



**NEAR EAST UNIVERSITY
INSTITUTE OF GRADUATE STUDIES
DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

**THE ROLE OF UN BODIES AND MISSIONS IN SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE-BUILDING IN POST-CONFLICT
SOCIETIES: THE CASE OF CYPRUS**

M.A. THESIS

PRICILLAH MARISA

**Nicosia
June 2022**

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**Supervisor
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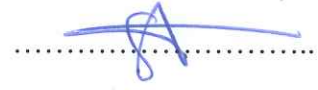
Approval

We certify that we have read the thesis submitted by Pricillah Marisa titled “**The Role of UN Bodies and Missions in Sustainable Development and Peace-building in Post –Conflict Societies: The Case of Cyprus**” and that in our combined opinion it is fully adequate, in scope and in quality, as a thesis for the degree of Master of International Relations.


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Declaration

I hereby declare that all information, documents, analysis and results in this thesis have been collected and presented according to the academic rules and ethical guidelines of Institute of Graduate Studies, Near East University. I also declare that as required by these rules and conduct, I have fully cited and referenced information and data that are not original to this study.


Priscilla Marisa

01/11/2022

Acknowledgement

I give honour to the Almighty God for bringing me this far and providing me with the skills and ability to accomplish my master's thesis. This endeavour would not have been possible if it was not for the love, strength and courage He has continued to pricelessly shower upon me.

In addition, I would like to applaud myself for being determined and zealous to finish this day. I am extremely grateful. A Big Thanks to all my friends for their continued support indeed this was not going to be that easy without their cheering.

I owe a huge debt of gratitude to my whole family for their unwavering support and encouraging words anytime I reached out to them, with special mention of my mom, even though she is no longer among the living, her unwavering support and prayers during her time of life moulded me to have the courage and diligence to reach this far and I am forever grateful, also to my dad, I am thankful for his prayers and continued gratitude towards my achievements.

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My sincere and genuine appreciation goes out to the International Relations Department and Faculty members at Near East University for their combined efforts as well as providing a conducive environment during the course of my study.

Pricillah Marisa

Abstract

The Role of UN Bodies and Missions in Sustainable Development and Peacebuilding in Post–Conflict Societies: The Case of Cyprus

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M.A., Department of International Relations

Supervised by Prof. Dr. Nur KÖPRÜLÜ

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The Cyprus conflict as a protracted conflict is still among the unsolved issues at the international system. There is a need to restore peace in such areas in order to have the people in the societies to coexist peacefully. The concept of peace-building has gained prominence as a key concept within the United Nations (UN). In 1992, then-UN Secretary-General Boutros Ghali suggested improving the UN's capability for preventive diplomacy, peace-making, and peacekeeping in his Agenda for Peace. Within this framework, the goal of this study is to show how various international players, such as the United Nations (UN) and its bodies and peacekeeping mission, have aided in the peacebuilding process in post-conflict nations. Cyprus will be used as a case study for post-conflict societies in order to examine the role of the UN and its institutions, as well as how far they have progressed toward sustainable development goals within the country.

Keywords: Cyprus, UN, peacebuilding, sustainable development, women empowerment, sustainable development goals, preventive diplomacy, civil society

Öz

Çatışma Sonrası Toplumlarda Sürdürülebilir Kalkınma ve Barış İnşasında BM Organlarının ve Misyonlarının Rolü: Kıbrıs Örneği

Pricillah Marisa

Yüksek Lisans, Uluslararası İlişkiler Bölümü

Danışmanı: Prof. Dr. Nur KÖPRÜLÜ

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Kıbrıs Uyuşmazlığı, 1950’li yıllardan bu yana uluslararası sistemde çözülmeyi bekleyen meseleler arasında yer almaktadır. Toplumlararası barışı inşa etmek ve bölünmüş toplumlarda birlikte yaşamayı kolaylaştırmak için barışın yeniden sağlanmasına ihtiyaç vardır. Barış inşası kavramı, özellikle Soğuk Savaş sonrasında Birleşmiş Milletler (BM) içinde anahtar bir kavram olarak önem kazanmıştır. 1992 yılında, zamanın BM Genel Sekreteri Boutros Ghali, Barış Gündemi’nde BM’nin önleyici diplomasi, barış inşa etme ve barışı koruma kapasitelerini geliştirmeyi önermiştir. Bu çerçevede, bu çalışmanın amacı, BM organları ve barışı koruma misyonu gibi çeşitli uluslararası aktörlerin, çatışma sonrası toplumlarda barışı inşa etme süreçlerine nasıl yardımcı olabildiklerini irdelemektir. Kıbrıs, BM ve kurumlarının rolünün yanı sıra ülke içinde sürdürülebilir kalkınma hedeflerine doğru ne kadar yol katettiğini incelemek için Kıbrıs çatışma sonrası toplumlar için bu çalışmada bir örnek çalışma olarak kullanılacaktır.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Kıbrıs, BM, Barış inşası, sürdürülebilir kalkınma, kadınların güçlendirilmesi, sürdürülebilir kalkınma hedefleri, önleyici diplomasi, sivil toplum

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List of Abbreviations

ACT:	Action for Cooperation and Trust
CEDAW:	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
CERF:	Central Emergency Response Fund
CMP:	Committee of Missing Persons
CS:	Collective Security
CSOs:	Civil Society Organizations
DDR:	Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration
DPKO:	Department of Peacekeeping Operations
ECtHR:	European Court of Human Rights
EECP:	European Economic Community
ECOSOC:	Economic and Social Council
EDI:	Environmental Data Initiative
EU:	European Union
FAO:	Food and Agriculture Organization
FEMA:	Feminist Atelier
GAT:	Gender Advisory Team
GDP:	Gross Domestic Product
HAD:	Hands across Divide
H4C:	Home of Cooperation
IGOs:	International Organisations
IBRD:	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
ICAO:	International Civil Aviation Organization

IRF:	Immediate Response Facility
IPA:	International Peace Academy
JCR:	Joint Communications Room
MDGs:	Millennium Development Goals
MDTFs:	Multi-Donor Trust Funds
METAP:	Mediterranean Environmental Technical Assistance Programme
NAPs:	National Action Plans
NATO:	North Atlantic Treaty Organization
NEA:	Network of Effective Action
NGOs:	Non-governmental organisations
ONUC:	United Nations Operation in Congo
NRRP:	National Recovery and Resilience Plan's
OSASG:	Office of the Special Advisor to the Secretary General
PBC:	Peacebuilding Commission
PBF:	Peacebuilding Fund
PKOs:	Peacekeeping Operations
PRF:	Peacebuilding and Recovery Facility
UN:	United Nations
UNICEF:	United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund
UNIDO:	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNAMID:	African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur
UNFICYP:	United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus
UNDP:	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP:	UN Environment Programme
UNESCO:	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

UNFSTD:	United Nations Fund for Science and Technology Development
UNHCR:	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UDHR:	Universal Declaration of Human Rights
UN PBC:	United Nations Peacebuilding Commission
UNFPA:	United Nations Population Fund
UNSC:	United Nations Security Council
UNSG:	United Nations Security General
UNCHS:	United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)
UNTAC:	United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia
UNITAMS:	United Nations Integrate Transition Assistance Mission in Sudan
UNV:	United Nations Volunteers
UNDTCD:	United Nations Department for Technical Cooperation and Development
Roc:	Republic of Cyprus
CYPOL:	Republic of Cyprus Police
SDGs:	Sustainable Development Goals
SSR:	Security Sector Reform
SEM:	Structural Equation Models
SPMs:	Special Political Missions
TCCCM:	Technical Committee on Crime and Criminal Matters
TCP:	Turkish Cypriot Police
TRN:	Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus
Tse:	Treated sewage effluent
SEM:	Structural Equation Models
SPF:	State and Peacebuilding Fund

SPMs:	Special Political Missions
USA:	United States of America
USAID:	United States Agency for International Development
VNR:	Voluntary National Review
WCED:	World Commission on Environment and Development
WHO:	World Health Organisation
WPS:	Women Peace Security
WWTP:	Nicosia Wastewater Treatment Plant
WTO:	World Tourism Organization.

CHAPTER I

Introduction

This chapter contains the inspiration and rationale for conducting this study, which is the study of the Role of UN Bodies and Missions in sustainable development and peace-building in post-conflict societies with Cyprus as the case of the research.

One of the unresolvable conflicts that has not yet fully melted is the Cyprus conflict. Despite efforts by local and international parties to reunite the Greek and Turkish Cypriot populations, the division has persisted for more than half - century. The international community, specifically the United Nations (UN) and the European Union (EU), have continued to be optimistic that a solution will one day emerge on the Island. In light of this, the focus of this study is on the UN activities and the notion of peace-building within Cyprus and as the corollary of this what the UN and its institutions have been doing in pursuit of the sustainable development goals on the island. The study first discusses the role of the UN in general, followed by an insight on the Cyprus conflict and Cyprus is narrated as a post-conflict society, in addition the study expatiates on the role of the UN and its bodies such as the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and peace-keeping mission called United Nations Forces in Cyprus (UNFICYP) on the island. This thesis will, then, discuss the activities of the UN in Cyprus towards the achieving of sustainable development.

Area of Study

This study is primarily focused on the case of Cyprus. Cyprus is the third largest island in the Mediterranean Sea, after Sicily and Sardinia, with an area approximately 9.251 square kilometres. It is strategically located at the intersection of three different continents –Africa, Asia and Europe. The Island gained its new independence as a new sovereign republic in 1960 on the basic principles of the Zurich and London Agreements after a being under the British colonial rule.

Image 1: Map of Cyprus



Source: hartford-hwp.com

The island of Cyprus became a member of the United Nations (UN) in 1960, and ever since then it is a member of almost all of its specialized agencies which have since been operating on the Island. Following the unilateral creation of a separate Turkish Cypriot state in the north of the island in 1983, the two groups on the island—Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots—have existed as separate entities, with the former occupying around 56 percent of the island and the latter 36 percent. This unilateral declaration of independence by the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (henceforth TRNC), attracted critics from the international community, with Turkey being the only country to recognize the new state making the north part of the island *de facto* under international law (Kanol & Köprülü, 2017). With the exception of the sovereign base areas of Akrotiri and Dhekelia, which remain under the administration of the UK by the London and Zurich Agreements, the Republic of Cyprus (henceforth RoC) has *de jure* sovereignty over the whole island, together with its territorial waters and the exclusive economic zone.

Background of the study

Before this study other researchers focused on the historical concept of the Cyprus conflict together with the stationing of the UN peacekeeping forces in the buffer zone, writers such as Eşref Aksu gave an outline of the UN in Cyprus in the writing *The UN in the Cyprus conflict: UNFICYP* (2003). The author explains how the Administration of Cyprus sent a letter to the UNSC in December 1963, outlining potential threat to the nation's sovereignty and independence and asking the organization to shield Cyprus from preemptive military strikes. This was the first time the SC had been made aware of the inner turmoil in Cyprus. The solely Greek Cypriot government in control of Cyprus at the time said that it envisaged an incursion by the Turks. There have been numerous studies on the context of UNFICYP in Cyprus and how these assisted in halting the escalation of the violent strife of 1974 (Bölükbaşı 1998). Eşref Aksu (2003) also articulates, the UN's presence within Cyprus dispute as a reflection of the organization's prevailing concern with maintaining stability in the region and, in turn, global peace and security. National sovereignty, which was largely articulated as the outward element, was a distinct concept that was frequently mentioned, similar to the Congo case.

Human rights were only occasionally mentioned in this instance, and when they were, it was always in the context of 'minority' rights, which once again created a startling quietness. Maria Hadjipavlou (2007) focused on the Cyprus conflict as well, its root causes and implications for peacebuilding. This paper confronts the partial public offices that designate the issue as either a predicament of multiple conditions or simply an internal strife in between significant proportion and minority population by demonstrating that both exogenous and inner aspects, both psychological and interpretive, had also played a prominent hand in the conception and continued existence of the dispute. The intricacy that distinguishes unresolvable conflicts is highlighted in the text. It advocates the idea that when confronting peacebuilding and long-term solutions, inner, contextual, and psychological aspects are just as important as the political and legal ones and should be considered as well.

Peacekeeping is another notion which most studies focused on, highlighting the importance of peacekeeping forces in protracted conflicts in nations such as Cyprus. Historically, peacekeeping has been simply to hold either part of the dispute apart and watching to see if they adhere to the terms of cease-fire and peace treaties.

Post-conflict nations have always been said to be highly susceptible, their economies are mostly in wreckage, and hence this reduces the likelihood of creating sustainable peace. Peacebuilding customarily was said to be more focused on “treatment” than “prevention”. Protracted conflict prevention, which includes preventing the start of new conflicts, has received far less attention, partly because it is not as pressing and also the effects of prevention are so hard to identify or substantiate. It is challenging to gather resources and defend their use for subsidizing non-events like preventing conflict from escalating (Simonovic, 2003).

Gary S. Mendozat in the study *Mediation as an Instrument of International Crisis Management: Cyprus-A Case Study* elaborated the text focused on initiatives to arbitrate the Cyprus issue. The study ponders on the need for a third party in peaceful resolution of dispute. A party to a disagreement may not believe that a peaceful resolution would be in its better interests in the circumstances of that conflict. Very seldom will a state consent to give up significant national interests in order to safeguard world security exclusively. Any attempt to settle a quarrel amicably may be hampered by the sentiments and turbulence that are implicit in situations of conflict. In order to stop hostilities from starting or to make negotiations easier after they have, outside interference by a party with a particular or a general objective in a pacific solution to the disagreement may be necessary. The author emphasizes how directing or guiding the negotiations agenda, by a mediator can help reach a compromise. The chronology of the Cyprus Issue clearly illustrates the possibly critical connection between competent third-party monitoring and a settlement effort. Harry Tzimitras & Ayla Gürel (2016) in *Cyprus Settlement Negotiations: From Euphoria to Reality* also wrote contended that the situation is more favourable for a settlement now than they have ever been and that the chance must also be taken advantage of. In doing so, it also makes an argument for the apprehension and necessity for reality. There was exhilaration since, perhaps, the deliberations for resolving the Cyprus problem were at their highest crucial and mature stage hitherto. Although there were substantial developments there were still significant thorns and barriers. Simultaneously, regional and global trends, such as coalitions and strategic alliances, economic consequences, political conditions, and energy challenges, were sighted as intimately related to the likelihood of a resolution to the Cyprus dilemma.

Hypothesis.

The hypothesis of this study is that if there is (x) UN Bodies and Missions Cyprus then (Y) there is Sustainable Development and Peace-building in Cyprus which is a post conflict society.

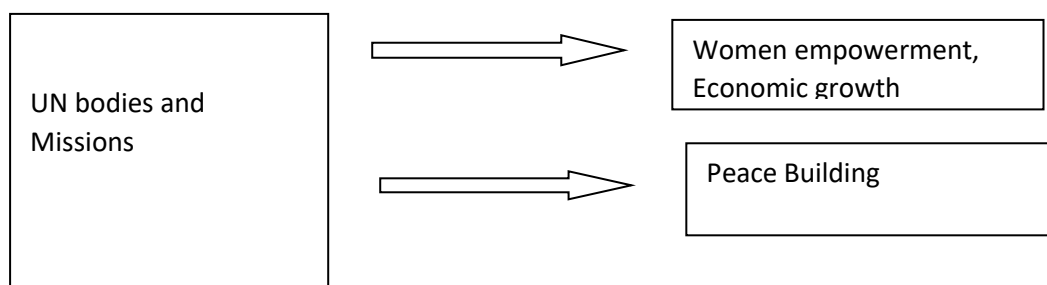
UN bodies and Missions have the mandate of achieving sustainable development goals within their framework. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are indeed an imperative call to action across all nations, (including Cyprus), both advanced and developing, to join forces in a worldwide coordinated approach. The underlying facet is that combating poverty as well as other forms of hardships must apace with policies that enhance education and health care, lessens disparity, stimulate economic development, combat changes in climate, and seeks to protect oceans and forests. Cyprus is among the countries that adopted the SDGS and is working towards the achievement of these goals. The notion of peacebuilding is of paramount importance to Cyprus since it is a post conflict society and there have been efforts to settle the separation that exists between the two communities in Cyprus.

(x) UN bodies and Missions is the independent variable, which is constant whilst (Y) is sustainable development and Peace-building in Post –Conflict Societies indicates the dependent variable.

Table 1: *The table bellows shows the attributes of each variable*

Variables	Attributes
(X) UN bodies and Missions	UNFICYP, UNDP, UNHCR, OSASG, CMP, H4C
(Y) sustainable development and Peace-building	Peace-building, Economic growth, Tourism development, Shared education, Culture preservation, Women empowerment, Gender equality

Model 1: *The Model below shows the Model for the Hypothesis*



The various programs carried out by the UN and its agencies in Cyprus such as the UN Forces in Cyprus (UNFICYP) and the UN Development Programme (UNDP) to tackle poverty whilst building long lasting peace among the two communities. Both the Greek and Turkish Cypriots communities have been brought together by the UN body and its body missions in Cyprus to carry out various activities together that allows thawing of tensions between the two societies through numerous coordinated by the UN body and missions. In line to this are activities that

also meet human development objectives of the present time and at the same time preserving the future needs of coming generations in the two communities.

Problem Statement

The focus of this qualitative paper is on what role the UN body and missions been playing in order to achieve sustainable development as well as the peacebuilding initiatives in Cyprus. The UN agenda on sustainable development is a strategy for promoting prosperity, the earth, and humankind. It also aims to promote greater freedom and world peace. The UN acknowledges that ending poverty in all of its manifestations, including severe poverty, is the world's largest task and a crucial condition for sustainable development. Sustainable development goals of the UN aim to expand and accomplish what they failed to do. They work toward achieving gender equality, the realization of everyone's human rights, and the empowering of all women and girls. The three facets of sustainable development economic, social, and environmental are balanced and they are inseparable and linked. The UN and its body missions have been partaking in various activities in order to attain these goals. Already the UN body and missions had been focusing on the settlement of the Cyprus problem and this is interesting since the notion of sustainable peace is among the sustainable development Agenda of the UN. The engagement of Cyprus with UNDP and the UN Development System spanned a wide range of initiatives in various socioeconomic spheres throughout the early 1960s, immediately following the Thorpe Report, the very first UN assessment of the island's economic opportunities. From agricultural to industrial, macroeconomic departmental policy and planning creation to organization development, surveys of natural resources to pre-investment studies, enhanced productivity, and vocational courses (UN, 2022). This study elucidates on the role of the UN body and missions in post conflict societies in lights of sustainable development and peacebuilding, using the case of Cyprus.

Aims and Objectives of the Study

-The intention of the research is to use Cyprus as case to illustrate the framework of the UN body and missions in regions that were characterised with confrontations and disputes.

-The study also aims to delineate the functions and accomplishments of UN institutions in Cyprus since the UN and its missions is as a unique global entrant in reunifying communities that were reborn after war and conflict.

-The dissertations, in addition depicts the activities of the UN and its agencies in accomplishing sustainable development goals.

-Another objective of the thesis is to annotate efforts of the UN structures in engaging with local groups to foster the recognition and participation of women in peacebuilding measures.

Significance of the Study

The literature politically emphasize on how the Cyprus has remained divided since 1974. This has hampered efforts in building peace, because of the common historic narratives about the conflict since they have remained constant. The environment has been said to be a tool of conflict resolution or being the cause of tension for Cyprus. In addition, by different actors have had a different view and strategies to the conflict based on their interests in the matter and some of these diplomatic strategies actually have a long-life status. The TRNC holds a *de facto* status and also the Turkish Cypriot side has inadequate to access most of the EU privileges. However, this study is concerned with how the two communities can reconsider their political perceptions in a bid to thaw the political trauma that might have constrained building sustainable peace. Political grievances affect the countries growth and development as well hence achieving the 17 SDGs is only in theory rather than practices. The UN has put aside the *de facto* status to attain its goals by carrying inclusive projects with individuals and groups from the two separate communities to increase the participation of Cyprus in global governance systems and build strong institutions. Women's participation in peace and political processes has also deepened.

Previous studies focused on how tourism has boosted the economies of the country, how the EU accession by the southern part of the island brought a disparity in the economies since there is differentiated opportunity on the global market. As one of the economically developing countries this research brings newness by highlighting how the UNDP has concentrated on developing infrastructure across both communities which is in accordance with Goal 9 of the SDGs about industry, innovation and infrastructure. In addition, there was introduction of youth entrepreneurship workshops, which allow participation of the young generation in economic activities.

This study aims to highlight the value of traditional heritage in order for it to participate more actively on the perpetual peace negotiations in Cyprus, which is an initiative under SDGs to construct peace. The efforts of the UN and its agencies in Cyprus have sought to create a sustainable and peaceful environment for all despite their version of understating the conflict, which has held them apart. The Home of Cooperation is accessible to both communities.

Academic Contribution

As an academic contribution brings originality to this research since previously there have been various factors such as the USA, Britain, EU, Russia, Turkey and Greece with special interests in Cyprus following the nature of the conflict and they have all done a lot in trying to revive various sectors in the RoC, but the UN and its bodies have remained consistent with its goal also to note is how the SDGs have been used to align with the goal of building sustainable peace since the island is a post-conflict society. 17 SDGs are fairly a new development by the UN and in the Cyprus context as a developing nation they are of paramount important in most functioning sectors of the Island such as the economy, education, environment and tourism. In the previous era, the focus was on settlement of the dispute only. In a bid to achieve the SDGs the UN and its Agencies in Cyprus have been carrying various programs using different apparatus such as the social media, conferences and meetings with both communities involved. They directly work together with the civil society and the State representatives from each community.

Normative implications

The normative contribution of this study is to reflect on how the UN and Agencies in Cyprus has upheld its principles and purposes has articulated in the UN Charter. The SDGs are the single pieces that reflect on the ultimate purpose of the UN, which is to maintain global peace through eradication of all the impediments to international peace and security.

Limitations of the Study

The lack of access to other publications that could be a great aid to the study and the limited number of information sources are some of the challenges this research faced. Moreover, there is a language deficiency, since other sources of information such as newspapers and articles are present in either Turkish or Greek language only hence a bit difficulty to fully interpret and reading to understand. Despite afore mentioned challenges, the study's goal will be achieved, and it will not be compromised in any manner.

Research Questions

- ❖ Since the UN and its missions has been in Cyprus since 1964, it is important to understand in what ways the UN has been engaged in Cyprus with regard to sustainable development as well as initiatives towards peacebuilding since Cyprus is also a post conflict society?
- ❖ To what extent has the activities of the UN bodies and missions been successful in manoeuvring the status quo of women in Cyprus with regard to issue of women empowerment, gender equality, the role of women in political negotiations as well as peace settlement initiatives?

Research Design and Methodology

This research used both qualitative approach to gain a better understanding of how the UN and its institutions have worked together with the two communities both Greek and Turkish Cypriots to achieve sustainable development. Besides the growing literature on the role of the UN in Cyprus, this research draws its main data

from the secondary sources, which are books, articles, newspapers, journals, and any other relevant information from the internet primarily due to the restrictions posed by the Covid-19 pandemic. Conducting a field study accompanied with interviews would be problematic due to the conditions caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, hence secondary data sources were used to achieve the study's goal to elaborate on the role of UN Bodies and Missions in Sustainable Development and Peace-building in post-conflict societies whilst using Cyprus as the case of the study.

CHAPTER II

Literature Review

This chapter examines additional depictions of the topic and reviews relevant and current literature on the subject of the role of UN Bodies and Missions in Sustainable development and peace-building in post-conflict Societies the case of Cyprus. The chapter also gives a theoretical view of culturalism which is fairly applicable to this research as well as the narration of the Cyprus conflict and its emergence as “a post-conflict” society, as well as the mediation on the Cyprus issue, UN instruments on responding to threats to international peace, the last section of the chapter articulates on the EU aid programmes available in Cyprus for the Turkish Cypriot Community.

