

Model United Nations of Hamburg Research Report for Fourth Committee of the General
Assembly

Forum:	Fourth Committee of the General Assembly – GA4
Topic:	Preventing the sexual abuse of minors by the United Nations Peacekeepers during Peacekeeping missions
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Description of the problem, Background & General Information:

It is not certain when the United Nations Peacekeepers – also referred to as the UN “blue helmets” – started violating the victims in the countries they were aiding, but some UN-officers have been abusing their power when on peacekeeping missions. It has long been implied that some of the UN personnel on these peacekeeping missions are actually helping with the enslaving and prostitution of – especially – women and children in the nations they work in.

The UN Blue Helmets have had personnel accused of abusing civilians in countries where they are supposed to help, however, no personnel has ever been convicted of the crime they were accused of, either because what the “blue helmet” has done is in accordance with the laws of his/her own country or because there haven’t been sufficient material available to convict the accused.

The problem of UN personnel abusing civilians is ever growing, the uncertainty that arises with this severe issue affects the countries where the UN Peacekeepers are involved, the population of the country will then no longer feel safe once the UN Peacekeepers move into the country in order to help, the citizens will then live in fear of possibly being abused or used in any way by the people placed there to protect them.

Definition of important key terms:

- United Nations Peacekeepers: A department under the UN to maintain peace in or between a torn country/torn countries

Timeline of events:

- 1948: UN Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO)
- 1949: UN Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP)
- 1956 – 1967: UN Emergency Force I (UNEF I)
- 1958 – 1958: UN Observation Group in Lebanon (UNOGIL)
- 1960 – 1964: UN Operation in the Congo (ONUC)
- 1962 – 1963: UN Security Force in West New Guinea (UNSF)
- 1963 – 1964: UN Yemen Observation Mission (UNYOM)

- 1964 : UN Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP)
- 1965 – 1966: Mission of the Representative of the Secretary-General in the Dominican Republic (DOMREP)
- 1965 – 1966: UN India-Pakistan Observation Mission (UNIPOM)
- 1973 – 1979 : UN Emergency Force II (UNEF II)
- 1974 : UN Disengagement Observer Force (ONDOF)
- 1978: UN Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL)
- 1988 – 1990: UN Good Offices Mission in Afghanistan and Pakistan (UNGOMAP)
- 1988 – 1991: UN Iraq-Iran Military Observer Group (UNIIMOG)
- 1988 – 1991: UN Angola Verification Mission I (UNAVEM I)
- 1989 – 1990: UN Transition Assistance Group (UNTAG)
- 1989 – 1992: UN Observer Group in Central America (ONUCA)
- 1991 – 2003: UN Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission (UNIKOM)
- 1991 – 1995: UN Angola Verification Mission II (UNAVEM II)
- 1991 – 1995: UN Observer Mission in El Salvador (ONUSAL)
- 1991: UN Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO)
- 1991 – 1992: UN Advance Mission in Cambodia (UNAMIC)
- 1992 – 1995: UN Protection Force (UNPROFOR until 95 then UNPREDEP)
- 1992 – 1993: UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC)
- 1992 – 1994: UN Operation on Mozambique (ONUMOZ)
- 1992 – 1993: UN Operation in Somalia I (UNOSOM I)
- 1992 – 1993: UN Observer Mission to Verify the Referendum in Eritrea (UNOVER)
- 1992 – 2002: UN Mission of Observers in Tajikistan (UNMOT)
- 1993 – 1997: UN Observer Mission in Liberia (UNOMIL)
- 1993 – 1994: UN Observer Mission Uganda-Rwanda (UNOMUR)
- 1993 – 2009: UN Observer Mission in Georgia (UNOMIG)
- 1993 – 1996: UN Mission in Haiti (UNMIH)
- 1993 – 1996: UN Assistance Mission for Rwanda (UNOMUR)
- 1993 – 1995: UN Operation in Somalia II (UNOSOM II)
- 1994 – 1994: UN Aouzou Strip Observer Group (UNASOG)
- 1995 – 1997: UN Angola Verification Mission III (UNAVEM III)
- 1995 – 1999: UN Preventive Deployment Force (UNPREDEP)
- 1995 – 2002: UN Mission on Bosnia and Herzegovina (UNMIBH)
- 1996 – 1998: UN Transitional Administration for Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium (UNTAES)
- 1996 – 2002: UN Mission of Observers in Prevlaka (UNMOP)
- 1996 – 1997: UN Support Mission in Haiti (UNSMIH)
- 1996: The UN conducts a study that shows fast increase in child prostitution after the involvement of UN Peacekeepers
- 1997 – 1997: UN Verification Mission in Guatemala (MINUGUA)

