

# Theory of International Relations

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# Session 9

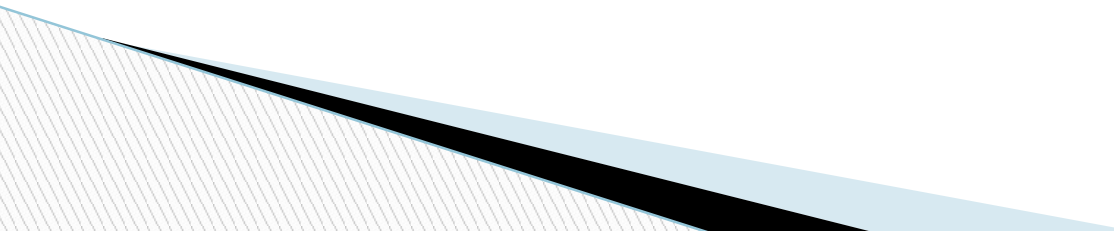
## Intergovernmental Organizations



# Varieties of IGOs

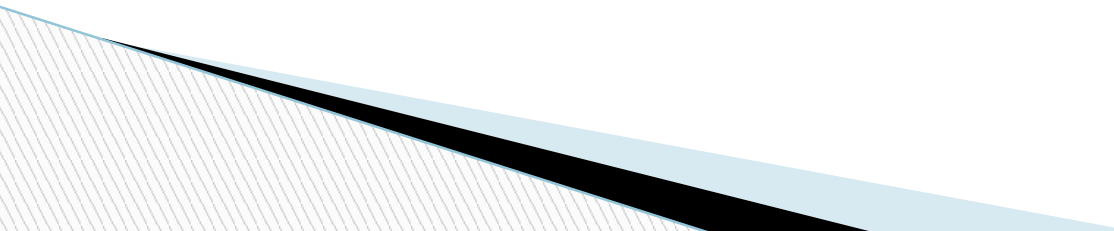
IGOs are a special category of international organizations.

IGOs are always founded by governments which recognize that it is in their national interests to obtain multilateral agreements and pursue actions to deal with threats, challenges, or problems that cannot be dealt with effectively at the unilateral level.



# Varieties of IGOs

## **2 key dimensions which are valuable in any comparative analysis of IGOs:**

1. The scope of the IGO, by which I mean the number of issue areas it can influence in international relations.
  2. The domain of the IGO, meaning the number of states and significant non-state organizations over which it is able to exert influence.
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		GOAL OF ORGANIZATION	
		<i>Specific</i>	<i>General</i>
<b>TERMS OF MEMBERSHIP</b> <i>Regional</i>	<i>Intergovernmental</i>	NATO NAFTA	AU (African Union)
	<i>Supranational</i>	ECSC (European Coal and Steel Community) EURATOM	European Union
	<i>Transnational</i>	European Anti-Poverty Network	European Movement
<b>TERMS OF MEMBERSHIP</b> <i>Universal</i>	<i>Intergovernmental</i>	WHO (World Health Organization) IAEA (International Atomic Energy Agency)	UN
	<i>Supranational</i>	-	-
	<i>Transnational</i>	Amnesty International	World Federalist Association

Adapted from Heurlin (1996)

# Regional IGO

One category of IGO which expanded very rapidly in the 20th century is **the regional IGO**, including the European Union (EU), the Organization of American States (OAS), and the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN). These IGOs were formed to strengthen cooperation by states at regional level.



