

# Democratic Accountability and the Use of Force in International Law

The spread of democracy to a majority of the world's states and the legitimization of the use of force by multilateral institutions such as NATO and the UN have been two key developments since the Second World War. In the last decade these developments have become intertwined, as multilateral forces moved from traditional peacekeeping to peace enforcement among warring parties. This book explores the experiences of nine countries (Canada, France, Germany, India, Japan, Norway, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States) in the deployment of armed forces under the UN and NATO, asking who has been and should be accountable to the citizens of these nations, and to the citizens of states who are the object of deployments, for the decisions made in such military actions. The authors conclude that national-level mechanisms have been most important in ensuring democratic accountability of national and international decision-makers.

CHARLOTTE KU is executive vice president and executive director of the American Society of International Law. Her recent publications include Global Governance and the Changing Face of International Law (2001), "Using Military Forces under International Auspices and Democratic Accountability" (2001), and "American Lawyers and International Competence" (with Christopher J. Borgen, 2000). She is also coeditor with Paul Diehl of the widely used collection, International Law: Classic and Contemporary Readings (1998).

HAROLD K. JACOBSON (1929–2001) was, at the time of coediting this book, Jesse Siddal Reeves professor of political science, senior research scientist, and adjunct professor of law at the University of Michigan. His many publications include *Engaging Countries: Strengthening Compliance with International Environmental Accords* (coedited with Edith Brown Weiss, 1998). During his distinguished career he was awarded the Excellence in Education Award of the University of Michigan's College of Literature, Science, and the Arts; and was elected a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science from which he also received the Award for International Scientific Cooperation.



# Democratic Accountability and the Use of Force in International Law

Edited by

Charlotte Ku and Harold K. Jacobson





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To Jake's family and students, that his humanity and scholarship may live on.



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# Notes on contributors

MAJOR GENERAL DIPANKAR BANERJEE's thirty-six years of distinguished service in the Indian army included service in command and staff assignments in all its operational environments and border areas and includes appointments at brigade, division, field army, and army head-quarters. From May 1, 1999, he has led the Regional Centre for Strategic Studies, the only such institute in the region, at Colombo, Sri Lanka, as its executive director. Banerjee's current areas of academic interest are national security issues, confidence-building measures, Asia-Pacific security, and China's security and foreign policies. He has published extensively on these subjects. His recent edited volumes include: South Asia at Gun Point: Small Arms and Light Weapons Proliferation (2000); Security Studies in South Asia: Changes and Challenges (2000); CBMs in South Asia: Potential and Possibilities (2000); Confidence Building Measures in South Asia (1999); and Comprehensive and Co-operative Security in South Asia (1998).

DR. YVES BOYER has a Ph.D. in political science from Paris University. He was senior researcher at the French Institute for International Affairs (IFRI), then moved to CREST as deputy director, a position he still holds at the Fondation pour la Recherche Stratégique, an institution based in Paris that succeeded CREST. In his various capacities, he is currently chairing a working group from the French Defense Science Board dealing with forecast analysis. He is associate professor at the French army academy as well as at the Ecole polytechnique. A former IISS researcher and Woodrow Wilson scholar, he has published many articles on security and defense issues in various journals (including *The Washington Quarterly*, the RUSI journal, *Europe Archiv*, and *Politique Etrangère*). Recent publications include his edited volume *Allemagne(s)*: certitudes et incertitudes de la politique de sécurité (1998).

