

Introduction to Peacekeeping and

Introduction to Peacekeeping and Peacebuilding

Key concepts, objectives, types, and the relationship between peacekeeping and peacebuilding

1. Definitions

Term	Core Idea	Primary Actors	Time Frame
Peacekeeping	Deployment of neutral forces to monitor and enforce a ceasefire or peace agreement.	United Nations (UN) troops/police, regional organizations, contributing states.	Immediate to medium-term (months to a few years).
Peacebuilding	Activities that address the root causes of conflict and create conditions for sustainable peace.	UN agencies, NGOs, donor governments, civil society, local institutions.	Long-term (years to decades).

Key distinction: **Peacekeeping** is a *security-oriented* operation that stabilizes a situation; **peacebuilding** is a *development-oriented* process that transforms societies to prevent relapse.

2. Historical Evolution

Period	Milestones	Impact on Modern Practice
1940s? 50s	First UN missions (e.g., UNTSO, 1948).	Introduced the concept of neutral, lightly armed observers.
1960s? 70s	Expansion to inter-state conflicts (e.g., Cyprus 1964, Congo 1960).	Shift to larger, multidimensional contingents.
1990s	Post-Cold War surge; missions in Rwanda, Bosnia, Somalia.	Emergence of multidimensional peacekeeping (security + civilian).
2000s	Adoption of the “ Peacebuilding ” pillar (UN 2005).	Integrated approach: security, political, humanitarian, development.
2010s? present	Emphasis on “ Protection of Civilians ”, “ Hybrid ” operations, and “ Local Ownership ”.	Greater focus on linking security to governance and socio-economic reforms.

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3. Objectives

Peacebuilding

3.1 Peacekeeping

1. **Monitor cease-fire** and separation of forces.
2. **Maintain buffer zones** (demilitarized zones, observer posts).
3. **Protect civilians** under threat from parties to the conflict.
4. **Support implementation** of peace agreements (e.g., elections, disarmament).
5. **Facilitate humanitarian aid** delivery.

3.2 Peacebuilding

1. **Strengthen governance** (rule of law, accountable institutions).
 2. **Promote reconciliation** (truth commissions, dialogue, reparations).
 3. **Rebuild livelihoods** (infrastructure, education, health).
 4. **Disarm, demobilize, and reintegrate (DDR)** ex-combatants.
 5. **Foster inclusive political processes** (women's participation, minority rights).
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4. Types of UN Peacekeeping Missions

Type	Mandate Characteristics	Typical Tasks
Traditional (Blue Helmet) Peacekeeping	Consent of parties, impartiality, non-use of force except in self-defence.	Monitor cease-fire, buffer zones, observation posts.
Multidimensional Peacekeeping	Same core principles + robust civilian component (political, humanitarian, development).	Support elections, rule of law reforms, human rights monitoring.
Robust/Peace Enforcement	Chapter VII mandate; may use force to protect civilians or enforce peace.	Protect civilians, disarm militias, enforce no-fly zones.
Hybrid/Regional		