



## United Nation's Role in Conflict Resolution: An Analysis of Palestine-Israel Conflict

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### ABSTRACT

*The main purpose of the establishment of the UN is to ensure global amity and security in the world. The international body is primarily mandated to achieve international peace through peaceful means. It can even resort to the use of force if the peaceful intervention fails to achieve the goals of peace and stability and the issue has potential threats to world peace. The main institutions of the United Nations i.e. General Assembly, the Security Council and the International Court of Justice are responsible for the maintenance of peace and stability in the world. The UN Secretariat acts as the center for coordination for operation of the UN main organs and agencies in different regions in the world. The issue of Palestine is one of the continuing disputes on the UN's agenda associated with it since its establishment. The perpetuation of the unresolved conflict between Israel and the people of Palestine has raised questions on the role of international peace keeping body in Middle East. Keeping in view the gravity and potential threats associated with the issue, this study critically examined the UN's role in conflict resolution efforts in the Palestinian- Israeli conflict. Qualitative inquiry was opted in this study that involves employing literature review for data gathering, especially documents of UN related to Palestine. The data was analysed using an inductive approach, which involved the extraction of its concepts from the bulk of specific detail that makes up the database. US being influential member of Security Council, has effectively prevented the United Nations from participating in negotiations regarding the Palestinian-Israeli conflict since 1967 by exercising its right to veto any binding resolutions on the issue. The analysis indicates that the United Nations' involvement in this conflict is restricted to humanitarian aid. The future success of the UN in this conflict depends on a renewed global commitment, impartial involvement with both parties.*



### Introduction

The conflict of Palestinian- Israel is one of the longest unsettled political issues of the world. The continuing conflict draws its roots from the tensions between Arabs (Palestinians) and Jews which started with the Jews settlement in Palestine during Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries. The issue was aggravated with the announcement of Balfor British Government Declaration in 1917 which vowed homeland for Jews on the land of Palestine (Weintraub, 2017). Considering the Peel Commission report United Nation, announced the Partition Plan in November 1947 at the end of British decree over Palestine and recommended the foundation of two independent states for the Arabs and Jews in Palestine.

The World Zionist Organization announced the establishment of the "Israeli State" on May 14, 1948. The declaration triggered a civil war between local Arabs and the Jewish State that resulted into the expulsion of Palestinians from the land of Palestine. The region has witnessed three major wars and observed a series of wars and acts of violence since the foundation of the Zionist State in Palestine. The conflict has been developed into a complex problem that includes the key areas as; The West Bank and Gaza Strip are under Israeli occupation; Jerusalem's status and implementation of Oslo Accord; Illegal settlements of Jews in West Bank; borders, security and water rights; human rights violations; and the Palestinians right of return (refugee problem) (Galchinsky, 2004).

The issue of Palestine is associated with the collapse of Ottoman Empire during World War-I (Renton, 2007; Gutwein, 2016). The British Government was entrusted the mandate of Palestine by the league of Nations after the war. The problem of Palestine started when the British government issued the Balfour Declaration to Lord Rothschild, acting as the Zionist movement's representative, on November 2, 1917. This declaration ensured the establishment of a national home for the Jews in Palestine (Kramer, 2017). The League of Nations was founded in 1920 as an International Organisation to uphold peace and stability in the World. As a successor of the League of Nations, the issue was transferred to the United Nations with its establishment in 1945 after World War-II. The resurgence and increase in violence in the in 1947 compelled the British Government to place the issue before the UN (Sylvester, 2023). The UN formed the UN Special Committee on Palestine (UNSCOP), which made study trips to Palestine and created a plan for division. Two states were proposed in this plan: a Jewish state and a Palestinian state. On November 29, 1947, the UN General Assembly approved Resolution 181, which called for Mandatory Palestine to be divided into Arab and Jewish states. The United Nations has been instrumental in resolving the ongoing conflict between Israel and Palestine since its announcement.