PROFESSOR LORI FISLER DAMROSCH is Henry L. Moses professor of law and international organization at Columbia University. Her teaching responsibilities have included public international law; the Constitution

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and US foreign affairs; and seminars on related subjects including enforcing international law, human rights, international criminal tribunals, international institutions, law and foreign intelligence, eastwest trade, and transnational litigation. She served for a number of years in the Office of the Legal Adviser, US Department of State, with responsibilities including legal aspects of the Iran crisis and litigation in international, foreign, and domestic tribunals. Her recent publications include: International Law: Cases and Materials (4th edn.) (coauthored with Louis Henkin, Richard Pugh, Oscar Schachter, and Hans Smit) (2001); Beyond Confrontation: International Law for the Post-Cold War Era (coedited with Gennady Danilenko and Rein Mullerson, coauthored by pairs of scholars from the United States and the former Soviet Union) (1995); Enforcing Restraint: Collective Intervention in Internal Conflicts (1993); Law and Force in the New International Order (coedited with David J. Scheffer) (1991); and The International Court of Justice at a Crossroads (1987).

DR. OLIVIER FLEURENCE worked for several United Nations Consultative Committees at the UN headquarters in Geneva and with the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna until mid-2001, when he joined the Legal Department of the International Monetary Fund in Washington, DC. Prior to that, he taught law in first-year tutorials at the University of Paris II (Panthéon-Assas), from which he received his Ph.D. in international law in 1998. His doctoral thesis, *La Réforme du Conseil de sécurité: l'état du débat depuis la fin de la guerre froide*, was published by Bruylant Editions of Brussels in 2000.

PROFESSOR MICHAEL J. GLENNON is professor of international law, Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University. From 1977 to 1980 he was legal counsel to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. He was the recipient of a Fulbright fellowship (Lithuania) in 1998 and a Woodrow Wilson fellowship (2001–2). He has consulted regularly with various governmental entities and international organizations. Recent publications include: Limits of Law, Prerogatives of Power: Interventionism after Kosovo (2001); A Constitutional Law Anthology (1997); United States Foreign Relations and National Security Law (2nd edn.) (with Thomas M. Franck) (1993); Constitutional Diplomacy (1990); Foreign Affairs and the U.S. Constitution (with Louis Henkin and William D. Rogers) (1990); and United States Foreign Relations and National Security Law (1980).

PROFESSOR FEN OSLER HAMPSON has been the associate director of the Norman Paterson School of International Affairs since 1996. From



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1998 to the present he has been a senior advisory board member, Project on Global Issues, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, and a senior associate, International Conflict Resolution Program, Columbia University School of International and Public Affairs. In 1998 he was consultant to the UN organization, the War-torn Societies Project (WSP), in Geneva. He is a member of the Academic Advisory Committee to Olara Otunnu, special representative to the UN Secretary-General on Children and Armed Conflict. His recent publications include: Madness in the Multitude: Human Security and World Disorder (2001); Multilateral Negotiations: Lessons From Arms Control, Trade, and the Environment (2nd edn., 1999); Nurturing Peace: Why Peace Settlements Succeed or Fail (1996); Unguided Missiles: How America Buys its Weapons (1989); and Forming Economic Policy: The Case of Energy in Canada and Mexico (1986).

PROFESSOR HAROLD K. JACOBSON died in August 2001. He was Jesse Siddal Reeves professor of political science and a senior research scientist in the Center for Political Studies of the Institute for Social Research at the University of Michigan. He was a specialist in international institutions and politics. He was the author, editor, or coeditor of twelve books and numerous articles and monographs dealing with international institutions and politics. His most recent book is Engaging Countries: Strengthening Compliance with International Environmental Accords (edited with Edith Brown Weiss) (1998). Other publications include: Behavior, Culture and Conflict in World Politics (coeditor and contributor with William Zimmerman) (1994); Double Edged Diplomacy: International Bargaining and Domestic Politics (edited with Peter Evans and Robert D. Putnam) (1993); China's Participation in the IMF, the World Bank, and GATT: Toward a Global Economic Order (with Michel Oksenberg) (1990).