Literature Review

Luc Reyhler asserts that the characteristics of a sustainable peace include the exclusion of physical aggression, the abolition of political, economic, and cultural types of discrimination, self-sustainability, a high degree of domestic and foreign legitimacy or approval, and the propensity to resolve conflicts in a positive way. According to Reyhler's model for sustainable peacebuilding architecture, five key peacebuilding components must be viewed as a whole in order to promote efficient cooperation and planning. The five building blocks of peace include a successful way of communication, consultation, and negotiation; peace-enhancing political, economic, and safety structures and institutions; a holistic political-psychological atmosphere (the software of peacebuilding); a critical mass of peacebuilding authority; and a hospitable regional and global climate. In addition, Reyhler contends that, a significant conceptual barrier to comprehending, orchestrating, and advancing sustainable peacebuilding is the "theory-practice gap," which results from a lack of expertise knowledge exchange between decision-makers, practitioners, scholars, and individuals within the community. Several scholars have found elements that contribute to optimal peacebuilding and also started to establish ideas of peacebuilding founded on the evaluations of detailed case studies and relative surveys. For instance, Stedman and Rothchild recognized army, political, ethnic, and

economic stability as vital to peacebuilding, together with confidence-building and the participation of the global community. Cousens and Kumar, on the other hand, believed that political aspects are crucial to the achievement of peacebuilding. Hartzell examined how the effectiveness of punitive measures, political influence, and economic benefit affect the functioning of concluded peace agreements between states. In the process of promoting peace, the importance of administration and state-building has grown. In order for post-conflict peacebuilding to be effective, Rolf Schwarz, for instance, claimed that security, welfare, and democracy are fundamental state duties that must be addressed. Kirsti Samuels, on the other hand, believes that constitution-building “should constitute the foundation of every post-conflict peacebuilding effort” and therefore is critical to the achievement of institutional and political transformation. Using a security governance strategy to reform the security sector, DDR, the social order, and transitional justice, according to Bryden and colleagues, can increase the efficiency of post-conflict rebuilding. Others, like Paris, highlight the shortcomings of the “liberal peace thesis” of democratization and corporatisation as a means of promoting peacebuilding. In establishing a self-sustaining peace, Doyle and Sambanis outline a seven-step plan that includes state security, regional stability, “quick wins,” the rule of law and enshrined in the constitution assent, the entitlement to property, democratic values or plural participation, and real psychological and moral unification. Michael Pugh contends that indigenous councils must be deeply ingrained well into the ownership of peacebuilding. Additionally, Catherine Barnes maintains that if peacebuilding is done locally, the results will probably be even more authentic and long-lasting. Barnes offers a framework for the interaction that is needed between states, internal civilized society, and global civil society, which may be arbitrated by international bodies or multilateral institutions, in situations in which mistrust exists and a lack of inadequate cooperation among the local governments and civil society groups. As was determined in regard to the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Burundi, and Rwanda, for instance, national government bodies were observed to be backing civil society organisations just to the extent that this suited their goals, yet they had suppressed the organizations when mutual support was necessary. The International Peace Academy (IPA) review acknowledged the fact that since civil society groups have a vital role in the peace and stability within their respective nations and hence in the region as a whole, the three governments of central Africa should be viewed as

cohorts and associates rather than adversaries in the headway of democratic governance and peace. Similar conclusions were reached in the *Report on Integrated Missions*, which found that a mission's effectiveness closely correlates with its capacity to take into account the opinions, aspirations, and sentiments of the local inhabitants. Akin to Stover and Weinstein emphasizes how crucial it is for societal rebuilding to be contextualized, tailored to each distinct post-war scenario, and guided by the interests and needs of such local populace. They have created an ecological model of social rebuilding that offers a platform for sustainable social change in post-war nations and includes programs as well as systems to advance security, free movement of people, equality and the rule of law, as well as availability of accurate and unbiased knowledge, democracy, economic growth, and peace. The acknowledgment of systemic interconnection and the necessity of collaborating in a way that involves all spheres and sections of society are key components of this approach. Another proponent of a multidisciplinary, integrated approach to peacebuilding is Robert Ricigliano. In order to facilitate integrated approaches to peacebuilding in the communities and in respect of the theoretical advancement of the subject, he presented the idea of a *Network of Effective Action* (NEA), which is a collection of collaborative activities. Mullenbach also concluded that increasing complexity and coherence were crucial determinants of peacebuilding effectiveness from a practical standpoint. Another study by Wendy Lambourne and Annie Herro looked at a number of techniques the UN has used peacebuilding both theory and practice to promote long-term rebuilding operations that go past ending a violent conflict, such as those made possible by the establishment of the UN Peacebuilding Commission (PBC). The author focused on the ways these teachings could be applied to make missions more successful in contexts where the UN is not the primary actor.

The Paris Agreement on Climate Change and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) both called for significant changes in every nation, which will necessitate coordinated efforts from the state, civilized society, enterprises, as well as science. The operationalization of the 17 SDGs, however, is not understood by all parties. Tomáš Hák, Svatava Janoušková and Bedřich Moldan (2016) wrote about SDGs and their goals to establish a common guideline for policies and noted how conceptual foundation for indicator development was absent. They emphasized the need to conceptualize and operationalize the goals with an emphasis on the

appropriateness of the indicators. R. Bali Swain & F. Yang-Wallentin (2019), aided by calculating and ranking the SDGs and their influence on sustainable development. The authors used Structural Equation Models (SEM) to research which of the three SDG pillars—economic, social, and environmental—is most useful for attaining sustainable development. Jeffrey D Sachs, (2012) The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) shifted to SDGs. These MDGs were said to be representing a significant global mobilization strategy that has historically been successful in achieving a number of key social priorities on a global scale. MDGs were said to be conveying the public's worry about issues including gender discrimination, environmental damage, unmet educational needs, and poverty, famine, and diseases

Another area covered by authors is about the porosity of global security posed by the collapse of the Soviet Union. Sir Anthony Parsons highlights how the structure of international security has undergone significant alteration since the collapse of the Berlin Wall. The collapse of communism created new access to regional and global coexistence. Bipolar world factions seem to have vanished, state boundaries have loosened up, and largely owing to the developments in information and communication technology, the proportion of globalization has also been accelerating swiftly. In addition, Ivan Simonovic, 2003 on the vagueness posed by collapse of the Berlin Wall as well. The author cautions how the unfortunate demise of a bipolar era has also brought a lot of ambiguity. Global conflict risk, have to some extent diminished, but localized hostilities in particular becoming more likely since rigid control by two blocks ended. In the 1990s, a variety of qualitatively new types of military conflicts with distinct characteristics emerged. Even though these "new wars" are primarily intra-state conflicts rather than international conflicts, they are nevertheless a part of regional and worldwide political and economic linkages. There was also a significant increase in the need for preventive diplomacy and peacemaking, as well as the number of calls for and contributions to peacekeeping.

The 1990s were characterized by a dramatic rise in peacekeeping missions, a decline in the utilization of veto, and a UNSC that was more engaged and functional owing to a heightened level of comprehension. The "responsibility to protect" on part of the global society puts questions the historical connotation of state sovereignty that prohibits interfering in a state's domestic issues. The deployment of armed force or other forceful measures without the agreement of a nation which is either

complicit in or unable to stop injustices, serious human rights violations, and the infliction of tremendous sufferings constitutes a humanitarian intervention by definition.

For Margot Tudor (2021) contends the important of mediation that by sending a specialized mediator accompanying the military mission, the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) hoped to rebuild trust from their member state after the problematic Congo mission: United Nations Operation in the Congo (ONUC) and broaden the organization's diplomatic function in Cyprus. The mediator's success, nevertheless, was hampered diplomatically by the local confinement of the dynamics of the Cyprus dispute and the readiness of the Signatory parties to cede their sovereign belief systems of post-colonial Cyprus. The appointment of a UN envoy to serve alongside the UNFICYP in March 1964 resulted in major changes in the UN Secretariat internal circle's perspective on the organization's presence in Cyprus (Tudor, 2021). Consequently, the UNSC had to admit that satisfying all member states on the one hand while managing field-based political negotiations on the other was impossible (Tudor, 2021). This is evidenced since the presence of the UNFICYP in Cyprus has yielded the same result on overall, as there has not been a consensus reached for both communities since the inception of the UNFICYP. The goal of the study by Hale Özgüt and Dana Zhandildina (2021), was to determine the degree to which the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) aid to sustainable tourism as well as other important targets in North Cyprus using qualitative approach with structured questions). The study also looked into how tourism players in North Cyprus interpret and execute the UN's SDGs. The study found that only a few of the SDGs have been adopted in North Cyprus, and also there is a lack of awareness of the goals and the need for coordination among North Cyprus' many tourism players. Overall, the research uncovered numerous flaws in North Cyprus' implementation of sustainable tourism. The authors further added that by implementing sustainable development efforts, many low - income countries are seeking to improve standards of living whilst still protecting the environment. The construction of protected zones for tourism development is one of the most prevalent efforts. In this environment, long-term development goals for the economies of islands like North Cyprus are critical. Another article by (Ladini, 2009), looked at how peacebuilding ideas have arisen in the international system,

particularly in the UN, which serves as both an international organization and an international institutional framework for dealing with war and conflict issues. The author used Cyprus as an example of the typical UN peacekeeping mission and the importance of civilized society in peacebuilding. Finally, the 'Home for Cooperation' project is portrayed as an important development that merits national and global focus, support, and participation. In Nicolas Stephane Jarraud and Alexandros Lordos' (2012) study, they touched on Cyprus, which has been split since 1974 and where the UNDP has been exploring various techniques for using environmental challenges as entry points for conflict resolution since the late 1990s. This included a developing understanding that the environment is most powerful instrument for peacebuilding once it is paired with an emphasis on public engagement. The authors allude that there are four conceptual linkages between the environment and conflict, according to the article: the environment being a tool of conflict resolution or being the cause of tension, environmental harm due to the conflict as well as the establishment of de-facto green havens within the demilitarized zones.

According to Marina Vasilara and Gotelonne Piaton (2007), participation of civic society is imperative in building direct democracy because it is a joint effort by concerned parties and a manner in which representational democracy, as practiced in modern states could be improved by enabling groups and persons to work together and voice their opinions in forms that could often go unnoticed. They suggested that another primary reason causing steady expansion of non - state activities in Cyprus could be innate misunderstandings regarding its goal, the function of the government, and the function of political groups. Additionally, the administrative framework for non- governmental operations seems to have been ambiguous, along with generating a favourable environment for such a field to thrive, it typically acts as a barrier instead of effective support. They further described the study carried out by UNDP- Action for Cooperation and Trust (ACT) in 2005 which mostly dwelled on the position of civilised community in Cyprus, utilizing the CIVICUS approach to assess its features and look into prospective remedies for structural problems the public sphere encountered. When discussing the importance of environmental coordination in overcoming ethnical disputes, Akçal and Antonsich (2009) raised questions on the ACT's capacity to serve using survey data and opinions of Cypriot environmental stakeholders. The project was established by the UNDP in order to provide chances

for bicomunal environmental partnerships as a strategy to foster intercommunal tolerance. According to the author's studies, the UNDP is highly efficient in when it offering remedies perceived as beneficial to all sides included compared to when it harnesses the surroundings to amorphously generate a common patriotic identity throughout ethnicities. Lior Lehrs (2021) investigated peace agreements as a strategy in peace efforts, global engagement, and mediation procedures in war torn countries through multiple case, the Cyprus Annan Plan of 2004 and the UN supported Kosovo Plan of 2007. Lehr also considered peaceful attempts as a consular tactic, a universal custom and text - based with regard to their lengthy effects. Notwithstanding being affected by a specific situation, peaceful initiatives may occasionally evolve over time despite having a brief impact in addition to failing in the immediate term.

Many domestic conflicts, following Krishna Kumari (2001), possess substantial repercussions on feminist concerns. To begin with, the combatants intentionally pursue civilian populations for annihilation. Additionally, populations are compelled to evacuate their communities by internal conflict, particularly women and children. Third, women's involvement in conflict leads to redefining their personas and cultural expectations. Moreover, there is typically a deliberate endeavour to undermine the public infrastructure that allows it, resulting in high levels of poverty. Lastly, hostilities form a basis of enmity, bitterness, and loathing within adversarial factions that is tough to dismantle. Krishna Kumari went on to highlight how experts from USAID's Centre for Development Information and Evaluation travelled to those nations in 1999. They discovered that the consequences of war against women may be categorized into socioeconomic and political aspects. It further proposed how girls usually reported cognitive damage as a result of the warfare from an interpersonal and psychic standpoint. Many people were concerned about their bodily safety following such violence. In politics, the argument was that the absence of men caused feminist's societal obligations to increase during the conflict. Women performed in voluntary work in dioceses, schools, hospitals, and non-profit groups. Routinely they took the helm of political institutions, honing strong political acumen while also increasing personal ambitions. A fundamental economic issue was considered to be a shortage of intellectual property rights. Females were prohibited from the ownership of land that had previously belonged to their deceased spouses or families. Women from rural areas who lacked property or

even other valuables were forced to work as labourers or farmworkers for pitiful earnings. Food and home products were the mainstays of urban women's incomes. Women could labour in a variety of conflicts during times of conflict. As former soldiers transitioned back to daily life, female labourers were generally the earliest to quit their jobs, (Kumari, 2001).

Theoretical Perspective

The above-mentioned hypothesis is examined from a theoretical standpoint of culturalism. Culture theory is built upon the elements of collective values. The RoC is a *sui generis* entity that is socially constructed by the separate communities of the Greek and Turkish Cypriot people. Both of these communities have been bound with the interests of each group for them to have lived through years in passive coexistence. The interests of the Greek Cypriots included *Enosis* (union) which meant to merge with the motherland Greece. This is an attribute of culturalism in which parties seek to be linguistically recognised with the people they share the same languages, religion, which is Christianity for the Greek Cypriots. On the other hand, Turkish Cypriots supported *Taksim* (partition) which indicates a division of the island into Turkish and Greek portions to the extent to which the Turkish Cypriot community identified themselves to be Turkish than Greek and at the centre of this Turkishness lay Islam as the main religion Turkish as the main language.

The island of Cyprus is also shaped by international norms and standards that changed and is still working on changing the preferences of the two communities. The UN has implemented a variety of protocols to bring a halt to the fighting and permit a peaceful conclusion of such a crisis. The buffer zone which is monitored by the United Nations Forces in Cyprus (UNFICYP) describes the attempts made by foreign players to put an end to the Island crisis. Numerous entities have sought to integrate Cyprus' two civilizations, including the EU, UN and its supporting structures, NGO Support Centre and Cyprus Conflict Resolution Trainers Group which have been partaking in different programmes bringing the residents of the two villages to meet with others will allow them to converse and exchange stories concerning the dispute, as well as acquire as much knowledge concerning one another, such that by the end of the projects they would have understood the

viewpoints from the others and develop a shared understanding of why everyone must dwell in harmony. Organizations exhibiting a specialty on mediation have contributed a substantial fraction of the effort needed to create peace in Cyprus.

It is imperative to note that the hypothesis is specifically noting the UN and its various bodies and peacekeeping activities to attain sustainable development goal as well as gender equality in Cyprus. This emphasises the attributes of the culturalism theory to this study.

Culturalism theory defines Culture as the manner in which people create, exchange, and symbolically express common meaning as a Meso-level theory, for understanding the levels of analysis, culturalism examines society as a whole as in order to describe the way human interactions of people within a group shapes one's personal behaviour. Identity and interest are both constructed through ideas. Partaking in certain shared meanings allows persons to develop identities, which are generally stable, position specific interpretations and desires about oneself. In addition, self is not an element of culturalism; rather, it is an outcome of a social group. Self is also dialogical, which means that it is a person's accumulation of knowledge and conversations they have had throughout their life. Every community has its own way of life and set of rules, which affects how people behave. Shared thoughts and concepts intersubjectively influence behaviour. In culturalism, the identity of a persona is often a part of a particular, socially formed universe, with the proper underpinnings of psychological reality. Based on how right and evil are defined, culture has the capacity to influence an individual's taste. The state as an institution is a social construct, moulded by global conventions that alter desired by NGOs and IGOs. The masterpiece of E. Raymond Williams (1961's *The Long Revolution*) and Raymond Williams *The Making of the English Working Class*, 1963) has had a significant impact on the growth of post-war British cultural philosophy. Williams' importance placed on culture as a method of life in its entirety and Thompson's primary focus on cultural context as the manner wherein groups deal with the basic necessities of both social and material establishment provided fresh ways of reasoning about culture, especially by decoupling the concept from a limited literary and stylistic relation. Williams and Thompson both researched how people actually live their cultures and how people actively and collectively create purposeful ways of living. Moreover, through the use of Antonio Gramsci's theories, the desire

to acknowledge the potency of cultural norms in Althusser's work was explored furthermore in cultural theory. The writings of Gramsci provided fresh perspectives on how culture and cultural standards affect class identities and class allegiances. In notably, Gramsci accorded culture a significant weight when it came to attaining positions of ethical and political significance (hegemony). Gramsci's theories played a significant role in assisting cultural theory to escape the 1970s deadlock that was caused by disputes between rival culturalist and structuralist viewpoints Stuart Hall, Chas Critcher, Tony Jefferson, John Clarke and Brian Roberts (1978).

The Cyprus conflict and emergence of “a post-conflict” society

The Cyprus conflict is one of the protracted disputes that resulted from the colonialist age. With over three centuries of Ottoman control, Britain conquered Cyprus in 1914, by 1925 Cyprus was now one of the British colonies. A shared republican was founded when the republic of Cyprus was given statehood in 1960. In 1963 Makarios who was the leader of the Greek Cypriot origin, President of the Republic of Cyprus (RoC) raised various concerns over the Turkish Cypriots and began to suggest that the Constitution of the common Republic had to be amended and that it was to abort all the agreements that would prescribe the sharing of power between, both Cypriots communities. The rivalry involving the warring villages came to an end at around this point. Makarios subsequently put out a 13-point change to the founding document during 1963, however it was opposed by the Turkish community. It ensured the Greek Cypriot majority to make decisions within the state. Intercommunal rioting then started shortly following the ultimate resignation of the minority Turkish Cypriot cabinet members and certain key authorities. Throughout that period, Turkish patriots (taksim) contended for splitting the island, while Greek tribes agitated for Greece's oneness (enosis). Turkish Cypriots became compelled to leave most of their settlements areas, which made up a proportion of the region's overall surface area, in 1964 as a result of dissension aggression and upheaval. In Nicosia, a cease-fire line known as the Green Line was formed. The Green Line, called after a green line drawn on a map by a British officer to depict the separation between Greeks and Turks, was established after the UK arranged a cease-fire between the two sides. In contrast, the British summit, convened in 1964 comprising

the Cypriot groups and Britain, Athens, and Turkey, was unsuccessful in putting a stop to the carnage. Furthermore, because the violence these two populations persisted, attempts to re-establish peace from both Britain and the UN proved futile, Richmond (1998). An expedition to uphold tranquillity on the island was subsequently allowed by the UNSC. (United Nations Forces in Cyprus –henceforth UNFICYP) in March 1964 following Resolution 186 (see appendix), which was unanimously adopted by the Security Council which was an urgent situation to calm the situation.

In July 1974, Turkey intervened the island in accordance with the 1960 Treaties to maintain the order. Turkey's interference into the problem has a number of lexical connotations hitherto. For the Greek Cypriots and Greece this would allow Turkey to seek uniting while guaranteeing that the island remained apart from Greece's motherland. The Turkish Cypriots, on the contrary, welcomed Turkey's intervention, which would bring to an end to the intercommunal conflict.

In this regard, Cyprus is regarded as a post-conflict society because since 1974, there was no active violence on the island following the Resolution passed by UNSC, which emphasized respect for Cyprus' sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity (Richmond 1998). Successive agreements called for prudence when taking any measures which would endanger Cyprus' autonomy, freedom, integrity of the country and caution when attempting to fragment or alter the island's population, and the peaceful repatriation of refugees to respective residences.

Mediation on Cyprus Dispute

Attempts to settle a dispute amicably may be hampered by the volatile sentiments and sensations that are prevalent in situations of conflict. Hence it could be necessary for a third party to intervene to stop confrontations from emerging or to expedite dialogues once they have. This third party should have a general or a particular stake in the harmonious resolution of the dispute. The expression and justification of third parties' interests in amicable resolution can be done successfully through mediation. A third-party mediator can provide crucial support in the effort to achieve peace. The quest for peace can all be sparked by a mediator, who can then have a significant impact on the internal aspects of the negotiation process. A

mediator might offer the parties to a dispute a political safe haven for the communication and justification of the trade-offs required for resolution. Once all disputing parties seem to be in supportive of a peaceful resolution, multinational mediation is most effective. In contrast to the common wisdom on mediation, the arbitrator may also be able to work effectively in a seemingly less than perfect setting. International mediation can significantly contribute towards the stability of the world as well as peace in any situation. The UN, region defense bodies, or any other of interested nations can oversee mediation (Mendozat 1981).

The UN has addressed the Cyprus problem with the presumption that Inis Claude articulated that the problem would indeed be amenable to peaceful resolution if a standoff seen among factions was forcibly postponed. In actuality, some conflicts can be effectively managed over time and eventually fade away or mature into settlement opportunities. The several mediation attempts and the UN' measures to achieve a negotiated peace, along with the commencement of a UN peacekeeping force in March 1964, have not been able to close the chasm separating the sides'. Some of the idiosyncrasies believed to have halted settlement since the onset arbitration efforts were articulated by Bölükbaşı in his writing and he alluded that the Greek Cypriots have attempted to leverage the UN equipment, that also, particularly in the 1960s, sanctioned at critical occasions violent decolonization mostly in Third World by bringing up its denunciatory potency. This is so because they believe that the 1960 Constitution is a remnant of the republics colonial history that compels each side to share the regime on the island with the relatively small Turkish society (Bölükbaşı 1998).

However, despite the fact that a significant proportion of the UN members, particularly since 1964, has remained more sympathetic to the Greek Cypriots' assertions, complicity of Britain, the USA, and, more pertinently, Turkey has been said to have hindered the conflict from being resolved by a preemptive abrogation of the 1959 Accords and indeed the 1960 Constitution, wherein the Greek side has referred to this as colonial.

Turkey supported maintaining the standing quo in Cyprus during the beginning of 1950s since it thought London Conference would eventually choose to remain on the island and since it saw the British commitment as a deterrence to the Soviet threats (Bölükbaşı 1998). The 1959 Agreement was significant because it also

established Cyprus as an independent state and a UN member, which dictated how the organization had to have deal with future issues on the island. Therefore, the UN has been engaged across most elements of the dissension dispute since Cyprus's independence was declared on August 16, 1960. Late in 1963, Cypriot President Makarios suggested amending the state's constitution to lessen the constitutional voice of the Turkish minority. Violence broke out between the Turkish and Greek Cypriots as a result of this move. Great Britain took up the duty of attempting to find a peaceful settlement to the dispute in its capacity as a co-guarantor of Cypriot freedom and dignity. An impression that a specific third party is a reasonable and suitable mediator can arise from the setting and background of a distinct conflict. Based on this impression, Great Britain made initial diplomatic attempts to resolve the Cyprus problem. President Makarios of the RoC advocated changing the Constitution in late 1963 in a fashion that would restrict the political rights of the Turkish minority. Amongst Turkish and Greek Cypriots, this move led to deadly confrontations. Great Britain took up the duty of attempting to reach an amicable solution to the crisis in its capacity as a co-guarantor of Cyprus' independence and dignity.

In a swift plea to Makarios to put a cease to the violence, Britain invited Greece and Turkey to accompany them. Britain's diplomatic actions led to the three nations offering their combined best endeavours in an attempt to rectify the issues that had caused the crisis. The quick reaction from Britain made it possible for the adversaries to negotiate later on while also establishing a tense ceasefire. Despite the failure of the efforts in the negotiations to result in a political resolution of the fundamental problems, Britain's interventions momentarily lessened the threat of a civil war that might have resulted in active combat between Greece and Turkey (Mendozat 1981).