Since 1945, the United Nations has been dedicated to maintaining global peace and security. Its purpose is to prevent threats, suppress aggression, and settle disputes peacefully, in conformity with fairness principles and international law. Its actions are intended to neutralise and prevent threats to peace. The primary responsibility of the United Nations is to mediate international disputes amicably. The international body has been engaged in conflict resolution through peaceful means since its inception. However, it can resort to the use of force if the peaceful means fail, and the issue has potential threat for international peace (Srinivas & Upendra, 2000).

The United Nations' primary institutions i.e. General Assembly, Security Council, and International Court of Justice are responsible for maintaining peace and stability. The international body also carries out its operation through specialized agencies that are engaged in the development process in different regions of the world (Zweifel, 2006). The UN Secretariat acts as the center for coordination for operation of the UN main organs and agencies in different regions in the world. The United Nations is the main stakeholder in the peace process in Palestine. The UN General Assembly approved the partition plan in Palestine on November 29, 1947, and the international body has contributed in every event associated with the conflict. (Tekir, 2023). It conveyed decisions made by the International Court of Justice on several occasions and passed resolutions in the UN General Assembly and UN Security Council. Pursuant to Gaza-Jericho Agreement, Palestinian Authority was established in 1994 under Oslo Accord signed in 1993 between the Israel and Palestinian Liberation Organization. The UN has granted the Observer Status to Palestinian Authority November 29, 2012 (Hassan, 2011). Reportedly 23 UN agencies are actively engaged with the Government of Palestine to align with the Palestinian Authorities National Genda under UN Development Assistance Framework since the establishment of the Authority. Achievement of SDGs in Palestine is pursued under different set of agenda by the UN (Tekir, 2023; Sarsar, 2004).

The United Nations role in resolving the Palestinian- Israel conflict is an important aspect that have been studied widely by the international researchers and academicians. The purpose of this study is to investigate and evaluate the contributions made by the United Nations from 2012 to 2023 in achieving the sustainable peace in Palestine. Different incidents/events occurred in Palestinian during the period will be examined in the light of the UN interventions. It will assess how effective the UN's interventions were, considering the difficulties and barriers encountered when mediating between the parties involved. This research is carried out with the objective to have a deeper understanding of the role played by the international body in the resolution of the Israel-Palestine conflict. The study further aims to provide an insight to assess the difficulties faced by the international body in mediating the unresolved conflict and frame future recommendations to adopt effective and result oriented strategies by the United Nations to exercise a sustainable model of conflict resolution in future.

## Statement of the Problem

For more than seven decades, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict has been characterised by recurring violence, unsuccessful peace efforts, and significant human suffering. The United Nations (UN) has consistently been involved in the resolution of this conflict, with its early resolutions, peacekeeping missions, and humanitarian efforts generating debate and discussion (Sarsar, 2004). Despite its extensive involvement, the United Nations has been subjected to criticism regarding its impartiality and efficacy, which has raised concerns about its capacity to mediate and resolve a conflict that has been both protracted and complex (Weintraub, 2017). The objective of this article is to investigate the UN's multifaceted role in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, including its interventions, actions, and the broader implications of its involvement. The article endeavours to assess the UN's contribution in promoting of peace and stability in the region by analysing significant historical events and contemporary challenges.

### **Literature Review**

The United Nations was established to maintain international peace and stability after World War II. The international body is meant for resolution of conflicts between the countries using peaceful means. The UN is the major stake holder of peace process in Palestine as the issue is very much associated with its creation. The continuing nature of the conflict in Palestine has provided an impetus to the scholars to study the role of the UN in conflict resolution in Palestine. This topic is studied frequently by the scholars of international relations.

Srinivas and Upendra (2000) explained that maintenance of international peace and security among the member states is the basic purpose of the establishment of the United Nations. The international body has been meant for conflict resolution through peaceful means since its inception in 1945. However, it can resort to the use of force if the peaceful means fail, and the issue has a potential threat for international peace. The interference by the UN becomes intervention. Though conflict-resolution is the major objective of the UN, the concept of sovereignty and national interest creates further complexities in the settlement of the conflict that has become a potential threat to peace and security to the world at large. They identified that Middle East is the region where the UN intervention could not deliver to establish peace among the warring parties. The exercise of Veto by the Superpowers has further marginalized the role of the UN in the Middle East.

