

Forum:	Security Council
Issue:	Post-conflict peacebuilding measures and the promotion of durable peace
Student Officer:	Panagiotis Themelis
Position:	Deputy President

PERSONAL INTRODUCTION

Dear Delegates,

My name is Panagiotis Themelis and I will have the honour and privilege of serving as the Deputy President of the Security Council in the seventh annual session of the Platon School Model United Nations Conference. I'm in the 11th grade and I'm currently attending the Model Lyceum of Anavryta. By the time of the conference I will have participated in 10 conferences and this will be my 4th time chairing.

As a Student Officer part of my responsibilities will be, ensuring the proper functioning of the committee, as well as helping delegates prior and at the time of the conference. This study guide is here to help you in order to better understand the topic and also to aid you in your research. However, I strongly urge you to do your own thorough research too in order to come up with original and effective solutions for the issue at hand.

Since the topic of the promotion of post conflict peace building measures is a vast one and has a certain difficulty in its comprehension, please do not hesitate to contact me, should a question or query arise, at my email: panos.themelis@yahoo.gr

I wholeheartedly wish you good luck in your research and I look forward to meeting you in the conference.

Best Regards,

Panagiotis Themelis
Deputy President of the Security Council

INTRODUCTION

The ending or ceasefire of a long-lasting conflict, does not necessarily guarantee that a durable peace has finally been achieved. That is where the concept of peacebuilding comes in. Peacebuilding has been given particular attention by the United Nations and the international community because via cooperation and strategic planning, it can promote the values that will help the in conflict region to stabilize and flourish, while also ensuring that the importance of peace is not, in any case, undermined or threatened.

In order to establish early peacebuilding measures and post-conflict stability, peacekeeping is used. Peacekeeping is currently one of the United Nations main occupations, currently leading 16 peacekeeping operations around the world.

While peacebuilding is a term that is not widely known, it has been used successfully in many in-conflict regions with pleasing results. However, there are areas, such as Iraq, where the international community has undermined the importance of peacebuilding measures, with very unfortunate consequences which continue to plague the region, as a whole, up until today.



KEY TERMS

Peacebuilding

While a clear definition for peacebuilding does not actually exist, the United Nations Peacebuilding Commission defines peacebuilding as follows: “A range of measures targeted to reduce the risk of lapsing or relapsing into conflict by strengthening national capacities at all levels for conflict management and to lay the foundation for sustainable peace and development.”

Peacekeeping

The maintenance of international peace and security by the deployment of military forces in a particular area. UN Peacekeeping to be one of the most effective tools available for the UN to assist countries navigate from conflict to peace.

Sustainable Peace

A state or period which there is no war or a war has ended, able to be maintained steadily for a long period of time.

Repatriation of Refugees

The transfer of refugees from an asylum country to the state that they originally came from.

National Security & Stability

A concept in which a government, along with its parliaments, should protect the state and cover the citizens' basic needs, against all kinds of national crises.

Human Rights

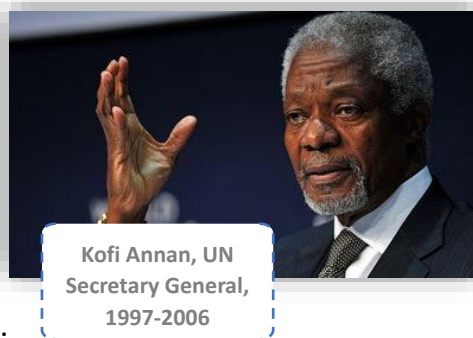
Human rights are rights inherent to all human beings whatever their nationality, place of residence, sex, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, language or any other social status.

Marshall Plan (Europe Recovery Programme)

The Marshall Plan was a plan formulated by George C. Marshall and the United States of America, which consisted of the United States giving over 120 billion to Western Europe countries so as to put their economy back to track.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

In the 1970's the renowned sociologist Johan Galtung introduced the term of peacebuilding and explained the systems which would help in the creation of sustainable peace and emphasized on how these systems would focus on addressing the main causes of conflict and how it can be adequately resolved, as well as effectively managing the new-established peace.



The term peacebuilding has widened in order to include other aspects too, such as disarmament, reintegration, and the rebuild of governmental, economic and civil society institutions and this is mainly due to the UN Secretary-General, at the time, Boutros-Boutros Ghali and his report "an Agenda for Peace". In 2005, at the World Summit, the United Nations started reshaping peacebuilding according to another UN Secretary-General's proposal, Kofi Annan. This proposal led to the foundation of UN Peacebuilding Commission and the UN Peacebuilding Support Office in 2005, as well as the UN Peacebuilding Fund in 2006. Since then, the UN Secretary General has been coordinating these three UN Bodies in order to effectively manage peacebuilding attempts.

The first country to enter the Peacebuilding Commission's agenda was Burundi, on the 23rd of June 2006. After a very grave civil war who led to two genocides, the United Nations took active part in the promotion of durable peace and general reconstruction. In 2007 Amnesty International compiled a report in which it referred to specific areas in which immediate attention and action was required. In addition, many refugees who were forced to leave Burundi during the civil war, have repatriated. However, even in our days, the United Nations have not managed to

reestablish economical stability and as of today, Burundi has one of the lowest GDP in the world.

Finally, at the end of WWII there was also the implementation of the Marshall Plan, which was very successfully applied and helped in the boost of the economic development in the funded areas. Today, peacebuilding has been mainly applied in different countries, such as Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Northern Ireland, Cyprus and South Africa.

COUNTRIES AND UN BODIES INVOLVED IN THE ISSUE

*BURUNDI*¹

Burundi was placed on the Peacebuilding Commission PC's agenda on the 23rd of June 2006 after a recommendation by the UN Security Council. The PBC has worked the Burundi government and the international community to address the country's peacebuilding priorities, in the areas of good government administration, reinforcing the rule of law, community level improvement and land property.