There were fresh suggestions for how to approach the Cyprus crisis after 1974 Turkish Cypriots expressed their desire for a bi-zonal, bi-communal federal state whereas Greek Cypriots talked about the possibility of a multi-canton confederation. In comparison to what was considered before the summertime of 1974, the elevated accords of 1977 and 1979 required a widely divergent strategy. These accords came close to meeting the maximalist demands of the Turkish Cypriot perspective but were seen as a severe compromise by the Greek Cypriots. Also,

every society had a fundamentally distinct understanding of what was truly consented on within the high-level accords. Various conceptions were not exclusively centre on how much land had to be administered by Turkish Cypriots or how big that sector had to be. The rights to one's property, the liberty of refugees to repatriate to their homeland, and even the rights of all Cypriots to live on the island became (and still are) unassailable for Makarios and the Greek Cypriots. The Turkish Cypriots' request to live in a region that was under their rule could have been met without compromising Greek Cypriots' rights, hence it made sense to the Greek Cypriots to want their property back (Andreas Theophanous,2002).

As of 2008, the negotiations were said to notably being forwarded and owned by Cypriots. This had been a requirement that the Greek Cypriot side had insisted on ever since 2004, and it reflects a widespread impression among Greek Cypriots that the Annan Plan seemed to be an imposition by the global society, particularly the western world. For more than 50 years now, there has been sporadic intercommunal dialogues supported by the UN with the goal of addressing the aberrant political situation in Cyprus. Over the past ten years, it seemed as though the parties and the so-called Annan Plan were close to reaching a settlement. After that, there was no serious conversation for a number of years. The latter then collapsed in the 2004 referendums. The procedure was restarted in the springtime of 2008, and it has since had two significant setbacks. It has been in place for since then.

One of these gaps, which occurred spanned from October 2014 to April 2015, was actually quite problematic because it was brought on by a disagreement over energy resources offshore that directly affected Turkey. The Italian corporation Eni started drilling off the southern coastline of the island in accordance to a license from the Republic of Cyprus administration, and that is when this happened. Following this, Turkey issued a navigation alert (NAVTEX), marking zones in the southern coast of the island for seismic studies to be conducted by *Türkiye Petrolleri Anonim Ortaklığı* (TPAO), in accordance with permits it had secured from Turkish Cypriot administration in 2011 (Cyprus Mail, 2014). The Greek Cypriot administration's response was to proclaim that it would no longer be participating in the negotiations (Christou in Cyprus Mail, 2014). The issue persisted till Eni moved its drilling ship out of the region after finding no extractable hydrocarbons. Espen Barth Eide, the UN Secretary General's Special Advisor, stated on April 7, 2015, that he did not

perceive any barriers to a swift restart of negotiations after the conclusion of the voting process in the north of Cyprus. This was following he had separately met with representatives from both sides. Michele Kambas, UN (2015). Eide was alluding to the Turkish Cypriot presidential elections and Mustafa Akıncı won the election, becoming the president of Northern Cyprus. He is a leftist figure well known for his record of long-standing advocacy for reconciliation and reunification on the island. Talks resumed in May the same year but not precisely resuming from where they left off.

The stances of the opposite wings, which are entirely contradictory, remain predominant at the topmost priority of red flags. All these major concerns comprised of governance and power sharing, these covered complicated topics like nationality, immigration, and residency, the economy, EU matters, property, land, security, and guarantees. Despite substantial discussion, particularly among top negotiators, and crucial foundations, the property question is still a point of contention. The main causes of contention usually concern the manner in which to harmonize the rights and interests of former owners and present users or with disagreements over how to apply and comprehend the “bizonality” premise. Therefore, further development at this point is dependent upon the leaders making the required political choices (Famagusta Gazette, 2016).

When the Conference on Cyprus reconvened at the conclusion of June 2017 in Crans-Montana (Switzerland), there appeared to be lot of optimism. Many onlookers of the protracted “Cyprus crisis” held the opinion that the relevant entities, the Greek and Turkish Cypriots, had never been this close to striking an agreement before this most recent round of negotiation. Following a week of intense conversations, though, this rekindled optimism gave way to disillusionment. The Conference was coming to an end without a resolution on July 7, according to UN Secretary-General António Guterres, who had travelled to the Swiss Alpine city in hopes of giving the negotiations a drive. Whilst also US Vice President Mike Pence had called to strongly encourage them to “seize this historic opportunity,” Guterres had ferried to shove Greek Cypriot President Nicos Anastasiades and Turkish Cypriot leader Mustafa Akıncı to reach an agreement that would reunite the RoC. According to officials, Turkish Cypriots desires for an alternating presidency. One of the major problems seemed to be Greek Cypriots’ demand for complete pull-out of

Turkish forces from the island. However, the dispute has deepened as a result of years of mistrust and impasse.

Victory in the negotiations over Cyprus might have provided Guterres a prominent position at the G20 summit in Hamburg, where he is scheduled to speak with US President Donald Trump, who had threatened to reduce American support for the United Nations (Miles 2017). Nicosia and Athens repeated their rejection of the notion of a separate, independent nation for Northern Cyprus and their support for a deal that would bring the two countries back together as a federal state in accordance with UN resolutions. Attempts to reach an agreement on this issue in Crans Montana by former President Akıncı failed due to disagreements over the evacuation of Turkish soldiers from the territory of the island. Tatar had stated to keep advocating for an independent TRNC regardless of whether it is accepted during the talks (Cook, 2021). The successor of Akıncı, President Tatar had previously refused an EU proposal to join the discussions as just a spectator, stating that it was impossible to be impartial given that the Greek Cypriots are a member of the EU bloc.

The fragmented island is a significant source of friction between NATO allies Greece and Turkey. These have recently clashed over topics including gas extraction within eastern Mediterranean, which flared in 2020 when Turkey moved warships into areas controlled by Greece and Cyprus. Somewhat on island, disagreements have indeed repeatedly broken out; more lately, the Covid-19 outbreak has made matters worse. This is the first occasion since the border passage between the two ends was permitted in 2003; Greek Cypriots proposed the interim restriction of four crossing points in February 2020, with each side exacting various health conditions. The 2017 summit in Crans-Montana, which was intended to bring Cyprus back together within a two-zone federal union, was a failure. Ever since, Northern Cyprus has sought for a two-state settlement, that has largely been opposed by Greek Cypriots who believe it entails Turkish Cypriot autonomous power (Cook, 2021). The following section below discusses the original mission of the UN as well as the tools used by the UN in response to threats to global peace.

The UN's original mission

The United Nations' (UN) original mission was to uphold international peace and security through the use of a mechanism known as Collective Security (CS) when it was still known as the League of Nations (UN 2022) following the bloody war that left the world devastated WWII. A technique for coalition-building known as "collective security" involves a collection of states coming together, pledging not to attack one another and to defend one another in the event of an attack. Because of the Cold War and the declining USA-Soviet Union relationship, the Security Council was paralyzed, and this prevented the realization of collective security. When it comes to massive reconstruction projects intended to revitalize a country's institutional framework, the Marshal Plan still rules modern thought. In order to maintain global peace and security within that situation, Peacekeeping, a new and spontaneous method, had to be developed. This mission is what the mandate of the UN became as well and the section below discusses some of the instruments by the UN to respond to threats to international peace.

UN Methods of responding to threats to international peace and security

Peaceful Settlement of conflicts: UN Charter's Chapter VI

The basic objective of the UN is to uphold world peace and stability. In line with this aim; Chapter 6 in the UN Charter stipulates and mandates the peaceful resolution of disputes through the Security Council action, including methods such as dialogue, mediation, arbitration, and judicial judgments even to revert to local organizations or agreements and other such peaceful ways of their own discretion (UN Charter Chapter VI, 1945).

The Security Council has the authority to look into any disagreement or circumstance that could cause international strife or spark a conflict .so as to evaluate if the continuation of the conflict is likely to jeopardize the preservation of global peace and security. Any member state of the UN has the capacity submit any disagreement or circumstance of the kind described above. Additionally, the UN Charter permits the General Assembly and non-member states to take part in security-related issues. Each and every state, irrespective of whether it is among UN members, does have the competence to present any issue to the SC or even the

General Assembly if it impedes universal harmony and stability (UN Charter, Article 35).

The UN protective measures against violent crimes, breaches of international peace, and challenges to the peace (Chapter VII)

If efforts at a diplomatic settlement are unsuccessful, the UNSC has the authority to approve stringent means such as the recourse to lethal force under Chapter VII of the UN Charter (UN Charter Chapter VII; Archer 2002). This is founded on the concept of mutual defense, which holds that when a single player is attacked, all other members will react. Consequently, the UN Charter permits participation in security concerns from the General Assembly and entities without complete membership to the UN. In this context, it is crucial to emphasize that Article 2(7) limits the UN's ability to intervene in areas that are internal to states and come under their domestic jurisdiction, but “this principle shall not prejudice the application of enforcement measures under Chapter VII” (UN Charter, 1945). In accordance with Article 41, these punitive procedures cover a wide range of non-violent compliance tools. As of 1966, the Security Council has put in place 30 sanctions regimes, including those against ISIL (Da’esh), Al-Qaida, and the Taliban in addition to those against Southern Rhodesia, Rwanda, South Africa, the former Yugoslavia (2), Haiti, Iraq (2), together with other many other nations too. Sanctions imposed by the Security Council have taken various forms and been used to achieve various objectives. The penalties have ranged from extensive trade and economic sanctions to more focused ones like travel bans, banking or commodity prohibitions, and weaponry blockades. Sanctions have been imposed by the Security Council to encourage peaceful transformations, prevent unconstitutional developments, rein in terrorism, defend human rights, and advance non-proliferation. When implemented as part of a complete plan, that includes peacekeeping, peacebuilding, and peace-making, the actions are also most successful at upholding or re-establishing international peace and security. These sanctions are not always severe; a number of these regimes are created to aid nations and regions in their efforts to undergo peaceful transitions for instance in Libya and Guinea-Bissau. In the years following the Cold War, new threats to world peace and stability have arisen, including viral outbreaks, epidemics, and violent extremism. Due to this, the UN now needs to

broaden its area of responsibility beyond peacekeeping to include operations related to contemporary global hazards (Archer 2002).

Below is an explanation of the European Aid program, which provided support for various programs in Cyprus, intended to assist the public sphere, peacekeeping endeavours, and optimism activities.

The EU Aid Programme for the Turkish Cypriot Community

Cyprus became a member of the EU in 2004 despite being *defacto* split Island. The Council of the European Union declared on April 26, 2004, that it was determined to eliminate the isolation of the Turkish Cypriot minority and to aid in the reconciliation of Cyprus by promoting the society's economic growth. The cornerstone of the EU's support for Cyprus's civilized society is the Civil Society in Action Programme. A huge European funding meant to help civil society, peacemaking efforts, and confidence-building initiatives went toward this Europe Aid initiative, which gave assistance for 42 programs from 2007 to 2012. Additionally, a cooperative initiative with Council of Europe was launched to create the Academy of Political Studies, afterwards known as European Forum Cyprus, for the bicomunal education of future leadership and decision-makers. It operated from 2007 to 2011, spending €700,000, however it was also deemed to have had low achievement in terms of sustainability, efficacy, execution, and efficiency (Europe Aid 2013).

The project's goal is to speed up the rapprochement of Cyprus whilst also promoting the Turkish Cypriot society's growth in the economy. It places special emphasis on the island's economic cooperation, enhancing relations between the two societies and with the EU, and getting ready for the EU *acquis*, or body of laws, which would come into effect after a thorough resolution of the Cyprus problem. The European Union provided funding for projects assisting the Turkish Cypriot society totalling nearly 520 million euros between 2006 and 2018, which really is crucial again for island's reconciliation (EU, 2022). The EU established a special goal to build and update infrastructures and improve the environmental conditions in the Turkish Cypriot community through the EU Aid Programme for the Turkish Cypriot

society. Such initiatives involve improving infrastructural and environmental safeguards closer to European standards.

Three different task forms were sponsored by the Civil Society in Action Programme, two of which had a definite bicomunal objective and the third was more generically intended to "strengthen civil society." the initial deliberate interaction among GCs and TCs. The other was for initiatives fostering civil society between TCs, recognizing that Northern Cyprus lacked the possibilities and resources present in the Republic as a result of global non-recognition. Despite the large number of funders, there hasn't been enough evaluation of the successful achievement of bicomunal programs in Cyprus up to this point.

The fact that financial help is supported by regulation based on policies as opposed to outcomes is crucial for comprehending the absence of rigorous evaluation. The calibre of the performance criteria used also plays a role in efficient monitoring.

CHAPTER III

The role of the UN in post-conflict societies

Through diplomacy, goodwill, and arbitration, the UN plays a significant part in conflict prevention since the end of the Second World War. Special envoys and political missions on the ground are some of the instruments the Organization employs to promote peace within societies that experienced conflicts. A detailed examination of the UN's involvement in post-conflict communities will be presented in this chapter.

Following a war, post-conflict nations have two separate difficulties: economic recovery and reducing the danger of recurrence. Aid and policy initiatives have shown to be beneficial in reviving the economy. Earlier before the end of the Cold War, the UN was directly engaged in boundary and cease-fire observation, as well as the holding or surveillance in polls, however, it had limited experience in real territory control (Bennett 1991). The General Assembly abolished the custodianship, which South Africa formerly earned through the League of Nations, the UN asserted the authority to rule Namibia's territory and established a Cabinet for Namibia to do such. However, South Africa, refused to hand up control of the area to the UN, yet the assembly never really used these powers in any meaningful way. When South Africa eventually agreed to leave Namibia, the UN Transition Assistance Group was formed to oversee the agreed-upon cease-fire and troop withdrawal, and also the electoral system, except that the UN did not participate in government. Ken Macnab critiqued the UN's vilification by the fight against terrorism in late 2003 and asserted that the organization is still by far the best fit to supervise humanitarian assistance. It also plays a central position in post-conflict rebuilding, particularly to guarantee that peace is not simply the exclusion of violent acts but also justice, embracing democracy, and protection of human rights. In light with the claim, the following section articulates the role of leadership played by the UN in post conflict.

Post-Conflict Leadership

The political and moral concept established by John Rawls in 1971 has largely been recognized and adopted by the UN in order to achieve lasting peace and stability in post-conflict societies. In tandem with the defense of human rights, liberal

democracy and the rule of law emerged to become foundations of governance. For the purpose of achieving social justice, constitutions have also been created also government bodies erected. Without a doubt, developing institutional capacity for democratic governance is attractive for maintaining peace and stability well over long haul, but in the years immediately following a conflict, there is a greater need to impact and change heads of government in a bid to be more devoted to national unity and interest. Sukehiro Hasegawa (2016) on *Post-Conflict Leadership: Implementing the 2030 Agenda: The Challenge of Conflict*, recognized that particular leadership qualities that support fostering peace in the wake of conflict and throughout the period leading up to the shift from post-conflict peacebuilding to sustainable development. In the immediate wake of a crisis. The author suggests how crucial it is for national leaders to strike an equilibrium between the need to ensure political stability, if appropriate with force, and running their nations by persuading both their supporters and their adversaries' thoughts and behaviour. It necessitates both steadfast leadership and the readiness to share and take into account various interests and aspirations. The most effective method to create a society that upholds the rule of law is for leaders to act honourably, displaying restraint in their own conduct and behaviour rather than relying on force and authority to further their agenda.

The allegiance of the authorities to the interest of the country, identity, and unity is the primary quality. Personal ambition and hostility are the primary drivers of military conflict and struggle in nations that are prone to conflict. National leaders ought to practice self-control, put the good of the country before themselves, and promote unity. The second quality is their capacity to adapt regional values and traditions to global ideals and governing principles. Thirdly, effective leadership is distinguished by bravery, compassion, and the capacity to convince both their adherents and the public of the value of seeking holistic ideas and tailoring global values to local standards of morality. The fourth quality of a leader is the capacity to strike a balance between the necessity of redressing wrongs and atrocities of the past and the value of advancing the future, Sukehiro Hasegawa (2015). The leader's ability to change people's perspectives and mentalities in order to establish lasting peace and progress is the final and most fundamental quality.

The Concept of Peace building

One of the roles of the UN in post conflict societies is peace building. Promoting peace in nations that have recently experienced conflict is a crucial, massive, and difficult task. The phrase "peacebuilding" was first used more than 30 years ago by Johan Galtung, who advocated the development of peacebuilding institutions to advance enduring peace by addressing the "root causes" of violent conflict and fostering local capacities for managing conflict as well as peace-making. Galtung's work is commended with the term's original emergence in his groundbreaking book "Three Approaches to Peace: Peacekeeping, Peacemaking, and Peacebuilding" in 1975. He suggested that; "peace has a framework distinct from, possibly well beyond, peacekeeping and random peacemaking" in his writing. The foundational elements of peace should always be incorporated into the design and serve as a resource, which the system can draw from. Peacebuilding is seen as a complex endeavour that entails a dedication to creating the structural, cultural, emotional, legal, political, and economic conditions required to foster a culture of peace instead of a propensity for violence. The cessation of hostilities and measures to lessen the likelihood of future violence are crucial building blocks for establishing peace and human security, however they are inadequate to inspire support for the new government and remove the mental blocks that wartime experiences have erected between persons

One more influential researcher in the domain of peace studies is John Paul Lederach, who argued for a greater knowledge of peacebuilding. He asserted that peacebuilding "is more than post-agreement reconstruction" and "is understood as a comprehensive concept that encompasses, generates, and sustains the full array of processes, approaches, and stages needed to transform conflict toward more sustainable, peaceful relationships" (Lederach 1995: 201-222.). Thus, the phrase refers to a broad variety of actions, which both should accompany official peace agreements. According to Lederach, controlling violent conflict throughout all of its stages may be managed using a comprehensive and diversified strategy called conflict transformation in his one of his writings titled, "*Conflict Transformation in Protracted Internal Conflicts: The Case for a Comprehensive Framework,*" in *Conflict Transformation in 1995*. The phrase denotes an incremental trend of transitioning from unhealthy relationships, behaviours, mind-sets, and systems,

peacebuilding entails changing how people relate to one another. The experience of life is complicated and multifaceted; hence peacebuilding efforts should adopt a holistic strategy that relies on widespread societal involvement. For him peace is not considered as a momentous event but an ever-evolving social construction.

Within this context, peacebuilding for Lederach is: “A sustainable transformative approach suggests that the key lies in the relationship of the involved parties, with all that the term encompasses at the psychological, spiritual, social, economic, political and military levels”. Nurturing an “infrastructure for peacebuilding” means that “we are not merely interested in 'ending' something that is not desired. We are oriented toward the building of relationships that in their totality form new patterns, processes, and structures” (pp, 201-222.).

The transformative process of peacebuilding should, therefore, be founded on an understanding of the unique cultural and conflict context as well as on the effective involvement of civil society if it is to be sustained (Chopra and Hohe 2004). Concurrently, Lederach suggested that contextualization and empowerment are necessary for a feasible peace process. Luc Reychler (2006) contends that situational judgment is more crucial than being aware of the most popular strategies for promoting peace within various settings.

The political environment of peacebuilding is that in the states, there is a lot of political unpredictability and volatility throughout the early post-conflict timeframe. In addition to making progress, peace processes frequently experience setbacks. Before freshly appointed legislators have taken on respective administrative and legislative duties during the first post-conflict elections, several nations are overseen by interim political structures. Therefore, the effectiveness of peacebuilding primarily relies on the political choices taken by those participating such as the local authorities, community members, corporate sponsors, as well as the UN, in aspect on competent government by national authorities and in the UN, and even in part on resources such as human capital or donation funding. Below is a highlight on some the vital components of peacebuilding derived from (UN Peacebuilding: An Orientation of 2010).

Components of peacebuilding

National capacity

From the outset beginning, as an entry strategy rather than the exit plan, national capacity development must be at the centre of all international peacebuilding initiatives. In fact, one of the main goals of peacekeeping is to swiftly get to the stage at which foreign aid is no longer relevant. To do this, it is important to make sure that all activities encourage the growth of indigenous peacekeeping capacities. This presents a difficulty, relatively early on national capability is frequently shifted and sharply curtailed and peace becomes brittle. Hence, for peace to last, peacebuilding initiatives must continuously strive to (re)build institutional capability. A preliminary appraisal of current capabilities must be made in order to complement this endeavour.

Common strategy

Numerous parties are involved in participatory peacebuilding. An agreed-upon shared plan that is domestically defined and has distinct emphases is vital for efficient peacebuilding because it allows the UN, the global arena and local allies to distribute resources accordingly. The following characteristics of shared goal ought to be prevalent: national ownership; a participatory planning process; and also, consultation with a diverse range of sectors. Based on an evaluation of the nation's conditions, including an understanding of the factors that contribute to and increase the likelihood of conflict (e.g., through a Post-Conflict Needs Assessment or Strategic Assessment).

National ownership

The task and duty of peacebuilding essentially fall on the national level. For peacebuilding to succeed it demands a sense of national responsibility. The duty for establishing the groundwork for a permanent peace is taken on by the people of the nation's wherein peacebuilding is taking place, with assistance from their authorities (UN Peacebuilding: An Orientation of 2010).

Academic Definitions of Peacebuilding

- Peacebuilding, according to Johan Galtung, is the act of developing self-sustaining systems that eliminate causes of conflicts and suggest options to war in contexts whereby wars may arise. He proposed incorporated into the system and be in place as a reserve for the institution itself to rely that conflict resolution techniques be upon, in the same manner in which healthy body produces its own antibodies not when medication is administered into the body. Using Johan Galtung's definition, peace-building is defined as both the positive peace that focuses on the “root causes” of strife as well as stopping the conflict that is referred by the term “negative peace” (Galtung 1975). With respect to certain other global peace operations, peacebuilding is distinct due to its emphasis on addressing the social causes of conflict. Galtung emphasized that, in contrast to the other conflict resolution strategies, peace-building takes a connecting technique, peace as the elimination of structural violence in the form of repression as opposed to the elimination of “direct violence,” meaning is the use of force.
- Luc Reyckler ‘*Challenges of Peace Research* (2006)’, Contends that peacebuilding should be viewed as a sophisticated structure involving complex transformation, one that incorporates contemporaneous work by several persons throughout many sectors, at various levels, and in various time periods.
- Furthermore, Rama Mani in one of her writings *Beyond Retribution: Seeking Justice in the Shadows of War* (2002) denotes peacebuilding as a continuing phenomenon that is primarily a political undertaking as well as a "*social and associative process that rebuilds fractured relationships between people.*" Thus, relationship-building is paramount when it comes to structural reforms and rebuilding if a lasting peace is to be achieved.
- In addition, Jeroen de Zeeuw of the Netherlands Institute of International Relations' Conflict Research Unit defines peace-building as "long-term political, economic, and social provisions to address the causes of conflict, the interdependent quality and consequent importance of coordination," as well as encompassing preventative health peace-building initiatives.

According to Zeeuw, the drive to transform a conflict society into one that promotes peace is at the heart of peacebuilding (De Zeeuw, 2001).

Institution-specific definitions of peacebuilding

- According to the UN Secretary-General's Committee, bolstering national skills for conflict management at all levels, peacebuilding seeks to lower the danger of conflict escalating or re-escalating while also laying the groundwork for lasting peace and development. Making the circumstances for a lasting peace requires a complicated, protracted process. Measures for promoting peace also address fundamental problems that have an impact on how community and the state operate, and they work to strengthen the state's ability to carry out its fundamental duties in an appropriate and effective manner (UN, 2022).
- Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice, University of San Diego defines Peacebuilding as overcoming racial, religious, class, national, and ethnic barriers to generate positive interpersonal, social, and political ties is known as peacebuilding. It tries to change the underlying factors that fuel deadly conflict and find peaceful solutions to injustice. Preventing conflict, managing it, resolving it, transforming it, and promoting reconciliation after conflicts are over are all examples of peacebuilding. Peacebuilding becomes strategic when it works over the long run and at all levels of society to establish and sustain relationships among people locally and globally. Strategic peacebuilding connects people and groups “on the ground” (community and religious groups, grassroots organizations, etc.) with policymakers and powerbrokers (governments, the UN corporations, banks, etc.) It aims not only to resolve conflicts, but also to build societies, institutions, policies, and relationships that are better able to sustain peace and justice (Kroc, 2022).

