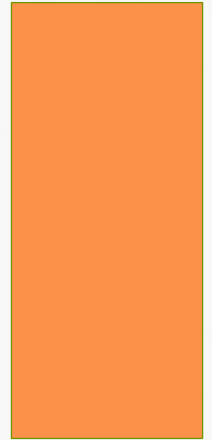


# CANADA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

INTERNATIONAL LAW



# CANADA AND THE UN

- Canada has been active at the [United Nations](#) since its foundation in 1945 and played a key role in drafting the UN [Charter](#) - an international treaty that sets out basic principles of international relations.
- Today, Canada continues to uphold the UN by:
  - actively participating in the organization's activities and providing financial support.
  - Canada consistently brings ideas and solutions to the table, from peacekeeping proposals in the 1950s, to creating the International Criminal Court and banning landmines in the 1990s.
  - Today, some of our current goals are to assist war-affected children, or to improve the UN's management and rationalize the work of its agencies.

# CANADA AND THE UNSC

- Canada has served in the [UNSC for 12 years](#) -ranking in the top ten of non-permanent members.
- As of 2015, it shares the fourth place in the list of non-permanent members serving on the Council by length with [Italy](#).
  - [Brazil](#) and [Japan](#) (first place),
  - [Argentina](#) (second place),
  - [Colombia](#), [India](#), and [Pakistan](#) (third place).
- Canada was elected for the following six terms: 1948–49, 1958–59, 1967–68, 1977–78, 1989–90, and 1999–2000 - once every decade.
- In 2010, it lost its bid for a seat in the [2010 Security Council elections](#) to [Germany](#) and [Portugal](#), marking the country's first failure to win a seat in the UNSC.
- In August 2016, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced that Canada would seek to return to the Council in 2021.

# TODAY'S LESSON: THE U.N. AND GENOCIDE

- The **Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide** was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 9 December 1948 as **General Assembly Resolution 260**.
- The Convention entered into force on 12 January 1951.
- It defines genocide in legal terms
- All participating countries are advised to prevent and punish actions of genocide in war and in peacetime.
- The number of states that have ratified the convention is currently 143.

# DEFINITION OF GENOCIDE

- Article 2 of the Convention defines genocide as
- ...any of the following acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group, as such:
  - (a) Killing members of the group;
  - (b) Causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group;
  - (c) Deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part;
  - (d) Imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group;
  - (e) Forcibly transferring children of the group to another group.

# CRIMES THAT CAN BE PUNISHED CONNECTED TO GENOCIDE.

- Article 3 defines the crimes that can be punished under the convention:
  - (a) Genocide;
  - (b) Conspiracy to commit genocide;
  - (c) Direct and public incitement to commit genocide;
  - (d) Attempt to commit genocide;
  - (e) Complicity in genocide.
- Persons charged with genocide or any of the other acts enumerated in article III shall be tried by a competent court of law- of the State in the territory of which the act was committed,
  - or by such international penal Court of Law as may have jurisdiction with respect to those Contracting Parties which shall have accepted its jurisdiction.

# PREVENTION OF GENOCIDE

- According to the U.N., **Dr. George Stanton** of the Department of State ( USA) first outlined the stages of genocide in 1996.
- Recognizing and being aware of stages of genocide are imperative for its prevention.
- The first six stages are considered the warning signs,
- If governments wish to successfully prevent genocide, they must act during the first six stages.

# TODAY'S ASSIGNMENT.

- Exploring International Law and Genocide.