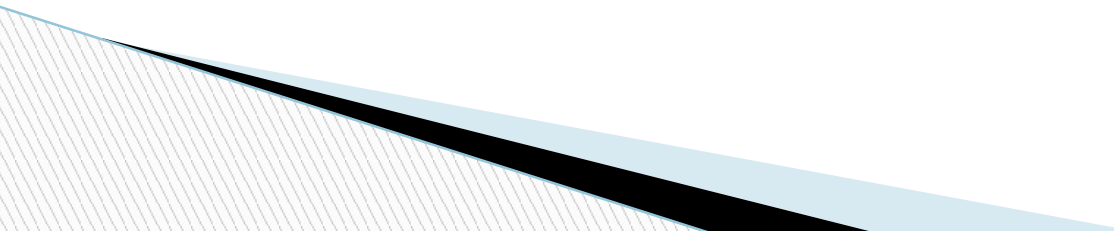
# The League of Nations

- ? The First World War (1914–18)
- ? The historian, A. J. P. Taylor made an important point in his book *The First World War* when he wrote: ‘The First World War had begun – imposed on the statesmen of Europe by railway timetables. It was an unexpected climax to the railway age.’
- ? President **Woodrow Wilson** - it was Wilson’s energy and commitment to the idea of a League, an idea which had been discussed and proposed by many idealistic people, including Jan Smuts of South Africa, Leonard Woolf, and many liberal intellectuals, which forced it onto the Versailles agenda



# Some other regional IGOs

**The Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN)** was founded in 1967, after the Bangkok Declaration by Thailand, Singapore, Indonesia, the Philippines, and Malaysia. Brunei joined ASEAN in 1984 and Vietnam in 1995. It aims to promote regional economic, social, and cultural cooperation.



# Some other regional IGOs

the Council of Arab Economic Unity (CAEU)  
-1964;

the Caribbean Community and Common  
Market (CARICOM) -;

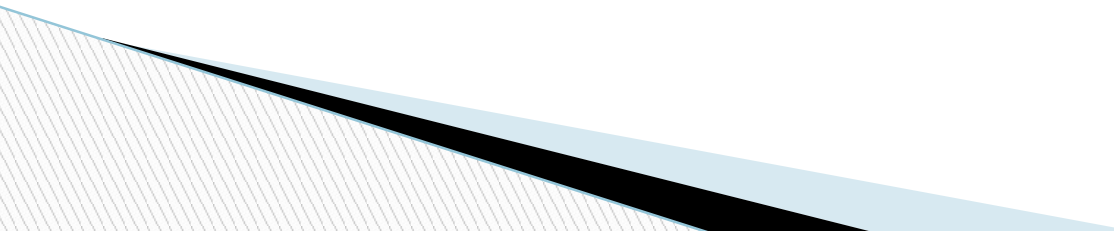
the Economic Community of West African  
States (ECOWAS) - 1975;

the South Asian Association for Regional  
Cooperation (SAARC) - 1985;

the Southern African Development Community  
(SADC) - 1992.

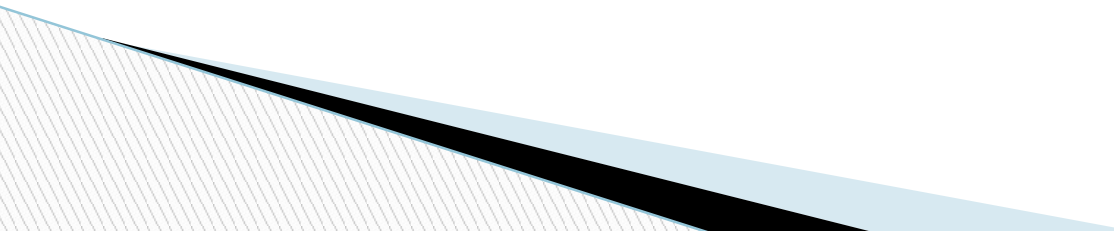


# The Commonwealth

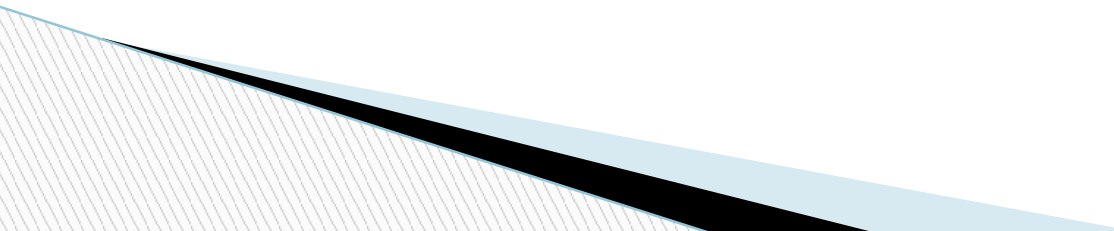
- ? The Commonwealth is a voluntary organization of 53 states, no less than 25 per cent of the states in the international system. Most, but not all, were formerly under the rule of the British Empire. It is the second largest IGO in the world and includes states from every region of the world except the Middle East.
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# Intergovernmental Organizations