Peacebuilding within UN framework

Peace-building is a relatively growing field in international relations. The concept gained tract in the UN when the then UN Secretary General Boutros B. Ghali in his 1992 report "An Agenda for Peace," being part of the UN approach for conflict resolution, after conventional peacekeeping appeared ineffectual in dealing with the security concerns of the post-Cold War era. Boutros-Ghali articulates post-conflict peacebuilding to be an activity to discover and support mechanisms that will contribute to sustaining and solidifying peace in order to prevent a resurgence into war. "An Agenda for Peace" comprises of four aspects and sets up a new program to increase the UN's capacity. Preventative diplomacy aims to resolve differences before they turn violent; peace-making and peacekeeping are needed to end wars and maintain peace once it has been achieved (Archer 2002). When they are successful, they will increase the chances of post-conflict peacebuilding, which will help eliminate the return of bloodshed between states and peoples. An Inventory of Post-Conflict Peacebuilding Activities was then issued by the UN in 1996. It outlined the numerous and diverse peacebuilding functions, such as relief and humanitarian assistance, mine clearance, ex-combatant disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR), refugee repatriation, and reintegration), security sector reform (SSR), strengthening of human rights, crime prevention, and justice system administration, election monitoring, and support for democratization, economic rebuilding and development, and civil society rehabilitation. Following this, peacebuilding efforts were divided into four categories: security and public order, justice and reconciliation, governance and participation, and socioeconomic well-being, according to an inventory of UN capabilities in peacebuilding issued out in 2006. The deployment of UN soldiers in Yugoslavia in the time of the bloody and lengthy fragmentation of this same nation rekindled debate over the organization's function in resettling refugees. The United Nations established the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) in 1992, which oversees all mine-clearing operations effectively out under UN authority and offers managerial and technical assistance for humanitarian and political initiatives.

The 2000 Brahimi Report (officially known as the Report of the Panel on United Nations Peace Operations) also underlined the necessity of improving the UN's capability to carry out an extensive range of tasks. A team of experts in several

facets of conflict prevention, peacekeeping, and peacebuilding was convened by the then UN Secretary-General to evaluate the system's weaknesses and provides appropriate, practical suggestions for improvement. The report's suggestions placed a strong emphasis on operational and administrative needs, possibly even greater than on politics and strategies. The report is commonly referred to as the Brahimi Report, following Lakhdar Brahimi, who was the committee chairperson. The report made provisions, for instance that the UN should retain brigade-size forces of 5,000 soldiers that are prepared to deploy in 30 to 90 days and that UN head office be manned with experienced and skilled military experts capable of using cutting-edge digital technology and planning operational processes with a UN staff that includes political, growth, and civil rights specialists. Furthermore, the "Brahimi Report," also specified the instruments to be used for increasing the UN's capacity in peacekeeping. The Report discussed issues such as the use of local police forces and related rule of law elements in peacekeeping missions to enforce the rule of law and protection of human rights, as well as consolidating demilitarization, demobilization, and better integrating voter guidance and support into a larger system for supporting governmental entities (Brahimi, L., 2000).

Additionally, instructions for a variety of peacebuilding duties have been given to Special Political Missions and unified peacebuilding missions. In any of those circumstances, security may well be supplemented by multilateral security services backed by the UN or it could be given by the local government. Financing for Peacekeeping Operations (PKOs) and Special Political Missions (SPMs) comes from overall measure from member states; however, this funding does not fully support all of the peacebuilding activities listed in these missions' objectives. They must consequently collaborate with UN development and humanitarian players, the World Bank, local and regional organizations, civil society, multilateral and bilateral contributors, and the corporate sector if they desire to succeed.

UN Peacebuilding Commission and Practise

Furthermore, in order to meet the needs of nations devastated by war and conflict, the UN Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) was founded as an intergovernmental advisory council in 2005 at the World Summit following the UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan's report *In Larger Freedom*. The PBC aims to fill the

institutional gap triggered by UN's absence of a frame devoted to reconstruction of peace. While the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) is largely anxious with assisting developing countries, UNSC is mostly interested in emerging internal political turmoil. PBC was officially established in June 2006 and is required to undergo assessment each five years to ascertain that its provisions are still suitable for carrying out its duties. The PBC's goal is to create a management structure that can meet the unique needs of fractured or post-conflict regimes in elements of restoration, readmission, and rebuilding. The main goal encompasses succouring these nations in setting the stage for sustained growth. With a focus on institutional growth, long-term development, and reconstruction, the PBC's aim is to raise money on a worldwide scale and offer integrated post-conflict recovery plans. The PBC can use the UN's broad capacities and expertise in areas like conflict prevention, arbitration, peacekeeping, civil rights, rule of law, humanitarian assistance, rebuilding, and lengthy development for this purpose (Baetens, 2014).

Additionally, the PBC explicitly aids in ensuring reliable finance for initial recovery efforts and ongoing financial commitments. Another objective of the PBC is to increase the mental acuity of the international community to post-conflict reconstruction and to create guiding principles on topics that need for intensive cooperation across, military, humanitarian political, and development actors. One of several Commission's principal goals is also advising the UNSC on issues involving world peace and security, primarily if an UN-mandated peacekeeping mission is active or in progress. Following a crisis, nations typically go through a significant period of adjustment whereby the emerging leadership can sometimes find it challenging to coordinate the behaviour of numerous parties with disparate interests. The Organizational Committee decides the roadmap for the PBC premised on proposals for recommendations provided by the UNSC, the UN Secretary General, the ECOSOC, the UNGA, and the individual countries party to it, whilst attempting to create neutrality in handling issues in nations in multiple areas. In the case of the latter three, extraordinary conditions must be proven, these include that, the country in question is about to (re-)lapse into conflict even though the issue is not among the UNSC's agenda. The agreement of the nation in question must be acquired to enable the ECOSOC or the UNGA to seek assistance from the PBC. The PBC suggestions are made accessible for the general public so that all parties who

are involved can consider them while determining how to proceed in light of their individual responsibilities.

Whilst also encouraging global support for country owned and directed peacebuilding initiatives, the Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO), which was founded in 2005, contributes to the maintenance of peace. In addition to working to improve system-wide consistency and partnering with UN and non-UN actors in support of establishing and preserving peace in pertinent countries, the Office supports and aids the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC), it also supervises the Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) as a representative of the Secretary-General, and provides technical assistance to the PBC (UN,2022).

The Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) established in 2006, is the UN's multi-donor worldwide trust fund which serves as a vital link spanning conflict and fiscal stimulus in nations for which there is now no financial mechanism available. It focuses on the urgent requirements of nations that are either in the process of ending a dispute or are at peril of doing so. Some of the priorities of the PBF includes defending the peace process from impending dangers, encourage political discussion and peace agreements, also reinforcing national resources to support peacemaking and conflict resolution together with promoting economic recovery and bring about peace dividends for the general populace. The PBF funded about 137 programs in 16 nations towards ending of April 2010, which can be categorized into 13 outcome areas based on outcomes. Funds to the PBF come from member states, organizations, and the private sector.

Furthermore, in order to meet the demands in peacebuilding, the Immediate Response Facility (IRF) was created to meet the needs of peacebuilding and rehabilitation. It is a quick and adaptable fundraising tool for solitary or group projects lasting up to a year. In only three weeks, financing is provided for recommendations made by the senior UN official that satisfy the requirements. The IRF is open to all counties and offers assistance with peacebuilding up to \$3 million over an 18-month period. A nation must submit an application to the Secretary-General to be eligible for the Peacebuilding and Recovery Facility (PRF) in order to receive additional, more significant, and moderately funding for the Fund (UN, 2022). The PRF is also another stake for peacebuilding, it is intended to assist with

a better organized peacebuilding process that is led by indigenous actors and is built on a shared appraisal of requirements with the global community. Beneath is an explanation for Alternative financing sources for promoting peacebuilding borrowed from the UN Peacebuilding (UN an Orientation of 2010).

Additional financial avenues for peacebuilding

❖ The UNDP Crisis Prevention and Recovery Thematic Trust Fund

UNDP is able to effectively address the demands of disaster prevention and recovery owing to this quick, adaptable funding approach. It is intended for swift action in the aftermath of a violent conflict or natural catastrophe, as well as when a special chance to lower the danger of a disaster or avert a conflict presents itself.

❖ The World Bank State and Peacebuilding Fund (SPF)

The SPF has two primary goals, initially, to assist measures aimed at improving the governance and institutional effectiveness in nations that are unfolding from risk of slipping into downturn or arrears; and second, to promote the rebuilding and growth of nations that are susceptible to, in, or surfacing from conflict. The SPF is open to all Bank member states as well as non-members (under certain circumstances). The beneficiary state budget approach is used as the standard for World Bank funding flows. Conversely, the Bank might engage into arrangements with UN agencies, regional bodies, NGOs, and other private or public entities it deems suitable within the execution of programs in place of the recipient nations when government implementation and financial capabilities are extremely low.

❖ The Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF)

This is a reserve fund set up by the UN to allow for more prompt and dependable humanitarian aid to those affected by calamities and armed situations. It gives operations a boost and finances life-saving initiatives that haven't yet been funded by other contributors.

❖ The European Commission Instrument for Stability

The Instrument for Stability, the primary thematic mechanism of the European Commission, offers financial, economic, and input impedance enabling interaction

with member nations in times of crisis and imminent crises along with solid circumstances for cooperation.

❖ **Multidonor Trust Funds of the UN**

Recently, in post-conflict environments, a variety of multi-donor trust funds (MDTFs) were founded and are managed by UNDP. An executive pools funds from various sources and distributes them to various recipients in accordance with decisions taken by the authorized country-level decision-making body. Such funds have as their objectives strengthening national capacities and advancing initiatives that have been established at the national level.

The Organizational Committee has held country-specific events for, Liberia, and Guinea, in addition to. Below is an explanation for the PBC committees work in Burundi, Guinea-Bissau, the Central African Republic and Sierra Leone borrowed from the writings of Freya Baetens (2014).

Country Specific Peacebuilding Operations

Guinea-Bissau

Disputes inside the ruling establishments as well as among the political and military hierarchy shaped Guinea-Bissau since gaining its independence from Portugal in 1974, resulting in too many uprisings and also a brief civil strife. Both local and global projects for peace, stability and economic stimulus were created in the wake of the 2005 polls. The nation gathering used a dual-pronged approach to addressing Guinea-concerns. Bissau's First, by stating that the nation was qualified for instant money from the Peacebuilding Fund, the PBC backed programs that would produce benefits quickly. Furthermore, with input from across all parties participating in the lengthy peacebuilding process, the central government of Guinea-Bissau created a Strategic Framework for Peacebuilding in Guinea-Bissau. The initial focus of activities of the Guinea-Bissau nation conference was on raising money for 2008 elections. The adoption of the Strategic Framework for Peacebuilding in Guinea-Bissau on October 1st, 2008 was followed by the killings of the president and a presidential contender, which indicated significant failures on the path towards peace. A Second coup d'état occurred in Guinea-Bissau in 2012,

leading to the removal of the constitutional administration by force and also the unjustified incarceration of the then acting leader, the prime minister, and certain other state executives. The Chair of the country-specific meeting strenuously denounced such actions and reiterated that their timeline was especially egregious as Guinea-Bissau was enacting policy changes that would result in "economic recovery and the revival of trust in the country by national stakeholders and foreign partners," as shown by security sector reform and advancements in the struggle against drug dealing. The World Bank, IMF, Peacebuilding Fund, and numerous other bilateral and global partners abruptly halted their operations in Guinea-Bissau as a consequence of the illegitimate changeover in administration, and it was whether debated whether Guinea-Bissau had to be kept on the PBC's agenda.

Burundi

Since over ten years of (ethno-cultural) civil strife in Burundi a new constitution came into force. Democratic elections held in 2005 were made possible by numerous truces and a power-sharing accords between the Hutu and Tutsi groups. The last armistice among parties was reached in 2006. Prior to PBC's involvement with Burundi, the authorities of Burundi had also enacted a number of accords and plans to foster sustainable development. The state meeting anchored on the concept of greater integration of the peacebuilding process into national policies, emphasizes on the top priorities determined by the Burundian administration in cooperation with national partners. In order to put into effect, the domestic and international plans and treaties, the Burundian government created the Strategic Framework for Peacebuilding. It included the shared objectives of the Burundian regime and the PBC, as well as hurdles and threats to the process of establishing peace. When evaluating the Strategic Framework's implementation, the PBC applauded Burundi's accomplishments, notably those related towards the 2010 elections and the operation of voted into power entities, together with the leaps taken to boost accountability and combat corrupt practices, formation of Ombudsperson's department, the Independent National Human Rights Commission, the Burundi Revenue Authority, nationwide discussions also on creation of transitory justice.

Sierra Leone

Electoral elections were held in May 2002 after a civil conflict that lasted since 1991 to 2002. In order to reinstate peace and stability, the new administration adopted a number of tools, including the Poverty Reduction Strategy and the Peace Consolidation Strategy. The fight against joblessness of the youth and marginalization, the advancement of judicial and security initiatives, the consolidation of democratic policies and the promotion of effective governance and institutional capacity were determined to be the four primary objectives for the peacebuilding process. The Sierra Leone Peacebuilding Cooperation Framework also identified the growth of the oil and gas industry and sub-regional aspects of peacebuilding as obstacles. Utilizing current tactics and the tenets of national ownership, reciprocal transparency, and continuous involvement, this framework was implemented following the 2007 presidential and legislative elections. It includes promises from the Sierra Leonean authorities and the PBC, in addition toward an appraisal of the process's goals, threats, and problems. Additionally, it offers a review process that is dependent on the standards established by national initiatives. Efforts to establish peace gained some momentum, in Sierra Leone. For instance, in a unified declaration, all groups vowed to put an end to political turmoil and enhance the country's most important democratic systems and public programs. As the main plan to direct all domestic and worldwide peacebuilding activities, the PBC adopted the Agenda for Change created by the central government in 2009. In the final statement, the Commission also devised an even more relaxed method of participation to follow the development of the peacebuilding process upon a six-monthly evaluation. In 2013, the PBC deliberated concerning how its particular involvement in this transformation phase could change as it raised money for the 2013 poverty reduction strategy.

In order to meet the demands of diverse hostilities and a changing political climate, UN peacekeeping has changed over time. In addition to sustaining peace and security, today's multidimensional peacekeeping operations are required to facilitate elections, streamline political processes, protect civilians, disarm terrorists, preserve human rights, and reinstate the rule of law. This research uses the tools provided in the UN "Brahimi Report" in the section below. Additionally, distinct authors such as David Chandler "democratization and human rights," and Terrence Lyons in Post

Conflict Elections: War Termination, Democratization, and Demilitarizing Politics (2002), and Krishna Kumar in Post-Conflict Elections, Democratization (1998), also classified and utilized these peace-building tools in various ways.

Instruments for promoting peace in the post-conflict agenda

Democratization

In the post-conflict setting, the global society views democratization as a critical remedy to resolving ethnic strife. Democratization is viewed as a crucial aspect of peacebuilding by the United Nations, which emphasizes the economic, social, cultural, humanitarian, and political foundations of conflict. In the UN's Agenda for Democratization, democratization is defined as a process that leads to a society that is more open, participative, and less authoritarian. Democracy is a form of government that represents the goal of political power founded upon that people's desire through a range of institutions and methods (Boutros-Ghali, 1996).

Reconstruction of the governmental

Domestic conflicts are classified as complicated political emergencies because they result in the disintegration of government entities. To extend the re-establishment of functioning government, global intervention is essential. As a result, it is critical to systems in war-torn States that are severely damaged or non-existent as a result of disastrous civil wars. Moreover, it is critical to build institutional competence that provides security, in order to avoid a return to unrest within the society, and lead to the creation of reconciling and efficient administrative processes. Following the end of a conflict, the most common method of governance reform seems to be the creation of systems of government that which fairly represent all ethnic communities. The majority of the time, this is accomplished using federal systems that incorporate power-sharing structures. With a high degree of local autonomy, veto capabilities, and proportional representation, such mechanisms can also enable defense of critical interests.

Human rights

Human rights are also an important component of a peacekeeping mission and are also viewed as critical for the success of such a peacebuilding mission, particularly among UN officials and experts. As a result, most peacekeeping missions provide a human rights aspect to oversee post-conflict human rights abuses and how local councils respond to such aggressions, as well as strengthening local solutions to tackle such offences via academic and institutional-building initiatives (Latif, 2005). The goal is to establish a lasting peace in areas where their public officials have played a role in a number of internal disputes that have resulted in serious human rights violations. In past years, one of the criteria for new leaders to re-establish their credibility has been to prosecute criminals and restructure the organizations responsible has been extreme discord among various sections of a community. Another issue was the sentencing of war criminals, which has been addressed in a variety of ways in particular situations. Nevertheless, when human rights are not protected and the perpetrators are not brought to justice, communal healing is unlikely. In South Africa, for example, the sentencing of war criminals was seen as hindering nationwide reconciliation. This was a crucial part of the peacebuilding process in Bosnia and Herzegovina. However, the UN's Annan Plan for the Resolution of the Cyprus Conflict, on the other hand, did not include any mechanisms for the conviction of war criminals (UN 2022).

Elections

Throughout the last years, elections seem to be an important part of several UN peacekeeping operations since most UN missions have switched their goal from pure peacekeeping to state reconstruction or, in some instances, state establishment, such as East Timor. Elections are an unavoidable mechanism of kicking off a new post-conflict political structure, which promotes the growth of political democracy, selecting legislators, establishing the government, and bestowing credibility upon that new system of governance under such circumstances. Elections also send a strong message that lawful internal power has been restored and that the global society's engagement may well be winding down (Benjamin, 2004).

Liberal democracy

Liberal democracy and the rule of law, as well as protecting human rights, have been the foundations of political administrations in the aftermath conflict. The UN has largely embraced and adopted this John Rawls' moral and political theory founded in 1971 in order to achieve long-term stability and peace in post-conflict regions (Sukehiro, 2015). To accomplish social justice, constitutions have been created and governmental structures of governance have been established. Institutional strengthening for democratic rule is undoubtedly preferable in the medium to long term for maintaining peace and security, although in the instant post war period, there seems to be a greater necessity to influence and morph public officials so they become dedicated to national reconciliation and interest.

Restructuring of the Security Sector

A stable and secure post-conflict environment is based on a functioning security sector. Restructuring of the Security Sector is one of the tools used in peacebuilding. Nevertheless, the intra-state nature of the majority of wars over the years have frequently resulted in the apparent dissolution of local security systems. Before commencing peace-building programs, authorities ought to regain much more command over security as needed, but seems governments are frequently incapable of doing so. Crimes, aggression, including illicit activities such as pillage rise in post-conflict environments, and community security systems are sometimes insufficient, outdated, or unavailable mostly in absence of the rule of law to address the security concerns. As a result, the global community must address two difficult issues: the immediate necessity to cover the security gap left by failing local organizations and the lengthy objective of re-establishing the internal security sector. Military services, police, the judiciary, and mechanisms for public oversight of the listed agencies are included in the security aspect. In this sense, it is essential to disarm, demobilize, and integrate former soldiers back into society for effective peacebuilding.

Refugee repatriation

Refugee repatriation is one of the elements of peacebuilding initiatives. Despite the fact that it is not always included in publications as a vital tool of peace building, the returning of refugees and displaced populations from military conflict-

ridden societies emerged as one of the main goals for the global community. This came about as a result of the post-Cold War period' rising intra-state conflicts, that resulted in the uprooting of numerous civilians both inside and between states. As a result, conflicts related to the repatriation of refugees and domestically homeless families had to be resolved, for the life of the displaced persons to once again be ordinary, peaceful, and stable. A key component of reconciliation also includes the repatriation of refugees and internally dispersed people. The global community further considers that the bulk of refugees and internally disintegrated people would prefer to go to original post-conflict domicile if there is certainty of their lives, protection of human rights, and absence of race prejudice. Accordingly, it is considered a crucial component of creating peace to provide a sustainable means for refugees and other displaced people to repatriate after such a violent conflict. It is nevertheless a complicated subject because for most the refugees returning to their prior homes is not just a choice that they make because of the scarcity in housing as well as work prospects imposed by the wreckage of the conflict. As a result, the act of repatriation is not just a political issue of prejudice and racial animosity, but also additionally an economic concern. Additionally, returning refugees by itself is insufficient for establishing and upholding peace. New conflicts in the post-conflict environment could result from refugees who were returned but were unsuccessful in reuniting.

Civil Society Empowerment

Ethno cultural conflicts cannot be resolved by peacebuilding that only focuses mostly on creation of structures for resolving conflict Civil Society Empowerment is also imperative. A wide spectrum of entities termed "civil society" must be included. NGOs and civic efforts that may not be officially recognized as NGOs are both referred to as civil society. Owing to their involvement in coalition government systems, these can also act as stewards for governmental activities, spur grassroots transformation towards democracy, and promote peace via intercommunal dialogue. Likewise, the global community cannot establish lasting peace without involving indigenous populations in the peace efforts. As example, the conduct of polls and the reconstruction of political structures have so far not changed the atmosphere in which a conflict is taking place, as was evident in Bosnia. If somehow

the civilian communities do not take responsibility for the process, the top-down efforts of the global system to aid to peace building and reconciliation have frequently been found to have minimal success over time. NGOs and society organizations projects can be used for non-violent communication, conflict mediation, intercommunal communication, and reconciliation. These can make it possible for individuals from various different ethnicities to communicate, share, and comprehend one another's viewpoints. Although several NGOs are urban-based, reliant on foreign donations, and founded by a handful of peace activists, guaranteeing widespread inclusion is said to be the toughest hurdle because these organizations often fail to have a substantial influence at the local level due to a lack of willingness to participate from individuals from various backgrounds.

In conclusion, a deeper knowledge of the intricate web of tasks as well as the various players and their roles in rebuilding communities ravaged by conflict is necessary to boost the efficiency of international peace-building. All of the entities described herein do have ability to support efforts to promote peace and reduce violence.

Challenges of peacebuilding

The atmosphere in which peacebuilding takes place is usually unstable politically and unsettling. Worries arise from the lack of financing, the variety of actors participating and their goals and objectives as well as from the public's assumptions of the positive effects of peacebuilding even though the objectives of the actors are sometimes contradictory. The *UN Peacebuilding: An Orientation of Peacebuilding Support Office's September (2010)* publication offers the most thorough taxonomy of issues related to promoting peace.

➤ The financial challenge

One of the challenges to peacebuilding involves finances. Once a humanitarian aid provided in the aftermath of a catastrophe starts to diminish but full-fledged development assistance is not yet in place, a financial deficit might arise. This can happen when funders are reluctant to support crucial but risky political and security initiatives but this the time when a nation most requires prompt, efficient

strategies financial assistance to carry out important peacebuilding initiatives. It is extremely difficult for post-conflict nations to determine such needs, write project proposals within the framework of a comprehensive peacebuilding strategy, and promptly secure finance.

➤ **The challenge of coordination**

The importance of national ownership for effective, long-term peacebuilding has indeed been underlined throughout. However, to achieve national ownership, numerous national entities must work together. Taking into account the coordination difficulties that national actors may experience at various stages of peacebuilding is extremely essential. It is advised that immediately following a war, political leaders must make the necessary concessions for power-sharing temporary political frameworks. Moreover, the competition for control between the executive, policy - making, and courts departments of government, as well as between various ministries, grew following the first post-conflict elections as a result of the necessity to attach nationwide budget planning procedures to key objectives for peacebuilding and the inclusion of many other peacebuilding interested parties like private sector and civil society sector. It is also vital to note how additional election cycles, (re)emerging local authority institutions that could reflect and contest for public care, healthcare, infrastructure, and certain other resources were given the designation of being top priority for peacebuilding.

It is alleged that it can become challenging for national authorities to take an active role in aligning global support for peacebuilding because of extenuating factors such as the contributions made by traditional leaders, a politicized civilized society and the media, sluggish communications networks, and an absence of leadership and coordination aptitudes within the public sector. Coordination of the international efforts is also challenging, deciding on a single, comprehensive peacebuilding plan and reaching consensus on it can be exceedingly challenging when there are numerous foreign entities involved in a state especially on their roles and where they are accountable. Effective cooperation necessitates a powerful UN leader who is reinforced by a skilled staff; however, it also requires political resolve to cooperate. Therefore, the Secretary-latest General's report calls on Member States to unite their backing alongside international agreements on national ownership of peacebuilding programs. As for the Internal UN coordination, there are also some

challenges too since UN personnel in a nation typically come from various branches of the UN system, there can be frequently structural obstacles to working cooperatively, such as various budgeting and planning phases, funding sources, and reporting obligations to various governmental bodies, as well as various working practices, like the percentage of domestic employees involved. These disagreements are frequently caused by such institutional and policy divergences, and it creates misconceptions.