Barak (2005) in his article examined the Oslo Process, which was the Israeli-Palestinian peace process from 1993 to 2000, from a historical and theoretical perspective. In order to evaluate the Oslo Process's successes and flaws he implemented three fundamental theoretical frameworks: conflict management, conflict resolution, and conflict regulation. The article investigated the nature and causes of the conflict, the methods employed to establish peace, the impact of peacekeeping efforts on the conflict, and the role of external actors. Further it is suggested that the conventional modes of peacekeeping by the UN may be reconsidered and new strategies, based on the experience of international conflict resolutions in other regions of the World may be adopted

Dessi, and Huber, (2012) in their article explain that Israeli-Palestinian conflict is one of the core political, social, and economic factors affecting Palestine and the larger Mediterranean area. It continues to be a major problem in the area, which encompasses the disputes of territorial concessions, development of settlements, and continuous violence which resulted into bloodshed. However, the issue was dropped into the background during Arab Up heavels. Further, the article found that the UN has been instrumental in promoting Palestinian statehood and fostering talks to end the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. However, a complex web of political, social, and economic factors, which include migration, security issues, and economic inequities, has marginalized the role of the UN in the region.

Gul and Batool (2019) in the article examined the role of United Nations in maintenance of peace through international conflict resolution in the light the UN Charter and identified the bottlenecks hindering the peace process in Israel-Palestine conflict. The article further establishes that the absence of democratic structure of the UN Security Council, visualized through exercise of Veto, is one of the major causes of failure of the UN in maintaining peace in Middel East.

Azam (2021) in her article identified the UN as a principal medium/platform available to resolve international conflicts. The article has examined the past, present and future perspectives of the long existing Palestine-Israeli conflict and found that the issue had become a serious threat for the global peace. She explained that non-resolution of conflict in Palestine provides a three-fold test to check the conflict resolution ability of international peace keeping bodies. The article establishes that the perpetuation and non-resolution of the conflict in Palestine has marked a question on the conflict resolution ability of the UN.

Summersett and Alade (2022) in their article reviewed that global conflict management strategy of the United Nations during 21st century. The study is focused on the role of the UN Security Council that makes it responsible in conflict resolution under UN Charter. Doctrinal and Qualitative research approach was applied to analyse the available data. The authors of the article observe that the role of the UN Security

Council has been marginalized in conflict resolution, with a special reference to Israeli-Palestinian conflict due to use of veto power by the permanent members of the UN Security Council. They recommended structural reforms in the UN Security Council by enhancing the membership of the Council and improving its working.

Sabiha and Abderrahmene (2022) found that the role of UN is very crucial in maintaining the peace and stability in the world since its establishment. Further they identified that the involvement (direct as well as indirect) of the USA regarding Israeli-Palestinian conflict has marginalized the peace keeping role of the international body.

Chen and Guo (2023) stated that Israeli-Palestinian conflict is one of the dangerous conflicts in the world that have significant potential to impact the global economic and political balance and trigger humanitarian crisis. They applied the Realism Theory of International Relations with the method of case analysis and examined the United States role in mediation of disputes in the United Nations. They found that the United States had used a variety of strategies to influence conflict resolution of the United Nations which has resulted into the loss of the UN's peacekeeping power.

### **Objectives of the Study**

1. To critically examine the role of the United Nations (UN) in conflict resolution efforts in the Palestinian- Israeli conflict.
2. To analyze the factors that have contributed to the success or failure of UN interventions in the Palestinian- Israeli conflict.

