

International Law



The Role of International Organizations



The United Nations
The UN General Assembly
The UN security Council
The International Court of Justice
International Criminal Court.

The Role of International Organizations



- ✧ There are several organizations that are involved with developing and applying International Law

The United Nations



- ❧ Established on October 24 1945 in response to the atrocities of WWII.
- ❧ 51 States signed *The United Nations Charter*
- ❧ Committed to :
 - ❧ Preserving peace through international co-operation and collective security and promoting respect for human rights.
- ❧ It is not a world government – it has no power to make laws – it passes resolutions.
- ❧ These resolutions are put into action by the willingness of the nations member states to work co-operatively together.

The UN General Assembly



- ☞ All UN member states are represented in the general assembly.
- ☞ Each state has one vote. 2/3rds makes the decision.
- ☞ Makes decisions on major matters such as International peace and security.
- ☞ The Assembly cannot demand action by a state but it's resolutions carry strong moral authority, especially when the vote is almost unanimous.

The UN Security Council



- ✧ It is the body of the UN that is responsible for maintaining international peace and security.
- ✧ It has 15 members 5 of which have permanent status: China, France, Great Britain, Russia and USA.
- ✧ Permanent members have VETO power over all decisions of the council.
- ✧ VETO gives any permanent member the power to stop the council from taking action.

The UN Security Council



- ❧ In the event of a war , the Security Council will try to arrange a cease-fire.
- ❧ If this occurs the UN will send a peacekeeping force to the area to help maintain the truce.
- ❧ VERY RARELY will the UN use military force. (UN troops in the Korean War 1950-1953)
- ❧ The UN charter also allows the Security Council to impose SANCTIONS against threatening or breaking the peace.
- ❧ The Penalties or sanctions can be : breaking trade relationships.

The International Court
of Justice - ICJ



International
Criminal Court - ICC