DR. CHARLOTTE KU has been executive vice president and executive director of the American Society of International Law since 1994. She was formerly on the legislative staff of the US Senate and on the faculty of the University of Virginia. She served recently as chair of the Board of Directors of the Academic Council on the United Nations System (ACUNS). Among her recent publications are: Global Governance and the Changing Face of International Law (the John W. Holmes Memorial Lecture, Academic Council on the United Nations System, November 2001); "American Lawyers and International Competence" (2000) Dickinson Journal of International Law (with Christopher J. Borgen); "International Law – New Actors and New Technologies: Center Stage for NGOs" (2000) Georgetown Journal of Law and Policy in International



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Business (with John King Gamble); and International Law: Classic and Contemporary Readings (with Paul Diehl) (1998).

PROFESSOR KAREN MINGST has been a professor of political science at the University of Kentucky since 1993. She has published work on international organization and law, international political economy, international environmental politics, and African politics. She is a member of the International Studies Association and recently served on the Board of Directors of the Academic Council on the United Nations System. She has a long-standing interest in innovative teaching. Recent publications include: Domestic Politics and State Participation in Multilateral Peacekeeping: A Comparative Analysis (forthcoming); Essentials of International Relations (1998); Teaching International Affairs with Cases: Cross-national Perspectives (with Katsuhiko Mori) (1997); and The United Nations in the Post-Cold War Era (with Margaret P. Karns) (1995).

PROFESSOR GEORG NOLTE is professor of international law, German and comparative public law, and director of the Institute of International Law at the University of Göttingen, Germany. He practices comparative constitutional law in his capacity as the substitute member for Germany of the European Commission for Democracy through Law (the so-called Venice Commission) of the Council of Europe. The Commission consists of independent experts and it advises European states, in particular central and eastern European states, in constitutional matters. His recent publications include: "Constitutional Implications of German Participation in Treaty Regimes" in Delegating State Powers: The Effect of Treaty Regimes on Democracy and Sovereignty (edited by Thomas M. Franck) (2000); "Intolerant Democracies" (with Gregory H. Fox) in Democratic Governance and International Law (edited by G. Fox and B. Roth) (2000); "The Limits of the Security Council's Powers and its Functions in the International Legal System: Some Reflections" in The Role of Law in International Politics, Essays in International Relations and International Law (edited by Michael Byers) (2000); and Eingreifen auf Einladung – Zur völkerrechtlichen Zulässigkeit des Einsatzes fremder Truppen im internen Konflikt auf Einladung der Regierung [Intervention upon Invitation – Use of Force by Foreign Troops in Internal Conflicts at the Invitation of a Government under International Law] (1999).

DR. KNUT NUSTAD is an anthropologist who received his Ph.D. in March 1999, with a thesis entitled *Community Leadership and Development Administration in a Durban Squatter Settlement*. He has performed research



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in South Africa and has taught seminars at the Institute and Museum for Anthropology at the University of Oslo and at Cambridge University. Recent publications include "Development: The Devil We Know?" *Third World Quarterly* (2001); and "The Instrumentalisation of Development Knowledge" (with Ole J. Sending) in *Banking on Knowledge* (edited by D. Stone) (2001).

DR. ROBERT C. R. SIEKMANN is head of Research and Consultancy at the T. M. C. Asser Institute in The Hague. He is also the general coordinator of the Asser Dissertations Programme. He is general editor of *International Peacekeeping* (Kluwer Law International). He has written numerous articles in domestic and foreign law journals, and for Dutch newspapers on the legal and political aspects of international peace and security, with an emphasis on the UN and European security issues. Recent publications include *National Contingents in United Nations Peace-keeping Forces* (1991); and *Basic Documents on United Nations and Related Peace-keeping Forces* (2nd edn.) (1989).

PROFESSOR AKIHO SHIBATA has been associate professor of international law at Okayama University from 1995. He was a senior fellow at the Center for International Studies of the New York University School of Law in 1993 and 1994. He is currently serving as a legal advisor at the Permanent Mission of Japan to International Organizations in Geneva. Recent publications include: *United Nations Peace-keeping Operations: A Guide to Japanese Policies* (with L. William Heinrich and Yoshihide Soeya) (1999); "Participation japonaise aux opérations de maintien de la paix de l'ONU" (1999) 6–7 *Perspectives asiatiques*; "Legitimacy and Justice in International Law: The Thrust and Problématique of Professor Franck's Fairness Discourse" (1998) 47 *Okayama Law Journal*; "Japanese Peacekeeping Legislation and Recent Developments in U.N. Operations" (1994) 19 *The Yale Journal of International Law*.

