a	42.9	n/a	3259

Source: <https://blogs.worldbank.org/opendata/april-2022-global-poverty-update-world-bank>.

According to the World Bank data on global poverty rate 2022, 9 of the top 10 countries with the highest poverty rate in the world are in Africa. And most of these African states are experiencing or have experienced one form of armed conflict or the other.

The Countries with the Highest Poverty Rates in the World 2022 According to the World Bank

	Origin Countries	Figures
1	South Sudan	82.3%
2	Equatorial Guinea	76.80%
3	Madagascar	70.70%
4	Guinea Bissau	69.30%
5	Eritrea	69.00%
6	Sao Tome and Principe	66.70%
7	Burundi	64.90%
8	Democratic Republic of Congo	63.90%
9	Central African Republic	62.00%
10	Guatemala	59.30%

Source: <https://worldpopulationreview.com/country-rankings/poverty-rate-by-country>.

Most of these countries with extreme poverty rates are experiencing internal conflict. According to Escola de Cultura de Pau (2021:7) report on global conflict:

The 17 cases of serious armed conflict in 2021 were: Cameroon (Ambazonia/Northwest and Southwest), Ethiopia (Tigray), Mali, Mozambique (north), the Lake Chad Region (Boko Haram), the Western Sahel Region, the CAR, the DRC (east), the DRC (east-ADF), Somalia, Sudan (Darfur), South Sudan, Afghanistan, Myanmar, Iraq, Syria and Yemen.

The report further stated that, almost half the armed conflicts in 2021 took place in Africa, with a total of 15 (47%). This shows the relationship between poverty and conflict.

Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs) 1

Attempt these questions to assess your understanding of what has been taught so far. It should take you less than 5 minutes to attempt these SAEs. Goodluck

1. Almost half the armed conflicts in 2021 took place in ____?
2. In Nigeria the World Bank in 2022 reported that the number of poor Nigerians is projected to hit ____ million in 2022?

4.4 Poverty and Conflict in Nigeria

Nigeria has experienced many conflicts and political violence over the years. Most of these conflicts are protracted and have caused many damages to the Nigerian society. According to Odozi and Oyelere (2019:4), “the ACLED database reports a total number of 9998 conflict events in Nigeria between 1997 and 2016” Majority of the conflicts in Nigeria such as the Niger Delta insurgency, Farmers headers conflicts, Bandits in Northern Nigeria, cattle rustlers in Northern Nigeria and the Bokoharam conflicts have all been attributed to impoverishments of the people. This problem is attributed to the institutionalised corruption witnessed in the Nigerian democracy (Ogbonna, 2004). These conflicts belligerents see conflicts as a means of making ends meets. Okey-Kalu (2020) summarizing the report of the World Bank conducted from 2011 to 2016 stated that:

... Nigeria experiences high inequality along geographical lines, with poverty mostly concentrated in the North and in rural areas.”... “poverty in the northern region of the country has been increasing, especially in the North-West zone. Almost half of all the poor lived in the North-West and the North accounts for 87% of all the poor in the country in 2016... Similarly, Sani (2019:1) while comparing poverty rates amongst regions in Nigeria stated that:

... in Kano and Zamfara States, three out of every four persons and over 91 percent of the population live in extreme poverty respectively, as compared to Lagos State, whose poverty accounts for only 9 percent. As a result, part of the worst human development indicators-unemployment, widened inequality, hunger, ignorance, diseases, violence, youth restiveness, to mention but a few-bedevil the North and in effect, posing great threat to security and stability.

With these figures of poverty rate in Nigeria showing the Northern part of the country as the most impoverished region of Nigeria illustrates why there are a series of protracted and new developing conflicts in the region. The proliferations of armed bandits, cattle rustlers and terror groups in the regions is attributed to the high poverty rate in the region. In states like Zamfara and Kastina in Northern Nigeria cattle rusting has led to the death of many in the region. According to Onwuzuruigbo (2020), the activities of these Cattle rustlers in northern Nigeria are done with sophistication by criminal groups which have led to the death of many.

Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs) 2

Attempt these questions to assess your understanding of what has been taught so far. It should take you less than 5 minutes to attempt these SAEs. Goodluck

1. The total number of conflict events in Nigeria between 1997 and 2016 was ____?
2. In Nigeria, almost half of all the poor lived in the ____?

4.5 Poverty and Conflict in Sub Saharan Africa

The Sub-Saharan region in Africa is one of the conflict frequently prone regions in the world. The region accounts for half of the armed conflicts in the African continent. According to the Statista Research Department (2022), there were 17 disputes in the Sub-Saharan African Region. Davis (2022) reported that at least 12 intense armed conflicts occurred in the region. In his words:

High-intensity armed conflicts occurred in 12 states: Burkina Faso, Cameroon, the Central African Republic (CAR), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Ethiopia, Mali, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan and Sudan. Low-intensity, subnational armed conflicts occurred in 6 states: Benin, Burundi, Chad, Kenya, Madagascar and Uganda.

Furthermore, the Sub Saharan region in 2021, witnessed four successful military coups in Chad, Guinea, Mali and Sudan and three failed coups in CAR, Niger and Sudan. One striking feature of these states is that they are highly impoverished. These countries are battling with poverty of all sorts. In Mali poverty in the country is attributed to the cause of the conflict between tribes in the country. Erameh and Ojakorotu (2021:16) noted that the competition over scarce economic resources between the Tuareg and proximate minorities in Mali has led to the protracted conflict in the region. In their words:

The Tuareg people, like other ethnic minorities in the region, accuse the government of a wide range of socio-economic and political injustices including indifference to hardship and suffering in the North and political exclusion from state affairs dominated by southerners

Microtrends (2022) puts the poverty rate in the Sub-Saharan region at 85.00% which is high when compared to other parts of the world. According to Schoch and Lakner (2020), the Sub-Saharan African Region

accounts for two thirds of the global extreme poor population with 40% of the population living below the US\$1.90-a-day poverty line. With these statistics, it can be seen why the region is prone to conflicts.

Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs) 3

Attempt these questions to assess your understanding of what has been taught so far. It should take you less than 5 minutes to attempt these SAEs. Goodluck

1. The _____ region in Africa accounts for half of the armed conflicts in the African continent?
2. The Sub-Saharan region in 2021, witnessed____successful military coups?

4.6 Summary

Poverty and conflict are closely interconnected; with poverty making countries more prone to civil wars, political and armed conflict which directly and indirectly weaken governance and economic performance of the state. Most states that are currently experiencing conflicts in this current international political system with few exceptions have high poverty rates. Therefore on solving and preventing conflicts, governments should focus more on providing adequate employments and basic social amenities for their citizenry.

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4.8 Possible Answers to Self-Assessment Exercises (SAEs)

Answers to SAEs 1

1. Africa
2. 95.1

Answers to SAEs 2

1. 9998
2. North West

Answers to SAEs 3

1. Sub-Saharan
2. Four