Hence to accomplish this, there needs to be a strong partnership between both the UN mission and the Country Team at the national level. This partnership ought to include a mutual understanding of the UN's strategic objectives, closely coordinated or integrated planning, a list of agreed-upon deadlines and roles for completing tasks essential to consolidating peace, and a list of agreed-upon techniques for evaluation and monitoring.

➤ **The communication challenges**

Within initial post-conflict era, aspirations of swiftly bettering living standards may be quite substantial. What would be envisioned and that which can actually be given can be more closely aligned with the aid of a comprehensive strategic communication. The objectives of this sort of initiative might be to disseminate important information on the security environment and the measures being implemented to safeguard persons, to notify the populace of socioeconomic and political measures being undertaken to enhance their lives and take part, and to publicly disclose the benefits of peace in order to increase aid for the peace process. Unfortunately, in the early wake of a battle, the private and public press might not be equipped to provide precise, unbiased, and trustworthy relevant information to their diminished capacity. Inaccurate information, information gaps, and shifting truths are probably to be ongoing problems. The world at large can be urged to assist with the direct dissemination of information regarding peacebuilding initiatives to the intended audiences and therefore should help to strengthen the ability of local media in this regard.

According to Secretary-General António Guterres "*Peacekeeping missions can help put a country on the right track, but only local stakeholders can keep it there in the long run,*" (UN, 2021). He said this during an open dialogue with other

15-member Security Council on trajectories among both peacekeeping missions and their predecessor United Nations presences. He highlighted how peacekeeping mission can never be planned to be perpetual, citing the intricacy of a mission's pullback and the necessity to customise it to fit into prevailing situations within local premises. Furthermore, he cited the withdrawal of troops of the African Union – UN Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID) in Sudan together with the concurrent magnitude of the novel United Nations Integrated Transition Assistance Mission in Sudan (UNITAMS) as examples of how interaction with community-based participants must proceed throughout the transitional phase well beyond for the success of peacebuilding processes in post-conflict societies.

CHAPTER IV

The United Nations (UN) Bodies and missions in Cyprus:

A Preliminary Framework

This chapter elucidate on the UN Bodies and missions in Cyprus. The chapter gives detailed outlook on the activities of these bodies and missions. Additionally, the chapter elucidates the functions of Bi-Communal Technical Committees, which work under the supervision of the UN bodies in Cyprus. The last section of the chapter demystifies the bodywork of UN missions in Cyprus in attaining Sustainable Development.

The role of UN and its bodies in Cyprus

The United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) the Office of the Special Advisor to the Secretary General (OSASG), Committee on Missing Persons in Cyprus Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) are the major UN entities in Cyprus .In addition, they have all worked alongside the neighbouring settlements to guarantee they will not actively participate in a political strife instead develop and conserve harmony (UNDP 2021). Following the commencement of such Cyprus insurrection of 1963, UN and its bodies as well as peacekeeping mission have been key actors in providing relief and mediating the conflict between the two populations, the Greek and Turkish Cypriots. The UNFICYP has been in Cyprus since 1964, when the UNSC passed Resolution 186 in response to a wave of unprecedented violence on the island (Bölükbaşı, 1998). The mission of the UN peacekeeping forces was to avoid mass massacres and brutality between Greek and Turkish Cypriots, as well as to contribute to the maintenance of civil order.

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) was created in 1974. The UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim announced the nomination of Sadruddin Aga Khan, the UN High Commissioner at the time, as the coordinator of humanitarian assistance for Cyprus (UNHCR 2022). The High

Commissioner and two UNHCR staff members arrived on the island a few days after the appointment to assess the most urgent humanitarian needs first-hand. Over time, the UNHCR's humanitarian relief to displaced Cypriots continued to evolve from emergency aid to the reinforcement of institutions and infrastructural facilities, which includes hospitals and schools, which had been overwhelmed as a result of the movement of the population, and ultimately to bi-communal projects intended to improve mutual trust and understanding between the two communities (UNHCR 2022).

It was believed that the commitment from UNHCR would be a short term however turned into a 23-year commitment. The necessity for relief aid for internally displaced Greek and Turkish Cypriots had decreased by 1998, which led the UNHCR to hand over the mission to other respective UN organizations in charge of development programs within the Island. However, boats carrying asylum seekers and refugees began to arrive in increasing quantities on the island in 1998. As a consequence of the war in former Yugoslavia, there was a considerable increase in the number of asylum seekers. The UNHCR was forced to assume responsibility to be registering asylum seekers in the absence of state asylum legislation and the necessary institutional procedures and capability hence the immediately resumed office.

Following the run-up to EU membership, the RoC passed its first national refugee legislation and asylum procedures in 2000, with UNHCR technical help, and took over asylum adjudication from UNHCR in 2002. Currently, UNHCR's primary objective in Cyprus is to help the government in further refining and improving its asylum legislation, protocols, and capabilities in order to create a refugee protection system that conforms to international standards. They also have the responsibility of advocating UN statelessness conventions' ratification (UNHCR 2021). Through media work, school activities, seminars and constituency-building, they are also working towards strengthening and broadening public information, education and sensitizing initiatives.

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is a UN body that was formed in 1966 to aid governments in eradicating poverty and ensuring human development around the world. This means that governments' economies are focused

on enhancing inhabitants' quality of life while also safeguarding the environment and natural resources for future generations. The UNDP provides funding for several years on public projects targeted at enticing investors, training skilful employees together with implementing modern technology (UNDP 2021). The UNDP likewise imparts expertise to benefit third countries in fostering democratic, efficient, and transparent lawful and administrative systems to improve their ability to govern effectively. The UNDP has also aided post-conflict society in a number of countries, including Cyprus. Nearly all of the UN System's institutions and agencies participated in the UNDP/Cyprus cooperation, which encompassed a wide range of socioeconomic fields. The UNDP Resident Representative represents a number of organizations under his special mission as the United Nations Resident Coordinator for Operational Activities for Development, including UNIDO, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNCHS (Habitat), WHO, UNDTCD, UNESCO, WFP, UNV, UNFPA, ICAO, FAO and World Bank.

A well-known goal of among the SDGs is to create communities that are equitable, decent and harmonious articulated as SDG 16. This fosters the rule of law, equality before the law, citizen safety, human rights, and conflict resolution through peaceful means. The UNDP encourages countries to reinforce their political systems, strengthen accountability, and boost social integration to enhance cross relations. In post-crisis scenarios, the UNDP focuses the restoration of basic government services, for instance the cooperation of donations and public servant (UNDP 2021). The objective is to establish an atmosphere where almost all, notably women, youngsters, indigenous persons, citizens with challenges or mainstream population can flourish and may have their voices heard. Peace It Together by the UNDP was created in collaboration and recognition of Cypriot civil society. The objective of the initiative was to compile and quantify information collected throughout a time frame of twelve years of constructing peace and reunion initiatives in Cyprus. The USAID-funded proposal ultimately sought to create an online experience that would utilize invention to promote community involvement and settlement (UNDP 2021). Additionally, the approaches called for consultant interactions, permitting professionals from Cyprus to meet experts in numerous different nations and specialists from those other locations to travel Cyprus for mutually supportive active teaching. This permitted for the transfer of citizen-based peace-building toolkits, approaches, and habits along

with the understanding of many other experts' perceptions with unification tasks. As an illustration, the UNDP did start a venture to incentivize interethnic harmonious relationships, optimize full rights to basic social and economic services, revitalize civic projects, boost the potency of municipal institutions, and continue to train individuals in Ituri, a township in the Republic of Congo, in the aftermath of the military confrontation there in 1999, Ingrid Samset and Yvon Madore (2006). The leading premise of the project was that civic engagement may aid in the reduction of aggressiveness and the restoration of community harmony. The UNDP basically funded small-budget, geographically confined, and short-term local initiatives through a direct implementation method. The project resulted in the establishment of a variety of reconciliation and community development processes in Ituri, with important societal implications. With virtue of its emphasis on municipal growth and support for initiatives conducted by local residents, the proposal in Ituri was a unique endeavour.

In addition, the UNDP continues to coordinate and offer accessibility to the financial programs for the United Nations System. Mentoring, study trips, inclusion in UN seminars and conferences, and the publication of information on contemporary UN System programs all continue to play a significant role. Rapport between Cyprus and Eastern European nations, like Krasnodar, is one project that supports the private market. Efforts were also launched, in collaboration with the Cyprus Development Bank, to promote business relations involving Cyprus and other Eastern Mediterranean nations including Israel and the Palestinian Authority. Underneath the supervision of UNDP, the Nicosia Master Plan was continued to meet the issues and requirements of the solitary separated city around the world.

The UNDP simultaneously organizes and manages the enormously popular UNICEF Greeting Cards Operation, and the Cypriot population is said to have been incredibly generous to the world's neediest children. One in two Cypriots purchase a UNICEF card, and numerous cultural gatherings regularly contribute the entire or a portion of their revenues to UNICEF. The following list highlights a few of the areas where Cyprus and the UN Development System collaborates (UN, 2022).

Areas where Cyprus and the UN Development System collaborates

Water Resource Management

The Paphos Irrigation Project added sprinklers irrigation scheme to almost 5,000 hectares of agricultural land, increasing the earnings of 3,500 farm households, with UNDP technical help and a \$14 million World Bank loan. Secondly, from 1979 to 1982, the Khrysokhou Watershed Irrigation Project (FAO/UNDP/Government) funded engineering designs and feasibility studies. The World Bank funded \$16 million of the \$49 million project's cost, and building got underway in January 1984. The largest water improvement program ever tried in Cyprus is the Southern Conveyor Project. It began in 1984, and the first phase, which supplied water from 2,600 farm units, was finished in 1989. The enhanced water supply ultimately aided nearly 600,000 users. Loans totalling \$61 million were obtained for the initial stage, of which \$27 million came from the World Bank, \$10 million from the Kuwait Fund, and \$24 million from the European Investment Fund. Loans totalling \$42.5 million were procured for the second stage. In the context of contract award, consultant monitoring, and other project management-related activities, UNDP continued to offer consulting services.

Environment-Related Issues

Research on policy were conducted on Cyprus's primary environmental problems in collaboration with UNDP and UNEP. Additionally, with support from UNDP and World Tourism Organization. (WTO), a tourism master design was devised. A methodical soil preservation and forest restoration campaign was carried out with the help of the World Food Programme (WFP). High Mountain and peripheral fields were cultivated once more, and country roads built there. The transnational "Mediterranean Environmental Technical Assistance Programme (METAP)" project by the UNDP, IBRD, and EDI also addresses ecological threats.

Reorganization in the Economy and Industry

With the technical help and participation of UNDP, Cyprus' ambitions to diversify its economy were aided. Particular attention should also be paid to initiatives like "Industrial Development Services," which provides support in the fields of plastics, ceramics, bentonite, shipbuilding, quality management, and the establishment of commercial free zones, among other things. In the majority of these initiatives, UN Industrial Development Organization UNIDO (UNIDO) participated

fully. UNDP and UNIDO provided support in developing the “Industrial Strategy” known as the Sussex or Murray Report. UNDP funded the “Science and Technology Strategy” as an addition to the aforementioned approach through the UN Fund for Science and Technology Development (UNFSTD).

UNDP and the Action for Cooperation and Trust Programme

With funding from USAID totalling up to US\$60 million, the Action for Cooperation and Trust program ran across three phases from 2005 to 2013 and was “built on an ongoing approach of involving people in reconciliation initiatives” (UNDP-ACT 2013). With assistance for 120 bicommunal projects, the first phase had a wide scope. In order to improve effectiveness and sustainability, the phase 2 had less ventures that were strategic in nature. With the assistance of just eight organizations, UNDP-ACT aimed to construct long-lasting structures and procedures which would also guarantee the persistence of peace-building in the final stretch. A large spectrum of bi-communal items, culture and traditions, historical discourse, youth programs, social media, economic ties, research, consciousness, civil society networks, and policy advice were all part of UNDP-efforts. ACT's (UNDP-ACT 2013). Four specific areas of achievement were noted, albeit with important qualifications: First, there was a wide tolerance of bicommunal activity by civil society organizations, however engagement fell despite an increase in awareness of the activities. Additionally, a bicommunal group of peacebuilding experts was formed. This cluster, nevertheless, was seen as an exclusive group acting on behalf of donor priorities and only a small number of organizations took risky policy stances. This may have happened as a result of the organizations' lack of confidence in their ability to strongly impact the path of the programmes (UNDP-ACT 2013.23). Also, stronger impact of civil society on policy discussions despite the fact that political elites often do not embrace the inclusion of civilized society in policymaking. Lastly, a stronger impact of civil society on policy discussions despite the fact that political elites often do not embrace the inclusion of civilized society in policymaking. The efficacy and durability of the programs in Cyprus have been criticized in assessments done by both Europe Aid and UNDP-ACT. The reviewers mainly ascribed an absence of influence to extraneous reasons, including the challenging backdrop (UNDP-ACT 2013, p. 1), political sensitivity and a distinct

and complicated political, legal, and diplomatic backdrop (Europe Aid 2013, 51). However, peacebuilding programs are by their very nature concerned with challenging, delicate, and unforeseen circumstances. So, when designing the program, these issues ought to be considered as well.

The Committee on Missing Persons in Cyprus (CMP)

The Committee on Missing Persons in Cyprus (CMP) was founded in April 1981 under the aegis of the UN by an agreement between the Greek and Turkish Cypriot communities as an investigative commission to deal with this humanitarian crisis of missing persons since a lot of people were not found following the dispute and public violence between the two communities from 1963 to 1974. Several intercommunal discussions on the issue of missing persons had been conducted, but no major progress had been made prior to 1981. Investigations were conducted on both sides to decide the course of the missing and to construct a single official list of all individuals who vanished. To facilitate future identifications, blood samples were gathered from relatives. The leaders of the two communities committed to share all available information on the location of the graves of Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot missing persons quickly and simultaneously, (CMP, 2022).

The CMP's bi-communal forensic squad has been conducting exhumations on its own since 2008. The CMP has carried out archaeological work through the exhumation missing individuals' remains, as well as anthropological research of the remains of the missing, under an agreement with the ICMP. The CMP adopted a DNA-based approach to locating the missing in 2012. The CMP has made substantial progress in recent years in determining the missing person.

Image 2:**Displays CMP archaeologists performing exhumations**

Source: <https://www.cmp-cyprus.org/pictures/>

Bi-Communal Technical Committees

Underneath the aegis of the UN, the executives of both the Greek and Turkish Cypriot societies founded the to deal with the challenges that have an impact on the daily lives of people by fostering as well as fostering meaningful engagement and cooperation among these communities. In addition, they provide a framework of the negotiations in their work by providing financial, thematic, and functional assistance for the planning and execution of smaller, informal activities along with big projects

and initiatives in assistance of confidence-building measures. The objectives of Bi-Communal Technical Committees include encouraging and making it possible for the Technical Committees to establish intercommunal solutions across the Island for problems of shared interest. Moreover, to strategically execute appropriate solutions, also to enhance the Technical Committees' capabilities as efficient intercommunal tools for locating, organizing, and carrying out initiatives and designed to promote communication and liaison. The EU is funding this initiative. The European Commission allocated about €19.9 million in EU funds from 2012 to carry out the recommendations of the Technical Committee on Cultural Assets for the protection of Cyprus' cultural heritage throughout the entire island. As a result, the EU is indeed the Committee's primary source. Desired outcomes of the “Support facility to the Bi-Communal Technical Committees” include improving the skills to control and maintain cultural heritage as well as encourage for the ideas of the bicommunal Technical Committees. Below are some of the existing partners of the Bi-Communal Technical Committees in Cyprus and these will be explained in the following few paragraphs.

Bi-Communal Technical Committees in Cyprus

- Technical Committee on Crime and Criminal Matters(TCCCM)
- Technical Committee on Culture
- Technical Committee on Humanitarian Affairs
- Technical Committee on Health
- Technical Committee on Environment
- Technical Committee on Education
- European Union
- United Nations Office of the Special Advisor to the Secretary-General (OSASG-Cyprus)

Technical Committee on Crime and Criminal Matters (TCCCM)

The leaders of both communities in Cyprus created the Technical Committee on Crime and Criminal Matters (TCCCM) in April 2008 with the goal of advancing trust-building initiatives and enabling peace negotiations underneath the purview of the UN. Meetings are consistently held between the TCCCM supervisors and respective colleagues. The Republic of Cyprus Police (CYPOL) and the Turkish Cypriot Police (TCP) are the major local law enforcement organizations with which the TCCCM primarily seeks to collaborate. The Joint Communications Room (JCR), which was founded in 2009, serves as the TCCCM's primary operational unit. The four-person JCR team, made up of two representatives from every side, works every day from a designated location within border zone, close to the Ayios Dhometios crossover point in Nicosia. The JCR offers a venue wherein two police units can mutually share information and intelligence. The committee completed a program through a workshop at the University of Cambridge on the Work of the Bi-Communal Joint Contact Room (JCR) in the Nicosia Buffer Zone.

Technical Committee on Culture

In February 2019, Mustafa Akıncı, the then President of the Turkish Cypriot community, and Nicos Anastasiades, the leader of the Greek Cypriot society, signed an understanding that allowed for a sharing of works of art. The Turkish Cypriot community brought back portraits by Greek Cypriot artists, and also the Greek Cypriot society handed back audio-visual recordings of Turkish Cypriot artists from their various archives. Another initiative on culture was the “Poetry in Times Off the Coronavirus” launched in 2020, which that will videotaped and actually published five Greek Cypriot poets and five Turkish Cypriot poets reading their poems in response to what they experienced during the astounding COVID-19 global outbreak.

Technical Committee on Humanitarian

The Technical Committee on Humanitarian Issues was founded in 2008 by the representatives of the two localities in Cyprus with the mandate to assist in resolving daily issues that could also necessitate support from the other society due to its humanitarian component. The Committee has been fostering trust among the

two communities by holding meetings consistently. This committee completed one of its projects known as “Angels of peace”.

Environment Technical Committee

The Environment Technical Committee assembles every month to talk about and exchange knowledge on environmental problems affecting the entire island. Together, the members have travelled to significant sites, and they intend to use their skills in more extensive debates on numerous significant subjects.

This section below expatiates on evolution the concept of Sustainable development within the UN as well as the activities of the various UN bodies in Cyprus to achieving the Sustainable development goal.

Concept of Sustainable Development in the UN

The phrase "sustainable development" first appeared in the report of the *World Commission on Environment and Development the Brundtland Report* also known as the (Our Common Future), which was published in 1987 (United Nations General Assembly, 1987, p. 43). The UN funded this conference which was presided over by Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland of Norway. The WCED examined the factors that caused environmental degradation, made an effort to comprehend the links between social equity, economic growth, and environmental issues, and devised policy frameworks that combined all three areas. This, including the Rio Conference in 1992, was indeed a significant and, for the most part, effective, action plan. Sustainable development was also at the forefront of this discourse. Numerous discussions over the meaning of sustainable development since the Brundtland Report was published however, there is no ideal definition to the narrative.

The fundamental tenet of sustainable development is the incorporation of ecological, social, and economic considerations across all decision-making processes. Thus, in SD framework, integrative decision making is at the centre of the various other aspects. Sustainability is distinguished from other types of policy by this well-established notion of integration (Dernbach, 2003).

Recognizing the limitations of the natural resources also serves human best interests. A nation must take into account and safeguard the environment and natural resources that are essential to its present and future growth if it is to practice genuinely logical and successful governance. Any other strategy is futile. Accordingly, the relationships in between environment and development offer a compelling justification for the protection of the environment based on sensible consciousness (Dernbach, 1998). The subject of sustainable development is built on the innate link between the protracted viability of the environment and the economy. Sustainable development strategies aim to address the causes of environmental deterioration, and not only the indicators, whilst still presenting possibilities and creating rewards for economic progress, much like Porter's win-win theory, which claims that even a trade-off is indeed not essential (Porter and van der Linde, 1998).

According to the environmental protection principle, it is forbidden to delay implementing cost-effective measures to stop environmental deterioration once there is a chance of significant or irreparable impairment and there is inadequate scientific evidence to support such a move (*United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, 1992*). As a result, it remains the responsibility of the activity's fervent supporter to show the action will not result in any severe damages. The concept of shared but diverse obligations, which is deemed to be important in the Rio Declaration, acknowledges that every country needs contribute to the discussion of sustainable development.

In addition, this principle recognizes that developing and advanced countries each have distinct roles to play in contributing to environmental damage, whilst still taking into account the requirements of such less developed nations for future growth. Because they use more resources and put more burden on the environment, developed countries are consequently held to a higher standard of accountability (Brodhagm & Talière 2006).

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which was ratified by all UN member countries in 2015, offers a common road map for achieving harmony and prosperity for humans and the planet both in the present and the long term. The 17 SDGs are an immediate demand for effort from all nations both developed and developing to integrate global cooperation towards their achievement. It should

be understood that that in order to combat climate change, enhance health and education, lessen inequality, and promote economic growth, people should also fight to protect natural forests and oceans. There is need to also understand that eradicating poverty and other forms of suffering requires these coexisting efforts (UN, 2022). The section below elaborates the role of the UN missions in Cyprus in attaining Sustainable Development.

UN missions in Cyprus in attaining Sustainable Development

UNFICYP

The UN Good Offices team in Cyprus promotes the integration of women's problems in the context for peace initiatives. Since the deployment of Peacekeeping forces in Cyprus, intercommunal violence between the two ended. The troops have proceeded to concentrate on safeguarding the island's tranquillity. This pertains to SDG 16 which stipulates on peace, fairness, and powerful structures. With regard to such a purpose, UNFICYP has indeed been cooperating in a range of initiatives that benefit both localities, notably the UNFICYP Youth Champions for Environment and Peace. It also is oriented on SDGs, which act as a transition plan for building a better or even most equitable society for all. The participants nominated as UNFICYP Youth Champions for Environment and Peace contribute unique insights, views, and comments in their personal capacities without expressing one's perspectives on the UN, UNFICYP, its institutions or personnel (UNFICYP 2022). In order to give NGOs, academics, and certain other organizations a venue to gather, discuss their viewpoints and aid one another on matters of common responsibility, UNFICYP established the NGO Networking Group in 2017. Also, to stay abreast of advancements and social movement initiatives. Regular meetings have been held digitally, since the start of the Covid 19 pandemic.

In order to discuss women peace and security in Cyprus, UNFICYP met with "HANDS ACROSS THE DIVIDE" in June 2020 (UNFCYP, 2022). This was among the earliest bicomunal feminist groups in Cyprus, which was inaugural in putting women, tranquillity and safety on the national priority list. During meetings, they discussed issues concerning the future for womanhood, defence and solidity and influence of COVID-19 pandemic on gender parity.

This was established in 2001 with the purpose of transforming Cyprus from a female perspective in designed to persuade the fate on the island and facilitate dialogue amongst women across opposite ends of the crisis. Well before the island's early border crossings reopened in 2003, these women started to congregate, liaising within the bi-communal hamlet at the border region. The workshop stressed the possibility for transformation offered by systemic reform, in which women, harmony, and safety initiative sets forth as a model. Intensifying inclusion in political and national unity procedures necessitates confronting the present quo and reconsidering what peace actually becomes, a term that takes a broader array of viewpoints into account. The groups also addressed domestic abuse and redefined amity based on positions to do with women's security-free of violence. They believe that a peace process is unsustainable unless women's physical safety is guaranteed. Women must actively participate in decision-making processes because gender-based harassment is integrally tied to the larger goals of women, stability, and peace. Otherwise, the problem will persist (UNFCYP, 2022).

The UNFICYP additionally convened with the Women's Rights Group to highlight about the repercussions of the Shadow Pandemic on Domestic Violence. While Cyprus was under curfew in 2020, UNFICYP collaborated with local women's liberties activists. Along with health consequences, the pandemic put countless women on the peril and forced victims to reside at residence with respective offenders. Caregiving responsibilities fall disproportionately upon women, who are sometimes underestimated for doing so. Perhaps as wake of Covid-19, this became more important than ever. The significance of including gender considerations in countermeasures was stressed during the NGO session sponsored by UNFICYP's civil affairs section, Gender Affairs Officer. The importance of giving gender-based extremism detection and response facilities top priority in areas impacted by COVID-19, along with taking concrete steps in Cyprus and around the world to end violence against women, were also emphasized during the sessions. This was done in light of the ongoing health emergency. The image below showcases the online digital session involving UNFICYP and women's advocacy organization in 2020 to emphasize the perils of the shadow pandemic: domestic violence.