### **Significance of Study**

Studying the role of UN in Palestine-Israel conflict is valuable as it will provide an opportunity to examine the legitimacy of the United Nations and its role. This frame is sufficiently broad in the short term to encompass the most significant paradigmatic shifts and political divisions in the international system. Furthermore, it is noteworthy that in spite of the extensive body of international literature addressing the Palestine issue and the United Nations' vast experience in tackling its multifaceted nature, an independent and critical scholarly (Imseis, 2019) study that attempts to meaningfully weave these two threads together has yet to be published. A collection of edited volumes that provide historical accounts of the United Nations' treatment of the Palestine issue via a limited selection of partially reproduced UN documents (Chesterman, Johnstone & Malone, 2016). This study does not comprehensively cover all facets of the United Nations' approach to the Palestine issue; however, it does undertake a critical analysis of pivotal moments in the organization's involvement from 2012 to 2023.

### **Limitations of the Study**

This study was limited to explore the role of UN in conflict resolution of Palestine issue. This study has not any mandate to see the other conflicts. Furthermore, this study is qualitative in nature. The other approaches will not be opted in this study.

### **Research Methodology**

Qualitative inquiry will be opted in this study that involves employing literature review for data gathering, especially documents of UN related to Palestine. Qualitative research places its focus on the attributes of entities, as well as on meanings and processes that are not subjected to experimental investigation or quantification (Denzin & Lincoln, 2005). Inductive approach (Teddle & Tashakkori, 2007; Schwardt, 2007) will be used for data analysis, extracting its concepts from the mass of detail which constitutes the data base.

### **Research Paradigm**

The researcher utilised the constructivist (interpretive) paradigm, which is grounded in qualitative research methods and inductive reasoning. Constructivism, as defined by Crotty (1998), is the belief that all knowledge, and consequently all meaningful reality in general, is the result of human activities, which are generated and disseminated within an intrinsically social context.

My decision is based on the fact that constructivism enables researchers to develop subjective interpretations of their experiences, which are directed towards specific objects or entities, and to gain a better understanding of the world in which they reside and work. The researcher's objective is to comprehend the interpretations of the world that others have (Creswell, et.al. 2007). The Literature and Document Review conducted to address the research questions incorporated the constructivist perspective of this study.. Understanding the UN's function in conflict mediation may be gained by examining how the organisation both influences and is influenced by the identities and perspectives of its member nations. For instance, members' views on the legitimacy and rights of Israel and Palestine may have an impact on the UN's role in advocating for a two-state solution. Constructivism places a strong emphasis on ideational power, which is the ability to influence actors' identities and preferences. Examining how the UN's pronouncements,



resolutions, and diplomatic initiatives influence the opinions and inclinations of the parties concerned is vital when considering the UN's involvement in the Israel-Palestine conflict. The UN's involvement in the Israel-Palestine conflict may be analysed from constructivist perspectives to help us better understand how ideas, norms, and identities shape diplomatic efforts, resolutions, and peacebuilding activities in the international system.

### Sources of Data

This research relied on secondary data sources that may include resolutions and reports e.g.

- UN General Assembly and UN Security Council resolutions, rulings of International Court of Justice and reports of Special Committees on Israel-Palestine crisis
- Minutes of meetings of UN Security Council on Israel-Palestine crisis
- Diplomatic talks/rounds of negotiation between warring parties under the umbrella of the UN
- Development targets achieved in Palestine under UN programmes
- Reports of Asian Development Bank on aid provided to Palestine
- Reports of International organizations on Israel-Palestine crisis

### Analysis

An in-depth examination of the UN's involvement in the Palestine-Israel conflict reveals a complex approach marked by a combination of achievements, obstacles, and persistent dilemmas. Through an examination of significant historical events and the corresponding actions taken by the UN, we can identify recurring patterns of intervention, peacekeeping initiatives, and diplomatic endeavours. This section will thoroughly examine the strategies employed by the UN, the various obstacles it faced both politically and logistically, and the tangible effects of its resolutions and initiatives on the ground.