PROFESSOR EDWIN SMITH is Leon Benwell professor of law and international relations at the University of Southern California Law Center. He teaches arms-control agreements, foreign relations law, international law and international relations theory, and international organizations. Prior to joining the faculty at Southern California, he was special counsel for foreign policy in the office of US Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan. He served as chair of the Board of Directors of the Academic Council on the United Nations System from 1996 to 1998. Among his recent publications are "UN Task-sharing: Toward or Away from Global Governance" (with Thomas G. Weiss) in Beyond UN Subcontracting: Task-sharing with Regional Security Arrangements



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and Service-providing NGOs (edited by Thomas G. Weiss) (1998); "The United Nations and NATO: The Limits on Cooperation between International Organizations" in Trilateral Perspectives on International Legal Issues: Relevance of Domestic Law and Policy (edited by Michael K. Young and Yuji Iwasawa) (1996); "Collective Security and Collective Defense: Changing Conceptions and Institutions" in The United Nations in a New World Order (Claremont McKenna College Monograph Series 6, 1993).

PROFESSOR SERGE SUR, Agrégé des Facultés de Droit (France), is teaching international law and international relations at University Panthéon-Assas (Paris II). He directs the Centre Thucydide-Analyse et recherche en relations internationales at this University and is director of the Annuaire français de relations internationales (AFRI). He was previously deputy director of UNIDIR (the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research) at Geneva (1986–96). In this capacity he has written or edited numerous works on disarmament, arms control, and international security, including several books devoted to the problems of monitoring, verification, and compliance of treaties on arms limitations. Among his main and recent academic publications are: *Droit international public* (with Jean Combacau) (5th edn., 2001); *Relations internationals* (2nd edn., 2000); "Le Recours à la force dans l'affaire du Kosovo et le droit international" (Les Notes de l'IFRI, no. 22, 2000).

DR. RAMESH THAKUR is the vice rector (Peace and Governance) of the United Nations University in Tokyo. He was formerly professor and head of the Peace Research Centre at the Australian National University in Canberra (1995–8), and professor of international relations and director of Asian studies at the University of Otago in New Zealand (1980-95). A former member of the National Consultative Committee on Peace and Disarmament in Australia, and of the Public Advisory Committee on Arms Control and Disarmament in New Zealand, he is one of the Commissioners of the International Commission on Intervention and State Sovereignty (ICISS). He is the author/editor of eighteen books, the most recent being United Nations Peacekeeping Operations: Ad Hoc Missions, Permanent Engagement (2001); Kosovo and the Challenge of Humanitarian Intervention: Selective Indignation, Collective Action, and International Citizenship (2000); and Past Imperfect, Future UNcertain: The United Nations at Fifty (1998). He has written over 150 articles for journals and chapters for books, including "India in the World: Neither Rich, Powerful, nor Principled" in Foreign Affairs (July/August 1997). He also writes periodically for the quality press, including the Australian, the Australian Financial Review, the Asian Wall



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Street Journal, the Globe and Mail, the International Herald Tribune, and the Japan Times.