Image 3

Online digital session involving UNFICYP and a women's advocacy organization



Source: <https://unficyp.unmissions.org/unficyp-joins-women%E2%80%99s-rights-group-highlight-dangers-shadow-pandemic-domestic-violence> (2020)

Conceivably, together with backing of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus, Xenion High School in Paralimni, the 'Famagusta Avenue Garage' in Deryneia, and GIGEM (Kyrenia Youth and Resources, the Center), mid 2020 hosted a youth-focused online discussion. Participants discussed how the epidemic had affected their day-to-day activities and long-term plans, while also discussing the consequences on disadvantaged groups or how young people in both regions may cooperate to tackle challenges. The main issues confronting the young individuals included their prospective employment, schooling, the health and economic stability of their families, and the continual entry restrictions. The "Famagusta Students Together" initiative, which aims to unite students from high schools by engaging in group activities, also resumed functions after coming to a standstill due to COVID-19 shutdown (UNFICYP, 2022). Considering that children from both populations take part in these events that foster mixing, sharing thoughts and knowledge

while they may additionally disseminate insights concerning their traditions, which are critical to peacebuilding at the local level.

UNDP

UNDP has a Project Management Office which also is largely sponsored by the EU, to help the continued peace processes efforts in Cyprus. Schemes for community interaction, initiatives to increase confidence, activities for infrastructure development, and urban improvement undertakings are all part of the cultural and heritage projects. The Sewerage Board of Nicosia, the European Union (EU), and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) partnered to propagate and enable accessibility to wastewater utilities for both regions in Nicosia as key component of persistent efforts to foster peace and confidence. A procedure used in the construction of the new Nicosia Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). The March 2010 project start date was completed in 2013, and currently fully functioning. Together, Turkish and Greek Cypriot populations are served by the modern wastewater treatment facility, which also generates higher Treated Sewerage Effluent (TSE) for irrigated agriculture. TSE followed the necessary irrigation laws. The project's execution received assistance from the UNDP. It coordinated and encouraged conversation amongst the two different groups, kept track of the project's progress, and more. This was done in conformity with SDG 6 of enabling access to clean freshwater and sanitation, which emphasizes the supply of drinkable water also includes irrigation water in agricultural uses (UNDP, 2022). The image below shows the New Nicosia Waste Water Treatment Plant

*Image 4**New Nicosia Waste Water Treatment Plant*

Source: <https://www.undp.org/cyprus/projects/new-nicosia-wastewater-treatment-plant>

The UNDP started assisting the Technical Committee on Culture and Heritage in 2009 after the European Commission requested so. The assessment laid the groundwork for cultural heritage to undertake an increasingly prominent role mostly in island's iterative effort of fostering harmony and confidence. The Committee's maintenance and promotion actions were explicitly performed and managed by UNDP, creating an environment that was favorable for an objective evaluation of the cultural assets of both sections of Cyprus. Several of the locations where conserving work occurred included St. Mary of the Armenians in Famagusta, Paphos Hamam/Bath and the church of Archangelos Michael in Lefkonoiko/Geçitkale (UNDP, 2022).

Another project of the UNDP to aid the achievement of goal 16 among the sustainable development goals was Bringing down Barriers to Peace: Opening of

New Crossing. The project's goal was to help the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities reconcile and build trust by implementing confidence-building measures agreed upon by the Technical Committee on Crossing. The project focused on the planning and construction of a road segment between Lefka/ Lefke and Apliki/ Apliç and Derineia/ Derinya in order to permit the building of new future crossings. Surveys and designs were commissioned by UNDP and completed between February and May 2016 after both crossing sites were declared mine-free. The project was completed in 2020 with both roads as well as the buffer zone section ready for use. In addition to achieving goal 16 is 'Engage-Do Your Part for Peace' project encourages civil society to participate in peacebuilding efforts and collaborates with a wide range of stakeholders on the island to provide a forum for dialogue and enhanced public participation in reconciliation activities. The Engage project encourages a culture of active civic participation by implementing a variety of events and activities. Over the course of several years, Cypriot society has indeed been participating in peacebuilding efforts, and the ability of civil society organizations (CSOs) to contribute to the peace process has been recognized. As a result of the project's findings, an engaged civil society is required to inform and urge the general public to participate. In 2011, a CIVICUS research study on the state of civil society in Cyprus, found out that the civil society and external stakeholders' perspectives towards bi-communal activities and the reconciliation process differ greatly from the public. Four active conversation networks including multi-sector stakeholders in topics such as gender and diversity, peace and reconciliation, and sustainable development were among the project's accomplishments. More than 5000 people were also contacted through Engage on the Move outreach activities held around Cyprus.

The UNDP also ventured on the Renewal Project from the period of 2014 to 2015. The RENEWAL Project sought to enhance the climate for reconciliation by maximizing the socioeconomic potential of the Greater Famagusta Region (including Famagusta Walled City and Deryneia). Its focus was on improving civil society stakeholder participation and support young people through enterprise development, empowerment and networking opportunities for both Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots. Finally, they concentrated on developing infrastructure for company development, which targeted increasing the region's economic viability, The

Business Needs Assessment in Famagusta Walled City, Deryneia, Vryssoules, and Frenaros was one of the project's accomplishments. In addition, through December 2014, there was roughly 9 youth entrepreneurship workshops planned.

Getting to know the shared heritage from home, a virtual tour for the Othello Tower in Famagusta was also one of the programmes carried out by the UNDP in Cyprus. The (UNDP), The Cyprus Institute, and RISE signed agreements in July 2020 to implement an innovative digital history and culture project for the Othello Tower in Famagusta, which had been reopened to the public in 2015 after structural stabilization and conservation works had been completed in collaboration with TCCH and the European Commission. A virtual tour of the Othello Tower allows for the exploration of this incredible cultural monument from the comfort of anyone's home. This is in line with Goal 11 of Sustainable cities and communities as well as Goal 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions.

The Covid-19 Experience and Responses to SDGs

The second Voluntary National Review (VNR) of Cyprus gave an outline of problems still to be conquered in order to achieve the SDGs. The Covid-19 virus, which stalled environmental and socioeconomic advancement, ultimately made the problems worse. In light of the findings from the 2017 VNR, an Intergovernmental Commission was created for the SDGs' accomplishment based on their targets, coordinated by the Ministry of Finance, upon each SDG target's accountability resting with the relevant ministry. A major role in implementing the SDGs is played by actors mostly from civilized society, volunteerism, NGOs and, civic engagement, based on the agreed coordinated policy structure.

The Covid-19 experience presented unimaginable difficulties and altered daily living. The safety and well-being of Cyprus's population, coupled with assistance with the pandemic's social and economic effects, were the state's key priorities. The quick health policy responses, which combined comprehensive and focused assessment alongside non-pharmaceutical remedies and intensive interaction monitoring, increasingly became an important useful mix of tactics for efficiently controlling the COVID-19 pandemic. Additionally, in order to lessen the pandemic's severe economic effects, the government espoused an assistance program for firms,

soul traders, disadvantaged populations, and workers with an estimated cost of €2.6 billion (12.5 percent of GDP) in 2020. The Office of the Commissioner for Volunteerism and NGOs worked together to coordinate Cyprus' innovative activation of its own volunteering infrastructure, and due to its timely and efficient aid of vulnerable populations while adhering to set security precautions, Cyprus' efforts were recognized across the EU.

Generally speaking, Cyprus has made significant strides in the majority of SDG markers over the two years since receiving its initial VNR in 2017, and this has occurred despite the fact that it still has a poor ranking among EU nations and five years of consistently strong economic development. Cyprus excels in terms of lowering hardship, ensuring better health, and significant advanced academic performance, but lags further behind regarding educational excellence. Regarding the gender wage gap, it is abreast of several EU nations and exhibits considerable progress in the proportion of women in leading posts. Contrarily, Cyprus suffers the largest flood of migrants in the EU, with 8746 asylum requests filed in 2019 paralleled to 1411 on average across the EU.

Moreover, in regard to environment, Cyprus performs worse than the EU average for the majority of SDGs. Sustainable agriculture, access to clean water, and sanitation all face formidable obstacles. Cyprus still lags behind in terms of access to cheap, clean energy, ethical consumption, ethical manufacturing, and climate policy. Nonetheless, the data demonstrate a persistent advancement towards majority of environmental objectives, which reflects the success of focused governmental actions and policies.

Several social variables were significantly influenced by the epidemic, especially those that relate to education, welfare, and social integration. Additionally, it has had an unfairly negative effect on women and children since they were more prone to be the targets of domestic violence and abusive behaviour amid lockdowns. In relation to the government's measures, it is noteworthy that Cyprus earned EU-wide appreciation for its innovative voluntary network mobilization, coordinated by the Office of the Commissioner for Volunteerism and NGOs, for delivering efficient and solid assistance to vulnerable communities while adhering to set security.

Considering women in Cyprus often perform the majority of the domestic work and dedicate most of their time providing care for children as contrary to males, this has a profound influence on underpaid caregivers and work-life equilibrium, based on the EU's 2021 assessment on gender equality. Conceivably, the COVID-19 epidemic unavoidably appears to have had a particularly detrimental economic and societal effects on women. The Cyprus National Recovery and Resilience Plan's (NRRP) seeks to advance and put into action measures and policies that will lessen the COVID-19 crisis's socio - economic effects while working to ensure that nobody is left abandoned by closing the gender equality gap and preserving equal treatment for everyone.

Cyprus is currently in the midst of developing a long-term strategy that aims to embrace a strong new growth model and increase the economy's durability as well as the nation's capacity for long-term, sustainable prosperity and welfare on an economic, social, and ecological level. This goal will indeed be accomplished by implementing the NRR changes and investments in a way that is right for the country in question with a total budget surpassing €1.0 billion for the years 2021 to 2026. The COVID-19 crisis's social and fiscal effects, as well as the necessity to reinforce the economic fundamentals, are both being taken into consideration by the NRRP (UN, 2022).

In a nutshell, Cyprus' concerted efforts to transform ideas, plans, and actions into reality show its dedication to realizing the goals of the 2030 UN global agenda of sustainable development.

CHAPTER V

Role of the UN in women empowerment, gender equity and sustainable development in post-conflict societies: Lessons from Cyprus

Although women's liberties, rights and position have consistently been a topic of discussion in international organizations, the creation of the UN in 1945 signalled a crucial pivotal moment in the development of these issues. The UN has addressed women's role as a matter of unequal treatment in terms of human rights from the time it was founded, conveying its commitment to fundamental human rights, the sanctity of human life, and the equitable liberties of men and women. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR 1948) and successive human rights declarations and pacts are a major departure from prior liberal, basic right, or social contract ideologies and notes that prioritized men, fixated on property ownership, and benefited those fortunate, such as the *Magna Carta* and the *French Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen* (Arat 2006). The UN declarations and treaties not only include a wider range of rights but also make pluralist and egalitarianism ideals clearer (Arat, 2008). The UN has promoted women's rights by establishing new, emancipatory human rights dialogue and second by providing a forum for dialogue, coexistence, and sharing between many women from around the globe and a variety of life circumstances, thereby promoting multinational women's advocacy. Conversely, proponents of women's rights have taken use of openings provided by the UN to advance their cause and rhetoric, frequently by presenting various feminist theoretical frameworks (Devaki 2005). This chapter addresses the ways and manner in which the UN promoted women empowerment, gender equity and sustainable development in post conflict societies. What sorts of mechanisms it uses to implement and realize this.

Women and Children in Conflict

In modern conflicts, civilians constitute more a huge record of the dead, with women and children making up the majority. Various, catastrophic types of sexual violence against women can be used deliberately at some points of time to further military or political goals in war-torn civilizations. In addition, despite their

numerous informal contributions to conflict resolution, women continue to be underrepresented in official peace procedures (UN, 2022).

Another organization was created UN Entity for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment set up in 2010 first by UN General Assembly (UNGA), commonly known as "UN Women." The parties' goal of uplifting women and attaining gender equality had been made infinitely progress with this (UN Women, 2022). Supporting the commission on the state of Women and some other multinational bodies in the formulation of universal guidelines and procedures is among its functions. Additionally, it ensures that states' parties will be helped in adopting the standards by giving the right kind of financial and technical support to those countries that request it that the connection to civic society is solid. It functions on a worldwide scale to ensure that the Sustainable Development Goals become an actual fact for women and girls and supports women's equitable involvement in all facets of daily lives. It focuses on four priority areas, including women leading, partaking in, and benefiting evenly from governance structures, women possessing revenue safety, stable employment, and economic independence. Every woman and girl to have a life without fear from all types of violence. Moreover, it is accentuated that prevention efforts to natural catastrophes, the settlement of conflicts, and humanitarian assistance ultimately serve women and girls impartially. Women and girls also make a significant contribution to and exert more impact in the development of lasting peace and resiliency.

UN women acknowledged pledges made by Cyprus to increase funding for initiatives promoting gender equality that are based on a revamped national action plan. The 2014–2017 National Action Plan on Gender Equality was a cornerstone of national strategy that demonstrated steadfast unwavering commitment for attaining gender equality and fulfilling the fundamental rights of women and girls. Cyprus reiterated its adherence to all pertinent international agreements combating all types of abuse against women as well as pertinent legal proceedings measures, directives, and other legal requirements. Its top goals included fighting human trafficking as well as advancing the socioeconomic empowerment of women and eradicating entrenched gender perceptions. Cyprus ratified the Istanbul Convention on domestic abuse and aggression towards women of the Council of Europe. It committed to supporting the complete execution of the Beijing Platform for Action

within the scope of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and formed a technical committee on gender equality. In order to promote gender equality via media, Cyprus also envision the creation of a “Green Book” for media professionals which would be outlining the best practices, such as how to report on violence against women and steer clear of gender norms. Ever since approval of the Commissioner for Gender Equality in 2014, roughly six steering committees were established to effectively execute the Strategic Plan on Gender Equality 2014-2017. These committees include those on gender parity, trafficking in persons, and violence against women, economic empowerment, dispelling gender stereotypes, and many others. The administration also enhanced communication with women's groups. In additament, plenty of women from that time secured in senior roles in the government, banks, and corporations. The percentage of women serving in the House of Representatives rose since 2016 as a consequence of increased knowledge and understanding of the initiatives through the awareness campaigns held.

Children are also affected during conflict, as of 1999, the UNSC has consistently addressed the problem of children impacted in violent conflicts as one that affects peace and security. In order to address abuses against children, the SC established a solid basis and gave the Secretary-General the necessary resources. The foremost UN spokesperson for the safeguarding and well-being of children impacted by military confrontation is the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict. It is also important that children get to be involved in peacebuilding initiatives since they are always curious of their history so a positive narrative taught to children helps navigate process of peacebuilding. Empowering the youth to pursue peacebuilding is detrimental in the wake of constructing sustainable peace. In Cyprus, the some of the youths actively take part in peacebuilding initiatives (UN, 2022).

Nonetheless, the UNSC acknowledged through resolution 1325 on women, peace, and security that incorporating a gendered perspective and the viewpoints of women into decision-making could improve the chances for a lasting peace. The historic declaration acknowledges the plight of women in military confrontation and advocates for female involvement in all stages of conflict resolution and peacebuilding decision-making. The SC also enacted three supplementary resolutions, numbered 1820, 1888, and 1889, since the agenda was based on the fundamental

ideas of resolution 1325. Two main objectives are emphasized in each of the four resolutions: enhancing women's involvement in decision-making and putting an end to both sexual assault and its impunity. Impunity The section below gives an explanation of the UNSCR 1325 in Cyprus.

The UN Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325

Women should also contribute to the development and Peace keeping efforts on a neighbourhood, provincial, and world stage, according to UNSCR1325 on "Women, Peace and Security," which was formally recognized in 2000. The feminine dimension of conflict, strife, peace, and defense was emphasized for the very first occasion within this men dominated international body. The unambiguous approval of such a proclamation showed how the world understood gender bias and disadvantages, as well as the contribution of women to conflict mitigation and resolution. The statement also described the consequences of conflict on women, and the section on protection touched upon women's rights and how to avoid female violence including sexual misconduct. A further essential consideration was the relevance of women in bringing about lasting peace and dispute resolution as well as in empowering women in authority. Exceptionally this commemorates the first time the SC has focused on "women, peace, and security," the comprehensive UNSC Resolution 1325.

Additionally, countries are continuously concentrating on putting UNSCR 1325 into practice using National Action Plans (NAPs) which are stipulated as components of their duties for the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). Efforts to "translate" UNSCR 1325 into NAPs must, in fact, take into consideration community requirements and emphasize certain existing circumstances. NAPs must therefore not only be additional vehicles for countries to 'verify the gendered carton,' making it possible for them to claim that they follow norms for equality of the sexes on a global scale. Alternatively, they could well focus on specific societal factors in order to create options for nations in conquest, post-conflict, and non-conflict settings, configurations that are acceptable to the citizens who are the center of NAP hurdles (Demetriou, 2019). Users will also focus exclusively on women as intelligent entities in emergency and

post-conflict contexts. There are three main topics covered by UNSCR 1325, which is comprised of 18 concise notes.

Protection: Included in this are women's rights, a thorough comprehension of gender concerns during wartime, safety of women and girls against gender-based aggression, including sexual assault, and also a halt to crime-related injustice

Participation: This stipulates that women's effort in peace should be taken into consideration when decisions are made at all stages in both national and regional organizations, which include prominent roles within UN as whole, among all systems for the preventative measures and monitoring of dispute, as well as in all peace efforts.

Gender Main Streaming: This refers to the incorporation of a gender viewpoint into UN peacekeeping missions and arms control initiatives.

After UNSC Resolution 1325, the UNSC put in place additional resolutions namely Resolution 1820 in 2008. Furthermore, UNSC Resolution 1888, was embraced, which takes the fight against the traditions of violent acts and urges the UN to collaborate with domestic, lawful, and executive and judiciary officers and support staff to confront reckless abandon of gender-based crimes.

2010 saw the adoption of Resolution 1960, which demanded a total end to all sexual offenses from all sides to the crisis as well as support for rape and sexual violence survivors. UN member nations are also urged by this decision to teach people on gender-based harassment and add more female police and armed forces officers to the UN peacekeeping mission. Two more distinct resolutions were also established in 2013, Resolution 2106 illustrated additional ways that the UN and national techniques which could avert or address sex crimes that occurs during armed conflict, and Resolution 2122 defined organizational frameworks and procedures the UN could utilize to enhance oversight of and promote much farther imposition of UNSCR 1325. Resolution 2242, which was enacted in 2015, called for extra financial sponsorship, significant support from the private sector, and incorporation of the women, peace, and security goal throughout national boundaries. Resolution 2242 also addressed the evaluation aspect of resolution performance (UN, 2022).

Pathways to Sustainable Peacebuilding Conference

The conferences known as “Pathways to Sustainable Peacebuilding” were held in 2017 in Cyprus, to help on the construction women's initiatives, endeavours, and conversations, in addition to bring along female politicians and members of noble population from all ethnic origins to better understand UNSCR 1325 and explain its significance in perspective of daily hardships faced by women in Cyprus. The insufficient accountability within peace process to this point can has sighted as one of the primary causes of the gender, peace and security viewpoints to lack significant advancement, particularly in relation to the discussions. The Technical Committee on Gender Equality was ultimately established as a tool to address concerns that society had also been advocating for, but it was unable to communicate its findings to the public sphere. As a result, partnerships were negatively impacted, and a chasm was established between the institution and the organizations outside of it. So, for the peace process to move further, there must be more openness, and strategies for doing so have to be carefully explored. During group's talks, a number of concerns were identified that women and empowerment rights were not publicised enough. The educational system was described as perpetuating prejudices, and that there is a dearth of expertise gender equity. Additionally, it was urged that, in addition to correcting patriarchal teaching, strategies in education that promote an environment of antagonism and gender inequality, such as the "heroic" manly myth, must be disproven. Gender perspective is not factored in peace procedures. Participants in the procedures describe that they felt alone and isolated in addition to having no connections to the larger political realm. Additionally, there aren't enough women in the government and parliament to act as their advocates. It was acknowledged that the lack of women from the Cyprus peace process is a sign of a larger dearth of women in positions of influence. This can be attributed to misconceptions, a lack of money for female projects, a lack of women's assertiveness, and preconceptions. Moreover, it was thought that women's substantial participation in politics was hindered by the Middle Eastern conflict's repression and re-victimization of women. In accordance with the results, it was noted that if such a peace pact should be implemented in order including robust female inclusion, similar worries might need to be addressed in what might appear to be a post-solution context. The existence of a women's system that links two communities,

controls performance for transgender people, and increased rights for Trans people were among the significant accomplishments that women's rights campaigners in Cyprus were credited with. Women from both public and private sectors, such as educators, attorneys, reporters, and activists, participated in the workshops and produced a comprehensive and detailed discourse on how to execute UNSCR 1325 and that which should entail for Cyprus after trying to find a solution. Any of the four sessions focused on one of UNSCR 1325's key pillars: participation, protection, prevention, relief, and recovery. Thus, the UNSCR 1325 is composed of main points that highlight the primary subjects of the role of women in peacebuilding processes. The section below narrates some of the major points that were covered during the aforementioned conference on Pathways towards Sustainable Peacebuilding, held in 2017 in Cyprus to help in understanding the UNSCR 1325.

Participation

This stipulates that female's contributions to peace should be considered in decision-making at all stages in state and international bodies, particularly key positions inside the UN, in all systems for dispute prevention strategies, as well as in all peace deals. It was widely agreed that women's organizations, non-governmental organizations, and the civilized society ought to play a significant part in the political process and more should have been done in regarding the sharing opinions, expressing concerns, and making demands of the bargaining team. It was proposed that by displaying a variety of active women's NGOs and activities, engagement might be encouraged and strengthened. These approaches can foster network growth by increasing cooperation to create suggestions and programs for gender equality. Then there is limitless opportunity for women to cooperate inside as well as between every society for the goal of a desired outcome if the negotiations result in such an approved consensus which will be put to referendums.

During the sessions of group talks on participation, concerns were brought up such as the fact that women's rights and women's empowerment are restricted, that prejudices are perpetuated by a profound ignorance of gender parity in school, and also that the peace process does not take a gender viewpoint into account. Individuals who participate in the process feel alone and secluded, they have few connections to

larger civilized society, and there are not enough women in the legislature and government to assert with.

Protection

Remarkably, and perhaps most substantially, this group of women had both women who would have been undertaking the initiative for the very first time and women who had been actively involved in the foundations for some time, and in some instances decades. This served as the group's foundation and prevented presumptions, story lines, other “unsaid” from permeating the conversation. Cyprus was given the appropriate consideration while considering Protection overall. Women's roles were generally emphasized as requiring to become more intertwined at all stages. This was built on the premise that UN Resolution 1325 acknowledges the significant role played by women in the prevention, management, and consolidation of peacebuilding.

It was also encouraged that women get more understanding their rights as a women and other people's rights and how this is a key component of active protection. Despite the fact that the UN and other organizations have a wide range of individual, collective, civic, and social rights, many women are still uninformed of both their status and their capacity to act those rights. The organization additionally urged that quick, robust awareness and education mechanisms be implemented to guarantee that everyone will be enlightened, schooled, and equipped as to the why and how of the objective of gender equality. This also encompassed women’s rights, a comprehensive knowledge of gender requirements in times of war, and the security of women from gender-based assault, including sexual harassment and other kinds of sexual abuse, as well as the elimination of tolerance for these crimes.

Prevention

Workshop III focused on issues to do with militarism, education and violence. The facets of nationalism and militarism that are deeply engrained in Cyprus contribute to its culture of war. In order to avert violence, it has been suggested eliminating both the dominant masculine model of "heroism" and the dominant feminine model, in which men are supposed to defend the country and women are portrayed as weaker groups. Contrastingly, women are expected to care for the families, endure hardship, and defend them (women of the missing). To accomplish

this, it was suggested that modifications be made towards the manner the soldiers and military as an entity are now run.

