

Project Title

The Role of the United Nations in the
Field of Disarmament

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Abstract

Disarmament has close relationship with peace because it brings less violence and more opportunity for peace. Consequently, development, security, and prosperity would be realized in a peaceful society.

Disarmament has been matter of concern to the United Nations since 1946 and from 1960's upto present it has become matter of special concern to this global organization.

The United Nations has put various efforts for the progress of disarmament. Besides the General Assembly, the Security Council which have primary responsibilities concerning disarmament, many subsidiary organs have been established for coping with disarmament, special sessions of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament have been arranged, world disarmament campaign has been set up.

The United Nations efforts in this field have gained some degree of success but it still faces three important problems.

The first important problem is that it's role in disarmament, in the eyes of a great number of governments, opposes their ambition, national interests and political and economic influence. They, therefore, reluctantly participate or refuse to participate with the UN in many cases.

The second important problem is that violent conflict - both national and international - increases which arouse suspicions among states and consequently provoke arms race.

The third important problem is the weakness of the United Nations itself. The UN has limited power in dealing with international peace and security problems. The United Nations, in reality, is a Forum of negotiations and debate, with very limited power of sanction. Consequently, many resolutions including resolutions on disarmament have been neglected or refused to follow by many states, especially the Big and Super Powers.

However, the permanent efforts of the United Nations to inform, to educate and to generate world-wide public understanding and support for the objectives of the United Nations in the field of Disarmament would be helpful to its greater success in this field in the future.