



# ISTANBUL SECURITY CONFERENCE



**UN AT 70  
AND GLOBAL  
GOVERNANCE**

**03 - 05**

**DECEMBER 2015**

**TITANIC BUSINESS  
BAYRAMPAŞA  
İSTANBUL**

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VISION DOCUMENT (DRAFT)

## ISTANBUL SECURITY CONFERENCE | 2015 “UN at 70 and Global Governance”

(03-05 December 2015, Istanbul)

United Nations (UN) is an international organization established by a group of countries in 1945 upon the ratification of United Nations Charter. The foreword of the Charter which summarizes the founding principles and the main purposes of the organization, is displayed as follows: **“We decided to protect our next generations from the disaster of war that brings unexplainable pains to humanity twice in a human life period; to declare our belief about basic human rights, the honor and the value of the human personality, the right equality between men and women, then big nations and small nations, again; to create necessary conditions for protecting justice and respecting the responsibilities due to the agreement; to provide better living conditions in a larger area of freedom; to make social development easier; to treat others in a decent way in order to reach these aims; to live together in peace for the comprehension of good neighborliness; to unify our powers in order to protect international peace and security; to accept the rules that can provide the disuse of armed forces except for common benefit and to adopt the methods; to benefit from the international institutions in order to make the social development of all societies easier; endeavoring to realize these aims willingly.”**

In terms of its international recognition by member states and binding provisions; the UN preserves to be the most effective institution among the international organizations. The world organization has endeavored with maximum effect in order to fulfill the responsibilities in which are expressed in the text of the foundation agreement. The most crucial point in the foundation mission of the UN has been the non-use of force principle as well as the purpose of preserving peace and security. The UN’s ability to maintain international peace and security has been tested during the Cold War years. Yet, due to the rivalry between superpowers the effectiveness of the organization was very limited. The UN’s role and influence has increased significantly in the post-Cold War era, accompanied with growing criticisms towards its representativeness and effectiveness in changing world politics. Even if the UN seems to be successful in preventing the eruption of large scales of war since 1945, its ability to cope with civil wars, preventing humanitarian conflicts and protecting small states have been criticized on many grounds. The conflicts, problems and deadlocks in the global scale have been persisting since 1945.

Some institutions such as the Security Council, has been the target of criticisms with respect to the representativeness of the UN- which claim that the decisions are taken in the direction of the demands of the Great Powers - effectiveness - that in terms of a global coordination for the purpose of preserving





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global peace and security and accountability- that there hasn't been any space for judging a decision without thinking about the own benefits of the member states.

Actually, these criticisms point to the fact that there are growing expectations from the organization in changing world politics in terms of realizing the founding principles of the organization. Even if it seems that the UN has not been quite successful in "preserving international peace and security" that is expressed as its main purpose; the world organization, has been establishing new institutions and has been initiating policies varying from health to education in developing third world countries, in order to realize its social and economic purposes. The support of international society for "others" such as women, children, refugees and disabled people and the opportunities of needy states and societies to the development targets have been creating an image as if there has been a "revision" in the mission of the UN.

The Secretary General of the UN, Ban Ki-moon made a global action call with a report presented in December, 2014 about "The Development Agenda After 2015" (in the other words "the Sustainable Development Targets") in the UN General Council. The project has become one of the main targets of the UN for 2015. Development, climate change and common future targets have been presented in this project. Also, the UN has been evaluating the financing titles for gender equality, climate change and for sustainable development in the themes identified for the 70<sup>th</sup> year of its foundation. It can also be thought that the selection of these titles as main theme in the annual vision, contribute to the discussions in the case of "redefining" the mission of the UN in its 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Currently, we have been witnessing a period that has been shaped with "crisis" in social, political and economic dimensions; in which present local and global orders have been interrogated and in which the world politics has been crossing through a highly rapid change. The discussions of unipolarity and liberal order, that have increased after the Cold War have left their place to new order discussions and the comprehension effort of "rising powers" of the contemporary world order in the last decade. In its 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the UN and its system still reflects the post-Second World War order and it remains as a "frozen system" today. The UN resists the "reform calls" and its structure is increasingly challenged on the grounds of its "representativeness" and "effectiveness" in world politics. On the other hand, despite all of its shortcomings, the UN preserves it's role of being the only organization approximating universality, in which the states have been coming all together around some minimum legal and moral norms in contemporary world politics. This fact makes it necessary more than ever to rethink and reassess the role of the UN in changing world order; theoretically, analytically and empirically in the 70<sup>th</sup> year of the organization.

In this sense, we are delighted to announce the **Istanbul Security Conference | 2015** under the main theme of "**UN in 70<sup>th</sup> Year and Global Governance**"; which will be held in Istanbul on **03-05 December 2015** that is the 70<sup>th</sup> foundation anniversary year of the UN, with the cooperation of TASAM and Marmara University Department of International Relations and Public Policy. With such a perspective, we invite scholars,





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experts, policy makers, activists and scholars to participate in panels and meetings in order to reassess and rethink of the UN under the light of the past and of current global/ regional challenges.