- *UN Involvement Post-Israel's Founding:* The United Nations played a minor role in politics after Israel's partition, providing peacekeepers and UNRWA for refugees. Nevertheless, the Security Council's influential permanent members, which included the United States, France, Britain, and the Soviet Union, primarily dominated its participation in political decision-making. (Bennis, 1997).
- *The 1948-49 Arab-Israeli War and the UN's Response:* The United States and Soviet Union recognised the State of Israel, which was declared by the Zionists on May 14, 1948. Israeli forces engaged in clashes with Arab states, including Egypt, Syria, Lebanon, Transjordan, and Iraq, with the most intense combat occurring in the Jerusalem region. On May 22, the Security Council passed a resolution that urged all governments to refrain from engaging in hostile military operations in Palestine and to issue a cease-fire order. Israel had previously requested assistance from the United Nations; however, the Arabs responded by launching an attack on Israel and defending their actions. The Arab League accepted the Palestinian people's invitation to assist in their defence against Zionist aggression, and the Palestine Commissions were dissolved by the General Assembly. The Arabs ultimately consented to the resolution following diplomatic lobbying and pressure from the United States and other nations. During this period, the United Nations was unable to fulfil its responsibilities, as Arabs continued to doubt its ability to pass resolutions and Zionists developed animosity towards it. During this period, the United Nations was criticised for failing to advance the cause of peace and for permitting Palestinians to become refugees (Khalidi, 2014).
- *Armistice Agreements to the Suez Crisis:* The Arab-Israeli War, a conflict that involved the plan of partition, the creation of Israel, and generated fundamental issues that the UN was unable to settle. The boundary dispute between the Arab states and Israel was the most significant issue, being solely determined by the positions held during the cease-fire by the opposing forces. Israel's borders with Jordan and Egypt were particularly perplexing and unstable during the post-war period. In 1956, Israel launched an attack on Egypt with the objective of eliminating Fedayeen bases located within Egyptian territory. Thus the Security Council deliberated on a draft resolution from the United States that accused Israel of breaching the armistice treaty between Israel and Egypt. The resolution demanded that Israel evacuate its armed forces. However, Britain and France vetoed the resolution, which led to an extraordinary session of the General Assembly. France and Britain expressed their desire for immediate police action to cease hostilities and facilitate a definitive resolution of the Arab-Israeli conflict by adopting General Assembly Resolution 997 (ES-I) with a majority of 64 to 5. Consequently the Anglo-French forces completed their withdrawal, and the United Nations Emergency Forces (UNEF) contingents relocated and assumed their positions. One of the numerous resolutions that the General Assembly passed was General Assembly Resolution 1123 (XI) of 19 January 1957. This resolution served as an incentive for the Secretary-General to persist in his pursuit of the disengagement of Israel's forces (Tal, 2014).