- 1997 – 1999: UN Observer Mission in Angola (MONUA)
- 1997 – 1997: UN Transition Mission in Haiti (UNTMIH)
- 1997 – 2000 : UN Civilian Police Support Group (UNPSG)
- 1998 – 2000: UN Mission in the Central African Republic (MINURCA)
- 1998 – 1999: UN Observer Mission in Sierra Leone (UNOMSIL)
- 1999 : UN Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK)
- 1999 – 2005: UN Mission in Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL)
- 1999 – 1999 : UN Mission in East Timor (UNAMET)
- 1999 – 2002: UN Transitional Administration in East Timor (UNTAET)
- 1999: UN Peacebuilding Support Office in Guinea-Bissau (UNOGBIS)
- 1999 – 2010: UN Organization Mission in Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC)
- 2000 – 2008: UN Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea (UNMEE)
- 2002 – 2005: UN Mission of Support in East Timor (UNMISSET)
- 2003: UN Mission in Liberia (UNMIL)
- 2004: UN Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI)
- 2004: NATO and the UN are accused of several sexual abuse incidents by several newspapers¹
- 2004 – 2006: UN Operation in Burundi (ONUB)
- 2005: UN Mission in the Sudan (UNMIS)
- 2005: Further accusations follow²
- 2006 – 2012: UN Integrated Mission on Timor-Leste (UNMIT)
- 2007: UN African Union Mission in Darfur (UNAMID)
- 2007 – 2010: UN Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad (MINURCAT)
- 2010: UN Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO)
- 2011: UN Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA)
- 2011: UN Mission in the Republic of South Sudan (UNMISS)
- 2011: UN Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL)
- 2012 – 2012 : UN Support Mission in Syria (UNSMIS)

Relevant Treaties, UN resolutions and actions taken (see links):

- Amnesty International's 15-point program for implementing human rights in international peacekeeping operations³

¹ <http://www.theguardian.com/world/2004/may/07/balkans>, <http://www.csmonitor.com/2004/1126/p06s02-wogi.html>,

² <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/africa/4156819.stm>,
<http://www.weeklystandard.com/Content/Public/Articles/000/000/005/081zxez.asp>,

³http://www.vastsaharaaktionen.se/files/Implementing%20HR%20in%20peacekeeping%20operations_Amnesty_Int.pdf

Position of involved Countries and Parties:

USA is one of the great financial funders for many of the Peacekeeping Missions, one of the reasons for this is that USA is giving the UN Peacekeepers more complex and dangerous tasks

Amnesty International is trying to enforce Human Rights into every peacekeeping operation and mission there is currently occurring

Questions which should be considered by the delegates during their further research:

- How is your country affected by this issue?
- What is your nations view on the topic?
- Did your nation sign any treaties or resolutions regarding this topic?
- How has your nation acted on this issue?
- How is your country currently acting on the issue?
- What does your nation want to do about the issue in the future?
- What are the positions of the key players on this issue?

Useful links and sources:

- http://www.unicef.org/graca/a51-306_en.pdf
- <http://www.csmonitor.com/2004/1126/p06s02-wogi.html>
- <http://www.betterworldcampaign.org/un-peacekeeping/>
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Timeline_of_UN_peacekeeping_missions
- http://www.interaction.org/files/FABB%202013_Sec18_Peacekeeping.pdf