Due to the fact that patriarchal structures are the source of militarism and nationalism, it was suggested to concentrate on developing appropriate structures that embody a variety of masculinities and feminine identities. These new forms of connection should be interactional, encompassing, and non-hierarchical. This could be achieved using training and the media, such as an island-wide TV station with values centred on gender equality and peace journalism. The eradication of all both direct and indirect types of aggression requires a shift in the "defense culture" to encompass human security. In for all this to occur the necessity to budget for gender equality as well as peace was also emphasized. Additionally, it was recommended that a Gender Military Advisory Board be established inside the government, notably the Ministry of Defense, with a focus on gender inclusivity and an expansion of educational and training programs to cover human security and UNSCR 1325 standards.

With regard to violence it was stated that violations of human rights can take numerous forms. Persons in Cyprus are having also been subjected to a variety of violent acts. It was suggested that in order to prevent war, it was necessary to, halt the socialization of subsequent generations further into crisis culture; establish necessary tools for acknowledging and resolving historical wrongs and perceived injustices throughout all levels in society; mandate a sincere statement of apology, protect each citizen's personal security in everyday life upon the island; and start educating the media about conflict-based violence.

Moreover, the discussion focused on education and it was voiced that patriarchy-based education, the "heroic" masculine stereotype that needed to be debunked, and both public and private educational structures that directly and tacitly support a mind-set of strife and gender inequity must all be rectified. Taking into account a plethora of initiatives up to this point, it was proposed to widen them to include more of larger a society. In order to avoid conflict, it was also suggested during the workshop that a protracted pilot scheme or operation focused on peace education that clearly addresses issues like racial rapprochement, gender violence, militarism, deconstructing stereotypes, promoting compassion towards the the other be encouraged.

Relief and Recovery

With relief and recovery, an engaging strategy known as the Problem Tree Method was used in this training workshop. Initially, the workshop's coordinator provided a quick explanation about what UNSC Resolution 1325 means. The "Relief and Recovery" pillar's conceptual model was outlined as the period following the peace process. The failure of UNSCR 1325 to be utilized in Cyprus was identified as the subject that needed to be resolved during this meeting. The UNSC openly recognized the position of women in 1325 for the first time ever, not simply as war's victims but also as players who may elicit change but also alter violent dispute. This was one particular elements of 1325, which was emphasized. This served as the framework for the conversation, which focused mostly on how women actively promoted 1325 in Cyprus. Many presented at the workshop concurred that perhaps the absence of women from the Cyprus peace negotiations is a sign of the broader paucity of women in prominent posts. This would be inextricably connected to the absence of gender lenses and gender biases, together with the dearth of funding for efforts promoting gender equality. Women's meaningful participation in public life was perceived as being hampered by the persecution and re-victimization of women during the war. Considering the aforesaid, it was highlighted that such concerns would have to be dealt with in the post-solution setting if a peace accord will be successfully realized only with active inclusion of women.

The position of Women in the Cyprus Peace Process

Women and children are constantly being harmed in modern conflicts, particularly since the conclusion of the Cold War. Furthermore, women have quite a variety of experiences, needs, worries, and views to share in order to reconstruct their communities and promote democracy, gender equality, and human rights compliance. According to Cynthia Cockburn (2004) women are best placed to reject militaristic thought and solutions that require any use of force. Since women are not often warriors, they are indeed perceived as less dangerous by dissidents than men, putting them in a better position to pursue peace, reconciliation, and inclusiveness. Conflicts and post-conflict settings are particularly difficult for women Many modern wars, for example, result in deterioration of daily life, homes, shops, farms, and bombed-out

cities, towns and villages. Women bring fundamental concerns from their households and communities to these discussions, and these should be considered. However, patriarchal norms and standards, derail the women's voice when they speaking as women since they are rarely heard in the society, in the media, or in decision-making institutions. This undoubtedly questions democracy and point out its given its gendered character.

In order for the Cyprus reunification process to advance forward, UNCR 1325 must be accepted because it is so paramount to Cyprus. There is yet to be a National Action Plan created for Cyprus. To ameliorate how UNCR 1325 is actually implemented, the SC passed a series of resolutions that became more and more pertinent, including resolutions 1820, 1888, and 1890. The focal point is on rendering 1325 and its subsequent decisions applicable to Cyprus's context and accessible to everybody, including creating a respectable NAP that advantages the overall Cypriot people. Despite the directives provided to UN members by UNSCR 1325, Cypriot women continue to be overwhelmingly left out of the negotiations. The significance of including UNSCR 1325 as part of the process leading to a long-lasting and viable solution to the Cypriot enquiry remains not acknowledged inside the context of negotiations. Despite the fact that men and women all fall under the umbrella of "gender," the impact of sexual preference on public discussions and potential approaches to the Cyprus dilemma in the discussion room has yet to be adequately acknowledged. In light of this, the Cyprus diplomatic efforts exhibit inadequate gender viewpoints and therefore do not adequately address gender balance issues in the majority of the domains being discussed, such as in bureaucracy, property, the EU, identity, business, and defense (Hadjipavlou, 2013).

Countless Cypriot Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), notably those that concentrate on the issues of women, have long pushed for gender parity and the inclusion of a feminist prism in peace efforts. The two-community Hands across the Divide (HAD), officially created in 2001 and the Gender Advisory Team are two such groups (GAT), in 2009). The two entities are focused on amplifying the needs of women in relation to the Cyprus situation. The ultimate one has adopted UNSC Resolution 1325 as a primary instrument and focuses on exploring and integrating such a gender slant with ongoing "peace discussions" in Cyprus. All of these organizations seized the responsibility of promoting peace, harmony, and the

implementation of UNSCR 1325 in relation to the Cyprus issue. Below is an elaboration of some of the women's organisations that are active in Cyprus.

Hands across the Divide

Hands across the Divide is a bi-communal women's non-governmental association that began in 2001 with a conference for two days, called "Communication in Divided Societies: What Can Women Do?" The beliefs of HAD are rested upon values of democracy, which include open exchange of views and freedom of expression, equality for women, equal access to resources. HAD is a unitary organization that strives to overcome disparities in national or ethnic identity, as well as geographical location, to the greatest extent possible and opportunities, and the aspiration desire to live in a re-united country. HAD was also the first NGO to advocate for a feminist perspective in the discussions of the Cyprus crisis, meaning that men and women shared diverse experiences with the conflict and militarism. One of the issues addressed is why these women are desiring a settlement to the Cyprus problem. In addition, these women are the only women's organization that studied the Annan Plan for a suggested solution from a women's notion of understanding perspective (in 2003-4) and suggested recommendations on various issues such as security, curricular, land and property, media, leadership, and the economic system, during a global conference that was held in Nicosia. HAD has conducted conflict resolution seminars to foster confidence, compassion, and unification between members' diverse conflict experiences. Also, they did campaign work, which included sending letters to the leaders of the two societies, trying to convince them to take into account UNSCR 1325 as well as including women in peace negotiations and working groups. Numerous statements were issued opposing militarization and supporting demilitarization. They also held public workshops on Resolution 1325, as well as a session with representatives of the Gender Commission.

Gender Advisory Team

GAT, is made up of a small group of women from both Greek and Turkish Cypriot sides of the split, female activists, and academics, have met since 2009 and frequently conferred with UNDP staff and members of the UN Good Offices mission in Cyprus. GAT's principal goal is to integrate gender equality into the peace process by assuring women having active engagement in all stages of the process and gender-proofing the text and foundations of subsequent peace agreements. The goal of GAT was to find ways to incorporate gender concerns into peace process of the Cyprus conflict starting from a macro level. Not only does SC Resolution 1325 call for gender equality to be established by women's full engagement in all stages of the process, but it also states that the content and premise of peace agreements should include a gender equality viewpoint. GAT representatives worked on revising texts governance issues and power sharing, nationality, ownership, and economics, all of which are topics discussed by the mediators and their parties. These important ideas and concepts have been presented by GAT to the advisors of both negotiators. The then Secretary General of the UN in 2010, Ban Ki-Moon praised GAT's efforts and achievements in his report on his good offices mission to Cyprus on November 24, 2010 (Doc Ref: s/2010/603).

Feminist Atelier

FEMA is another feminist group that advocates for equality for women, works on combating gender-based abuse in the Turkish Cypriot population, and promotes reconciliation and peace. However, it concentrates its efforts in the northern region of the island and works with local councils there (Hadjipavlou and Mertan, 2010). The involvement of women in securing their rights is of great concern to FEMA. In order to promote advocacy, empowerment, and literacy, it has arranged educational workshops and seminars. With the goal of attracting a larger readership, additionally, it created the journal *Gaile*. Considering linkages connecting global and domestic reality, its perspective has frequently been internationalist in nature. Women's advocacy organizations on the opposite sides of the divide have benefited greatly from FEMA's collaboration.

Bi-communal Technical Committee on Gender

Following a plenary session held in May 2015, the officials declared their decision to create a Committee on Gender Equality. Upon this particular event, the officials mutually consented the possibility of resolving the Cyprus issue if in any way perceptions among women and men were taken into account. This then led to the creation of a committee on gender equality. The parties nominated representatives, consisting of both men and women. An explicit reference to Security Council Resolution 1325 was made in the leaders' agreement to the new mandate for the group. The creation of the Committee on Gender Equality is evidence that the need for a stronger gender lens in the negotiations is becoming more and more understood with regard to the Cyprus peace process (UN, 2022). As a result, the Committee is entrusted with thinking about a federal settlement and coming up with answers for common concerns that exist every day. The Committee can work in several areas because of this dual duty. It has issued comments on a number of instances, sponsored cultural activities underneath its guidance, and clarified that it developed and presented to negotiating teams' documents with specific recommendations upon that gender dimensions of a resolution in its public presentations to date (Demetriou, 2019).

GAT reached out to women in its extensive network who were active in politics, the public eye, and civil society in response towards this declaration to deliberate on shared tactics. In order to give everyone that attended a chance to voice their thoughts and also be listened to, the sessions were casual. The discussion also transpired over a brief period however in a sequence, and followed a flexible agenda. The activity led to the creation of a plea that was published online and amassed more than 200 signatories within its initial 10 days of availability. The request demanded that there be about 30 to 50% gender balance from all negotiating team members that gender expertise be spread out among the various team members, in addition, consultation to those countries with experience in the issues of gender was also emphasised. Moreover, it was stipulated that resolving conflict and law should be used as a basis for gender verifying records, and that the procedure be transparent.

The Committee on Gender Equality, which was established together with other committees on culture and education, shows how authorities are making

an effort to hear from "civil society" because it includes activists as well as ideologues of the government sector on both sides. In actuality, there are still issues, and openness in fact has come under fire, particularly in light of the fact that the Committee's activities are also not publicly disclosed and that its suggestions will only be implemented if all issues have been resolved. These continue to be important lessons for both authorities and protestors, irrespective of pace of their whether talks.

On the whole, the status of women's advocacy organizations is still uncertain when it comes to economic feasibility. The majority of groups rely heavily, if not entirely, on aid from abroad and still do. It is unlikely that the situation will get better anytime soon. The operations of women's organizations cannot be supported by either the public or private sectors. Nevertheless, there appear not to be to be any significant issue with management of sustainability. All of these organizations were and are still consistently run and headed by women.

Women's Participation in Cyprus Peace Negotiations

Politics still primarily belongs to men, even though there were also signs that things are getting better across both ends. In the north, a woman namely, Sibel Siber headed a short-term pre-election executive council in 2013 after being nominated by the then ruling Turkish-Cypriot party and this has been said to be the only ever held the position of highest office. A woman campaigned for the presidency on the south in 2013 but was unable to succeed, and this similarly occurred in the north in 2015. The majority of the political parties from the two sides of the aisle have female affiliates, although feminist circles frequently criticize their efforts (Hadjipavlou and Mertan, 2010). The above critique focuses on the entities' aims, which are nonetheless subordinate to the functions of the primary, men dominated party apparatus. According to (Demetriou, 2019) since 2008, women have been part of the teams engaging in peace negotiations on both sides and across committees. Until the Technical Committee on Gender Equality was established in 2014, nevertheless, there was no formal directive to integrate a gender viewpoint. This political environment resulted in a huge reluctance to take women's opinions severely in politics, while progress in gender equality was being made. This is said to have been primarily as a result of the EU integration process, which necessitated legal and

policy harmonization on the Republic of Cyprus's part. Similar progress was accomplished in the north as a result of this process, but the radical political viewpoint sceptical of nationalism, conservatism, and Turkish influence has gained traction and embraced liberal and more radical ideas on rights and equality. The peace talks have marginalized women and have also given preference to peace over women's needs, based on the reasoning that "the Cyprus conflict is of prime significance, so gender equality must wait. However, Demetriou suggests that these should co-exist.

Challenges faced by women in comprehending the Cyprus conflict

Turkish Cypriot women expressed a slew of other problems that Greek Cypriot women often do not face as members of the majority population, living on the internationally recognised Cyprus Republic, and realizing the rewards of being EU nationals. These encompasses nurturing scars and traumas that have gone untreated for ages. Women in the North are still continuing to live in a divided nation, whereby half is unrecognised, and the lack of a settlement to this separation has resulted in numerous problems as well. In the north activists are said to still struggle to make known CEDAW-there are no laws that protect women from sex trafficking or domestic violence or exploitation.

Furthermore, many women, particularly in rural areas, do not grasp the terminology used in many UN papers. Additionally, these women activists stated that they require assistance from the international community and the EU in establishing a regulatory body that tracks gender discrimination, gender-based assault, and women's marginalization. In comparison to women in the North, Greek Cypriot women have a stronger position because they have legislation to protect them. While discussing the execution of Resolution 1325 in Cyprus, these varied perspectives and interests must be considered. The patriarchal institutions and militarised surroundings are intimately linked to the numerous inequities and ethnic differences. Both Greek and Turkish Cypriot women, on the other hand, agreed that monitoring bodies were needed and suggested that the UN use its good offices in Cyprus to encourage the mediators to give funding for them. It was agreed that male-dominated negotiation groups predominate, and a few of the women present are always in the

background, either as translators or note-takers yet this has to change and include women (Hadjipavlou, 2013).

When considered collectively, all measures taken highlight the necessity of considering the encounters of women in war and creating efficient means for restitution at the political, socioeconomic classes. To put it another way, adopting a gender equality viewpoint empowers both men and women to achieve an environment that is more equitable, democratic, and healthy for everyone.

CHAPTER VI

The UN affiliated institutions in Cyprus: Roles, Challenges and Prospects

A UN mission's legality and confidence are the outcome of coordinated activity by the UN's relevant parties involved, including the Security Council, Secretariat, participating nations, and host nation. Despite having strong mandate, a UN mission may not be viable if it functions alone without backing of the permanent Security Council Members (P5), regional players, Cyprus' Guarantors, and also its host nation. This chapter of the study denotes the roles, challenges and prospects of the UN affiliated institutions in Cyprus.

Roles and Challenges

In divided societies such as Cyprus, education is inextricably related to politics and also frequently exploited as a means of political competitiveness. Political elites have complete control over the central educational system, which is shaped to fit their own goals. Both Turkish and Greek Cypriot communities in Cyprus write about their historical experience in a way that merges and supports their own narratives and political position. Three major elements influence educational policy in North Cyprus. The first is to fight ethnic nationalism in Greek Cypriot curriculum. The third consideration is domestic political considerations. The political authorities are said to be attempting to control and manipulate the teaching of history in this setting. Biased textbooks misrepresent the past, and history education delivers subjective information (Latif, 2019). The pro-solution *Cumhuriyetçi Türk Partisi* (Republican Peoples Party – CTP) was able to make significant modifications to the old history textbooks when they entered power due to growing concern about how history was taught during the Annan Plan negotiations. In this way, the patterns of political change and the desire to resolve the Cyprus problem have an impact on the educational reform process.

In 2024, when the UN tasks in Cyprus will having been operating just on island for 60 years, it will be an appropriate time to reflect on their influence and efficiency over the years. There is already an ongoing cooperation between peacekeeping and peacebuilding in the context of an iced war, the "Cyprus crisis," more appropriately described as a legacy effort. Cyprus offers an unusual situation in

terms of worldwide ties and peacekeeping operations. Capital city, Nicosia is one of the last partitioned cities in Europe as of now (with Mitrovica in Kosovo). The island of Cyprus also the only country in the in the global arena having permanent "Guarantors" with the capacity to act and station troops on its soils. This question the notion of respect to state sovereignty which is also controversial when it comes to Cyprus since various actors in the UN and its affiliated agencies have had a stake in the case but all efforts seemed to have reached a deadlock.

It is also crucial to recognize UNFICYP's involvement –as a first-generation peace-keeping mission of the UN– in prevention of conflict to the point whereby the people of Cyprus co-exist peacefully forgetting that there was no cease-fire clause. Years after its initial deployment in 1964, peacekeeping has succeeded in establishing a social order. The UN views peacekeeping to be a facilitator of political processes. Thus, the key purpose of UNFICYP is to establish an ideal environment for a viable peace process. The UN is still the only continuous entity recognized by the different parties in Cyprus to be tirelessly pursuing a settlement to the crisis for decades till this day. The UN, was initially established as an arbitrator, primarily supporting future bargaining sessions. Opposite sides of the island are still in panel discussions courtesy to the UN's ongoing position. Although there are still significant barriers standing in the way of a final settlement, the UN has encouraged discussion and maintained the buffer state to pave the way for a prospective agreement. The UN mission has kept the hope of a reunification afloat even though the island's division was caused by deeper factors.

When Cyprus applied to join the European Economic Community (EEC) in July 1990. The action was widely expected to make the Cyprus crisis easier to solve. The EU urged a settlement towards the Cyprus crisis prior to admission during the Helsinki EU Council 1999; however, this was not made a prerequisite for Cyprus to join the EEC. This problematizes the actual position of external parties, because if this had been made a prerequisite for Cyprus accession into the EU then a different result could have been yielded. Turkey was also accorded candidate status simultaneously, with most expectation that it would assist towards the settlement of the Cyprus issue as well as settle its disputes with Greece by the end of 2004. The Greek Cypriots' resounding repudiation of the Annan Plan was due to a profound philosophical divergence. Former UNSG Kofi Annan's strategy called for embedded

divide rather than a connected socio –economic development. In addition, the plan's "bi-zonality" effectively legitimised the de facto division (Theophanous, 2017), yet these have been part of the concerns rooted between the conflicting societies.

In this environment, the actors' inaction has decreased the UN's efficacy unwillingness to engage in a genuine political procedure. The seeming contradiction of peace-making operations has proven peacekeeping operations useless. The UN's capacity to hold the factions stable has placed restrictions on its ability to sustain peace. As a result, one would wonder if the political component truly relieved the peacekeeping operation of the responsibility of arbitration, coordination, or and shuttle diplomacy amongst the participants. The UN has not changed, despite appearing to be a successful facilitator in sustaining peace the existing status.

The lack of a comprehensive solution to the Cyprus problem also portrays the underutilization of the UN and its agencies in Cyprus since there are no casualties in the frozen conflict. Usually there are often just two declarations per year, which are generally renewals of UNFICYP's six-month mandate, declarations in favour of ongoing negotiations, or affirmations that no genuine advancement has been made in terms of the political atmosphere in Cyprus.

Several participants in these discourses brought up the possibility that regional hostilities may inadvertently affect the picture in reality, within perimeters of the buffer zone. As a consequence, Cyprus was drawn into a bigger conflict. Lengthy initiatives are frequently seen by experts as being the subjects of absence of critical P5 commitments in the nations and regions within which they are stationed such as the UNFICYP. As a result of the P5 could be eschewing major actions in Cyprus which might perturb the existing situation and make it quite challenging for the UN to continue to function in the region due to the tremendous geopolitical focus it attracts on a global scale (Novosselof, 2021). The UNFICYP has typically been recognized as legitimate by both parties, contrast to earlier peacekeeping operations, yet with time, the Turkish Cypriot society started to voice reservations about the UN's objectivity in Cyprus. The Greek Cypriots and RoC officials are the biggest proponents of the UN existence in Cyprus.

Cyprus is seen as a minimal concern on the Council's agenda, illustrating how there is little sense of immediacy in resolving a conflict that has not resulted in any fatalities. According to speculations, the United Kingdom, France, and Russia are the only SC members who are interested in the issue, and they are more focused on the Cyprus issue (Novosselof, 2021). The United Kingdom is the primary signatory to agreements pertaining to Cyprus. France and Russia are viewed as the SC's leading supporters of the RoC and Greek Cypriot society. Russia represents the single participant of the SC to have blocked a declaration on Cyprus nearly twice. According to reports, the P5's two most disinterested supporters in the Cyprus issue were the US and China. As of 2017, there is no concrete established lasting peace procedure, which has increased enmity and distanced the two sides.

On all sides of the island, Cypriot civilized community has been instrumental in efforts to increase Women Peace Security (WPS) despite their efforts being overlooked. The UN has tried to encourage women's presence in the peace deals, but its attempts have been ineffectual because the authorities and the ruling establishments are not able to promptly include women in the peace negotiations. Diplomatic embassies and the Security Council therefore should keep encouraging authorities to significantly boost women's role and participation throughout most formal peace talks. In addition, structured violence, such as domestic abuse and human trafficking, have been prevalent among women on the island. However, UNFICYP's peacekeeping mission does not include any special provisions for dealing with systemic concerns like as relating to sexual and gender-based harassment hence they have less to do concerning such matters.

UNFICYP's tenure was extended through January 2018, by Resolution 2369, which had been effectively endorsed by the SC in 2017. Recognizing that the Cyprus Convention that was conducted in Crans Montana at the time when Resolution 2369 was modified did not result in the desired precision, it recommended the representatives of both Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot parties to expedite negotiations with a focus primarily on the delineation of a buffer zone and the 1989 aide-mémoire as in a bid to achieve a preliminary understanding on the country's most pressing issues (UNFICYP, 2022).

There had been a surfeit of anticipation weeks before the Cyprus Conference in Switzerland. It was envisaged that this would be the final session discussions before a consensus was reached. Within a week of heated debate, the excitement that had been reignited turned into despondency. António Guterres, the UN Secretary-General, who also had travelled with hopes of giving the talks a jolt, told alluded that notwithstanding his utmost contribution, the conciliation was unable to attain the intended outcomes, and therefore the meeting would close with hardly reaching a consensus (Euronews, 2022). Among the reasons that resulted in the failure of the meeting included, differences included that the apparent stances of Turkey and the Turkish Cypriot authorities have shifted from federating the island to a “two-state solution” (Daily Sabah, 2017). A large percentage of Greek Cypriots insisted to never endorse a two-state settlement which was going to officially the island. Critics contended that this was going to violate the constitutional framework that the two parties agreed to 44 years ago and that has subsequently been codified in successive UN Security Council decisions. Also, such a solution would result in Turkish Cypriots still being the minority as envisaged by Greek Cypriots. Greek Cypriots also preferred a federated state only on record but this was not something they claimed or even wanted.

In addition, Greek Cypriots' objected to a highly antiquated guarantor system and the placement of security personnel in Cyprus. It was noted that Greece and the United Kingdom no longer interested in being guarantors even though this was grounding force for the establishment of the republic of Cyprus on the post-colonial accords. Turkey, on the other hand, does not want to give up its right to act as a guarantee in a future state in Cyprus. However, due of what transpired in the past, such as sporadic clashes in the 1960s and the Greek coup in 1974, a large percentage of Turkish Cypriots support Ankara maintaining a guarantor status. Furthermore, Turkish research ships are claimed to have persisted their quest for hydrocarbons in waters over which Cyprus holds undisputed ownership rights (UN, 2022). Turkey argues that its actions are in line with to protecting its own interests as well as the interests of the Turkish Cypriot community. The Greek Cypriot administration however argued that this was a breach to international law and also an impediment to the resumption of peace negotiations. Moreover, Greece and Turkey as NATO allies have had intensified friction over matters such as gas extraction in the eastern

Mediterranean. This even escalated in 2020 when Turkey moved warships into Greek and Cyprus-claimed waters.

