

Fast Facts about the United Nations

The United Nations has accomplished a tremendous amount, and as their projects span across the globe this can be your one stop guide to important information.

Did You Know the UN...

(All facts can be found in the Better World Campaign Briefing Booklet, page numbers listed)

- Vaccinates 45% of the world's children
- Provides food to 80 million children
- Assists over 50 million refugees
- Maintains peace with over 100,000 peacekeeping troops

How Do Americans View U.S. Global Engagement? (page 13)

- 83% of voters agree the U.S. must remain engaged in the UN
- 6 out of 10 voters have a favorable image of the UN
- 7 out of 10 voters support paying our UN dues

Let's Talk Money! (page 39)

- Funding for the UN amounts to 0.2% of the total FY2021 federal budget
- U.S. companies have been awarded more than ten billion dollars in contracts with the UN since 2010
- The UN's 192 other Member States shoulder the vast majority of these costs—78 percent of the regular budget and 72 percent of the peacekeeping budget. All member states are required to share that burden of funding, as the UN is a global force aimed at helping everyone.

UN Political Missions (page 36)

- the UN operates special political missions (SPMs) engaged in conflict prevention, mediation, and post-conflict peacebuilding around the world. Authorized by the Security Council, SPMs are tasked with an array of responsibilities, including: supporting political dialogue and reconciliation processes; facilitating free and fair elections; monitoring human rights violations; and encouraging the development of effective rule of law institutions.

Sustainable Development Goals (page 21)

- In 2015, all 193 UN Member States came together to build a successor to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), eight ambitious targets to eradicate extreme poverty and improve health, well-being, and equality worldwide. With input from governments, the private sector, NGOs, and citizens, the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (also known as the SDGs or Global Goals) were adopted unanimously to tackle the structural hurdles to ending extreme poverty.

Six Main Categories

In an attempt to capture all of what the UN does, these six categories from the Better World Campaign help organize our priorities.

The Value of the UN

- Peacekeeping
- Addressing Humanitarian Crises
- Responding to International Health Challenges
- Promoting Human Rights

U.S.-UN Priorities

- Assessing the UN Peacekeeping Budget
- Reducing Costs and Improving Efficiency
- Working Towards Gender Parity in UN Staffing
- Addressing Sexual Exploitation and Abuse by Peacekeepers

Peace and Security Issues

- Enhance Civilian Protection
- Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons
- Promote Multilateral Burden-Sharing
- Security Council Resolutions on Foreign Terrorist Fighters and Intelligence Sharing

Economic and Social Issues

- Working to Prevent Famine
- The Sustainable Development Goals
- Reducing the Risks of Climate Change and Promoting Sustainable Energy
- Global Health and Family Planning

Key UN Institutions

- Security Council
- General Assembly
- Secretariat
- Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)
- International Court of Justice

UN Funds, Programs and Specialized Agencies

- UN Children's Fund (UNICEF)
- UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR)
- World Health Organization (WHO)
- International Monetary Fund (IMF)

Resources with More Information

Website links that will be helpful with your research.

- <https://betterworldcampaign.org/un-101/>
- <https://betterworldcampaign.org/about-bwc/una/>
- <https://unausa.org/mission/>