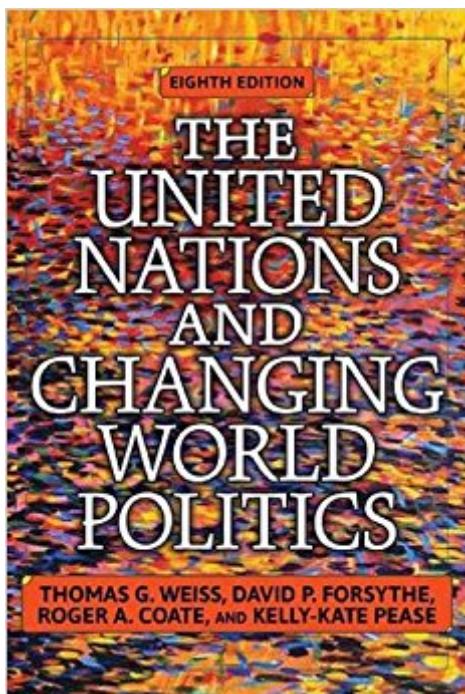


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# The United Nations And Changing World Politics



## **Synopsis**

This completely revised and updated eighth edition serves as the definitive text for courses in which the United Nations is either the focus or a central component. Built around three critical themes in international relations—peace and security, human rights and humanitarian affairs, and sustainable human development—the eighth edition of *The United Nations and Changing World Politics* guides students through the seven turbulent decades of UN politics. This new edition is fully revised to incorporate recent developments on the international stage, including new peace operations in Mali and the Central African Republic; ongoing UN efforts to manage the crises in Libya, Syria, and Iraq; the Iran Nuclear Deal; and the new Sustainable Development Goals. The authors discuss how international law frames the controversies at the UN and guides how the UN responds to violence and insecurity, gross violations of human rights, poverty, underdevelopment, and environmental degradation. Students of all levels will learn that the UN is a complex organization, comprised of three interactive entities that cooperate and also compete with each other to define and advance the UN's principles and purposes.

## **Book Information**

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Praise for Prior Editions; Four expert authors join forces to provide a theoretically sophisticated survey of the UN as an actor; and not merely a stage; in international politics. • Robert E. Williams, Jr., Pepperdine University; Few stories are as

complex, as misunderstood, or as urgent as that of the United Nations. No one tells it better than this dynamic author team. Already a classic, their text offers invaluable insights into how the world tries, fails, and tries again to govern itself. *Edward Luck, Columbia University* Since its first edition in the mid-1990s, this book has been the standard text on the UN for courses in international organization. No other book can compete with its sophisticated analysis and up-to-date information. *Craig N. Murphy, Wellesley College* [The authors] focus on the most important questions of international governance; human security, human rights, and sustainable development; and provide students with a wealth of information enabling them to make their own informed conclusions about the UN system's contributions to answering them. *M. J. Peterson, University of Massachusetts, Amherst*

"Praise for Previous Editions" Few stories are as complex, as misunderstood, or as urgent as that of the United Nations. No one tells it better than this dynamic author team. Already a classic, their text offers invaluable insights into how the world tries, fails, and tries again to govern itself. *Edward C. Luck, Columbia University* Four expert authors join forces to provide a theoretically sophisticated survey of the UN as an actor and not merely a stage in international politics. *Robert E. Williams, Jr., Pepperdine University* Built around three critical themes in international relations—peace and security, human rights and humanitarian affairs, and sustainable human development—"The United Nations and Changing World Politics" guides students through the seven turbulent decades of UN politics. Beginning with coverage of theory and practice, the authors discuss what the UN is, how it operates, and how it engages with the universe of external actors and institutions, from sovereign states to the array of nongovernmental and intergovernmental organizations now playing important roles in world politics. The eighth edition has been updated throughout to incorporate recent developments on the international stage, including peace operations in Mali and the Central African Republic; ongoing UN efforts to manage the crises in Libya, Syria, and Iraq; the Iran nuclear deal; and the new Sustainable Development Goals. The authors discuss how international law frames the controversies at the UN and guides how the UN responds to violence and insecurity, violations of human rights, poverty, underdevelopment, and environmental degradation. Students of all levels will learn that the UN is a complex organization, comprised of three interactive entities that cooperate and compete with each other to define and advance the UN's principles and purposes. *Thomas G. Weiss* is Presidential Professor of Political Science at The CUNY Graduate Center and director-emeritus of the Ralph Bunche Institute for International Studies. *David P. Forsythe* is the Charles J. Mach Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Political Science at the University of

Nebraska-Lincoln. Roger A. Coate is Paul D. Coverdell Professor of Public Policy at Georgia College & State University and Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Political Science at the University of South Carolina. Kelly-Kate Pease is professor of international relations at Webster University in St. Louis and the director of the International Relations Program Worldwide. She also serves as a fellow in the Institute for Human Rights and Humanitarian Studies."

This book offers an excellent overview of the United Nations and the various arms that exist within its alphabet soup. The authors approach the subject through several theoretical lenses and look at world order and how the United Nations has shaped it and what that order will look like in the future with the UN. The authors break the book into three interrelated areas of security, human rights and economic development/globalization. Each area is looked at in three pieces that are broad in scope. The first is the historical perspective of how the UN has approached each area, then a current look at how the UN is doing and finally what role will the UN play in the future. In the last part it is a look at how world order is structured because of UN actions. The book is very well written and is almost a modern classic for those who study international relations and want to understand how the UN fits into the world. No matter the stance on pro or anti UN this is a great book to start understanding what role the UN plays in the world and a masterpiece of scholarship.

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