International organizations are the arenas where states interact and cooperate to solve common problems. During the 1970s, neoliberal institutionalisms in particular revived the study of international organizations, arguing that “even if . . . anarchy constrains the willingness of states to cooperate, states nevertheless can work together and can do so especially with the assistance of international institutions.”



# FUNCTIONALISM

- ? War is caused by economic deprivation.
  - ? Economic disparity cannot be solved in a system of independent states.
  - ? New functional units should be created to solve specific economic problems.
  - ? People will develop habits of cooperation, which will spill over from economic cooperation to political cooperation.
  - ? In the long run, economic disparities will lessen and war will be eliminated.
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## Roles of Intergovernmental Organizations

LEVEL	ROLE	EXAMPLE
<b>IN THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM</b>	Contribute to habits of cooperation	Work within UN system and specialized agencies
	Engage in information-gathering, surveillance	World Bank gathers economic statistics; International Atomic Energy Agency monitors movement of nuclear materials
	Aid in dispute settlement	World Trade Organization or the International Court of Justice mediate disputes
	Conduct operational activities	Immunization campaigns against childhood diseases, run by World Health Organization; refugee camps, run by UN High Commissioner for Refugees
	Serve as arena for bargaining	European Council of Ministers hosts forums
	Lead to creation of international regimes	International trade regime and international food regime
	<b>WITH RESPECT TO STATES</b>	Used by states as instrument of foreign policy
Used by states to legitimize foreign policy		U.S. legitimates military action in Korea and in first Gulf War through UN
Enhance information available to states		Small states turn to IGOs in absence of extensive bilateral diplomatic networks
Punish states for acting in certain ways		Sanctions against South Africa, Rhodesia, Iraq, Serbia, and Iran
<b>WITH RESPECT TO INDIVIDUALS</b>	Place where individuals can be socialized to international norms	UN and EU delegates learn diplomatic norms
	Place where individuals become educated about international similarities and differences	Participants are educated at international meetings



# UN Principles and Contemporary Realities

## PRINCIPLES

## CHANGING REALITIES

### SOVEREIGN EQUALITY OF STATES

Increasing number of members, including micro- and mini-states that contribute little but still have equal votes in the General Assembly

### ONLY INTERNATIONAL PROBLEMS WITHIN UN JURISDICTION

Expansion of what is considered international because of changes in transportation, technology, and communication. For example, refugees can easily cross borders, leading states to initiate humanitarian intervention without the consent of other states involved.

### PRIMARILY CONCERNED WITH INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY

Broadened view of security to include economic and environmental security; international intervention to manage economic instability and to protect from environmental pollution

# Principal Organs of the United Nations

ORGAN	MEMBERSHIP AND VOTING	RESPONSIBILITIES
<b>SECURITY COUNCIL</b>	15 members; 5 permanent with veto; 10 rotating members elected by region	Peace and security: identifies aggressor; decides on enforcement measures
<b>GENERAL ASSEMBLY</b>	192 members; each state has one vote; work in 6 functional committees	Debates any topic within charter's purview; admits states; elects members to special bodies
<b>SECRETARIAT, HEADED BY SECRETARY-GENERAL</b>	Secretariat of 11,000; secretary-general elected for 5-year renewable term by General Assembly and Security Council	Secretariat: gathers information, coordinates and conducts activities; Secretary-general: chief administrative officer, spokesperson
<b>ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (ECOSOC)</b>	54 members elected for 3-year terms	Coordinates economic and social welfare programs; coordinates action of specialized agencies (FAO, the WHO, UNESCO)
<b>TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL</b>	Originally composed of administering and nonadministering countries; now made up of 5 great powers	Supervision has ended; proposals have been floated to change function to that of forum for indigenous peoples, NGOs, or nation building
<b>INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE</b>	15 judges	Noncompulsory jurisdiction on cases brought by states and international organizations