- DR. HENRIK THUNE is a researcher at the Norwegian Institute of International Affairs. He is a political scientist from the London School of Economics and Political Science and the University of Oslo. Thune has published articles on international theory, ethical and normative issues related to humanitarian interventions, security theory, and Norwegian foreign policy. Recent publications include *The Sanctions Debate. UN Sanctions in the 1990s* (2000) and *After Srebrenica* (edited with Vegard Hansen) (1998).
- DR. BAKHTIYAR TUZMUKHAMEDOV is the international law counselor of the Constitutional Court of the Russian Federation. He concurrently serves as docent (associate professor) of international law at the Diplomatic Academy of the Russian Foreign Ministry and at the Moscow State Linguistic University. He is deputy editor-in-chief of the Moscow Journal of International Law and a member of the Board of the Russian Association of International Law. His international activities include a tour of duty with the UN Protection Force in the former Yugoslavia. His recent publications in English include: "Russian Forces in the Commonwealth of Independent States" in The Handbook of the Law of Visiting Forces (edited by Dieter Fleck) (2001); and "The Legal Framework of CIS Regional Peace Operations" (2000) International Peacekeeping.
- PROFESSOR NIGEL D. WHITE has been professor of international organizations law at Nottingham University since 2000. He is coeditor of the Journal of Conflict and Security Law published by Oxford University Press. Recent publications include The United Nations System: Toward International Justice (2002); Keeping the Peace: The United Nations and the Maintenance of International Peace and Security (2nd edn.) (1997); The Blue Helmets: The Legal Regulation of UN Military Operations (with H. McCoubrey) (1996); The Law of International Organisations (1996); International Law and Armed Conflict (with H. McCoubrey) (1992); and The United Nations and the Maintenance of International Peace and Security (1990).



## Preface

Harold Jacobson died unexpectedly as we neared completion of this book, but Jake and I had finished final drafts of the opening and closing chapters and we had received all the other chapters and worked through them together. So the work remains as it began, a joint effort, codirected and coedited by the two of us.

This project had its origins in an on-going conversation that Jake and I began in late 1995 about the role of international institutions after the end of the Cold War. We both observed that the world had been unprepared for the post-Cold War world, and that this lack of preparation had handicapped the important institutions and powers in handling the problems that emerged after 1991. Since there had been no concept of or opportunity for post-war planning, as there had been during the First and Second World Wars, there was no coherent vision of what the post-Cold War world, including its international institutions, should look like.

We considered what questions demanded an answer, and concluded that an important but not well-understood issue was how democracies maintained accountability to their citizens when they acted under the auspices of international institutions. As Americans, we thought of the rallying cry of the American colonists against Westminster, "No taxation without representation," as capturing the right of citizens of democratic countries to understand and to shape their country's international obligations. The question seemed simple, but we soon discovered the complexity of undertaking research in this area because of the academic tradition of exploring international and national political and societal issues separately. Nevertheless, we knew that we had to attempt the analysis because the world's democracies have the military power and responsibility to use force under international auspices. They also have an obligation to their citizens to make transparent decisions that conform to tenets of democratic accountability. We needed to understand how domestic politics might be used to ensure the effective implementation of decisions made by international institutions by strengthening national commitment to those institutions and popular support for their decisions.

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### xx Preface

We began our discussion with an open and congenial international team of authors in September 1998 at Airlie House in Warrenton, Virginia. Our colleagues listened, considered, and brought their wisdom and experience to refining and probing the questions that Jake and I posed to them. We met again in Glen Cove (New York), Bermuda, and Bergen (Norway). With each meeting, the project gained definition and depth. Our colleagues whose disciplinary home is in international law complemented our international relations and political science orientations; our non-law colleagues added valuable insight into the political and societal context in which law operates. We are grateful to all of them.

We are grateful to the many individuals who took the time to talk with us. They included officials at the headquarters of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) in Brussels, with whom we spoke soon after the 1998 Activation Order that led to Operation Allied Force; the Secretariat and delegation members at the United Nations headquarters in New York; and academics, legislators, military officials, and policy makers in many of the countries included in this study. We benefited greatly from their insights and perspectives. Since we agreed that all information generated from the interviews would be used without attribution, we do not list these individuals here by name.