- *The Era of UNEF: Peacekeeping in the Sinai Peninsula:* The Arab-Israeli armistice lines were relatively quiet from 1956 to 1967, and the United Nations' reputation was high following the Suez War. The UNEF was established by the United Nations to oversee the post-crisis situation and guarantee stability along the border between Israel and Egypt. The United Nations Emergency Force was tasked with the additional responsibility of supervising boundaries and maintaining peace. The situation was significantly improved from its previous state, and the presence of UNEF units in the Gulf of Aqaba and Sharm el-Sheikh ensured that the Straits would remain accessible to every vessel, as well as Israeli vessels. The United Nations maintained its emphasis on the Arab-Israeli conflict from 1956 to 1967, with its main focus on the nature of the armistice between Egypt, Lebanon, Jordan, Syria and Israel. In 1966, the United States initiated the provision of sophisticated aircraft and missiles to Israel, which led to an increase in tensions between Israel and the Arab states that surrounded it. The Six Day War of 1967 resulted in the occupation of the Syrian Golan Heights, the Egyptian Sinai, East Jerusalem, the West Bank, and the Gaza Strip. The UN passed Resolution S/242 and reaffirmed the importance of a just and enduring peace and the unconstitutionality of the acquisition of territory through war. The Arabs were compelled to initiate an attack on Israel as a result of the UN's inability to function as a tool of justice (Firestone, 2019).
- *The 1973 October War and Its Aftermath:* When Egyptian and Syrian troops attacked Israel in 1973 in an attempt to retake lost territory, the fourth Arab-Israeli conflict broke out. The Security Council met ten times to address the situation, with the US and UK representatives requesting a cease-fire resolution. However, debates remained inconclusive until October 20th, with no tangible resolution achieved. On October 21, the US and the USSR offered a combined resolution that became Resolution 338 (1973). The resolution demanded negotiations for a durable peace in West Asia as well as the immediate execution of Resolution 242 (1967), a cease-fire, and an end to military action. These powers used the UN just as an organisational structure to carry out their responsibilities in the fight. (Siniver, 2013).
- *The Oslo Accords and Camp David: UN Support for Peace Initiatives:* The US dominated Israel-Palestine diplomacy in the late 1980s and early 1990s, with the UN mostly out of the picture. The Oslo Declaration of Principles, which was issued in 1994, aimed to render the present United Nations resolutions on the Israel-Palestine conflict inappropriate in light of the ongoing negotiation process. Israel's military operation in Lebanon in 1996 stirred up significant international backlash within UN circles. While numerous international entities, including Japan and the European Union, were pressed by the US to invest billions of dollars towards Oslo's infrastructure and the Oslo "peace process" continued with uneven success. They did not, however, participate in the making of political decisions. By the summer of 2000, the five-year interim period in Oslo had been prolonged to seven years, with no significant progress on critical issues and only slight advancement on easier ones. President Clinton arranged intensive discussions on the "final status" issues at Camp David, while the UN did not hold any talks. During the weeks leading up to the Sharm el-Sheikh "ceasefire summit," UN Secretary General Kofi Anan emerged as the central figure in the negotiations. Nevertheless, there was still uncertainty surrounding the potential expansion of the role of the Secretary-General of United Nations in establishing a new peace initiative to replace the unsuccessful Oslo process. (Shlaim, 2016)
- *The UN's Recognition of Palestinian Statehood:* The Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) campaign for full UN recognition of Palestine and its 1967 borders received widespread support, despite criticism from some countries. The United Nations General Assembly granted de facto recognition to sovereign Palestine in 2012, conferring upon it the status of a non-member state (Eden, 2013). The conflict between Israel and Palestine did not occur recently, but rather has been a long-standing crisis that has been unfolding over time. In 2023, yet another war broke out, stemming from the ongoing conflict between Israel and Palestine. This war, which began on October 7, 2023, stands out for its highly disciplined military strategy, unlike previous military conflicts. A astounding 5,000 rocket attacks have been directed at Israel in the span of just 20 minutes. This situation can be characterised as exceeding the boundaries of a conventional conflict. It is clear from the evidence that this assault was conducted to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the Yom Kippur War, which took place on October 6, 1973. The Security Council of the United Nations Organisation convened urgently in the midst of the ongoing conflict; however, it was unable to reach a definitive resolution to address the escalating situation. (Priyadarshani, 2024).
- *UNRWA and the Palestinian Refugee Crisis:* The issue of Arab refugees from Palestine has been an important issue in the Arab-East since 1948, as it embodies the injustice that Palestinians have

experienced at the hands of Western powers and Israel. The United Nations Relief and Works Agency in the Near East (UNRWA) for Palestine Refugees was set up by the UN to address the impoverishment of the Palestinian population. The UNRWA implemented a relief programme; however, the average annual increase in the number of refugees exceeded 30,000. The General Assembly passed resolutions that condemned Israel's policy of defying fundamental human rights and extended the UNRWA's mandate. The goal is to assist Palestinian refugees to acquire complete citizenship and efficiency by emphasising social acceptance, political identity and economic security. (Farah, 2013) Thus, the Palestinian people experienced the first intifada in 1987, which was succeeded by their second intifada in 2000. Despite the fact that Israel emerged as the victor, both parties sustained substantial casualties. The Israeli-Palestinian conflicts witnessed a significant escalation in the years 2008, 2012, 2014, 2018, 2022, and 2023, which had severe repercussions for civilians on both sides. Nevertheless the United Nations' intervention in these conflicts was limited but to marginalise the warring parties.