*GUINEA*¹

Guinea was placed on the PBC's agenda on the 23rd of February 2011 following from the government of Guinea in order to promote national harmony and solidarity, to reform the Security and Defence Sector and the Youth and Employment Policy.

*LIBERIA*¹

Liberia was placed on the PBC's agenda on the 16th of September 2010 following a request from the UN Security Council backing the Government of Liberia's request for inclusion on the Commission's agenda. The PB has worked with the Liberia government and the



international community to address the country's peacebuilding priorities in the areas of rule of law, renovating the security sector and national settlement.

*SIERRA LEONE*¹

Sierra Leone was place on the PBC's agenda on the 23rd of June 2006, following a recommendation from the UN Security Council. To date, the PBC has worked with the Sierra Leone government and the international community to address the

¹ The above is mainly based on information from the United Nations Peacebuilding Commission website's reports about the countries mentioned.

country's peacebuilding priorities in the areas of youth hiring, lawfulness and security rehabilitating and capacity building.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA & UNITED STATES LED-COALITION

The United States of America and the United States led-coalition has been meticulously criticised for their pre-war and post-war actions after the Invasion of Iraq. Namely, critics have been continuously blaming the United States for releasing false statements during the war, for not sufficiently planning the peacebuilding and post-conflict measures that needed to be taken and for allowing a perpetual violation of basic human rights.

IRAQ

Iraq has been affected by the United States led-coalition invasion both in terms of civilian and non-civilian casualties and for the post-conflict situation of the country. Due to the mistaken planning by the US led-alliance, about the post-conflict circumstances, Iraq has become a war zone in which one of the most dangerous terrorist organizations in the World, the Iraqi State in Syria (ISIS), has been found.



UN Peacebuilding Commission (PBC)²

The UNPBC, created in 2005, is an intergovernmental advisory body that brings together key actors, gathers resources, advises on strategies for post-conflict peacebuilding and highlights issues that might undermine peace.

Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon addresses PBC, 27 June

UN Peacebuilding Fund (PBF)²

The UNPBF supports peacebuilding activities that directly promote post-conflict stabilization and strengthening state and institutional capacity. PBF funding is either given for a maximum of two years immediately following conflict to jumpstart peacebuilding and recovery need or given for up to three years to create a more structured peacebuilding process.

UN Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO)²

It supports the peacebuilding commission with strategic advice and political advice and policy guidance, administers the Peacebuilding Commission and helps the UN Secretary-General coordinate UN Agencies peacebuilding efforts.

² The above is based on each respective body's main objective declaration

Peacebuilding Portal²

The Peacebuilding Portal provides information and develops communication networks in the peacebuilding community to build local, national, intergovernmental, and NGO's capacity at handling any situations that may arise.

TIMELINE OF EVENTS

2 nd of September 1945	End of World War II
1970	Johan Galtung creates the term peacebuilding
17 th of June 1992	The UN Secretary General, Boutros-Boutros Ghali submits the report "Agenda for Peace"
20 th of March 2003	Invasion of Iraq by the US-led coalition
14 th -16 th of December 2005	A UN peacekeeping architecture is created based on the UN Secretary General's Kofi Annan Proposals
20 th of December 2005	The UN Peacebuilding Commission is found
2005	The UN Peacebuilding Support Office is found
2006	The UN Peacebuilding Fund is found
23 rd of June 2006	Burundi and Sierra Leone are included in the PBC Agenda
16 th of September 2010	Liberia is included in the PBC Agenda
23 rd of February 2011	Guinea is included in the PBC Agenda

POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

In order for peacebuilding to be successful, special attention must be given to specific areas. Specifically, delegates must find measures in order to encourage national reconciliation and respect for human rights, as well as promote political

inclusiveness and national unity. Additionally, delegates should research methods so as to ensure a gentle and immediate repatriation of refugees, displaced persons without forgetting the reintegration of ex-combatants. Furthermore, delegates should emphasize on the need for the reconstruction and recovery of the national economy and last but not least, the need for prevention of imposition of other values and practices onto other cultures, more explicitly a phenomenon of cultural hegemony, provoke incidents such as cultural alienation.

Moving on to the building and establishment of a durable peace, delegates must emphasize on the sectors that will aid the country to stabilize and flourish. First and foremost, a stable and democratic government must be setup with the view of maintaining balance and security. Secondly, delegates must also stress the need for steps to be taken about how transparency in the public administration can be promoted and finally, delegates must also point out the importance of the enhancement of administrative capacity which will permit a durable macroeconomic thrive.

UN RESOLUTIONS

<u>A/RES/65/290</u>	14.09.2011	Strengthening the capacity of the United Nations to manage and sustain peacekeeping operations
<u>A/RES/65/7</u>	25.10.2010	Review of the United Nations peacebuilding architecture
<u>A/RES/63/282</u>	08.07.2009	The Peacebuilding Fund
<u>A/RES/63/145</u>	12.03.2009	Election by the General Assembly of seven members of the Organizational Committee of the Peacebuilding Commission: term of office
<u>A/RES/61/230</u>	16.03.2007	Implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa
<u>A/RES/61/16</u>	09.01.2007	Strengthening of the Economic and Social Council
<u>A/RES/60/287</u>	21.09.2006	The Peacebuilding Fund
<u>A/RES/60/261</u>	17.05.2006	Election of seven members of the Organizational Committee of the Peacebuilding Commission
<u>A/RES/60/223</u>	24.03.2006	Causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa
<u>A/RES/60/180</u>	20.12.2005	Operationalizing the Peacebuilding Commission

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