We were fortunate to have a team of informal advisers who reviewed materials as they developed and offered helpful suggestions and refinements throughout the project. These included James Sutterlin (Yale University), Oscar Schachter (Columbia University), José Alvarez (Columbia University), Anne Julie Semb (Norwegian Institute of International Studies), William Durch (Henry L. Stimson Center), Maurice Copithorne (University of British Columbia), and Edwina Campbell (Industrial College of the Armed Forces, National Defense University). Special thanks are owed to Dr. Campbell, who provided invaluable comments on various drafts of the book.

We are grateful to the American Society of International Law for its sponsorship of this project, the latest in a long line of studies produced under ASIL auspices that brought together a multinational and multidisciplinary team to examine an issue of contemporary significance. From Dayton to September 11, 2001, the course of this project seemed to span the entire spectrum of modern conflict, from peacekeeping to war. This gave the study an immediacy that reinforced the relevancy of its issues, but also made their assessment somewhat harder. As editors, we were cognizant that our discussion needed to stand the test of time, even though we were studying a highly contemporary set of questions. The bulk of the research and analysis was completed prior to September 11, 2001,



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but few changes were made as the premises and conclusions of the study remain relevant to the post-September 11 world.

We wish to thank the staff of the American Society of International Law, who provided research and administrative support, especially the contributions of Jill Watson, Kuldip Singh Dosanjh, Sandra Liebel, Edra London, and Trish Thomas. We also thank the Center for Political Studies at the University of Michigan for research and administrative support, especially Laurie Pierson for her careful preparation of the manuscript. The help of the Center's director, William Zimmerman, and Barbara Opal made it possible for me to finish the work that Jake and I began, and I am grateful to both of them.

This project was an amiable and enriching intellectual experience, thanks to our contributors, the Ford Foundation, which made our work possible, and Cambridge University Press, especially its law senior commissioning editor, Finola O'Sullivan.

The project started as a conversation between two people and grew to include scores who contributed to our understanding of accountability, democracy, and international institutions. We hope that our collective efforts offer a new approach to the complex interaction of national and international institutions in providing accountability to citizens for actions their countries take under international auspices. Jake and I concluded on an optimistic and hopeful note that democracy, accountability, and international institutions are not incompatible concepts, that a "mixed system" of national and international accountability is in the process of being crafted.

In Jake's memory, my project colleagues and I dedicate this work to his family and to his many students, in the hope and expectation that his humanity and scholarship will live on.

Washington, DC

CHARLOTTE KU

### Disclaimer

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# **Abbreviations**

CESDP Common European Security and Defense Policy

CFSP Common Foreign and Security Policy
CIS Commonwealth of Independent States
CPSU Communist Party of the Soviet Union

CSCE Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe

DOMREP Mission of the Representative of the

Secretary-General in the Dominican Republic

DPKO United Nations Department of Peacekeeping

Operations

ECOWAS Economic Community of West African States

EDC European Defense Community

ESDI European Security and Defense Identity/Initiative

ESDP European Security and Defense Policy

EU European Union

ICC International Criminal Court ICJ International Court of Justice

ICRC International Committee of the Red Cross
ICTY International Criminal Tribunal for the Former

Yugoslavia

IFOR NATO-led Implementation Force INTERFET International Force in East Timor

KDOM/KVM Kosovo Diplomatic Observer Mission/Verification

Mission

KFOR Kosovo Force

KLA Kosovo Liberation Army

MFO Multinational Force and Observers, Sinai

MIF Maritime Interdiction Force

MINUGUA United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala MINURCA United Nations Mission in the Central African

Republic

MINURSO United Nations Mission for the Referendum

in Western Sahara

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More information

List of abbreviations

MIPONUH United Nations Civilian Police Mission in Haiti
MISAB Mission to Monitor the Implementation of the

Bangui Agreements

MNF Multinational Force

MONUA United Nations Observer Mission in Angola MONUC United Nations Organization Mission in the

Democratic Republic of Congo

MPF Multinational Protection Force

NAC North Atlantic Council NAM Non-Aligned Movement

NATO North Atlantic Treaty Organization NGO Non-governmental organization OAS Organization of American States