## Traditional Peacekeeping Operations

OPERATION	LOCATION(S)	DURATION	STRENGTH
<b>UNTSO (UN TRUCE SUPERVISION ORGANIZATION)</b>	Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Syria, Lebanon	June 1948-present	151 military observers; 200 civilians
<b>UNEF I (FIRST UN EMERGENCY FORCE)</b>	Suez Canal, Sinai Peninsula	Nov. 1956-June 1967	3,378 troops
<b>ONUC (UN OPERATION IN THE CONGO)</b>	Congo	June 1960-June 1964	19,828 troops
<b>UNFICYP (UN PEACEKEEPING FORCE IN CYPRUS)</b>	Cyprus	March 1964-present	6,411 military observers
<b>UNEF II (SECOND UN EMERGENCY FORCE)</b>	Suez Canal, Sinai Peninsula	Oct. 1973-July 1979	6,973 troops
<b>UNDOF (UN DISENGAGEMENT OBSERVER FORCE)</b>	Syrian Golan Heights	June 1974-present	1,048 troops; 57 military observers
<b>UNMEE (UN MISSION IN ETHIOPIA AND ERITREA)</b>	Ethiopia/Eritrea border	Sept. 2000-present	4,200 troops; 400 civilians
<b>UNIFIL (UN INTERIM FORCE IN LEBANON)</b>	Southern Lebanon	March 1978-present	11,800 military; 1,000 civilians



## Complex Peacekeeping Operations

OPERATION	LOCATION(S)	DURATION	MAXIMUM STRENGTH
<b>UNTAG (UN TRANSITION ASSISTANCE GROUP)</b>	Namibia, Angola	April 1989–March 1990	4,493 troops; 15,000 police
<b>UNPROFOR (UN PROTECTION FORCE)</b>	Former Yugoslavia (Croatia), Bosnia, Macedonia	March 1992–Dec. 1995	38,000 troops; 4,600 civilians
<b>UNTAC (UN TRANSITION AUTHORITY IN CAMBODIA)</b>	Cambodia	Feb. 1992–Sept. 1993	15,900 troops; 3,600 police; 2,400 civilians
<b>UNOSOM I, II (UN OPERATION IN SOMALIA)</b>	Somalia	Aug. 1992–March 1995	28,000 troops; 2,800 civilians
<b>MONUC (UN MISSION IN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO)</b>	Congo	1999–present	16,700 troops; 1000 police; 3,700 civilians
<b>UNMIK (UN INTERIM ADMINISTRATION MISSION IN KOSOVO)</b>	Kosovo	1999–present	3,478 police; 3,591 civilians
<b>UNMISSET AND UNMIT (UN MISSIONS IN EAST TIMOR)</b>	Timor-Leste	2002–present	1,588 troops; 1,608 police; 1,200 civilians
<b>UNAMID (AFRICAN UNION/UNITED NATIONS HYBRID OPERATION IN DARFUR)</b>	Darfur	July 2007–present	13,502 troops; 3,200 police; 2,494 civilians

# Representative International and Regional Organizations

UN SPECIALIZED AGENCIES	INDEPENDENT ORGANIZATIONS
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION	Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION	World Trade Organization
INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATION	Organisation of the Islamic Conference
INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY	North Atlantic Treaty Organization
WORLD BANK GROUP	
INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND	
REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS	SUBREGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
EUROPEAN UNION	Nordic Council
ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE	European Free Trade Association
AFRICAN UNION	Economic Community of West African States
ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES	Mercosur
ARAB LEAGUE	Gulf Cooperation Council

# Significant Events in the Formation and Expansion of the European Union

YEAR	EVENT
1952	European Coal and Steel Community created by Belgium, France, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, and West Germany.
1954	French National Assembly rejects proposal to form the European Defence Community.
1957	Treaties of Rome establish the European Economic Community (EEC) and the European Atomic Energy Community, comprising same six members.
1968	Customs union is completed; all internal customs, duties, and quotas are removed and common external tariff is established.
1973	EEC is joined by Denmark, Ireland, and the United Kingdom.
1975	Lomé Convention between the EEC and forty-six developing countries in Africa, the Caribbean, and the Pacific signed.
1979	High-level negotiations on European Monetary System are completed; first direct elections to the European Parliament.
1981	Greece joins the EEC; European political cooperation is extended.
1986	Signing of the Single European Act designed to ensure faster decisions; more attention to environmental and technological issues; list of measures compiled that need to be taken before achieving single market in 1992; Spain and Portugal join the EEC.
1990	West and East Germany reunited after fall of Berlin Wall; larger Germany maintains EEC membership.

