

The United Nations Charter

The **United Nations Charter** is the founding document of the **United Nations (UN)**. It was signed on **June 26, 1945**, in **San Francisco, USA**, at the conclusion of the United Nations Conference on International Organization. The Charter came into force on **October 24, 1945**, marking the official establishment of the UN.

Key Principles of the UN Charter:

1. **Maintaining International Peace and Security** – The UN works to prevent conflicts and mediate disputes among nations.
2. **Promoting Human Rights** – The Charter upholds fundamental human rights and freedoms for all people.
3. **Respect for Sovereignty** – The UN respects the sovereignty and equality of all its member states.
4. **Encouraging Social and Economic Development** – The UN supports economic growth, environmental sustainability, and social progress.
5. **International Cooperation** – The UN fosters global collaboration to address global issues such as poverty, health crises, and climate change.

Main Organs of the UN as Defined in the Charter:

The Charter establishes six principal organs that operate under its framework:

1. **The General Assembly** – A forum for all member states to discuss global issues and make recommendations.
2. **The Security Council** – Responsible for maintaining international peace and security, with five permanent members (USA, UK, China, Russia, France) and ten rotating members.
3. **The Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)** – Works on global economic, social, and environmental policies.
4. **The International Court of Justice (ICJ)** – Settles legal disputes between states.
5. **The Secretariat** – Carries out the day-to-day operations of the UN, led by the Secretary-General.
6. **The Trusteeship Council** (inactive since 1994) – Originally helped non-self-governing territories achieve independence.

Impact of the UN Charter:

- The Charter established the UN as an organization committed to preventing future world wars.
- It laid the foundation for international diplomacy, humanitarian aid, and conflict resolution.
- It has been amended several times to accommodate the growing needs of the global community.

Conclusion:

The United Nations Charter remains a cornerstone of international relations and global governance. It sets the framework for maintaining peace, promoting human rights, and fostering international cooperation among nations. The Charter continues to guide the UN in addressing modern global challenges and ensuring a more peaceful world.