Since the failure of the Crans-Montana negotiations in 2017, Northern Cyprus has sought for a two-state deal, whilst Greek Cypriots have dismissed the idea, claiming it entails Turkish Cypriot sovereignty. Notwithstanding the challenges, the UN has continued to be dedicated to finding a peaceful settlement to this long-standing conflict. Furthermore, Brexit posed, Britain's role as a guarantor critical since the UK is no longer an official EU member, and it would be unable to strike more autonomously or threaten Turkey with EU membership in the negotiation process of Cyprus.

The premise that UN's peaceful resolution mechanism enables governments to use UN venues like the General Assembly for extensive public discourse and official voting on differences accounts for a significant portion of the issue. This frequently results in the UN turning into a battleground as opposed to a peace summit (Bölükbaşı 1998). The majority of UN members have believed that the island's existing separation, which was brought about by the Greek and Turkish Cypriot leaders with said help of the mainland authorities, has a contrived character and has little to do with the particulars of the conflict. In order to resolve problems, each society must not only show greater enthusiasm in doing so, but also modify how they view their own interests. The UN can do much, but it still has limited control over any of these issues. The groups that have consistently viewed their identities as being a part of the main lands, i.e. Greek and Turkish. The Greek Cypriots initially believed that their destiny was to become one with Greece, or *enosis*, but they were content to put this ideal ambition on hold until the right circumstances for it were present. On the other hand, the Turkish Cypriots were said to have never been thrilled to be members of a Cypriot republic and ultimately a party to Greece, whereby they will perpetually be regarded as a minority regardless of how substantial their co-partnership nature may be protected by global conventions. Because they perceive a much more decent future in Turkey. These two factors were highlighted to have severely reduced the UN's freedom for manoeuvre, as evidenced by an analysis of the UN's stance within the Cyprus conflict between 1954 and 1996. Furthermore, until the conclusion of Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-term,

Ghali's the UN's diplomacy was severely handicapped by the difficulties related in its arbitration position, along with no public dialogue and formal vote.

Prospects

The devotion of the officials to national interests, identity, and solidarity should be the primary trait. Integrating fundamental principles and ideas of governing into community based societal values is also essential. Furthermore, effective governance exemplifies fortitude, empathy, as well as the capacity to communicate and convince the wider population of the value of embracing integrative ideas and tailoring global values within their locally accepted norms.

Regarding, consent, the initial premise for the warring sides, and particularly the host nation, is frequently that perhaps the UN could also uphold the policies and stances of the current government first. Cyprus is indeed not a unique instance of this pattern, which can take off when the Security Council is split or fails to devote political resources to pressuring the two sides towards a conclusion.

The primary precaution provided by the UN in such circumstances is its objectivity and capacity to guarantee that its actions strike a balance between upholding the RoC's legitimacy and addressing the Turkish Cypriot society on equal terms. One can consider this approach to be overly cautious. In light of the failures of several agreements, various participants have criticized why the UN has so far not intervened more actively in various projects or spoken out more strongly.

The past should be buried in order for Cyprus to have a permanent solution, generations have passed without realising the detriment of unity of the Cyprus because they are holding grievances of 1960s and both communities have succeeded in passing these two generations. There should be proper consideration to put in place mechanisms that address the ills of cultural and religious together with socio-economic differences that underpin the individual's behaviour in relation to one another within the society

In order to restore the talks efficiently again in Nicosia mediators ought to be quite reliable, establish a Track II diplomacy that encompasses public sphere, and offer them a more active movement, it is necessary to foster reliance on peace rather

than the comforting conflict. The entities have to perceive one another as teammates in order to allow this to succeed and have the desire to progress further. The only other option was to erect a rigid frontier across the centre of a tiny island that could not be separated.

CHAPTER VII

Key Findings and Conclusion

The Cyprus conflict is one of the intractable disputes which has not fully vanished. Despite decades of division between regions people, eons have elapsed in the face of the amazing efforts made by both local and international players to restore peace among both communities.

The international actors such as the United Nations (UN) and the European Union (EU), in particular, have kept their faith in the possibility of an eventual resolution on the Island. The UN's role in post-conflict communities includes peacebuilding. It is a vital, enormous, and challenging undertaking to promote peace in countries that have recently undergone conflict but the UN has remained steadfast on such a mandate especially in Cyprus. For instance, in 2005, PBC was recognised as an international consultative council that addresses the needs of countries devastated by war and violence. The Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO), established in 2005, supports country-owned and directed peacebuilding efforts while simultaneously promoting international support for these programs. The UN's multi-donor global trust fund, the Peacebuilding Fund (PBF), was formed in 2006 and acts as a crucial link between economic stimulus and conflict resolution in countries where there is currently no financial framework in place.

The UNSC authorized a peacekeeping presence on the island (United Nations Forces in Cyprus – UNFICYP) in March 1964. These forces are still on the Island partaking in different programs that assist in peace building and sustainable development.

The main UN organizations in Cyprus are the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Office of the Special Advisor to the Secretary General (OSASG), the Committee on Missing Persons in Cyprus, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), and the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP). Additionally, they have all collaborated with the two communities to help them establish and uphold peace rather than actively engage in political conflict.

Additionally, Bi-Communal Technical Committees seek to promote and facilitate the development of intercommunal solutions to challenges of common concern throughout the island. In order to facilitate peace negotiations under the auspices of the UN and advance trust-building activities, the leaders of both communities in Cyprus established the Technical Committee on Crime and Criminal Matters (TCCCM) in April 2008. In order to achieve this goal, UNFICYP has been engaging in a number of activities, including the UNFICYP Youth Champions for Environment and Peace.

In order to give NGOs, academic institutions, and other special interest organizations a venue to come together, discuss their viewpoints, share ideas, and assist one another on matters of mutual interest, UNFICYP established the NGO Networking Group in 2017.

To discuss women's security and peace in Cyprus 2020, UNFICYP met with "HANDS ACROSS THE DIVIDE" (UNFCYP, 2021). This was among the earliest bicomunal women's groups in Cyprus to prioritize women's rights, peace and national stability.

UNFICYP additionally participated in the Women's Rights Group discussion of the terrible consequences of the Shadow Pandemic on Domestic Violence. During Cyprus's lockdown in 2020, UNFICYP collaborated with those who fought for women's rights there.

The UNDP runs a Project Management Office, which is financed primarily by the European Union, to assist with the ongoing peace building effort in Cyprus. A procedure used in the construction of the new Nicosia Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) was successful

Both the Turkish and Greek Cypriot communities are served by the new waste-water treatment facility, which also produces excellent Treated Sewerage Effluent (TSE) for irrigation. TSE complied with pertinent irrigation rules.

Bringing Down Barriers to Peace: Opening of New Crossing was another UNDP project to help accomplish objective 16 of the sustainable development goals. By putting into practice confidence-boosting techniques approved by the Technical

Committee on Crossing, the project aimed to aid the Greek and Turkish Cypriot communities in mending fences and fostering trust.

Along with helping to achieve goal 16, the “Engage-Do Your Part for Peace” project works with a variety of island stakeholders to provide a platform for debate and increased public involvement in activities aimed at promoting reconciliation.

In 2011, a CIVICUS research study on the state of civil society in Cyprus discovered that opinions on bicomunal activities and the reconciliation process held by external stakeholders and the civil society are very different from those held by the general population.

By leveraging the Greater Famagusta Region's socioeconomic potential, the RENEWAL Project aimed to improve the environment for peace (including Famagusta Walled City and Deryneia).

A virtual tour of the Othello Tower in Famagusta was one of the UNDP's programs in Cyprus for people to learn about their common heritage while at home

The Covid-19 occurrence brought forth unfathomable challenges and changed daily life. Cyprus's population's safety and well-being, as well as aid with the pandemic's social and economic impacts, were the state's top priority.

Cyprus is currently putting the finishing touches on a long-term strategy that intends to adopt a robust new growth model and strengthen the economy's resilience as well as the country's capability for long-term, sustainable prosperity and welfare on an economic, social, and ecological level.

Cyprus has promised to enhance funding for activities advancing gender equality that are based on an updated national action plan, which was recognized by UN women.

Approximately six steering groups have been set up since the Commissioner for Gender Equality was approved in 2014 in order to efficiently carry out the Strategic Plan on Gender Equality 2014-2017.

Women must participate in the creation and maintenance of peace on a local, state, and international level, according to UN Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325 on “Women, Peace and Security,” which was formally adopted in 2000.

The existence of a women's network connecting two communities, better visibility for transgender people, and improved rights for transgender people were among the significant accomplishments that women's rights campaigners in Cyprus were credited with.

When having these dialogues, women often raise important issues from their homes and communities, and these should be taken into account.

UNCR 1325 is extremely important to Cyprus; hence its adoption within the context of the peace process in Cyprus is essential. Despite the directives in UNSC Resolution 1325 to UN members, Cypriot women continue to be disproportionately left out of the negotiating process. To encourage self-assurance, compassion, and unification between members' various conflict experiences, HAD has held conflict resolution seminars.

The Committee on Gender Equality's establishment is proof that the Cyprus peace process's need for a stronger gender lens in the negotiations is being recognized more and more (UN, 2022). The Committee is therefore tasked with considering a federal settlement and coming up with solutions for regular difficulties. This dual responsibility allows the Committee to operate in a variety of topics.

Turkish Cypriot women spoke up against a plethora of other issues that Greek Cypriot women frequently do not deal with due to their majority status, residence in the internationally recognized Cyprus Republic, and enjoyment of EU citizenship. These include caring for bruises and experiences that have remained untreated for a very long time. Women in the North continue to live in a divided country, of which half is not recognized, and the absence of a resolution to this separation has also led to a number of issues.

The UN's continuous existence has kept the Island's two sides in communication. Since there are no victims in the frozen conflict, the UN and its agencies in Cyprus are underutilized, which is illustrated by the lack of a comprehensive solution to the Cyprus issue. Annan Plan of 2004 were close to reaching a settlement, but it was a failure. Notwithstanding being a de facto divided island, Cyprus joined the EU in 2004.

The 2017 summit in Crans-Montana, which was intended to bring Cyprus back together within a two-zone federal union, was a failure

Through EU Aid Programme for Turkish Cypriot society, the EU set a special objective to create and modernize structures and enhance environmental factors in the Turkish Cypriot society. The program's objective is to hasten Cyprus's reunification while also encouraging the Turkish Cypriot society's economic development.

Since 2020, the political leadership in North Cyprus has advocated a “two-state solution”, which has been overwhelmingly opposed by Greek Cypriots who feel it calls for Turkish Cypriot autonomy.

Recommendations based on Findings about UN bodies and missions in Cyprus

In particular, to Cyprus, the UN has maintained an unwavering stance in conflict management negotiations striving to reduce confrontation and pressures to the greatest degree feasible without absolutely altering the current system or the authority, value and interest dynamics involving the opposing sides. Whilst primarily anticipating that there would still be a handful of issues to be addressed in Cyprus, conflict transformation mediation would be recommended in this case so as to move further the established order and change ties of the contentious powers and their ambitions in a greater optimistic and less debatable path.

Recommendations based on Findings about Women's participation in the Cyprus peace negotiations

Women are critical to efforts of establishing peace for many plain grounds. In particular, they make up portion of each society, hence they should work together with men to complete the challenging process of peacebuilding. Largely the focus has been on 'track 1' diplomacy with male-dominated participants whilst overlooking 'track 2' procedures that need to be occurring at community levels, in which countless women actively facilitate peace and bolster societal fortitude. Almost everybody suffers once women are omitted participating in peacebuilding given that they are primary caregivers for homes. They are indeed peacekeepers, humanitarian aid

personnel, and negotiators hence perpetrators of peace in Cyprus have to consider heavily involving women in the planning and execution of post-conflict and reconciliation efforts. Various local programs should be put in place within Cyprus to teach women about the importance of their participation in the peace processes, how their voice influences the outcome of peace negotiations and how the consequences of peace negotiations will impact their day to day lives. Even those that are stay-home mothers should be equipped with the same knowledge notably about UNSCR 1325 so that they are aware of it as well.

Furthermore, systems for upholding and regulating laws protecting the rights of women in post-conflict environments must be created. The very significant result of women's participation in peacekeeping operations includes not only growing emphasis to gender concerns in discussions and peace treaties, but instead a change in the interplay, which widens the range of topics covered thereby increasing the likelihood of public check, tackling causative factors and steadily increasing the agitation for parties to arrive to a consensus.

Recommendations for further Research

Considering that this research focused on a plethora of activities carried out by the UN body and missions in Cyprus with regard to peacebuilding and sustainable development, future research can focus on whether there is need for continued existence of the UN body and missions in post conflict regions that have no records of casualties.

Moreover, further research could be carried out on finding out why the EU did not make it a prerequisite for Cyprus first sought a permanent solution to the division of the state before joining the EU.

Furthermore, research to be conducted in future can articulate on the feasibility of achieving sustainable development within developing countries.

Conclusion

One could cite December 1963, 1967, July 1974, November 1983, and April 2004 in the context of Cyprus. Conforming to the prevailing rhetoric, these represent the most significant of the controversial dates that signify incidents, which have defined various war phases. This thesis expatiated on the role of UN and its affiliated institutions in achieving sustainable development and peacebuilding in post-conflict societies in Cyprus.

In an overview, the UN efforts in achieving sustainable development goals of 2030 seems to be notable and remarkable noting the various activities by the UN and its affiliated agencies in Cyprus. Both Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots have embraced the various programs and projects that aim to achieve the sustainable development goals in Cyprus. The various UN bodies and agencies such as UNDP, UNFICYP, CMP as well as UNHCR have been working together with both Turkish Cypriot and Greek Cypriot communities to ensure that the tension that existed between these two thaws and a settlement can be achieved in order to have the people coexist peacefully. These institutions together with many others have worked with these communities to achieve sustainable development goals. For instance, the UNFCYP has maintained its primary mandate to sustain the cease-fire between Greek and Turkish Cypriots, as well as to help maintain order in society. It has also been involved in different activities in order to push forward sustainable development goals as well as peacebuilding initiatives in Cyprus. UNFCYP has maintained their commitment to keeping the island free of violence. This is a reference to one of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) –Goal 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions. It has also worked with women’s organisations such as the Hands across Divide in order to make sure that women’s inclusion in politics is increased on the Island. In addition, UNFICYP also tackled Issues to do with domestic abuse along with reframing peacefulness in terms of women's security in the absence of assault.

During the pandemic, UNFICYP merged with Women Rights Group to help women facing domestic assault since at that time there was lock down. The UN’s attempts to attain a peaceful solution to the Cyprus problem seems to be of no avail. Since 1974 the UN has persistently sought to bring an end to the divide among the two communities, but this hasn’t been achieved after all the decades that which have passed.

UN Peacebuilding Commission's (PBC) strategy additionally has the benefit of serving as a model for how to function efficiently with host governments to strengthen their potential to facilitate feasible peacebuilding. In context to insights gained with better peacebuilding practices, the UN's considerable expertise in peacekeeping and peacebuilding is starting to pay off. The PBC, establishment has helped advance peacebuilding theory and ideas regarding optimal practices to advance sustainable peacebuilding. The political climate for peacebuilding is one of high political volatility and unpredictability in the large states during the initial post-conflict period. The peace processes usually encounter obstacles along with gains. Several countries are governed by interim political institutions until newly appointed legislators have assumed their respective administrative and legislative responsibilities during the first post-conflict elections. As a result, the success of peacebuilding is largely dependent on the political decisions made by those involved, including local governments, community members, corporate sponsors, and the UN. It also depends, to some extent, on competent government on the part of national governments and the UN, as well as on resources like human capital or donation funding.

The thesis also discussed how to include a feminist dimension in events that take place both inside and outside of the scope of the peace talks in Cyprus. Over the past years, both foreign monitors and the indigenous civil society have consistently expressed alarm about the paucity of a gender perspective in Cyprus. It seems to have taken a long time and a lot of effort to bring gender-related issues up in the negotiation process. Nevertheless, over the previous years, a lot of progress has been made in this direction. The agenda for gender, peace, and security has recently been brought to the attention of policymakers and civil society organizations who work on gender issues. A number of significant initiatives have also been implemented, including the creation of the Technical Committee on Gender Equality, the declaration that the Republic is putting together a National Action Plan, and increased participation of women in the peace talks. All of these actions, meanwhile, have come under fire for failing to bring about real, transformative peace. The insufficient accountability in the peace process to this point can be sighted as one of the primary causes of the gender, peace and security viewpoints to lack significant advancement, particularly in relation to the discussions. The Technical Committee on

Gender Equality was ultimately established as a tool to address concerns that society had also been advocating for, but it was unable to communicate its findings to the public sphere. As a result, partnerships were negatively impacted, and a chasm was established between the institution and the organizations outside of it. So, for the peace process to move further, there must be more openness, and strategies for doing so have to be carefully explored. Women must actively contribute to the establishment and maintenance of peace on local, national, and international levels, according to UN Security Council Resolution 1325, which was overwhelmingly passed in 2000.

Additionally, UNSCR 1325 examined how conflict affects women and girls, and the section on protection covers women's rights and safeguards against female violence. Moreover, it addressed women as leaders and active agents and emphasized the crucial part they play in resolving disputes and promoting lasting peace. The UNSC adoption of Resolution 1325 on women, peace, and security marked a turning point in the history of the organization because it is the first occasion that women have received sole consideration as independent actors in times of war and in the aftermath of one. This decision is of utmost importance to Cyprus, and 1325 was put into practice in Nicosia. The existence of a system of women across ethnic societies, better women's status rights, and increased exposure were among the significant accomplishments that women's rights campaigners in Cyprus have been credited with. Participants in the workshops included women from the public and private sectors, including educators, lawyers, journalists, and activists. They generated a thorough and exhaustive discourse on how to implement UNSCR 1325 and what should apply to Cyprus after trying to find a solution. Any of the four sessions' main themes—participation, protection, prevention, relief, and recovery—was covered. Therefore, the UNSCR 1325 is made of key ideas that emphasize the essential themes of women's roles in peacebuilding processes.

Tremendous enthusiasm and optimism existed when Cyprus sought to join the EU. It was anticipated that entering the EU could positively impact the resolution of the Cyprus issue in as well as adding itself to EU nations and their shared set of values. In line of traditional commitments, Cyprus entered the Eurozone in January 2008, succeeding its entrance to the EU in May 2004. It was anticipated that this choice would help achieve a number of goals, notably resolving the Cyprus issue and

in a federal integrationist frame. Numerous authorities were deeply disappointed by the denial of the Annan plan since this was thought to bring the long-awaited solution to the Cyprus question. Despite this negative response from the Greek Cypriot community on the Annan Plan, the UN has not given up on bridging the divide in Cyprus. There was no any conditionality to first resolve the Cyprus crisis before the South side was accession into the EU. This was a major drawback to efforts of the UN, yet these two international organisations with supranational authority. These questions the stance of these organisations as well as their interests when it comes to their member states, it seems most their interests are embedded in relative gains rather absolute. Turkey holds a candidate position to the EU yet it is a cause of disagreement in the Cyprus crisis. Contrary to earlier setbacks, Cyprus' admission in the EU could offer a foundation for success. The EU could give all Cypriots the background for a shared European identification like other EU member-states, which could also enable a united Cyprus to function. Appreciation for a united Cyprus could also be a shared value. Both Greek and Turkish Cypriots have the opportunity to develop their unique cultural and ethnic roots. Although the EU has not yet fully realized its capabilities in tackling pressing regional and global issues, the EU could therefore, play an important role in reframing the Cyprus conflict. It is indeed crucial to keep in mind that on April 23, 2003, some restrictions on cross-border travel were partially lifted, which brought light to the tunnel that coexist peacefully might not be practically difficulty as it is painted during talks.

The European aspect of Turkey is still present today. As one of the three guaranteeing states, Cyprus is a part of the EU, together with Greece and, lately, the UK. As indicated before, the EU accession talks with Turkey, one of the guarantor countries of Cyprus. Turkey holds a candidacy for accession to the EU presently, which may have an impact on the Cyprus Question.

Simultaneously, it is critical to discuss both the anticipated benefits of a Cyprus problem and the difficulties that a failure to find a solution would present. It is more critical than ever before that a solution be found due to the extraordinary regional and global issues the world is facing today. It is frequently emphasized that the Cyprus problem has a history of missed chances. Opportunities in the past were not quite as favourable as they are now in many areas, with the current situation

making a solution more likely than ever. Profiting from this chance is therefore essential.

Therefore, it is proposed that a developmental strategy might produce various shared value and foster trust, which would expressly make it easier to reach a complete solution using an integrationist federal model and foster collective interests. A result this would likely benefit many people. Any settlement towards Cyprus issue based on a bi-communal federal state might result in an enhancement of the current system and economic advantages. If the proposed approach is put into action, Cyprus' ability to function in the Eurozone is highly improbable, if not completely unattainable. Even as it stands, the situation is perilous. With such a bi-zonal, federated arrangement, nonetheless, the current state of affairs is most to exacerbate, therefore it is critical to reevaluate the position and concentrate on policy proposals that can help the parties involved break the impasse in a significant manner. The notion of an evolutionary mechanism is further strengthened by the observation that, must the present plan for a settlement be put into action, it will be exceptionally problematic, albeit not unthinkable, to change through one condition of things to another in a matter in just one day. Owing to the fact that distinct histories, experiences, perspectives, moral codes, and political and socioeconomic realities.

Since it could be endangerment that the political elites will accept the solution but that the public may not if mature public discourse is not engaged in. the UN can serve as a conduit among both civilian population and state and interstate entities in this fashion. In fact, there exists an urgent necessity leaders and public discourse, including autonomous attempts to educate and persuade the public with the necessity for a settlement and, consequently, for political concessions. To avoid the circumstances from 2004 and the errors made at that time, it is essential to do this. Each and every resolution in Cyprus must result from consensual consent between both opposing parties. The evolutionary strategy might undoubtedly allow for the time needed for the progressive improvement of relationships among the two groups and the development of the idea of an integrationist, federal, undivided nation. If this is not practicable, other measures, such as Protocol 10, must be looked into to preserve peace and security well within framework of Cyprus' position in the EU, which also was guaranteed upon its admission in 2004. Additionally, approaches that would benefit both parties may be used to change the underlying energy concerns.

The projected advantages of such a procedure include financial gains on both parties, the development of trust, in addition to a healthier environment that will ultimately result in a long-term agreement together with stability and order throughout the Eastern Mediterranean.

The most important characteristic is the government's commitment to national interests, identity, and unity. In countries that are prone to conflict, personal ambition and animosity are the main causes of armed conflict and struggle. National leaders should exercise restraint, prioritize the welfare of the nation over personal gain, and foster harmony. Their ability to incorporate local customs and values into universal ideals and guiding principles is their second feature. Thirdly, bravery, compassion, and the ability to persuade followers and the broader public of the necessity of seeking out holistic concepts and adapting global principles to local standards of morality are characteristics of good leadership. Local authorities frequently try to develop and put into action policies that would result in the development of a robust civil society ready to promote peace without outside assistance, but they largely rely on imported resources. Societies need to come up with a solution for how to cope with historical misconducts and atrocities if they are to advance. The development of the rule of law is crucial not only for addressing historical injustices, but also for addressing the very real issue of the return of refugees and internally displaced people, missing persons and the restoration of their property, which are contemporary in Cyprus and other post conflict societies.

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NEAR EAST UNIVERSITY

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEE

21.11.2022

Dear Pricillah Marisa

Your project “**The Role Of Un Bodies And Missions In Sustainable Development And Peace-Building In Post-Conflict Societies: The Case Of Cyprus**” has been evaluated. Since only secondary data will be used the project does not need to go through the ethics committee. You can start your research on the condition that you will use only secondary data.

Prof. Dr. Aşkın KİRAZ

The Coordinator of the Scientific Research Ethics Committee

Appendix B
Turnitin Similarity Report

**The Role of UN Bodies and
Missions in Sustainable
Development and Peace-
building in Post-Conflict
Societies: The Case of Cyprus**
Yazar Pricillah Marisa

Gönderim Tarihi: 17-Eki-2022 07:31AM (UTC+0300)
Gönderim Numarası: 1927336860
Dosya adı: Pricilla_Marisa_Thesis_16.10.22.doc (576.5K)
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Karakter sayısı: 237085



The Role of UN Bodies and Missions in Sustainable Development and Peace-building in Post-Conflict Societies: The Case of Cyprus

ORJİNALLIK RAPORU

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