- *Underlying Factors of the Palestine-Israel Conflict:* United Nations has been unable to reach a lasting resolution to this conflict and effectively implement it on the basis of common agreement of both parties up until now. There are numerous factors that contribute to this. Israel's relationship with other countries is influenced by its support from Western countries and its economic relations with them. Israel has established solid international ties with most European nations, including the US, despite its multilateralism power basis. Israel's economic strength, military strength, and technical capabilities make it a significant player in the global trade. Despite its small land area, Israel has a significant position in the trade of goods and possesses the majority of nuclear weapons. Russia, a powerful member of the UN, has been neutral during the post-Cold War period, indicating that an external strong nation-state is unlikely to disadvantage Israel. The UN, inspired by Western governments, does not have a major role in the Israeli-Palestinian dispute, and it is unable to temporarily or partially sideline the parties involved even once hostilities have broken out. The United States is granted the authority to veto resolutions as a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council. Thus it has consistently exercised its veto power to prevent the adoption of resolutions that it believes are biased against Israel. The resolutions condemning Israeli settlement activities and military actions have been vetoed by the US. (Pratiwi et al., 2020).

The UN has failed to solve the dispute between Palestine and Israel due to Israel's apolitical approach. Israel, the 59th member state, has provided significant support to UN operations in various fields, including economy, health, education, culture, science, and technology. The UN has full powers to maintain international security and peace, make recommendations to member states, take military action against aggressor states, and request economic sanctions. But over an extended period of time, the UN's engagement in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict has been limited to temporarily sidelining the parties involved. The UN's failure to act impartially towards other member states highlights the organization's inability to act impartially in resolving conflicts (Priyadarshani, 2024).

The United Nations' failure to settle the Palestinian-Israeli conflict is attributed to the practical issues that both parties cannot concur on. These include the problem of Palestinian refugee, Jewish settlements in the West Bank, Jerusalem ownership, and if the Palestinian State ought to be established adjacent to Israel. Despite discussions, the crisis persists. The US-prepared peace plan, "The Deal of the Century," proposed compromise resolutions to economic issues but was rejected by Palestinians. Because of Israel's actions, the Oslo Accords, the first direct peace accord between Palestine and Israel, also failed. Even after Palestine agreed to recognise the 1967 borders, Israel persisted in erecting structures in the West Bank and evicting Palestinian residents of Jerusalem. Thus, none of the recommended solutions were effectively executed because of the restless ambitions of the contending parties. (Erdogan & Habash, 2020).

## Conclusion

The UN's struggle has continued, and there is still no guarantee that it will end peacefully. The UN's inability to mediate a lasting solution between Palestine and Israel casts doubt on its capacity to resolve complex and lengthy issues on the international scale. The failure to find a long-term solution to the Palestine issue may have an impact on people's perceptions of the UN's effectiveness in resolving issues of international peace and security. It may also have an impact on the UN's legitimacy and credibility as a global organisation established for peacekeeping and conflict resolution. Given the region's ongoing hostilities and tensions despite the UN's engagement, there may be doubts about the organization's ability to settle such crises in the future. The way the Palestine issue is handled might affect how the UN engages with its member states and other regional parties. The UN's failure to mediate a lasting peace agreement might affect its diplomatic efforts and its standing as an unbiased arbiter of international disputes.

The UN's involvement in the Palestine-Israel conflict has been marked by a consistent dedication to peace and mediation, despite facing significant challenges and constraints. Although it has succeeded in delivering humanitarian assistance and brokering temporary ceasefires, finding a comprehensive and enduring solution continues to be challenging. The United States, as a permanent member of the Security Council, has successfully impeded the United Nations from participating in negotiations since 1967 by exercising its right to veto any binding resolutions regarding the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. Therefore, the United Nations' involvement in this conflict is restricted to humanitarian assistance. The UN's structure prohibits it from serving as the mediator that would contribute to regional stability. The U.S, as a permanent member of the Security Council, prevents the implementation of many resolutions that support the Palestinians.

The future success of the UN in this conflict depends on a renewed global commitment, impartial involvement with both parties, and a strong framework for implementing peace agreements that address the root causes of the conflict.

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