

ISMILLW Peacekeeping Conference Dublin

15 November 2018

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'A Strategic Analysis of the Challenges in the Domain of Peace Operations'

Conflict Resolution & Stability; is Peacekeeping at a Crossroads?

Agenda

Introduction

Peacekeeping – Contemporary Challenges

UNIFIL – At Forty - A Success Story ??

Peacekeeping – Looking Forward

Conclusion

We must harness the full range of tools available: political, security, development, human rights and humanitarian, and we need to change the way in which we do business within and across that range.

*High-level Independent Panel on Peace Operations
(or HIPPO report) Sep 2015 SG Ban Ki Moon*

The UN has not fully adapted to modern hostile, operational environments and Security Council mandates. The UN lacks a conceptual approach as certain missions operate outside the governing **principles of peacekeeping – consent, impartiality and use of force**. The UN also lacks required supporting skill sets, and resource processes and mindset for delivering peace operations in modern, complex conflict environments and forceful Security Council mandates

Lt Gen Santos Cruz - Dec 2017

A deficit of leadership is one of the main problems that prevents the UN from adapting. Leadership at all levels, from New York to the most remote field locations, needs to demonstrate initiative, commitment, and determination to adapt. This has grave consequences in the form of fatalities. To stay secure, the UN must be robust not only through its military, police, and civilian personnel in the field, but in its **political behavior** as well, actively seeking solutions rather than waiting for casualties to stop.... enactment of the recommendations requires **strong and committed leadership** at all levels from the Secretary-General to line supervisors and commander.

Lt Gen Santos Cruz - Dec 2017

Today UNIFIL is the only firm foothold the international community has in this part of the world; elsewhere we are getting it wrong. The regional paradigm is changing, and it is too early to tell when and in what configuration the next equilibrium will be achieved. What will be the regional and global power dynamic in the new order? How the competing power interests will manifest themselves in the Lebanon-Israel equation; how the internal developments in Lebanon and Israel will shape up; how all of this will affect the respective calculations of Israel, Hezbollah and Lebanon – and of their regional and international backers. Amidst all these imponderables, **the only relative certainty is UNIFIL**: a formula initiated in 2006, which has worked.

UN Strategic Review on UNIFIL Feb 2017



Mandate (UNSCR 1701 & 2373)

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|---|--|---|-------------------------|
| UNSCR 1701 (2006) | UN Interim Force in Lebanon | 425 (1978) | UNSCR 425 (1978) |
| | <p>Paras 11, 12 & 14</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • monitor cessation of hostilities; • support LAF deployment; • coordinate activities with GoI and GoL; • assist LAF in keeping area free of unauthorized personnel, assets & weapons; • assist GoL - secure borders; • assist ensuring humanitarian access; • ensure AO is not utilized for hostile activities; ensure security & freedom of movement of UN / humanitarian personnel; protect civilians under imminent threat of physical violence. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • confirm withdrawal of IDF; • restore international peace & security; • assist GoL in returning effective authority. | |
| <p>UN Special Coordinator’s Office for Lebanon</p> <p>Paras 8, 9 & 10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • permanent ceasefire and a long-term solution; • implementation of the relevant provision of the Taif accords and resolution 1559 & 1680, including disarmament, and the delineation of Lebanon’s international borders, including by dealing with the Shab’a farms area. <p>PRSG mandate established in 2000 to help coordinate UN activities in southern Lebanon. UN Special Coordinator is the senior official responsible for 1701 (2006), with responsibility, inter alia, for representing SG on all political aspects of UN work in Lebanon.</p> | | | |



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Peacekeeping is a worthy idea; what needs to be re-examined is how member states use it. Successful peacekeeping missions require that everyone be mobilized. They also require a genuine strategy that is understood by all actors, with the Security Council acting as an orchestra conductor and providing political support, while troop contributors manage the military support, the Secretariat oversees quality control of contributions, and partner organizations supply any political or military services within this strategy.

Alexandra Novosseloff

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