

We are going to present you briefly the United Nation.

The UN was founded the 26 of June 1945, in order to replace the League of Nations (Société des Nations), which was considered ineffective due to WW2

At its founding, the UN had 51 state members. Each member had to be at war with Germany for 3 months at least before the end of the war.

Nowadays, 193 (one hundred and ninety-three) of 197 states in the World are part of the UN

I'm going to present you briefly it organs.

* The main aim of the UN creation was to maintain global peace.

This way, the Security Council was created. It is made of 15 members.

5 members are permanents : China, France, Russia, U.K, and the U.S, and among the tens others, there is a rotation of 5 States every year, and for two years.

Permanents members have a VETO right, which allows them to block a decision taken by the majority. Since 1945, this right has been used 265 (two hundreds and sixty-five) times.

124 times by the USSR / Russia, and 82 by the US, and less than 30 for the UK, France and China.

The Security Council can decide to send peace keepers (*Casque Bleus*) to a conflict.

Their goal is to:

- keep an eye on a cease-fire treaty
- disarms combatants,
- protect civil,
- demine (remove mines),

* Then we can talk about the General Assembly. It is an Assembly where every state members has a poll. (*voix de vote*). This assembly debates and votes on major and pressing global topics.

For example yesterday, our President François Hollande opened the General Assembly with Ban-ki-Moon, which was made to prepare the upcoming global Conference for Climate in Paris.

* Another organ is the Secretariat, where the most noticeable person is the Secretary General. He has the power to alert the General Assembly and the Security Council of any pressing events.

The current one is a South Korean named Ban-Ki-Moon, since 2007. Most of the time, the Secretary General nationality is different from Security Council permanent members ones, so he acts independently. In a certain way, it makes the system more balance.

For example, the previous one was Ghanaian (from Ghana)

* The International Court of Justice is the main judicial organs of the U.N.

It is a permanent body composed of 15 judges elected for 9 years by a double vote of the General Assembly and the Security Council. To be elected, a candidate must obtain an absolute majority in both bodies.

Other UN organs can asks the Court to judge a conflicts.

Now Jean-Claude will talk more precisely about the Cold War.

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Before the Twenty first century, the United Nations was less effective than today. That is true because in the twenty first century there was the cold war. The United States and the USSR (Union of soviet socialist republic) were always in conflict. It was countries with different ideologies and each of them were supporting different countries, which were often enemies. For example USA had

officially announced that Taiwan was the official China where as USSR didn't agree with that, and in the USSR's point of view, the republic of China was the real China. United Nations was unable to intervene against the USSR's invasion of Hungary even if UN is an institution acting for the peacekeeping because it could only participate on conflict distant of the cold war. Another example of the incapacity of the united nation is the fact that USSR had imposed its veto more than 100 times, stopping the UN's initiatives.

But we can quote little operations of the UN in this special century:

-The ONUST and UNMOGIP were the first UN's missions from our sources. Their goals were to keep an eye on some sensible places, like the Middle East and Jammu.

-The FUNU in 1956 was the first large scale armed operation. It has taken place in Suez.

-UN had also an important role in the creation of the state of Israel through the separation of Palestine.

In the cold war, some UN's soldiers hadn't arms, but they were only collecting information. In the cold war UN hadn't the same military impact. There weren't a lot of blue helmets. Their principals' goals were to maintain the cease fire, stabilize situations and conflicts by peaceful means.

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Now, I'm going to give you an example of modern intervention by the UN

First, it is a conflict in which the UN failed at solving. During the 90's (ninety's), there was a war in Bosnia Herzegovina and Serbia. It was a civil war which really started when the Serbian living in Bosnia sieged the capital.

During the war, a massacre was committed. More than 8000 (8 thousands) Muslims Bosniaks men were killed by the Serbian army in Bosnia. There was approximately 400 (4 hundreds) peace-keepers, but they obviously failed at their aim.

Because of peace-keeper incapacity to protect civil population in Bosnia, the U.S attacked directly the Serbian army in Bosnia.

This inter- state conflict was the first for the UN, which may explain their inefficiency

Now we switch to a natural disasters. In 2004, there was a huge tsunami in the Indian Ocean off the Indonesian island.

A massive and global humanitarian help was given to the affected countries, which was lead by the UN.

Even most of nongovernmental organization were collaborating with the UN.

An another example would be the war in Mali. Where since 2013, peace-keeper are sent to maintain peace. They are basically organizing patrols and trying to stabilize the situation. They are working directly with the France and U.S army, which make them more efficient.

So as a conclusion, we would say that the UN has improved a lot since it creation.

The UN hierarchy is well founded and didn't changed since it creation.

For a long time, it was quite ineffective due to the Cold War.

But it learned from it failures, and, nowadays, the UN is the center of most global decisions towards wars, conflicts and natural disasters.