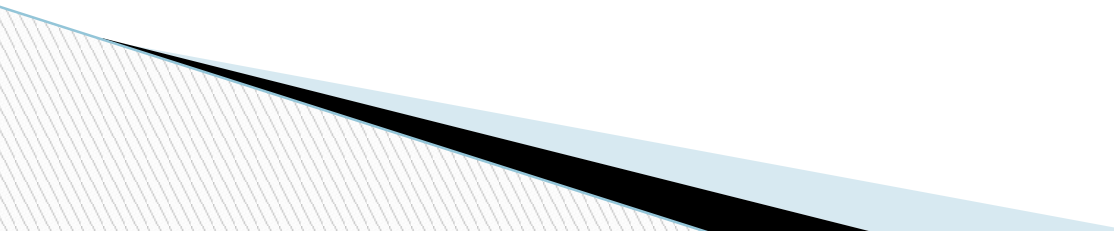


- 1992** Maastricht Treaty completed, committing members to political union, including the establishment of a common foreign and defense policy, a single currency, and a regional central bank; name changed to European Union (EU); controversial referendums held in several countries.
- 1995** Austria, Finland, and Sweden join EU.
- 1997** Treaty of Amsterdam extends competence on Justice and Home Affairs, defines European citizenship.
- 1999** Common monetary policy and single currency (the euro) launched.
- 2002** Euro in circulation.
- 2004** Ten new members join; European Constitution negotiated.
- 2005** French and Dutch publics reject the proposed constitution; ongoing discussions.
- 2007** Bulgaria and Romania join EU; Lisbon Treaty proposed changes in institutions and decision making
- 2009** Lisbon Treaty approved

# Principal Institutions of the European Union

INSTITUTION	MEMBERSHIP AND VOTING	RESPONSIBILITIES
<b>EUROPEAN COMMISSION</b>	27 members, 4-year terms plus 23,000 support staff (Eurocrats)	Initiates proposals; guards treaties; executes policies
<b>COUNCIL OF MINISTERS</b>	Ministers of member states; unanimity or qualified majority voting depending on issue; one minister per state	Legislates; sets political objectives; coordinates; resolves differences
<b>EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT</b>	736 members, divided among members; elected every 5 years by citizens; organized around political parties	Legislates; approves budget; supervises executive
<b>EUROPEAN COUNCIL</b>	Heads of government; summit meetings twice yearly	Key body for EU initiatives
<b>ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE</b>	344 members drawn from economic/social interest groups; represents employers, employees, others	Has consultative role; acts as platform for civil society; forwards opinions to other institutions
<b>EUROPEAN COURT OF JUSTICE</b>	Judges and advocates-general; appointed by states for 6-year terms	Adjudicates disputes over EU treaties; ensures uniform interpretation of EU laws; renders advisory opinions to states

# Home Assignment

- ? Write a position paper listing priorities for a reform agenda to make the United Nations a more representative and more effective international organization.
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# Recommended Literature

- ? [Karen A. Mingst, Ivan M. Arreguin-Toft](#). *Essentials of International Relations*. 5th Ed. 2010: New York: W.W. Norton & Co. ISBN 978-0393935295
- ? [Robert Jackson, Georg Sorensen](#). *Introduction to International Relations: Theories and Approaches*. 4th edition, 2010: Oxford University Press. ISBN 978-0199548842
- ? [Paul Wilkinson](#). *International Relations: A Very Short Introduction (Very Short Introductions)*. 1st edition. 2007: Oxford Paperbacks. ISBN 978-0192801579

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