## **ISTANBUL SECURITY CONFERENCE**

This conference which host different discussions regarding the subject of national, international security and global governance every year; will be centred in Istanbul. Considering the fact that Istanbul is a source of inspiration in terms of understanding the newly shaping world, with its historical and present references, its intellectual accumulation regarding the subject and its experience with the East and West; this conference aims to positively contribute Turkey adopting the role of being a global source of wisdom. Soft and hard power, new sectoral diplomacy and security channels, the construction of power and justice, the new nature of state, rising powers and changing international system shaped by the rivalry parameters of “micro-nationalism, integration, unpredictability” will be the subjects of discussion at the forthcoming future conferences.

### **MAIN THEME**

**“UN at 70 and Global Governance”**

### **SUB THEMES (PANELS)**

#### **UN Between Multilateralism and Regionalism: Theoretical and Empirical Approaches**

1. Effective Multilateralism in Global Governance: From Theory to Practice
2. The UN’s Cooperation with the European Union (EU): Dynamics and Challenges
3. The UN, NATO and the Nature of the Partnership
4. The UN and the African Union
5. UN in the Middle East
6. UN and Regional Powers

#### **The post-Western Order Debates and International Organizations**

1. Post-Western Order Debates and Post-Western IR Approaches to Global Governance
2. Rising Powers in the Shifting International Order and Their Challenges towards the International Global Governance Institutions
3. The UN and International Security in a Changing World Order: Role, Crisis and Challenges

#### **UN, Crises Management, Humanitarian Intervention and the Future of R2P: Debates and Challenges**

1. UN and the Evolution of Crises Management in Perspective
2. Crises Management and Regional Cooperation: UN-EU Cooperation





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3. UN and Crises Management: The Case of Cyprus
4. Sovereignty vs Humanitarian Intervention, R2P and the UN
5. The UN and the Humanitarian Crises: Darfur, Libya and Syria

### **Global Justice and Ethics in the Changing World Order**

1. The Global Citizenship, the NGOs and the UN
2. Migration, Human Rights, Human Security and the UN
3. Women and Children Rights and the UN

### **UN and Reform Debates**

1. Norms, Institutions and the UN Reform: Challenges and Prospects
2. Major Powers and the UN Reform
3. Country Perspectives and Initiatives on the UN Reform Agenda

### **UN, Emerging Economies and G20**

1. Changing Economic Order and the UN
2. Emerging Economies, G20 and the UN
3. Liberal Economy, Global Economic Governance and the UN

### **UN and International Law**

1. International Criminal Court (ICC) and the UN: Legitimacy vs. Legality
2. Sovereignty, Human Rights and the UN Charter
3. UN Charter in Perspective: An International Law Perspective

### **The Changing International Order, Rising and Middle Powers and Their Contribution to Global Governance**

1. Rising Powers and the UN
2. Rising Powers, Middle Powers and Global Governance Institutions
3. Rising Powers and Changing International Order

### **UN, Development and other Issues in Global Governance**

1. UN, Human Development and Global Inequality
2. Least Developed Countries and the UN
3. UN, Environmental Governance and Epidemic Diseases
4. UN, Terrorism and Non-Proliferation

### **UN and Regional Crises: A Critical Assessment**

1. UN and the Ukraine Crises
2. UN, the Syrian Crises and Iranian Nuclear Program
3. UN and Arab Spring





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Rethinking Turkey - UN Relations in 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

## **CLOSED PANELS**

**UN and Local Administrations** (Public Administration Department, Marmara University)

**Turkey in Global Governance Compared to the BRICS Countries**

## **SPECIFIC WORKSHOPS**

**Change in State Nature Workshop** 'Expectation Management and Security'

**G-20 Turkey 2015 Workshop** 'Power and Justice Building for Global Security and Prosperity'

**Climate Modification Technology Workshop** 'Atmospheric Manipulation; Opportunities and Threats'

**Energy Security Workshop** 'Turkey's Nuclear Power Program 2030'

**Turkish - Arab Relations Workshop** 'Multidimensional Security Building'

**International Al-Quds Workshop** 'Arab Peace Initiative and Perspectives for Permanent Peace'

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**Michael Barnett**, George Washington University, USA

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**Mert Bilgin**, Advisor to Chairman of TASAM | Bahcesehir University

**Nurşin Ateş Güney**, Yıldız Technical University

## KEYNOTE SPEAKERS (FIRST DRAFT)

**Andrew Cooper**, University of Waterloo, Canada

**HRH Princess Basmah AL-SAUD**, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

**Kamal Malhotra**, UN Resident Coordinator of Turkey

**Michael Barnett**, George Washington University, USA

**Amb. Rauf Engin Soysal**, Undersecretary of Ministry of EU Affairs

**Richard Anderson Falk**, Princeton University, ABD

**Mehmet Vecdi Gönül**, National Defence Previous Minister

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