

UN And Human Rights

Department of Social Sciences Xudoyberdiyev Rashid
Tashkent Medical Academy, 2nd Faculty of Treatment, Student:
Shoxliyeva Dildora

Abstract: The United Nations (UN) is the largest international organization working to maintain peace, ensure security, and protect human rights. This article analyzes the UN's role in safeguarding human rights, the significance of the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and the content of the International Covenants on Civil and Political Rights. Furthermore, the activities of UN agencies such as UNESCO, UNICEF, and WHO, as well as Uzbekistan's reforms in ensuring human rights, are discussed. The study evaluates the UN as a key mechanism for promoting global peace and justice through the protection of human rights.

Keywords: United Nations, human rights, Universal Declaration, international cooperation, peace and security, justice, social equality, democracy, freedom

Introduction: The United Nations (UN) is the largest international organization operating globally to maintain peace, ensure security, and protect human rights. The establishment of the UN in the second half of the 20th century was closely linked to the need to guarantee human rights at the international level, following wars, discrimination, and acts of genocide experienced by humanity.

The main objective of the UN is to promote international cooperation among states, strengthen social justice, and ensure the protection of human rights. To this end, the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights establishes principles that safeguard the freedom, dignity, and equality of every individual.

The mechanism for protecting human rights within the UN operates in several areas:

1. Guaranteeing civil and political rights — ensuring individuals' life, freedom, fair judicial protection, and political participation;
2. Promoting socio-economic rights — ensuring equality in access to education, healthcare, and social protection;
3. Strengthening global cooperation and security — maintaining peace, preventing conflicts, and ensuring social justice.

Main Body

1. The Origins of the UN and Human Rights

The United Nations (UN) has emerged as a global mechanism for the protection of human rights. Violations of human rights often occur due to political instability, wars, ethnic or religious discrimination, economic inequality, the plight of refugees, and the insufficient protection of minority groups. The activities of the UN are aimed not only at developing international legislation but also at raising social awareness, promoting legal culture among the population, and ensuring the protection of individuals' rights.

Human rights protection encompasses civil, political, social, economic, and cultural spheres. The UN's monitoring mechanisms serve to prevent violations of these rights and strengthen their legal guarantees. Additionally, the UN's human rights protection system works in cooperation with national governments, non-governmental organizations, and civil society, ensuring effective global monitoring.

2. The Legal Framework of the UN

The UN has established a legal foundation for the protection of human rights. The 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) guarantees the civil, political, social, and economic rights of all individuals. The declaration:

- Guarantees civil and political rights (freedom of speech, religious belief, and political participation);
- Ensures social and economic rights (access to education, employment, and healthcare);
- Promotes interstate justice and peace.

The 1966 International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights strengthened the declaration, elevating human rights to legally binding international instruments. These covenants impose an obligation on states to protect the rights of their citizens and serve as core norms in international law.

Additionally, the UN ensures rights protection through specialized conventions and treaties, including:

- Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989);
- Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW, 1979);
- Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD, 2006).

These documents not only provide normative guidance but also regulate the activities of states and international organizations.

3. Monitoring and Oversight Mechanisms

The UN protects human rights by regularly monitoring and analyzing instances of violations. Its monitoring mechanisms include:

1. Human Rights Council – evaluates the human rights situation in each country, provides recommendations, and prepares periodic reports. While its recommendations are not legally binding, states face international pressure to implement them.
2. Specialized bodies and experts – special rapporteurs investigate human rights violations and provide recommendations on specific issues such as religious discrimination, refugee protection, and gender equality.
3. Global monitoring systems – online platforms and databases collect statistics and facts on human rights violations, ensuring rapid information exchange and secure reporting.

These mechanisms increase state accountability in human rights protection and enable the international community to detect and respond to violations effectively.

4. International Courts and Legal Mechanisms

The UN actively utilizes international courts and arbitration systems to protect human rights:

- International Criminal Court (ICC) – investigates genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes;
- International courts and arbitration – take legal actions against violations of human rights by states or organizations;
- These mechanisms serve to prevent human rights violations globally and ensure accountability.

These systems are fundamental instruments for protecting human rights through monitoring compliance with international legal obligations, identifying criminal acts, and imposing sanctions.

5. Preventive and Protective Mechanisms

The UN implements preventive mechanisms to avert human rights violations:

- International legal norms – conventions and treaties obligate states to protect human rights;
- International cooperation and technological solutions – collaboration with UN agencies (UNICEF, UNHCR, UNESCO), online monitoring, and information exchange;
- Raising social awareness – global campaigns to cultivate a culture of human rights and inform citizens about their rights and responsibilities;
- National reforms – laws and political mechanisms are improved based on UN recommendations, aligning domestic systems with international standards.

Through these preventive mechanisms, the UN not only monitors human rights but also ensures their practical protection in cooperation with the international community.

6. National Experience: Uzbekistan

- The Republic of Uzbekistan actively collaborates with the UN;
- Harmonizes national legislation with international standards;
- Develops national programs to protect the rights of refugees, minority groups, and women;
- Implements legal and social projects in cooperation with UN agencies;
- Promotes social awareness and legal literacy.

Through these measures, Uzbekistan actively participates in the global human rights system while strengthening the protection of citizens' rights at the national level.

Conclusion. In conclusion, the United Nations serves as one of the most essential international mechanisms for ensuring human rights, maintaining peace, and promoting global justice. Its mission centers on protecting the freedom, equality, and dignity of every human being.

1. The UN established a strong legal foundation – The 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights and subsequent covenants provided legally binding frameworks for protecting human rights.

2. UN monitoring mechanisms are effective – The Human Rights Council, special rapporteurs, and international courts enhance accountability and prevent violations of human rights worldwide.
3. Uzbekistan's active engagement – The country strengthens cooperation with the UN, aligns its legislation with international standards, and implements reforms to ensure human rights protection at the national level.

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