OAU Organization of African Unity (now the African

Union)

ONUC United Nations Operation in the Congo

ONUCA United Nations Observer Group in Central America

ONUMOZ United Nations Operation in Mozambique
ONUSAL United Nations Observer Mission in El Salvador
ONUVEH United Nations Observer Group for the Verification

of the Elections in Haiti

OSCE Organization for Security and Cooperation

in Europe

OSGAP Office of the Secretary-General in Afghanistan

and Pakistan

P-5 Five permanent members of the UN Security

Council

PDD-25 Presidential Decision Directive 25

RECAMP Reforcement des Capacités Africaines de

Maintien de la Paix

ROE Rules of engagement RPF Rwandan Patriotic Front

SACEUR Supreme Allied Commander, Europe SEATO Southeast Asian Treaty Organization

SFOR Stabilization Force (NATO) SOFA Status-of-forces Agreement

UNAMET United Nations Mission in East Timor

UNAMIC United Nations Advance Mission in Cambodia
UNAMIR United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda
UNAMSIL United Nations Observer Mission in Sierra Leone
UNASOG United Nations Aouzou Strip Observer Mission
UNAVEM I United Nations Angola Verification Mission I

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UNAVEM II	United Nations Angola Verification Mission II
UNAVEM III	United Nations Angola Verification Mission III
UNCRO	United Nations Confidence Restoration Operation
UNDOF	United Nations Disengagement Observer Force
UNEF I	United Nations Emergency Force I
UNEF II	United Nations Emergency Force II
UNESCO	United Nations Education, Scientific, and Cultural
	Organization
UNFICYP	United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus
UNGA	United Nations General Assembly
UNGOMAP	United Nations Good Offices Mission in
	Afghanistan and Pakistan
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNIFIL	United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon
UNIIMOG	United Nations Iran-Iraq Military Observer Group
UNIKOM	United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission
UN-IPTF	United Nations International Police Task Force
UNIPOM	United Nations India-Pakistan Observation Mission
UNITAF	Unified Task Force (Operation Restore Hope)
UNMACC	United Nations Mine Action Coordination Centre
	in Kosovo
UNMEE	United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea
UNMIBH	United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina
UNMIH	United Nations Mission in Haiti
UNMIK	United Nations Interim Administration Mission
	in Kosovo
UNMO	United Nations Military Observer
UNMOGIP	United Nations Military Observer Group in
	India and Pakistan
UNMOP	United Nations Mission of Observers in Prevlaka
UNMOT	United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan
UNOGIL	United Nations Observation Group in Lebanon
UNOMIG	United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia
UNOMIL	United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia
UNOMSIL	United Nations Observer Mission in Sierra Leone
UNOMUR	United Nations Observer Mission in
	Uganda–Rwanda
UNOSOM I	United Nations Operation in Somalia I
UNOSOM II	United Nations Operation in Somalia II
UNPA	United Nations Participation Act
UNPREDEP	United Nations Preventive Deployment Force
UNPROFOR	United Nations Protection Force



List of abbreviations

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UNPSG	United Nations Civilian Police Support Group
UNSC	United Nations Security Council
UNSCOB	United Nations Commission for the Balkans
UNSCOM	United Nations Special Commission
UNSF	United Nations Security Force in West New Guinea
UNSMIH	United Nations Support Mission in Haiti
UNTAC	United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia
UNTAES	United Nations Transitional Administration for Eastern
	Slavonia, Baranja, and Western Sirmium
UNTAET	United Nations Transitional Administration
	in East Timor
UNTAG	United Nations Transition Assistance Group
UNTCOK	United Nations Temporary Commission on Korea
UNTMIH	United Nations Transition Mission in Haiti
UNTSO	United Nations Truce Supervision Organization
UNV	United Nations Volunteers
UNYOM	United Nations Yemen Observation Mission
WEU	Western European Union